Media Coverage



3rd RASTA Conference

WEB Coverage

The News

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1111352-universities-not-conducting-quality-research-pide

The Nation

https://www.nation.com.pk/16-Sep-2023/two-day-pide-rasta-conference-concludes

Pakistan Today

https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2023/09/15/speakers-stress-on-progress-and-move-forward-with-innovative-ideas/

APP Pakistan

https://www.app.com.pk/business/two-day-pide-rasta-conference-concludes/

https://www.app.com.pk/business/we-have-only-buildings-without-professors-vc/

WE News

https://en.wenews.pk/pide-rasta-conference-concludes-with-insights-on-pakistans-challenges/

Independent News Pakistan

https://www.inp.net.pk/news-detail/pak-china/diverse-topics-and-expert-insights-dominate-day-two-of-pide-rasta-conference

Islamabad Post

https://islamabadpost.com.pk/we-have-buildings-without-professors-says-vc-pide/

Pakistan Observer

https://pakobserver.net/we-have-only-buildings-without-professors-says-vc-pide/

The Nation

https://www.nation.com.pk/14-Sep-2023/third-pide-rasta-conference-on-thursday

We News

https://en.wenews.pk/third-pide-rasta-conference-scheduled-for-thursday/

Pakistan Observer

https://pakobserver.net/conference-on-social-transformation-starts-today/

APP Pakistan

https://www.app.com.pk/national/third-pide-rasta-conference-on-thursday/? cf chl tk=lx0NEnOh6.nA6iCzS6aUH.KS2uDuewhliySl8sPbQjo-1694763774-0-gaNycGzNDPs

Urdu Point

https://www.urdupoint.com/en/pakistan/third-pide-rasta-conference-on-thursday-1749001.html

PNI Pakistan

https://pni.net.pk/en/latest-business-news/third-pide-rasta-conference-on-thursday/

Pakistan Observer

https://pakobserver.net/two-day-rasta-conference-begins/

Independent News Pakistan

https://inp.net.pk/news-detail/pak-china/two-days-pides-rasta-conference-kicked-off

Print Media Coverage



September 15, 2023

Third PIDE-RASTA Conference on Thursday

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) is all set to host the third two-day PIDE-RASTA Conference from Thursday, September 14.

This event marks a significant milestone in RASTA's annual calendar, featuring an impressive lineup of sessions and research showcases, according to a press statement issued by the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE).

A total of 20 papers would be presented across 8 engaging sessions, providing a platform for the exchange of ideas and insights from experts in the field.

RASTA is the country's largest economic and public policy research network comprising academia and think tanks. It has been at the forefront of promoting policy debate and research culture in the country, the statement added.



Two Days PIDE's RASTA conference kicked off Statesman Report

PESHAWAR: Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), under its Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) program, kicked off its 3rd RASTA conference. The research conference consisted of diverse themes, including energy issues, urban development, technology, public service delivery, social sector development, markets and regulation, the political economy of development and reform, and sludge - the administrative burden, said in a press release here on Thursday.



Pakistan's Leading Research Network, RASTA, to Host the 3rd PIDE-RASTA Conference

Mews Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) Competitive Grants Programme for Policy-oriented Research is proud to announce the upcoming 3rd PIDE-RASTA Conference, set to take place on Thursday, 14th, and Friday, 15th September 2023 at the prestigious Gun & Country Club in Islamabad.

RASTA, Pakistan's largest economics and public policy research network comprising academia and think tanks, has been at the fore-front of promoting policy debate and research culture in the country. With a commitment to producing high-quality evidence-based research that informs public policy, RASTA has expanded its influence and now boasts a network of over 60 local universities, more than 10 foreign institutes, and an impressive roster of approximately 2300 researchers, academics, practitioners, and professionals. The program is guided by a distinguished 26-member Research Advisory Committee, chaired by the Vice-Chancellor of PIDE, Islamabad.

The 3rd PIDE-RASTA Conference will be a highlight in RASTA's calendar, featuring an impressive lineup of sessions and research showcases. A total of 20 papers will be presented across 8 engaging sessions, providing a platform for the exchange of ideas and insights from experts in the field.



Speakers stress progress and move forward with innovative ideas

PESHAWAR

STAFF REPORT

Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), through its Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) program, successfully concluded its 3rd RASTA conference. According to a press release issued here on Friday, the conference, was held at the Gun & Country Club in Islamabad encompassed a wide array of research themes, including Urban Development and Industry, Law and Judiciary, Human Capital and Opportunities, Sludge and Dead Capital, Education and Technology, and Public Finance Management and Financial Inclusion.

These sessions provided an extensive and multifaceted examination of their respective topics, thereby contributing significantly to a deeper comprehension of the pertinent issues. The conference witnessed enthusiastic participants presenting their studies within these overarching themes, offering localized solutions to pressing challenges. Distinguished contributors represented various esteemed institutions such as the University of Illinois Chicago USA, Government College University Faisalabad, NUML Islamabad, Government College University Lahore, Jamal and Jamal Advocates and Legal Consultants Islamabad, University of Peshawar, BUITEMS Quetta, University of Punjab, and Lahore College for Women University, Lahore. This gathering of diverse minds underscores RASTA's steadfast commitment to nurturing collaborative

research aimed at positively influencing Pakistan's policy landscape.

Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, Vice-Chancellor of PIDE and Chairman of the RASTA Research Advisory Committee (RAC), emphasized that RASTA represents an evolving process. He stressed the importance of conducting local research and finding tailored solutions to local issues while acknowledging the value of global research that aligns with local needs and requirements. The 3rd RASTA Conference continued its intellectual journey on its second day, featuring a compelling lineup of presentations that explored various facets of Pakistan's economic and legal landscape. Esteemed speakers from academia and research circles engaged in thought-provoking discussions on pressing issues.

In the first session, Saad S. Khan examined the "Critical Appraisal of Legal Institutional Structure of Revenue Courts in Pakistan: Minimizing Sludge in Agricultural Property Cases," shedding light on the complexities within the legal system. In the second half, Muhammad Ahmad Barula explored "Taming the Leviathan towards Public Sector Resources Efficiency: Fiscal Federalism or Fiscal Decentralization in Pakistan," addressing governance and resource allocation. The second day of the RASTA Conference was characterized by rich discussions, robust debates, and the exchange of ideas among experts and attendees alike. The conference continues to serve as a pivotal platform for intellectual exploration and the exchange of knowledge.

Pakistan OBSERVER

September 15, 2023

Conference on social transformation starts today

STAFF REPORTER

The Research for Social Transformation (RAS-Advancement TA) is all set to host the third two-day PI-DE-RASTA Conference from Thursday (today).

This event marks a significant milestone in RASTA's annual calendar, featuring an impressive lineup of sessions and research showcases, according to a press statement issued by the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE).

A total of 20 papers would be presented across 8 engaging sessions, providing a platform for the exchange of ideas and insights from experts

in the field.

RASTA is the country's largest economic and public policy research network comprising academia and think tanks.

It has been at the forefront of promoting policy debate and research culture in the country, the statement added.

Pakistan OBSERVER

September 15, 2023

Two-day RASTA conference begins

STAFF REPORTER

Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), under Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) program, started its third RASTA conference here on Thursday.

The research moot featured diverse themes including energy issues, urban development, technology, public service delivery, social sector development, markets and regulation, the political economy of development and reform, and sludgethe administrative burden.

Inaugurating the conference, Vice-Chancellor PIDE and Chairman RAC, Dr Nadeem ul Haque stressed the need for conducting

applied research saying country's research was primarily driven by actors that are alien to our situation.

"Outsiders are driving our research, with perhaps vested agendas." he said.

He said RASTA was a platform that provided space to local researchers to come up with innovative ideas and local solutions.



Speakers stress on progress and move forward with innovative ideas

MT REPORT

PESHAWAR: Pakistan Institute Development Economics (PIDE), through its Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) program, successfully concluded its 3rd RASTA conference. According to a press release issued here on Friday, the conference, was held at the Gun & Country Club in Islamabad encompassed a wide array of research themes. including Urban Development and Industry, Law and Human Judiciary, and Capital Opportunities, Sludge and Dead Capital, Education and Technology, and Public Finance Management and



Financial Inclusion.

These sessions provided an extensive multifaceted and examination of their respective topics. thereby contributing significantly to deeper comprehension of the pertinent issues. The conference witnessed enthusiastic participants presenting their studies within these overarching themes. offering localized solutions to pressing challenges. Distinguished con-

tributors represen various esteemed institutions such as University Illinois Chicago USA, Government College University Faisalabad, NUML Islamabad, Government College University Lahore. Jamal and Jamal Advocates and Legal Consultants Islamabad, University of Peshawar, BUITEMS Quetta, University of Punjab, and Lahore College for Women University, Lahore.



RASTA to Host the 3rd PIDE-RASTA Conference

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The search for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) Competitive Grants Programme for Policy-oriented Research is proud to announce the upcoming 3rd PIDE-RASTA Conference, set to take place on Thursday, 14th, and Friday, 15th September 2023 at the prestigious Gun & Country Club in Islam-abad. RASTA, Pakistan's largest economics and public policy research network comprising academia and think tanks, has been at the forefront of promoting policy debate and research culture in the country. With a commitment to producing high-quality evidence-based research that informs public policy, RASTA has expanded its influence and now boasts a network of over 60 local universities, more than 10 foreign institutes, and an impressive roster of approximately 2300 researchers, academics, practitioners, and professionals. The program is guided by a distinguished 26-member Research Advisory Committee, chaired by the Vice-Chancellor of PIDE, Islamabad. The 3rd PIDE-RASTA Conference will be a highlight in RAS-TA's calendar, featuring an impressive lineup of sessions and research showcases. A total of 20 papers will be presented across 8 engaging sessions, providing a platform for the exchange of ideas and insights from experts in the field.



Two days PIDE's RASTA conference kicks off

RASTA boasts participation from over 60 universities, collaborating with more than 10 international institutes, and involving a talented cadre of over 2,300 researchers and academicians

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), under its Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) program, kicked off its 3rd RASTA conference at the Country and Gun Club, Islamabad. The research moot comprised diverse themes, including energy issues, urban development, technology, public service delivery. social sector development, markets and regulation, the political economy of development and reform, and sludge - the administrative burden. While inaugurating the conference, in his inaugural address, Dr Nadeem ul Haque, Vice-Chancellor PIDE and Chairman RAC referred to one of his papers "Developing Research and a Research Culture: Results from a Pilot Project in Pakistan" as the genesis for the RAS-TA program. He said that the 'enlightenment movement' was nothing but the exchange of ideas among the great intellectuals of the time. Ideas bring change, however, ideas must be indigenous. Without exchange. ideas don't refine, and without refinement reaching a conclusive solution becomes exceedingly difficult. The Vice-Chancellor apprised the participants that we still have not been able to free ourselves from the colonial clutches. Our research is primarily driven by actors that are alien to our situation. Outsiders are driving our research, with perhaps vested agendas. Though, the onus is on Pakistani researchers. Why they are being silent spectators? Why don't they question things around us? PIDE's RASTA is one such platform it has provided the space for our local researchers to come up with innova-

tive ideas and local solutions. Through RASTA, we have also proved that we can do better than those who steer local research from outside. Earlier, Dr Faheem Jehangir Khan, Project Director of RASTA, presented highlights of the RASTA journey comprising over 3 years. PI-DE's RASTA is a multi-year competitive grants program for policy-oriented research in Pakistan, under the Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) of the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, the Government of Pakistan. The mission is to develop an extensive research network of academia and think tanks across Pakistan producing high-quality, evidence-based policy research to inform Pakistan's public policy pro-cess, he stated. Moreover, the program seeks to develop local thought communities and generate contextualized knowledge. Substantial outputs are to be completed

in important areas of public policy that would produce insightful research and facilitate goals that the Government wants to achieve according to its vision. RASTA, Pakistan's mier economics and public policy research grants programme, continues to make substantial strides in shaping the future of policy discourse in the country. With a robust commitment to fostering an extensive knowledge network, RASTA has emerged as a pivotal force in producing high-quality, evidence-based policy research. This dynamic initiative boasts participation

from over 60 universities, collaborating with more than

10 international institutes,

and involving a talented cad-

re of over 2,300 researchers

and academicians. RASTA's

unwavering dedication to the

pursuit of knowledge-driven

solutions is propelling Paki-

stan towards a brighter and

more prosperous future.



Speakers stress on progress and move forward with innovative ideas

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: Pakistan Institute Development Economics (PIDE), through its Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) program, successfully concluded its 3rd RASTA conference, research According to a press including release issued here on Development Friday, the conference, Industry, Law was held at the Gun & Judiciary, Country Club Islamabad passed a wide array of and



and and in Capital encom- Opportunities, Sludge vided an extensive and University of Illinois

themes, Education Urban Technology, and Public ing and Finance Management Human Inclusion.

Dead Capital, multifaceted examina- Chicago USA.

tion of their respective topics, thereby contributing significantly to a deeper comprehension of the pertinent issues. The conference witnessed enthusiastic participants presenting their studies within these overarching themes, offering localized solutions to presschallenges. Distinguished contrib-Financial utors represented various esteemed institu-These sessions pro- tions such as the

Universities not conducting quality research: PIDE

Rasheed Khalid

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) Vice-Chancellor Dr Nadeem ul Haque has said that we have only buildings without professors, hence we cannot call them universities.

Dr Haque was speaking at the conclusion of three-day conference here of Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) programme of PIDE. I may be mentioned that PIDE has its faculty but no campus and since inception is operating from Quaid-i-Azam University Campus.

Dr Hague pointed out that universities need to focus on conducting quality research that can contribute to the progress of the country. Universities are not conducting quality research which may benefit the country, he noted, underlining the role of academic institutions in shaping the nation's future. He emphasised that RASTA represents an evolving process stressing the importance of conducting local research and finding tailored solutions to local issues while acknowledging the value of global research that aligns with local needs and requirements.

D. Haque highlighted the need to focus on progress and move forward with the ideas presented to policy-makers, advocating for a distinctive local flavour in research. The conference included presentations that explored various facets of Pakistan's economic and legal landscape. Speakers from academia and research circles engaged in discussions on pressing issues.





Two-day PIDE-RASTA conference concludes

APP ISLAMABAD

A two-day conference organized by the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), under its Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RAS-TA) programme, concluded here on Friday.

The conference encompassed a wide array of research themes, including urban development and industry, law and judiciary, human capital and opportunities, sludge and dead capital, education and technology, and public finance management and financial inclusion, a news release said.

These sessions provided an extensive and multifaceted examination of their respective topics, thereby contributing significantly to a deeper comprehension of the pertinent issues.

The conference witnessed enthusiastic participants presenting their studies within these overarching themes, offering localized solutions to pressing challenges.

Distinguished contributors represented various esteemed institutions such as the University of Illinois Chicago USA, Government College University Faisalabad, NUML Islamabad, Government College University Labore, Jamal and Jamal Advocates and Legal Consultants Islamabad, University of Peshawar, BUITEMS Quetta, University of Punjab, and Lahore College for Women University, Lahore. The gathering of diverse minds underscored RASTA's steadfast commitment to nurturing collaborative research aimed at positively influencing Pakistan's policy landscape.

PIDE Vice-Chancellor and Chairman of the RASTA Research Advisory Committee (RAC) Dr Nadeem ul Haque emphasized that RASTA represented an evolving process. He stressed the importance of conducting local research and finding tailored solutions to local issues while acknowledging the value of global research that aligns with local needs and requirements.

Dr Haque emphasized the need to focus on progress and move forward with the ideas presented to policymakers, advocating for a distinctive local flavour in research. He praised RASTA's inclusivity, highlighting how it had exposed policymakers to new perspectives and emphasized the critical nature of inclusive research.

The 3rd RASTA Conference continued its intellectual journey, featuring a compelling lineup of presentations that explored various facets of Pakistan's economic and legal landscape. Speakers from academia and research circles remained engaged in thought-provoking discussions on pressing issues.

In the first session, Saad S. Khan examined the "Critical Appraisal of Legal Institutional Structure of Revenue Courts in Pakistan: Minimizing Sludge in Agricultural Property Cases," shedding light on the complexities within the legal system.

Moazzam Ali presented a case study titled "Alternate Use of Public Assets: A Case Study of Allama lqbal Open University," exploring efficient public resource utilization. Anwar Muhammad Aslam addressed "Unlocking Pakistan Railways Dead Capital," discussing strategies to optimize the potential of Pakistan's railway infrastructure.

Alvina Sabah Idress analyzed "Factors Associated with School Dropout in Pakistan: An Assessment Using Survival Analysis," offering valuable insights into the education sector.

Ghazanfar Iqbal advocated for a solution to K-12 education problems with his presentation on the "Framework for Mainstreaming Career Education."

Verda Salman highlighted "Technology Adoption in Islamabad Police," showcasing innovative approaches in law enforcement.

Abedullah Anjum, Chief of Research at PIDE, contributed to the discussion on self-sufficiency in edible oil production with his comprehensive report titled "Investigation of a Value Chain of Edible Oil to Identify Possible Policy Interventions to Achieve Self-sufficiency."



2 days PIDE's RASTA conference kicks off

T.M. Report

Economics (PIDE), un-Social Transformation must be and Advancement (RAS-

The research conference consisted of diverse cult. Earlier, Dr Faheem themes, including energy Jehangir Khan, Project themes, offering local issues, urban develop- Director of RASTA, prement, technology, public sented highlights of the sues. Notable partici-service delivery, social RASTA journey compris- pants hailed from institumarkets and regulation, RASTA is a multi-year University of Illinois the political economy of competitive grants prodevelopment and reform, gram for policy-oriented Government and sludge - the adminis- research in Pakistan, untrative burden, said in a der the Public Sector NUML press release here on Development Program Government Thursday.

the Country and Gun the Club, Islamabad, in his Pakistan. inaugural address, Dr Nadeem ul Haque, Vice-Chancellor PIDE and Economist at PIDE, pre-Chairman RAC referred sented a detailed report Women to one of his papers on "Developing Research Commerce in Pakistan" Project in Pakistan" as Development

lightenment movement' of Economics at Quaid e was nothing but the ex- Azam PESHAWAR: Pakistan change of ideas among Islamabad. Institute of Development the great intellectuals of Chauhan, Secretary of the time. Ideas bring the Tourism Department der its Research for change, however, ideas in AJ&K, Government, TA) program, kicked off don't refine, and without Judiciary." its 3rd RASTA confer- refinement reaching a comes exceedingly diffidevelopment, ing over 3 years. PIDE's tions (PSDP) of the Ministry of University While inaugurating Planning, Development Jamal the conference held in at and Special Initiatives, Government

Omer Senior "The State He said that the 'en- distinguished Professor scape.

University Khalid indigenous. skillfully facilitated the Without exchange, ideas discussion on "Law and

The conference witconclusive solution be- nessed participants presenting their studies within the overarching solutions to pressing issuch Chicago USA, College University Faisalabad, Islamabad, College Lahore. Jamal Advocates and Legal of Consultants Islamabad, University of Peshawar, Siddique, BUITEMS Research University of Punjab, and Lahore College for University, of Lahore. This gathering of diverse minds underand a Research Culture: during his presentation. scores RASTA's com-Results from a Pilot The session on "Urban mitment to fostering coland laborative research for the genesis for the RAS- Industry" was expertly positive change in TA program. led by Zahid Asghar, a Pakistan's policy land-



Speakers stress progress and move forward with innovative ideas

PESHAWAR

STAFF REPORT

Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), through its Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) program, successfully concluded its 3rd RASTA conference. According to a press release issued here on Friday, the conference, was held at the Gun & Country Club in Islamabad encompassed a wide array of research themes, including Urban Development and Industry, Law and Judiciary, Human Capital and Opportunities, Sludge and Dead Capital, Education and Technology, and Public Finance Management and Financial Inclusion.

These sessions provided an extensive and multifaceted examination of their respective topics, thereby contributing significantly to a deeper comprehension of the pertinent issues. The conference witnessed enthusiastic participants presenting their studies within these overarching themes, offering localized solutions to pressing challenges. Distinguished contributors represented various esteemed institutions such as the University of Illinois Chicago USA, Government College University Faisalabad, NUML Islamabad, Government College University Lahore, Jamal and Jamal Advocates and Legal Consultants Islamabad, University of Peshawar, BUITEMS Quetta, University of Punjab, and Lahore College for Women University, Lahore. This gathering of diverse minds underscores RASTA's steadfast commitment to nurturing collaborative

research aimed at positively influencing Pakistan's policy landscape.

Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, Vice-Chancellor of PIDE and Chairman of the RASTA Research Advisory Committee (RAC), emphasized that RASTA represents an evolving process. He stressed the importance of conducting local research and finding tailored solutions to local issues while acknowledging the value of global research that aligns with local needs and requirements. The 3rd RASTA Conference continued its intellectual journey on its second day, featuring a compelling lineup of presentations that explored various facets of Pakistan's economic and legal landscape. Esteemed speakers from academia and research circles engaged in thought-provoking discussions on pressing issues.

In the first session, Saad S. Khan examined the "Critical Appraisal of Legal Institutional Structure of Revenue Courts in Pakistan: Minimizing Sludge in Agricultural Property Cases," shedding light on the complexities within the legal system. In the second half, Muhammad Ahmad Barula explored "Taming the Leviathan towards Public Sector Resources Efficiency: Fiscal Federalism or Fiscal Decentralization in Pakistan," addressing governance and resource allocation. The second day of the RASTA Conference was characterized by rich discussions, robust debates, and the exchange of ideas among experts and attendees alike. The conference continues to serve as a pivotal platform for intellectual exploration and the exchange of knowledge.

Pakistan OBSERVER

September 18, 2023

We have only buildings without professors, says VC PIDE

STAFF REPORTER

Vice-Chancellor of PIDE and Chairman of the RASTA Research Advisory Committee (RAC) Dr. Nadeem ul Haque stated "We have only buildings without professors. We cannot call them universities that don't have professors."

He expressed these words while addressing the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), through its 3rd Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) program in a conference which successfully concluded here.

This thought-provoking observation highlights the need for a robust educational infrastructure, including qualified faculty, to develop true centres of higher learning.

The conference encompassed a wide array of research themes, including Urban Development and Industry, Law and Judiciary, Human Capital and Opportunities, Sludge and Dead Capital, Education and Technology, and Public Finance Management and Financial Inclusion, said a press release issued here.

These sessions provided an extensive and multifaceted examination of their respective topics, thereby contributing significantly to a deeper comprehension of the pertinent issues.

Dr. Haque pointed out

that universities need to focus on conducting quality research that can contribute to the progress of the country. "Universities are not conducting quality research, which may benefit the country," he noted, underlining the role of academic institutions in shaping the nation's future.

In his concluding remarks, Dr Haque stressed the significance of innovative and creative thinking as a cornerstone of national prosperity. He stated, "Innovative and creative thinking is crucial for prosperity," emphasizing that such thinking is essential for addressing the challenges of the modern world and driving economic development.



Two Days PIDE's RASTA conference kicked off

BUREAU REPORT

PESHAWAR: Pakistan Institute Development Economics (PIDE). under its Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) program, RASTA conference.

The research con- and ference consisted of Islamabad, in his change, diverse including issues, urban develop- Vice-Chancellor PIDE exchange, ideas don't ment, technology, and Chairman RAC refine, and without public service deliv- referred to one of his refinement reaching ery, social sector papers "Developing a conclusive solution development, mar- Research kets and regulation, Research the political economy Results from a Pilot Earlier. of development and Project in Pakistan" Faheem reform, and sludge - as the genesis for the Khan, burden, said in a Thursday.



Gun themes, inaugural address, Dr ideas must be indigeenergy Nadeem ul Haque, nous. and Culture: difficult. administrative RASTA program.

press release here on 'enlightenment of the RASTA journey movement' was noth- comprising over 3 While inaugurat- ing but the exchange years.

kicked off its 3rd ing the conference of ideas among the held in at the Country great intellectuals of Club, the time. Ideas bring a becomes exceedingly

> Jehangir Project Director of RASTA, He said that the presented highlights



Speakers stress on progress and move forward with innovative ideas

OUR CORRESPONDENT PESHAWAR

Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), through its Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) program, successfully concluded its 3rd RASTA conference.

According to a press release issued here on Friday, the conference, was held at the Gun & Country Club in Islamabad encompassed a wide array of research themes, including Urban Development and Industry, Law and Judiciary, Human Capital and Opportunities, Sludge and Dead Capital, Education and Technology, and Public Finance Management and Financial Inclusion.

These sessions provided an extensive and multifaceted examination of their respective topics, thereby contributing significantly to a deeper comprehension of the pertinent issues.

The conference witnessed enthusiastic participants presenting their studies within these overarching themes, offering localized solutions to pressing challenges. Distinguished contributors represented various esteemed institutions such as the University of Illinois Chicago USA, Government College University Faisalabad, NUML Islamabad, Government College University Lahore, Jamal and Jamal Advocates and Legal Consultants Islamabad, University of Peshawar, BUITEMS Quetta, University of Punjab, and Lahore College for Women University, Lahore. This gathering of diverse minds underscores RASTA's steadfast commitment to nurturing collaborative research aimed at positively influencing Pakistan's policy landscape.

Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, Vice-Chancellor of PIDE and Chairman of the RASTA Research Advisory Committee (RAC),

emphasized that RASTA represents an evolving process. He stressed the importance of conducting local research and finding tailored solutions to local issues while acknowledging the value of global research that aligns with local needs and requirements.

The 3rd RASTA Conference continued its intellectual journey on its second day, featuring a compelling lineup of presentations that explored various facets of Pakistan's economic and legal landscape. Esteemed speakers from academia and research circles engaged in thought-provoking discussions on pressing issues.



Conference fostering dialogue opened avenues for innovative and proactive thinking

■ ONLINE ISLAMABAD

The conference encompassed a centres of higher learning. amination of their respective topics. future. thereby contributing significantly pertinent issues.

Pakistan Institute of Development only buildings without Professors, thinking is essential for addressing to policymakers, advocating for a case study titled "Alternate Use" Research at PIDE, contributed to nomic development strategies. Economics (PIDE), through its We cannot call them Universities the challenges of the modern world distinctive local flavour in research. of Public Assets: A Case Study of the discussion on self-sufficiency Research for Social Transformation that don't have Professors." This and driving economic development. He praised RASTA's inclusivity, Allama Igbal Open University," ex- in edible oil production with and Advancement (RASTA) pro-thought-provoking observation gram, successfully concluded its highlights the need for a robust fostering dialogue and knowledge policymakers to new perspectives utilization. Anwar Muhammad "Investigation of a Value Chain 3rd RASTA conference at the Gun educational infrastructure, include exchange, has opened avenues for and emphasized the critical nature Aslam addressed "Unlocking of Edible Oil to Identify Possible & Country Club in Islamabad. ing qualified faculty, to develop true innovative and proactive thinking. of inclusive research.

including Urban Development and out that universities need to focus as a platform for scholars, experts, Technology, and Public Finance conducting quality research, which tion and innovative thinking. Management and Financial may benefit the country," he noted,

Dr Haque concluded by saving that

Inclusion. These sessions provided underlining the role of academic resents an evolving process. He thought-provoking discussions on Ghazanfar Iqbal advocated for a an extensive and multifaceted exinstitutions in shaping the nation's stressed the importance of conpressing issues. ducting local research and finding Chancellor of PIDE and Chairman prosperity. He stated, "Innovative Dr. Haque emphasized the need Property Cases," shedding light on ing innovative approaches in law and Export Performance: Evidence policy decisions.

wide array of research themes, Furthermore, Dr. Haque pointed the PIDE-RASTA Conference serves tinued its intellectual journey on its the potential of Pakistan's railway second day, featuring a compelling infrastructure. Alvina Sabah Idress Industry, Law and Judiciary, Human on conducting quality research that and stakeholders to collaborate, lineup of presentations that ex- analyzed "Factors Associated Capital and Opportunities, Sludge can contribute to the progress of share insights, and shape a brighter plored various facets of Pakistan's with School Dropout in Pakistan: and Dead Capital, Education and the country, "Universities are not future for Pakistan through educa- economic and legal landscape. An Assessment Using Survival Fiscal Federalism or Fiscal He emphasized that RASTA rep- and research circles engaged in sights into the education sector.

of the RASTA Research Advisory and creative thinking is crucial for to focus on progress and move the complexities within the legal Committee (RAC), stated, "We have prosperity," emphasizing that such forward with the ideas presented system. Moazzam Ali presented The PIDE-RASTA Conference, by highlighting how it has exposed ploring efficient public resource his comprehensive report titled Pakistan Railways Dead Capital," The 3rd RASTA Conference con- discussing strategies to optimize Esteemed speakers from academia Analysis," offering valuable insolution to K-12 education prob-In the first session, Saad S. Khan lems with his presentation on the

Abedullah Anjum, Chief of Self-sufficiency."

In the second half, Muhammad Sector Resources Efficiency: Decentralization in Pakistan,"

from Manufacturing Sector Firms in Pakistan," shedding light on eco-

RASTA, Pakistan's premier economics and public policy research grants program, remains at the forefront of shaping the nation's policy discourse. With an unwa-Policy Interventions to Achieve vering commitment to fostering an extensive knowledge network. RASTA has emerged as a pivotal Ahmad Barula explored "Taming force in producing high-quality. the Leviathan towards Public evidence-based policy research. This dynamic initiative boasts participation from over 60 universities, collaboration with more than addressing governance and re- 10 international institutes, and source allocation. Ameen Shakeel involves a talented cadre of over engaged in a discourse on the 2,300 researchers and academi-"Withholdingisation of the Taxation cians. RASTA's steadfast dedica-In his concluding remarks, Dr tailored solutions to local issues examined the "Critical Appraisal "Framework for Mainstreaming System: Beneficial or Not?" examinto a deeper comprehension of the Haque stressed the significance while acknowledging the value of of Legal Institutional Structure Career Education." Verda Salman ing the implications of the taxation is propelling Pakistan towards a of innovative and creative think- global research that aligns with of Revenue Courts in Pakistan: highlighted Technology Adoption system. Fareena Armugan delved brighter and more prosperous fu-Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, Vice- ing as a cornerstone of national local needs and requirements. Minimizing Sludge in Agricultural in Islamabad Police," showcas- into "Firm's Financial Inclusion ture, underpinned by data-driven



We have buildings without Professors, says VC PIDE

RASTA Conference, by fostering dialogue and knowledge exchange, has opened avenues for innovative and proactive thinking

MAHNOOR ANSAR

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), through its Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) program, successfully concluded its 3rd RASTA conference at the Gun & Country Club in Islamabad. The conference encompassed a wide array of research themes, including Urban Development and Industry, Law and Judiciary, Human Capital and Opportunities, Sludge and Dead Capital, Education and Technology, and Public Finance Management and Financial Inclusion. These sessions provided an extensive and multifaceted examination of their respective topics, thereby contributing significantly to a deeper comprehension of the pertinent issues. Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, Vice-Chancellor of PIDE and Chairman of the RASTA Research Advisory Committee (RAC), stated, "We have only buildings without Professors. We cannot call them Universities that don't have Professors." This thought-provoking observation highlights the need for a robust educational infrastructure, including qualified faculty, to develop true centres of higher learning. Furthermore, Dr. Haque pointed out that universities need to focus on conducting quality research that can contribute to the progress of the country. "Universities are not conducting quality research, which may benefit the country," he noted, underlining the role of academic institutions in shaping the nation's future. In his concluding remarks, Dr Haque stressed the significance of innovative and creative thinking as a cornerstone of national prosperity. He stated, "Innovative and creative think ing is crucial for prosperity," emphasizing that such thinking is essential for addressing the challenges of the modern world and driving economic development. The PIDE-RASTA Conference, by fostering dialogue and knowledge exchange, has opened avenues for innovative and proactive thinking. Dr Haque concluded by saying that the PIDE-RASTA Conference serves as a platform for scholars, experts, and stakeholders to collaborate, share insights, and shape a brighter future for Pakistan through education and



innovative thinking. He emphasized that RASTA represents an evolving process. He stressed the importance of conducting local research and finding tailored solutions to local issues while acknowledging the value of global research that aligns with local needs and requirements. Dr. Haque emphasized the need to focus on progress and move forward with the ideas presented to policymakers, advo-cating for a distinctive local flavour in research. He praised RASTA's inclusivity, highlighting how it has exposed polcymakers to new perspectives and emphasized the critical nature of inclusive research. The 3rd RASTA Conference continued its intellectual journey on its second day, featuring a compelling lineup of presentations that explored various facets of Pakistan's economic and legal landscape. Esteemed speakers from academia and research circles engaged in thought-provoking discussions on pressing issues.

In the first session, Saad S. Khan examined the "Critical Appraisal of Legal Institutional Structure of Revenue Courts in Pakistan: Minimizing Sludge in Agricultural Property Cases," shedding light on the complexities within the legal system.

Moazzam Ali presented a case study titled "Alternate Use of Public Assets: A Case Study of Allama Iqbal Open University," exploring efficient public resource utilization. Anwar Muhammad Aslam addressed "Unlocking Pakistan Railways Dead Capital," discussing strategies to optimize the potential of Pakistan's railway infrastructure. Alvina Sabah Idress analyzed "Factors Associated with School Dropout in Pakistan: An Assessment Using Survival Analysis," offering valuable insights into the education sector. Ghazanfar Iqbal advocated for a solution to K-12 education problems with his presentation on the "Framework for Mainstreaming Career Education." Verda Salman highlighted "Technology Adoption in Islamabad Police," showcasing innovative approaches in law enforcement. Abedullah Anjum, Chief of Research at PIDE, contributed to the discussion on self-sufficiency in edible oil production with his comprehensive report titled *Investigation of a Value Chain of Edible Oil to Identify Possible Policy Interventions to Achieve Self-sufficiency." In the second half, Muhammad Ahmad Barula explored "Taming the Leviathan towards Public Sector Resources Efficiency: Fiscal Federalism or Fiscal Decentralization in Pakistan," addressing governance and resource allocation. Ameen Shakeel engaged in a discourse on the "Withholdingisation of the Taxation System: Beneficial or Not?" examining the implications of the taxation system. Fareena Armugan delved into "Firm's Financial Inclusion and Export Performance: Evidence from Manufacturing Sector Firms in Pakistan," shedding light on economic development strategies.

RASTA, Pakistan's premier economics and public policy research grants program, remains at the forefront of shaping the nation's policy discourse. With an unwavering commitment to fostering an extensive knowledge network, RASTA has emerged as a pivotal force in producing high-quality, evidence-based policy research. This dynamic initiative boasts participation from over 60 universities, collaboration with more than 10 international institutes, and involves a talented cadre of over 2,300 researchers and academicians. RASTA's steadfast dedication to knowledge-driven solutions is propelling Pakistan towards a brighter and more prosperous future, underpinned by data-driven policy decisions.



Diverse topics, expert insights dominate PIDE-RASTA conference

Need to focus on progress and move forward with the ideas presented to policymakers: VC, PIDE

MAHNOOR ANSAR

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), through its Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) program, successfully concluded its 3rd RASTA conference at the Gun & Country Club in Islamabad. The conference encompassed a wide array of research themes, including Urban Development and Industry, Law and Judiciary, Human Capital and Opportunities, Sludge and Dead Capital, Education and Technology, and Public Finance Management and Financial Inclusion. These sessions provided an extensive and multifaceted examination of their respective topics, thereby contributing significantly to a deeper comprehension of the pertinent issues.

The conference witnessed enthusiastic participants presenting their studies within these overarching themes, offering localized solutions to pressing challenges. Distinguished contributors represented various esteemed institutions such as the University of Illinois Chicago USA, Government College University Faisalabad, NUML Islamabad, Government College University Lahore, Jamal and Jamal Advocates and Legal Consultants Islamabad, University of Peshawar, BUITEMS Quetta, University of Punjab, and Lahore College

for Women University, Lahore. This gathering of diverse minds underscores RASTA's steadfast commitment to nurturing collaborative research aimed at positively influencing Pakistan's policy landscape.

Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, Vice-Chancellor of PIDE and Chairman of the RASTA Research Advisory Committee (RAC), emphasized that RASTA represents an evolving process. He stressed the importance of conducting local research and finding tailored solutions to local issues while acknowledging the value of global research that aligns with local needs and requirements. Dr. Haque emphasized the need to focus on progress and move forward with the ideas presented to policymakers, advocating for a distinctive local flavour in research. He praised RASTA's inclusivity, highlighting how it has exposed policymakers to new perspectives and emphasized the critical nature of inclusive research.

The 3rd RASTA Conference continued its intellectual journey on its second day, featuring a compelling lineup of presentations that explored various facets of Pakistan's economic and legal landscape. Esteemed speakers from academia and research circles engaged in thought-provoking discussions on pressing issues.

In the first session, Saad S. Khan examined the "Critical Appraisal of Legal Institutional Structure of Revenue Courts in Pakistan: Minimizing Sludge in Agricultural Property Cases," shedding light on the complexities within the legal system. Moazzam Ali presented a case study titled "Alternate Use of Public Assets: A Case Study of Allama Igbal Open University," exploring efficient public resource utilization. Anwar Muhammad Aslam addressed "Unlocking Pakistan Railways Dead Capital," discussing strategies to optimize the potential of Pakistan's railway infrastructure. Alvina Sabah Idress analyzed "Factors Associated with School Dropout in Pakistan: An Assessment Using Survival Analysis," offering valuable insights into the education sector. Ghazanfar Iqbal advocated for a solution to K-12 education problems with his presentation on the "Framework for Mainstreaming Career Education." Verda Salman highlighted "Technology Adoption in Islamabad Police," showcasing innovative approaches in law enforcement, Abedullah Anium, Chief of Research at PIDE, contributed to the discussion on self-sufficiency in edible oil production with his comprehensive report titled "Investigation of a Value Chain of Edible Oil to Identify Possible Policy Interventions to Achieve Self-sufficiency."

In the second half, Muhammad Ahmad Barula explored "Taming the Leviathan towards Public Sector Resources Efficiency: Fiscal Federalism or Fiscal Decentralization in Pakistan." addressing governance and resource allocation. Ameen Shakeel engaged in a discourse on the "Withholdingisation of the Taxation System: Beneficial or Not?" examining the implications of the taxation system, Fareena Armugan delved into "Firm's Financial Inclusion and Export Performance: Evidence from Manufacturing Sector Firms in Pakistan," shedding light on economic development strategies. The second day of the RASTA Conference was characterized by rich discussions, robust debates, and the exchange of ideas among experts and attendees alike. The conference continues to serve as a pivotal platform for intellectual exploration and the exchange of knowledge.

RASTA, Pakistan's premier economics and public policy research grants program, remains at the forefront of shaping the nation's policy discourse. With an unwavering commitment to fostering an extensive knowledge network. RASTA has emerged as a pivotal force in producing high-quality, evidence-based policy research. This dynamic initiative boasts participation from over 60 universities, collaboration with more than 10 international institutes, and involves a talented cadre of over 2,300 researchers and academicians. RASTA's steadfast dedication to knowledge-driven solutions is propelling Pakistan towards a brighter and more prosperous future, underpinned by data-driven policy decisions.



Two-days PIDE's RASTA conference kicked off

FN REPORT

PESHAWAR: Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), under its Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) program, kicked off its 3rd RASTA conference.

The research conference consisted of diverse themes, including energy issues, urban development, technology, public service delivery, social sector development, markets and regulation, the political economy of development and reform, and sludge the administrative burden, said in a press release here on Thursday.

While inaugurating the conference held in at the Country and Gun Club, Islamabad, in his inaugural address, Dr Nadeem ul Haque, Vice-Chancellor PIDE and Chairman RAC referred to one of his papers "Developing Research and a Research Culture: Results from a Pilot Project in Pakistan" as the genesis for the RASTA program.

He said that the 'enlightenment movement' was nothing



but the exchange of ideas among the great intellectuals of the time. Ideas bring change, however, ideas must be indigenous. Without exchange, ideas don't refine, and without refinement reaching a conclusive solution becomes exceedingly difficult.

Earlier, Dr Faheem Jehangir Khan, Project Director of RASTA, presented highlights of the RASTA journey comprising over 3 years. PIDE's RASTA is a multiyear competitive grants program for policy-oriented research in Pakistan, under the Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) of the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, the Government of Pakistan.

Omer Siddique, Senior Research Economist at PIDE, presented a detailed report on "The State of Commerce in Pakistan" during his presentation. The session on "Urban Development and Industry" was expertly led by Zahid Asghar, a distinguished Professor of Economics at Quaid e Azam University in Islamabad.

Khalid Chauhan, Secretary of the Tourism Department in AJ&K, Government, skillfully facilitated the discussion on "Law and Judiciary."

The conference witnessed participants presenting their studies within the overarching themes. offering local solutions to pressing issues. Notable participants hailed from institutions such as the University of Illinois Chicago USA. Covernment College University Faisalabad, NUML Islamabad, Government College University Lahore, Jamal and Jamal Advocates and Legal Consultants Islamabad, University of Peshawar, BUITEMS Quetta, University of Punjab, and Lahore College for Women University, Lahore, This gathering of diverse minds underscores RASTA's commitment to fostering collaborative research for positive change in Pakistan's policy landscape.

'We have only Buildings without Professors': VC

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

without professors. We of higher learning. cannot call them universities that don't encompassed a wide issues.

Research for Social Education Transformation and Technology Advancement Public

SUCCESSAIV cluded here.

The ing the Pokistan and Industry, Law and ducting of Judiciary. through its 3rd and Dead Capital "Universities are not The

latued hims.

This thought-provok- These sessions pro-PIDE and Chairman of I'ng observation high- vided an extensive remarks. Dr. Haquie the the RASTA Research lights the need for a and imultifaceted stressed the sightly-Conference serves as forward with the ideas research Advisory Committee robust educational examination of their cance of innovative aplatformforscholars, presented to policy engaged in thought-(RAC) Dr. Nadeem ut inhastructure, includ-respective topics, and creative thinking experts, and stake-indikers, advocating provoking discussions. Hazale stated. "We ingrapatified faculty to thereby contributing as a comentione of holders to collaborate, for a distinctive local on pressing issues. have only buildings develop true cerifies significantly to a national prospertly. deeper comprehencontinence sion of the pertinent "innovative and creation for Pakiston through inclusivity, highlighting lined the "Critical

con- said a press release institutions in shaping active thinking. the nation stuture.

encompassed a wide issues. The thinking is crucial education and inno-how it has exposed. Appraisal of Legal array of research. Dr. Haque pointed torprosperify empho-vative thinking. policymakers to new institutional Structure. including out that universities stating that such think. He emphasized that perspectives words while address. Urban Development need to focus on con- ing is essential for RASTA represents an emphasized the criti- Pakistan. Minimizing analyzed quality addressing the chall evolving process. Human research that can lenges of the modern. He shessed the research. and contribute to the pro- wolfd and ativing eco- importance of con- The 3rd

> and conducting guality Conference by taster solutions to local laues ney on its second day. and research, Which may ing dialogue and white acknowledging tediuting a compet-sented a case study inlights into the edu-Finance benefit the country," knowledge-exchange, the value of global linglineup of presenta-titled "Alternate Use of cation sector.

in his concluding cluded by saying that servicing. Dr. Haque the PDE-RASIA. share insights, and flavoursh research.

(PDE), Opportunities, Studge gress of the country, nomic development, ducting local research. Conference, confin., plesifies, within the Assessment PIDE-RASTA and finding tailored used its intellectual jour-legal system.

conference" which Financial Inclusion, the tole of academic for inhibitative and pro- with local needs dind various facets requirements.

Dr. Haque con- Dr. Haque empha- and legal landscape, exploring sized the need to focus stated, shape-abrighterfuture. He proteed RASTA's Saad S. Khan exam- strategies to optimize

cal nature of inclusive

Pakistan's economic Open

on progress and move from academia and

in the first session, policymakers to new institutional Structure structure. and of Revenue Courts in Sludge in Agricultural Property Cases," shed-RASTA ding light on the com- Pakistan

Modzzam Al pre-offering

(RASTA) program in a Management and he noted underlining has opened avenues research that aligns tions that explored Rubic Assets A Case Esteerned specieurs public résource utiliza-

> Anwar Muhammaa "Uniocking Pakistan ROMEON Capital. Paketan yaliway infra-

Associated with Using Survivas Analysa, valuable

Two Days PIDE's RASTA conference kicked off

BUREAU REPORT

PESHAWAR: Pakistan Institute Development Economics (PIDE). under its Research for Social Transformation Advancement (RASTA) program, kicked off its 3rd RASTA conference.

ference consisted of referred to one of his Jehangir Khan, Project Secretary of the including issues, urban develop- Research public service delivery, Project in Pakistan" as years. PIDE's RASTA is and Judiciary." social sector development, markets and regulation the politic RASTA program. the genesis for the a multi-year competitive grants program regulation, the political economy of development and reform, administrative burden, said in a press among the great intel- Program (PSDP) of the pressing here Thursday.

ing the conference be held in at the Country Without exchange, Pakistan. Islamabad, in his without refinement Senior inaugural address, Dr reaching a conclusive Economist at PIDE, NUML Nadeem ul Haque, solution



The research con- and Chairman RAC energy Research and

He said that the for Ideas bring change, Development indigenous. Government Club, ideas don't refine, and Vice-Chancellor PIDE exceedingly difficult. report on "The State of University Lahore.

Earlier, Dr Faheem a presented highlights Culture: of the RASTA journey

Omer

Commerce Pakistan" during his presentation.

The session on "Urban Development and Industry" was expertly led by Zahid Asghar, a distinguished Professor of Economics at Quaid e Azam University in Islamabad.

Khalid Chauhan, themes, papers "Developing Director of RASTA, Tourism Department in AJ&K, Government, skillfully facilitated technology, Results from a Pilot comprising over 3 the discussion on "Law

The conference tive grants program witnessed participants policy-oriented presenting their stud-'enlightenment move- research in Pakistan, ies within the overarand sludge - the ment' was nothing but under the Public ching themes, offeradministrative burthe exchange of ideas Sector Development ing local solutions to lectuals of the time. Ministry of Planning, Notable participants and hailed from institu-While inaugurat- however, ideas must Special Initiatives, the tions such as the of University of Illinois Chicago Siddique, Government College Research University Faisalabad, becomes presented a detailed Government College

Diverse topics and expert insights dominate Day two of PIDE-RASTA conference



INP

ISLAMABAD-Pakistan Institute of Development **Economics** (PIDE). through its Research for Social Transformation and Advancement (RASTA) successfully program, concluded its 3rd RASTA the Gun conference at Country Club Islamabad. The conference encompassed a wide array of research themes, including Urban Development and Industry, Law and Judiciary, Human Capital and Opportunities, Sludge and Dead Capital, Education

and Technology, and Public Finance Management and Financial Inclusion. These sessions provided an extensive and multifaceted examination of their respective topics, thereby contributing significantly to a deeper comprehension of the pertinent issues. The conference witnessed enthusiastic participants presenting their studies within these overarching themes, offering localized solutions pressing challenges. Distinguished contributors represented various esteemed institutions such as the University of Illinois Chicago USA, Government College University Faisalabad, NUML Islamabad, Government College University Lahore, Jamal Iamal Advocates and Legal Consultants Islamabad, University of Peshawar, BUITEMS Quetta, University of Punjab, and Lahore College for Women University, Lahore.

This gathering of diverse minds underscores RASTA's steadfast commitment to nurturing collaborative research aimed at positively influencing Pakistan's policy landscape.