

## **Subject: Tackling Pakistan's Cost of Living Crisis: A View from Abroad**

Dear Chief Editor, Layalpur Post, Canada

From our vantage point in Toronto, we often observe the global economic landscape, and few challenges appear as acutely painful as the inflation and cost-of-living crisis gripping Pakistan. As a platform like Darwin TV, Toronto, consistently highlights Pakistani news in Urdu, the struggles of everyday citizens trying to make ends meet are a constant topic of discussion.

Pakistan has indeed faced a severe wave of inflation, particularly impacting the purchasing power for essentials like food, fuel, and electricity. While official figures from June-July 2025 indicate a significant reduction in year-on-year inflation compared to earlier peaks, reflecting government efforts and base effects, the cumulative impact of past price surges still weighs heavily on households.

The middle class, especially white-collar workers, has been particularly affected, often finding their stagnant incomes unable to keep pace with soaring prices for education, healthcare, and even basic utilities.

The root causes of this crisis are multi-faceted, including a history of currency depreciation, global commodity price fluctuations (especially for oil and gas), and structural issues within Pakistan's economy that affect supply chains and energy costs.

While the recent decline in inflation is a positive sign, driven by tighter monetary policy, exchange rate stability, and improved food supply chains, the real challenge lies in ensuring these gains translate into tangible relief for the common person.

The government's focus must extend beyond macroeconomic stabilization to direct measures that alleviate the burden on citizens. This includes, but is not limited to, targeted subsidies for vulnerable populations, sustained efforts to control prices of essential commodities, and reforms in the energy sector to ensure an affordable and consistent supply.

Furthermore, increasing productivity across key sectors, enhancing tax collection from undertaxed areas, and fostering a robust domestic economy that creates employment opportunities are vital for long-term resilience against such crises.

For many of us in the diaspora, the well-being of our families and friends in Pakistan is a constant concern. We hope that the current positive trends in inflation are not merely statistical but herald a genuine improvement in the cost of living, allowing every Pakistani the dignity of affording their basic needs and planning for a more secure future.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Ch. Muhammad Akram  
Toronto, Canada