

Written submission to the International Development Committee by Dr. Peter J David

Attorney of Church of Scotland in Pakistan since March 2007

Chairman Board of Directors and Board of Governors of Forman Christian College (Chartered University) Lahore Pakistan

Hon. Senior Lecturer , Kings College Medical School, London

Chief Executive Whitepost Health Care Group, Redhill Surrey RH1 6YY

Senior Partner Kenton Clinic, Harrow, HA3 0UQ

The author immigrated to the UK in 1969 and has since maintained his interest and involvement in Minority communities uplift in Punjab Pakistan focussing on education and health initiatives.

Hon. Stephen Twigg MP,

Thank you for undertaking this long overdue inquiry into DFID's aid programme to Pakistan where I believe has been a gross abuse of British Taxpayers money by successive governments of Pakistan.

The aid to Pakistan I believe is sent to Pakistan to appease British politicians of Pakistani extraction and is feeble attempt by the UK government to 'buy' goodwill and loyalty from this cluster of Westminster politicians.

The multibillion aid to Pakistan over the periods of decades has made little if any difference to reverse or stem inequality based on gender, ethnicity, disability or faith . Extremism, modern slavery of children , persecution religious minorities and women continues without mercy . The aid has not made any appreciable improvement in the rate infant mortality , health of children, the health of child bearing women, education , extremism and violation of human rights especially of women and minorities in the nation of Pakistan.

Similarly grants through the ODA (Official Development Assistance) programme and The Scottish Governmental Aid for education has failed to reach the communities and people in most need.

I believe most if not entire aid to Pakistan is misused, squandered or usurped by the recipients in Pakistan . Corruption at all levels of political, governmental is not the only reason of the aid not reaching the most needed. It is the lack of British Government's resolve to apply the preconditions of fair usage of the aid before it is granted .

I believe that provision of such vast sums of monies to Pakistan adds no value to the UK/Pak relationship. Successive UK politicians of Pakistani extraction by exerting political pressure on the UK politicians have gradually escalated the magnitude of the aid that stands at 302 million pounds in 2019/20. The British-Pakistani politicians have enhanced their political stature in Pakistan without

influencing their Pakistani counterparts in the equitable ,fair and proper use of the aid for the most needy sections of the Pakistani society e.g. women, children, disabled, religious minorities and minorities persecuted due to their faith.

The UK government – as far as I am aware has no policy or mechanism to hold the Government of Pakistan or any of its recipient departments accountable for appropriate distribution of the aid that is considered by many Pakistan politicians and officials as’ repatriation by right’ from a former colonial power.

It is common knowledge that substantial overseas aid in Pakistan filters through to fund Madrissas (the religious schools run by mullahs) the hot bed of extremist in Pakistan. The poor in Pakistan do not benefit from the aid that is granted to Pakistan year after year.

Conclusions

There is no effective joined up strategy and delivery of the aid across the country. Various agencies continue to pour money in Pakistan without getting any reliable feedback from independant auditors of international standards.

There is no structured approach to ensure that the aid reaches those who need it most.

Suggestions

I believe that the entire aid programme to Pakistan must be suspended to draw attention of the Pakistani government to the concerns of the UK Government about the abuse of the UK aid.

The UK government, The ODA programme managers and the Scottish Government should establish a unified policy and have clearly defined and appropriate aims; Such clarity at present does not exist .

There must be specific agreement with the Pakistani government that a certain percentage of the aid must be spent on minority communities .

All UK government scholarships to Pakistani scholars must have a specific percentage of quota for minority scholars.

The UK government should insists of an agreed accountability process that ensures that the aid monies are an report to the Uk Government to illustrate that the most needy and the most vulnerable have had access to the UK governmental aid . Pakistani Government should present a quarterly

Sincerely,

Dr. Peter J .David