

Empowering the Next Generation: Education and Skills Unlock Economic Stability and Growth of Pakistan

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Education is the cornerstone of a prosperous society that helps to cultivate skills development of the youth is crucial for economic stability and growth. As the world continues to undergo rapid technological advancements and globalizations the need for highly skilled workforce to stable the growth of country. Pakistan's priority is first the quality of education and equipping individuals with the necessary skill that can empower youth to contribute meaningfully to the economy and secure a prosperous future.

Education plays a fundamental role in shaping the future of youth and driving economic development. World Bank reports also indicates that investing in education yields high returns not only for individuals but also for society as a whole. Education is directly linked to increased productivity, higher incomes and better overall well-being.

Moreover, imparting knowledge and skills

predicts that investing in education and skills training organizations boost entrepreneurship rates and support sustainable economic development. In addition to driving economic development also contribute to social cohesion and reduced inequality. Although providing equal access to quality education and skills training we can empower youth from all backgrounds to pursue their aspirations and contribute to society.

Education serves as a catalyst for social mobility allowing individuals to break free from the cycle of poverty and achieve their full potential. Empowering the next generation through education and skills development investing in quality education, providing continuous skills training and fostering a culture of innovation. Moreover, continuous skills training plays a pivotal role in adapting to the rapid changes in the global economy. As industries evolve due to technological advancements and globalization, equipping the workforce with relevant

which contribute to financial stability and improved quality of life. This personal gain not only empowers individuals but also fosters a sense of self-worth and community involvement.

The implications of education extend beyond personal achievement; it acts as a driving force for economic development and social progress.

A well-educated workforce is essential for innovation, productivity, and competitiveness in the global economy. Moreover, education promotes civic engagement and social cohesion by fostering critical thinking and informed citizenship. This collective benefit underscores that while individual gains from education are significant, its role in shaping economic landscapes and advancing society is equally crucial.

It effectively highlights the dual nature of educational benefit, personal enrichment and societal advancement. However, critiqued for its lack of specificity regarding its operations globally. This initiative is part of TDAP's ongoing efforts to support businesses in accessing international markets and fostering growth.

The Centre was officially opened by TDAP Director General Mohammad Naseer, ICICI President Nasir Mansoor Qureshi, and other distinguished former presidents, including Zafar Bakhtawari, Mian Akram Farid, and Mian Shaukat Masood, along with TDAP Director Ishah Shinwari. The event gathered key figures to mark the start of this important venture.

In his speech, Mohammad Naseer emphasized the Federal Government's commitment, under the leadership of Commerce Minister Jam Kamal Khan, to making Pakistan an attractive destination for foreign investors. He outlined TDAP's central goal of addressing the challenges faced by the business community, particularly in securing access for Pakistani goods to global markets. He further noted that TDAP plans to conduct and participate in multiple international exhibitions during the fiscal year to achieve this goal. Additionally, he announced the organization of the Pakistan-ASEAN Trade Development Conference (PTDC) and a Single Country Exhibition in Jakarta, Indonesia, in August 2025, to boost exports and

Empowering future generations through robust educational frameworks and ongoing skill development is essential for promoting social mobility. A well-structured education system not only imparts knowledge but also fosters critical thinking, creativity, and adaptability skills vital in an increasingly complex job market. Furthermore, investing in comprehensive curricula that include vocational training, STEM education, and soft skills development, we equip students with the tools necessary to navigate their career paths successfully.

Moreover, ongoing skill development initiatives are crucial for ensuring that individuals remain competitive in a rapidly evolving economy. As industries transform due to technological advancements,



education enables individuals to enter the workforce with the capabilities needed to thrive in today's competitive environment.

Skills development is another critical factor in unlocking economic stability and growth. Rapid technological advancements have reshaped the job market, creating a demand for workers with specialized skills.

Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) highlights the importance of lifelong learning and continuous skills development to adapt to changing economic landscapes. In Pakistan providing access to training programs and skills-building initiatives that ensures individuals remain competitive and relevant in the workforce. Furthermore, education and skills development go hand in hand in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship. A well-educated and skilled workforce is more likely to drive innovation leading to the creation of new industries and job opportunities.

Countries that prioritize education and skills development often experience higher levels of entrepreneurship and economic growth. International Labour Organization (ILO)

skills ensures that individuals remain competitive. This not only enhances personal economic prospects but also contributes to overall societal progress by fostering innovation and productivity. Empowering future generations through robust educational frameworks and ongoing skill development is essential for promoting social mobility. By prioritizing these investments, societies can cultivate an environment where all individuals have the opportunity to succeed irrespective of their socio-economic background. Education not only benefits individuals by increasing their employability and income but also serve as a driving force for economic development and social progress. As we look towards the future it is essential to recognize the transformative power of education and skills in shaping a prosperous society for generation to come.

Education serves as a dual catalyst for both individual advancement and broader societal progress. On one hand, the benefits of education to individuals are evident through enhanced employability and increased income potential. Individuals with higher educational qualifications typically have access to better job opportunities,

Rear Admiral Jawad Ahmed Takes Over As Commander Central Punjab

BUREAU REPORT

LAHORE—Rear Admiral Jawad Ahmed assumed command as Commander Central Punjab (COMCEP). COMCEP exercises authority over all Pakistan Navy units from Bahawalpur to Wazirabad and is also the Commandant of Pakistan Navy War College, Lahore.

Rear Admiral Jawad Ahmed was commissioned in Operations Branch of Pakistan Navy in 1992. He has a distinguished career, holding a wide range of command and



staff appointments. These include Personal Staff Officer to Vice Chief of

the Naval Staff, Directing Staff at PN War College, Commanding Officer of

PNS SAIF, Defence Attaché of Pakistan in Malaysia, Commander Surface Task Group-3, Commandant of Pakistan Naval Academy, Commander West at Gwadar, Hydrographer of Pakistan, Chairman PNSC, Deputy Chief of Naval Staff (T&P), and Director General CAI at Naval Headquarters.

The Admiral is an alumnus of PN War College Lahore, Defence Services Command and Staff College Bangladesh, and the National Defence University Islamabad. In recognition of his meritorious services, he

has been awarded the Hilal-e-Intiaz (Military).

The Change of Command ceremony was held at Naval Complex Walton, Lahore, where Rear Admiral Azhar Mahmood handed over the appointment to the newly appointed Commander Central Punjab. Rear Admiral Jawad Ahmed was presented with a Guard of Honour and introduced to the staff officers of Headquarters COMCEP.

The ceremony was attended by Pakistan Navy officers, CPOs, sailors, and civilian personnel.

DG TDAP, ICICI president unveil TDAP facilitation desk to boost trade

BT NEWS

ISLAMABAD—The Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) has inaugurated a new Facilitation Centre at the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), aiming to assist the local business community in expanding its operations globally. This initiative is part of TDAP's ongoing efforts to support businesses in accessing international markets and fostering growth.

ICCI President Nasir Mansoor Qureshi expressed his appreciation for TDAP's pivotal role in enhancing Pakistan's trade relations. He regarded the establishment of the TDAP Facilitation Desk at ICCI as a significant step forward and anticipated that it would help drive business growth, foster innovative approaches, and strengthen connections with regional and international partners.

He expressed his optimism that with the shared commitment to increasing bilateral trade and exploring new opportunities for long-term economic collaboration across various sectors will definitely be fruitful. Former ICICI President Zafar Bakhtawari underscored the urgent need to prioritize export growth, proposing the declaration of an "export emergency" to address the country's trade deficit.

Other former presidents, Mian Akram Farid, Mian Shaukat Masood, Zahid Maqbool praised the initiative and called for an increased role for Commercial Counsellors and a focus on organizing more exhibitions to strengthen Pakistan's trade presence abroad.



BT NEWS

ISLAMABAD —Renowned businessman Raja Sajjad Hussain attended the soft launch ceremony of 6 star hotel of Centaurs Group in the federal capital Islamabad, and Congratulate President of Centaurs Group Dr. Sardar Rashid Ilyas Khan and CEO Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan. He congratulated the construction of international standard



residential hotel in Islamabad and said that this hotel will be of great help in improving the existing international standard facilities in Islamabad. Raja Sajjad said that the future of Pakistan is bright and in this regard the economic activities in the country will start a new era of construction and development. The economic difficulties are being overcome and this is very good news for the country's economy.



Pak-China Friendship Enters a New Era E-Commerce Centre of Excellence Inaugurated at NUTECH



STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD— In a landmark development that strengthens the growing partnership between Pakistan and China, the National University of Technology (NUTECH) in Islamabad proudly inaugurated its state-of-the-art E-Commerce Centre of Excellence (CoE) on December 19, 2024. This initiative marks a new chapter in the evolution of e-commerce education and training, paving the way for a prosperous future for Pakistani youth.

The E-Commerce industry has rapidly evolved into a multi-billion-dollar sector, transforming the landscape of global commerce. As it continues to expand, it is essential for Pakistan to adapt to the changing dynamics of this booming industry. In response, the newly established E-Commerce

Centre of Excellence at NUTECH aims to bridge the gap between Pakistan and China, facilitating the exchange of knowledge, skills, and resources.

The Centre was officially inaugurated by Engr. Moazzam Ejaz, Rector of NUTECH, who expressed his admiration for the high-quality design and cutting-edge facilities at the Centre. He praised the efforts made to turn the vision of this Centre into reality and emphasized the importance of this collaboration with UN and IMTC China. This joint venture is a significant step forward in enhancing Sino-Pak cooperation in the fields of technology, education, and commerce.

Engr. Moazzam Ejaz highlighted that the E-Commerce Centre of Excellence will play a pivotal role in empowering Pakistan's youth by providing them with the

skills and training needed to meet international market standards. The Centre will offer live streaming e-commerce training sessions, ensuring that participants gain firsthand experience and knowledge about the latest industry practices. This hands-on training will equip students with the tools necessary to pursue employment opportunities in the rapidly growing e-commerce sector.

The Centre will become a hub for e-commerce innovation and skill development, enhancing global business connections and opening new doors for young professionals. By equipping the youth with advanced digital tools and global market insights, the E-Commerce Centre of Excellence will contribute significantly to Pakistan's economy and its integration into the global e-commerce ecosystem.

Agriculture chemicals imports grew 4.77% in five months of FY2024-25

BT NEWS

ISLAMABAD—Agricultural and other chemicals imports into the country during first five months of current financial year increased by 4.77 per cent as compared to the imports of the corresponding period of the last year.

During the period from July-November 2024 agricultural chemicals worth \$3,700 billion were imported as against the imports of \$3,531 billion of the same period of the last year, according to the data

of the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. Meanwhile, the fertilizers imports into the country during the period under review grew by 57.31 per cent as about 628,418 metric tons of fertilizers manufactured worth \$382,184 million were imported as against the imports of 462,043 metric tons valued at \$242,955 million of the same period of the last year, it added. However, imports of insecticides decreased by 35.12 per cent as 10,767 metric tons of insecticides valued at \$55,018 million were

imported as compared to the imports of 16,014 metric tons costing \$84,804 million of the same period of the last year, the data revealed. In last five months of the current financial year plastic imports of plastic materials grew by 246 per cent medicinal products by 1780 per cent respectively as 809,029 metric tons of plastic material costing \$12 billion and 15,678 metric tons of medicinal products valued at \$514,477 million were imported as compared to the imports of the same period of the last year.



ISLAMABAD: smoke rises from garbage, attention for the concern authority at federal capital on Monday Photo by Syed Mehdi