

Media Tracking Report

11-15 March 2019

Education in Pakistan

- Helping every girl and boy complete primary education in Pakistan-In [Unicef](#)

In Pakistan, nearly 23 million children aged 5-16 are out of school -- nearly half the age group, the majority of them girls – including five million of primary school age. To enable girls and boys to fulfil their right to education, UNICEF, with funding from the Norwegian Committee, supports various Alternative Learning Programmes across Pakistan, including more than 200 in Punjab. These programmes give children who dropped out, or have never been to school, a chance to learn. The project is being implemented in partnership with the Literacy and Non-Formal Basic Education Department of Punjab.

- SHC orders private schools to exempt orphans from fee- in [Pakistan Today](#)

The Sindh High court ordered all the private educational institutes to exempt orphans from every kind of fee. SHC directed the provincial government to reserve PKR10 mn annually for orphanages in the province. The court asked the government to legislate for orphans' enrollment in private educational institutes.

- 'Quality Education, Uniform Education System Must For Development'-in [Academia](#)

Shafqat Mehmood, Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training says the federal government is working for quality education and implementation of a uniform education system in order to ensure human resource development on modern lines. According to him the parallel education system such as madrassa system, Urdu medium, English medium, government schools and Oxford system are damaging the unity of the country.

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

- S Punjab to get major share of uplift schemes under CPEC-in [DAWN](#)

South Punjab will be the main region for majority of the socio-economic development projects to be implemented in Punjab with Chinese money under the multi-billion dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). China has shown interest in financially supporting 16 projects related to education and vocational training, healthcare, poverty alleviation, agriculture and drinkable water supply sectors in Punjab as part of Beijing's commitment to include socio-economic development schemes valuing \$1 billion in the CPEC portfolio across Pakistan.

- Momentum building behind CPEC again-in [DAWN](#)

The government has decided to revert to the original plan of undertaking \$8.2 billion Karachi to Peshawar Main Railway Line (ML-1) on engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) mode under previously agreed loan as part of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

- CPEC — The Security Corridor by Nasim Haider [GEO News](#)

Just after getting an economic boost and Arab impetus in CPEC, Pakistan has found itself caught in uncalled for border tension with India, It's encouraging that Saudi Arabia is among the countries pursuing de-escalation through the crown corridor.

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

- IMF projects \$19 bn net financing gap in PTI era-in [The News](#)

In the staff level assessment done by the IMF and continuously sharing with Pakistani authorities, the IMF had initially projected financing gap of \$10 billion for the current fiscal year but after getting help from friendly countries especially from Saudi Arabia and UAE in terms of \$3 billion deposits from each side and oil facility on deferred payment, the IMF is still considering that the financing gap of \$2 billion for the current fiscal year 2018-19. The cumulative financing gap on external front over 5 years is projected at \$19 billion, the IMF assessment shows.

- Govt, IMF yet to decide on bailout package: Asad Umar-in [Express Tribune](#)

Finance Minister Asad Umer has said that no final amount has yet been agreed as Pakistan continues negotiations for an International Monetary Fund (IMF) programme. As the discussions will be held until IMF mission chief was arriving in Pakistan on March 26. In addition to that a delegation of the Financial Action Task Force's (FATF) Asia Pacific Group was also scheduled to visit Islamabad on March 25.