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Daily Parliament Time

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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 progres

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 hamessing 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 trial policy, and investment with the economic trajectory of nations like Iran, he underscored the imperative of perseverance and unity in the pursuit of national development.

Prof. Dr Muhammad Kaleem and address developmental Abbasi echoed Prof. Dr challenges.

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 policymakers 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 Shujjat 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, induspromotion. Participants from various sectors, including government officials, industry leaders, and academia exchanged insights and proposed actionable strategies UAJK Vice Chancellor to drive economic growth

LEADPakistan

May 13, 2024

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



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 harnessing 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

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

FRONTIER NEWS

PESHAWAR: 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).

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

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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.

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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.

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.





May 13, 2024

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PESHAWAR: 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 (AIKU).

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The joint event of PIDE and AIKU 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.

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

DAILY TIMES

May 13, 2024

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

TIMES REPORT conditions of the ISLAMABAD: strategic developregion through Pakistan Institute of ment, said in a press Development release here on Economics (PIDE) suc- Sunday, A pivotal sescessfully organised a sion titled "Economy two day conference of AJK: Unlocking the on "The Economy of Potential" took center Azad Jammu and stage, moderated by Kashmir: Unlocking Dr. Nadeem ul the Potential" at the Haque, Vice Main Auditorium, Chancellor, Pakistan King Abdullah Institute of Campus, Azad Development Jammu and Kashmir Economics (PIDE), 3 University Esteemed speakers, (AJKU), The confer- including Khawaja ence was inaugurated Masood, Managing by Prof. Dr. Director of the Muhammad Kaleem Hydroelectric Board, Abbasi, Vice- and Dr. Khalid Rafiq, Chancellor of AJKU, Director General of with an inspiring the IT Board, provid. for fiscal sustainabili- major focus, with the Chamber of lowed by a vision pre- over the lack of active examples of this comjoint event of PIDE into the sectors of approaches to har- Mrs.



welcome address. The ed valuable insights ty and innovative discussions led by Commerce. The ses- sentation from Dr. intellectual engage. mitment. They and AJKU featured a power generation, nessing the region's Shahzad, Additional by Dr. Shujaat Chairman of the universities, high-challenges and opporseries of discussions tourism, and digital resources. The poten- Chief Secretary, and Farooq, Dean, PIDE, Higher Education lighting the scarcity tunities in promoting aimed at enhancing economy. They tial of AJK's tourism Mr. Zulfigar Abbasi, Islamabad. The open- Commission, who of seminars and con- AJK as a premier the socioeconomic emphasized the need industry was also a Former Chairman of ing remarks were fol- discussed key reforms ferences. Dr. Shujaat tourist destination.

and strategies to tap Farooq, Dean of PIDE, into the economic emphasized the critipotential of Azad cal importance of Jammu and debate and innova-Kashmir, Dr. Nadeem tive thinking in shapul Haque, Vice ing nations' futures Chancellor of the during a recent con-OE Pakistan Institute of ference. Despite May Development boasting 270 universi-Economics (PIDE) in ties and over 2.5 mil-Univers his inaugural speech lion emphasized the criti- Pakistan falls short in cal role of ideas in fostering a culture of driving national progress.He noted that the responsibility for development does not solely rest with universities but with the collective is the cornerstone of efforts of society as a PIDE's ethos, with whole. Dr. Haque initiatives such as expressed concern webinars serving as Midhat sion was moderated Mukhtar Ahmed, ment in Pakistani explored the unique

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PIDE organises moot on 'the economy of AJK'

The Muslim Report

economy.

Institute D e v e l o p m e n t approaches to harness- emphasized the critical Economics (PIDE) suc- ing the region's re- importance of debate cessfully organised a sources. The potential of and innovative thinking two day conference on AJK's tourism industry "The Economy of Azad was also a major focus, tures during a recent Jammu and Kashmir: with discussions led by Unlocking the Potential" Mrs. Midhat Shahzad, at the Main Auditorium, Additional King Abdullah Campus, Azad Kashmir University (AJKU).

The conference was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. moderated Muhammad Abbasi, Vice-Chancellor of AJKU, with an inspir- opening remarks were ing welcome address. The joint event of PIDE and AJKU featured a seof ries aimed at enhancing the Education Commission, socioeconomic condi- who discussed key retions of the region forms and strategies to through strategic devel- tap into the economic opment, said in a press potential of Azad Jammu release here on Sunday.

A pivotal session titled "Economy of AJK: Haque, Vice Chancellor Unlocking the Potential" of the Pakistan Institute took center stage, mod- of erated by Dr. Nadeem ul Economics (PIDE) in his Haque, Vice Chancellor, inaugural speech empha-Pakistan Institute of sized the critical role of D e v e l o p m e n t ideas in driving national Economics Esteemed speakers, in- the responsibility for decluding Masood. Director of Hydroelectric and Dr. Khalid Rafiq, a whole. Director General of the sectors of power genera- engagement

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

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