

## Media Tracking Report

1-5 April, 2019

### Education in Pakistan

- [Inclusive education by Dr. Faisal Bari- in DAWN](#)

The article highlights the current state of special education for children with disability in Pakistan and how resources are a barrier for low-income schools and families to address this challenge. Dr. Faisal Bari states the importance of “Least restrictive environment” and states the importance of an inclusive society

- [Probe reveals corruption in KP govt’s education scheme: report- in Pakistan Today](#)

An inquiry has revealed massive corruption in the Iqra Farogh-e-Talim, a special voucher scheme of the provincial government under Elementary Education Foundation (EEF). Iqra Farogh-e-Talim is a special initiative of the KP government with the objective of enrolling out of school children between the ages of 5-16 residing in poor areas in the province through a voucher scheme.

- [Another year of chasing ‘success’ — is the hyper-focus on grades failing our students?-in Prism](#)

As we near another year of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) in Pakistan, students are seen rushing in droves from one tuition teacher to another in the hope of utilising whatever time they have left to bump up potential grades.

- [The current outdated legal system of Pakistan and its impact on the nation by Malik M. Abdul Basit Khatana- in Daily Times](#)

The international students and external law graduates, after a challenging movement, filed a writ against the Pakistan Bar Council and Higher Education Commission where they requested the court of law to revoke the recently introduced and instantly implemented LAW graduate assessment test (the “LAW-GAT”).

### Infrastructure: The political costs and economic benefits of collaborating with China

- [NA speaker forms panel on CPEC to oversee projects-in DAWN](#)

According to an official announcement by the National Assembly Secretariat, the committee constituted 14 members of the National Assembly and seven senators belonging to all major political parties having representation in parliament.

- [China’s Belt-and-Road Initiative Puts a Squeeze on Pakistan -in The Wall Street Journal](#)

Huge building program was supposed to fuel an economic boom for key ally, but economic crisis stalls projects, prompts Islamabad to ask for aid ahead of Beijing forum on infrastructure policy

- [Agricultural cooperation with China to be enhanced under CPEC-in Pakistan Today](#)

Planning, Development and Reform Minister Makhdoom Khusro Bakhtiar said that the government was focused on developing the agriculture sector on modern lines in order to improve the livelihoods of small farmers and to enhance the sector’s contribution to the national economy.

- Qatar evinces interest to invest in CPEC projects-in [The News](#)

Qatar Investment Authority's Head Sheikh Faisal Bin Thani Al-Thani said Qatar is planning various projects in Pakistan with an investment horizon for next 10 to 15 years. "We are looking for a long-term partnership and not quick wins," an official statement quoted him as saying.

- Under second phase of CPEC: Pakistan, China may sign MoUs, agreements on projects-in [Business Recorder](#)

Pakistan and China are likely to sign memoranda of understanding on various projects of second phase of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) on April 26 during the Prime Minister Imran Khan's visit to China, it is learnt. China is going to hold the second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation on April 25 in Beijing in which nearly 40 foreign governments and representatives from more than 100 countries would participate.

### **Reducing Pakistan's public sector: How can we maintain public services and minimize backlash while we make the cuts demanded by the IMF?**

- 'FATF clearance must for IMF loan'-in [The News](#)

Pakistan is on a tight rope, as unless the FATF (Financial Action Task Force) clears Pakistan, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) will not extend any bailout package to wriggle the country out of economic quagmire. After FATF is satisfied with actions, the IMF will be given a green signal by the Trump administration to sign the loan programme with Pakistan.

- Pakistan requests 13th IMF loan, amid US-China tensions-in [Bretton Woods Project](#)

Pakistan's economic woes persist, as it battles mammoth twin deficits, deteriorating foreign currency reserves, low exports, diminishing tax revenues, a weak currency, onerous external debt payments, and soaring sovereign debt. Despite interventions to stave off a balance of payments crisis that would force Pakistan to submit to the Fund – such as currency devaluations by Pakistan's Central Bank, a \$1 billion loan from Saudi Arabia, a reported \$2 billion pledge from China, and the issuance by Pakistan of \$1 billion worth of bonds to its citizens living overseas – dialogue between the IMF and Pakistan on the way forward continues.

- PTI govt banks on IMF to prevent economic havoc-in [The Express Tribune](#)

The rupee will further plummet against the dollar and new investment will come to a halt if Pakistan does not strike a deal with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Finance Minister Asad Umar warned.

### **Civil Service Reforms in Pakistan**

- Why every prime minister has failed to 'fix' the civil service of Pakistan-in [The Express Tribune](#)

Every prime minister of Pakistan has promised to 'fix' the civil service. The issue has enjoyed support from parties across the political spectrum. After all, who wouldn't like Pakistan to have a better civil service? The citizens demand it. The politicians want to do it. The experts know how to do it. Why, then, has every reform effort either failed miserably or been shot down in its infancy?

- Tsunami of stagflation by Imtiaz Alam-in The [NEWS](#)

The prospects of economic revival are doomed for at least three years with inflation (CPI: 9.41 percent) projected to go up to 14 percent, GDP growth down to 3.5 percent, investment drowning and revenues plummeting (by Rs 318 billion), both high-cost items of debt-servicing

(Rs2 trillion) and defence (over Rs1.7 trillion) touching Rs4 trillion and unemployment surging to 8 percent, etc.