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Thematic Focus: Conflict and Security

Armed Conflict and Displacement: Demand and Supply Analysis of Schooling in FATA, A Case Study of IDPs in Jalozai Camp- Anayat Ullah (2012-2014)

A survey based study highlights the inadequacy of schooling services provided to the Internally Displaced Children (IDC) of FATA which is the result of neglected role of UN organisations, international law and host state. On institutional level, the study recommends strengthening the quality of existing schools, colleges, hospitals, and other government machinery through proper monitoring system. This study also highlights the importance of introducing scholarship quota for the IDC and livelihood programmes for both in-camp Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and return migrants of FATA.

Key Findings

1. One of the study's findings indicates that the agenda set forth by militants is to detract schooling in FATA. The importance of education is well known to the militants for that reason their major target was to destroy schools in FATA especially girls' schools.
2. The study also highlights that after conflict induced displacement from FATA, schooling is adversely affected; secondary schooling is relatively more affected as compared to primary schooling. After displacement there is a considerable enrolment gap between primary and secondary level of schooling. But the affect of displacement on secondary level of schooling is more apparent and hazardous.
3. Before displacement there were many other factors which act as hurdle in the way of schooling. These factors include demand side and supply side barriers to schooling. The demand side barriers include socio-economic and cultural factors and supply side barriers include the lack of quality schooling from government schools.
4. After armed conflict and displacement, the intensity of demand side and supply side barriers to schooling in FATA has increased. On demand side, the IDPs' level of income is the main factor which is adversely affected after displacement. Whereas the livelihood sources, after displacement, are most severely impacted and IDPs have completely lost their regular income generating activities.

Policy Recommendations

1. The provision of education in FATA can play a key role in preventing and transforming violent society into a peaceful society.
2. At the time of budget allocations for FATA, the proportion of developmental projects should be increased to build new schools in FATA in place of those destroyed during conflict.
3. Government should look after returning migrants because they have nothing in their hands for their day to day lives. So, the in-camp projects should be extended to the local areas populated by returning migrants in FATA.
4. To ensure quality of existing schools, colleges and hospitals, government machinery as well as a proper monitoring system should be provided. The scholarship quota should be introduced for the IDC and for all those students who were disabled due to conflict in FATA.