

Media Tracking Report

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Education in Pakistan

One in four Pakistani children won't complete primary education by 2030: Unesco –in [The DAWN](#)

According to UNESCO Projections prepared for UN-High-level Political Forum one in four Pakistani children will not be completing primary school by the deadline of 2030, a deadline for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The country will only be half-way to the target of 12 years of education for all, with 50 per cent of youth still not completing upper secondary education at the current rates.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development emphasises leaving no-one behind yet only 4pc of the poorest 20pc complete upper secondary school in the poorest countries, compared to 36pc of the richest. The gap is even wider in lower-middle-income countries.

PM announces setting up National Accelerator on Closing Skills Gap in Pakistan in partnership with WEF- in [Business Recorder](#)

PM Imran Khan has announced the establishment of National Accelerator on Closing the Skills Gap in Pakistan, in partnership with World Economic Forum and Punjab Skills Development Fund serving as national secretariat.

The National Skills Development Accelerator will be led and guided by a team of Co-Chairs from the public and private sectors. The government will be represented by Shafqat Mahmood, Federal Minister of Education and Professional Training and Zulfiqar Bukhari, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resources Development.

The Implications of IMF bailout package on Pakistan's economy

Average exchange rate likely to be Rs172.53 by June 2020-in [The Express Tribune](#)

A latest report by IMF suggests that the average exchange rate at the end of this fiscal year could be Rs172.53 to a dollar – a depreciation of over 27%, due to weak macroeconomic fundamentals. The Rs172.53 to a dollar average exchange rate would stoke the inflation that the IMF has estimated at 13%. The means that the annual inflation rate in this fiscal year is expected to soar to 18%.

In its staff level report, the IMF has not explicitly stated the exchange rate of Rs172.53 to a dollar. But a backward working on the basis of current account deficit projections show that rupee would keep losing its value under the IMF programme and beyond it. The average exchange rate of Rs172.53 to a dollar by June 2020 means that the year-end rupee-dollar parity would be over Rs188 to a dollar.

Pakistan to further increase electricity prices from August, says IMF report- [Geo NEWS](#)

Pakistan has agreed with the International Monetary Fund to further hike the electricity tariff on quarterly adjustments basis by the end of August. It is likely that the increase will be of Rs2.5 per unit from the next month.

The IMF in its report stated, “Eliminating power sector losses on a sustainable basis will require both new pricing policies and improvements in governance and infrastructure. There are three main sources of arrears in the power sector: effective tariffs below the required levels and only approved with significant delays; implicit subsidies provided by the government that have long remained unbudgeted; and technical and distribution losses. The authorities aim to address the first two sources in the near term while preparing a plan to tackle the third source of arrears over the course of the program.”

IMF assesses Pakistan's financing need at \$25.5b- in [The Express Tribune](#)

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has assessed Pakistan's gross financing requirement at \$25.5 billion in this fiscal year on the back of mounting debt repayment whereas the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has indicated that it will provide \$10 billion over a period of five years.

The release of the IMF report coincided with the ADB's announcement of \$10 billion in indicative financing from 2020 to 2024. The Manila-based lender will give \$2 billion per annum, which was 2lower than the average \$2.5 billion annual assistance under the present Country Operations Business Plan.

The IMF noted in its report that the first year of the 39-month loan programme is "fully financed with the expected support from multilateral development banks and bilateral creditors". In this fiscal year, China will give \$6.3 billion in loan, Saudi Arabia \$6.2 billion, the UAE \$1 billion, World Bank \$1.3 billion, ADB \$1.6 billion and Islamic Development Bank \$1.1 billion, according to the IMF.

CPEC and Pakistan

[The Problem With China's Investments -- From Malaysia To Sri Lanka, Pakistan, And Uganda- Forbes](#)

In the article the author discusses China's investment spree in recent years. He has attributed it to country's robust growth in addition to exports. The author writes that its investment abroad are not economically viable and leave the host counties indebted to Beijing, as they address the needs of Beijing and not the local market. The author discusses and draws the comparison on the state of indebtedness of Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Uganda.

[Chinese keen to invest \\$1 billion in various sectors-in Business Recorder](#)

A 50-member Chinese investment delegation expressed the desire to invest \$1 billion in initial phase in various sectors, including automotives, textiles, agriculture related industries, and IT and telecom industries under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The Chinese investment delegation discussed in detail various aspects of joint ventures for establishment of three early harvest Special Economic Zones (SEZs) under the CPEC with the Board of Investment (BoI) and the Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform.

[Pakistan invites Commonwealth countries to invest in SEZs under CPEC- in Radio Pakistan](#)

Pakistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Querashi has invited Commonwealth countries to invest in Special Economic Zones to be established under China Pakistan Economic Corridor project. Addressing the news conference in London he said "CPEC is a mega connectivity project which will ensure sustainable economic growth." He also said european countries should open legal pathways for import of skilled and semi-skilled workforce from countries such as Pakistan.

Civil Service Reforms

[Effective accountability and power imbalance by Foqia Sadiq Khan- in The News](#)

Without resorting to using corruption only as a slogan, there is a need to carry out reforms in the bureaucracy at all levels since the civil service is the first point of contact between the citizens and the state. Bureaucratic reforms should be made with compatible incentives and ensure both the security of tenure as well as credible penalties for corruption.