

# Media Coverage

## 4<sup>th</sup> Think Tanks Moot

### Web Editions

#### Business Recorder

<https://www.brecorder.com/news/40284140>

#### Nation

<https://www.nation.com.pk/17-Jan-2024/experts-stress-political-parties-to-give-clear-agenda-of-reforms-improved-governance>

#### Daily Times

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1161533/experts-urge-parties-for-transparent-reforms-better-governance/>

#### Pakistan Observer

<https://pakobserver.net/pide-4th-think-tank-moot-held/>

#### Bol News

<https://www.bolnews.com/pakistan/2024/01/pide-4th-think-tank-moot-held/>

#### APP Pakistan

<https://www.app.com.pk/business/experts-stress-political-parties-to-give-clear-agenda-of-reforms-improved-governance/>

#### Islamabad Post

<https://islamabadpost.com.pk/pide-launches-comprehensive-debate-on-reform/>

**Independent News Pakistan**

<https://www.inp.net.pk/news-detail/pakistan/pide-4th-think-tank-moot-held>

**The Public Review**

<https://thepublicpurview.com.pk/pakistan-still-struggling-with-governance-issues-pide-vc/>

**PI News**

<https://proiqra.com/experts-emphasize-giving-political-parties-a-clear-agenda-for-reforms-and-improving-the-management-system-pi-news/>

**VOM News**

<https://voiceofmelange.global/?p=6748>

## **Print Editions**



January 17, 2024

## Experts stress political parties to give clear agenda of reforms, improved governance

**APP  
ISLAMABAD**

Researchers and experts at a think-tank moot on Tuesday urged mainstream political parties to come up with a clear agenda of key-sector reforms and an improved governance system ahead of the general elections 2024, matching the country's pressing needs.

It was the 4th moot "Transforming Economy & Society" organized by the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) in collaboration with its partners.

They underscored the significance of transforming the economy and society in Pakistan, emphasizing the multifaceted nature of this imperative endeavor.

Speakers, who were representing different think tanks at the moot, stressed that addressing the challenges and opportunities faced by the nation required a comprehensive and collaborative

approach.

Participants voiced a collective concern that if attention is not given towards these critical issues now, the consequences may become insurmountable in the future.

They emphasized the urgency of embracing reform for the betterment of Pakistan, with the consensus that proactive measures are essential to avoid reaching a point of no return. In his opening remarks, PIDE Vice-Chancellor Dr Nadeem ul Haque said Pakistan, once envisioned as the next Asian Tiger, found itself grappling with persistent governance challenges since its inception into the League of Nations. Despite successive governments' promises of transformative change and substantial reforms, he said the efforts undertaken appeared akin to attempting to bail out a sinking ship with a thimble. "The enduring consequence is shouldered by the peo-

ple of Pakistan, who continue to bear the brunt of these challenges."

Dr Haque underscored the crucial need to recognize the historically passive nature of the demand side for reforms throughout the country's history. Addressing this passivity, he argued, was pivotal in fostering a more engaged and participative society as the nation sought a path towards sustainable and impactful reforms.

Dr Haque further noted that political party manifestos often highlighted broad policy directions and commitments. "Ideally, these commitments should be thoroughly evaluated when a party assumes power. With the upcoming General Elections scheduled for the 8th of February 2024, it is disheartening to observe the absence of discussions among political parties regarding a clear reform agenda aligned with the country's pressing needs."

PIDE Pro VC Dr Durre Nayab

highlighting the crucial perspectives on urban development and governance, stressed the paramount importance of respecting the heterogeneity of cities and underlined the need for policies that cater to the unique characteristics of each urban center. "A critical observation surfaced concerning the challenges faced by vibrant cities within the existing governing structure, prompting the call for transformative policies to unlock the full potential of urban areas," she added. Emphasizing the instrumental role of local governments, Dr Nayab asserted their key position in delivering essential services and advocated for a decentralized approach to address the specific needs of local communities.

Notably, the Pro VC argued that true decentralization could only be achieved by granting autonomy to locally elected councils in their spending and planning decisions.

"This perspective calls for a fundamental reevaluation of governance structures to empower local authorities and shape more responsive and vibrant urban environments."

Earlier, PIDE Chief Research Dr Shujaat Farooq provided background on the Think Tank Moot, highlighting its role as a unique platform for esteemed partners and thought leaders to collectively address transformative and sustainable reforms.

He said PIDE had formulated a reform agenda "Transforming Economy & Society" identifying 10 priority themes including political stability, reforms in civil service, productivity and competition, fiscal management, building social infrastructure, market efficiency.

Representatives from various organizations including Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University, National University of Science and Technology (NUST), Pakistan Poverty

Alleviation Fund (PPAF), Pakistan Science Foundation, Quaid-i-Azam University, American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association (AFTMA), Akhtar Hameed Khan National Centre for Rural Development (AHKNCRD), Centre for International Strategic Studies (CISS), National Institute of Population Studies (NIPS), Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI), World Bank, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), COMSATS, Establishment Division, Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI), Prime Consultant, IIE Institute of Islamic Information and Education, National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), Population Council, Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies (CASS), Independent News Pakistan (INP) Benazir Income Support Program (BISP), NUML, Beijing Institute of Technology, and National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) attended the moot.

January 17, 2024

# PIDE 4th Think Tank Moot held: Speakers call for significance of transforming the economy and society

MT REPORT

PESHAWAR: Speakers from different think tanks underscored the significance of transforming the economy and society in Pakistan, emphasizing the multifaceted nature of this imperative endeavor.

The speakers stressed that addressing the challenges and opportunities faced by the nation requires a comprehensive and collaborative approach.

There was unanimous acknowledgement and praise for PIDE's Reform Agenda, recognizing it as the need of the hour for Pakistan. Participants voiced a collective concern that if attention is

not directed towards these critical issues now, the consequences may become insurmountable in the future, the speakers said.

Furthermore, they said the urgency of embracing reform for the betterment of Pakistan was emphasized, with the consensus that proactive measures are essential to avoid reaching a point of no return.

This was the crux of the 4th Think Tank Moot organized by Pakistan Institute of Development Economics in collaboration with its partners, said in a press release issued here on Tuesday.

Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, Vice Chancellor of the



PIDE in his opening remarks said successive governments' promises of Pakistan, once envisioned as the next Asian Tiger, finds itself grappling with persistent governance challenges since its inception into the League of Nations. He said despite

shouldered by the people of Pakistan, who continue to bear the brunt of these challenges, he added.

Dr. Haque underscored the crucial need to recognize the historically passive nature of the demand side for reforms

PIDE Pro VC Dr. Durre Nayab delivered a compelling address at a recent Think Tank Moot, highlighting crucial perspectives on urban development and governance. Dr. Nayab stressed the paramount importance of respecting the heterogeneity of cities, underlining the need for policies that cater to the unique characteristics of each urban center.

Emphasizing the instrumental role of local governments, Dr. Nayab asserted their key position in delivering essential services, advocating for a decentralized approach to address the specific needs of local communities.

Dr. Shujaat Farooq, Chief Research PIDE, earlier, provided background on the Think Tank Moot, highlighting its role as a unique platform for esteemed partners and thought leaders to collectively address transformative and sustainable reforms.

He said that the PIDE has formulated a reform agenda "Transforming Economy & Society" identifying ten priority themes i.e., political stability, reforms in civil service, productivity and competition, fiscal management, building social infrastructure, market efficiency, etc.

# PIDE moot held on discussion for a clear reform agenda

Dr. Haque underscored the crucial need to recognize the historically passive nature of the demand side for reforms throughout the country's history. Addressing this passivity, he argued, is pivotal in fostering a more engaged and participative society as the nation seeks a path towards sustainable and impactful reforms

FAISAL SHEIKH

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan, once envisioned as the next Asian Tiger, finds itself grappling with persistent governance challenges since its inception into the League of Nations. Despite successive governments' promises of transformative change and substantial reforms, the efforts undertaken appear akin to attempting to bail out a sinking ship with a thimble. The enduring consequence is shouldered by the people of Pakistan, who continue to bear the brunt of these challenges. These sentiments were articulated by Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, Vice Chancellor of the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), during the opening of the Third Think Tank Moot, a collaborative initiative by PIDE and its partners. Dr. Haque underscored the crucial need to recognize the historically passive nature of the demand side for reforms throughout the country's history. Addressing this passivity, he argued, is pivotal in fostering a more engaged and participative society as the nation seeks a path towards sustainable and impactful reforms. Dr. Haque further noted that political party manifestos often highlight broad policy directions and commitments. Ideally, these commitments should be thoroughly evaluated when a party assumes power. With the upcoming General Elections scheduled for the 8th of February 2024, it is disheartening to observe the absence of discussions among political parties regarding a clear reform agenda aligned with the country's pressing needs. PIDE



Pro VC Dr. Durre Nayab delivered a compelling address at a recent Think Tank Moot, highlighting crucial perspectives on urban development and governance. Dr. Nayab stressed the paramount importance of respecting the heterogeneity of cities, underlining the need for policies that cater to the unique characteristics of each urban center. A critical observation surfaced concerning the challenges faced by vibrant cities within the existing governing structure, prompting the call for transformative policies to unlock the full potential of urban areas. Emphasizing the instrumental role of local governments, Dr. Nayab asserted their key position in delivering essential services, advocating for a decentralized approach to address the specific needs of local communities. Notably, the Pro VC argued that true decentralization can only be achieved by granting au-

tonomy to locally elected councils in their spending and planning decisions. This perspective calls for a fundamental reevaluation of governance structures to empower local authorities and shape more responsive and vibrant urban environments. Dr. Durre Nayab's insights offer a compelling vision for a paradigm shift in urban policies, urging stakeholders to embrace diversity, overcome governance challenges, and empower local governments for effective decentralization. Dr. Shujaat Farooq, Chief Research PIDE, earlier, provided background on the Think Tank Moot, highlighting its role as a unique platform for esteemed partners and thought leaders to collectively address transformative and sustainable reforms. He said that the PIDE has formulated a reform agenda "Transforming Economy & Society" identifying ten priority themes i.e., political

stability, reforms in civil service, productivity and competition, fiscal management, building social infrastructure, market efficiency, etc. In this context, PIDE organized 4th moot with Think-Tanks and Partners to present its reform agenda. The idea is to have a collective intellectual capital and action, instead of working in silos, with minimum to zero influence over policy-making. During the Moot, speakers from different think tank underscored the significance of transforming the economy and society in Pakistan, emphasizing the multifaceted nature of this imperative endeavor. They stressed that addressing the challenges and opportunities faced by the nation requires a comprehensive and collaborative approach. There was a unanimous acknowledgment and praise for PIDE's Reform Agenda, recognizing it as the need of the hour for Pakistan.

Participants voiced a collective concern that if attention is not directed towards these critical issues now, the consequences may become insurmountable in the future. The urgency of embracing reform for the betterment of Pakistan was emphasized, with the consensus that proactive measures are essential to avoid reaching a point of no return. Representatives from various organizations convened, creating a diverse assembly that included Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University, National University of Science and Technology (NUST), Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF), Pakistan Science Foundation, Quaid-i-Azam University, American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association (AFTMA), Akhtar Hameed Khan National Centre for Rural Development (AHKNCRD), Centre for International Strategic Studies (CISS), National Institute of Population Studies (NIPS), Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI), World Bank, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), COMSATS, Establishment Division, Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI), Prime Consultant, IIIE Institute of Islamic Information and Education, National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), Population Council, Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies (CASS), Independent News Pakistan (INP) Benazir Income Support Program (BISP), NUML, Beijing Institute of Technology, and National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW). This gathering reflected a broad spectrum of expertise and perspectives across academia, research, policy, and international relations.

# The Frontier News

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THURSDAY JAN

January 17, 2024

## PIDE 4th Think Tank Moot held: Speakers call for significance of transforming the economy and society

FRONTIER NEWS

PESHAWAR: Speakers from different think tanks underscored the significance of transforming the economy and society in Pakistan, emphasizing the multifaceted nature of this imperative endeavor.

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Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, Vice Chancellor of the PIDE in his opening remarks said Pakistan, once envisioned as the next Asian Tiger, finds itself grappling with persistent governance challenges since its inception into the League of Nations.

He said despite successive governments' promises of transformative change and substantial reforms, the efforts undertaken appear akin to attempting to bail out a sinking ship with a thumb.



The enduring consequence is shouldered by the people of Pakistan, who continue to bear the brunt of these challenges, he added.

Dr. Haque underscored the crucial need to recognize the historically passive nature of the demand side for reforms throughout the country's history. Addressing this passivity, he argued, is pivotal in fostering a more engaged and participative society as the nation seeks a path towards sustainable and impactful reforms.

PIDE Pro VC Dr. Durra Nayab delivered a compelling address at a recent Think Tank Moot, highlighting crucial perspectives on urban development and governance. Dr. Nayab stressed the paramount importance of respecting the heterogeneity of cities, underlining the need for policies that cater to the unique characteristics of each urban center.

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Speakers, who were representing different Think Tanks at the moot, stressed that addressing the challenges and opportunities faced by the nation required

a comprehensive and collaborative approach.

Participants voiced a collective concern that if attention is not given towards these critical issues now, the consequences may become insurmountable in the future.

They emphasized the urgency of embracing reform for the betterment of Pakistan, with the consensus that proactive measures are essential to avoid reaching a point of no return.

In his opening remarks, PIDE Vice-Chancellor Dr Nadeem ul Haque said Pakistan, once envisioned as the next Asian Tiger, found itself grappling with persistent governance challenges since its inception into the League of Nations.

Despite successive governments' promises of transformative change and substantial reforms, he said the efforts undertaken

appeared akin to attempting to bail out a sinking ship with a thimble. "The enduring consequence is shouldered by the people of Pakistan, who continue to bear the brunt of these challenges."

Dr Haque underscored the crucial need to recognize the historically passive nature of the demand side for reforms throughout the country's history.

Addressing this passivity, he argued, was pivotal in fostering a more engaged and participative society as the nation sought a path towards sustainable and impactful reforms.

Dr Haque further noted that political party manifestos often highlighted broad policy directions and commitments. "Ideally, these commitments should be thoroughly evaluated when a party assumes power.



January 17, 2024

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## TIMES REPORT

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Dr. Shujaat Farooq, Chief Research PIDE, earlier, provided background on the Think Tank Moot, highlighting its role as a unique platform for esteemed partners and thought leaders to collectively address transformative and sustainable reforms.

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# Today's Muslim

Every Morning From Peshawar

143 REGD NO. P/482 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2024 RAJAB 05 1445 A.H.

## PIDE 4th think tank conference arranged

Azmat Khan

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During the Moot, speakers from different think tank underscored the significance of transforming the economy and society in Pakistan, emphasizing the multifaceted nature of this imperative endeavor. They stressed that addressing the challenges and opportunities faced by the nation requires a comprehensive and collaborative approach. There was a

unanimous acknowledgment and praise for PIDE's Reform Agenda, recognizing it as the need of the hour for Pakistan. Participants voiced a collective concern that if attention is not directed towards these critical issues now, the consequences may become insurmountable in the future. The urgency of embracing reform for the betterment of Pakistan was emphasized, with the consensus that proactive measures are essential to avoid reaching a point of no return.

Representatives from various organizations convened, creating a diverse assembly that included Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University, National University of Science and Technology (NUST), Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF), Pakistan Science Foundation, Quaid-i-Azam University, American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association (AFTMA), Akhtar Hameed Khan National Centre for Rural Development (AHKNCRD), Centre for International Strategic Studies (CISS), National Institute of Population Studies (NIPS), Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI), World Bank, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), COMSATS, Establishment Division, Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI), Prime Consultant, IIE Institute of Islamic Information and Education, National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), Population Council, Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies (CASS), Independent News Pakistan (INP) Benazir Income Support Program (BISP), NUML, Beijing Institute of Technology, and National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW). This gathering reflected a broad spectrum of expertise and perspectives across academia, research, policy, and international relations.

PIDE moot

## Speakers for granting financial, planning autonomy to LBs

ISLAMABAD: Speakers at a seminar while calling for granting financial and planning autonomy to locally-elected bodies have asserted that the demand side for reforms has historically remained passive throughout the country's history.

Speaking at the Third Think Tank Moot, a collaborative initiative by the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) and its partners, they said there is no discussion among political parties to provide a clear reform agenda keeping in view the country's needs.

They said that true decentralization can only be achieved by granting autonomy to locally elected councils in their spending and planning decisions.

Dr Nadeem ul Haque, Vice Chancellor (VC) PIDE said Pakistan, once envisioned as the next Asian Tiger, finds itself grappling with persistent governance challenges since its inception into the League of Nations. Despite successive governments' promises of transformative change and substantial reforms, the efforts undertaken appear akin to attempting to bail out a sinking ship with a thimble. The enduring consequence is shouldered by the people of Pakistan, who continue to bear the brunt of these challenges.

Haque underscored the crucial need to recognise the historically passive nature of the demand side for reforms throughout the country's history. Addressing this passivity, he argued, is pivotal in fostering a more engaged and participative society as the nation seeks a path towards sustainable and impactful reforms.

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PIDE Pro VC Dr Durre Nayab while highlighting crucial perspectives on urban development and governance, stressed the paramount importance of respecting the heterogeneity of cities, underlining the need for policies that cater to the unique characteristics of each urban center. A critical observation surfaced concerning the challenges faced by

vibrant cities within the existing governing structure, prompting the call for transformative policies to unlock the full potential of urban areas.

Emphasizing the instrumental role of local governments, Nayab asserted their key position in delivering essential services, advocating for a decentralized approach to address the specific needs of local communities. Notably, the Pro VC argued that true decentralization can only be achieved by granting autonomy to locally elected councils in their spending and planning decisions. This perspective calls for a fundamental reevaluation of governance structures to empower local authorities and shape more responsive and vibrant urban environments. Dr Durre Nayab's insights offer a compelling vision for a paradigm shift in urban policies, urging stakeholders to embrace diversity, overcome governance challenges, and empower local governments for effective decentralization.

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ABDUL RASHID AZAD

### Obituary

# Pakistan **OBSERVER**

January 17, 2024

## PIDE 4th Think Tank moot held

### STAFF REPORTER

The demand side for reforms has historically remained remarkably passive throughout the country's history: PIDE VC

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**Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, Vice-Chancellor of PIDE, Dr. DurreNayab, Pro Vice-Chancellor of PIDE, and Dr. Ahmed WaqarQasim, Senior Research Economist at PIDE addressing the 4th Moot of the Think Tank.**

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