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NEWSLETTER

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From the Desk Of the Chairman

Donald Trump will split the world three different ways

It is more by happenstance than by design that Pakistan has landed on the right side of the global order being shaped by the actions and statements of Donald Trump, the new American president. He has convulsed the world in several different ways. It is becoming increasingly clear that the Trump presidency will have two important consequences for the world political and economic order. He has no interest in pursuing the principles on which the old order was based. The emphasis then was on establishing rule-based institutions to guide the world's disparate nations in a number of areas. These included

politics (the United Nations and its many bodies, especially the Security Council), finance (the International Monetary Fund), development assistance (the World Bank Groups and the various regional banks), and trade (the World Trade Organization). His strong belief in deals means that under him Washington will put much greater emphasis on bilateralism rather than multilateralism.

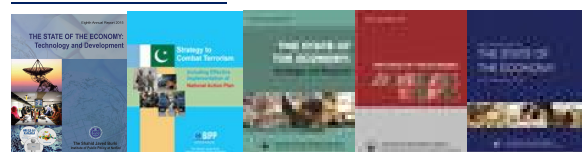
Also by declaring that "America First" will be the guiding principle of policy making by his administration, Trump has no interest in playing the role of a leader to which the world would look at difficult times. "America First" will get translated as "America Alone." By following this approach,

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Previous Publications



the American president will split the world in three ways. China will lead Asia and parts of Latin America and Africa; Germany will lead Europe which, in turn, will influence the areas close to the Continent – the Middle East and North Africa. And America will essentially go its own way. When the curtain comes down on the Trump presidency, America will be a much diminished place.

A couple of recent developments have underscored China's decision to be the leader in some of the areas of great concern to it. In February, President Xi Jinping gave a speech at Davos that was usually done by the American

President. Davos in a way was China's "coming out" party. At the World Forum, Xi spoke on the need for globalization to underpin the new world that was in the process of taking shape. China had not only come out of its shell, it was prepared to provide the lead to the world in following a rule-based system of governance. Second, Beijing was prepared to spend a significant amount of its accumulated foreign reserves in connecting different parts of the world. In May, it hosted dozens of world leaders to promote its One Belt, One Road initiative. This aims to build a system of roads, ports and industrial estates to further increase the contribution of world trade to global economic output.

After the late May visit by Donald Trump to Europe, Germany's Angela Merkel became convinced that Europe will have to go on its own. "We have to know that we must fight for our future on our own,

for our destiny as Europeans," she told an audience she addressed in Munich. With her statement she was calling for German citizens to get accustomed to a more active world role as their country becomes the central player in Europe. "This seems to an end of an era, one in which the United States led and Europe followed," said Ivo H. Daalder, a former United States envoy to NATO and now the director of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. "Today the United States is heading into a direction on key issues that seems diametrically opposite of where Europe is heading. Merkel's comments are an acknowledgment of the new reality."

Pakistan will be an important player in the China-oriented Asian system. By becoming actively involved in the China-Pakistan Economic Order, it has been able to effectively counter its downgrading by America as an ally.

Shahid Javed Burki

Message of the Month

CPEC and Agriculture



Possible benefits that Pakistan can derive from CPEC are now

increasingly debated as backbone projects (early harvests) are well underway for implementation. The urgent need is to pursue a systematic and

professional approach to identify sectors, subsectors and economic clusters that bring good returns to the huge investments. The underlying concern being expressed is: would these large financial outlays bring growth and rise in exports to pay back the investments? For the time being, it does not seem to be the case. We at BIPP have been making a case that corridor development should not be looked as a passage

economies that are well developed and are quite competitive to trade and take larger share of the expected benefits. It is an opportunity, not to be missed this time to promote rural economy, with focus on developing agriculture and agro processing as a lead sector in high potential areas.

Dr. Mahmood Ahmed

From Research and Consultancy Wing

The Quadrangular Approach to Agriculture Development

The China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) carries huge potential for harnessing the full potential of agriculture sector in Pakistan which hitherto fore has not received the priority attention it deserved. The sector could be a real game changer in terms of becoming a vehicle for sustainable economic development, poverty alleviation and

regional disparity reduction. It would spur fast track rural economic growth especially in the backward and poverty stricken areas along the CPEC routes because of the intertwined forward and backward linkages and high multiplier effects in terms of job creation and value addition. Though a bit late, finally agriculture seems to have been accorded a bit of attention as a priority sector within CPEC investment framework. BIPP has

been consistently advocating at various forums the need to pay due heed to the agriculture sector in our development planning and has provided a broad framework/road map that essentially entails - spur investment in supporting infrastructure (feeder roads and irrigation); and develop a profitable and competitive agriculture using cluster and value chain approach.

At the same time, BIPP strongly argued the need for public and private investments in: “hardware” (transport and agribusiness infrastructure); “techno-ware” (ICT integrated solutions for crop-cycle, supply chain management and marketing); “software” (policy and regulatory framework); and “orgware” (institutional strengthening and capacity building). BIPP is already undertaking a comprehensive study on the potential for Land and Corridor Based Commerce in Pakistan and among other topics, the feasibility and application of this quadrangular composite for the agriculture sector will be further analyzed and highlighted in detail.



News and Insights

April: The BIPP team represented by Acting Director, Mr. Asad Ejaz Butt and Research Associate, Mr. Ali Gill attended a one-day research and policy symposium organized by the sustainable development policy institute in May. The event invited high level representation from the civil service, business community, academia and students from the various law and economics schools of Lahore. The running theme for the event was tax reforms in Pakistan. Speakers representing institutions including the Pakistan bar council, Federal Board of Revenue, Punjab Revenue Authority and Lahore and women chambers of commerce and industry deliberated in what turned out to be a very insightful and conclusive session. While many solutions to the low tax to GDP ratio were presented, the participants unanimously agreed that the creation of ‘one-window’ system and inter-provincial harmonization of taxes is imperative for

the horizontal expansion of the tax base in the country.

On the BIPP publications front, Mr. Shahid Najam, VC BIPP and Ms. Tabeer Riaz, Research Associate, co-published a policy brief “Mental Health – A Grave Challenge” to endorse the global mental health agenda on the world health day. Mr. Shahid Najam followed this with another policy brief publication on April 21st titled “gender empowerment and corporate sustainability”.

May: The month of May saw the Labor, World Telecommunication and Information Society and Cultural Diversity days. Since BIPP embarked on this event coverage plan to produce a brief on each selected international UN day, the month of May witnessed five policy brief submissions from the BIPP research team of which 2 were published and 1 is currently under review. In context of the

labor day, Mr. Shahid Najam published a paper titled “workers day and global compact principles” while Mr. Asad presented a paper titled “bonds that no one wants – a labor day treatise” to advance the cause of bonded laborers in Pakistan. Mr. Asad Ejaz Butt and Mr. Muhammad Rizwan co-published a policy brief titled “big data for big impact” in response to the world telecommunication and information society day.

Mr. Shahid Najam has also recently published a brief on the plight of the Turkish asylum seekers.

Progress Report of the Smart Health Project “TEEMARDAR”

The 8th quarter which is also the final quarter of TEEMARDAR project is currently underway. A meeting of the Transition Management Team (TMT) TEEMARDAR was held on 18th May 2017 to review the progress and achievements together with the way forward to ensure sustainability of the HR, financial, functional and technical operations and activities of TEEMARDAR project. TMT was informed that so far, the project has achieved all envisaged milestones of current quarter. An estimated 1.2 million direct beneficiaries have been served through automated inventory management system out of which more than 65% of beneficiaries are women and children. The team members, while noting

the satisfactory progress especially the capacity strengthening of the staff to smoothly run the system independently and technical robustness of the system agreed with the need to expedite the implementation of the steps for district government and Health Department to fully assume the operational responsibility of the project and integrate the related activities in the on-going operation of the health department at the local and provincial level.

The PC-1 for expansion of the project, as prepared by BIPP, was also shared with the Transition Management Team

members. The DoH and the District Development Officer Shiekhupura were in particular requested to provide their inputs within 7 days before submission of the PC-1 to Secretary Health. Besides they were requested to move the case/SNE proposal together with the budget through CEO, District Health Authority to cover the project related expenditures as from June 2017 as already assured by Secretary Primary Health.

It was also decided that a policy dialogue in partnership with academia will be conducted, for which Provincial Minister for Health and/or Secretary Health and other high-ups of Provincial Health Department will be invited.



From Think Tank Wing

A three member team of Centro Studi Internazionale, Rome Italy (Ce. S.I) comprising President Professor Andrea Margelletti, Mr. Gabriele Iacovino and Ms. Francesca Manenti visited the Shahid Javed Burki Institute of Public Policy at NetSol (BIPP) on 27 April 2017 to, inter alia, exchange views on the radicalization and terrorism in Pakistan and elsewhere and the possible implications for peace, security and development in the region. BIPP was represented by Mr. Shahid Najam, Vice Chairman, Mr. Asad Ejaz Director and Ms. Nayab Jadoon Research Assistant.

VC BIPP apprised the visitors on the work the institute has done on the subject especially an inclusive policy dialogue on

National Action Plan to Combat Terrorism and the strategy document on effectively addressing this menace through a holistic approach. Hard core terrorism, militancy and religious extremism and organized crime, he elaborated, tend to constitute a strong nexus and as such it was critically important to deal with all these forms and manifestations simultaneously. He briefed the Italian counterparts on the three pronged strategy comprising action by state security apparatus, dialogue and engagement, and mainstreaming through development programs and projects. Professor Margelletti dwelt on the successful experience of Italy in eradicating the terrorists including the members of Red Brigades, fascists, anarchists and organized crime. He reflected on the rising incidence of violence and ISIS threats which not only jeopardized human

safety and security but also inflicted huge costs to the development effort being undertaken nationally and internationally to overcome the challenges of extreme poverty, disease, ignorance and lack of access of the poor to basic services.

The two sides agreed to cooperate and work together on the issues connected with peace and development and for the purpose conclude formal Memorandum of Understanding which may include (a) carrying out analysis on specific relevant issues; (b) exchange of publications and teaching materials; (c) exchange of experts for participation in conferences, symposia, and panel discussions in each other's country; and (d) any other form of cooperation that may be jointly decided upon by the Parties.

It may be added that Ce.S.I is a Rome based institute founded in 2004 as an independent, non- partisan, think tank focused on international security, terrorism and geo-politics and provides regular input and analytical advice to the Lower and Upper Houses of Italian Parliament.



From Education and Learning Wing The Burki University of Advance Sciences and Technology (BUAST)

The Shahid Javed Burki Institute of Public Policy (BIPP) in conjunction with NetSol Technologies Ltd and Meinhardt Group of Singapore has planned to setup a world class university namely Burki University of Advance Sciences and Technology (BUAST) in affiliation with a top ranked American University – the University of Missouri- Saint Louis (UMSL) – in Pakistan. The university aims to serve as a centre of excellence in technology, social sciences and international business studies. Initially, will establish the following four schools and faculties: School of Technology and Computer Sciences; School of Arts and Sciences; Institute of Public Policy and Global Leadership; and Institute for International Business. These Schools will offer baccalaureate and

graduate degrees as well as executive, technical and Para-professional skills and programs. The course and teaching modules are being developed in conjunction with UMSL. Joint research ventures with UMSL will also be regular feature of BUAST. While it is planned to commence the executive and short term programs from September 2017, the regular degree programs are planned for August 2018 for which UMSL will assist in designing the curricula, the training and teaching methodology and modality and the evaluation and appraisal system.

At present, the BUAST office and support operations are being carried out mainly from the BIPP premises though NetSol has generously allowed the use of their facilities especially for tele and video conferences as

well as their meeting rooms. While a formal proposal for allotment of land in the Knowledge Park Lahore has been submitted for establishing the regular BUAST campus and is being processed by LKP management, a site for the city campus to start the executive courses is being actively identified with the aim to make the campus functional as from December 2017. Apart from the founding members who have provided initial funding, many investors have shown interest to finance the university project. A number of preliminary meetings with the investors have since taken place.

Hopefully, BUAST will help position Pakistan as a knowledge and education hub in the region.

Education Budget

"Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress, in every society, in every family". (Kofi Annan- former General Secretary UN)

Pakistan with the population of around 200 million – sadly bears the burden of one of

the most illiterate countries of Asian continent. Reasons have been cited: not enough schools and if there are, they are not affordable by the common people. In its 70 year history, Pakistan has been ruled both by civil and military governments but unfortunately education never received the priority in their

development planning which it deserved. Consequently, the education system and standard in Pakistan have greatly deteriorated despite the fact that there has been some improvement in the literacy rate; recorded as about 60 % in 2017. Bringing children to school

As evident from the graph below, there has been a steady increase in the overall allocation of budget from the year 2013 but given the magnitude of problem of illiteracy, this allocation falls far short of the requirement to educate the population and meet the SDG

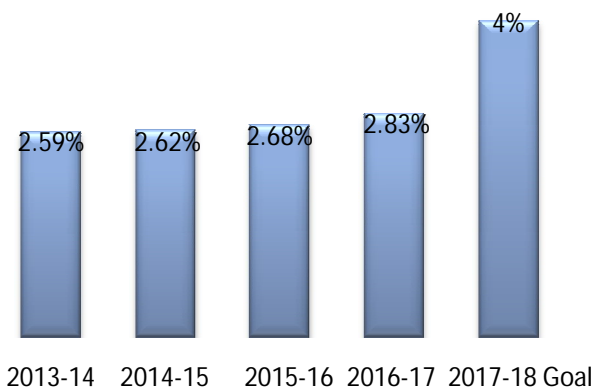
targets. If the Federal Government is committed to attaining its goal i.e, 4 pc of the GDP allocation to education budget, it will need an additional Rs 485 billion according to a recent study, while the provinces will need to cumulatively double their allocations to Rs 975 billion to meet the target.

Education Budget

achieving quantitative gains in percentile numbers is definitely not education nor it leads to building knowledge based responsible citizenry. The focus needs to be on quality education through well trained teachers, modern STEM based curricula and infrastructure and facilities conducive for expanding learning horizons.

The present government promised in its election manifesto to allocate 4% of the GDP to the education, but this could not be achieved even in their fifth budget presentation. The allocation of funds for education sector continues to be very low in Pakistan.

Education Budget from 2013 to 2017



From Knowledge Management Wing

Recent Publications

Policy Brief

- The Plight of the Turkish Asylum Seekers
- Big Data for Big Impact
- The Workers Day and Global Compact Principles
- Gender Empowerment and Corporate Sustainability

Editorials

- Our demographic situation
- Trump's Riyadh speech and its implications for Muslim world
- Is 'globalization' dead?
- Immigration, Islam and the West
- Pakistan's solution to the energy crisis
- Improving citizens' health by using IT

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Mission Statement

IPP's mission is to improve welfare of the citizenry with particular emphasis on identifying policy measures that will lead to inclusive growth, socio-economic stability and sustainable development, besides fully harnessing the potential for regional and global integration.

Partners

District Delivery



THE URBAN UNIT
Urban Sector Planning & Management Services Pvt (PCL) Ltd.
A Public Sector Company.

