# Deciphering Pakistan's Education Reforms

WAJID HASSAN

**PRESIDENT** 

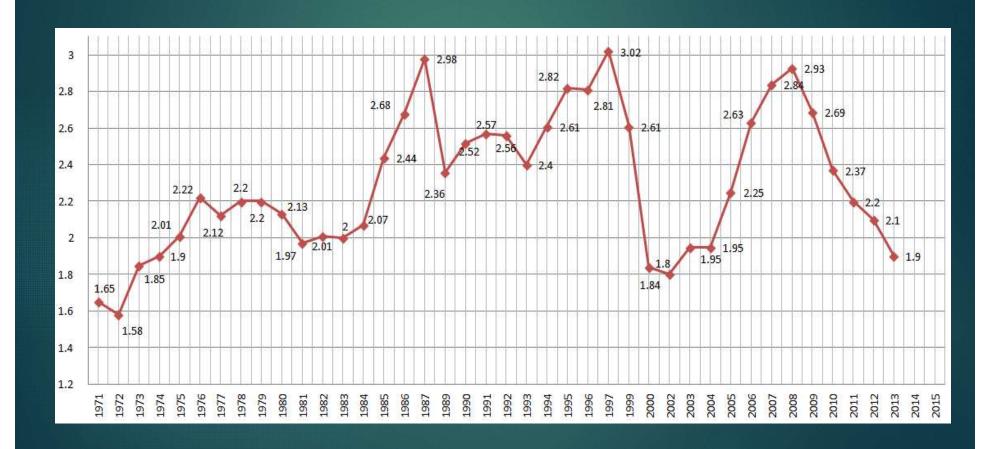
PAKISTANI AMERICAN CONGRESS

August 15, 2015 Chicago, Illinois

## My Background

- Engineer by profession, Political Scientist by passion
- Current individual project at hand "US Pakistan relations"
- □ Working for AT&T Labs for the last 5 years in Seattle / Philadelphia
- PhD candidate Technology Management at Indiana State University, Terre Haute
- Nominated for the Young Scientist of the Year Award, Gold Medalist- IEEEP 2008, worked on the first small satellite of Pakistan
- Past Student Leader; held various volunteer and political positions
- 11 Elections & Nominations in the last decade
- Was Involved in Pakistani Student Association President & Treasurer
- Involved with Pakistani American Congress since 2010;
  - served as Vice President and Senior Vice President.
- Published several articles on Technology, Politics & Education.

# Budget Allocation for Education



### Recommendations - 1

#### A. Recommendation for policy makers

- ▶ Implement one policy. Implement and enforce one policy consistently for 10 years.
- Devote 4% of Pakistan's GDP to education.
- lslamabad should concentrate on proactively executing Amendment 18.
- Increase the number of schools in rural areas.
- Curriculum revisions
- ▶ Stronger focus on Women education.
- Lessen brain drain
- Provide incentives for attending school
- Support the development of an educational fund bank. Provide a foundation to manage foreign investments.
- Devise a plan similar to Marshall Plan.
- Maintain and build modern madrassahs with Updated madrassah curriculum
- Establish Watch Dogs to monitor financial aid to supplement educational plans and policeis

### Recommendations – 2

## B. Recommendations for governments (Central, Provincial, Local)

- Re-establish Higher Education Commission.
- Establishment of Public and Private Libraries.
- Free and quality education on primary and secondary levles
- Seek material and financial support of the Pakistani Diaspora in first world/affluent countries
- Legitimate NGOs with solid goal and purposes.

### Recommendations – 1

#### C. Recommendations for Media

- Market education programs
- Inspirational stories depicted in dramas, movies and short stories
- Promote and educate the general masses regarding the status of teachers in the society.
- Illustrate the social ills of child labor.
- Come up with watchdog programs and news segments on education

#### D. General Recommendation

- Changing the mindset of people is most important. Opinions and judgments don't change easily.
- Create remote access to universities. Internet based training material distributed on CDs or via the internet.
- ▶ Help develop museums and libraries
- Help in establishing city wide book banks



### Goals and Targets – 2015 – 2017 next 2 years

- 1. Publish a directory with directors names and contribution to the Pakistan Cause
- 2. Involve youth of Pakistani origin in PAC activities
- 3. Annual Meeting & monthly teleconference meetings
- 4. Organize a meet up in Islamabad/Lahore
- 5. Connect with the local organizations in each city
- 6. Establish and Maintain contact with Ambassadors, Senators/Congressmen
- 7. Publish a quarterly Newsletter
- 8. Introduction of PAC in bigger cities and hold Meetings in the cities with large population of Pakistani Diaspora
- 9. Find dedicated and committed leadership for the next term 2017 2019

# Demographics

| State / Metro Areas   | % of US Pakistanis | Metropolitan area                             | % of US Pakistanis |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| New York & New Jersey | 22.1               | New York City-New Jersey-Southern Connecticut | 25.1               |
| Texas                 | 13.1               | Houston-Brazoria, TX                          | 7.4                |
| Illinois              | 12.4               | Chicago-Gary-Lake, IL-IN                      | 7.4                |
| Virginia & Maryland   | 7.6                | Washington, DC-MD-VA                          | 6.3                |
| California            | 7.2                | Los Angeles-Long Beach-Orange County, CA      | 3.8                |
| Texas                 | 5.3                | Dallas-Fort Worth, TX                         | 3.6                |
| Pennsylvania          | 4.6                | Philadelphia, PA-NJ                           | 2.9                |
| California            | 3.4                | San Francisco-Oakland-Vallejo, CA             | 2.3                |
| Michigan              | 2.8                | Detroit, MI                                   | 2.1                |
| Georgia               | 2.8                | Atlanta, GA                                   | 1.8                |
| Other states          | 18.8               | Other metropolitan areas                      | 37.3               |
| Total                 | 100                | Total   | 100                |