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Punjab Launches Mobile Schools and Libraries to Boost Education

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On July 20, 2025, Punjab Chief Minister (CM) Maryam Nawaz Sharif launched the innovative “School on Wheels” and “Library on Wheels” projects to enhance literacy and educational access in underserved areas. This article explores these initiatives, their potential to transform education for rural children, and the broader implications for Pakistan’s

educational landscape, emphasizing the importance of innovative solutions to address systemic challenges.

The “School on Wheels” initiative, spearheaded by the Punjab government, brings primary education to remote villages via solar-powered electric rickshaws. Equipped with foldable chairs, canopies, and teaching materials, these mobile classrooms enable teachers to conduct classes in open community spaces. Children receive free books, educational toys, and art supplies to foster engagement, as reported by Daily Times. The companion “Library on Wheels” project delivers diverse reading materials beyond textbooks, aiming to cultivate a reading culture. Punjab Education Minister Rana Sikandar Hayat noted, “These initiatives reflect our commitment to reaching every child,” during a briefing, per Daily Pakistan. The programs target rural and peri-urban areas, where access to schools and libraries is limited, addressing Pakistan’s 48% rural illiteracy rate.

These projects align with CM Nawaz’s vision, “Parho Gay To Barho Gay” (Read to Grow), and include modern mobile libraries housed in buses with tables, chairs, and books in Urdu, English, and science. The use of solar-powered e-rickshaws ensures eco-friendly operations, a point emphasized by ProPakistani. By bringing education to doorsteps, the initiatives tackle barriers like poverty and distance, which keep millions of children out of school. A local parent, Jamal Ahmed, shared, “My kids now eagerly wait for the mobile school,” highlighting the community’s enthusiasm, as quoted by The News.

While these efforts are commendable, Pakistan’s education system faces deep-rooted issues, with only 2% of GDP allocated to education. The success of “School on Wheels” and “Library on Wheels” hinges on

consistent funding and expansion. By prioritizing innovative delivery, Punjab sets a model for addressing educational disparities, reinforcing the need for practical solutions to empower the nation's youth.