Unleashing the Economic Potential of Balochistan: The Dynamic Power of District Hub

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Abstract

Balochistan, one of Pakistan's largest and resource-rich provinces, faces significant challenges in realizing its economic potential. Despite abundant natural resources, Balochistan suffers from some of the country’s worst poverty rates, with the second-highest multidimensional poverty rate after the formerly Federally Administered Tribal Areas. The sparse population across a vast land area poses a significant growth constraint due to low population density, challenging terrain, and high per-unit service delivery costs. The lack of urban clusters exacerbates the problem of regional disparity, with Quetta being the only large city in the province. Nevertheless, Hub district stands out as Balochistan's most productive district, with the agricultural, fisheries, and livestock industries contributing significantly to its economy. Moreover, the district is Balochistan's only industrial and financial center, producing, on average, 90% of the province's industrial output and generating 70% of its tax revenue. As one of the thriving districts of Balochistan, District Hub needs reorganization along with new lines that unleash its economic potential and become the economic growth engine of Balochistan. However, to fully realize Balochistan's potential, further measures must be taken to address the challenges of low population density, logistical difficulties, and regional disparity.

Keywords:
Economic Potential, Industrial and Financial Hub, Low Population Density, District Hub

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