

MEDIA COVERAGE



Economy of Azad Jammu & Kashmir UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL



AJK UNIVERSITY,
MUZAFFARABAD



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Business Recorder

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Bol News

<https://www.bolnews.com/pakistan/2024/05/pides-two-day-conference-on-the-economy-of-azad-jammu-and-kashmir-unlocking-the-potential-launches-at-university-of-ajk-in-muzaffarabad/>

Urdu Point

<https://www.urdupoint.com/en/business/pide-organizes-conference-on-the-economy-of-1824077.html>

<https://www.urdupoint.com/en/pakistan/hec-chairman-identifies-ajks-economic-potent-1823219.html>

<https://www.urdupoint.com/daily/livenews/2024-05-09/news-4011242.html>

Daily Parliament Time

<https://www.dailyparliamenttimes.com/2024/05/09/chairman-hec-calls-for-collective-action-to-unlock-economic-potential-of-ajk/>

INTERNATIONAL
THE NEWS

May 10, 2024

HEC chairman calls for collective efforts to unlock economic potential of AJK

By Syed Abbas Gardezi

MUZAFFARABAD: Higher Education Commission of Pakistan (HEC) Chairman Prof. Dr Mukhtar Ahmed on Thursday underscored the critical importance of collaborative endeavors to unleash the untapped potential of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, steering it towards a trajectory of prosperity and progress.

He was speaking at the inaugural ceremony of a groundbreaking conference on the economy of the state, hosted by the University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (UAJK) in collaboration with the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE).

The two-day conference at the King Abdullah Campus of UAJK aims to chart a course towards sustainable economic growth and social development in the region.

In his address as chief guest, Prof. Dr Mukhtar Ahmed lauded the UAJK and PIDE's initiative in organising the conference and underscored the pivotal role of education institutions in driving economic progress. He highlighted the region's abundant natural and human resources, stressing the imperative of harnessing these assets for the benefit of the local populace.

Addressing the gathering of academicians, researchers, scholars, and students, the HEC chairman urged a reflection on historical lessons and emphasised the need for a collective endeavor to steer the region towards a brighter future. Drawing parallels with the economic trajectory of nations like Iran, he underscored the imperative of perseverance and unity in the pursuit of national development.

UAJK Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Muhammad Kaleem Abbasi echoed Prof. Dr

Ahmed's sentiments, reiterating the university's commitment to fostering economic development through the empowerment of human capital. He highlighted the region's unparalleled natural beauty and resources, emphasising the need to harness these blessings for the collective welfare of its inhabitants.

Dr. Nadeem Ul Haque, Vice Chancellor of the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), highlighted the importance of collaboration between academic institutions and policy-makers in driving economic development. He emphasised the need for evidence-based policy-making and underscored PIDE's commitment to supporting research and initiatives aimed at fostering economic growth and prosperity.

Prof. Dr Zakria Zakir, Vice Chancellor of the University of Poonch Rawalkot, emphasised the importance of empowering women and investing in education and skill development to unlock the region's full economic potential. He underscored the need for inclusive development policies that prioritise human welfare and promote equitable opportunities for all members of society.

Dean Faculty of Social Sciences Prof. Dr Shujat Farooq and Director Kashmir Institute of Economics (KIE) Prof. Dr Samina Sabir also addressed the event.

The conference witnessed robust discussions on a wide array of topics including tourism, skill development, industrial policy, and investment promotion. Participants from various sectors, including government officials, industry leaders, and academia exchanged insights and proposed actionable strategies to drive economic growth and address developmental challenges.

May 13, 2024

PIDE organizes conference on 'The Economy of Azad Jammu and Kashmir'

■ APP
PESHAWAR

Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) successfully organized a two day conference on "The Economy of Azad Jammu and Kashmir - Unlocking the Potential" at the Main Auditorium, King Abdullah Campus, Azad Jammu and Kashmir University (AJKU).

The conference was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kaleem Abbasi, Vice-Chancellor of AJKU, with an inspiring welcome address. The joint event of PIDE and AJKU featured a series of discussions aimed at enhancing the socioeconomic conditions of the region through strategic development, said in a press release here on Sunday.

A pivotal session titled "Economy of AJK - Unlocking the Potential" took center stage, moderated by Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, Vice Chancellor, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE). Esteemed speakers, including Khawaja Masood, Managing Director of the Hydroelectric Board, and Dr. Khalid Rafiq, Director General of the IT Board, provided valuable insights into the sectors of power generation, tourism, and digital economy.

They emphasized the need for fiscal sustainability and innovative approaches to harness-

ing the region's resources. The potential of AJK's tourism industry was also a major focus, with discussions led by Mrs. Midhat Shahzad, Additional Chief Secretary, and Zulfiqar Abbasi, Former Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce.

The session was moderated by Dr. Shujaat Farooq, Dean, PIDE, Islamabad. The opening remarks were followed by a vision presentation from Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, Chairman of the Higher Education Commission, who discussed key reforms and strategies to tap into the economic potential of Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, Vice Chancellor of the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) in his inaugural speech emphasized the critical role of ideas in driving national progress. He noted that the responsibility for development does not solely rest with universities but with the collective efforts of society as a whole.

Dr. Haque expressed concern over the lack of active intellectual engagement in Pakistani universities, highlighting the scarcity of seminars and conferences. Dr. Shujaat Farooq, Dean of PIDE, emphasized the critical importance of debate and innovative thinking in shaping nations' futures during a recent conference.

PIDE's two-day conference on 'economy of Azad Jammu, Kashmir

ISLAMABAD: The first day of the significant conference on "The Economy of Azad Jammu and Kashmir: Unlocking the Potential" successfully concluded at the Main Auditorium, King Abdullah Campus, Azad Jammu and Kashmir University (AJKU). The joint event of PIDE and AJKU featured a series of discussions aimed at enhancing the socioeconomic conditions of the region through strategic development.

Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, Vice Chancellor of the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), emphasized the critical role of ideas in driving national progress. He noted that the responsibility for development does not solely rest with universities but with the collective efforts of society as a whole. Dr. Haque expressed concern over the lack of active intellectual engagement in Pakistani universities, highlighting the scarcity of seminars and conferences.

He emphasized the value of every idea and question, stating that there is no such thing as a bad idea or question. Dr. Haque underscored the importance of self-reliance and hard work for achieving prosperity. He described the generation of ideas as a collective project and emphasized the importance of developing local solutions using local ideas. Dr. Haque urged universities to actively involve students in research and to provide them with their own research agendas. He questioned the traditional focus on mineral resources for development, advocating instead for a greater emphasis on ideas and research. Lastly, he posed a thought-provoking question about the ultimate goal of development, suggesting that it should be centered around wellbeing and highlighting the pivotal role of students as valuable assets in this endeavor. Dr. Shujaat Farooq, Dean of PIDE, emphasized the critical importance of debate and innovative thinking in shaping nations' futures during a recent conference. —DNA

May 13, 2024

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FRONTIER NEWS

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Despite boasting 270 universities and over 2.5 million students, Pakistan falls short in fostering a culture of critical thinking and innovation compared to its neighbors like China.

Dr. Farooq stressed that debate is the cornerstone of PIDE's ethos, with initiatives such as webinars serving as examples of this commitment.



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They explored the unique challenges and opportunities in promoting AJK as a premier tourist destination. Our Correspondent

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TIMES REPORT ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) successfully organised a two day conference on “The Economy of Azad Jammu and Kashmir: Unlocking the Potential” at the Main Auditorium, King Abdullah Campus, Azad Jammu and Kashmir University (AJKU). The conference was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kaleem Abbasi, Vice-Chancellor of AJKU, with an inspiring welcome address. The joint event of PIDE and AJKU featured a series of discussions aimed at enhancing the socioeconomic conditions of the region through strategic development, said in a press release here on Sunday. A pivotal session titled “Economy of AJK: Unlocking the Potential” took center stage, moderated by Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, Vice-Chancellor, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE). Esteemed speakers, including Khawaja Masood, Managing Director of the Hydroelectric Board, and Dr. Khalid Rafiq, Director General of the IT Board, provided valuable insights into the sectors of power generation, tourism, and digital economy. They emphasized the need



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PIDE organises moot on 'the economy of AJK'

The Muslim Report

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