

* Freedom of Media *

Freedom of media is unarguably a great necessity to strengthen the institution of democracy in Pakistan. The importance of media has grown so much over the years. It is now widely accepted and considered as the fourth pillar of every state. Unfortunately, this important organ in Pakistan is under extreme shackles. As highlighted in the recently ^{issued} report by the 'Reporters without Borders', Pakistan's media is being largely controlled by the civilian government and the overbearing establishment. The report has ranked Pakistan at 152nd amongst the countries based on the degree of freedom to media. Shockingly, it also described Pakistan as 'one of the most dangerous countries in the world for journalists'. Without free media, democracy can not thrive in true sense. In order to make democracy flourish, Pakistan needs to liberate media from its shackles.

* Tactics to control media *

There are various tactics at play in Pakistan to curtail the freedom of media and make it subjugated. Basically, freedom of media means that this institution is free to act independently without being dictated by other institutions, individuals or a group. It saddens the heart to see that the media in Pakistan is enormously controlled and commanded by heavy weights. It does not enjoy the freedom. ~~It~~ There are several forces that are hot headed in putting media to chains and to modulate it as per their wishes and whims. These actors are doing this practice with the aid of a number of tools. Censorship, character assassination, illegal demands, harassment, with drawing the public advertisements and tenders are the most conspicuous instruments to control media for them. Freedom of media can, therefore, only materialize when these practices are nipped in bud for good.

* Overcoming extremism *

To tackle the uninhibited extremism, Pakistan needs to obliterate its supportive drivers. Beyond any doubt, the extremism has immensely risen in past some years. It would not be wrong to say that occurrence of one or more extremism-related incidents within 9 months has become a new 'normal'. In a span of merely few weeks, two eye-opening incidents have transpired. One of them took place in Swat, where a person was put to death after burning him; the other took place in Sargodha. These are irrefutable testament to alarmingly rising extremism. To this end, the country needs to put to use its drivers, which include proscribed-organizations working under different names, curtailing clerics' leeway, eradicating poverty, and controlling religious urges. Undoubtedly, the country can thrive in putting extremism to morque if it dismantles its unabated driving forces.

* Eradicating extremism *

Pakistan needs to create more economic opportunities for the youth in order to debilitate extremism. At present, extremism has enormously consolidated its bastion in the country, which is apparent from the fact that there has been an alarming uptick in extremism-related incidents. Episodes that came to fore in Ichera Bazar, Sargodha and Swat attest to this notion. Unfortunately, the country has failed to direct its efforts to the real cause that has been encouraging extremism, widespread poverty. Shockingly, the country has 39% people living below the poverty line as reported by the Economic Survey of Pakistan. When people are financially weak and ailing in the melody of poverty, they are easy to entice to engage in anti-state practices. Moreover, such a woe-begone state itself pushes them to vent out their desperation on some outlets. It reflects that the country needs to uplift people economically to eradicate extremism.

* Global boiling *

The intensity of global warming has extremely elevated in last few years that in a wider section, a new term has come as its replacement called global boiling. Last year was declared to be the hottest ever in the recorded history, which has been validated by a large number of studies and reports.

One of them is the famous UN's climate monitoring body called Copernicus, which attested to the conjecture of 2023 being the hottest year. Amidst this alarming change in weather patterns, floods, disasters, heatwaves, etc., the General Secretary of UN described this novel phenomenon as 'global boiling' which has gripped the entire world with no exception. This newly introduced ^{term} has now received a wider recognition in societies, as there is indeed a perilous change in climate.