

Taxing untaxed sectors

Pakistan's economic troubles are going to remain persistent if the country fails to tax the untaxed sectors. It is undoubtedly true that no country can survive without money. All countries need to ensure they receive adequate revenues to operate smoothly. Unfortunately, Pakistan has been facing fiscal deficit ~~since~~^{for} some long time due to its failure to earn healthy revenues. Its current GDP-to-Tax ratio stands near to 9%, which is amongst the countries with the lowest rate. According to the World Bank, minimum a country should have the tax-to-GDP ratio is 13%. This situation has precipitated because the country has failed to broaden the tax net and tax certain sectors, especially agriculture. According to the Economic Survey of Pakistan, the agriculture sector contributes 15th ~~of~~ of the GDP, but the revenue of taxes is below 1%. It underscores the need for taxing untaxed sectors in order to raise revenues to end country's economic troubles.

Gender Gap in Pakistan

The Pakistan government needs to put immediate efforts to deal with the burgeoning gender inequality. There are many factors that are at play to widen the gender gap. Among them, poverty is the primary reason. No doubt, this menace does not look into gender divisions and affects everyone, but women suffer the most from it. This is because they are mostly dependent on males, especially in a society like Pakistan, which is patriarchally-dominated. With worsening economic indicators, women are the immediate victims. It is apparent from the growing gender gap. According to the World Economic Forum's Gender Gap Index (GGI) 2024, Pakistan is the second worst country with gender parity score of 57%. Considering this ranking, the government urgently needs to work on bridging the gender gap, which is persistently widening.

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Terrorism and tourism

The growth of tourism sector in Pakistan largely lies on the success of the government in defeating terrorism. It is indeed a remarkable step by the government to launch a new operation for countering the threat of terrorism. This threat of terrorism has inflicted enormous damages on the country, especially hurting its economy. The country has been deprived of the foreign direct investment as a result of terrorism. More importantly, it is hindering the inflow of tourists to the country. People usually do not like to go to places that are not safe. Since Pakistan's image is globally tarnished due to terrorism, tourists avoid coming here. Thus, to build this sector of tourism properly, Pakistan needs to vanquish the threat of terrorism.

Empowerment of people

Social media has empowered people by amplifying their voices. In present time, people can easily raise their voice against any injustice either committed to them directly or to any other person. Unlike the past times, when cruel and barbaric acts would go unnoticed; therefore unpunished because the victims could not bring the atrocities to the fore or attention of authorities. Though social media is often criticized widely for giving people undue freedom to act in whatsoever manner they want, it can not eclipse numerous benefits people have earned and are enjoying with the use of social media. Subsequent to the amputation of a cruel leg in Sindh, the owner managed to get justice because of the power of social media. In case of absence of this technology, such a heinous act would have gone unpunished. Therefore, it is true that social media has empowered people by endowing them with voice.

Azm-i-Istehkam operation.

Pakistan needs to successfully carry out the newly-launched Azm-i-Istehkam operation in order to contain the sinister wave of terrorism. In the previous few years, a large number of terrorism-related incidents have transpired in Pakistan. Unfortunately, the frequency of attacks is persistently surging with every passing year. According to the recent report by the Centre of Research and Security Studies (CRSS), Pakistan witnessed more than 700 terrorist attacks in 2023, which claimed over 1500 innocent lives. In no sense, this number is small. It highlights the need for a successful operation, purported at debilitating the rising menace of terrorism. Hence, Pakistan necessarily needs to thoroughly conduct the new operation called Azm-i-Istehkam in order to obliterate terrorism from its soil.

AI and The Neighbours

Pakistan and India need to unite with each other in order to fight mutually interrelated challenges posed by the AI. It has been now more than a decade's time that the two countries have been at loggerheads with each other, presenting a good vacuum to third parties to settle in and exploit their disharmony. According to the yearly World Risk Outlook report for 2024 by the World Economic Forum, AI-fuelled challenges are a great threat for India and Pakistan. It has been often seen that some elements are hot headed on the electronic platforms to share content that leads further fissure between the two neighbour countries. Hate mingles are leading comparisons to widen the gulf amongst the people on either side. With growing progress of technology, especially AI, detection of truth has become enormously difficult. Thus the two countries must work combinedly to face the AI threat.

Developmental expenditures

The government of Pakistan should not curtail its developmental expenditures for to keep the growing unemployment rate low. In the wake of rising fiscal deficit — higher expenditures in comparison to lower revenues — the government has been mulling over cutting its expenditures. It is widely believed that whenever government takes austerity measures, more particularly in connection to bringing down its expenditures, it pursues reducing developmental expenditures instead of tweaking with non-developmental. It does so because of appearing parliamentarians and other officials. Unfortunately, reduction of any rate will cause great misery on the public. First of all, it hinders production of new employment opportunities. Second, in some cases, serving employees are laid off. Moreover, it affects delivery of public services and welfare programs. In the conclusion, the government should not reduce its developmental expenditures for wider social benefits.