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Coastal population more at risk

Socio-Economic Vulnerability Assessment of Indus Delta under Climate Change

By Kashif Majeed Salik & Sehrish Jahangir

People living in the coastal areas of Pakistan are highly vulnerable to climate change due to increasing variability in air temperature, precipitation, and sea surface temperature, which cause poor livelihood conditions. It's the situation where food and water securities are compromised besides a state cut on educational and health care facilities. In coastal areas, the low income diversification, high dependency ratio, poor water and sanitation conditions have further aggravated the situation. Increasingly, the communities, dependent on mangroves ecosystem of Indus Delta located in arid climatic region, are more at risk due to the sensitive linkage of ecosystem with decreasing fresh water availability and changing climatic parameters.

The Indus Delta spreads over 600,000 hectares along the coastline having ecological and socio-economic importance. It provides enormous avenues for

livelihoods and ecosystem services such as fishing, grazing, transportation, tourism, recreation, etc. Among others, mangroves forests are the unique coastal ecosystem worldwide covering 146 million hectare. The economic benefits drawn from one hectare of mangroves and estimated by different studies are about US\$200,000 to 900,000. In Pakistan, mangroves forests spread over an area of about 90,000 hectares. The highest proportion (i.e. 97 per cent) is located in Indus Delta. The livelihood of poor communities depends largely upon mangrove ecosystem services like fisheries and fuel wood. However, these mangroves continue to be vulnerable for the last few decades due to their sensitive linkages with fresh water availability and climatic parameters along with other anthropogenic activities. The impact of climate change is quite diverse. The developing countries in general and the poor pop-

ulation in particular are vulnerable to its worse impact. According to projections, the striking climate change threats to coastal ecosystem and coastal population are evident in terms of intensification of extreme weather event like droughts and floods, increasing temperatures, changes in precipitation patterns and sea level rise. The impacts resulting from these phenomena are salt water intrusion, ocean acidification, soil erosion, rise in Sea Surface Temperature (SST) and decline in ecosystem productivity (mangroves growth, fish reproduction, etc). These changes have a direct impact on livelihoods of coastal communities, as they are highly dependent on natural resources for their livelihood. Therefore, this research intends to explore the linkages and determine the dynamics of mangroves forests in line with the socio-economic vulnerability.

To explore the linkages and to determine the dynamics of mangroves forests in line with the socio-economic vulnerability, a study, 'Socio-economic Vulnerability Assessment of Indus under Climate Change', is under way. Keti Bandar, a coastal town in Thatta district, Sindh, has been selected as the site for the study. To calculate the socio-economic vulnerability as an aftermath of climate change, the Composite Vulnerability Index (CVI) methodology has been used. Three sub-indices such as exposure, sensitivity and



Polluted Water being filled in the tanker to be transported to villages for drinking purpose

adaptive capacity have been included in the study. The value for CVI stood out at 0.55 whereas for exposure, sensitivity and adaptive capacity, the indices were calculated as 0.52, 0.69 and 0.45 respectively.

Vulnerability assessment is a complex systematic approach in which the communities affected by climatic or environmental phenomena are considered most vulnerable. Vulnerability is the estimation of sensitivity and exposure to climate change or any specific stress that leads to potential impact on which adaptive capacity of the community depends.



Wooden Houses ay Keti Bandar

The statistical results for exposure indicators show direct linkage with sensitivity indicators. Mangroves in Keti Bandar are extremely sensitive/vulnerable, as they are constantly decreasing and rendering low accessibility to mangroves.

Moreover, the unavailability of fresh water flows from Indus river below Kotri barrage has also impacted agriculture and fisheries production in Keti Bandar. Frequency of sea intrusion or inundation has also been recorded high. If we consider individual variable that is 'effect of unavailability of fresh water on fish' for fisheries community only, the index value that is 1, shows the very high impact on the economy of community dependent entirely on fisheries.

Further considering the link of exposure and cost of climatic disasters, the respective variables showed off high index values, as the climatic disasters are quite frequent in Keti Bandar, and the area has been hit worst by floods in 2010 and 2011. The climatic disasters faced by Keti Bandar have been both frequent and intense.

The potential impact that resulted from exposure and sensitivity indicators includes devastation of mangroves, unavailability and less access to fuel wood, limitation of mangroves species due to increased salinity level, less availability of land for cultivation due to sea intrusion, inundation and decrease in fresh water flows; decreased access of clean drinking water and almost absence of sanitation facility; and frequency, intensity and economic cost of climatic disasters.

Migrations in Keti Bandar were also recorded high, depicting high adaptive capacity of the community owing to the reasons that people were capable enough to migrate at the times of natural disaster to seek job opportunities away from their villages. According to the perception survey, decreasing trend of livelihoods, unavailability of civic facility, and seeking better job op-

portunities are the general reasons of migration; however, among climatic reasons, floods and heavy rain-falls are the main causes of migration.

It can be asserted that consumption patterns, income diversification, dependency ratio, schooling or education level and infrastructure (access to basic facilities) are the indicators that are responsible for low

adaptive capacity in the community of Keti Bunder. However, infrastructure (nature of dwellings), family networks, and migration are the indicators, which enhance the adaptive capacity of the community and balance it when it is taken as aggregate.

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Urban Violence in Pakistan

Adnan Talib and Mikail Toru

Urban violence is increasingly being posed as a development concern for Pakistan, especially when it is linked to impact on economy as well as poverty, inequality and exclusion. The growth of violence in the urban areas of major cities, including Karachi, Lahore and Peshawar poses an overwhelming challenge to already thinned-out state capacities trying to maintain social and political order in an overcrowded country.

There has never been a consensus on what constitutes urban violence, and thus a number of notions have been associated with it, including common crimes, violent crimes, drug-related offences and trade in women and children. Even the conventional division between war-type violence and criminal violence disappears in the context of urban violence in certain conflict-ridden African and Latin American countries. Some even argue that urban violence is another form of state failure, namely the failure to provide security as a basic public function. Others pose it as a threat to human security, which also determines citizen's perceptions of the accountability and effectiveness of the state in upholding the social contract between the citizens and the state. Consequently, it poses challenge to state-making and weakens writ of the government.

According to a study conducted by the UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, more than half of the urban population worldwide is victimized at least once in their lives. At least 60 per cent of all urban dwellers in developing countries have been crime victims with rates of at least 70 per cent in parts of Latin America and Africa. In Pakistan, victimization rates are the highest in Karachi, the largest city in the country. In most urban areas in Pakistan where homicide rates are high, the areas are also characterized by poverty, lack of housing, low education levels and lack of community services – suggesting that crime and violence is positively associated with a lower index of human development.

Overall, there has been an increase in violent

In Pakistan, victimization rates are the highest in Karachi, the largest city in the country. In most urban areas in Pakistan where homicide rates are high, the areas are also characterized by poverty, lack of housing, low education levels and lack of community services – suggesting that crime and violence is positively associated with a lower index of human development.

crimes, including murder, assault, rape and sexual abuse in the country. The incidence of crimes against property, particularly burglary and theft, has also increased owing to the characteristics of urban life such as high population density, anonymity, abundance of material goods and urban development that provides greater opportunities for crime. The spread of terrorist-related violence, organized crime and drug and human-trafficking, often depicted as the dark side of globalization, have also seriously undermined public security in many urban cities.

Structural constraints, including unequal power relations in the society, and institutional deficiencies, along with trigger risk factors, for instance drug and alcohol abuse, which can exacerbate the likelihood of violence occurring, are largely the cause of increasing urban violence and crime in Pakistan; although the list could go on and on.

SDPI has recently been awarded a research project by International Alert to study the ecology of urban violence in two districts in the Punjab --- Rahim Yar Khan and Gujrat. The study aims at gauging the atti-

tudes and perceptions of youth, community leaders and public authorities on the dynamics of urban violence and crime, the role of stakeholders and the efficacy of law-enforcement strategies in the two districts.

The study is the first of its kind at SDPI, but no comprehensive studies have actually been conducted as yet on the dynamics of urban violence and crime in Pakistan, their underlying causes and impact on the society. Most studies have focused on the nature of urban impoverishment and inequality and the impact of urban violence across low income settings, but these are segmented and compartmentalized within disciplines and cover limited geographical settings. No significant research currently exists that explores the two-way relationship between urban violence, urban poverty & insecurity, and urban development. There is a little knowledge about the efficacy of interventions designed to reduce urban crime and insecurity in poor urban areas.

The study indeed presents a unique opportunity to fill in the information gaps in the literature on urban violence in Pakistan, or at least in the sample districts, but it does have its own set of challenges. Pakistan is notoriously unreliable for its crime statistics: almost all data is determined through First Investigation Reports (FIRs) and heavily rely upon willingness and ability of

the public to report crimes. There are no independent sources to assess the real depiction of victimization in Pakistan. In case where qualitative sociological methodologies are used, they fail to accurately capture people's daily experiences, their perceptions of violence or their fear of crime.

We are positive that this study, which is restricted to only two districts at this point, would open up avenues for further policy research and advocacy in the area of urban violence, perhaps on a larger national level. Targeted law-enforcement strategies and policy responses towards combating urban violence and crime in cities such as Karachi and Peshawar have clearly not been sufficient and, therefore, must be complemented by community-based interventions aimed at rebuilding trust and social capital, strengthening community resilience and reducing dependency.

In many developed parts of the world, bottom-up participatory approaches allow community members to assist the policy makers and law-enforcement authorities to play a key role in providing safety and security. We are hoping to learn more about community best practices at the local level, which could inform policy development and implementation at the provincial or federal level. ■

Situational Analysis of Pakistan-China Trade

The study, Situational Analysis of Pakistan-China Trade, provides an overview of recent trends in bilateral trade on major exports both in goods and services of Pakistan and China. It assesses recent developments on trade between both the countries and the possible options for being engaged with China on issues such as product diversification and trade in services. The study which started on 21st May 2013 is expected to complete in the last week of July.

Bilateral trade between China and Pakistan can lead to economic development, prosperity, harmony and more peace in Pakistan, which was always in dearth of economic growth, integration and sustainability due to unstable political conditions. Trade in goods and services of China and Pakistan has been analyzed in the paper, which not only highlights the major exports of both the countries but also gives a brief overview of trade happening between China and Pakistan since the signing of PTA back in 2003. The paper, besides mapping out the possible future cooperation between China and Pakistan, analyses FTA and resulting impact on trade in goods and services. As both the economies are

becoming interdependent, therefore, possible huge potential for the bilateral trade and resultant economic growth in Pakistan cannot be overlooked for building complementary bilateral trade relations. China being the world's fastest growing economy obviously cannot be compared with slacking economy of Pakistan thereby reducing all chances of complementarity, but with increased value addition in various export products/product categories and technological modifications in manufacturing processes, bilateral trade in goods can be of huge value in terms of accelerating Pakistan's overall economic growth and industrialization. This paper will help assess whether the element of complementarity exists in terms of bilateral trade in goods and services. If it is non-existent, what measures Pakistan should take so that balance of trade would not favour China. Also China is quickly moving into manufacturing and production of high value added products, therefore, in future it can think of shifting its labour intensive industries to Pakistan provided good relations and healthy exports are maintained between both the countries. Pakistan when compared with China in terms of educa-

tion and skills has better human capital, which can be of great advantage while trading in services. Pakistan is an economy where imports are predominantly weighing out exports when compared in terms of value. Therefore, it's inevitable for Pakistan to take measures for the betterment of its exports growth, which is the case in its neighboring economies such as China and India. In spite of signing FTA with China, Pakistan's trade with China has not achieved the status of one of the top 10 trading partners from all over the world with India being inclusive in top 10 list whereas China is Pakistan's second largest trading partner. The major reason for Pakistan inability to increase its exports significantly in all concession categories is the more favorable tariff concessions granted by China to its other trading partners due to which Pakistan exports become uncompetitive in the Chinese markets. Though, Pakistan has done enormous trade with these countries in recent years but that has not been so fruitful, therefore, considering the population size of two neighboring countries, China and India, and with growing liberalization of trade happening all around the world, Pakistan has to focus on these two largest economies but with a much vigilant approach to get the maximum benefit by exploring the potential of these large export markets, which can boost

export growth of Pakistan crippled in last few years. Owing to energy crisis and industry closure in Pakistan, the exports especially in textile sector such as home textiles has largely reduced in last five years, which was not the case in 2009.

Strategic trade policy framework 2012-15 highlights very clearly all such measures ranging from diversifying the products to adding value and finding new markets to penetrating existing markets with finished products e.g. cotton yarn is still the largest unfinished product being exported to China, Bangladesh and India. Since the signing of Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) in 2003 and Free Trade Agreement in 2006, till now in year 2013 no such advancement has been particularly observed so far in this regard to develop and enhance bilateral trade by increasing the complementarities between both the countries. Therefore, this paper identifies and describes existing barriers and issues to trade of goods and services along with identifying the possible challenges arising during bilateral trade between Pakistan and China and assessing the impact of removal of existing trade barriers. This report will formulate conclusions and recommendations for the way forward.

— *By Gul Waseem*

Exploring New Areas of Knowledge Management: an Overview

The study 'Exploring New Areas of Knowledge Management: an Overview' mainly focusses on the use of new technology to access knowledge and share information. The methods that administer creation, dissemination, and utilization of knowledge are termed knowledge management (KM). It is a process in which an organization gathers, organizes, shares, and then analyzes its knowledge in terms of resources, documents, and individuals' skills. Today, almost all the organizations have a knowledge management framework in place.

Knowledge management, in addition, consists of data mining and some mechanism of server-push information to the stakeholders. Data mining is cataloging and arranging the data in terms of association, path analysis, classification, clustering, and forecasting. Whereas, server-push means uploading the information on web initiated by the information server of the organization and then the information is pushed from a server to a user.

In knowledge management perspective, the information of an organization or enterprise is categorized as: Explicit Knowledge, Implicit Knowledge and Tacit Knowledge. Explicit knowledge means any information,

which is present in a tangible form whereas Implicit knowledge means any information, which is not set out in a tangible form but could be made explicit. Tacit knowledge means any information, which is extremely difficult to set out in a working order or tangible form.

KM consists of gathering, organizing, refining of an organization's data and then disseminate the information through portals with the help of content management systems, which is used to administer the content of an organizations' website. The other essential parts of KM include:

Lessons Learned Database: Database can be set up either for a single project to store and track lessons from within the project or for the entire organization to stock up and track lessons from many projects. While setting up such databases, due consideration should be given to the interest and needs of users because if they are not able to find the desired information within a few minutes then there is a chance that they might never access the same database.

Expertise Location: A group of techniques or tools that help the knowledge seekers find those people with relevant knowledge. The organizations have further im-

proved this aspect by enhancing personal networks, implementing manually updated people directory systems, implementing automatically generating expertise location information and putting into practice 'request for knowledge' broadcasts.

Communities of Practice (CoPs): Group of like-minded, unified, interacting people, who keep knowledge and expertise in thematic domains alive via consistent sharing of their information, or by developing that knowledge, or by conforming that information to specific applications.

HR and Corporate Culture: Human Resource in KM is used to identify, capture, retrieve, share, and evaluate an organization's assets, which include databases, documents, policies, and procedures as well as intangible tacit expertise and experience of individual workers.

Taxonomy and Content Management: It refers to awareness about the significance of content, awareness about the importance of retrieving of content, importance of arrangement, description of content, and structure of content.

— By Akseeb Jawed

Afghanistan – Pakistan Trade: Emerging Trends and Challenges

By Nafeesa Hashmi

SDPI is conducting a research study on Afghanistan-Pakistan Trade: Emerging Trends and Challenges. Focusing on Pakistani importers and exporters trading with Afghanistan, the study will see the emerging trends and challenges of trade between the two countries. The findings will be later shared with the government and other stakeholders to further add their feed back in the study before the finalization of policy recommendations.

Afghanistan is a major trading partner of Pakistan. The export from Pakistan shows that after the US and UAE, Afghanistan is the third largest export destination for Pakistan products as shown in the table below.

		Value in '000.\$	
		July-June	
	Country by Commodities	2011-12	2010-11
1	U.S.America	3,532,275	3,957,185
2	United Arab Emirates	2,292,675	1,808,260
3	Afghanistan	2,249,592	2,336,665
4	China	2,183,669	1,633,764
5	United Kingdom	1,184,502	1,206,058

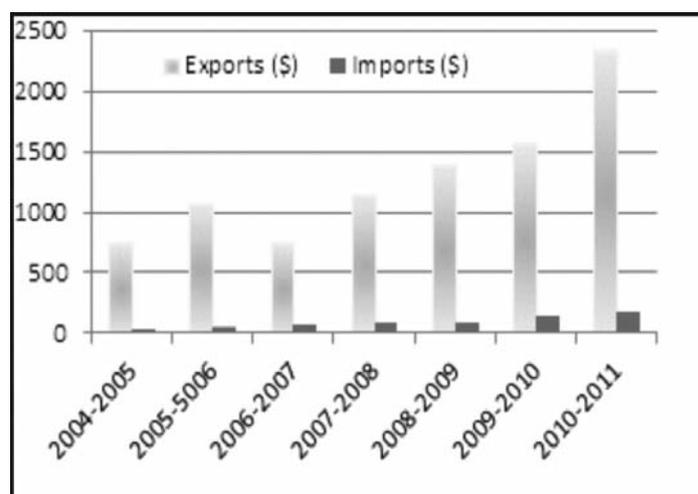
Source: Top 40 Exporting Countries, Ministry of Commerce, Government of

The bilateral trade between the two countries has increased from 830.2 million USD in 2006-07 to 2.5 billion USD in 2010-11. The following table shows the import and export volume in millions.

Pakistan Exports and Imports with Afghanistan

Year	Exports (\$)	Imports (\$)
2004-2005	747.721	38.971
2005-5006	1063.67	47.490
2006-2007	753.939	76.230
2007-2008	1143.7	91.4
2008-2009	1397.518	93.067
2009-2010	1571.5	139.3
2010-2011	2336.7	172.0

Source: Pakistan Exports and Imports, Ministry of Commerce, Government of Pakistan



Pakistan's exports to Afghanistan include Petro and Petr. Products, Plastic and artificial thereof, wheat flour, animal/vegetable fats or oil, Iron and steel and its products. Pakistan's import from Afghanistan include Iron and Steel and its articles, edible fruits, nuts etc., Edible vegetables, wood charcoal, wood articles, leather and leather manufactures.

Top 7 Pakistani exports to Afghanistan in FY12

Products	% share of total exports
Portland Cement	12%
Wheat Flour	9%
Vegetable Fat & Its Fractions	9%
Kerosene Type Jet Fuel(J.P.I)	8%
OTH Tub PIP/Hollow Prof, IR/Steel	4%
Kino, Fresh	4%
Rice Basmati	3%

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics

Top 7 Pakistani imports from Afghanistan in FY12

Products	% share of total imports
Other Coal, Not Agglomerated	33%
OTH Waste and scrap	27%
Other Cotton	12%
Grapes, Fresh	6%
Onions and Shallots	4%
Talc not crushed not Powdered	4%
Other-Roll able Waste /Scrap	2%

Afghanistan has been at the junction of trade routes between central, south and west Asia for over 3000 years. Pakistan and Afghanistan share 2430 km long border after India i.e. 2912 km. Pakistan has twofold advantage in its trade relations with Afghanistan; as a transit route between Afghanistan and the world and as a supplier for Afghanistan’s growing needs of the post-war economy.

Afghanistan main export commodities include opium, fruits and nuts, hand-woven carpets, wool, cot-

ton, hides and pelts, precious and semi-precious gems and main import commodities include machinery and other capital goods, food, textiles, petroleum products etc.

Afghanistan, as the country is growing though slowly have many challenges to face, also lack capacity now the other countries have opportunity for investment in almost all sectors of its economy. Investment opportunities are available in agriculture sector, mining, energy and power, transport and logistics, construction of new housing projects in each province, construction of new hotels and restaurants, communication sector and low-end (labour-intensive) manufacturing.

Pakistan and Afghanistan has high trade potential. Bilaterally formal trade is increasing but informal trade is higher than formal trade. Some of the reasons that are affecting trade between the two countries are frequent closure of the Afghanistan-Pakistan borders due to political reasons and congestion at border posts, unofficial trade, improper infrastructure, transportation logistics and costs etc. ■



Challenges for new government

By Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri

The new government would not be able to do any overnight miracles. However, one sector where it can provide immediate relief is energy and power sector

One prediction can be made with quite accuracy, i.e., economic challenges facing the next government are quite severe. I wish I am wrong, but to my understanding, both the people as well as government of Pakistan would continue to face tough time over economic and energy issues.

The GDP of Pakistan kept on following boom and bust cycle for the last many decades. The last boom in the GDP was in 2005, it declined in 2006, improved in 2007 and since then it is nose-diving. Due to various factors (including political instability, floods, power crisis, reduced foreign direct investment etc.), the last five years' average GDP growth is around 3 per cent.

This growth is mainly consumption driven and (after a recent change in the base year for national income accounts) services sector contributes a major share in our GDP (50 per cent), followed by agriculture (23 per cent), and mining, manufacturing, construction and energy, gas and water supply (21 per cent).

Services sector can only absorb highly skilled and literate human resources. Large scale manufacturing is badly affected due to energy crisis, hence agriculture remains the last resort of our labour force. Thus the sector with maximum contribution to our GDP cannot offer livelihood opportunity to our major labour force. This is only one aspect of our economic framework, other indicators are not promising either.

Thus investment as per cent of the GDP declined from 22 per cent in 2007-08 to 12.5 per cent in 2011-12. During 2011-12, negative terms of trade led to negative contribution of net exports. During last five years, national fiscal health remained challenged by chronic issues like ineffective taxation system, debt hit power sector, sick public sector enterprises, governance issues, natural and manmade disasters, and security situation. Tax to GDP ratio fell from 11.1 per cent in 2007-2008 to 10 per cent in 2012. In the same period, the FBR tax to GDP ratio fell from 10.3 per cent to 9.1 per cent. Thirty per cent of the entire tax collection came from POL at various stages.

Chronic misuse of statutory regulatory orders (SROs) remained unabated during the last five years too. Sixty per cent of tariff lines have different tariff rates for different importers through SROs. Despite last

year's budget announcement of having a uniform general sales tax rate (GST) in the country, we continue to have multiple rates ranging from zero sales tax to 22 per cent on certain products.

Low tax to GDP ratio, power sector circular debt (around 480 billion rupees), stocks of unpaid commodity, tariff differential subsidy, unplanned bailouts to public sector enterprises, and natural and manmade disasters led to fiscal deficit which averaged 7.3 per cent during the last three years and may jump up to 10 per cent in current fiscal year. Domestic borrowing remained a major source of financing fiscal deficit, thus crowding out the private sector. Liquidity crunch and power crisis has virtually crippled the private sector, thus negatively affecting new job creation among many other things.

Next fiscal year would start with the foreign exchange barely sufficient for one month's imports (around 5 billion dollars) and with IMF payment of US\$3.8 billion for 2013-14. So maintaining balance of payment would be one of the first challenges on economic front facing next government. Mammoth fiscal deficit would negatively affect the next government's availability to spend. The next government cannot default on debt services, would not reduce defence and security expenditures, and most likely would have to increase day-to-day administration expenditures to keep all allies happy. Thus, it is very clear that brunt of fiscal deficit would be faced by public sector development programme or, in other words, the people of Pakistan.

The new government would not be able to do any overnight miracles and most of the economic miseries would remain unchanged irrespective of the fact who comes to power. However, one sector where, if it puts its acts together, the new government can provide immediate relief is energy and power sector. Economic and energy growth figures reveal that energy growth follows high GDP growth and vice versa. This is a vicious chicken-egg situation, where we cannot generate enough electricity because we don't have enough fiscal cushions and our economy is crippling because we don't have enough energy to meet its requirements.

On electricity generation, our energy mix is highly skewed to fuel oil. In 2005, 27 per cent of our electricity was being generated from oil and 51 per cent from gas. Today we are producing 44 per cent from oil and 16 per cent from gas. Fuel oil was US\$20 per barrel in

2005, today it is US\$110 per barrel. Oil prices are up 93 per cent from 2008 to date and Pakistan spent US\$12 billion in oil imports last year. This energy mix may suit the Gulf countries but certainly not a country like Pakistan.

Among our neighbours, India generates 1 per cent of its electricity from oil, whereas Bangladesh generates 13 per cent electricity from oil. Obviously, due to expensive energy mix, per unit cost of production of electricity in Pakistan is expensive. NEPRA determined average tariffs are Rs 12.5 per KW/h, whereas average applied consumer tariffs are Rs 9.16 per KWh. Thus on an average, we are losing Rs3 per KWh (per unit). This has to be subsidised by the federal government through Tariff Differential Subsidy which is a contributor to fiscal deficit.

The new government would have to face the problem of fiscal management and electricity management. All mainstream political parties have promised to resolve economic and energy crisis. But how would they do it?

The average per unit of electricity (KWh) price in Pak rupees for consumer in India is 7.36, for a consumer in Bangladesh is 5.47, while for a consumer in Pakistan it is 9.16. Our consumer has to pay more

than what a consumer in India and Bangladesh pays per unit of electricity used. This is despite the fact that we are subsidising our electricity. We cannot keep on subsidising the electricity, but we cannot keep on increasing the consumer tariffs either. The only way out is to reduce our cost of electricity generation and improve its efficiency of transmission and distribution.

Despite stagflation, demand for electricity and gas is increasing. There is no sizeable capacity enhancement in energy exploration in the last decade. Independent Power Producers (IPP) are running below their capacity (and many of them have closed down) as they are not getting their receivables from the government, whereas the government owned power generation plants (Gencos) are running on one third of their efficiency level. On an average, the IPPs are three times more efficient than Gencos.

An improvement of 5-10 per cent energy efficiency will save about US\$200-300 million per annum and availability of additional thermal Mega Watts of generation too. This is something where NEPRA would have to set benchmarks for the generation companies. A decision on performance-based allocation of fuel to generation plants would do the trick. Likewise, most of the electricity distribution companies are incurring huge transmission, distribution and collection losses. Transmission losses are much beyond the NEPRA permissible limit and according to caretaker Minister for Water and Power, these additional (beyond the NEPRA's benchmark) transmission losses are equivalent to the total electricity requirement of KPK and Balochistan.

Third major challenge facing the electricity sector of Pakistan is recovery of bills. Sukkur electricity distribution company, Quetta electricity distribution company, Hyderabad electricity distribution company and Peshawar electricity distribution company are among the maximum collection losses. In some instances, it is up to 80 per cent.

Most probably the next government would shift the responsibility of this crisis to its predecessors and would do nothing to resolve the issue using the excuse of lack of fiscal cushion. How-

ever, all the new government requires is to plug leakage in fuel supply system, to turn generation plants efficient, and to minimise transmission and distribution losses.

Once the next government would take these short term measures, it would be able to concentrate on certain medium to long term measures including taking care of circular debt; promotion of renewable sources of electricity generation; and breaking the monopoly of WAPDA through encouraging private sector to generate and distribute electricity in a competitive regime (under a strong NEPRA).

We have been politicising the issues of economy and energy for quite some time now. Let us hope that the new parliament would use its political wisdom to resolve these issues.

— (Courtesy The News, Islamabad/Rawalpindi, May 12, 2013)

Economic and energy growth figures reveal that energy growth follows high GDP growth and vice versa. This is a vicious chicken-egg situation, where we cannot generate enough electricity because we don't have enough fiscal cushions and our economy is crippling because we don't have enough energy to meet its requirements.

Indo-Pak Trade Potential

By Hamza Abbas

The volume of trade between India and Pakistan reflects that both the countries are not fully utilizing their potential besides sharing a long border. However, the relations between India and Pakistan remain the core of academic debates. India had awarded Most Favoured Nations (MFN) status to Pakistan in 1996; Pakistan though was supposed to award the same status to India in 2012, it is still awaited.

TDAP (2011) report highlights that during the year 2011, the bilateral trade between Pakistan and India was around US \$2.6 billion out of which

India's export to Pakistan was 88 per cent. According to Federal Bureau of Statistics data, Pakistan's total exports to India from July, 2012 to November, 2012 is Rs 12,360.59 million, which is 1.31 per cent of the total exports between the two countries. On the other hand, imports in the same period amount to Rs 56016.56 million, which is 3.23 per cent of the total share of imports in the country. When compared with the previous year figures, both imports and exports show a slight decline in the percentage share.

Table – 1 Pakistan's Export and Imports to India (Rs Million)

Exports				Imports				
July, 2012 to Nov 2012		July 2011 to Nov 2011		July, 2012 to Nov 2012		July 2011 to Nov 2011		
Value	% Share	Value	Percentage Share	Value	%	Value Share	Percentage Share	
India	12360.59	1.31	13303.20	1.60	56016.56	3.23	50468.44	3.16

Source: Federal Bureau of Statistics, Pakistan 2012.

Table – 2 below shows the India's Trade Balance with Pakistan. Though the trade between the two countries has significantly increased over the decade, Pakistan's exports to India have shown a slight increase over the decade from 2001 to 2010.

Table – 2 India's Trade Balance with Pakistan (US \$ Million)

Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Exports	164.6	187.7	183.6	522.1	593.1	1235.0	1584.3	1772.8	1455.8	2235.8
Imports	69.9	33.9	68.1	79.1	165.9	286.5	286.7	372.0	272.1	248.4
Trade	94.7	153.0	115.0	442.0	427.0	948.6	1297.0	1400.0	1183.0	1987.0
Balance		8	5	9	1		6	8	7	4

Source: PILDAT 2012.

In the year 2010, India's top 10 imports from Pakistan were (PILDAT 2012):

- Edible Fruits nuts, peel of citrus fruit and melons
- Mineral Fuels, Oils, distillation products
- Organic Chemicals
- Salt, sulphur, stone, plastery lime and cement
- Cotton
- Lead and articles thereof
- Raw hides and skins and leather
- Plastics and articles
- Inorganic chemicals, precious metal compound, isotopes

- Wool, Animal hair, horsehair yarn and fabric thereof

India's top 10 exports to Pakistan are (PILDAT 2012):

- Sugars and Sugar confectionary
- Cotton
- Manmade filaments
- Organic chemicals
- Residues, waste of food industry, animal fodder
- Edible vegetables
- Coffee, tea, mate and spices
- Rubber and articles thereof
- Oil seed, fruits, grain, seed etc
- Miscellaneous chemical products

The main items of exports from Pakistan to India in 2006 included only edible fruits and nuts and vegetable roots/tubers. Fruits and dry fruits alone contribute around 45% of the total exports to India during the last five years (State Bank of Pakistan 2006).

A huge volume of trade between India and Pakistan is informal trade. The actual volume of informal trade is unknown but 'guess work estimates' that vary between US\$ 250 million to US \$ 2.0 billion annually (Taneja 2004). However, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad has estimated US \$ 545 million informal trade in 2005. Total informal exports from

Pakistan to India are around \$10.5 million. The commodities are mostly of textiles (cloth, bed sheets and prayer mats i.e. 90per cent of informal trade), and agricultural products. Likewise, informal imports from India amounted to \$534.5 million in 2005. Six items constitute 80 per cent of the total import value, covering, in order of priority, cloth, tyres, pharmaceutical and textiles machinery, cosmetics, livestock and medicines (Khan et. al. in Naqvi and Schuler 2006). Some recent figures show that Indo-Pak trade languishes at \$2.7 billion and 'informal trade' is touching \$10 billion, all to the disadvantage of Pakistan's exchequer.

Circular trade is another interesting aspect of Pakistan-India trade, which is technically an official trade system. Main connectors of this circular trade are agents working on free ports of Dubai, Singapore, and some of Central Asian States. Some experts call informal trade a hidden potential for formal trade because it deals with almost similar kind of items, which go through the formal channels with the inclusion of consumer items and medicines. Depending upon the relaxation in application of Rules of Origin, this huge potential can be realized through SAFTA arrangements with less incidence of trade divergence. ■

Future of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in Pakistan

By Haider Abbas

CSR practices focus on businesses that work towards public interest in terms of community development. Owing to narrow vision, targeting short-term profits and lack of awareness, many businesses prefer to donate and engage themselves in philanthropic work, but hesitate to invest in research and plan a CSR program for social/community development. Implementation of CSR practices is impossible unless it is mentally accepted by the stakeholders through advocacy and awareness sessions.

The political parties in their manifestos have made heavy promises to provide social services, weed out corruption, control poverty, reduce foreign interference, promote autonomy and exercise justice, they are least concerned about corporate sector responsibility towards the overall wellbeing and sustainability of the society. It is a dilemma that, like other

political parties, the country's majority party in parliament, the Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz), has not given any importance to the CSR implementation in its election manifesto.

In India, the companies' bill, currently under scrutiny by the parliamentary standing committee, is being used as a tool by the government to ensure that at least 2%



of companies profit should go to CSR activates. In India, at the top of government CSR wish list are: reduction in poverty and provision of education, health and better vocational skills. Indian government believes that in a country with 1.2 billion population (one-third of which lives under the international poverty line), business cannot escape its responsibility to the poorest of the poor.

Recently, Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has granted approval to introduce CSR guidelines (2012) for public companies, which is a significant step towards streamlining reporting requirements and corporate accountability of CSR activates by public companies. But, there are less hopes of application of these rules, as none of the political party seems interested to work in this area.

CSR practices emphasize upon creating market opportunities for the disadvantaged groups of producers by providing them technical assistance, expertise and capacity building. One of the main objectives of CSR is to facilitate credit access and stimulate Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) to develop and support networks of CSOs for a sustainable chain development. CSR also gives emphasis on empowerment of women stakeholders by encouraging them to work at supervisory/leadership levels.

All of this can be considered relevant only if long-term interests out-weigh short-term gains. The government needs to give much importance to CSR to build responsible and competitive businesses, which require political will, collaborative efforts, a culture of compliance and an enabling environment. ■

Plagiarism: Visiting Higher Education Commission Policy

Muhammad Abdul Rahman

While finishing assignment in a haze, he suddenly realized that a part of his assignment was left out. "No problem, I can copy-paste it from somewhere", an idea crossed his mind. Surprisingly, he did not realize that this was plagiarism as well as an act of violation of Intellectual Property Rights. Unfortunately, this serious crime is very common in our educational institutes where youth is now addicted to it.

Though, Higher Education Commission (HEC) has given due attention to reduce plagiarism, its main focus is the higher level education. Mostly, the MS/M Phil and PhD theses are scrutinized. At postgraduate level, students are mostly unaware of the act of plagiarism and intellectual property rights. Only a few know about the law. A question then arises that who is responsible for this? Students, teachers or HEC!

According to HEC plagiarism policy, the recognized universities are legally bound to constitute a Plagiarism Standing Committee, comprising three faculty members, a subject specialist, a senior student and a nominee of HEC. Anyone who finds plagiarism in a work can submit a petition to this committee, having powers to award punishment. A university that fails to constitute this committee has a fair chance of de-recognition by HEC.

According to the policy, separate penalties can be awarded to teachers, researchers, staff members and students. The penalties have also been categorized depending upon the intensity of crime. The accused is also given the right to appeal. In case of proven guilty,

Though, Higher Education Commission (HEC) has given due attention to reduce plagiarism, its main focus is the higher level education. Mostly, the MS/M Phil and PhD theses are scrutinized. At postgraduate level, students are mostly unaware of the act of plagiarism and intellectual property rights.

he is given a 30-day time to submit mercy appeal to the committee and the committee bound to dispose of the appeal within 60 days of the receipt. If plagiarism is committed by two or more authors in a work, punishment is awarded to all.

HEC has provided Turnitin software to university teachers and researchers through which they can check plagiarism in the students' works. This software is not only intended to check M Phil/PhD theses but also the assignments submitted by students. HEC also emphasizes on checking plagiarism in the assignments given to postgraduate students because, it is the base point. For students, there are various other options where they can check plagiarism in their work by themselves. This is because Turnitin is available to faculty teachers and some research organizations. Many web-sites offer free online service to check plagiarism. --- The author is researcher at SDPI. ■

Corruption and conflict in lower-middle income economies

An overview of literature

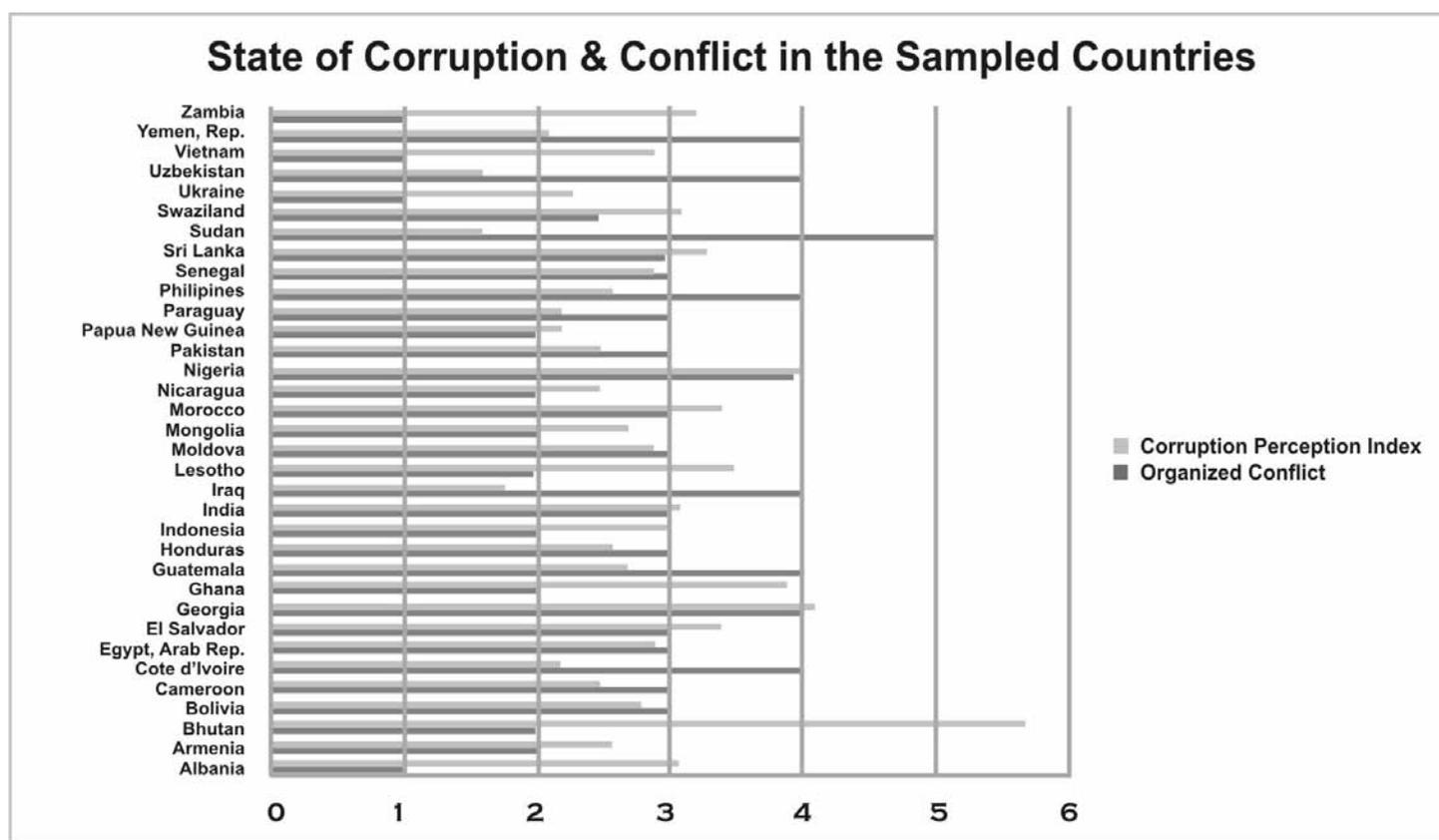
By Samavia Batool

Corruption is a major issue of governance today even with anti-corruption laws in place. Data suggests that most economies that rank high on corruption are developing ones because of weak institutional capacities, which provide space for corrupt practices.

Interestingly, most of the lower-middle income economies that rank high on corruption also score high on the scale of organized conflict. Figure 1 shows a comparative visual of two globally recognized scales of corruption and conflict across lower-middle income countries.

The ranking of countries on Corruption Perception Index is based on a scale of 0-10, where a value closer to zero indicates high level of corruption and value closer to 10 indicates being low on corruption. Thus a longer bar of corruption perception reflects low level of corruption in any given country. On the other hand, organized conflict ranks countries on a scale of 1-5 where a high value corresponds to high level of conflict in a particular country. Thus a longer bar of organized conflict reflects high level of conflict in a given country.

Figure 1: Comparative state of corruption and conflict



Source: Adopted from Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index (2011) and Global Peace Index scale on Organized Conflict.

The figure reveals that most of the economies that rank high on corruption also rank high on the scale of organized conflict. However, there are exceptions too as in Bhutan, Guatemala, El Salvador etc).

Study of literature shows that predatory corruption is one of the most abundant in developing countries, which refer to the illegal seizure of public resources by the public officials (Khan, 2006). Besides, rent seeking, plundering and non-market asset transfer are common corrupt practices in these economies.

This implies that corruption in the developing world is usually dominated by the excessive use of power by the powerful thus implying the stratified social classes. This explains to some extent the miserable economic state

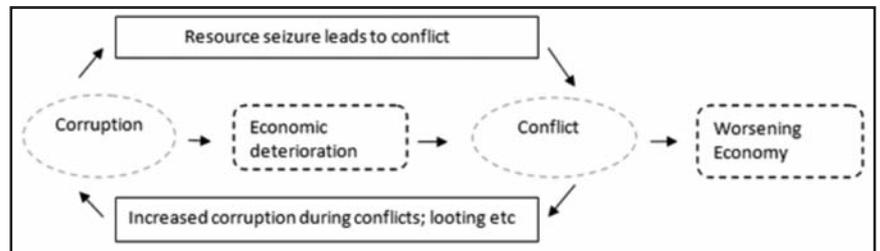
of these countries as those in power usurp national resources, which when fail to reach the public, ultimately leading to issues such as poverty, low social service delivery, poor state of human development indicators etc.

While corruption affects the basic social and economic structure of the economy, literature suggests that it may also be associated with conflict. Why many of the developing countries are mired in conflict may be explained by various studies on conflicts, which suggest that conflict is primarily driven by economic reasons, such as access of resources to select groups, lack of employment opportunities, poverty and slow economic growth (Collier, 1999).

Literature thus reveals an interesting relationship between the two variables. Corruption (as shown in the flow chart below) grows out of unrestrained exercise of power in the developing countries and thus affects the economic build of the country. Deteriorating economy thus triggers conflict as resources end up in few rich hands (Rus, 2010). Conflict leads to further worsening of the economy and in turn complimenting corruption as well through, for example, defense related contracts, wages of ghost soldiers, licensed looting, etc (Le Billion, 2003). Figure 2 shows how corruption and conflict may be related, as reflected by literature on the two phenomena.

Figure 2: Relationship of Corruption and Conflict

Both corruption and conflict can infringe the country's development thus explaining why both these issues are abundant in the developing world. Many conflict-ridden economies have also failed to accomplish even a single Millennium Development Goal (MDG) because conflicts claim most of the governmental expenditures, which could otherwise be diverted towards the delivery of public services (World Development Report 2011). Besides, studies also suggest that corruption prone countries are less likely to spend resources for the development as well as human development (most developing countries reflect poor state of human development indicators).



Source: Constructed by the author based on the literature

Literature thus suggests that conflict might be associated with corruption, and with lower middle income countries having higher intensity of both, it may be important to address corruption in a more systemized way. Economic reforms, strengthening corruption-control mechanisms and increased accountability to reduce administrative corruption can be effective tools for countering corruption. Furthermore, enhanced economic situation might help mitigate conflict arising out of economic reasons. The economic rationale behind both corruption and conflict suggests that improvement in economic conditions can help reduce the incidence of both. This calls for inclusive and more competitive markets that provide opportunities across the social divide. ■

Iran-Pakistan Trade

Gas pipeline a ray of hope

Saad Rajput

While Pakistan's trade with China, and lately India is given due importance, talks about bilateral trade with Iran have only recently been heard in the power corridors of Pakistan. The Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline agreement was signed between the two countries with the realization that Iran's gas reserves will boost an energy-deprived Pakistan's economy. Though, the US threatened sanctions on Pakistan in case the gas pipeline project was pursued, President Zardari was defiant in signing the agreement. However,

whether the project will be completed as planned is yet to be seen.

Pakistan is facing the worst energy crisis of its history and needs to have cheap alternatives and raw material to produce energy. In this regard, the Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline project is considered a ray of hope. The basics of international trade theory suggest that trade costs are minimized and producer margins maximized when trade is carried out in areas of close proximity. When a troubled Afghanistan does not

provide much trading opportunities as of now, Iran can prove to be a major trading partner if suitable policies are put into place and accordingly pursued.

Iran is rich in oil, gas, petrochemicals and the like. Its major import items include agricultural and food products since the majority of Iran's population faces the looming threat of food insecurity. Owing to sanctions imposed by the US and other Western lobbies, Iran can only indulge in barter trade with its trading partners. A natural barter already exists in the case of Iran-Pakistan bilateral trade, if it is pursued. Pakistan's surplus agricultural products such as wheat and rice can be exported to Iran, the latter can export oil, gas, chemicals and other petroleum products to its energy-hit neighbor. It would thus prove to be a win-win situation for both economies.

Pakistan could act as a transit route for Iran's much sought after petrochemical and oil based products for the developing economies of South Asia. Besides getting direct benefits from Iranian imports, it would gain indirectly too by providing a transit route for Iranian products. The services sector of Pakistan would thus be given a boost, since increased trade always leads to growth in the construction sector, infrastructural development, and transportation and trade facilitation financial services. The much needed services-sector led growth for Pakistan could thus become a reality, if trade within the region is increased. For this, Pakistan needs to increase bilateral trade with Iran and the SAARC member states, including India. The following tables give an idea of the amount and composition of trade that exist between Iran and Pakistan.

Trade between Iran and Pakistan (US\$ Million)

Year	Export	Import	Balance of Trade	Total Exports of Pakistan	% share in Total Exports	Total Imports of Pakistan	% share in Total Imports
2001-02	29.20	157.24	(128.04)	9202.22	0.31	10342.87	1.52
2002-03	63.19	302.64	(239.45)	11160.25	0.56	12220.25	2.47
2003-04	92.46	283.94	(191.48)	12313.00	0.75	15592.00	1.82
2004-05	147.11	242.09	(94.98)	14391.08	1.02	20598.11	1.18
2005-06	188.10	450.08	(262.01)	16452.40	1.14	28586.01	1.57
2006-07	167.55	405.63	(238.08)	16976.24	0.98	30539.71	1.32
2007-08	218.56	551.75	(333.19)	19222.85	1.13	39968.50	1.38

Major items of export from Pakistan to Iran (US\$ Million)

Commodity	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08
Rice	46.36	69.2	96.98	115.54	125.74
Man made filament & yarns	22.33	30.15	13.22	11.72	35.36
Cotton yarn & woven fabrics	7.83	18.3	7.38	5.02	9.08
Ships & floating structures	0.896	1.655	1.341	1.19	7.53
Surgical Instruments	0.478	1.299	0.483	0.41	0.88

Major items of import from Iran to Pakistan (US\$ Million)

Commodity	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08
Petroleum Products and Rice	177.5	97.63	163.414	146.03	225.23
Iron and Steel	8.556	29.49	128.045	101.41	144.69
Organic Chemicals	7.002	33.101	38.894	38.89	45.66
Ores, slag and ash	3.75	19.88	22.416	22.42	35.26
Plastic and articles	11.412	13.19	18.004	16.22	23.58

New Saudi labour laws may restrict remittances to Pakistan

Muhammad Sohaib

More than 50,000 illegal Pakistani workers in Saudi Arabia would face deportation after July 3, who are not only bread-winner for their families, but also play a key role in the economy in the form of remittances.

Many of them are hoping that strong links between the PML-N government of Pakistan and the Saudi kingdom can save them. According to new labour laws announced by Saudi Arabia, overseas workers are restricted to work for their sponsors only in the field registered in their residence papers. Riyadh took this initiative to employ its growing labour force in different fields.

The unemployment rate in Saudi Arabia is around 12%, of which 40% are high-school graduates. In order to boost employment, the labour ministry wants to implement Nitaqat system, designed in 2011. According to Nitaqat, every company has to employ 6-30% native people depending on the size and nature of work the company does.

Every country has the right to accommodate its labour force first but overseas workers in Saudi Arabia are more skilled than the local populace.

With stricter laws, Saudi Arabia is trying to reduce the labour black market among an estimated nine million foreigners working in the country. The new policy allows workers to correct their record within the grace period of three months which will end in the first week of July. More than 1.5 million of them have changed their residence status since April ahead of a planned crackdown on illegal expatriates, said the labour ministry.

According to passport authorities, more than 180,000 expatriates have left the kingdom since the announcement of new labour regulations. After the July 3 deadline, illegal workers staying in the kingdom will face up to two years of imprisonment and fine of up to 100,000 riyals (Rs2.7 million).

The grace period would be helpful for those who have expired visa and illegal status to correct their record. Most of these are South Asians, who number around four million. As foreign workers queue up outside of government offices and consulates of their respective countries in sizzling heat to legalise their status, many of them ask the authorities to extend the amnesty deadline.

If previous instances are any indication, there is a strong relationship between the PML-N leadership and the Saudi kingdom, sparking hopes that the new government of Pakistan can play a vital role in solving the issue. The Foreign Office spokesman has said that the embassy in Riyadh is helping Pakistanis to legalise their status. Despite this, thousands of workers seem to be trying to leave the country because there are many hurdles in the process.

However, the government has so far not sent a delegation to handle the situation. On the other hand, India did send a senior delegation to Riyadh to avoid deportation of about 75,000 Indians.

Implications for remittances

Remittances from foreign workers are important to the economies of countries such as the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, India and Pakistan. Saudi Arabia is the largest source of remittances for Pakistan, though most of the Pakistani workers there are associated with low-paid jobs.

Remittances sent home by overseas Pakistanis touched \$12.8 billion in 11 months (July-May 2012-13) of the current fiscal year with the hope that the figure will cross \$15 billion by year-end. However, the situation in Saudi Arabia may serve as a stumbling block.

In the 11-month period, remittances from Saudi Arabia stood at \$3.8 billion, accounting for 29% of the total. Monthly data shows that in March remittances from the kingdom stood at \$352 million, which increased to \$392 million in April but due to the new labour policy they fell to \$380 million in May.

This drop of \$12 million caused the decline in overall remittances in May, when they fell \$23 million as compared to April.

According to the new labour policy, the Saudi government will create a database of worker salaries which will affect remittances. Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency will monitor the amount which an expatriate wants to send home and will compare it with his salary. If he sends more than his salary, he will be investigated.

It is projected that remittances from Pakistani workers in Saudi Arabia have plummeted about \$30-50 million in June.

— Courtesy *The Express Tribune*

Anti-Corruption Strategy: A Civil Society Perspective

By Dr Vaqar Ahmed

A new stream of discourse argues the need for civil society to exert organized pressure in a manner that forces the elected representatives and their implementing arm (civil service) to remain within bounds. This article provides ways in which civil society can create an impact.

"Innovative ideas such as www.ipaidbribe.pk/ which lets you post your daily life experience with anyone forcing you to pay irregular payments towards facilitating your right."

Let us start with innovative ideas such as www.ipaidbribe.pk which lets you post your daily life experience with anyone forcing you to pay irregular payments towards facilitating your right. Such forums are trying hard to uncover the market price of corruption and bring this distortion into the limelight through print and electronic media. It was this website where people first started exchanging views about how regional passport offices in Pakistan were now demanding bribes in order to facilitate an early retrieval of passport booklets. Having such forums in fact allows for documenting what works and what does not when dealing with corruption.

Talking of the public sector brings us to another important role that civil society ought to play. We need to demand that proceedings of public sector (ministries, government departments and public sector enterprises) be audited by the Auditor General's office and should be presented first to the parliament and then to the general public without any time lag. Based on these proceedings and findings civil society can start evaluating the government's performance. This will also allow independent think tanks in the country to monitor corruption at fairly frequent intervals.

Malpractices in procurement of services or even recruitment of public officials need to be checked on an urgent basis. The pressures on federal and provincial public service commissions are all very well known. There are vast numbers of positions in the public sector in which public service commissions are not even in the loop. Such irregular appointments are not limited to adhoc selections but also permanent positions many of which are in the public sector corporations which are bleeding the national exchequer. The losses of public sector enterprises crossed PKR 1500 billion in the past 2 years. These enterprises include Pepco, Pakistan Railways, Pakistan International Airlines, Pakistan Steel Mills, Utility Stores Corporation, Trading Corpo-

ration of Pakistan, Pakistan Agricultural Storage & Supplies Corporation as well as the National Highway Authority. While the focus on public administration is important we should not neglect corporate governance in the public sector.

One should also identify the arbitrariness in the system. This arbitrariness helps to institutionalize corruption across the government machinery. For example the regime of allotment of government land, plots and other entitlements to public sector employees is a system that is rarely documented and evaluated by external auditors. When officials block prime commercial land for their own entitlements business incentives are erased. Pakistan's national accountability framework is driven by National Accountability Bureau, Federal Investigation Authority and Anti-corruption departments in the provinces. However emphasis is entirely on enforcement and very little on prevention.

Another important step in organizing civil society is to strengthen consumer rights groups. There are substantial inequalities of incomes, consumptions and asset holding in the country which can be curtailed through ensuring transparency and fairness in goods and labour markets. The macro level institutions such as Competition Commission of Pakistan (and other regulatory bodies) and micro level institutions such as price committees need to be: a) strengthened in capacity, b) safeguarded from human interference and c) allowed empowerment with accountability. Civil society can play a role in demanding each of these three measures.

Some rent-seeking entrepreneurs help strengthen a system where arbitrariness blossoms. This happens at the cost of genuine investors for whom the demand for bribe awaits at every step of entry, operation or exit. Many such members of the business community form the core of our tax paying brass. However with no tax payers' rights cell in the country, our revenue departments at federal and provincial levels are not held accountable for the revenue lost due to corrupt practices of tax officials. The example of telecommunications sector in Pakistan is a classic example of busting sector-wide corruption. Privatization and deregulation in the telecommunications sector took the discretionary powers away from the government, introduced competition in this sector and today we see that the same landline connection that used to take decades to reach

(Continued on page 20)

the country. To implement such initiatives, he suggested that the civil service will have to be modeled to act as a facilitator for change.

About social sector challenges in the upcoming budget, Safya Aftab said that the federal government has merged the bulk of resources available for social protection into Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) and this trend is expected to continue as the program name may be changed.

She concluded that a drastic increase in health and

education expenditures may not be the proper solution but provinces now need to start the medium-term planning practices for the use of additional funds disbursed through new National Finance Commission (NFC). She suggested that improvement in the basic services is the need of hour rather than high profile schemes.

— **By Muhammad Adnan** (Research Analyst)
Email: madnan@sdpi.org

Talk-shows on CSR

SDTV, a web-based television of SDPI, has recently aired talk shows on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to create awareness on CSR-related issues and help the general public, civil society, policy makers, businessmen and consumers understand the significance of the issue in this modern age.

The first show was an introductory programme wherein the questions like how CSR is different from philanthropy and why it is important for developing countries. In this show, Dr Moinuddin, the Director of Corporate Strategy at a well-known multinational company, shared his views from a business perspective.

In the second show, Dr Jennifer Bennet, a renowned development practitioner, Ahmad Qadir, an official of the Competition Commission of Pakistan, and Ms Zohra Sarwar from Securities and Exchange Commission Pakistan stressed the need for legislation to promote CSR in Pakistan. They also discussed the different CSR patterns being followed in the neighboring or other countries and rounded their discussion on the recently published National Voluntary CSR Guidelines.

In the third show, Nadeem Iqbal from Network for Consumer Protection while pointing out the factors pushing businesses into Corporate Social Responsibility in Pakistan discussed whether consumer demand is an important factor in the push. SDPI's campaign expert, Imrana Niazi, explained as to how the consumers demand can be used to promote CSR activities. Anam Khan confronted with the fact that in a poor country like Pakistan majority of the consumers are careless.

The fourth show focussed the newly-emerged concept of conflict-sensitive business. Shafqat Munir, a well-known civil society analyst, answered the question as how the business people can be involved to tone down the conflict in the society. Dr Vaqar Ahmad



Anam A Khan, Altaf Saleem and Shafqat Kakakhel at the programme

also shared some results and on-ground realities from a study conducted at SDPI.

Just before the election, SDPI aired the fifth talk show on the topic of political agendas and the inclusion of CSR. The panel of final show comprised Altaf Saleem, a recognized businessman and CSR expert, Ambassador (R) Shafqat Kakakhel, a renowned diplomat and CSR advisor to many private companies, and Anam A. Khan, SDPI's internal research associate. Ms Khan said no political party included businesses or the importance of CSR in their manifestos. Mr Kakakhel said the political leaders even today have feudal mindset and are careless about the local society. Mr Saleem added that this might be due to the fact that CSR talk will not give the party any popularity since the public is not aware of the issue and hence not interested in the solutions that the private sector can present. Mr Saleem also added that the private sector has the potential to support the state in many development activities, but is not given the opportunity. ■

— **By Anam A Khan**

Social Accountability in Education

Shared or participatory governance, which is also referred as inclusive governance in Pakistan's education system, is the new mantra of social scientists working for the provision of quality public service deliveries in the country. The demand for such governance models is based on an exposure to the world success stories where after the public participation, provision of health, education, water and sanitation has been ensured and improved at all levels.

In order to promote participatory school governance and thereby to introduce the concept of social accountability for better quality of education delivery, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), in collaboration with ILM Ideas, is running one of its education projects in Khanewal and Vehari districts. The purpose of this project is to make parents aware about the importance of the children's education, both girls and boys, and raise demand for the quality public education in their areas.

In both the targeted districts, education infrastructure is perhaps most dilapidated. Majority of schools lack even basic facilities, including clean drinking water, boundary walls, toilets, and classroom furniture. On top of it, teacher to student ratio in rural areas is perhaps highest with only one or two teachers running the primary schools where number of students falls between 150-200. Moreover, besides teaching, these teachers are bound to conduct surveys, run polio campaigns, work as social mobilizers etc. Besides, there are series of reporting assignments they have to complete on daily basis, and this entire exercise leaves little time for them to prepare their lessons or to spare some time for their



Member of Provincial Assembly, Punjab, Shameela Aslam speaks at a gathering of parents.

families. With this kind of environment, this is ironical that the irony is that some authorities want to centralize everything.

In such a situation, the solution is the promotion of social accountability in the education sector. The idea is to make the gravity of situation realized to the parents, and mobilize them to take up the issues with their local political leadership. These days, the SDPI is conducting Citizen Report Card (CRC) in Khanewal and Vehari districts to assess the access, availability and quality of education in the area. On the basis of the CRC survey results, local leadership will be approached to take necessary measures for the betterment of public schools. Also, on the basis of results compiled with the help of these surveys, provincial education policy makers will be approached with policy suggestions and inputs.

— *By Fayyaz Yaseen*

Anti-Corruption Strategy

(From page 17)

the applicants house has been stumped by a mobile phone connection available even with people who live below the poverty line in Pakistan. "The civil society also has an opportunity to use independent media in helping to curtail corruption. For this to happen investigative journalism needs to be promoted."

The civil society also has an opportunity to use independent media in helping to curtail corruption. For this to happen investigative journalism needs to be promoted. The civil society institutions can take a lead in developing this cadre and then providing research assistance to media entities. We already see the en-

couraging example of Pakistan Social Accountability Network (PSAN) whose members devise actions towards demand-side and community-based accountability mechanisms in order to improve service delivery at the grass roots levels.

Finally the civil society needs to be assertive and ensure follow up with accountability departments in the country so that examples can be established. The chain smoker very well knows that this practice is injurious for health, yet many continue to smoke. So awareness alone is not enough and tough precedents should be set and examples must be established.

— *Courtesy The Friday Times (May 30, 2013)*

Centre for Capacity Building

1. Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (April 02-03, 2013)

Monitoring & Evaluation [M&E] is an essential tool to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of development programmes around the world. Similarly, Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability & Learning [MEAL] is a further development on the principles of Monitoring and Evaluation. It is an approach whereby not only programmes are monitored and evaluated against targets, but also the findings of these activities are explicitly fed back into programme decision-making and shared with relevant stakeholders, thus incorporating learning and accountability.

The main objective of the workshop was to develop an understanding about the basic principles underlying MEAL and equip participants with an understanding of major tools and best practices involved in it. The training provided participants with useful rules of thumb and a framework to approach methodological issues in MEAL as well as enhance their knowledge of usefulness.

Conducted especially for the SDPI staff, the workshop was attended by 10 participants.

2. Webinar on Five Leadership Sins of Middle East Managers (April 10, 2013)

SDPI-CCB and Madina Institute for Leadership and Entrepreneurship [MILE] conducted a Webinar on the topic: Five Leadership Sins of Middle East Managers. Atif Rahim Khan, the Senior Capacity Building Specialist at SDPI imparted training to over 30 participants from different countries and organizations.

3. Proposal Development (April 11-12, 2013)



Customized workshop on Proposal Development was conducted for CAMP. Twenty four

members participated and successfully completed the workshop. Learning objectives were as under:

- The structure of a proposal
- Developing a proposal from an evaluation perspective
- Budgeting for proposal development
- Proposal development exercise
- Feedback on developed proposals

4. Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning [MEAL] (April 15-16, 2013)

Customized workshop on MEAL was conducted for Punjab Education Foundation was conducted. At least 15 staff members of the foundation participated and successfully completed the workshop. Learning objectives were as follows:

- To develop an understanding about the basic principles underlying MEAL
- To equip participants with an understanding of the major tools and best practices involved in MEAL
- To provide participants with useful rules of thumb and a framework to approach methodological issues in MEAL
- To enhance participants' knowledge of the usefulness of incorporating learning into the M&E system using examples from the field
- To deliver a more rounded M&E perspective to their organizations

5. Recruiting, Interviewing and Selecting Employees (April 16-17, 2013)

Open enrollment workshop on Recruiting, Interviewing and Selecting Employees was conducted. Six participants successfully completed the workshop. Key contents were as under:

- Assessing The Job Market In Pakistan
- Managing Your Employer Brand
- Preparing Job Descriptions and Advertisements
- Filtering Resumes
- Working with Headhunters
- Types of Interviews & Questioning Techniques
- Running Tests and Assessment Centres
- Dealing with Common Errors, Pressures and Biases During Recruitment & Selection

6. Intermediate & Advanced MS Excel (April 16, 24 & 25, 2013)

Customized workshop on Intermediate and Ad-

vanced MS Excel for Welthungerhilfe was conducted. As many as 15 people participated and successfully completed the workshop. Key contents of the workshop are as under:

- Working with Large Sheets
- Working with Multiple Workbooks and Worksheets
- List Management
- Documenting & Auditing
- Formatting Worksheets
- Creating Charts
- Using Logic Functions
- Working with lookups
- Advanced List Management
- Graphs and Pivots
- What ifs
- Conditional Formatting
- Working with Dates & Templates

7. **Team Building (April 17-19, 2013)**

Customized workshop on Team Building for Welthungerhilfe was conducted. At least 45 participants successfully completed the workshop. Key contents were as under:

- Celebrating You
- Welthungerhilfe Team Assessment & Future
- WHH – Current & Future
- Strengths, Weaknesses, Challenges & Commitments By Units
- Message Boards Exercise
- Lessons Learned & Commitments For The Future

8. **Myers Briggs Type Indicator [MBTI] (April 22, 2013)**

Customized workshop on Myers Briggs Type Indicator [MBTI] for British High Commission was conducted. At least 10 participants successfully completed the workshop. With the research and development of more than 60 years, MBTI (Myers Briggs Type Indicator), is the world's most reliable and internationally acknowledged Personality Indicator used today. MBTI stands as a sophisticated tool for personality type understanding and its practical application for improving performances, which has helped millions of people around the world for better understanding and interaction with others. Psychological preferences as identified by MBTI lead to the formation of "Types," which is a powerful way to understand individual differences in daily life and workplace and how to capitalize on these differ-

ences for constructive means. MBTI is nonjudgmental and allows people to gain an understanding of their preferences, particularly with respect to energy source, information, decision making and lifestyle /work patterns. The MBTI assessment produces 16 different personality types, each with its own characteristics and strengths.

9. **Dignified Workplace Champion (April 23-24, 2013)**

Open enrollment workshop on Dignified Workplace Champion was conducted wherein 19 participants from different organizations successfully completed the workshop. The two-day training gave a thorough understanding about the issue of sexual harassment and the legislation. It is a major step forward for the organizations to begin the process of zero tolerance for sexual harassment at the workplace. This training was for both male and female Human Resource professionals, line managers, heads of departments, those working for Legal Departments, heads of smaller organizations, Inquiry Committee members, journalists, other media professionals, lawyers and those actively involved in the implementation of anti-sexual harassment legislation. Key contents were:

- The issue of sexual harassment
- Myths about sexual harassment & the facts
- Protection Against Harassment of Women at Workplace, Act 2010
- Section 509 of the PPC
- How to implement these two laws in your organization
- As champions what role will you play in the implementation process

10. **Ethics & Professionalism At The Workplace (April 30, 2013)**

Open enrollment workshop on Ethics & Professionalism At The Workplace was conducted. At least participants from different organizations took part and successfully completed the workshop.

At a time when organizations are looking to exemplify role models of ethical and professional behaviour, SDPI offered a research-based discussion on this critical area to learn what professionalism means for personal and organizational success and learn how to be and be seen to be an ethical champion and a pro-



professional while effectively managing non-ethical and non-professional behaviour around you. Key contents are as follows:

- Ethical dilemmas facing organizations today
- Important traits of an ethical professional
- Understanding what your organization's drivers are which promote unethical and non-professional behaviour
- Promoting ethical champions through story telling
- How to develop a culture and a written code of ethics and professionalism at your organization
- Specific tools and tips for managing unethical and non-professional behaviour

11. **Webinar on Monitoring and Evaluation Q&A (May 16, 2013)**

SDPI-CCB and SEA Change CoP, Cambodia conducted a Webinar on May 16, 2013; the topic was Monitoring and Evaluation Q&A. Dennis Bours from SEA Change CoP was the team leader. In this webinar, 15 experts from different organizations participated.

12. **Contract Negotiations With Donors (June 05, 2013)**



Open enrollment workshop on Contract Negotiations with Donors was conducted. As many as 9 people participated and successfully completed the workshop. Key contents were as follows:

- Objective of Contract Negotiations – Know your Donor!
- Strategies for Planning Development Contract Negotiations
- Building Trust with Donors – Addressing Their Common Concerns
- Common Errors of Pakistani Development Organizations When Negotiating With Donors
- Simulation Negotiation Exercises
- Cross-cultural Negotiations Skills for Dealing with International Donors

13. **Gender Sensitization (June 04, 2013)**

In-house workshop on Gender Sensitization was conducted for SDPI Staff. 40 participants attended the workshop.

14. **Gender Sensitization (June 12, 2013)**

In-house workshop on Gender Sensitization was conducted for SDPI Staff. 26 participants attended the workshop.

15. **Communication Skills (June 15-16, 2013)**

Customized workshop on Communication Skills was conducted to train the staff of Higher Education Commission [HEC], Pakistan. 50 employees participated and successfully completed the training. Key contents were as follows:

- Communication at HEC
- Communication in Practice
- Effective Listening
- Presentation Skills
- Writing for Positive Impact
- Communicating With Your Boss, Subordinates & Clients

16. **Session on Leading at the Speed of Trust (June 18, 2013)**

In-house session on Leading at the Speed of Trust was conducted for SDPI Staff. 24 participants attended the workshop.

17. **Gender Sensitization (June 20, 2013)**

In-house workshop on Gender Sensitization was conducted for SDPI Staff. 35 participants attended the workshop.

18. **Mid-term Evaluation of WHH's Country**

Program, (June 18-19 2013)

Customized workshop on Mid-term Evaluation of WHH's Country Program, was conducted for Welthungerhilfe. 25 staff members participated and successfully completed the workshop. Key contents are as follows:

- Program & integrated program
- Internal assessment
- Moving towards an integrated program
- Developing an LFM for WHH
- Critical analysis of LFM

19 Communication Skills (June 22-23, 2013)

Customized workshop on Communication Skills for Higher Education Commission [HEC] was conducted. 28 officials participated and successfully completed the workshop. Key contents of the workshop were as follows:

- Communication at HEC

- Communication in Practice
- Effective Listening
- Presentation Skills
- Writing for Positive Impact
- Communicating With Your Boss, Subordinates & Clients

20 Team Building (June 27-28, 2013)

Customized workshop on Team Building for United States Educational Foundation in Pakistan [USEFP] was conducted. As many as 27 people participated and successfully completed the workshop. Key contents were as follows:

- Communication In Teams
- Team Building Activities
- Team Work Contributions
- How Can We Work Together Better?
- The Common Denominators
- Celebrating Team Members

IDRC Book on Organizational Capacity Building

SDPPI has been engaged with IDRC for the past few years on an 'Organizational Capacity Building' (OCB) process to enhance the quality of research at the organization. The program has been actively pursued at all levels of the organization with the advent of IDRC's Think Tank Initiative grant. The process required a careful scrutiny of SDPI's operational procedures to identify the areas of improvement.

While the OCB process was implemented in several Think Tanks that have received IDRC grant as part of the Think Tank Initiative (TTI), SDPI was chosen along with five other Think Tanks from across the world to be part of a book outlining the process. Each think tank has been tasked with writing a chapter detailing its experience with the OCB process. A writing workshop or "write-shop" was held in March 2013 in Sri Lanka where representatives from each of the six selected think tanks were asked to compose chapters for their particular organization. The 3-member SDPI team participated in the write-shop and during the five-day exercise completed the first draft of the chapter.

As part of the writing process, members from the representing think tanks are asked to review chap-

ters from other think tanks. SDPI is currently in the process of incorporating comments received on the draft chapter.

Each member of the writing team is responsible for various sections to be included in the concluding chapters. Following the writing process completion, IDRC will join these chapters and publish a book to be available for sale. SDPI is taking lead in the publication of the book. ■

SANSAR-Pakistan in July

SDPPI, a founding member of work South Asian Network on Sustainability and Responsibility (SANSAR), is hosting SANSAR-Pakistan, in Pakistan. A registration process has been defined in this regard. SDPI has announced through various means the invitation to apply for membership of SANSAR-Pakistan to different nonprofit organizations, business schools, business associations, private companies, academic and government institutions and research institutes.

In response, various requests for the registration have been received. The first cycle of membership evaluation was completed in May; membership has been awarded to over 20 applicants. SDPI plans to officially launch SANSAR-Pakistan in July 2013. ■