

## Gender Gap in Pakistan

Despite all constitutional protections for women and ratification of international conventions, gender equality is still a far call in the patriarchal society of Pakistan. The ever widening gap is attributable to specific cultural ethics specific to Pakistani society. Ranging from a restrictive interpretation of Sharia to lack of education and awareness about role of other half of the nation, many causes amalgamate to further the discriminatory behaviour towards woman.

The situation is so dire as reflected in a recent report by World Economic Forum. It places Pakistan at a precarious, fifth worst country in terms of gender-based equality.

Worryingly, it states that at current rate of progress, it will take 162 years of constant struggle before Pakistan can join the ranks of egalitarian and equitable domain in the world. Thus, Pakistan's journey towards a balanced society is painfully slothful.

## Rising Power of Cyber attacks

Advancement in technology, besides all its advantages, has also unleashed a range of challenges imperilling world peace. A case in point is the rise of cyber attacks growing ever deadlier and intoussive. Such sovereignty-eroding repercussions were expected for as the world goes global, the globe goes digital. A digitally connected world, in a way, reinforces the anarchy of the international arena multifold. For example, it was rarely imagined, much less predicted, that cyber attacks could sustain physical damage to its victim as was observed in 2010 attack on Iranian Nuclear facility. Developed by Israel in league with the USA, Stuxnet worm damaged Iran's supervisory and data acquisition system, thus damaging it irreparably. In short, technology has ~~other~~ a dark side as well, as manifested by cyber attacks that amplify international anarchy and erode the sacrosanct sovereignty of states.