

MEDIA COVERAGE



September 08, 2026

APP Pakistan

<https://www.app.com.pk/business/pide-senate-approves-sweeping-reforms-to-strengthen-governance-research/>

Islamabad Post

<https://islamabadpost.com.pk/pides-senate-charts-a-bold-new-chapter-landmark-reforms-approved-to-power-pakistans-development-journey/>

Global News Pakistan

<https://globalnewspakistan.com/pide-senate-approves-landmark-reforms-for-pakistans-development/>

Urdu Point

<https://www.urdupoint.com/en/business/pide-senate-approves-sweeping-reforms-to-strengthen-governance-research/2245030.html>

Centerline

<https://centrelines.com.pk/2026/09/02/pides-senate-charts-a-bold-new-chapter-landmark-reforms-approved-to-power-pakistans-development-journey/>

DNA News Agency

<https://dnanews.com.pk/pides-senate-charts-a-bold-new-chapter-landmark-reforms-approved-to-power-pakistans-development-journey/>

INFORA News

<https://inforanews.com/pides-senate-charts-a-bold-new-chapter-landmark-reforms-approved-to-power-pakistans-development-journey/>

Sabah News

<https://sabahnews.net/english/news/pides-senate-charts-a-bold-new-chapter-landmark-reforms-approved-to-power-pakistans-development-journey/>

NN Pakistan

<https://nnpakistan.com/pides-senate-charts-a-bold-new-chapter-landmark-reforms-approved-to-power-pakistans-development-journey/>

PIDE Senate Approves Landmark Reforms to Strengthen Pakistan's Development Agenda

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The 19th meeting of the Senate of the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), chaired by Federal Minister for Planning Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, approved a comprehensive package of institutional reforms aimed at strengthening research, governance and policy development.

The Senate reviewed PIDE's performance for 2025-26, noting that its research output increased by over 50 percent to 361 products, while academic enrolment tripled and graduate employment reached 89 percent within one year. Eight new research centres were also established, while a digitised research plan was introduced to track assignments.

The meeting approved 11 insti-

tutional policies covering academic appointments, employee welfare and student support. These included provi-

sions for Professors of Practice, Emeritus Professors, Senior Fellows, post-doctoral and visiting academic staff,

as well as scholarships and fee waivers. A National Talent Hunt Programme was also approved to identify and support talented students through tuition waivers, stipends and mentorship.

The Senate endorsed the self-financing MS in Project Management programme and approved 20 senior academic appointments following a rigorous selection process. Faculty representation in statutory bodies was restored through elections.

Prof. Ahsan Iqbal directed that representatives from Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan be included in the Senate, while stressing stronger collaboration between PIDE and provincial governments on evidence-based policy research.



PIDE Senate okays reforms to boost governance

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The 19th Meeting of the Senate of the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) approved a sweeping set of institutional reforms at a sitting held in Islamabad, chaired by Prof. Ahsan Iqbal (NI), Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives and Chancellor, PIDE. Proceedings opened with recitation from the Holy Quran, after which the Chancellor, in his opening remarks, spoke of Pakistan's development trajectory and the need for a holistic, integrated policy framework – bringing together the public sector, private sector, and academia – to achieve sustainable and inclusive growth. He placed particular emphasis on the role of evidence-based policy in building a sustainable export surplus, underscoring that research must be results-oriented and directly useful to policymakers if it is to move the needle on Pakistan's trade performance. Before turning to the agenda, the Senate paused to place on record its appreciation for the distinguished service of the late Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, a valued member of the Senate, with the House joining in a recitation of Surah Al-Fatiha in her memory. The

Chancellor also welcomed two members joining the Senate for the first time – Dr. Iftikhar Ahmed, elected from the faculty, and Ms. Sima Kamil, former Deputy Governor of the State Bank of Pakistan. The Senate confirmed the minutes and compliance report of its 18th Meeting, noting that eleven of the twelve decisions taken at that sitting stand fully implemented, with the allotment of land for the PIDE campus continuing to be pursued with the concerned authorities. The Senate then received a detailed Progress Review and Compliance Report for 2025-26, presented through a documentary narrated by Vice Chancellor Dr. Muhammad Nadeem Javaid (SI). Reflecting on the year, Dr. Javaid recalled: "When I took on this responsibility, I had one simple belief – that PIDE must matter to Pakistan and its people." He described the year's work not as incremental activity but as a strategic reset built on relevance, national purpose, and doing more with the resources available – framed around the Institute's Institutional Development Strategy 2025-2030 and its central idea of REACH: ensuring that research reaches policy, knowledge reaches government, learning reaches the marketplace, and Pakistani ideas reach wider national and international audiences. Dr. Javaid thanked the Chancellor and the Secretary of Planning for their continued support throughout the year.