



X Space Session

Why Does Education Stop at the Provincial Capital?

Concept Note

Across Pakistan, universities, better schools, resources and decision-making remain largely concentrated in provincial capitals, while many districts continue to struggle with basic schools, teachers and educational facilities. This growing gap raises a simple question: **why does access to quality education weaken beyond provincial capitals?** Much of Pakistan's administrative system is rooted in a **colonial-era model**, where authority remains concentrated at the top and local needs often receive limited attention.

Recognising the need to bring governance closer to communities, **Pak Asia Youth Forum (PAYF)** is organising an X Space titled **"Why Does Education Stop at the Provincial Capital?"** on **Friday, 25 September 2026**. The discussion will bring education activists and relevant stakeholders together to examine the gap between provincial capitals and districts, particularly in the education sector. It will explore why communities often approach MPAs and MNAs for basic services, despite their primary legislative role, while administrative decision-making remains largely centralised.

Through this X Space, PAYF will bring education activists and relevant voices together to discuss this governance gap. The conversation will look at whether smaller and properly empowered administrative units can bring decision-making closer to people, improve education services and make local administration more accountable. The broader question is: can bringing government closer to the people help bridge the gap between the state and its citizens?