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**“PERFORMANCE OF YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP WITH  
REFERENCE TO FACILITATION OF LAPTOP OR SCHOLARSHIPS  
POLICIES”**

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**Keywords: PEEF scholarships, laptops, youth entrepreneurship.**

**Abstract:**

This paper examined the impact of laptop and scholarship programs initiated by government of the Punjab on students’ academic achievement. These programs are important in its context to impart first step towards youth entrepreneurship. The main objective of the study was to assess the impact of scholarship programs on student’s achievement. Study was conducted in University of Sargodha, Pakistan. For this purpose, sample of 120 students from university of Sargodha were selected through simple random sampling technique. A well structured questionnaire was used as a tool of data collection and data was collected through self administered survey. The data was analyzed using SPSS and employed certain statistical techniques as descriptive analysis for socio-economic characteristics and inferential statistics to examine the relationship between variables. The findings of the study show that more trust on technology, students completes their work very quickly and efficiently while PEEF scholarship and laptop programs made the students independent. It was suggested that Govt. should increase the amount of scholarship and put concentrate on more poor students who cannot meet expenditure of education due to poor income. To sustain students’ connection with technology,

govt should retain scholarship programs on top priority.

### **Introduction:**

Policies play plentiful significant functions in devising directions to the students and academicians towards any destination (Jones, 2003; Kozma, 2003a). Strategic policies provide a rationale, a set of goals, and a vision of education. Punjab government raised the slogan of “education for all”. Education for all was important without class differences, femininity disparities, poverty being without a job. The government was containing right to education mentioned in financial plan of 2012 according to Article 25-A, which is the responsibility of government to provide free and compulsory education at all level according to modern era without any discrimination (Report 2012).

### **PEEF Scholarship:**

Government has produced many talented students from underprivileged societies, catering to uplift socio economic development of visionary moderated people for making progressive development. To react on development, COMPANIES’ ORDINANCE 1984 was incorporated in 2008 by worthy Ex. Chief Minister of Punjab, whom he was the chairman of the Board of Director of said company, which facilitated the underprivileged students to make them ahead of putting underdeveloped nation to more develop one. The company had worked on the slogan of “education for all” by bringing up the students of underdeveloped section of society through establishing scholarship programs. The motto of these programs was to treat the students who do work hard to promote for self-progress and achievement in academic sector. Program targeting the youth entrepreneurship to meet recent challenges in academic word, where modern means are considered necessary to treat with challenges. In the shadow of this program, many poor students have gone through giving laptops and scholarships to remove barriers ahead on the way of progressive work hard in academic world. Abatable barriers provide opportunity to do work hard and release the stress of students form financial burden. Ultimate contribution of scholarships is to remove financial barriers of students, whom they are studying in different programs in educational institution, as many of the students belong to lower income families (PEEF News, 2012)

### **Laptop distribution:**

The Punjab government attached laptop distribution specifically with the enhancements of quality in education sector. Quality education in technological advance countries is potentially negotiable and permissible on modern tracks. For under developing nations, human need and development in education sector are fundamental assets to meet the dreams of nation to build up on modern technology, more for promoting humanity rates and economic growth. To meet the demand of modern technology, chief minister program provide free laptops to 100,000 brilliant students from under privileges society, who were recurrently studying in academic institution or they were high achievers of the Boards of Punjab in Matriculation Examinations. Students from low income group attained laptop that could not be availed through self financial means (Punjab Higher Education Department). Technological advancement through giving scholarships and laptops to students belong to underdeveloped nation is a key to inaugurate the opportunities to students. The purpose of this scholarship and laptop is to bring the students on front who represent the thinking of the condition high-quality degree program which is to make available

the science and art of being suitably specialized. If students have passion of study but what they do for necessities of education that are not accomplished. PEEF scholarship and laptop are awarded to students who do this best in their time as undergraduate and graduate students for educational program at any institute. PEEF Scholarships play as financial Aid and on the lives that they handle.

### **Value of youth entrepreneurship:**

Scholarships and laptops distribution reflect first step towards youth entrepreneurship in academic world from labour based economy to knowledge based economy (Perveen et al. 2020). Pursuing the role of govt. and Higher Education commission through launching different programs for youth development ultimately connects with socio-economic development which depends on investing in education, learning and training. It is solemnly more important and pervasive ideology among Pakistani youth accommodates their potential to use these programs for minimizing dependency of technology. Students own their gadgets in the shape of laptops and scholarships to promote the intervention mechanism of reducing their dependencies and increasing strategy of promoting youth self efforts. In the wake of recent surge, the economy of the world is transmitted to computer technology that has become important liability for its users. Its potential importance, admiration and love for these gadgets would likely to promote their interest in advance technologies that are useable for academic and employment purposes. Entrepreneurship is largely accepted and value potential strategy to create job and improve economic independence of young people in developing countries. Problem of unemployment is pervading as experience by many educated non entrepreneurs, who are absent from entrepreneurial intention and actions (Ashraf et al., 2020) adding more that educated and uneducated skilled youth have become more pathetic in developing countries (Awogbenle and Chijiokelwuamadi, 2010).

### **Rational of study:**

Rationale of the study is to know whether the Govt policies are implemented under the slogan of ParahLikha Punjab having any positive impacts on youth specifically and on society in general, or it is merely the waste of valuable resources of a developing country. Whenever such policies intend to be implemented in any country, usually a highly positive impact has been estimated that could cover up all the financial burdens of these implemented policies in the form of technological advancements, or an increase in GDP through economic stability. There is a big question whether these implemented policies for ParahLikha Punjab have balanced out the economic burden in the upcoming year or would turn up into lame policies causing a financial disaster to the fragile economy of our country.

### **Objectives:**

Objectives of the study are as following:

- To identify socio-demographic profile of the respondents.
- To assess the impact of PEEF scholarship on the Youth of Sargodha.
- To find association between performance of students and Laptop distribution or PEEF scholarship.

### **Hypotheses:**

- More dependency on technology helps students to complete their work more quickly and efficiently.
- Such packages like PEEF and laptop makes the students independent.

### **Literature Review:**

Many studies are conducted to explore the impact of IT and scholarship to facilitate the student's career. These studies help to understand “Impact Assessment of Laptop and PEEF scholarship by the Punjab government under the title of ParhaLikha Punjab”. Punjab government were interested to further implementation, they have faith that amplified access to technology would lead to use modern technology, further lead to enhance diversity of educational outcomes. In the world a lot of work has been conducted for students who used laptops to support their learning and the effect of scholarship on the work and lives of the students. Hawkins (2006) conducted an empirical study on to measure the relationship between technology and achievable educational objectives, and concluded that technology is not only a way to meet these objectives, but the use of these technologies by teacher and students is escalating the effects, in Asia most of the teachers and students just have these technologies in hand only. According to this research, researcher recommended that access to hardware technology alone rarely leads to change. Training and use is necessary. Moreover, Adeya and Bracey (2005) stated that most of Asian form urban areas are more prevalent by using technology as compared to their rural counterparts; existing technology is under experienced and unable to use technologies for educational and economical outcomes. According to this study if in Pakistan people were aware about technology which influencing on their lives, experiences and achievements.

Chib and Zhao (2009) examined that technologically progressiveness have found that ICTs try to maintain learning rates towards problem based learning and critical concern; children exposed using various programs to approach and encourage extreme level of learning. Rural development depends on institutional support, perceived interest of grant and present administrators and telecom operators. In Pakistan availability of laptop and technology was important facility which sustaining student attainment. But with positive impact such as negative impact existing use of face book, time consuming game playing. Pakistan accruing in 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries hence desire of patches and uses technology were leading to depression and illegal activities but some time positively lead. Kozma (2006) found that it was essential that projects were designed with attention paid to the needs of the users to understand approach. There have been several instances of governments and manufacturers adopting a one-size-all approach that prioritizes technology over users, where consideration for end-user needs and participation of the local community have been ignored. In rural areas of Pakistan people were using laptop and availing scholarship which influencing their lives. But mostly people not affordable it was governments' responsibility to establish some project for their betterment, implementation made possible access to resources such as when they want money they founded scholarship at time, laptop for uses.

Anderson et al (2018) correlated the academic achievement, laptop and financial facilities and concluded that students got higher grades and these facilities support education progress. Bebell and Kay (2010) depicted that the impact of a scholarship has an effect felt far beyond the student helped. The student's success, to the scholarship, may encourage younger siblings or the

student's own children to pursue higher education after high school. The student will be able to make more money with a college education and be enhanced provider for his or her family. In addition, that student will handle thousands of lives through his or her career whether it is in health, education, business, research or some other field.

Goodman (2008) depicted that merit based financial program effect the students cost at collages. Massachusetts merit scholarship plan determined the talented students in public colleges. Adding more by Combs (2014) and concluded that need and merit based aid programs are pivotal strategic priority of state. Since the completion of course will improve Kentucky’s economy and living status of citizens. Students were motivated and financial accommodation are sustained thorough launching this program, that is more effective and for academic success. In this context Pakistani students are more deserved for such PEEF scholarships to support their academic processions. Alon (2007) stated that financial support is superb concept to uplift the socio economic status of students, because scholarships define comprehensive package which affects the educational achievements as compare to giving loan in education system of Pakistan.

**Methodology:**

The methodology of research is as under: The universe of this research comprised of the students of different departments from the University of Sargodha. Sample of 120 respondents was selected using simple random sampling technique. A self administered survey was conducted by the research student and well established questionnaire was used as an instrument for gathering data by using three type i.e. likert scale value (low, medium, high). Before execution of this study verbal permission was taken from head of department. Analysis of data was done through latest version of SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Sciences). Two analysis techniques were applied to get results i.e. descriptive statistical analysis is used to measure frequencies and percentages of socio demographic characteristics of respondents, whereas, inferential techniques was used and Chi-Square test is applied to check any association exists between performance of youth and under the title of ParahLikha Punjab.

**Results and Discussion:**

**Socio-economic Status of respondents:**

<b>Education</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Intermediate	<b>28.3%</b>	<b>34</b>
Graduation	<b>47.5%</b>	<b>57</b>
Post Graduate and above	<b>25%</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Type of Family</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Nuclear	<b>55.8%</b>	<b>67</b>
Joint	<b>35.8%</b>	<b>43</b>

Extended	<b>8.3%</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Gender</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Male	<b>62.5%</b>	<b>75</b>
Female	<b>37.5%</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Department</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Sociology and criminology	<b>27.5%</b>	<b>33</b>
Psychology	<b>15.8%</b>	<b>19</b>
Education	<b>25%</b>	<b>30</b>
Economics	<b>15%</b>	<b>18</b>
History and Pak Studies	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>11</b>
Political Science and Int. Relations	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Household Income in Rs</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
1000-10000	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>4</b>
15000-20000	<b>23%</b>	<b>27</b>
20001-25000	<b>43.3</b>	<b>52</b>
25001-30000	<b>17%</b>	<b>20</b>
30001 and above	<b>14.1%</b>	<b>17</b>

Above table describes the socio-economic status of respondents, data intimates the level of education of respondents as majority of the respondents had graduation i.e. 47.5% while 28.3% intermediate and only 25% were post graduated level. Whereas type of family status as 55.8% were belonged to nuclear family, 35.8% were living in joint family and only 8.3% were living in extended families, mostly from rural background where most of families are living in extended type families.

Data indicates about gender and student’s departments where they were enrolled at the time of study, where majority of the respondents were male i.e. 62.5% and 37.5% were female participated in this study. Respondents were belonged to different department of faculty of social sciences as 27.5% were studying in department of sociology and criminology, 15% were from psychology department, 25% were from education department, 15% were enrolled in economics, while 9.7% students were enrolled in department of history and Pak. Studies and 7.5% were from political science and international relations.

Income level of respondents families varies from lower, middle and higher level income group as majority of the respondents i.e. 43.3% were belonged level of income as 20000-25000, while second majority of respondents i.e.23.3% were belonged to 15000-20000, 17% were belonged to income level category of 25000-30000 and 14% come under the category of 30000 and above, while 3.3% were lower income category as 1000-10000.

**Inferential Statistics:**

The purpose of this part is to present the analysis and interpretation of data relating to association between variables under exploration.

**Hypothesis 1: More dependency on technology helps students to complete their work more quickly and efficiently.**

**Table1: Association between dependency on technology and work done more quickly and efficiently.**

Youth are over dependent on technology	Laptop allows to get work done more quickly and efficiently			Total
	Low	Medium	High	
Low	6(5.0%)	12(10.0%)	6(5.0%)	24(20.0%)
Medium	6(5.0%)	12(10.0%)	12(10.0%)	30(25.0%)
High	12(10.0%)	18(15.0%)	36(25.0%)	66(55.5%)
Total	24(20.0%)	42(35.0%)	54(45.0%)	120(100.0%)

**Chi-Square Tests (B)**

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	31.053	4	.000
Likelihood Ratio	18.902	4	.001
Linear-by-Linear	10.468	1	.001

Association N of Valid Cases	120		
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Table 1, Chi-square value shows a significance association between; if people are dependent on technology and Laptop allows them to get their work done more quickly. Zucker & Hug (2007) are support the result such as the value of chi-square test show there is association between Laptop help to improve quality of work. Students are dependent as 24.0 percent of the respondents are less, 42.0 percent of the respondents dependent. 54.0 percent of the respondents are highly dependent on technology than it's clear from this explanation that dependent and independent variable has strong association. Chi-square value is 31.053 and indicated the strong association of both variables. P-value .000 and show highly significance result which support correlation. Hence the hypothesis “More dependency on technology helps students to complete their work more quickly and efficiently “has been accepted.

**Hypothesis 2: Such packages like PEEF as financial aid package and laptop make the students dependent.**

**Table 2: Association between scholarships (PEEF) as financial aid package and laptop make student dependent.**

(A)

Scholarship of financial aid package and laptop	Scholarship and laptop packages makes students dependent			Total
	Low	Medium	High	
Low	6(5.0%)	12(10.0%)	6(5.0%)	24(20.0%)
Medium	12(10.0%)	6(5.0%)	18(15.0%)	36(30.0%)
High	18(15.0%)	12(10.0%)	30(25.0%)	60(50.0%)
Total	36(30.0%)	30(25.0%)	54(45.0%)	120(100%)



**Chi-Square Test (B)**

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	7.921	4	.015
Likelihood Ratio	7.139	4	.129
Linear-by-Linear Association	1.715	1	.190
N of Valid Cases	120		

Table 2 divulges that association between scholarships is a financial aid package and Scholarship makes them dependent on these scholarship programs. 30.0 percent of the respondents are highly in favor for both, 5.0 percent of the respondents are in favor of medium level while 6.0 percent from total of them 54 are highly response for scholarship makes dependent. Result exposed that degree of freedom is 4 and more than significant value which is 0.095 significant results. Charlotte (2010) finding are support this hypothesis is “Such financial packages like PEEF and laptops are making the students dependent “has been accepted. The value of Chi-square 7.921 shows significant association between scholarship holder and laptop holders it means scholarship is playing good role to improve the education of students. Laptop is influencing on students’ learning.

**Discussions and Conclusion:**

PEEF scholarships and laptop distribution influence on students efficiency and quickness of work to complete educational tasks. Through these scholarship programs, financial need and dependency is not remained as a barrier for students who rely on scholarship support to make their dream true as possible. Scholarships represent only a small part of the overall development and provide support to make financial arrangements. They may also change attitudes and introduce people to valuable networks. The financial assistance they receive from the government is life-changing. Scholarships teach humanity. Through individual the student receiver of a scholarship, it is hoped that the students will become compassionate themselves and maintain when they are economically able. The use of ICT via laptops can make an impact in many ways in students’ lives as endorsed by Schindler et al. (2017) that computer based technology has improved many aspects of life, it engages students to obtain high academic outcomes through behavioral, cognitive and emotional engagement. Scholarships help to reduce the impact of rising tuition costs. Tuition is on the rise on a national scale and scholarships give admission to higher education for students of all income levels. Those students who use laptop all year and most of their time spent on laptops, increased the length of their writing and learning, execute productive relationship between students, teachers and parents to impart knowledge through computer technology (Gunner, 2007). Increasing use of laptops to strengthen quality of work and scholarship encourage students to engage their education. Laptop helped in lesson planning, preparation, assignment, searching articles, writing, reporting and administration. That laptop distribution put serious impact on digital future and beneficial of students. The students those who become addicted internet after availability of laptop they waste

their time using face book. It means that laptop is playing negative and significant role to improve the education of students. The Students who fail to perform well and about their projects they criticize laptop availability that disrupts their self-image.

It is concluded endorsed by earlier studies that indicate strong relation between academic performance of students who availed laptop with students who did not avail laptop or any scholarship. Scholarships and laptop provide individuals with knowledge and skills, but also expose them to new situations and cultures. The more years have passed since a scholarship and laptop the more difficult it is be to attribute certain changes to it. The same goes for trying to establish the cost effectiveness of scholarships and laptop. It is possible to establish the return on investment rate of scholarships and laptop distribution compared to other types of interventions such as setting up an education course in a developing country. The study concluded that researcher perceive laptop and scholarship to be highly effective instructional tools for students and their achievements. Students feel financial independence to move for further education in modern ways.

### **Suggestions:**

- It is suggested that Govt. should focus on using advanced technology in academic institutions as one of the major tools of learning, teaching, and searching for information and sharing it to connect with youth entrepreneurship policy initiatives.
- Govt. should focus on more poor families for scholarships; it enhances the social capital and improves quality of education in promoting lifelong learning and independency, especially for needy and deserving through laptop and scholarships for education.
- The amount of financial package must be enhanced according to special case where needed.
- Future research scholars need to impart more research on role of scholarship programs in promoting learning and student's academic achievement.
- Govt. should retain these programs to sustain students' academic performance and linkages to use advance ICT, s.

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