
Chapter 13

Transport and Communications

A modernized transportation and communication network promotes regional connectivity, domestic trade, and social uplift and passenger mobility requirements in timely and cost effective way along with export competitiveness. Pakistan is blessed with a very unique geo-strategic location where opportunities and potential can be realized by exploring its critical connectivity of land routes, coastal lines and pass through air routes. The country offers the most effective, economical and viable transit routes throughout the seasons to the land locked Central Asian countries and other neighboring states while providing them a very convenient trade corridor.

CPEC is a flagship and most actively implemented project of the Belt & Road Initiative where Pakistan and China have successfully launched 56 projects on the ground. The Government is taking benefits of its strategic location and has focused on developing efficient and well integrated transport and communication system by connecting remote regions of the country into one road one Asia chain.

Modes of Transportation

Users of the transport network have a wider range of modes to choose from, however, most common and extensively used at present are highlighted below:

Air Linkage

Performance of the Pakistan International Airlines Corporation (PIAC)

Table 13.1: PIAC Performance

Indicators	Units	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
PIAC Fleet	No. of Planes	36	32	32	30	30
Route	Km	360,937	332,303	389,725	778,609	374,054
Available Seat	Million Km	19,108	18,081	18,372	8,902	7,682
Passenger Load Factor	Percent	73.20	77.3	81.3	74.5	66.9
Revenue Flown	000 Km	75,207	70,089	70,515	38,114	34,544
Revenue Hours Flown	Hours	122,081	110,050	110,640	58,519	55,710
Revenue Passengers Carried	000 nos.	5,342	5,203	5,290	2,541	2,657
Revenue Passengers	Million Km	13,988	13,975	14,938	6,629	5,138
Revenue Load Factor	Percent	55.2	58.4	58.6	51.3	53.7
Operating Revenue *	Rs million	-	100,051	146,097	94,683	86,185
Operating Expenses *	Rs million	-	170,447	160,037	102,912	101,212

PIAC financial year is based on calendar year.

*: Revenue & Cost is based on provisional/estimated & un-audited accounts

Source: Pakistan International Airlines

PIA has taken following measures for revamping its operation in FY2022:

- ⊙ PIA has started its fleet replenishment and is adding on new aircrafts in its fleet. PIA has added two A320 in first quarter of 2022 and plans to add four more Airbuses A320s during 2022. The decision of induction of fuel efficient narrow body aircraft overall fits perfectly in PIA's new direction to capitalize and consolidate itself on the productive domestic and regional routes, paving the way for expansion back on the medium and long haul routes of Europe, UK and North America.
- ⊙ PIA Engineering & Maintenance (E&M) capability was enhanced to handle state of art modern fleet including Boeing 787 Dreamliner and Airbus A350/A330/A320 NEO fleet.
- ⊙ PIA commissioned an ATR shed in North Wing of Pakistan, i.e. Islamabad providing maintenance service level up to check 'A' level on Airbus A320/Boeing B777 and up to maintenance check 'C' level on ATR fleet.
- ⊙ MRO IT, an ERP solution for maintenance activities are being implemented in PIA Engineering.
- ⊙ PIA (E&M) regulatory approval-base has considerably increased. In addition to approval from PCAA, PIA hold regulatory approvals from foreign civil aviation authorities like QCAA (Qatar), PACA (Oman), GACA (Saudi Arabia), BCAA (Bahrain) and CAASL (Sri Lanka)
- ⊙ As a part of route rationalization process, loss making routes were closed and frequencies were increased on profit making routes. Upon acquisition of more aircraft, PIA will certainly avail opportunities to expand its network.
- ⊙ In order to ensure on-time departures and to avoid delays, special public awareness campaigns were created using mainstream and social media specially consequent to the prevailing COVID-19 related SOPs/PCR testing and delays due to adverse weather conditions / fog, etc.
- ⊙ PIA sent over 15 million flight information SMS to its valued customers to save them from any hassle especially when flight is delayed due to some reason. The SOP to send SMS for flight details/schedule confirmation and/or for any delay in disruption has resulted in tremendously reducing customer complaints and annoyance.
- ⊙ A very effective baggage identification system WTR (World Tracer Management) has been introduced through which the misplaced baggage is delivered to the passengers in a very short time.
- ⊙ Manpower rationalization has been achieved. Cabin crew strength has been brought down from 1500 plus (2019) to 1025(2021).
- ⊙ Maximum flight assignments are being done from base-to-base in order to reduce domestic travel and hotel accommodation.
- ⊙ Flight operation (cabin crew) of Multan, Sialkot and Faisalabad is being supported by LHE and ISB bases.

- ⊙ Passengers Services System (Hitit) was operationalized and implemented which resulted in significant savings.
- ⊙ Increase in global distribution and sales network by brining Sabre, Travel port and Amadeus on board without exclusivity.
- ⊙ The efforts of PIA in the largest repatriation operations consequent to COVID-19 outbreak and uplifting of more than 100 million vaccines from China to Pakistan to strengthen the efforts of NCOC and NDMA were also highlighted to the nation.
- ⊙ A detailed study was carried out which revealed that HR ratio is higher than available aircraft in the fleet. Further, Voluntary Separation Scheme was launched and as a result 1816 employees benefitted from this scheme.
- ⊙ PIA reduced its workforce by nearly 40 percent from 14,500 regular employees to 8,156 bringing per aircraft ratio from 550 to 250, it will come down to 230 by the end of the year.
- ⊙ Removal of positioning flights and dead-legs from aircraft and network operations.

Road Linkage

National Highway Authority (NHA)

NHA is committed to provide safe, modern and efficient transportation system. Pakistan is geographically bisected into two halves by River Indus. Eastern segment is historically well developed. To bring the Western segment at par with the Eastern half, NHA is improving East-West connectivity through construction of numerous bridges across river Indus in addition to investing and paying extra attention to the development of west. The present NHA network comprises of 48 national highways, motorways and strategic roads. Current length of this network is 14,480 kms.

Development Projects in FY2022

NHA portfolio in PSDP FY2022 consists of a total of 68 projects with a total budget of Rs 155,416.67 million. Out of these 68 projects, 47 are on-going with an allocation of Rs 99,375 million in PSDP FY2022. Out of this amount, 20,741.528 million is FEC component and Rs 78,633.472 million is the local component. Further, 15 new schemes are in PSDP FY2022 with an allocation of Rs 14,375.0 million. In addition to that, 06 BOT Schemes are also in PSDP FY2022 with an allocation of Rs 41,666.67 million.

List of PC-Is approved by ECNEC in FY2022

1. A total of 02 PC-Is have been approved by ECNEC in FY2022. The detail of these projects is given in Table 13.2.

Sr. No	Project Name	Length (Km)	Cost (Rs million)	Approved by	Current Status
1	PC-I for Construction of Gilgit-Shandoor Road (216 Km)	216	49,946.070	ECNEC 04.06.2021	Pkg-1,2&3 contractors mobilized.
2	Dualization of Khuzdar-Kuchlak Section (330 Km) N-25	330	81,582.219	ECNEC 04.06.2021	Pkg-1:Awarded Pkg-2:Awarded Pkg-3&4:under process Pkg-5:realignment in progress

List of PC-I processed by NHA for approval of DDWP in FY2022

2. 02 PC-Is processed by NHA in the FY2022, out of which 01 PC-I has been presented/approved in Departmental Development Working Party (DDWP) meetings and 2nd PC-I has to be presented before DDWP. The detail is given in Table 13.3.

Sr. No	Project Name	Length (km)	PC-I Cost (Rs million)	Approved by	Current Status
1	PC-I for Construction of Bhong Interchange on Sukkur – Multan Motorway (M-5) at its Intersection with Bhong – Sadiqabad Road (Km 520+130)	-	1263.25	DDWP 11.02.2022	PC-I approved by DDWP in its meeting held on 11-02-22 at a cost of Rs 1,200.67 million.
2	PC-I for Construction of Flyover at the Junction of N-5 & N-65 at Sukkur 4-Lane Along with Approach Roads	-	1351.547	To be presented before DDWP	

List of PC-II Processed / approved by DDWP in FY2022

1. 20 PC-IIs processed by NHA in the FY2022 for approval of DDWP, out of which 06 PC-II's have been presented/approved in DDWP meetings.

Project Approved by DDWP

- i) PC-II for feasibility study and detailed design for road tunnel across Babusar pass and its link access roads
- ii) PC-II for feasibility study and detailed design for development of rest areas along major highways in Balochistan including M-8 (41 Nos rest area approx.)
- iii) PC-II for feasibility study and detailed design and preparation of PC-I for construction of road between Shounter to Rattu along with tunnel at Shounter
- iv) PC-II/TOR for feasibility study and detailed design for construction of Shadadkot bypass on (N-55)
- v) PC-II for Riverine Survey, Hydrology study and coordination for Hydraulic Model Study for construction of additional bridge over river Indus at Ghazi Ghat on N-70
- vi) PC-II for feasibility study and detailed design for construction of Wangu Hills tunnel on M-8

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)

CPEC is a flagship and most actively implemented project of the Belt & Road Initiative (BRI) where Pakistan and China have successfully launched 56 projects on the ground. Out of these projects, 26 projects worth approximately US\$17 billion have been completed so far and 30 projects worth US\$8.5 billion are under construction. Moreover, 36 projects having an estimated cost of US\$28.4 billion are also under different stages of negotiations for inclusion in the CPEC framework. This tremendous progress is a sign of

great efforts and achievement of both the nations and realization of the dream of connectivity and inclusive economic growth.

CPEC is being expanded in the following areas:

- Trade & Market Access
- Industrial Development & Global Value Chains
- Socio-Economic Development & Poverty Alleviation
- Agriculture Modernization & Marketing
- Sciences & Technology Cooperation
- Blue Economy
- Regional Connectivity & Third Country Participation

The Government of Pakistan considers CPEC as a long-term development project as it has the potential to serve as a corridor with multiple doors connecting China with Central Asia, Middle East, Africa and Europe. Government is expanding the scope of CPEC so that it becomes a "Gateway of Prosperity" for both countries and the region at large. Moreover, the Chinese and Pakistani workforce, in a large number, is employed to ensure timely completion of the Infrastructure projects and launch new projects such as Sukkur-Hyderabad Motorway (M-6), Peshawar-D.I.Khan Motorway (M-14), KKH Alternative Route (Gilgit-Shandor-Chitral), Swat Expressway (Phase-II), Dir Expressway, Karachi Circular Railways.

Transport Infrastructure

In the Transport Infrastructure sector, remarkable progress has been achieved so far. On the Eastern Alignment, Sukkar-Hyderabad (M-6) section has been proposed on Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode. The following new projects have been proposed for inclusion in the CPEC framework in the 10th Joint Coordination Committee Meeting held on 23rd September 2021.

- (i) D.I. Khan-Peshawar Motorway (365 Km)
- (ii) Swat Expressway Phase-II (82 Km)
- (iii) Dir Expressway (26 Km)

In addition to the road projects, construction work on (NGIA) is well under way and likely to be completed by October 2023.

Maritime Linkage

Pakistan National Shipping Corporation (PNSC)

Despite the prevailing unfavorable macroeconomic condition of the country, the PNSC Group has managed to achieve (98 percent) increase in profit after tax to Rs 2,446 million as against Rs 1,235 million in the corresponding period last year. Group earnings per share increased to Rs 18.52 million as against Rs 9.35 million in the comparable period last year. Cumulatively, the Group achieved a turnover of Rs 16,223 million (including Rs 6,295 million from PNSC) as compared to Rs 9,633 million (including Rs 1,978 million from PNSC) for the same period last year. The major increase was seen in the Dry Cargo segment (including slot charter) which was increased by Rs 3,036 million.

The revenue from Liquid Cargo segment increased by Rs 3,543 million mainly due to increase of Rs 2,980 million from Foreign flagged vessels. The controlled strategies implemented by management caused other expenses at the group level to fall by Rs 188 million (52 percent). During the nine months of FY2022, the cost on long-term financing decreased by Rs 46 million (11 percent). At present, PNSC fleet comprises of 11 vessels of various type/size (05 Bulk carriers, 04 Aframax tankers and 02 LR-1 Clean Product tankers) with a total deadweight capacity (cargo carrying capacity) of 831,711 metric tons, i.e. highest ever carrying capacity since inception of PNSC.

Commercial and Financial Performance

The breakup of commercial and financial performance of PNSC (un-audited) covering July–March FY2022 of PNSC is given Tables 13.4-13.5.

FY2022	Tanker	Chartering	SLOT Consolidated	
	Liquid Cargo (MT)	Dry Cargo (MT)	TEUs	Slot BB/LCL
	7,715,057.624	961,690.6	1,802	18,409.5

S.No.	Financial Results	FY2022	FY2021
1	Revenue	16,222,688	9,632,731
2	Expenses	(12,325,171)	(7,388,157)
3	Gross Profit/(Loss)	3,897,517	2,244,574
4	Administrative, Impairment & Other Expenses	(1,355,950)	(1,108,806)
5	Other Income	634,262	654,062
6	Operating Profit	3,175,829	1,789,830
7	Finance Cost	(380,760)	(427,115)
8	Profit before Taxation	2,795,069	1,362,715

Source: Pakistan National Shipping Corporation

Karachi Port Trust

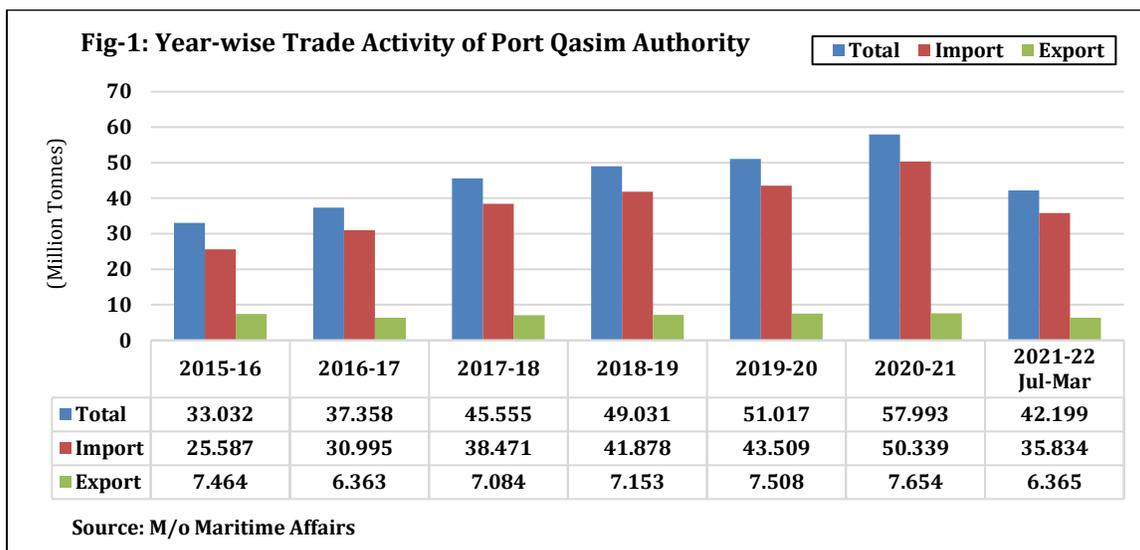
During July-March FY2022, Karachi Port Trust managed a total cargo container volume of 39,713 million tonnes (Table 13.6). It recorded 1 percent increase in total cargo and container handling over the last year. While import cargo container decreased by 2 percent and export increased by 7 percent in the period under review.

Fiscal Year	Imports	Exports	Total	%Change		
				Imports	Exports	Total
2015-16	34,594	15,451	50,045	-	-	-
2016-17	42,638	9,855	52,493	23	-36	5
2017-18	41,669	13,016	54,685	-2	32	4
2018-19	32,863	14,031	46,893	-21	8	-14
2019-20	27,206	14,634	41,840	-17	4	-11
2020-21	36,469	15,810	52,279	34	8	25
(July-March)						
2019-20	21,076	11,527	32,603	-16	11	-8
2020-21	27,546	11,878	39,424	31	3	21
2021-22	27,008	12,705	39,713	-2	7	1

Source: Karachi Port Trust

Port Qasim Authority

Port Qasim Authority handled a total cargo volume of 42.199 million tonnes in first nine months of FY2022. Out of which 35.834 million tonnes were imported and 6.365 million tonnes were exported, as illustrated in Figure 1.

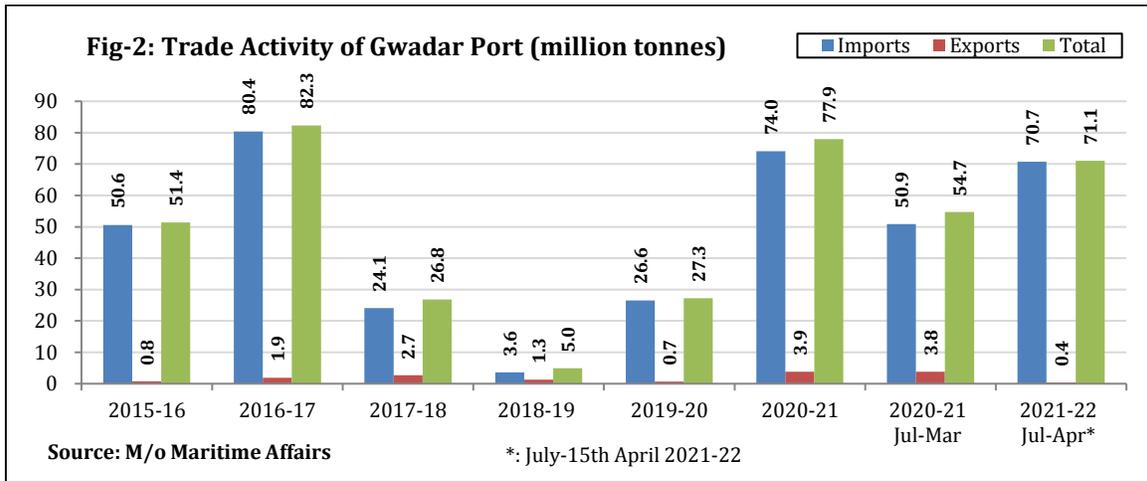


Gwadar Port Authority

Gwadar City Development

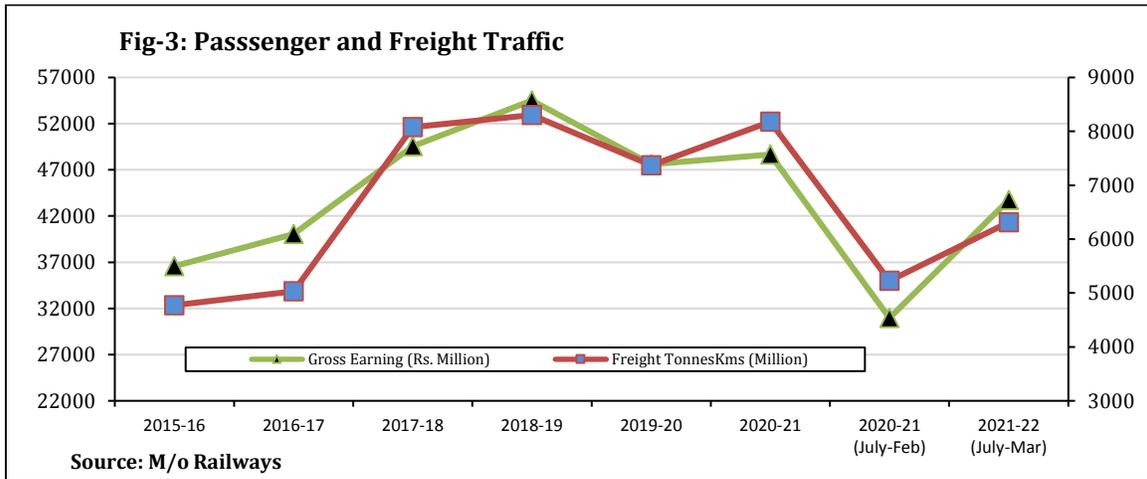
The development of Gwadar is a priority for the Government of Pakistan (GoP). The commercial, political, socio-economic, and regional connectivity related benefits that can be realized once the port (and the city) reaches its full potential. Lying at the mouth of the Persian Gulf, Gwadar is a strategic warm water deep seaport being developed under CPEC.

In the win-win cooperation framework between China and Pakistan, Gwadar projects have achieved significant progress. For a sustainable way forward, the Federal Government and Provincial Government of Balochistan are making all-out efforts to realize the planned CPEC projects in Gwadar at the earliest. The master plan of Gwadar city has been approved in the FY2020. Also, the land use regulations notified by GDA and the project for implementation of the plan is in progress. Work on NGIA is underway. Eastbay Expressway project is substantially completed and it will be inaugurated in June 2022. Moreover, Pak-China Vocational & Technical Institute in Gwadar was inaugurated in September 2021. Work on Pak-China Friendship Hospital project at Gwadar is underway and likely to achieve CoD by November 2022. Also, projects related to the provision of drinking water such as "Necessary Facilities of Fresh Water Treatment, Water Supply and Distribution" & "1.2 MGD Desalination Plant" are in construction process. Measures are also underway to expedite Gwadar 300 MW Coal Power Plant, Construction of breakwater and dredging of berthing areas and channels.



Railways Linkage

Pakistan Railways is one of the key modes of transport in the public sector which promotes national integration and economic growth. Pakistan Railways comprised of a total of 466 Locomotives for 7,791 Km route length. During July-March FY2022, the gross earnings of railways are recorded at Rs 43,731.59 million.



Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority

Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) has been established under PEMRA Ordinance 2002, as amended by the PEMRA (Amendment) Act 2007, to facilitate and regulate private electronic media in Pakistan, to improve the standards of information, entertainment and to enlarge the choice available to the people of Pakistan including news, current affairs, religious knowledge, art and culture as well as science and technology. The Authority is responsible for facilitating and regulating the operation of all types of broadcast media and distribution services in Pakistan.

PEMRA is now in its 20th years and during these years, the country has witnessed unprecedented growth in the number of TV channels and FM Radio stations as well as distribution networks, i.e. Cable TV, IPTV, DTH and MMDS in private sector in the South Asian region.

The private electronic media has come a long way since 2002 when Pakistan was only dominated by the state-run Pakistan Television and Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation. Now with almost 123 Pakistani Satellite TV Channels and 42 channels with Landing Rights Permission in Pakistan. This boom is owed to the government's unequivocal commitment to a free media and the proactive role played by PEMRA in facilitating the growth of the electronic media. The growth of TV channels, Cable TV and launch of FM Radio Stations has indeed contributed remarkably in raising the standards of public awareness and literacy, locally and portraying progressive image of Pakistan, globally. Following facts and figures on licensing of media amply substantiates growth which has taken place in electronic media in private sector in the last twenty one years (Table 13.7).

Table 13.7(a): Licensing Status (Till 16th April, 2022)		(Nos.)
Satellite TV Licenses Issued:		123
i. News & Current Affairs:		32
ii. Entertainment:		47
iii. Regional Languages;		23
iv. Health:		3
v. Sports:		5
vi. Education:		8
vii. Specialized subject Channel (Non-Commercial/ Education)		5
FM Radio Licenses Issued:		265
i. Commercial:		197
ii. Non Commercial:		68
Cable TV Licenses Issued:		4,152
Landing Rights Permissions Issued:		42
Mobile TV (Video & Audio Content Provision) Service Licensing:		6
Internet Protocol TV (IPTV) Licences Issued:		21
Direct-to-Home (DTH):		1
Teleport (Broadcast) License:		1
Provisionally Registered Television Audience Measurement (TAM)/ Television Rating Point (TRP) Companies in Pakistan		5
Source: PEMRA		

Table 13.7(b): Licensing During July-April FY2022	
Category	Number of licenses
i. Satellite TV Channel Licences:	9
a) News & Current Affairs	1
b) Entertainment	5
c) Sports	2
d) Education	1
ii. FM Radio Licences:	4
a) Commercial:	1
b) Non-Commercial:	3
iii. Cable TV Licences:	394
a) New Licences:	47
b) Renew:	347
iv. Internet Protocol TV (IPTV) Licences Issued:	9
Source: PEMRA	

Financial Contributions

Besides collecting advance tax from licensees at the time of issuance of licenses and their renewal, PEMRA has deposited Rs 2,214,000 in the Federal Consolidated Fund (FCF) upto December, 2021 (Table 13.8).

Financial Year	Surplus	Fine & Penalty	Total
2020-21	5,097,122	6,068,000	11,165,122
2021-22 (upto December, 2021)	-	2,214,000	2,214,000
Total:	976,999,598	90,685,549	1,067,685,147

*: Year wise detail may be seen in previous surveys.
Source: PEMRA

Economic Contribution

The growth of Media Industry in Pakistan has multiplied rapidly during last decade and now this sector is contributing considerably in building broadcasting apparatus in the major cities of Pakistan and generating a large number of job opportunities for the youth, aspirant to pursue carrier in Electronic Media. Over the period, cumulative investment of approximately US\$4 to US\$5 billion has been estimated in Electronic Media industry of Pakistan.

The Media Industry in Pakistan is providing employment to more than 300,000 people in the field of journalism, management and technical. However, with the growing landscape of media industry, significant employment opportunities are expected in coming 3 to 5 years. New licensing of Direct-to-Home (DTH), satellite TV channels, FM radios and teleport services would contribute in accommodating youth in different fields. In this regard, 3 licences for launching DTH in Pakistan have been approved by the Authority. One company, i.e. M/s Shahzad Sky (Pvt.) Ltd. is going to start its DTH services. This would be a huge project and help in giving impetus to Pakistani media in terms of technology and revenues. Moreover, new licences would inject investment of approximately US\$ 2 to US\$ 3 billion in various projects. PEMRA, being the regulator for Electronic Media and its distribution services in Pakistan, is exploring new regimes for licensing such as Television Audience Measurement (TAM) services, OTT (Over the Top), Teleporting, etc. All these ventures would generate more job opportunities for the people in Pakistan.

Pakistan Television Corporation Limited

Pakistan Television Corporation Limited (PTV) is the only public sector broadcasting channel which telecast national and international programs in metro cities and also remote and economically backward areas of the country in order to keep the masses aware of current affairs of the country as well as the whole world. At present, PTV is operating 7 channels like PTV Home, PTV News, PTV Sports, PTV Global, PTV National, PTV Bolan and PTV World. Only PTV English News channel in Pakistan is telecasting the information about Pakistan domestically as well as internationally. Pakistan Television covers 100 percent area of population on terrestrial network. The total of registered TV Set holders in year 2021 are 23,214,967.

Major Development Activities Proposed for the First Half of FY2022.

Government of Pakistan has kept Rs 699.069 million for 06 PSDP Projects of PTVC in FY2022 as per following detail.

PSDP Projects of PTVC	Amount (millions)
RBS Ziarat	7.72
RBS KotliSattian	20.243
RBS Kharan	25.312
RBS Bar Khan	19.663
Modernization of Camera and Production Equipment of PTV	121.481

Source: PTV

The four of above projects are ongoing and will be completed till 30th June 2022. While, the work on RBS-Ziarat has stopped due to arbitration with contractor.

PTV is trying its level best to improve signal quality of terrestrial network in the less develop areas of Pakistan, for which DTMB-A project through grant in aid is in the pipe line with the help of Chinese grant. The work on RBS-Murree, Cherat and Kala Shah Kaku is under process for the upgradation of transformers and new power connections.

Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation (PBC)

PBC is another most important and effective electronic media, for the projection of government policies and aspirations of the people of Pakistan within the country and abroad. It aims to provide information on education and entertainment to the masses through radio news and programs of high standard. It also counters adverse foreign propaganda and negative perceptions.

An amount of Rs 4,473.751 million budget was allocated to PBC to meet the employee's related as well as operational expenditure for the FY2022 and Rs 3,355.313 million released to PBC from for the expenditure of first three quarters of FY2022.

Achievements of PBC (July-March FY2022)

1. Religious programmes

Radio Pakistan has started new series of seminars titled "کائنات کی افضل ترین ہستیاں" to highlight the life history, messages and sacrifices of the Prophets of Allah to guide the listeners to act upon the teachings of Allah and to create environment of harmony and cohesion for sustainable peace and security in the society.

2. COVID-19 related Awareness

Radio Pakistan aired special promos & messages to educate the people, relating vaccination and booster dose at nearby vaccination centers. The messages were produced in Urdu, Punjabi, Sindhi, Balochi, Pashto, Kashmiri, Saraiki, Brahvi, Pehari, Shina, Khwar and Gojri languages to raise awareness about precautionary measures among the masses.

3. Wide Spread Publicity and Coverage of new Government's Initiatives

Radio Pakistan also playing an effective role in wide spreading the government initiatives to update masses on latest government development on regular basis.

4. Highlighting Kashmir Issue

Broadcast of special exclusive transmission for the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJ&K) started after imposition of curfew and communication blockade by the Indian Oppressing forces in the aftermath of changing the status of Kashmir in August, 2019 was continued as a special cause. All Government's initiatives to highlight Kashmir issue on international forums were specially highlighted in key programmes.

5. Special Programmes on Climate Change and its Effects

To highlight the dangerous impacts of deforestation and environmental pollution, Radio Pakistan continued broadcast of special weekly programme to sensitize general masses regarding the core issue of global warming. The flagship programmes are "Sarsabz Pakistan", "Maholiati Tabdiliaur Pakistan", etc.

6. Laptop Scheme for Youth

PBC broadcast a weekly programme to highlight the initiatives of new Government to create opportunities for youth to empower them in the process of decision making and encourage their representation in all spheres of life and to restart Laptop Scheme for the talented youth of Pakistan.

7. Prime Minister's Special Focus to Uplift Deprived Communities

Prime Minister is very much focused to promote deprived communities and to safeguard their rights will be highlighted in all national and regional languages programmes from all stations.

8. Rule of Law

All PBC Stations/Channels are highlighting and supporting the determination of Prime Minister to take measures for the establishment of rule of law and to highlight also the efforts of government to curb victimization in future.

9. Special Audience Programmes

PBC is addressing all segments of society and special audiences as well i.e. women, youth, children, laborer and playing its role in enhancing the scale of awareness on social and legal issues, etc.

10. Continuation of Agricultural Programme "Zarkhaiz Pakistan"

Radio Pakistan has launched special agricultural program "Zarkhaiz Pakistan" in collaboration with PARC. In this program, experts from PARC and other agricultural departments are participating to disseminate information to farmer community.

11. Diamond Jubilee Celebrations regarding 75th Anniversary of Pakistan

As Pakistan is going to celebrate its 75th anniversary in August, 2022. Radio Pakistan has started Diamond Jubilee celebrations from August 2021. In this regard, Radio

Pakistan has scheduled different series of programs from August, FY2022.

12. Saut-ul-Quran Channel/Network

Recitation from the Holy Quran and translation is aired from the Saut-ul-Quran Channel for 19 hours daily to meet religious aspirations and love for Islam by the masses.

14. Special Programmes in Ramadan-ul-Mubarak

Programme “پارہ بہ پارہ” is the special flagship programme of Ramadan-ul-Mubarak to highlight the main features of every para of Quran. The programme is broadcast from all stations/units of PBC on daily basis in their respective transmission.

Special Sehr & Iftar transmission is also one of the other prominent features of Ramadan transmission for general masses to observe Sehri and Iftar timings according to the most authenticated mechanism of Met Office and all religious sects of Pakistan.

15. Special Seminars Titled “جشن نزول قرآن”

It is the permanent feature to broadcast special seminars during the Holy month of Ramadan-ul-Mubarak to highlight the teachings of Holy Quran by all prominent religious scholars of the country.

16. Revival of Humorous Programmes

Radio Pakistan is going to broadcast humorous programmes to meet the demand of listeners and to address the social evils of the society in a lighter mode to combat petty quarrel and to create peaceful environment for all.

17. Continuation of PBC Podcast Service

Considering the popularity and effectiveness of social media platform, Radio Pakistan has also started its Podcast service, which has earned wide spread popularity. The same will be continued and more result oriented programmes will be uploaded for global listening for Radio Pakistan.

18. Broadcast of Flagship Programmes on Social Media Platforms:

Radio Pakistan started sharing its flagship programmes on different social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, Instagram), as social media is a popular medium among the masses.

Work Progress of Approved Projects:

- i. PSDP project titled “Establishment of 100 KW Medium Wave Radio Station in Gwadar” at an estimated cost of Rs 462.908 million. Revised PC-I is under submission.
- ii. Rehabilitation of Medium Wave Services from Muzaffarabad (AJK) at an estimated cost of Rs 354.079 million. Revised PC-I is under submission.
- iii. PSDP project titled “Replacement of Medium Wave Transmitter at Mirpur” at an estimated cost of Rs 338.558 million. Revised PC-I is under submission.

- iv. PSDP project titled “Installation of Passenger Elevator (Lift) at Radio Pakistan, Multan” at an estimated cost of Rs 13.639 million. Funds released and work is in progress.
- v. PSDP project titled “Construction of Auditorium for 200 people at Radio Pakistan, Multan” at an estimated cost of Rs 37.119 million. Funds released and work is in progress.
- vi. PSDP project titled “Up-gradation of Studios and Master Control Rooms” at an estimated cost of Rs 254.945 million.

Pakistan Post Office

Pakistan Post Office is one of the oldest government departments in the Sub-Continent. In 1947, it began functioning as the Department of Post & Telegraph. In 1962, it was separated from the Telegraph & Telephone and started working as an independent attached department of Ministry of Communications. Pakistan Post Office is playing a vital role in the economic and social development of Pakistan through postal services broadly categorized as domestic and International Postal Services, Financial Services, Postal Life Insurance Company Limited and Savings Bank, collection of utility bills, disbursement of funds and Foreign Remittances Payment.

Pakistan Post’s Recent Initiatives

Pakistan Post has recently taken important initiatives to provide the most efficient postal services to the people of Pakistan. The detail is under:

Same Day Delivery Service

The same Day Delivery Services aims to facilitate the delivery of packets, documents within the city. Consignment is delivered the same day if booked before noon. The service is available in 29 cities and would be extended to other cities in future.

Electronic Money Order (EMO)

The “Electronic Money Order” service is one of the most promising services which are provided by an electronic transfer of Money. Provision of such services is becoming more and more important, as the concept of electronic Money Transfer is gaining popularity with each passing day. Presently, EMO service is available in all 85 GPO’s in the country, 186 Sub Post Offices of Higher/Lower Selection Grade (HSG/LSG) and also extended to newly established 812 Institutional/Digital Franchise Post Offices (IFPO’s/DFPO’s) throughout the country.

Pakistan Post Mobile App

Pakistan Post launched its own Mobile App. The App offers postal services tariffs, post codes, post office locator complaint registration, Track and Trace & Pick-up facility.

EMS (Plus)

Pakistan Post has launched a specialized service for export sector. It aims to ensure delivery of parcel and packets worldwide in 72 hours. EMS Plus is modeled to compete with local and international courier companies. Rates are competitive with real time

track and trace facility. The service will bring down business cost for small and medium exporters.

Pakistan Post–HBL Alliance

(Digitization of Pakistan Post Financial and Remittance Service)

HBL has been selected after bidding process under PPR-2004. The HBL will invest for deployment of Hardware & Software. HBL will provide training to Pakistan Post's employees as well as provide ERP Solution, liquidity and invest to improve Look & Feel of GPOs/Post Offices. The HBL will also provide E-Commerce portal and consultancy services for development of PPOD operations. The draft agreement between Pakistan Post and HBL has been vetted by Ministry of Law & Justice and the same is in process of finalization. The following will be co-products of PPO-HBL alliance:

- a. Savings Accounts
- b. Current Accounts
- c. Salary Accounts
- d. Pension Accounts
- e. Collection of All Utility Bills
- f. Domestic Remittances
- g. International Remittances
- h. Social Disbursements
- i. Collection of Premium under Postal Life Insurance
- j. Other Collections being offered by HBL
- k. Any other co-product mutually agreed

Partnership with NADRA

Pakistan Post and NADRA signed an agreement for "Renewal/Modification of CNIC through Post Offices" on 20th June, 2017. Pilot project was launched in 10 Post & extended to 100 post offices. In Phase-I, 40 more Pak ID locations has been established under 2nd Phase. Pak-ID counters have also been established in all 85 GPOs to facilitate general public.

Collaboration between Pakistan Post and M/S Khushali Microfinance Bank Limited

Pakistan Post has earned Rs 2,606,425 as rent of space provided to M/S Khushali Microfinance Bank Limited (KMBL) and disbursed Rs 57,567,461/ recovered Rs 79,974,368 to KMBL clients on commission of Rs 70/. The total commission earned on disbursement/recovery of KMBL loan is Rs 1,655,819/-. The Pakistan Post and KMBL has recently agreed upon increase in rent of space provided to KMBL and addendum of agreement has been issued.

Transaction Advisor for Up-Gradation / Revamping / Re-Engineering of Pakistan Post Logistics Express and Mail Business on PPP Basis

Pakistan Post has hired a qualified Transaction Advisor to assist Pakistan Post in developing, structuring and procuring the Project on PPP basis. The Transaction Advisor will be perform the following tasks:

- a. Carrying-out full-scope feasibility study of the Project and devise transaction structure capable of:
 - i. Providing financially viable and bankable structure to the private party, and
 - ii. Offering VFM solution to the public sector
- b. Prepare complete bidding documentation package for the Project, including Request for Proposal (RFP), Request for Qualification (RFQ), PPP Contract/Concession Agreement, Project Information Memorandum, etc.
- c. Assist Pakistan Post in soliciting technically qualified and financially sound private party through carrying-out transparent and efficient international competitive bidding; and;
- d. Assist Pakistan Post in facilitating private party in smooth implementation of the Project including achieving its financial close by the private party, transferring assets and resources under the Project, etc.

Improvement of Pakistan Post Complaint Management System (CMS)

Pakistan Post already has a CMS connecting all controlling and field offices across the country. Pakistan post has also modified the process of following the overflow of Pakistan Citizen Portal (PCP). The responsibility has been decentralized that has enhanced efficiency.

Pakistan Post's Facebook Page

Pakistan Post is maintaining a Face Book Page to receive feedback and suggestions for improvement in postal operations from general public and takes immediate appropriate remedial steps for further improvement <https://www.facebook.com/pakistan.postoffice>

Achievement of Savings Bank

Savings Bank work has been stopped by Pakistan Post Office Department and existing accounts are under transfer to CDNS on the direction of Finance Division.

Western Union (WU) Money Transfer Service:

Pakistan Post, under an Agency Agreement with Western Union, provides international remittance service under the Western Union Money Transfer Service through 2,000 Post Offices in the country. Details of WU remittance paid through PPOD during July-March FY2022 are as follows:

• Amount paid	=	Rs 7,469.231 million
• Number of transactions processed	=	123,849 transactions
• Revenue earned	=	Rs 67.954 million

International Postal Services

Pakistan Post has mail links with all countries of the world except Israel. Exchange of mail is carried out under rules and regulations of the Universal Postal Union. Direct mail links exists with 72 countries and rest of the mail is exchanged by utilizing the transit facilities of intermediary countries.

Achievements in International Postal Services

Pakistan post received more volume of mail than it dispatched for delivery. Thus, it always remains net-creditor. Pakistan Post received an amount of Rs 610 million during the period from July-March FY2022 on account of Terminal Dues for imbalance of international mail received from and dispatched to other countries.

PPOD-NBP International Remittance Service

Pakistan Post, in collaboration with the National Bank of Pakistan (NBP), provides payment of/disburses foreign remittances under NBP’s remittance service, through 500 designated Post Offices across the country. Details of NBP remittances paid through PPOD during July-March FY2022 are as follows:

- Amount paid = Rs 813.862 million
- Number of transactions processed = 11.632 transactions
- Revenue earned = Rs 0.279 million

Postal Life Insurance Company Limited (PLICL)

In order to comply with Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations, Postal Life Insurance an integral part of Pakistan post has been decided to be placed under the regulatory Framework of Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP). Postal Life Insurance Company Limited (PLICL) has been incorporated as Public Limited Company with SECP on 10th March-2020.

The information relating to Insurance / PLICL may be sought directly from Chief Executive Officer (CEO) PLICL, 2nd Floor, ECO Postal Staff College Building Islamabad.

No. of Post Offices as on March-2022

The requisite summary of Rural & Urban Post Offices is given in Table 13.10.

Urban	Rural S.O	Total
1,510	8,012	9,522

Conclusion

Modern transportation and communication system is one of the key inputs for achieving sustainable economic growth. A network of roads, highways, motorways, sea ports, and airlines in a country makes it a center of economic activity by attracting investment, raising productivity and reducing cost of doing business. Government of Pakistan is committed to upgrade the transportation and communication system with the development of new roads, highways motorways, railway tracks and airports to improve connectivity. CPEC is pragmatic step for converting unique geo-strategic location of Pakistan into geo-economics through various transport related projects that will transform road infrastructure of Pakistan and improve access to central Asian, African and European states.