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Positive Post

A Publication by Department of Mass Communication & Media Studies and the Diplomatic Academy
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Greenwich University
Pakistan-Mauritius



January in History

January 12, 1952:

Pakistan Industrial Development Corporation (PIDC), Headed by Founder Chairman Ghulam Faruque

January 1, 1955:

Pakistan International Airlines comes into being.

January 1, 1961:

Decimal coinage introduced in Pakistan.

January 5, 1963:

First trade agreement is signed between Pakistan and China.

January 10, 1966:

Tashkent Declaration signed between India and Pakistan.

January 30, 1972:

Pakistan snaps ties with Commonwealth on recognizing Bangladesh.

January 1, 1981:

Interest-free banking introduced.

January 3, 1981:

International Islamic University starts functioning.

January 3, 1982:

Pakistan defeats Argentina 12-3 in World Cup Hockey in Bombay.

January 15, 1983:

First three F-16 jets reach Pakistan.

January 25, 1983:

Wifaqi Mohtasib (Ombudsman) Order is promulgated. Justice Sardar Iqbal is named, WM.

January 19, 1989:

Students unions are restored in Punjab .

January 12, 1992:

Labore-Islamabad Motorway project launched.

January 15, 1994:

Pakistan Television transmission gets access to 38 countries via satellite.

January 2, 2006:

Dr. Shamsbad Akhtar assumes office of State Bank Governor having the first woman Governor of SBP.

Pakistan's standing in the global rankings

Overview

Pakistan observed a slight improvement in the overall international rankings in 2018 covering socio-economic and political outcomes of the country. Several elements complemented the prospects including successful democratic transition, efficient counter-terrorism measures leading to enhanced peace and security, and foreign direct investment inflows under CPEC, among others. Albeit, decoupling economic growth from human development suggests that the country needs to enhance its scores in health, education and standard of living by ensuring political will, equitable financing and efficient governance to ensure parallel growth for marginalized segments as well. Civil and political liberties must grow hand in hand to ensure a conducive environment for democratic dialogue and accountability which ultimately supports its nation building process.

DEMOCRACY INDEX

Pakistan ranked 112th out of 167 countries in the Democracy Index scoring 4.17 out of 10 in 2018 compared to 4.26 in 2017.

Index from 0 (authoritarian regime) to 10 (full democracy)

Compiled based on indicators covering: Electoral process and pluralism, Civil liberties, Functioning of government, Political participation, and Political culture.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX

Pakistan ranked 150th out of 189 countries in the Human Development Index scoring 0.562 out of 1.000 in 2018 compared to 0.560 out of 1.000 in 2017.

Index from 0 (low development) to 1 (very high development)

Compiled based on indicators covering: life expectancy, education, and per capita income

PRESS FREEDOM INDEX

Pakistan ranked 139th out of 180 countries in the Press Freedom Index scoring 43.24 out of 100 in 2018 compared to 43.55 in 2017.

Index from 0 (most press freedom) to 100 (least press freedom)

Compiled based on indicators covering: pluralism, media independence, environment and self-censorship, legislative framework, transparency, and infrastructure.

TERRORISM INDEX

Pakistan ranked 5th out of 163 countries in the Terrorism Index scoring 8.18 out of 10 in 2018 compared to 8.40 in 2017.

Index from 0 (lowest impact) to 10 (highest impact)

Compiled based on indicators covering : Total number of terrorist incidents in a given year, total number of fatalities caused by terrorism in a given year, total number of injuries caused by terrorism in a given year and the approximate level of total property damage from terrorist incidents in a given year.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM INDEX

Pakistan ranked 131st out of 180 countries in the Economic Freedom Index scoring 54.4 out of 100 in 2018 compared to 52.8 out of 100 in 2017.

Index from 0 (repressed) to 100 (free)

Compiled based on indicators covering: Market openness, Regulatory efficiency, Government size and the rule of law.

Positive Post is a strategic effort to project achievement and contributions of Pakistan. While showcasing Greenwich University's cultural diplomacy initiatives, it also encapsulates a compilation of different developments complementing Pakistan's socio-cultural, economic and Political outcomes.



The soul of terrorism is now dying in Pakistan



Former National Security Advisor Lt Gen (retd) Nasir Khan Janjua said that they are winning the war on terror but Pakistan still has to go a long way to end this menace. Speaking at a session titled “Have We Won the War against Terrorism?” of the “Dialogue Pakistan 2020”, the former NSA said that the war on terror was a complicated issue but they had done extremely well at this front. “We are doing well if this war has not concluded. We are winning this war and we will win it,” he said while addressing the participants of the one-day national level dialogue organized by Pakistan Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS), an Islamabad-based think tank. He added that there was a long way to go to end this menace because the Afghan conflict has yet to be concluded and has direct effects on Pakistan besides internal reasons the country was facing. He also said that though there were many blunders and follies

of the past yet they were moving in the right direction. “Taliban ideology is diminishing, receding and there is no more recruitment (of militants) and enemy is on the run and non-state actors are receding,” said Janjua the, the former commander of Pakistan Army’s Southern Command in once insurgency-hit Balochistan. “The soul of terrorism is now dying in Pakistan.” The former NSA said that the real attack of the enemy was on Balochistan and Karachi in this war despite the fact that the army was busy in operations in

the far off erstwhile Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). Tariq Khosa, a former police officer, addressing the session said that they must identify that where they had done wrong in this war on terror. He said that the war on terror was an ill-conceived term and an ideological issue. “It is battle of hearts and minds,” he said adding that the state policy was flawed on elimination of terrorism and violence. Our focus is on countering terror not countering violent extremism, Khosa said adding that the Mullah mindset has not been addressed fully yet. “It is a long-drawn battle and we have not achieved our objectives fully and we have a long way to go,” he concluded. Zahid Hussain, a senior political analyst, said that Pakistan could reclaim that some of its areas have been cleared of militancy but it is still there. He said that Paki-

stan’s problems were not only internal but also external as well at this front. Tariq Parvez, former director general Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), said that they needed “civilianized security” to fight this war as military has done its part of work. Dr. Jochen Hippler, Country Director Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) and mediator of the session, concluded that there is a habit of finger pointing on one another for creating the mess of terrorism but the fact is that all including “US, Europe, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan shared responsibility of the mess.” He said that violence is receding in Pakistan but they need to be careful in future not to lose this success.

that dialogue is promoted that the latter needs to be made possible both at the national and international levels.

The Nation



UK eases travel advisory amid ‘improving security situation in Pakistan.



The United Kingdom has eased its travel advisory for British nationals owing to the “improving security situation in Pakistan” after almost five years, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) announced on Friday. In a statement following a “wide-ranging assessment” of Pakistan’s security situation, the FCO said British nationals could

now “travel by road to the North of Pakistan as well as the Kalesh and Baboret Valleys”. In this regard, the British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Dr Christian Turner, said: “It is great credit to the hard work of the Government of Pakistan in delivering improved security over the past five years. “I am delighted that British nationals will be able to see

more of what Pakistan has to offer,” Dr Turner added. The statement also cited the long-awaited return of British Airways’ flights to Pakistan back in June 2019, as well as the visit of UK Royals — Prince William and Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge — to various towns and cities in the country in October 2019. “The new travel advice for Pakistan reduces the

section of the Karakoram Highway where the FCO advises against all travel to the area between Mansehra and Chilas alone (previous travel advice covered the full route from Islamabad to Gilgit). Travellers may bypass this section by taking the alternative route through the Kaghan Valley and Babusar Pass,” it added. “The FCO no longer advises against all but essential travel to the Kalesh and Bamboret Valleys. “The FCO advises against all travel to most of Ba-



lochistan including the city of Quetta. This is except for the southern coast of Balochistan, including the city of Gwadar, where the FCO advises against all but essential travel,” it noted. Two years ago, in 2018, British nationals visited Pakistan some 484,000 times, while, as of now, 22 flights directly go to the UK every week.

The News

Lahore among the 'safest cities' in the world



With an improvement of 56 ranking places, Lahore, the seat of government in Punjab, is even safer than Paris, New York, Berlin and Chicago on the World Crime Index (WCI), according to a survey conducted by Numbeo. Lahore was ranked 230th out of a total 374 cities of the world in the Numbeo's survey for Jan 2020. It was placed at 174 in Jan 2019 and moved to 202 with an improvement

of 28 places in mid-2019. An increase in a city's ranking means a drop in its crime rate. Karachi, the largest city of Pakistan, also improved by 22 places on the list and moved from 66th position to 88th.

An analysis of the last five years of ratings of the two major Pakistani cities revealed that there has been a gradual improvement with each passing year. In 2014, Lahore was placed on 74

and Karachi 6. In mid-2019, Lahore's position improved to 202 and Karachi's to 71. Crime rate in Karachi below that of many first world cities: DG ISPR

The survey further revealed that Karachi has improved its ranking almost 11 times more since 2014, while Lahore's improvement tripled. It also showed that the rating on the World Crime Index by Numbeo has been persistently in the ascending order. The index showed that in 2014, Lahore was on 74 and Karachi on sixth. In mid-2014, Lahore's position slipped four places to 70th and Karachi's improved to eighth. In 2015, Lahore improved to 89th and Karachi to 10th. In mid-2015, Lahore's position improved to 96th and Karachi's to 21th.

In 2016, Lahore observed a slight decrease on WCI to 86th while Karachi improved to 26th. In mid-2016, Lahore was ranked 81st with a decrease of four positions and Karachi witnessed further improvement and fell on 31st. In 2017, Lahore was ranked 119th and Karachi 47th. In mid-2017, Lahore was graded 114th and Karachi on 50th. In 2018, Lahore was ranked 138th and Karachi stood in 50th position. In mid-2018, Lahore was declared 173rd and Karachi 62nd in the list. Senior police officials however have cast doubts over credibility of the index, questioning how a survey could be trusted with only 146 contributors. **Dawn**

Karachi Eat Food Festival 2020



Foodies in Karachi were determined to get to one of the largest events of the social calendar: the Karachi Eat Food Festival 2020. One of the most happening events, the crazy gusts of wind and cold could not keep the food lovers away. The annual three-day food festival was again a success this year, and most people whom I spoke to said it was much more organised and a well set-up event this time around.

As I was part of the initial

jury for the food-tasting submissions, I wanted to be there every day to see the culmination of the event. And it did not disappoint. CKO Event Architecture is the brainchild of Aslam Khan and Omar Omari. Earlier, at the food tastings I also met Cyra Anklesaria, the event producer. A very enterprising group of people, CKO Event Architecture has successfully managed and established this event, being the pioneers of food festival culture in Pakistan several years ago. The event has multiplied in the number of eateries and the audience successfully over the many years.

As I stood near the ticket-

ing booth to coordinate with some friends, I noticed that each person, from the ushers to the grounds and eateries staff, knew their drill well. They would have to be standing for several hours on end for three days

tion, was organised this year anticipated as one of the largest food festivals in Pakistan, with a well-laid out map for the attendees for an easy walk through. Keeping in mind the number of people that would want to have



straight as the event would be hosting approximately over 200,000 people.

The Karachi Eat Food Festival 2020, seventh edi-

tion, was organised this year anticipated as one of the largest food festivals in Pakistan, with a well-laid out map for the attendees for an easy walk through. Keeping in mind the number of people that would want to have their food seated, the area was filled with more benches and seating arrangements this year. **The News**

Pakistan Stock Exchange Gains 1.5



The Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) Thursday opened on a positive note and gained 1.5 percent. According to details, the KSE 100 Index at was surged by 636 points to trade at 41,994 points in the morning. The Pakistan stock exchange (PSX) Thursday opened on a positive note and gained 1.5 percent. According to details, the KSE 100 Index at was surged by 636 points to trade at 41,994 points in the morning.

However, Dollar at inter-bank in early trade was down by 17 paise at around 154.90 rupees. It is pertinent here to mention that the psx on Wednesday witnessed bearish trend as the KSE-100 Index fell by 546.91 points or 1.32 percent due to geo-political and regional security concerns. The benchmark KSE-100 Index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange had closed at 41,357.56 points.

THE EXPRESS TRIBUNE

Largest urban forest to be planted along Lyarian Malir rivers



Movement-Pakistan, other political parties are also supporting the provincial government in the project. He also announced constructing football and boxing grounds and volleyball and basketball courts for the children of the city so they can involve themselves in healthy activities. The minister said that due to climate change and the ever-increasing temperature of Karachi, it is necessary to plant more trees. He asked the citizens not

The world's largest urban forest will be planted along the Lyari River over an area of 26 kilometres, and this project will soon be inaugurated by Pakistan

Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. This was announced by Syed Nasir Hussain Shah, Sindh's minister for local government and forests,

that only environment-friendly trees that bear fruits will be planted. Shah told the media that the project has been initiated according to the vision of the PPP chief, and that the first phase of the project will be initiated at the bank of the Lyari River, while in the second phase the urban forest will be planted along the Malir River. Shah said that apart from the Muttahida Qaumi

to litter in any part of the city, especially in forest areas. He said that action will be taken against those who litter. District West Deputy Commissioner Fayaz Solangi, West District Municipal Corporation Chairman Izharruddin, Chief Conservator Ijaz Nizami and Divisional Forest Officer Maqsood Ahmed also accompanied the forests minister. **The Nation**



PM Imran featured on Time Magazine

Prime Minister Imran Khan on Monday was on Time Magazine's cover along with four other world leaders for the publication's World Economic Forum (WEF) edition.

WEF founder Klaus Schwab, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Microsoft founder Bill Gates, and Europe's Central Bank President Christine Lagarde were all in a chairlift with PM Imran with the Swiss Alps in the background. The annual summit is set to commence in Davos tomorrow for four days. While US President Donald Trump and climate activist Greta Thunberg can also be seen sitting together on another chairlift in the illustration. PM Imran will also attend the summit from January 21-23 with the entire trip costing \$68,000 to the na-



tional exchequer. PM Imran's advisers Abdul Razak Dawood and Zulfi Bukhari, as well as, other officials will accompany him to Davos, where he is expected to hold meetings with several world leaders, including US President Trump. Fifty-three heads of state

are on the guest list, including Trump, who is expected to address the gathering on January 21. The country's premier will brush shoulders with foreign investors and inform them of investment opportunities Pakistan holds. This year marks the 50th anniversary of

the invitation-only event, which takes place in the Alpine resort town of Davos, amid tight security. Nearly 3,000 participants from 118 countries are expected to attend the event. **The New**

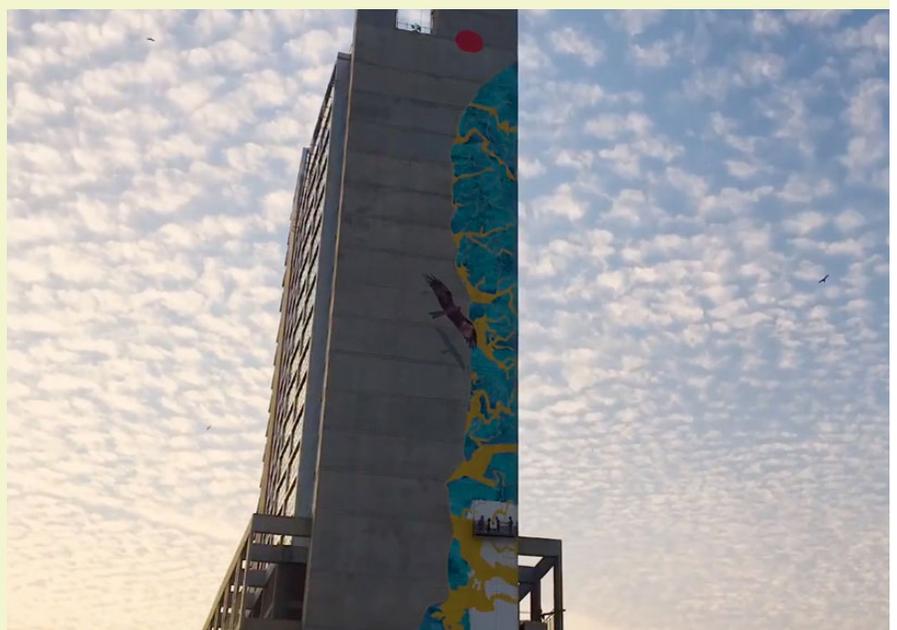
World's tallest mural' unveiled in Karachi

A 286-foot-high public art mural, claimed to be world's tallest, was unveiled in Karachi in January 2020. The mural titled 'Rising Blue' made by Italian artist Giuseppe Percivati is part of the International Public Art Festival (IPAF), an initiative of "I Am Karachi."

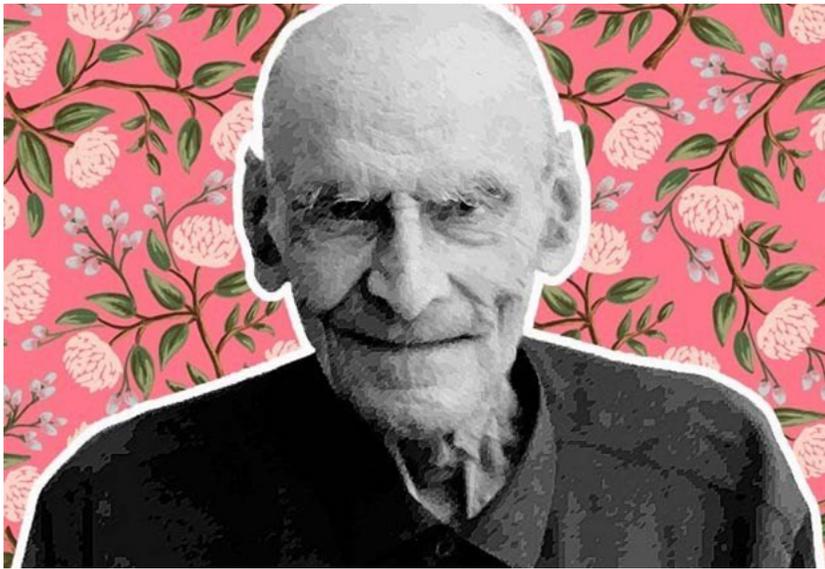
The mural titled 'Rising Blue' made by Italian artist Giuseppe Percivati is part of the International Public Art Festival (IPAF), an initiative of "I Am Karachi." Speaking on the occasion, Italian Consul-General Anna Ruffi-

no said Percivati had worked in Karachi before at IPAF and also worked in several other countries such as the US, Portugal, Australia and Japan.

The News



Revisiting Mohammad Khalid Akhtar's writings on his 100th birthday.



audio recitation, as my own small tribute to this great writer.

A series of Akhtar's comic writings were published in the 1950s in literary journals under the title of Maloomati Qaeda (Informational Primer). Two essays of series were also published in his

collection Khoya Hua Ufaq (The Lost Horizon), in which Akhtar has written truthfully about the various trends, behaviours, isms in society and about humans; and has adopted a new method to

reduce the pricking caused by humour, and has created opportunities for thinking and reflection in the manner of teaching children. In this primer, the meaning and definition of things are presented by actually narrating reality with light hyperbole with such beauty that we simultaneously laugh and reflect upon these things. He has also made various aspects of our country the topic of his primer, in which the manner of his satire is very unique and aggressive; and with him nothing is unsaid for fear or prudence. Here he also deals with certain aspects and conversations which are usually hindered by plain and humble deference. Dawn

Last month marked the 100th birth anniversary of one of the great Urdu satirists and novelists, Mohammad Khalid Akhtar (1920-2002). Ideally, his birthday should have been celebrated and acknowl-

edged across the nation, perhaps even commemorated in the form of a Google doodle. Nonetheless, here I have humbly presented this original translation of his Informational Primer for Children, with an accompanying

Hazara Motorway section opens



Hazara Motorway from Shah Maqsood to Abbottabad section was opened. According to the

details, Hazara Motorway section-I was opened till Shah Maqsood interchange and later it was

operational up to Mansehra but owing to the toll tax issue for incoming traffic from Islamabad and Peshawar which had to exit on Shah Maqsood interchange and again enter on the motorway to continue the journey for Abbottabad and Mansehra by paying an extra 30 rupees toll tax. On the public complaint, Commissioner Hazara Syed Zaheerul Islam promised to resolve

the issue in January and to open the motorway from both sides.

NHA contractors were receiving different toll tax from incoming traffic and outgoing at Abbottabad interchange. From Abbottabad to Islamabad toll tax charges were 130 rupees but from Islamabad to Abbottabad contractor is charging 160 rupees. People of Abbottabad and public transporters have demanded from NHA to address the issue of excessive charge of toll tax and make it unified.

The News

Aussie High Commissioner wishes good luck to Pak women cricketerTennis



Australian High Commissioner Dr Geoffrey Shaw met with Pakistan national women's cricket team at National Stadium Karachi on Tuesday and wished them good luck ahead of the ICC T20 Women's Cricket World Cup in Australia, which will commence from February 21. Present at the reception were Pakistani women players selected for the T20 World Cup, chair of Pakistan national women's selection committee Urooj Mumtaz, the team's coaches and senior members of Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB). "It is a great privilege

to meet Pakistani women's cricket team players. I wish the team a fantastic stay in Australia. The players will definitely receive a very warm Australian welcome. We expect some fabulous cricket," said the High Commissioner, while talking to the players. Dr Shaw said it will be a big year for women's cricket in Australia. "Australia is about to become the first cricketing nation to close the gender prize money gap. At this year's T20 World Cup, Cricket Australia will top up prize money won by the women's team to deliver parity with

their male counterparts," Shaw added. The High Commissioner also invited fans and visitors from Pakistan to be part of

the T20 World Cup and #FILLTHEMCG campaign. "We are holding the final of the World Cup at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG), the biggest cricket stadium in the world, with a bold ambition to set a record for attendance at a women's sporting fixture," he said.

The current record for attendance at a women's sporting fixture is 90,185, set at the final of the 1999 FIFA Women's World Cup in the USA. "We aim to beat that world record," he added. Pakistan women team will depart for Australia on January 31 and will play its first match against West Indies on February 26 at Manuka Oval. **The Nation**



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