



## Education – The Bright Future of Punjab

Education in Pakistan has been exclusively devolved to provinces after the 18th Amendment to the constitution in 2010 and now each province is responsible for its own education planning, policy-making, curricula standards, budget allocation, and legislation. As of fiscal year 2015, the literacy rate in Pakistan stood at 60% as opposed to 58% in 2014. The data shows that literacy rate is higher in urban areas (76 percent) than in rural areas (51 percent). Moreover, Punjab maintained a lead with 63% literacy rate (2015) amongst all provinces. Public expenditure on education was 2.2% of GDP in

fiscal year 2015 as compared to 2.1% in the previous year, showing an increase of 4.8 percent. Punjab made the maximum contribution of 38% in the total public expenditure on education amongst all provinces. At national level, the total enrolment during fiscal year 2015 was recorded at approximately 44 million as compared to 42 million during the same period last year. The total number of institutions stood at 253,000+ during fiscal year 2015 as compared to 242,000+ during fiscal year 2014, showing an increase of 4.5 percent. In addition, the total number of teachers showed an increase of 3.9% from 2014 to 2015

# Education

Government of Punjab

There are a total of 163 universities in Pakistan out of which 91 universities (56%) are a part of the public sector, whereas 72 (44%) are working in the private sector. The total enrolment in the universities is 1.3 million, out of which almost 849 students are enrolled in public universities whereas the rest are studying in private universities. As of 2015, Punjab had 20 public and 22 private universities/degree awarding institutions. Moreover, Pakistan has a total of 3,746 technical and vocational institutions. Out of which 1,123 (30%) are in public sector, whereas 2,623 (70%) are a part of the private sector. The total enrollment is 0.3 million of which almost 0.1 million is in public sector while the rest is in the private sector. Punjab has 662 male, 793 female and 362 mixed gender vocational and technical institutions amounting to a total of 1,817 institutions.



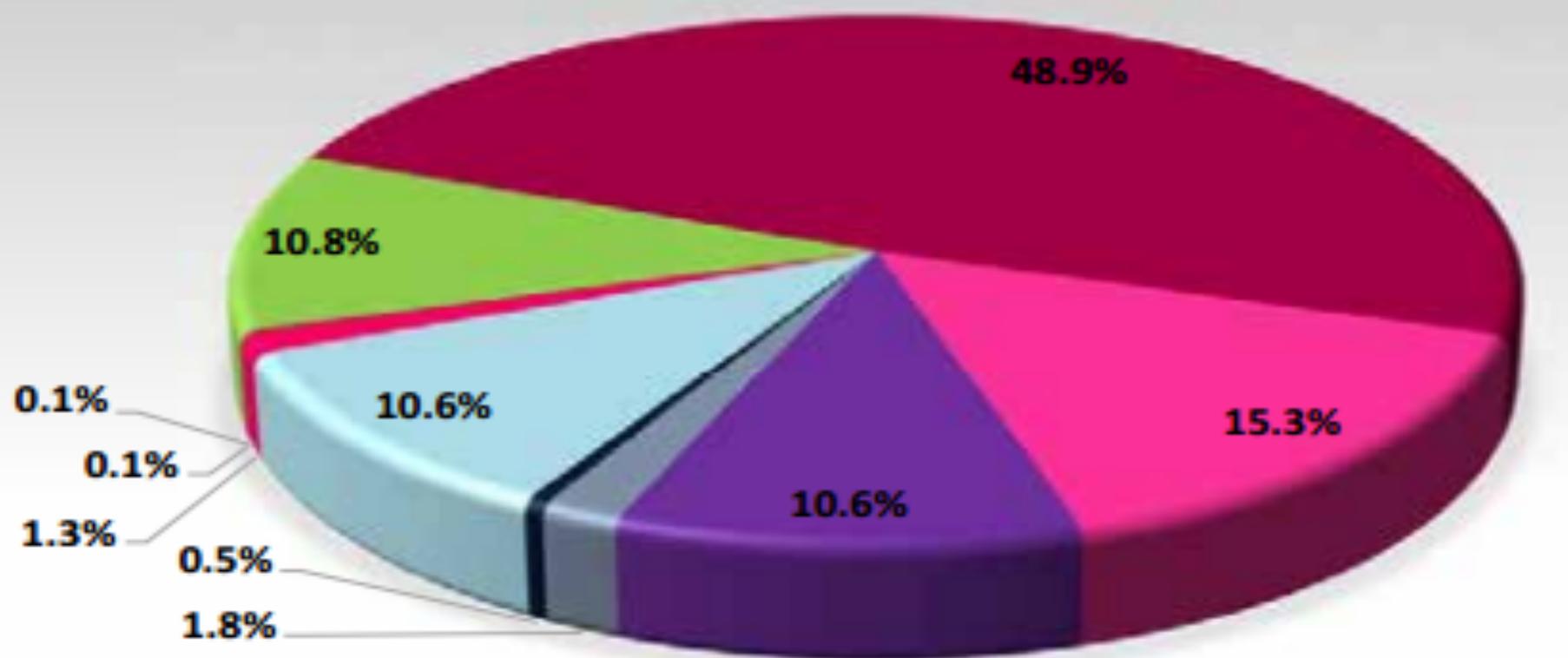
## *Smart Universities on the Horizon*

Government of Pakistan is committed to promoting education, increasing literacy rate, investing in capacity building of teachers and enhancing facilities in all educational institutions. Higher Education Commission (HEC) has also played its role in running different scholarship programs to enhance academic qualification at various levels on merit basis in line with specific criteria. During fiscal year 2016, a total of 43,000 scholarships were awarded under different programs by HEC. To further build on its contribution, HEC introduced another initiative, "Smart Universities through Smart Campuses" which aims to transform Higher Education Institutions (all public/ private sector universities/ Institutes) into 'Smart Universities' by augmenting a highly conducive, technologically advanced, and cost effective learning environment.

In addition, the 'Prime Minister's Fee Reimbursement Scheme' for less developed areas (selected regions) was successfully executed and a reimbursement was made to around 23,500 students of less developed areas in fiscal year 2015. The government has implemented multiple similar projects in order to support the education sector, which include; Prime Minister's Laptop Scheme, Hunarmand Pakistan Program, President's Fanni Maharat Program, Prime Minister's Youth Program, and National Endowment Scholarship for Talent (NEST) etc<sup>1</sup>. Moreover, World Bank has provided US\$ 150 million to launch a Co-responsibility Cash Transfer (CCT) (Waseela-e-Taleem) program for the primary education of the children (5-12 years) of Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) beneficiaries and DFID has provided a grant of £ 300 million to the program recently.



## Distribution of Education Institutions by Level in %



- Primary
- Middle
- High
- HS/Inter Colleges
- Degree Colleges
- NFB
- T & V Institutions
- Teach Trg Inst
- Universities
- Deeni Madaris