

Smart School System: students to be given iPads tablets

RECORDER REPORT LAHORE (December 02, 2013) : The Punjab Government has decided to introduce the 'Smart Schools System' across the province. Under this system, nearly 55,000 public sector schools, both for boys and girls, would be transformed into centres of excellence through innovative means including the provision of computer iPad Tabs to all the students of 8th to 10th classes. These computers Tabs would also be uploaded with the course comprising of the syllabus of the relevant classes. The Provincial Minister for Education Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan disclosed it in a meeting to determine the areas of jurisdiction for the proposed Private Educational Institutions Commission, here on Sunday. Members of National Assembly Muhammad Pervaiz Malik, Mehr Ishtiaq Ahmad, MPAs Khawaja Imran Nazir and Mrs Ayesha Javed, Chairman Punjab Examination Commission Professor Zaffar Iqbal Qureshi, Chairman Punjab Text Book Board Nawazish Ali, Chairman Punjab Curriculum Development Authority Saleem Akhtar Kayani, Secretary Schools Education Punjab Abdul Jabbar Shaheen and representatives of private schools also attended the meeting. Provincial Minister for Education informed the meeting that the Punjab Government would provide computers tablets to more than 1.2 million students of 'Smart Schools System' from next year. The students could download their educational courses in the classroom through internet and the kids would get rid of heavy bags to carry. Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan further informed that the computers server of every 'Smart School System' would be linked with the central digital library of the government of Pakistan. This step would enable all the students coming from various socio-economic segments of the society to reach equally to the latest available knowledge in the world. The Minister also termed that introduction of unified educational system would be a significant step to ensure all the hardworking students to excel in their studies without any discrimination and would have equal opportunity to progress in their educational lives. During the meeting, the Minister announced that the Private Educational Institutions Commission would consist of 17 members including 8 officials and 9 non-official members. The non-official members would be nominated from renowned educationalists, technocrats, philanthropists and NGOs. At least two of whom would be the representatives of the private educational institutions, he added. The Minister further announced that the Chairman would be nominated from the non-official members of the Commission. He said the Commission would be authorised to monitor the working and performance of privately managed educational institutions and regulate them through issuing instructions for their improvement. The Commission will also play role in solving issues, problems and disputes between teachers, students, parents and the administration of the private educational institutions. [Copyright Business Recorder, 2013](#)