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CALENDAR OF EVENTS



DOMOTEX asiaCHINA FLOOR 2022

Dates: May 25th to 27th, 2022.
Venue: NECC, Shanghai, China.
www.en.dact.cn



FESPA 2021

Dates: May 31st to June 3rd, 2022.
Venue: Berlin, Germany.
www.fespa.com



ITM 2022

Dates: June 14th to 18th, 2022.
Venue: Istanbul, Turkey.
www.itmexhibition.com

techtexsil

Techttextil 2022, Frankfurt

Dates: June 21st to 24th, 2022.
Venue: Frankfurt am Main.
www.techttextil.messefrankfurt.com



INTEX SOUTH ASIA 2022

Dates: July 27th to 29th, 2022.
Venue: Colombo, Sri Lanka.
www.intexsouthasia.com



IGATEX Pakistan 2022, Lahore

Dates: Sep 1st to 4th, 2022.
Venue: Expo Centre, Lahore.
www.igatex.pk



ICADEX Pakistan 2022, Lahore

Dates: Sep 1st to 4th, 2022.
Venue: Expo Centre, Lahore.
www.icadexpakistan.com

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Dates: Sep 6th to 8th, 2022.
Venue: Shanghai New International
Expo Centre, Shanghai, China.
www.cinte-techttextil-china.hk



ITMA ASIA



ITMA ASIA + CITME 2022

Dates: Nov 20th to 24th, 2022.
Venue: NECC, Shanghai, China.
www.itmaasia.com



Index 2023

Dates: April 18th to 21st, 2023.
Venue: Palexpo, Geneva, Switzerland.
www.indexnonwovens.com

heimtextil

heimtextil 2023

Dates: June 10th to 13th, 2023.
Venue: Frankfurt am Main.
www.heimtextil.messefrankfurt.com

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Growth in textile exports — new beginnings, new hopes

A little over halfway through the current financial year, Pakistan's economic landscape looks strong for 2022 as it has bagged a growth of 5.37%, substantially higher than the previous two years. Several indicators reveal that our economy has done well in spite of the Covid-19 pandemic setbacks, with year-on-year improvements in key indices.

Textile sector, which is among the significant contributors, has played a pivotal part in this regard. Despite strict fiscal constraints, timely and appropriate policy measures taken by the government resulted in a V-shaped economic recovery. Effective policy measures taken by the government to contain the virus along with fiscal stimulus and monetary measures by the State Bank of Pakistan in FY2020 helped uphold the economy during the pandemic when severe economic depression was prevailing around the globe.

Sustainable and inclusive economic growth is the key to a strong and vibrant Pakistan, which can open doors for development and prosperity in the country. The economy of Pakistan was built around textiles and its base is still connected to this sector.

The journey of the textile industry in Pakistan has not been a smooth

road. The emergence of economic crisis worldwide was an instant setback, coupled with rising manufacturing expenses, escalating energy tariffs, rising prices, shortage of raw material, frail infrastructure, obsolete technology and lack of investment were among the factors considered for the downfall of the textile industry.

However, this sector has now picked up a growing pace following the removal of Covid-19 restrictions witnessing a sharp surge of 26pc year-on-year to \$9.38 billion in the first half of FY2021-22.

Half-year exports of readymade garments went up 22.93 percent to \$1.831 billion from \$1.490 billion, knitwear increased by 35.21 percent to \$2.5 billion from \$1.849 billion, bedwear increased 19 percent to \$1.659 billion from \$1.394 billion, towels climbed up 17.54 percent to \$523.686 million from \$445.697 million.

Likewise, cotton cloth went up 21.35 percent to \$1.134 billion from \$935.009 million, raw cotton exports went up 197.30 percent to \$1.763 million from \$0.593 million last year.

This indicates country's preferences are shifting from raw and intermediate goods to value-added exports.

Increased textile exports have come on the back of quantum growth in high value-added products. Likewise, the export of textiles posted a 22.94pc growth in FY2020-21 compared to the same period a year ago. In absolute terms, the total exports of textile remained \$15.4 billion in 2020-21 against \$12.526 billion of the previous year. Exports of 13 sectors, including value-added textiles, posted double-digit growth in FY2020-21 compared to corresponding year.

Strengthening exports is critical for economic growth. To sustain strong economic growth, Pakistan needs to increase private investment and enhance export volume according to the World Bank's Report.

Textile sector is capable of harnessing \$30 billion for the economy of Pakistan. This is a wake-up call for the policymakers who have been facing an economic conundrum for quite a





while now. Reportedly, Pakistan is missing out on almost \$30 billion worth of exports related to the textile industry which can prove to be a major boon for Pakistan's debilitating economic situation characterized by repeated boom-bust cycles. The sector not only provides large-scale jobs but also has a huge share in the exports of the country coupled with a magnanimous room for value-added textile products. These pertinently shed light upon the importance of textile industry in Pakistan which, unfortunately, is facing numerous problems.

To benefit from the economic potential that lies in the textile sector, a number of carefully curated policy measures have to be taken that can support the sustainable growth of textile industry. Declining share of China in the US apparel market and shifting focus from apparel to global textile market have already created room for Pakistan and other competitors to enhance their shares in apparel exports.

Textile industry, which comprises 46 percent of the total manufacturing sector, provides employment to around 25 million Pakistanis, contributes 8.5 percent to the GDP, is the industry that can lead Pakistan towards economic prosperity. The future of textile industry is bright in Pakistan and promises new dawn given that its grievances are addressed properly. Government should focus on how to increase the textile exports. If the bottlenecks are removed, textile industry is capable of carving a pathway for an economically stable and prosperous Pakistan.

Current conditions for textile industry are very favorable. However, unprecedented hike in input prices at international level and continuous fluctuation in exchange rate has significantly increased the working capital requirements of the export industry.

The SBP's Export Refinance Scheme is the only support for the exporters to meet the capital investment requirements.

The following points should be noted:

- In 2021, textile sector showed significant growth in exports. Consequently, their entitlement to Export Refinance has also been increased substantially. In order to create room for growing number of export orders, ERS support should be enhanced.

- The initiative to provide energy resources to export-oriented industries at regionally competitive prices (electricity @ 9 cent/kwh and as @ \$6.5 per MMBtu) brought positive outcomes registering upward growth in exports. To continue this momentum, continuous supply of energy at regionally competitive prices should be ensured. This package is not a subsidy, instead, there is no cost of the service study, all sector inefficiency, subsidy to domestic consumers, AJK, Fata, Baluchistan and high T&D losses in the DISCOs are included in the basket tariff. An extension in energy package and allowing tariff on existing consumption to direct and indirect exporters will result in further increase in exports and also conduct a Cost-of-Service Study and set tariffs accordingly.

- In order to gear up textile exports, Duty Drawback of Taxes (DDT) incentive was allowed to textile exporters based on their exports which resulted in significant growth in textile exports. Duty Drawback of Taxes (DDT) incentive should be continued to for growth momentum.

- SBP has amended foreign exchange regulations requiring exporters to bring export proceeds within a maximum period of 120 days from shipment. These payments terms can be the most challenging as our regional partners offer 180-day terms in the international market as the importers carefully evaluate the pricing policies. All prudential regulations should be aligned with the international regulatory framework, considering the regional competition

in international trade.

- Government has taken exemplary initiatives to streamline the refund process. However, old outstanding refunds (around Rs365 billion in Sales Tax, Duty Drawback and Income Tax refund regime, Rs85 billion under textile policy incentives i.e. DTL, TUF and mark-up support scheme) are still outstanding.

- SEZs are being established to promote industrialization and investment in the country and several Chinese textile industries are making joint ventures with Pakistani counterparts. However, it is imperative to focus on production of such raw materials that are being imported from China. This would help decrease production cost of our export items.

- Upgradation and development of infrastructure in industrial clusters, especially road infrastructure, health-care centers, trauma centers and security issues has become need of the hour.

- Reduce effective rates of protection gradually through a long-term tariff rationalization strategy to encourage exports.

- Consolidate market intelligence services by supporting new exporters and evaluating the impact of current interventions to increase their effectiveness

- Design and implement a long-term strategy to upgrade productivity that fosters competition, innovation and maximizes export potential.

Textile exporters have time and again proved that if given a level playing field, they can compete against the best in the world. We are not short on innovation and taking bold decisions. The sky is really the limit for our textile exports to grow and contribute substantially not only to foreign exchange earnings but also to overall sustainable economic growth. The textile export sector has picked up the momentum and the trend will continue in the coming months owing to an upbeat textile policy coupled with other growth measures announced by the govt.

Pakistan Sports Industry and its Impact on Economic Growth of Pakistan



Pakistan operates one of the largest and most prominent sports goods industries in the world. It exports a large chunk of its sports goods to some of the most famous international brands including Nike, Adidas, Puma, Umbro, Lotto, Wilson, Mitre, Micassa, Diadora, and Decathlon.

Owing to good quality as well as low manufacturing costs, our country has retained its position as one of the leading players in the global trade of sports goods for decades. Sports goods in Pakistan are supplied to both local and international brands. The products that are exported are manufactured according to the requirement of a targeted market, which may vary from region to region.

HISTORY OF PAKISTAN'S SPORTS GOODS INDUSTRY

The history of sports goods manufacturing in this part of the subcontinent dates back to the late 1800s. The foundation of the sports industry in the region was laid down by a British Army Soldier Sardar Ganda Singh who established the very first factory manufacturing sports equipment in the city of Sialkot.

In the beginning, the factory was only producing sports goods like cricket bats, polo, and sticks, but in the later years, it started manufacturing sportswear too.

The sports goods industry in Sialkot has grown by leaps and bounds in all these years. It has now become internationally famous and one of the chief contributors in terms of exports of Pakistan. So, let's list down and discuss some of the key facts about the sports industry in Pakistan to find out how it gained world-recognition.



Pakistan has the honor of providing hand-stitched footballs for the world cups organized from 1990 to 2010.

SURPRISING FACTS ABOUT SPORTS GOODS INDUSTRY IN PAKISTAN

Sialkot's sports industry is over a century old and caters to many world-famous brands. Here are some facts about it that may surprise you.

- The sports goods in the region are made with the finest of raw materials such as leather, wood, glue, nylon guts, rubber, and different types of chemicals. They are not only of good quality but are also extremely durable.

- Throughout history, Pakistan has exported sports goods to around 90

different countries including Germany, the USA, UK, France, and Italy. This is how our country has acquired a prominent position in the international trade of sports goods.

- The product range includes different types of sports equipment used in football, volleyball, rugby, cricket, hockey, baseball, tennis, badminton, and a variety of other sports. It also produces beach balls, nets, gloves, protective guards, pads, and sportswear.

- As discussed, world-renowned brands like Nike, Adidas, Puma, Micassa, Mitre, Umbro, Select, Lotto, Diadora, Decathlon, and Wilson among many others have been sourcing a large portion of their sports equipment and other related supplies from the sports goods industry in Pakistan. This has greatly added to the credibility and diversified the portfolio of the local sports manufacturers in the city of Sialkot.

- Footballs, gloves, and sportswear account for more than 80% of the total sports goods exported. Footballs made in Pakistan have been used in international tournaments throughout history. Brazuca and Telstar were the two Pakistani-manufactured footballs that became a part of FIFA World Cups in Brazil and Russia, respectively.



Chinese firm is setting up \$150 million industrial park in Pakistan for the production of sportswear.

LATEST INITIATIVES TO BOOST SPORTSWEAR INDUSTRY IN PAKISTAN

The government of Pakistan has allowed a Chinese firm to develop a \$150 million industrial park in the peripheries of Lahore. Named "Challenge Fashion Industrial Park", this grand-scale industrial estate project in Punjab is expected to be functional by the end of 2022.

An industrial park running at this scale has the potential to significantly contribute to the country's job market. Challenge Fashion Industrial Park is expected to create around 10,000-11,000 job opportunities for the locals.

This large-scale facility has been planned with state-of-the-art

dyeing and fabric manufacturing units for the production of sportswear. It will turn Pakistan into a major sportswear export hub.

This was everything you needed to know about the sports goods industry in Pakistan. With the better use of technology and resources, the sector has the potential to grow exponentially.

Sports goods' export surges 24.5pc in 5MFY22

The exports of sports goods witnessed an increase of 24.48 percent during the first five months of current financial year (2021-22) as compared to the exports of corresponding period of last year. Pakistan exported sport goods worth \$134.803 million

during July-November (2021-22) against the exports of \$108.296 million during July-November (2020-21), showing growth of 24.48 percent, according to the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS).

Among the sports products, the exports of footballs increased by 19.34 percent as these surge from \$53.354 million last year to \$63.671 million during the current year. The gloves' exports rose by 12.90 percent by going up from \$28.056 million last year to \$31.676 million during the current year, the PBS data revealed.

Likewise, the exports of all other sports goods increased by 46.75 percent from \$26.886 million last year to \$39.456 million during the current year. Meanwhile, year-on-year basis the sports goods' export witnessed an increase of 39.47 percent in November 2021 as compared to the export of the same month of last year.

The sport goods exports in November 2021 were recorded at \$29.604 million against the exports of \$21.226 million in November 2020. During the period under review, the exports of footballs, gloves and other sports products increased by 27.88 percent, 45.60 percent and 55.56 percent respectively.

On month-on-month basis, the exports of sports goods increased by 8.41 percent during November 2021,

Exports by Commodity/Groups

(Million rupees)

Year	Raw Cotton	Cotton Fabrics	Cotton Yarn & Thread	Knitwear	Bedwear	Woolen carpet & Rugs	Leather	Rice	Fish & Fish Preparation	Fruits & Vegetables	Sports Goods
2016-17	4,559.0	223,675.4	131,813.2	247,242.0	223,811.6	8,053.9	36,182.8	168,244.0	41,215.9	59,241.8	32,283.1
2017-18	6,183.6	242,374.4	151,203.3	298,374.2	248,587.7	8,188.7	36,329.9	224,739.5	49,735.5	70,562.2	37,710.2
2018-19	2,709.0	285,625.2	153,004.9	394,748.4	307,202.3	8,980.3	34,269.3	285,031.5	60,404.6	88,469.3	41,994.7
2019-20	2,668.6	287,877.1	155,848.7	440,104.3	358,749.6	8,288.1	29,008.9	343,916.0	64,118.2	114,521.1	41,285.6
2020-21	131.0	307,157.5	162,540.7	609,576.0	443,286.1	11,604.2	25,790.9	325,585.0	66,040.2	127,648.3	44,443.0

as compared to the exports of \$27.307 million in October 2021, the PBS data revealed. On month-on-month basis, the exports of footballs, gloves and other sports commodities increased by 4.11 percent, 9.30 percent and 5.758 percent respectively. It is pertinent to mention here that the country's total goods' witnessed an increase of 26.68 percent during the first five months of the current fiscal year (2021-22) as compared to the corresponding months of last year.

The exports from the country stood at \$12.344 billion during July-November (2021-22) against the exports of \$9.744 billion recorded during July-November (2020-21), showing growth of 26.68 percent. On the other hand, the imports during the months under review also went up by 69.17 percent by growing from \$19.468 billion last year to \$32.934 billion in July-November (2021-22).



MAJOR CHALLENGES FOR PRODUCTION OF SPORTS GOODS IN PAKISTAN

Major challenges are the method of production and human resource development in the sports industry. The number of firms working in Pakistan sports industry are 2500 and number of employees working in these companies are approximately 55000. The role of government is very vital in sports industry of Pakistan. Scarcity of skilled labor in

industry is a big issue that is prevailing right now in the sports industry of Pakistan. More training institutes need to be opened to fulfill the need of trained labor.

Lack of technology is one of the major concerns for the industry. The use of the latest technological equipment can speed up produc-

tion, thereby improving the efficiency of the sector. Pakistan has some serious competition in the production of sports goods and with the effective use of technology, it has the potential of beating all of its major competitors.

Technology isn't the only thing that our sports goods industry is lagging behind in, the sector is also facing energy shortage and scarcity of labor. All these problems are required to be addressed by the government authorities, which is crucial for the sustenance and growth of the sports equipment industry in Pakistan.

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CHINA

Chinese textile firms earned US\$ 26.80 bn+ profits in FY 2021

The textile industry of China grew steadily during the FY 2021 (Jan-Dec 2021) with textile firms collectively raking in profits worth 171.1 billion yuan (approximately US\$ 26.80 billion +), a 31.7 per cent increase year-on-year (YoY), according to the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIT).

The collective value of textile companies with an annual operating revenue of 20 million yuan (approximately US\$ 3.13 million) or more went up by 6.3 percent compared to 2020. The combined operating revenue reached 3.67 trillion yuan, up 15.6 percent compared to the first three quarters of 2020, as per MIT.

Online clothing sales in China also grew by 15.6 per cent YoY between January and December 2021. Additionally, China's apparel exports went up by 5.6 per cent YoY to reach US\$227.6 billion during the same period.



SRI LANKA

Sri Lankan garment exports rise by 23 percent in 2021

While the garment exports of Sri Lanka increased by 25.7 percent in 2021 from 3.939 billion US dollars in 2020, the garment export volume of the South Asian nation narrowly missed the 5-billion-US-dollar mark by reaching 4.951 billion US dollars in 2021, according to the "External Sector Performance" report for December 2021 published by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka earlier this month. Textile exports increased by 37 percent year-on-year to 355.4 million US dollars in 2021.

Sri Lanka's garment exports are

one of the major contributors to overall industrial exports, which stood at over 9.7 billion US dollars in 2021, up by 26.5 percent from 7.6 billion US dollars in 2020, thus making up 51 percent of all industrial exports; textiles and garment exports together even accounted for 56 percent.

"Earnings from the export of industrial goods increased by 21.3 percent in December 2021, compared to December 2020. This increase was due to a broad-based increase in earnings from most of the industrial products led by garments, petroleum products, food, beverages, and tobacco and rubber products. Export of garments to all major markets improved," states the report.

According to Aroon Hirdaramani, director of Colombo-based sustainable apparel manufacturer Hirdaramani Group, who spoke at the Sri Lanka Economic Summit in December 2021, growth of the country's apparel exports to 8 billion US dollars by 2025 is possible if the sector increases its investment in local supply chains.



TURKEY

Turkey's textile industry enters New Year with higher energy prices

The Turkish textile and apparel industry will have to pay higher prices for electricity and natural gas in the New Year. This too at a time when Western countries, especially those in Europe, are actively considering sourcing more of their textile and apparel from Turkey under their near-shoring strategy, and the country's inflation is at a 19-year high.

Citing the increase in global energy prices, the Energy Market Regulatory Authority of Turkey has raised power consumption charges by over 100 per cent for high-demand commercial users.

Separately, BOTAS Petroleum Pipeline Corporation (BOTAS), the

state-owned crude oil and natural gas pipelines and trading company in Turkey, has raised natural gas prices by 50 per cent in January. However, for electricity-generating industrial use, the price increase is 15 per cent.

Meanwhile, the annual consumer inflation rate in Turkey has shot up to a 19-year high of 48.69 per cent in Feb 2022. According to economists, the high rate of inflation is due to the decrease in value of lira, mainly owing to the policy of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan to keep interest rates low.

Addressing an event, Erdogan urged citizens to keep all their savings in lira. He also advised people to deposit their gold savings with the country's banks.



INDIA

India's textile industry revs up, giving hope on jobs for PM Modi

At Texport Industries' factories in India's south, thousands of mostly women workers are busy converting yarn and fabrics into T-shirts, shirts, spaghetti tops and kids' clothes for U.S. customers of Tommy Hilfiger and Kohl's Corp (KSS.N).

After being outpaced in recent years by neighboring Bangladesh and then hammered by the COVID-19 pandemic, India's garment factories are now humming near full capacity - a rare labor market bright spot for Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his ruling party as they head towards an election in 2024.

"We have been so busy," said Parashuram, the head of one of the Texport factories who goes by one name, as a batch of 60 new women recruits practiced stitching. "We are constantly looking to hire workers."

India is the world's fifth biggest T&A exporter with a 4% share of the \$840 billion global market, while China controls more than a third of it.

India's exports were on a par with closest rival Bangladesh about a decade ago but have lagged in recent years - especially on garments - partly due to higher labour costs that make Indian clothes some 20% costlier.

The company is scouting for land to add new factories around its main production base in Hindupur, about 100 km (60 miles) north of tech hub Bengaluru.

Sustained success for the textile and apparel (T&A) industry, the country's biggest employer after farming, is crucial if Modi is to succeed in taming unemployment.

Indian T&A companies say they are now adding new clients, selling more to old ones and raising production capacity as foreign buyers seek to diversify their supply chains.

Other than China, only India has a big supply chain of everything from cotton to garments.



THAILAND

Thai textile exports surge, expected to grow by 15%

As Cambodia lacks a textile industry to support its garment sector, neighboring Thailand's export of textiles has soared and is expected to grow by 15 percent. Thai textile exports were also boosted by demand from other apparel-producing countries like Vietnam, Indonesia, India, Europe and the United States, and the trend for environment-friendly products.

In the first 11 months of 2021, Thailand exported 64.8 billion baht (\$1.95 billion) of garments and 188.6 billion baht (\$5.67 billion) of textiles, according to Thai Garment Manufacturers Association president Yuttana Silpsarnvitch.

The country's garment and textile industries were decimated in 2020, with 3,000 factories forced to resort to sewing face masks and PPE suits to survive.

But thanks to renewed demand

from other apparel-producing countries, they have now returned to full capacity.

Though Thailand's garment and textile factories have returned to 100 percent capacity, a labour shortage has arisen as foreign workers returned to their home countries during the COVID-19 crisis. The factories are currently short of 30,000 to 50,000 workers and are dependent on overtime work.

This shortage could lead to a reverse surge of Cambodian migrant workers back to Thailand in search of employment now that the economy and industry is beginning to open up and resume operations to cater to worldwide demand, according to a report in a Cambodian newspaper.

Thai Garment Manufacturers Association president Yuttana Silpsarnvitch said major brands are ordering products made from recycled fibers, organic cotton and other eco-friendly materials.



VIETNAM

Vietnam's garment and textile industry sees export prospects in 2022

The increasing number of orders in the early days of 2022 has been creating a new impulse for textile and garment enterprises to boost production and expand their export markets. The positive signal of the market and the initial control of the COVID-19 pandemic will help Vietnam's textile and garment industry fulfil its set export target of over 43 billion USD for 2022.

Currently, most businesses have orders to make until the end of the second quarter and are continuing to negotiate and sign contracts for the third quarter and the remaining months of the year. In addition to traditional orders, enterprises are also making many new orders with high added value and short delivery time in accordance with market trends.

2021 was a year of piled up difficulties for textile and garment enterprises due to the supply disruption, labour shortage, costs for implementing "three-on-the-spot" production model, the movement of orders and others caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Le Hoang Anh, director of Phu Cuong Yarn Factory in Dong Nai, a branch of the Vietnam National Textile and Garment Group (VINA-TEX), said that more than three months of the "escalating" pandemic, the factory had to implement the "three-on-the-spot" production model with huge costs but can only run at 40% of its capacity to retain partners.

In addition to the huge costs of accommodation for employees, COVID-19 testing, and late delivery fees, the factory also had to face the unpredictable situation that if just one positive case for COVID-19 is discovered, the factory will have to stop operating. Fortunately, that time has passed, and Phu Cuong factory achieved revenue of more than VND 391 billion and a profit of VND 50 billion in 2021.



INDONESIA

Indonesian textile industry bouncing back: Industry minister

Denying reports that termed Indonesia's textile and textile products (TPT) industry as a declining one, Industry Minister Agus Gumiwang Kartasasmita recently said the sector's performance is bouncing back.

Statistics show compared to the second quarter of 2021, the third quarter recorded a 4 per cent increase.

Textile exports between January and December this year also increased by 19 percent and investment in the textile industry also rose by 12 percent to Rp5.06 trillion, Kartasasmita remarked.

Mohenjo-Daro & Harappa:

Amazing Story of the Two Greatest Cities of the Ancient World

The Indus Valley Civilization may have been one of the things you read in school and forgotten. But did you know that many questions about the civilization still remain unanswered because the experts couldn't decipher the inscriptions found at the site.

Scientists are still clueless about the reason for its sudden extinction. They do not know where the people of such advanced civilization went. Indus Valley Civilization was one of the three early civilizations along with Mesopotamia and Egypt. It stretched from the present-day north-east Afghanistan to Pakistan to north-west India. Harappa civilization, which is also known as Saraswati Sindhu Civilization, thrived in the basin of the Indus River. The civilization is among the most fascinating and mysterious cultures of the old world.

Mohenjo-daro is widely recognized as one of the most important early cities of South Asia and the Indus Civilization and yet most publications rarely provide more than a cursory overview of this important site. This mysterious culture emerged nearly 4,500 years ago and thrived for a thousand years.

The people of the towns had trade networks and had domesticated animals. And yet, this advanced civilization disappeared by 1700 BC.

There are several different spellings of the site name and in this article we have chosen to use the most common form, Mohenjo-daro (the Mound of Mohen or Mohan),



though other spellings are equally valid: Mohanjo-daro (Mound of Mohan = Krishna), Moenjo-daro (Mound of the Dead), Mohenjo-daro, Mohenjodaro or even Mohen-jo-daro.

Many publications still state that Mohenjo-daro is located in India (presumably referring to ancient India), but since the creation of Pakistan in 1947, the site has been under the protection of the Department of Archaeology and Museums, Government of Pakistan.

Discovery and Major Excavations

Mohenjo-daro was discovered in 1922 by R. D. Banerji, an officer of the Archaeological Survey of India, two years after major excavations had

begun at Harappa, some 590 km to the north. Large-scale excavations were carried out at the site under the direction of John Marshall, K. N. Dikshit, Ernest Mackay, and numerous other directors through the 1930s.

Although the earlier excavations were not conducted using stratigraphic approaches or with the types of recording techniques employed by modern archaeologists they did produce a remarkable amount of information that is still being studied by scholars today. The last major excavation project at the site was carried out by the late Dr. G. F. Dales in 1964-65, after which excavations were banned due to the problems of conserving the exposed structures from weathering.

Since 1964-65 only salvage



regularity into something like a dozen blocks, or "islands," each about 1,260 feet (384 metres) from north to south and 750 feet (228 metres) from east to west, subdivided by straight or doglegged lanes.

The central block on the western side was built up artificially to a dominating height of 20 to 40 feet (6 to 12 metres) with mud and mud brick and was fortified to an unascertained extent by square towers of baked brick. Buildings on the high summit included an elaborate bath or tank surrounded by a veranda, a large residential structure, a massive granary, and at least two aisled halls of assembly. It is clear that the citadel (for such it evidently was) carried the religious and ceremonial headquarters of the site. In the lower town were substantial courtyard houses indicating a considerable middle class. Most houses had small bathrooms and, like the streets, were well-provided with drains and sanitation. Brick stairs indicate at least an upper story or a flat, habitable roof.

The walls were originally plastered with mud, no doubt to reduce the deleterious effect of the salts that are contained by the bricks and react destructively to varying heat and humidity.

A well-planned street grid and an elaborate drainage system hint that the occupants of the ancient Indus civilization city of Mohenjo-daro were skilled urban planners with a reverence for the control of water.

excavation, surface surveys and conservation projects have been allowed at the site. Most of these salvage operations and conservation projects have been conducted by Pakistani archaeologists and conservators. In the 1980s extensive architectural documentation, combined with detailed surface surveys, surface scraping and probing was done by German and Italian survey teams led by Dr. Michael Jansen (RWTH) and Dr. Maurizio Tosi.

Subsequent excavations revealed that the mounds contain the remains of what was once the largest city of the Indus civilization. Because of the city's size—about 3 miles (5 km) in circuit—and the comparative richness of its monuments and their contents, it has been generally regarded as a capital of an extensive state. Its

relationship with Harappa, however, is uncertain—i.e., if the two cities were contemporaneous centers or if one city succeeded the other. Mohenjo-daro was designated a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1980.

The most extensive recent work at the site has focused on attempts at conservation of the standing structures undertaken by UNESCO in collaboration with the Department of Archaeology and Museums, as well as various foreign consultants.

City of Mounds – Architecture

The city of Mohenjo-daro, now 2 miles (3 km) from the Indus, from which it seems to have been protected, in antiquity as today, by artificial barriers, was laid out with remarkable



The Priest King of Mohenjo-daro, Indus Valley Civilization, Sindh, 2600 BCE

The evidence suggests that Mohenjo-daro suffered more than once from devastating floods of abnormal depth and duration, owing not merely to the encroaching Indus but possibly also to a ponding back of the Indus drainage by tectonic uplifts between Mohenjo-daro and the sea. That evidence has led to speculation that Harappa may have succeeded or at least outlasted Mohenjo-daro.

The city's wealth and stature is evident in artifacts such as ivory, lapis, carnelian, and gold beads, as well as the baked-brick city structures themselves.

A watertight pool called the Great Bath, perched on top of a mound of dirt and held in place with walls of baked brick, is the closest structure Mohenjo-Daro has to a temple. Possehl, a National Geographic grantee, says it suggests an ideology based on cleanliness.

Wells were found throughout the city, and nearly every house contained a bathing area and drainage system. The ancient city sits on an elevated ground in the modern-day Larkana district of Sindh province in Pakistan.

During its heyday from about 2500 to 1900 B.C., the city was among the most important to the Indus civilization, Possehl says. It spread out over about 250 acres (100 hectares) on a series of mounds, and the Great Bath and an associated large building occupied the tallest mound. With no evidence of kings or queens, Mohenjo-Daro was likely governed as a city-state, perhaps by elected officials or elites from each of the mounds.

Based on the excavation, people in Harappa & Mohenjo-Daro had an evolved system of written communication. However, the system has still not been deciphered and the civilization is not fully understood.

Several seals were found at both the sites with pictographic inscription which is thought to be a form of script or writing but despite using modern cryptographic analysis and the efforts of experts from all around the world the signs remain a mystery.

Tourism in the Ancient City



After relaxing the COVID-19 rules, the Sindh government has eased the restrictions to open the tourism in the ancient city of Harappa & Mohenjo-Daro. It is one of the largest cities of the Indus Valley Civilization in South.

Getting in:

By Bus

Getting to Mohenjo-daro by public bus is a two-step process as there's no direct service to Mohenjo-daro. The nearest major city is Larkana, some 30 km to the north, and one can easily get to Larkana by bus (either air-conditioned or not) from any major city of Sindh. From Larkana, both taxis and rickshaws can be hired for Mohenjo-daro. Moreover, vans run from Larkana up to a bypass near the archaeological complex as well as shared motorcycle rickshaws.

By Car

If you are driving or being driven, Mohenjo-daro can be accessed most easily by some arterial roads branching off (at Michar, Nasirabad and Larkana) from the 1,264km-long National Highway # N-55 (the Indus Highway) which runs between Karachi and Peshawar.

Buy

Both the gift shop and local vendors sell souvenirs from the site. The most famous being the model of a Dancing girl, Statue of priest and the models of seals.

Eat

Food and beverages are offered at the nearby PTDC hotel, the Archaeology Rest house and sundries vendors located outside the complex.

Sleep

As it is built on an archaeological site there are not a plethora of lodging facilities in town. Seeing as most of the site can be toured within a few hours many visitors choose to stay in the nearby town of Larkana which is only short drive away.

Stay Healthy

The main risk in Mohenjo-daro and nearby areas is extreme heat. You might want to visit in the cooler winter months (October to March); otherwise you should be prepared for blisteringly hot weather. Generally, June is the hottest month of the year, with temperatures around 35°C, while December and January see an average temperature of some 15°C.





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TAX POLICY IN PAKISTAN: CONCERNS AND REFORMS

Taxation is a vital tool to construct and shape the socio-economic policies of a country, the core objective of tax policies is to collect revenue for government service's expenditure while maintaining the balance of tax burden distribution among public with non-fictitious parameters. Pakistan has the same purpose to receive from tax policies by setting up the effective and efficient tax system, however, it is far from achieving desire revenue without local and foreign borrowing to minimal fiscal deficit.

In Pakistan four major sources of revenue collection are Income Tax, Sales Tax, Federal Excise duty and Custom duties, keeping in view of these various tax head, the policies are propose, forms and execute. In legal perspective, a well-constructed taxation system must base on, non-complex draft of legal sculpture, systematic support from administrative hierarchy and equality in distribution of tax burden.

Currently the main concerns with Pakistan tax policies are, its complex nature, administrative failure and trust deficit among state and general public. Many believes that increase in taxes rates and its bracket will help in revenue generation. But in reality because of trust deficit, it directly impact the speed of economic activities and reduce the consumption behavior of the people which disturb tax revenue collections, the policy in first hand aims to increase.

The Central Board of Revenue (CBR) was created on April 01, 1924 through enactment of the Central Board of Revenue Act, 1924. In 1944, a full-fledged Revenue Division was created under the Ministry of Finance. After independence, this arrangement continued up to 31st August 1960 when on the recommendations of the Administrative Re-organization Committee, FBR was made an attached department of the Ministry of Finance. In 1974, further changes were made to streamline the organization and its functions. Consequently, the post of Chairman FBR was created with the status of ex-officio Additional Secretary and Secretary Finance was relieved of his duties as ex-officio Chairman of the FBR.

COMPARISON OF SIMILAR ECONOMIES

Pakistan, the developing nation, should consider its tax policies in connection with the similar economies like, Bangladesh, Indonesia and India etc., having similar issues, challenges and recourses to tackle with them.

Country	Population	Taxpayer	Ratio
Bangladesh	166	4.0	2.41%
India	1200	14.6	1.22%
Pakistan	220	3.1	1.41%

(Number in Million's)

Bangladesh, India and Pakistan, upfront with the similar kind of concerns i.e informal economy, corruption and unskilled staff and which required almost the same kind of reforms. The needs of designing new tax policy and reforming an existing tax policy have different needs, which in the end, left us with the different results. So it is important not to overlook these kind of points while making tax policy.

The Tax structure in India and Pakistan consists on these parts:

- Central/ Federal Government
- State/ Provincial Governments

The Indian government also collect taxes by using direct and indirect taxation method like Pakistan. Which create economic imbalance in society.

LEGAL TAX REFORMS IN PAKISTAN

Tax reforms in Pakistan, every new government claim to perform but have failed. It is the matter of priorities and willingness to achieve the desired result from implementing tax reforms. Structural reforms in tax system has not took up seriously by any government. Government has also come up with reform programs, which they believe will revamp the tax structure. Main taken initiatives are discussed below:

1) Recent Legal Reforms:

The Government believe to raise an optimal collection of taxes and they start taking steps to achieve that goal by different schemes of amnesty, immunity, reduction or subsidizing to few industries.

- Amnesty for asset/income declaration
- Amnesty for Real-estate/ Construction

2) Reductions for Textile Industries:

This Government also established the Tax Reform Committee, which they call "best minds of country" who may look after the reform agenda of long term strategies about optimal revenue collection and resource utilization. Committee also suggesting for entirely new tax administration with the establishment of National Tax Authority (NTA). All existing Tax authorities of Pakistan could merge into NTA.

3) Digital Facilitation:

This is the previous Government (PML-N) initiative to digitalize FBR to facilitate taxpayers and current Government also empowering this step by introducing new features. Taxpayer can easily file Tax Returns from home or offices and can communicate online with FBR officials to file request of Appeal, Condonation and rectifications. These all reforms are required some legal procedural steps in accordance with Presidential orders, Circulars and SROs to get a legal status.

Federal Board of Revenue has successfully maintained momentum of its growth trajectory in revenue collection. FBR has released the provisional revenue collection figures for the months July, 2021 to January, 2022 of current Financial Year 2021-22. According to the provisional information, the country's premier revenue collection organization has collected net revenue of Rs 3,352 bn during July, 2021 to January, 2022 of current Financial Year 2021-22, which has exceeded the target of Rs 3,090 bn by Rs 262 bn. This represents a growth of about 30.4% over the collection of Rs. 2,571 bn during the same period, last year. The net collection for the month of January, 2022 realized Rs. 430 bn representing an increase of 17.2 % over Rs 367 bn collected in January, 2021. These figures would further improve before the close of the day and after book adjustments have been taken in to account.

In the end the taxation reforms with legal support can only be survive, implement and executed, to attain the desire revenue, to increase economic growth.

FBR Income Tax Target

Year	Targets	Collection	Growth in Collection %	Target Achieved %	Tax to GDP ratio	Ratio in total taxes %	
						Indirect taxes	direct taxes
2014-15	2810	2589.9	13.0	92.2	9.2	40.1	39.9
2015-16	3103.7	3112.4	20.2	100.3	9.6	40.9	39.1
2016-17	3621	3367.8	8.0	92.9	9.8	40.1	39.9
2017-18	4013	3842.1	14.1	97.6	10.4	40.0	40.0
2018-19	4435	3828.3	-0.35	86.3	8.4	42.2	37.5
2019-20	3908	3996.7	4.4	102	9.1	67.9	32.1

Numbers in billion(s)

Source: FBR Yearly Books

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After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Uzbekistan emerged as an independent state, and was determined to stabilize itself by way of assuming a market-centered economic system. The Pak-Uzbek relations are bound by a shared religious and cultural background. Trade agreements and joint railway projects can strengthen the ties between the two countries, and may pave the way for an even stronger relationship in the future.

Bukhara and Samarkand, the ancient lands known for their historic affiliations with Islam and the major contributions they made in the fields of science and philosophy, today constitute the area known as Uzbekistan.

With a rich and impactful history on its side, the state is once again on the road to stabilization under the presidency of Shavkat Mirziyoyev. Uzbekistan houses a population of around 34 million people of which the majority are Sunni Muslims. Although the state has different ethnicities including Russians, Kazakhs, and others, the dominant religion is Islam.

Economically, Uzbekistan is heavily dependent on its cotton industry and is the fifth largest exporter of cotton

worldwide. Till 2016, Uzbekistan continued the Russian legacy of a command economy, but current President Shavkat Mirziyoyev is inclined towards reforming the economic system to make it more market-oriented. Huge reserves of natural and energy-rich resources make Uzbekistan and other central Asian states more attractive for regional as well as global powers.

Geo-Political Importance of Central Asia

Due to its pivotal position, the Central Asian region is of utmost importance to the world powers. The geostrategic location of the region allows it to bridge the gap between the East and the West, specifically between eastern communist states Russia and China and the Western capitalist world.

Moreover, the region also provides a connection and transit route to the energy-rich Middle East and Arabian Sea. Its close proximity to the South Asian and South-East Asian states further makes its role significant in regional and geopolitical domains.

It is said that controlling Central Asia is imperative for any world

power to consolidate its global strength and position.

In addition, China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has garnered further attention for the region. Two routes of the new Silk Road pass through Uzbekistan, connecting it to China, Iran, Turkey, West Asia, and India. China is also trying to initiate a railway that would connect China with Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan. Furthermore, due to its historic ties with Russia, Uzbekistan is majorly inclined towards Russia for political and economic benefits. This inclination of energy-rich Central Asian states towards two major communist powers drives the western power's interests in the region.

Pakistan-Uzbekistan Relations in the Backdrop of Recent Advancements

Pakistan was one of the first countries to recognize Uzbekistan after the Soviet disintegration and subsequent liberation of Central Asian states. Pakistan and Uzbekistan have since enjoyed friendly and cordial relations with each other. Religious coherence has also aided in strengthening this bond.

Various state visits have been conducted by both sides aimed at defining the regional and global aims and exhibiting strong desires to cooperate and coordinate in economic, social, and cultural sectors. Efforts to enhance cultural integration are evident from the fact that two of the major universities in Uzbekistan have an Urdu department and a combined dictionary of around 4000 common words is published.

Tashkent, aware of its geostrategic and economic potential, arranged the Central and South Asia Connectivity Conference on 15th July, 2021. The conference was attended by major world powers and international organizations including the US, Russia, China, and the EU.

The conference highlighted Uzbekistan's urge to re-stabilize its regional and global standing, reach central and South Asian markets, increase cooperation and coordination with its neighbors and enhance its economic output. Pakistan also joined the two-day conference in Tashkent. The leaders held talks on enhancing bilateral relations in multiple domains including trade, economy, security, and technology.

Pakistan and Uzbekistan once again reiterated their stance on joint cooperation to increase economic productivity and trade. Declaration on the establishment of Strategic Partnership was signed by the leaders to formally announce their increasing cooperation.

Moreover, Pakistan's deep seaports are another attraction for double landlocked Uzbekistan. Discussion about the Mazar-i-sharif-Kabul-Peshawar railway line was also held during Prime Minister Imran Khan's recent visit to Uzbekistan. Pakistan assured the availability of its seaports and cooperation in providing Uzbekistan approach to these ports and the Arabian Sea.

The two leaders, who met recently on the sidelines of Winter Olympics Opening Ceremony in Beijing, reaffirmed their resolve to comprehensively upgrade Pakistan-Uzbekistan partnership across the broad

spectrum and continue taking practical steps for implementation of key projects.

Prime Minister Imran Khan underscored the importance of enhanced trade and economic cooperation, particularly through operationalizing the landmark bilateral Transit Trade Agreement. Furthermore, both states are moving towards signing a Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) in a few months. The PTA will allow both sides to reduce trade barriers and ease trade and communication resulting in increased prospects for economic integration. He also reiterated Pakistan's full support to the Trans-Afghan railway project and exchanged views on next steps in taking it forward over the coming months.

To further improve connectivity and people-to-people contacts, the PM underlined the need to enhance tourism, take all steps for resuming direct flights, strengthen banking links and facilitate visa procedures.

The two leaders also discussed cooperation in education and culture and recognized progress on joint research and media ventures, including joint film on Baburi heritage and dubbing of Pakistani dramas in Uzbek language. They also exchanged views on issues of regional peace and stability.

Stressing the need for practical engagement, the two leaders agreed that a peaceful, stable and prosperous Afghanistan was vital for regional stability as well as for the realization

of infrastructure and connectivity projects. Prime Minister Imran Khan stated that the people of Pakistan were looking forward to welcoming President Mirziyoyev on his visit to Pakistan. The two sides agreed to work closely to ensure concrete outcome of the visit.

Uzbek president winds up 'productive' Pakistan tour

Pakistan and Uzbekistan officials signed several agreements to "begin a new era" of partnership by strengthening cooperation in economic and security domains.

The agreements were signed during the recent two-day visit of President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev to Pakistan with a high-level delegation comprising cabinet members and businessmen. The visit coincides with the 30th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Strategic partnership

Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan and Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev signed a joint declaration to strengthen the strategic partnership. Khan and Mirziyoyev held one-on-one dialogue as well as delegation-level talks in Islamabad to discuss all aspects of bilateral relations, particularly cooperation in trade and economic sphere, security, defence and regional connectivity, science and technology, culture and education.



Prime Minister Imran Khan and Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev meet on the sidelines of Winter Olympics opening ceremony in Beijing.

Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev shared his vision on the "New Uzbekistan" strategy which emphasizes strengthening economic diplomacy and improving relations with South Asia, in particular with Pakistan, to a new level of strategic partnership.

They agreed to develop cooperation between the two countries within the five main pillars of Pakistan's 'Vision Central Asia' including political and diplomatic, trade and investment, energy and connectivity, security and defence and people-to-people relations. Uzbek president expressed the "readiness to provide support to Pakistan's initiative to create a poverty alleviation mechanism."

MoUs and agreements signed

Pakistan and Uzbekistan signed at least eight MoUs including referential trade agreement, security cooperation, railways and tourism as well as cooperation between the administrations of Tashkent and Islamabad and another between the Surkhandarya region of Uzbekistan and Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

Trade ties

The two leaders welcomed the signing of a preferential trade agreement between Uzbekistan and Pakistan and the implementation of the transit trade agreement.

"These agreements are the sign of the beginning of a new era in bilateral trade relations" reads the joint statement. The bilateral trade has increased fivefold despite the pandemic and grew by another 50 per cent last year. They also agreed to continue providing humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan and emphasized that peace and stability in Afghanistan is essential to advance connectivity projects which will lead to regional prosperity.

Defence and security

To strengthen bilateral cooperation in security and defence sectors, the two leaders agreed to "intensify dialogue and constructive cooperation between

the armed forces of both countries" through joint military exercises, training and exchange of professional experience.

Regional connectivity

Pakistani prime minister and Uzbek president agreed on the need to "fast track measures to further expand the connectivity agenda and economic integration." They acknowledged the key role of agreed connectivity corridors that envisage the expansion of trade links through offering investment opportunities in the transport network, power pipelines and special economic zones. They agreed to strengthen air, rail and road connectivity.

The two nations would also boost tourism and business linkages with regular flights on two routes: Tashkent-Lahore and Islamabad-Tashkent.

Railway project

The two sides reaffirmed the important role of the Termez - Mazar-e-Sharif - Kabul - Peshawar railway project and acknowledged that the "Trans-Afghan Railway project is the most economical and shortest route connecting Central Asia with Pakistan's ports of Karachi, Gwadar and Qasim."

Conclusion

Although Pakistan-Uzbekistan relations can be analyzed through multiple perspectives, their mutual goals and approach to regional and global stability remain coherent. Owing to the shared religious, cultural, and historic background, the states are inclined to move forward with a positive attitude and work together for the prosperity and stability of the region.





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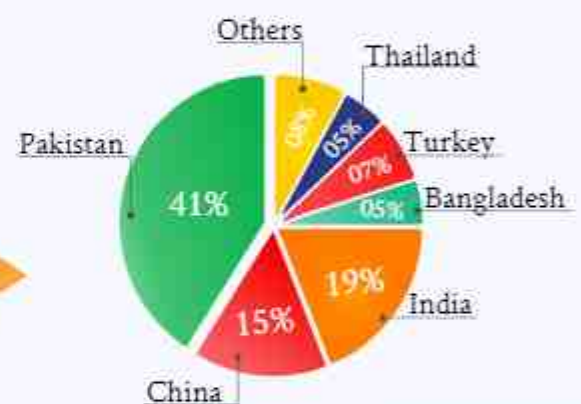


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