

Pathways to Pakistan's Prosperity

Outline

1. Introduction

* Pakistan is a poor developing country facing tremendous challenges of economy, security and foreign affairs

* But there are multiple pathways that can be followed to achieve prosperity

Current Ranking of Pakistan

2.1 Pakistan ranks 164 out of 193 countries on human development, according to UNDP

2.2 Pakistan's literacy rate is 58% as compared to global average of 86%.

2.3 Pakistan ranks 140 out of 180 countries on corruption perception index.

3. Pathways to Pakistan's prosperity

- 3.1 Increase in exports and global international trade
- 3.2 Improving democracy and ^{practices} free, fair elections
- 3.3 Stabilizing internal politics and empowering political parties.
- 3.4 Easy access of education to all especially women
- 3.5 Investments in health and educational infrastructure
- 3.6 Curbing internal security issues
- 3.7 Adopting a sensible and neutral geo-political strategy.
- 3.8 Investing in favorable national and international initiatives like CPEC, Gwadar Port.
- 3.9 Developing good ^{overall} governance
- 3.10 Eradicating corruption within the country.

4. Challenges in achieving Prosperity

- 4.1 High trade deficit
- 4.2 Continuous increase in circular debt and interest
- 4.3 ^{Devaluation} Devaluing of Pakistani Currency
- 4.4 Involvement of military in national politics
- 4.5 High corruption rate with no accountability
- 4.6 Border security issues and threat of international sanctions
- * (4.7 Poor governance of state) *
- 4.7 Destabilized political system with ongoing riots and protest
- 4.8 Inconsistent foreign policy.

Conclusion:

- * Pakistan has the capability of becoming a prosperous country as there are many pathways towards it.
- * By following these pathways and overcoming challenges, Pakistan can become a successful country.

Today, a country is considered prosperous if it has a growing economy, political stability, secure borders and rising export levels.

Along with that if the citizens of that country are provided with basic human facilities and live their lives above poverty line. Pakistan lacks in all of these categories and is a poor developing and struggling country. It is facing hard challenges like depreciating economy, (high trade deficit) security concerns, political unrest and high interest levels. Pakistan ranks very poorly in international rankings. But not

all hope is lost and there are multiple pathways that can be adopted by the country's leadership to achieve prosperity and success.

For example, improving export levels, improving literacy rate, investing in projects like CPEC, Gwadar, eradicating corruption, stabilizing internal politics and maintaining neutral foreign policy.

Though there are many challenges in adopting these and many such avenues of success, like border security issues, devaluation of national currency, circular debt and interest. By facing these challenges one at a time and following the pathways provided, Pakistan can begin its journey towards prosperity.

*(Looking at Pakistan's current international ranking in different)

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poorly in international rankings. It ranks 164 out of 193 countries on human development index, according to United Nations Development Program. Similarly, the literacy rate of Pakistan is 58% as compared to global average of 86%. Moreover, the country ranks 140 out of 180 countries on corruption perception index. Looking at these the country's ranking, the situation is very alarming. But it can be improved by understanding the problem and adopting pathways that will alleviate the situation.

The very first and a crucial pathway to Pakistan's success is the export import balance. The exports of the country need to be increased and the imports need to be demoted. Pakistan is a country that heavily

relies on its exports. But for some years now, the exports have reduced tremendously and there is a sharp rise in imports. This creates a huge outflow of dollars from the country. The inflow and outflow of the dollar is not balanced creating trade deficit in the country. Pakistan needs to capitalize on its export goods and create better policies that ease the process. By creating national policies that favour exporters, it will promote more people towards this business. ~~More e~~ Similarly, the imports need to be decreasing either by imposing high taxes on import products or by imposing bans on import products. This will increase the inflow of dollar in the country boosting the national treasury of the country. This is one pathway towards

Success

Similarly, international trade also

bolsters prosperity within a country

by improving the national economy.

(The exchange of money boosts

the local economy by helping

the) By buying cheap products

from other countries, it saves money.

The continuous flow of money

improves the local economy and

brings abundance and wealth to

the people involved. The countries

with very high trade levels are

the ones most successful in

today's present times. For example,

India is a fast growing

economy because it is becoming

a trade hub for many nations.

Thus improving and strengthening

the local economy. For a

country to achieve prosperity,

it is essential to focus on

bilateral trade with other countries of the world

The prosperity of a country is also linked with internal matters like the political system and democratic process. Pakistan can not become prosperous without ~~counting~~ ~~or~~ improving the democratic setup. The country has been facing for (50 more yrs) since its inception.

Free and Fair elections are the basis of a stable and successful democracy. By ensuring this within the country, multiple issues will be resolved that will allow the country to progress and grow.

Strengthening democracy is one of the ways of Pakistan can move in ^{the} direction of prosperity.

Moving forward, stabilizing the internal politics and strengthening political parties is also a

pathway to success. Mutual dialogue and collaboration between the major political parties will allow the political system to flourish. This is essential for any country aiming to grow politically, economically and financially. The stable political system also improves the international image of the country opening many new avenues of success and development.

"(Furthermore, Pakistan needs to capture and explore)"

Furthermore, investing in international initiatives is a way towards prosperity. By engaging in projects that are favourable to the national economy of the country, Pakistan can improve progress. Pakistan is currently involved in projects like CPEC, Gwadar Port. These

will open many new avenues of prosperity. It will improve the employment rate, increase foreign investment in the country and improve the national infrastructure.

A country's progress can be determined by these factors and can be continued by following and adopting such initiatives.

Pakistan will prosper greatly when these initiative projects complete and start producing finances for the country. Thus, participating in economic and infrastructure initiatives and allowing foreign investment in the country

Pakistan can progress greatly.

Moving onwards, the biggest determining factor of success for Pakistan is education. As the illiteracy rate of the country is more than 50%, it is crucial

to work on the educational sector in Pakistan. No country has ever progressed in the history of this world without knowledge and education. By providing easy access to education to all the children in Pakistan especially women, the country will start producing Doctors, scientists, Engineers that will carry forward country's progress and success. Illiteracy is the basis of many issues in Pakistan like lack of tolerance towards political opinions, poor economy, destabilized democracy, unemployment and lack of innovation and creativity. Imparting education to every individual is a basic right and a necessity for Pakistan. It is one of the (most) strongest and impactful pathways that can be adopted to

attain prosperity and success.

Moreover, it is as necessary to spend or invest in health infrastructure as in educational infrastructure for the progress of a country. Improving the health facilities in the ~~to~~ across Pakistan is an essential pathway to prosperity.

Currently, the health ~~and~~ ~~san~~ conditions are very poor in the country with rural areas suffering the most. There is a lack of clinics, dispensaries in the outskirts of major cities and villages lack basic infrastructure and medical facilities. Pakistan can only walk towards success if its citizens are living healthy lives. It is essential to solve this and to work for the overall wellbeing of all the citizens in the country. Making it an important pathway

prosperity.
Solving internal conflicts and security issues in the country is another pathway that can eventually lead to peace and success in the country. Pakistan faces political turmoils, riots and protests, Terrorism and border violations, ~~one~~ Blasphemy charges and cases keep coming up. Rape cases and sexual harassment issues. All of these are hurdles in the stability of a country. These create hindrances in the daily functioning of the country leading to financial losses and greater expenses. Without resolving these issues, Pakistan cannot achieve peace and stability. Thus it is important to curb these threats to the success of the country.

Furthermore, adopting a sensible and neutral geo-political strategy is another pathway ^{towards} ~~towards~~ Pakistan's prosperity. Pakistan has suffered alot through its history due to uninformed foreign policies and rapid decision making. It has greatly damaged Pakistan both financially and physically. For Pakistan to ~~to~~ become a strong nation working towards success, it is important to adopt foreign policy that does not favour any one side or global powers rather favours own. It needs to prioritize national interests and maintain such neutral stance in the international affairs that does not harm Pakistan in any way. Thus adopting a neutral geo-political strategy is a way towards Pakistan's success.

Pakistan needs to ^{completely} eradicate corruption from the country. This is one of the most challenging pathways towards prosperity. No country has ever achieved economic and political stability (without) in the presence of corruption. It is the root cause of all evils in the society and the failure of a country. Pakistan ranks very low in the corruption perception index. Strict accountability measures are required to curb this alarming situation. There needs to be complete transparency of the work performed by national leaders. Severe punishment of fraud and treason need be applied to ~~these~~ the corrupt citizens of the nation. Only then can Pakistan walk towards success and prosperity.

last but not the least, a very essential pathway of success is good governance. In Pakistan, there is a need for strict legal and tax reforms, that are implemented effectively.

A country can not succeed without practicing good governance policies that run the smooth functioning of the country. Pakistan is in desperate need of such reforms and policies that allow the country to capitalize on its resources and abilities to achieve prosperity and success.

This will be achieved by adopting good governance in the country.

However, there are multiple challenges in the face of success for Pakistan. The very first challenge would be

The circular debt and high interest rate. Pakistan was on the verge of defaulting last year and was unable to pay its yearly interest. But IMF aids helped in that situation. But the country's situation is worsening day by day as yearly ~~inter~~ debt is taken by IMF to run the country that needs to be paid back with interest. So, the country is stuck in a vicious cycle of circular debt with very high interest rates that need to be paid back to the international organizations like IMF, World Bank.

This is one of the biggest challenges that Pakistan is facing in achieving prosperity.

The currency of Pakistan is devaluing rapidly and is

growing serious concerns for the country. This impacts the economy and the trade deficit. The devaluation of Pakistani rupees means increased cost of imports which will further deteriorate the economic conditions of the country. This will impact the debt servicing and make it more difficult in repayment. The cost of living also increases for its citizens. This creating a huge challenge in the overall prosperity of the country.

Furthermore, the military involvement in the internal affairs of the country is another hurdle in the path of success. The militarization of politics in Pakistan has destabilized the political system, and both the military and political system are losing

then credibility in eyes of the citizens and international community.

This acts as a huge hindrance for Pakistan to succeed in the international market and community.

Continuous border threats and violations act as a hindrance in the country's success. (Mullian)*

A very big portion of Pakistan's budget goes towards defense due to such sensitive and critical border issues. If the situation improves, the defense budget can be allocated to health and education.

This will improve the overall conditions of the country. The rivalry with neighbouring country does not seem to improve, so the security concerns will continue to prove a challenge in achieving prosperity.

Pakistan keeps changing its foreign policy and there is no consistency. This proves to be a huge challenge for Pakistan's international reputation. Due to regional dynamics, global power alignment and economic pressures, Pakistan keeps shifting its policies that have negative impacts on ~~the~~ (This impact the local economy, a) This creates regional tensions, public backlash, economic dependencies, mistrust, reduced influence in international organizations. As the foreign policy also shifts the local and national policies, it creates ^{negative} repercussions internally. Thus proving it to be a challenge in achieving prosperity.

Moving forward, the political system of the country is very

unstable with very few ~~to~~
governments able to complete tenure

The political rivalries, riots
and protests destabilizes the
entire country. This puts a
halt to the functioning of
the country creating losses of
millions of rupees. Pakistan has
seen many political turmoil
for last couple of decades
and continues to do so. This
is an ever-lasting challenge for
Pakistan in its journey
towards success and peace,
least but not the least,
growing corruption with no
accountability and transparency
is proving to be a crucial
challenge in the face of
prosperity. As corruption leads to
many more evils in the
society, it is essential to

put a halt to it ~~to~~ for the country to follow the pathways that can eventually leads towards prosperity and development.

In conclusion, Pakistan is a country rich in resources, talent and intellect. It has the capability to prosper and grow as there are multiple pathways for it. By following these pathways towards success and by facing all the challenges one by one, Pakistan can become a successful country.