



Newsletter - Centre for Law and Security

BLOGS

Why Pakistan's Economic interests are crucial for strategic alliances and partnerships

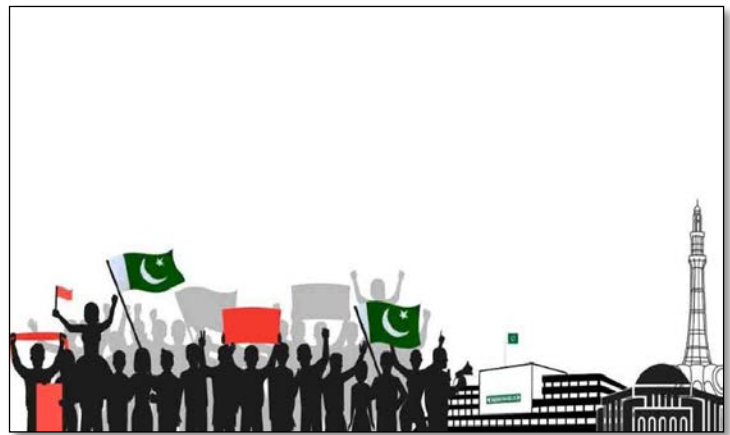
*By Research Associate,
Rabia Anwaar*

Pakistan's economic interests have now become vital national interests, as they are means to strengthening strategic alliances and partnerships. Economy expands the horizon of a state's foreign policy choices, drives its military posture, economic development, technological advancement, international standing and most importantly, makes it a significant stakeholder in international politics.

Can Pakistan modernize its economy?

*By Research Officer,
Syed Mujtaba Ali*

Pakistan's economy stands at a crucial juncture, characterized by both significant challenges and opportunities. Currently, the nation grapples with high inflation, a mounting fiscal deficit, and a balance of payments crisis, all exacerbated by global economic volatility and domestic political instability.



This Week in Law & Security

- The Senate Committee on Law and came to a consensus on an increase in the strength of judges in the Supreme Court after rationalising certain factors. The committee met under Senator Farooq H Naek here at the Parliament House and discussed the Supreme Court Judges Amendment Bill 2023 (Section 2), introduced by Senator Fawzia Arshad as a private member bill.
- The federal government has given its nod to the country's premier spy agency Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) to intercept and trace calls and messages in the apprehension of an offence against national security. The federal cabinet has approved the relevant circular allowing a designated officer of the ISI to carry out the tracing of calls under Section 54 of the Telecommunication (Re-organization) Act 1996. However, the officer nominated by the agency cannot be of less than grade 18.

Modi's Third Term and Its Impact on Indian Democracy

*By Research Officer,
Mahnoor Qaisar*

Narendra Modi's pursuit of a third term, as Prime Minister, stands poised to reshape the contours of Indian democracy. As the incumbent leader navigates the political landscape, his potential re-election carries profound implications for the nation's democratic fabric

Impact of Increased Taxes on Salaried Class

*By Research Officer,
Alize Fatima*

The recent imposition of higher income tax rates on the salaried class in Pakistan has triggered widespread concerns, reflecting a deeper disconnect between government policies and the economic realities faced by the most documented sector of the economy.

The Problem of Afghan Refugees

*By Research Associate,
Asfandiyar Khan*

Pakistan planned a new phase of Afghan refugees' repatriation as Pak – Afghan relations began to intensify, after the first wave of nearly half a million deportations putting more pressure on the Taliban – led government in Kabul. However, the situation was partly defused as Islamabad decided to extend the expiry date on Proof of Registration Cards by one year till June 2025.

- The government announced a reshuffle of leadership in five electricity distribution companies (DISCOs), according to a notification issued by the Ministry of Energy. The move comes amid ongoing efforts to improve the efficiency and performance of the power sector. Dr. Tahir Masood was named the new chairperson/independent director of the Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO). Four other independent directors were also appointed to the board.
- The Establishment Division is considering introducing an Electronic Performance Evaluation system to objectively assess the performance, output and repute of civilian bureaucrats. The proposed system is being devised in order to get fair assessment of civil servants, being evaluated, by their superiors-reporting officers and the counter-signing officers. It is being discussed that the Establishment Division should directly approach the reporting officer and the countersigning officer through electronic means for their assessment about the officers' concerned performance, output and integrity.
- The federal cabinet launched the "Huramat-e-Parcham Campaign" in response to protesters attacking the Pakistani embassy in Germany and removing the national flag.
- Atleast 15 killed, including 10 soldiers lost their lives in two attacks in Dera Ismail Khan and Bannu, amid escalating violence in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's southern region.
- Amid already existing concerns of arms and ammunition left behind in the United States' hasty withdrawal from Afghanistan being used by militants, a US watchdog has warned that Washington's aid might be benefiting terrorists in the war-torn country. A report by the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) said that two US State Department

bureaus could not prove compliance with internal policies for vetting aid groups in Afghanistan that received \$293 million in funds.

WEBINAR SERIES

Modernizing Pakistan's Economy



CLAS held a webinar titled 'Modernizing Pakistan's Economy' on Tuesday, 23rd July 2024.

Pakistan's socio-economic landscape faces significant challenges but also holds potential for growth. This meager economic scenario of Pakistan demand reforms, that will pave the way for its economic stability and prosperity. In this regard, the Centre for Law and Security (CLAS) hosted a webinar to explore viable and possible options to devise ways and means to reform Pakistan's economic structure and modernizing it.

Speakers:

1. Dr. Usman W. Chohan - Director CASS
2. Dr. Shujaat Farooq - Head, PIDE School of Economics
3. Mr. Rehman Azhar - Executive Director, CLAS

Operation Azm-e-Istehkam: Challenges and Implications



CLAS held a webinar titled 'Operation Azm e Istehkam: Challenges and Implications' on Friday, 26th July 2024.

Operation Azm-e-Istehkam, launched by the Pakistani government, aims to strengthen national security. Understanding the operation and its intended outcomes is crucial for grasping its broader strategic objectives. The webinar addressed the challenges the operation may face, and relations with China and Afghanistan, which could escalate tensions.

Speakers:

1. Dr. Syed Kaleem Imam - Former IG Police
2. Brig. Mahmood Shah (Retd) - Defence Analyst
3. Dr. Syed Muhammad Ali - Security Analyst
4. Mr. Rehman Azhar - ED CLAS