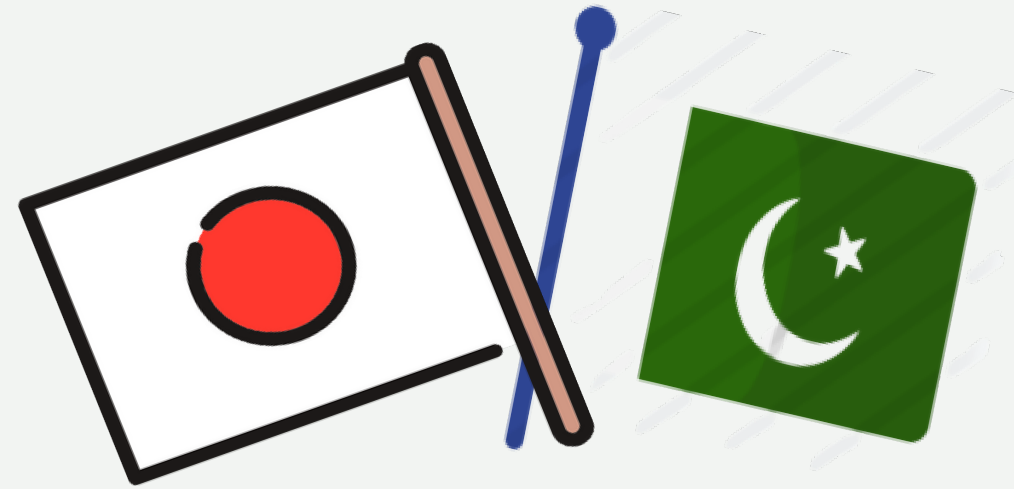**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY &TELECOMMUNICATION**
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
DIGITAL PAKISTAN

Japan - Pakistan Collaboration

UNDER jica

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DIGITAL PAKISTAN VISION

Enhancing connectivity

Improving digital infrastructure

Increasing investment in digital skills

Promoting innovation

Promoting tech entrepreneurs

1. <u>Policy Interventions:</u>

a) **Promulgation of Pakistan's First Right of Way Policy**

b) **Introduction of a Rolling Spectrum Strategy/Roadmap**

c) **Mobile Device Manufacturing Policy**

d) **New and more attractive tax regime for the telecom sector**

2. Legislative Interventions:

a) Additional spectrum availability for 4G network expansion/ 5G deployment

b) National Cyber Security Policy

c) National Broadband Policy

d) Telecommunications Policy

e) Digital Pakistan Policy

f) 5G Roadmap

3. Digital Infrastructure

USF has already spent **Rs. 14 Billion PKR** for the proliferation of **Digital Infrastructure and Services** in unserved and underserved areas of the country.

4. National Incubation Centers

IGNITE has successfully established 5 National Incubation Centers (NIC) in Federal Capital and all Provincial Capitals of the Country with a funding of over **Rs. 2.5 Billion** to assist IT start-ups.

5. Digital Trainings

- MoITT launched **Digiskills Training Program** in 2018 to equip the citizen's of Pakistan with in-demand technical skills.
- - More than **1.5 million** trainings have been conducted so far.

6. Digital Solutions And Citizen Facilitation Portals

For better e-governance and assisting citizens, NITB has launched several e-portals including:

1. COVID-19 Portal

2. Excise and Taxation Portal

3. Pakistan Citizen Portal

4. Baytee App

5. City Islamabad App

Visit of Japanese Ambassador

Japan Ambassador to Pakistan Kuninori Matsuda met with Federal Minister IT & T Syed Amin ul Haque on 10th March, 2021 and matters of mutual interests in IT and Telecommunication sector were discussed during the meeting.

Both sides agreed to enhance cooperation in the field of Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

Speaking on the occasion, the Ambassador of Japan said the role of Ministry of IT & Telecom for development of IT and Telecom sector of Pakistan is commendable.

JICA's survey of ICT development in Pakistan

- **Purpose:**

-To analyze and organize the current status and issues of the ICT industry in Pakistan.

- To examine the direction of cooperation of JICA with regard to the promotion of the ICT industry in the future.

• Key Points:

- About 60% of the 220 million population of Pakistan is aged 30 or younger.

- ICT related exports of Pakistan have increased by about 70% over the past three years.

- Pakistan has introduced "Digital Pakistan Policy" in 2018.

-Pakistan currently has approximately **5000 ICT companies** , **0.5 million ICT engineers**, and about **20,000** new graduates enter ICT labor force each year.

-In 2017, Pakistan's export value was US$650 million, According to PSEB, the value of exports that are not captured by statistics is around US$1.5 billion, of which US$500 million is due to freelancers, and when these are added, the total is estimated to be around US$3 billion.

- Pakistan's ICT products and services are exported to more than 100 countries,

.As of 2018, the number of freelancers in Pakistan is the fourth largest in the world by country, and the percentage of active freelancers is high.

-The reputation of Pakistan's freelancer in ICT sector has been shown to be internationally high, with 70% of freelancers under 30 years of age. The government's efforts to invest and educate young Pakistani people have been successful in improving digital technology.

-The Government of Pakistan is actively working towards implementing e-governance and several e-portals have been made functional in this regard.

-Pakistan has been working on strengthening internet access at educational :institutions. Some note-worthy e-start-ups in educational domain:
- **Learn Smart Pakistan**
- **Qalum Guru**
- **WonderTree**

- In Digital Pakistan Policy, three initiatives have been introduced related to human resource development;
  i. **Human Resource Development Entrepreneurship, Research and Innovation (R&I),Freelancing**
  ii. **ICT for Girls**
  iii. **ICT Education**

- There are approximately **450 TVET** schools in Pakistan.

Comparison between Pakistan, India & Bangladesh in regards to ICT Sector

The three countries are competitors in the ICT industry and are consistently making efforts to strengthen their resources as well as ties with other developed countries.
JICA's Survey analyzed the three states in terms of outsourcing of HR to Japan and enlisted following comparison:

INDIA

- Indian graduates prefer to work in US and Europe.

- India has high domestic wages therefore ICT human resources going overseas is a downward trend.

BANGLADESH

- Bangladeshi freelancers have more inclination towards creative media as compared to technical development.

- Bangladesh lacks of proper infrastructure and framework to support ICT sector development.
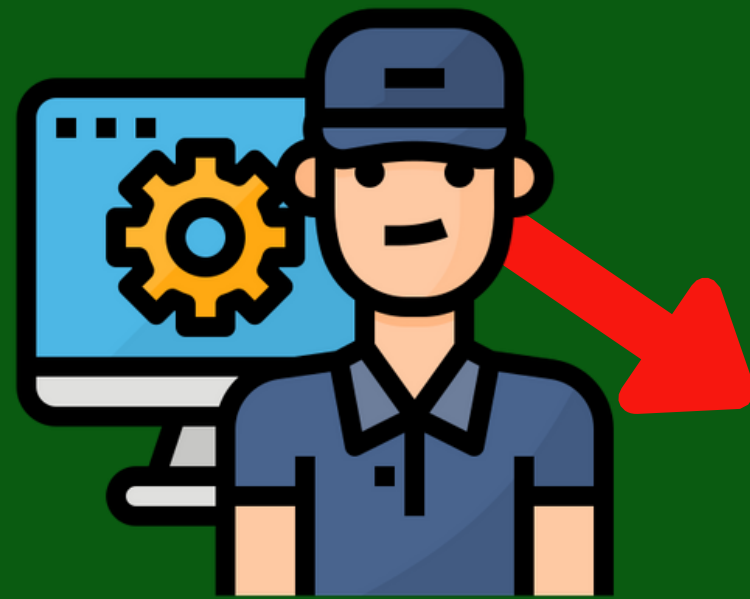
PAKISTAN

- Pakistan has a culture of emigration and people are interested in working abroad.

- The Japanese wage model is suited to Pakistani employees.

- Freelancers in Pakistan show a strong interest in software and application development.

- Pakistan has a stable ICT ecosystem and constant efforts are being made for improvements.

- Pakistan offers a more favorable e regulatory and business innovation environments.

Proposal

JICA estimated in its survey that there will be a shortage of approximately 590,000 ICT engineers in Japan by 2030.

Outsourcing of ICT Personnel from Pakistan to Japan
Lists of first batch of IT Engineers, ICT Companies and ICT Staffing agencies have been shared with JICA.

FURTHER COLLABORATIONS

Business investment from Japan

Manufacturing of advanced ICT devices in Pakistan

Thank you