



Dr. Nadeem-UI-Haque
Vice Chancellor

Progress is underpinned by robust public policy design. Such a design is developed through excellent research and a healthy debate based on evolving evidence. For this, countries invest in a vigorous research effort. PIDE, with a history of contributions to policy, is well-positioned to develop and lead a network of public policy development. We will work with all stakeholders to broaden and deepen our public policy research and development network. PIDE Policy and Research (P&R) will provide an innovative avenue of learning for researchers, students, policymakers and the populace at large.

Our first edition has focussed on the burning issue of how systematic exclusion of the poor in Pakistan is? In this regard, we have put our best efforts to highlight the institutional, legal, socio-economic, educational and geographical apparatuses excluding the poor of their right to access and entitlement.

PIDE acknowledges the financial support of the Beaconhouse on facilitating the print production of our latest initiative, this bi-monthly magazine on public policy research, the PIDE P&R. The support by the Beaconhouse gives us confidence that we are not alone in this endeavour. And like us, the Beaconhouse too believes in engaging with partners in the development of public policy research, learning and debate in the country. We look forward to strengthening such collaborations.



Ms. Mariam Mohsin
Editor

Two months ago, when we first conceptualized this magazine, we were discussing how research was constantly losing readership and how academics who are supposedly the path-breakers for innovation, need to realize and reinvent ways in which research reaches audience. PIDE is among the globally recognized Asian research think-tanks that have produced cutting-edge research in Economics and other relevant Social Sciences; but with the changing face of research, globally, we find it important to find new ways to de-imperialize research and make it abundant and easy-to-access. This is how the PIDE P&R was born.

We tend to somewhat agree with what Einstein so famously said, “If we knew what it was we were doing, it would not be research, would it?” However, with our new publication the PIDE P&R, we are looking forward to spare you the muddle and bring you the low-hanging fruit of our work. If you're a policy-maker looking for quick update on the economy without the researcher's intellectual squabbling, this is your chance. If you're a student who needs to keep up with facts and figures about the local economy without the verbosity that makes you feel dumb, this is where you need to be. Also, it's vibrant, it's fun, and it's laconic. I am absolutely thrilled to be introducing the first ever issue of what is to be one of the leading flag bearers of new-age research in the Global South.

Today, as I write to all you readers in the middle of a pandemic, overdosing on coffee and m&ms, overwhelmed with news and information about the COVID-19, I realize more than ever, the need for clean, authentic and easy-access research. Here's to research in the time of quarantine! Happy reading!

COVER STORY

