

## \* Media \*

Various tactics are at play in Pakistan to influence the media. Over the years, media has become an important institution for every country. It is now regarded as a 'Fourth' organ of the state after the three traditional ones. It is impacting not only people's lives but also countries as a whole. However, wherever, its freedom is curtailed, it is producing enormous hostile consequences. Unfortunately Pakistan is one of those countries where media does not enjoy an absolute degree of freedom. Different institutions, powerful people and countries are hitherto in controlling media in Pakistan in order to achieve their underlying intents. They are employing a diverse nature of tactics to control media. Journalists are being harassed, killed and abducted to fulfil their illegal demands. The media, therefore, does not have freedom in Pakistan.

## Decline in democracy

Another factor that is deeply contributing in the decline of democracy globally is the unflinching curtailment of media in countries. There is no denying to the fact that media has become a new reality in the world, becoming an indispensable necessity of the present time. Life without access to media is no different to life in the Stone age era, nowadays. It provides all kind of information, news and other updates to people, so much so that people are able to have broader connectivity with the world due to media. However, it is getting restricted in a larger number of countries, thereby impeding stability of democracy. The step on part of Pakistani government to ban ~~an~~ applications (certainly Twitter) is one such example of limiting media. With the help of media, people are able to express their dissent, get news and information. Thus, its curtailment hurts democracy.

## Democratic erosion

The unabated rise of right-wing populist parties is resulting in democratic erosion globally. Generally, democracy is regarded as a strong guardian of protection of human rights. Basically, at the core of democracy was the phenomenon of 'humanism'. Unfortunately, the rising trend of nationalism in a litany of countries over the globe is hampering the democratic consolidation. For instance, the recent efforts in India to impose the 'Citizen Amendment Act 2019 (CAA-2019)' is a glaring precedent of the fact of rise nowadays: Nationalism. Similarly, Rwanda's policy in Britain is another such example. All such steps point to the fact that democracy in the world is on the back foot in the backdrop of the rising populist politics on the basis of nationalistic tendencies.