

## PAKISTAN

Home - Pakistan

Saturday Apr 23 2022



Uswah Zahid



## Sindh's teaching license exam to work as 'incentive' to improve profession: Shehzad Roy



Singer and Philanthropist Shehzad Roy. —  
Instagram/@officialshehzadroy

KARACHI: Following the Sindh government's decision to introduce a teaching license exam, philanthropist Shehzad Roy said the assessment would work as an "incentive" to improve the "entire teaching profession".

To maintain a high standard of education, it is crucial to have qualified teachers in the educational sector and it seems that the Sindh government is moving in that direction.

In a meeting that took place on Thursday, Sindh Education Minister Sardar Shah proposed licensing policy for teachers.

The meeting was attended by department officials, partners and educationists to "devise a strategy on restructuring of education institutions and allied wings" apart from the exam.

Philanthropist Shehzad Roy was also among the people who attended the meeting.

The singer turned philanthropist, while taking to Twitter, had thanked the education minister and the secretary of his department for "proposing groundbreaking reforms in raising teacher quality".

"For the [first] time in Pakistan, all BEd degree holders will be eligible to take a licensing exam and after clearing this, they will be inducted in BPS-16," Roy had said.

### Teaching is a science: Roy

To get a better understanding of the exam and the reasoning behind the exam *Geo.tv* reached out to the singer turned philanthropist.

Roy said that in Pakistan there is a need to understand that teaching is a science in itself just like becoming a doctor.

## Latest

VIEW ALL



| 2 minutes ago

Meghan Markle bullying claims won't be released: 'lessons have been learned'



| 29 minutes ago

Israel's Bennett says won't run in next election, Lapid poised to be PM



| 29 minutes ago

PM Shehbaz vows 'unwavering' security support to Chinese...



| 34 minutes ago

Ricky Martin's former manager sues singer over breach of contract

"You do a five-year MBBS and a house job and then become a doctor. How good the MBBS is compared to the rest of the world is another debate. You have to take a degree to become a doctor or an engineer," said Roy.

The philanthropist shared that recently the BEd was turned into a proper four-year degree programme.

Roy shared that his organisation "Durbeen" had adopted a teachers' training college in Hussainabad Karachi where they re-arranged the assessment and curriculum of the four-year degree by working with the Finland's University of Helsinki and the University of Karachi.

He shared that they had changed the programme and started it in 2019 with the first batch expected to come out in 2023.

"So we established that till teaching is not understood as a science, till you do not take a degree you cannot become a teacher. Because what's happening in this country is that if you have knowledge of the content you are teaching," said Roy.

The singer lamented that there was a lack of understanding among teachers on how a "child's brain works" and how important it was for them to understand it.

To explain the problem, Roy said that when a person gets a fractured leg they are recommended to go to an orthopaedic surgeon. He added that no one says that the injured person should go to a chartered accountant because he can give better treatment.

"Similarly, there are many teachers teaching in schools today who do not have a degree but are teachers," said Roy.

### **Open test for all a dangerous trend: Roy**

The singer lamented that the "dangerous" thing that happened across Pakistan was that governments invited people holding a MA, MPhil degree to give a test and start teaching.

"[This is] because you do not have people with BEd as the degree is so faulty and has gone down that people are not doing it. It's just like telling doctors to leave everything give a test and become doctors," said Roy.

The singer-turned philanthropist shared that this move by the Sindh education department would change the whole pattern. He added that the credit to bring this change goes to Sindh Education Minister Sardar Shah who decided that whoever comes with a BEd degree will have to give a licensing exam.

Roy shared that the Sindh Teachers Education Development Authority (STEDA) is developing the licensing exam.

The educationist explained that the exam would work as an incentive for those people who complete a BEd programme. He also added that the exam would be at par with the rest of the world and hoped that other provincial governments would follow suit as well.

"Generally when teachers are hired they come on a lower grade. This is an incentive so we can improve the entire teaching profession," said Roy.

The singer also shared that the test will not apply to teachers who are already there and would not end hiring that is happening via other methods.

"This is an extra path that will be introduced. Work is happening on it and has not been introduced as of yet," said Roy

### **Exam to be rolled out this year: Roy**

On the introduction of the license, the philanthropist said it would be rolled out sometime this year as several official and policy matters needed to be amended.

To a question on what the passing marks for clearing the license test would be, Roy said once the license would be officially introduced, details would be clearer.

The singer added that obtaining the license and being appointed as a grade 16 officer would be a huge incentive for women as they are usually asked to stop working after marriage.

### **MORE FROM PAKISTAN:**



Chances of heavy intermittent rainfall in Karac...



Hina Rabbani Khar calls for easing sanction...



Another fuel price hike likely in next fortnight



PM Shehbaz vows 'unwavering' security support...



Pakistan's COVID-19 case count at 3.5-...



Imran Khan can't win election if institutions...



Karachi's weather turns pleasant due to overnigh...



Masks on flights 'absolute must' again, CAA warns



Former IG Sindh AD Khawaja sends legal...



FIA arrests group teaching black magic online



Ishaq Dar to return to Pakistan in fourth week o...



Qureshi claims PTI 'conspired' against him to...