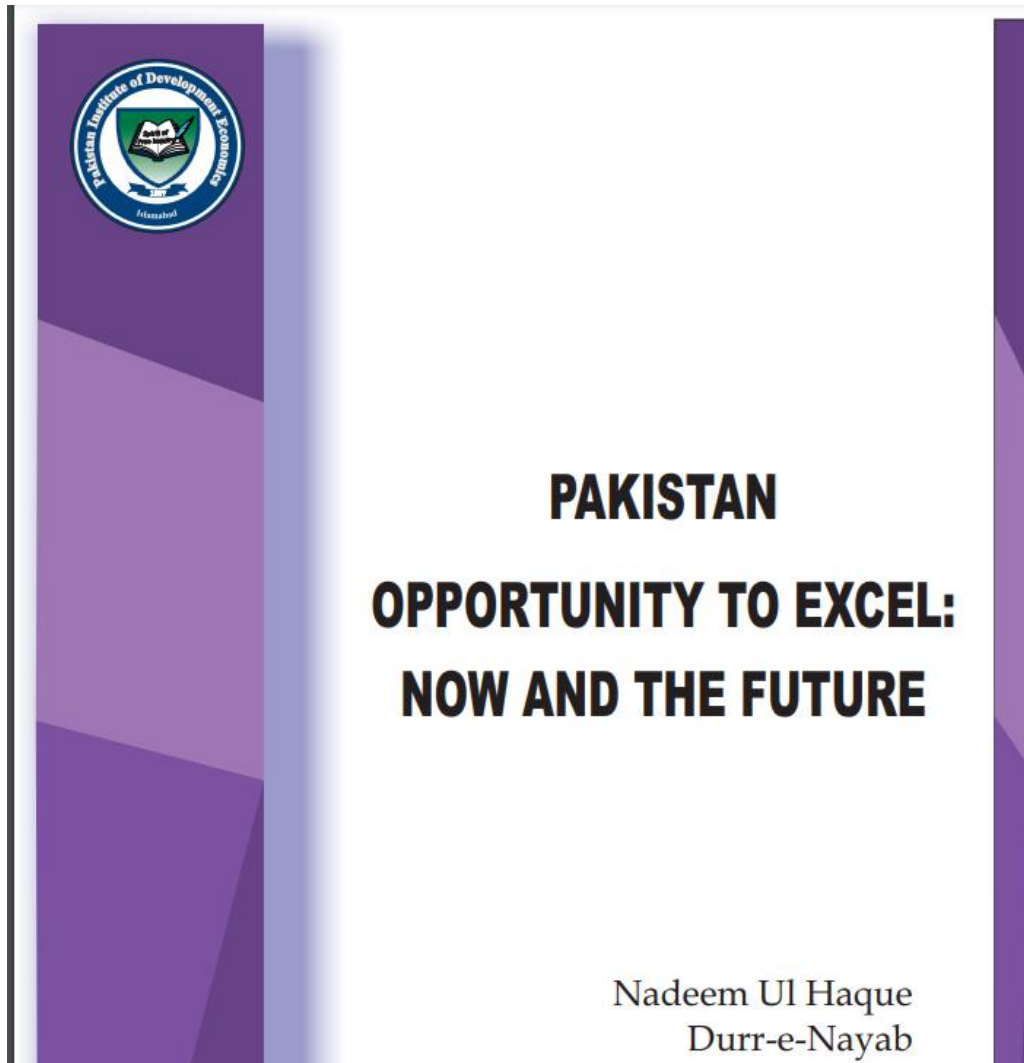


MEDIA COVERAGE



February 07, 2022

February 7, 2022

Over 31% of educated youth unemployed: PIDE

Report questions why urban areas aren't providing the opportunities they should

OUR CORRESPONDENT
PESHAWAR

Over 31 per cent of country's youth is currently unemployed, revealed a report on the employment situation released by the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) on Sunday.

Out of these 31 per cent, 51 per cent are females while 16 per cent are males, with many of them possessing professional degrees. Nearly 60 per cent of Pakistan's population is less than 30 years old.

The report stated that the current unemployment rate of 6.9 per cent is considered to be comfortable and frequently makes headlines. Far more females and those living in urban areas are unemployed than their male and rural counterparts, it added.

PIDE also revealed that a surprisingly large part of the working-age group is not even part of the labour force. These people are either discouraged workers or have other means of income to support them, the report stated.

It also stated that despite pronouncements and policy initiatives, the female labour force participation rate (LFPR) remains shockingly low.

Despite all the talk about the youth bulge and reaping the demographic dividend, the unemployment rate is

the highest for the young new entrants in the labour force, it further stated, adding that it takes about a decade or more for youth to be employed.

The report also revealed that education is considered a panacea and the key to all opportunities, but "reality shows us otherwise".

PIDE revealed that going by the LFS, graduate unemployment is very high. Over 31 per cent of the youth with degrees, including professional ones, are unemployed with females at 51 per cent and males at 16 per cent, it stated.

Rural graduate unemployment is much higher than urban, begging the question of mobility, it added.

The report further stated that services remain the largest employer

with retail and wholesale trade the largest segment in the urban areas, while agriculture, including cultivation and livestock, continues to employ the majority in rural Pakistan.

Surprisingly, construction employs about 8 per cent of the labour force in both urban and rural areas, perhaps reflecting the harsh regulatory and zoning laws in urban areas, PIDE highlighted.

According to the report, public employment provides opportunities for better-paid jobs in Pakistan. The well-known preference for government jobs, therefore, appears justified as the monthly wage in government shows up to be significantly higher than private-sector jobs, it stated.

(WITH INPUT FROM APP)

Report says 31pc educated youth jobless

Continued from Page 12

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Surprisingly, construction employs about eight per cent of the labour force in both urban and rural areas, perhaps reflecting the harsh regulatory and zoning laws in urban areas that PIDE research has highlighted.

Despite the government's pronouncements on construction, urban areas show no signs of being deregulated, reflected in the low proportion of the employed labour force in the industry.

The construction industry, therefore, fails to provide the opportunities that it could have in the presence of reform.

According to PIDE's recent report, Public employment, including both civil and military, provides opportunities for better-paid jobs in Pakistan.

The well-known preference for government jobs, therefore, appears justified as the monthly wage in government shows up to be significantly higher than private-sector jobs.

The report pointed out that the urban definition used in the census and government surveys does not adequately capture cities or city populations and their boundaries.

Report says 31pc educated youth jobless

Bureau report

PESHAWAR: The Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) has released a report on unemployment in the country which revealed that over 31 per cent of the youth with degrees, including professional ones, are unemployed. The jobless women percentage is 51 while for

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The PIDE's research stated that a surprisingly large part of the working-age group is not even part of the labour force. These people are either discouraged workers or have other means of in-

come. The report also revealed that more women and those living in urban areas are unemployed than their male and rural counterparts.

The unemployment rate is the highest for the young new entrants in the labour force. It takes about a decade or more for youth to be employed, the report added.

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Over 31pc youth with degrees unemployed: PIDE report

■ Unemployment highest in new entrants to labor force

Despite all the talk about the youth bulge and reaping the demographic dividend, the unemployment rate is the highest for the young new entrants in the labor force.

This was revealed in PIDE's latest research report entitled "PAKISTAN OPPORTUNITY TO EXCEL: NOW AND THE FUTURE" jointly written by renowned Economist and Vice-Chancellor PIDE, Dr. Nadeem ul Haque and Leading Researcher, Demographer & Pro-Vice-Chancellor PIDE, Dr. Durra Nayab issued here on Sunday.

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tion of mobility, it was added.

The report showed that if we take the employment trends as an indicator of available opportunities in the country. The reported unemployment rate of 6.9 percent is considered to be comfortable and frequently makes headlines as far more females and those living in urban areas are unemployed than their male and rural counterparts.

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It takes about a decade or more for youth to be employed, the report mentioned. The report also revealed that Education is considered a panacea and the key to all opportunities. The reality however shows us otherwise. Going by the LFS, graduate unemployment is very high.

Availability of opportunities implies that

people have a range of life options, specifically economic, to pick from, and have a realistic chance to adopt what they want to do and succeed in it. For Pakistan, where nearly 60 percent of the population is aged under 30 years, opportunities become even more significant. The fact that we live in a world where technology is changing the way things are done at an unprecedented pace makes it very easy for those not keeping up to be left far behind, without opportunities.

Despite the government's pronouncements on construction, urban areas show no signs of being deregulated reflected in the low proportion of the employed labor force in the industry. The construction industry, therefore, fails to provide the opportunities that it could have in the presence of reform.

According to PIDE's recent report, Public employment, including both civil and military, provides opportunities for better-paid jobs in Pakistan. The well-known preference for government jobs, therefore, appears justified as the monthly

wage in government shows up to be significantly higher than private-sector jobs.

The report pointed out that the urban definition used in the census and government surveys does not adequately capture cities or city populations and their boundaries. Additionally, Cities are heavily regulated to create bureaucratic sludge lowering productivity and wages. The LFS seems to point to a need to study and understand our labor and product markets more carefully, as PIDE has been pointing out for years. The research further noted that Youth engagement is imperative, more so when they comprise the largest chunk of the population. The LFS shows one-third of the youth, in both rural and urban areas, to be disconnected from the system as they are neither employed nor enrolled. The disconnect is higher for young females, with 60 percent neither working nor studying. Socio-cultural norms, encouraging early marriage and childbearing, and reluctance to be in the labor market contribute to this trend. **TLTP**

BUSINESS RECORDER

Founded by M.A. Zuberi

PIDE releases research report on unemployment

RECORDER REPORT

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Unemployment rate among graduates touching highest level in country

FAWAD YOUSAFZAI
ISLAMABAD

The unemployment rate among university graduates in Pakistan is touching the highest level as over 31pc of youth with degrees, including professional ones, are jobless.

Of the 31pc unemployed with degrees, 51pc are females while males are 16pc. Rural graduate unemployment rate is much higher than urban, begging the question of mobility, said a research report entitled 'Pakistan opportunity to excel: Now and the future' released by Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE).

PIDE's research noted that a surprisingly large part of the working-age group is not even part of the labour force. These people are either discouraged workers or have other means of income to support them. Despite all the talk about the youth bulge and reaping the demographic dividend, the unemployment rate is the highest for the young new entrants in the labour force. It takes about a decade or more for youth to be employed, the report mentioned.

The report further said that around 23pc of the labour force is involved in unpaid labour, 13pc of males and 57pc of the employed females. Although more prevalent in agriculture, unpaid labour can be found in all industries, including manufacturing, construction, transportation and retail. Likewise, the phenomenon is present in urban areas as well. Unpaid labour is, thus, prevalent across all industries in both rural and urban areas.

Of the paid labour, the average monthly wage is below the minimum wage despite the males working longer than the average duration for a full-time worker. The females work slightly less

than the average full-time work week but get paid much lower than the minimum pay.

Services remain the largest employer with retail and wholesale trade the largest segment in the urban areas, while agriculture continues to employ the majority in rural Pakistan. Surprisingly construction employs about 8pc of the labour force in both urban and rural areas.

Despite the government's pronouncements on construction, urban areas show no signs of being deregulated reflecting in the low proportion of the employed labour force in the industry. The

and meetings act as barriers. The sludge needs to go for opportunities to be created.

The total footprint of government on the economy in Pakistan amounts to at least 67pc of Pakistan's GDP, which is substantially higher than what Pakistan government's general yearly expenditure as a percentage of GDP (22pc) might suggest. Furthermore, if one was to include the opportunity cost of dead capital that government owns in the analysis, the total government footprint then reaches up to approximately 80pc of the annual GDP.

PIDE report says over 31pc of youth with degrees, including professional ones, are jobless

construction industry, therefore, fails to provide the opportunities that it could have in the presence of reform.

Public employment, including both civil and military, provides opportunities for better-paid jobs in the country. The well-known preference for government jobs, therefore, appears justified as the monthly wage in government shows up to be significantly higher than private-sector jobs.

It has been pointed out that sludge (excessive regulation and documentation) is preventing the growth of firms, investment and entrepreneurship. The footprint of the government is large, crowding out investment and economic activity. The government processes are cumbersome, and the regulatory space for investment is also severely lacking. In addition, there seems to be no value of time as a multiplicity of NOCs, documentation,

Historically, poverty has been reduced through flexible and dynamic opportunity spaces known as cities. This is contrary to our city master planning, where flyovers, roads and excessive zoning and height restrictions encourage a soul- and opportunity-killing sprawl. Countless social problems have been created as a result, not the least is the death of opportunity. The current trend needs to be reversed, the report proposed.

Cities have also been regulated to not have construction to the point that tower cranes are not visible in Pakistan on cityscapes. Tower cranes abound in most rapidly developing countries, and construction is a large employer.

Despite the PM's pronouncements on increasing construction activity, the emphasis seems to be on sprawl and road construction, the report said and recommended that the whole

approach towards construction needs rethinking.

Policy in Pakistan has paid little attention to opportunity. Instead, it has worked on developing a welfare state based on transfers. When there has been a demand for jobs, political leaders have chosen the path of government and employment in state-owned enterprises (SOE), at the cost of efficiency and financial losses.

The youth in Pakistan appear to be focused on seeking government employment for job security, status, and relatively higher wages with lower productivity requirements. Other ambitions are severely curtailed given the lack of opportunity. Neither teachers nor youth sees the market especially the global market as a huge opportunity. Our failure to compete in all international competitions is seen as inevitability. If the country is to take advantage of the youth bulge, this must change.

The report states that many jobs will be made redundant, with machines replacing low-skilled workers. Raw labour will matter little with skill requirements and an intimate relationship with technology at a premium; The nature of education will change from the premium on ready knowledge to flexible critical thinking, design thinking, and creativity; and With the introduction of the gig and the sharing economy, work style and habits will change. Perhaps people will have to consider multiple careers and retraining. The report recommended that our education system, our governance system all need to be realigned if we are to meet this new world. Many new opportunities will open only if the economy and the policy are both seriously re-imagined. The opportunities for the youth are scarce and things need to change quickly, the report recommended.

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PESHAWAR EDITION

PIDE releases latest research report on unemployment in country

PESHAWAR (APP): Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) has released latest report on unemployment in the country and revealed that over 31 percent of the youth with degrees, including professional ones, are unemployed with females at 51 percent and males at 16 percent.

For Pakistan, where nearly 60 percent of the population is aged less than 30 years, opportunities become even more significant, said a press release issued here on Sunday.

The report revealed that if we take the employment trends as an indicator of available opportunities in the country. The reported unemployment rate of 6.9 percent is considered to be comfortable and frequently makes headlines. Far more females and those living in urban areas are unemployed than their male and

rural counterparts.

PIDE's research states that a surprisingly large part of the working-age group is not even part of the labor force. These people are either discouraged workers or have other means of income to support them. While, despite pronouncements and policy initiatives, the female labor force participation rate (LFPR) remains shockingly low, the report said.

Despite all the talk about the youth bulge and reaping the demographic dividend, the unemployment rate is the highest for the young new entrants in the labor force. It takes about a decade or more for youth to be employed, the report mentioned.

The report also revealed that education is considered a panacea and the key to all opportunities. The reality however shows us other-

wise. Going by the LFS, graduate unemployment is very high. Over 31 percent of the youth with degrees, including professional ones, are unemployed with females at 51 percent and males at 16 percent. Rural graduate unemployment is much higher than urban, begging the question of mobility. The study further stated that services remain the largest employer with retail and wholesale trade the largest segment in the urban areas, while agriculture (including both cultivation and livestock) continues to employ the majority in rural Pakistan.

Surprisingly, construction employs about 8 percent of the labor force in both urban and rural areas, perhaps reflecting the harsh regulatory and zoning laws in urban areas that PIDE research has been highlighting.

Over 31% youth with degrees unemployed: PIDE report

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The Frontier News Peshawar

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MOND

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PIDE latest research report on jobless rate

STAFF REPORT

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The answers to these questions can be found in PIDE's latest research report entitled "PAKISTAN OPPORTUNITY TO EXCEL: NOW AND THE FUTURE" jointly written by renowned Economist and Vice-Chancellor PIDE, Dr. Nadeem ul Haque and Leading Researcher, Demographer & Pro-Vice-Chancellor PIDE, Dr. Durre Nayab.

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February 7, 2022

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Our Correspondent February 07, 2022



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Despite all the talk about the youth bulge and reaping the demographic dividend, the unemployment rate is the highest for the young new entrants in the labour force, it further stated, adding that it takes about a decade or more for youth to be employed.

Read [*Country's economy rebounded amid Covid: SBP*](#)

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It pointed out that the urban definition used in the census and surveys does not adequately capture cities or city populations and their boundaries. The LFS seems to point to a need to study and understand labour and product markets more carefully, as PIDE has been pointing out for years, it added.

The report questioned why urban areas were not providing the kind of opportunities they should. It also asked whether Pakistan is offering such opportunities to its people to take up and excel, or whether the country doing what needs to be done for its population to excel in the future.

It noted that youth engagement is imperative, more so when they comprise the largest chunk of the population. The LFS shows one-third of the youth, in both rural and urban areas, to be disconnected from the system as they are neither employed nor enrolled, it added.

It further stated that the disconnect is higher for young females, with 60 per cent neither working nor studying.

(With input from APP)

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2342344/over-31-of-educated-youth-unemployed-reveals-pide>

Daily Times

BUSINESS

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** Unemployment highest in new entrants to labor force*

FEBRUARY 7, 2022

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comprise the largest chunk of the population. The LFS shows one-third of the youth, in both rural and urban areas, to be disconnected from the system as they are neither employed nor enrolled. The disconnect is higher for young females, with 60 percent neither working nor studying. Socio-cultural norms, encouraging early marriage and childbearing, and reluctance to be in the labor market contribute to this trend.

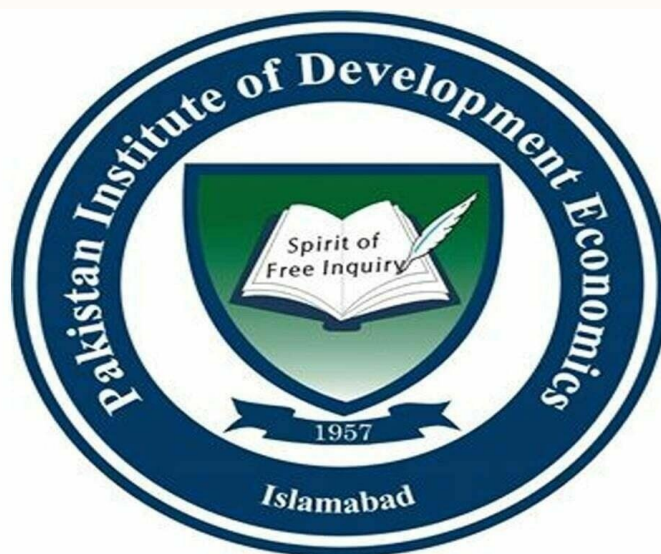
<https://dailytimes.com.pk/881500/over-31pc-youth-with-degrees-unemployed-pide-report/>

BUSINESS RECORDER

Founded by M.A. Zuberi

[PIDE releases research report on unemployment](#)

[Recorder Report](#) 07 Feb, 2022



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degrees, including professional ones, are unemployed with females at 51 percent and males at 16 percent.

For Pakistan, where nearly 60 percent of the population is aged less than 30 years, opportunities become even more significant. According to a press release issued from PIDE here on Sunday, the report revealed that if we take the employment trends as an indicator of available opportunities in the country.

The reported unemployment rate of 6.9 percent is considered to be comfortable and frequently makes headlines. Far more females and those living in urban areas are unemployed than their male and rural counterparts.

PIDE's research states that a surprisingly large part of the working-age group is not even part of the labour force. These people are either discouraged workers or have other means of income to support them. While, despite pronouncements and policy initiatives, the female labour force participation rate (LFPR) remains shockingly low, the report said.

Despite all the talk about the youth bulge and reaping the demographic dividend, the unemployment rate is the highest for the young new entrants in the labour force. It takes about a decade or more for youth to be employed, the report mentioned.

The report also revealed that Education is considered a panacea and the key to all opportunities. The reality however shows us otherwise. Going by the LFS, graduate unemployment is very high. Over 31 percent of the youth with degrees, including professional ones, are unemployed with females at 51 percent and males at 16 percent. Rural graduate unemployment is much higher than urban, begging the question of mobility.

The study further stated that Services remain the largest employer with retail and wholesale trade the largest segment in the urban areas, while agriculture (including both cultivation and livestock) continues to employ the majority in rural Pakistan.

Surprisingly, construction employs about 8 percent of the labour force in both urban and rural areas, perhaps reflecting the harsh regulatory and zoning laws in urban areas that PIDE research has been highlighting. Despite the government's pronouncements on construction, urban areas show no signs of being deregulated, reflected in the low proportion of the employed labour force in the industry. The construction industry, therefore, fails to provide the opportunities that it could have in the presence of reform.

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The LFS seems to point to a need to study and understand our labour and product markets more carefully, as PIDE has been pointing out for years. Why is it that the urban areas are not providing the kind of opportunities they should?

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<https://www.brecorder.com/news/40152553>



Unemployment rate among graduates touching highest level in country

Fawad Yousafzai February 07, 2022

ISLAMABAD - The unemployment rate among university graduates in Pakistan is touching the highest level as over 31pc of youth with degrees, including professional ones, are jobless.

Of the 31pc unemployed with degrees, 51pc are females while males are 16pc. Rural graduate unemployment rate is much higher than urban, begging the question of mobility, said a research report entitled 'Pakistan opportunity to excel: Now and the future' released by Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE).

PIDE's research noted that a surprisingly large part of the working-age group is not even part of the labour force. These people are either discouraged workers or have other means of income to support them. Despite all the talk about the youth bulge and reaping the demographic dividend, the unemployment rate is the highest for the young new entrants in the labour force. It takes about a decade or more for youth to be employed, the report mentioned.

The report further said that around 23pc of the labour force is involved in unpaid labour, 13pc of males and 57pc of the employed females. Although more prevalent in agriculture, unpaid labour can be found in all industries, including manufacturing, construction, transportation and retail. Likewise, the phenomenon is present in urban areas as well. Unpaid labour is, thus, prevalent across all industries in both rural and urban areas.

Of the paid labour, the average monthly wage is below the minimum wage despite the males working longer than the average duration for a full-time worker. The females work slightly less than the average full-time work week but get paid much lower than the minimum pay.

PIDE report says over 31pc of youth with degrees, including professional ones, are jobless

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Despite the government's pronouncements on construction, urban areas show no signs of being deregulated reflecting in the low proportion of the employed labour force in the industry. The construction industry, therefore, fails to provide the opportunities that it could have in the presence of reform.

Public employment, including both civil and military, provides opportunities for better-paid jobs in the country. The well-known preference for government jobs, therefore, appears justified as the monthly wage in government shows up to be significantly higher than private-sector jobs.

It has been pointed out that sludge (excessive regulation and documentation) is preventing the growth of firms, investment and entrepreneurship. The footprint of the government is large, crowding out investment and economic activity. The government processes are cumbersome, and the regulatory space for investment is also severely lacking. In addition, there seems to be no value of time as a multiplicity of NOCs, documentation, and meetings act as barriers. The sludge needs to go for opportunities to be created.

The total footprint of government on the economy in Pakistan amounts to at least 67pc of Pakistan's GDP, which is substantially higher than what Pakistan government's general yearly expenditure as a percentage of GDP (22pc) might suggest. Furthermore, if one was to include the opportunity cost of dead capital that government owns in the analysis, the total government footprint then reaches up to approximately 80pc of the annual GDP.

Historically, poverty has been reduced through flexible and dynamic opportunity spaces known as cities. This is contrary to our city master planning, where flyovers, roads and excessive zoning and height restrictions encourage a soul- and opportunity-killing sprawl. Countless social problems have been created as a result, not the least is the death of opportunity. The current trend needs to be reversed, the report proposed.

Cities have also been regulated to not have construction to the point that tower cranes are not visible in Pakistan on cityscapes. Tower cranes abound in most rapidly developing countries, and construction is a large employer.

Despite the PM's pronouncements on increasing construction activity, the emphasis seems to be on sprawl and road construction, the report said and recommended that the whole approach towards construction needs rethinking.

Policy in Pakistan has paid little attention to opportunity. Instead, it has worked on developing a welfare state based on transfers. When there has been a demand for jobs, political leaders have chosen the path of government and employment in state-owned enterprises (SOE), at the cost of efficiency and financial losses.

The youth in Pakistan appear to be focused on seeking government employment for job security, status, and relatively higher wages with lower productivity requirements. Other ambitions are severely curtailed given the lack of opportunity. Neither teachers nor youth sees the market especially the global market as a huge opportunity. Our failure to compete in all international competitions is seen as inevitability. If the country is to take advantage of the youth bulge, this must change

The report states that many jobs will be made redundant, with machines replacing low-skilled workers. Raw labour will matter little with skill

requirements and an intimate relationship with technology at a premium; The nature of education will change from the premium on ready knowledge to flexible critical thinking, design thinking, and creativity; and With the introduction of the gig and the sharing economy, work style and habits will change. Perhaps people will have to consider multiple careers and retraining. The report recommended that our education system, our governance system all need to be realigned if we are to meet this new world. Many new opportunities will open only if the economy and the policy are both seriously re-imagined. The opportunities for the youth are scarce and things need to change quickly, the report recommended.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-02-07/page-3/detail-0>



Over 31% youth with degrees unemployed: PIDE report

By

News desk

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February 7, 2022

Pakistan
OBSERVER



Economy Watch

Despite all the talk about the youth bulge and reaping the demographic dividend, the unemployment rate is the highest for the young new entrants in the labor force.

This was revealed in PIDE's latest research report entitled "PAKISTAN OPPORTUNITY TO EX-CEL: NOW AND THE FUTURE" jointly written by renowned Economist and Vice-Chancellor PIDE, Dr. Nadeem ul Haque and Leading Researcher, Demographer & Pro-Vice-Chancellor PIDE, Dr. Durre Nayab issued here on Sunday.

The report revealed that over 31 percent of the youth with degrees, including professional ones, are unemployed with females at 51 percent and males at 16 percent.

<https://pakobserver.net/over-31-youth-with-degrees-unemployed-pide-report/>

PIDE releases latest research report on unemployment in country

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<https://leadpakistan.com.pk/news/pide-releases-latest-research-report-on-unemployment-in-country/>