#### **MEDIA COVERAGE**



**April,2023** 

## **PAKISTANIS:** WHO ARE WE?

**BASICS Notes Number 6** 

**Durre Nayab** 



## **Shaping Minds and Bodies:** Do We Have the Facilities?

The BASICS Note Number 5 showed a very low level of social and civic engagement among the people of Pakistan. If people are not often engaged socially, how are they keeping themselves mentally and physically alive? Are there enough libraries and playgrounds available to do so? Not that other ages do not need these, but with the number of youth present in the country, the importance of having facilities, where the young can shape and nourish their minds and bodies, become all the more important.

In the PIDE BASICS Survey<sup>1</sup> we asked the respondents about having access to any library and a playground. The quality of either was not probed, as it can be relative, so the question just asked about having access to these facilities. The discussion below shows the reported access to both the facilities nationally, regionally, and by age, sex, income and education.



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f in PIDE Islamabad





#### **Web Editions**

#### **DAWN**

https://www.dawn.com/news/1750235

#### The News International

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1065806-social-and-civic-engagement-study-reveals-83pc-of-pakistanis-have-no-access-to-libraries

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1066124-lack-of-facilities-impairs-shaping-minds-and-bodies

#### The Nation

https://www.nation.com.pk/01-May-2023/83pc-pakistanis-have-no-access-to-library-says-pidereport

#### **Daily Times**

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1088761/study-reveals-83pc-of-pakistanis-have-no-access-to-library/

#### **The Frontier Post**

https://thefrontierpost.com/83-of-pakistanis-do-not-have-access-to-any-library/

#### UrduPoint

https://www.urdupoint.com/en/pakistan/pide-study-reveals-83-percent-of-pakistanis-h-1684420.html

#### **Daily LeadPakistan**

https://leadpakistan.com.pk/news/pide-study-reveals-83-percent-of-pakistanis-have-no-access-to-library/

#### **Print Editions**

## DAWN

May 01, 2023

## Library, playgrounds still inaccessible to majority

Pide report says youth left without avenues for mind nurturing, recreational activities

By Khaleeq Kiani

ISLAMABAD: Over 80 per cent of Pakistanis do not have access to a library and another 60pc were without playgrounds, resulting in very low social and civic engagement, according to new research by a government-run think tank.

"A vast majority of Pakistanis (83pc) do not have access to any library, with only a tiny proportion (4.5pc) being very happy with the one they can access," said the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (Pide) in its research paper "Shaping Minds and Bodies: Do We Have the Facilities".

Pide's Pro Vice-Chancellor Dr Durre Nayab said the access to a library remained low for both males and females but the latter had more inadequate access for all age groups.

"If people rarely engaged socially, how will they keep themselves mentally and physically alive?" she questioned.

She said it's not that other ages do not need libraries or playgrounds, but with the number of youth present in the country, the importance of having facilities where the young can shape and nourish their minds and bodies become all the more important.

She argued that libraries contribute to building communities and public libraries could provide education to those who otherwise cannot afford it.

The research found that nearly two-thirds of the urban population (62pc) does not have access to any sort of library, while only a minuscule proportion has access in the rural areas (4.7pc).

Among the four provinces, Balochistan came out better than others. Accessibility in KP was the least, with almost 94pc having no access to a library, followed by 84pc in Punjab, 76.1pc in Sindh and 72.3pc in Balochistan. Among the territories, 81pc of people in Islamabad have no access to a library, better than GB's 83pc and 87pc in AJK. Even in areas where people reported having access to some kind of library, those very happy with the facility remained

Dr Nayab elaborated that the report only quantified the reported access. There's every possibility that even in cases where libraries exist, they could remain inaccessible for a variety of reasons. Some of these reasons can be the awareness about its presence, distance to the facility, working hours and gender-exclusivity or inclusivity.

While the research

showed that education improved a person's reported accessibility to a library, education can also bring awareness and information, which a person without it can lack.

The presence of a facility can remain unknown to a person who is not interested in it or lacks knowledge about its existence. Additionally, accessibility to a library increases with increasing educational levels, while increasing income levels does not improve accessibility to a library by any significant margin. It is only for the highest income quantile that we see an observable decline in those reporting not having access to any kind of library — 73.4pc as opposed to 85.5pc for the lowest quintile.

#### Access to playgrounds

The research showed 60pc Pakistanis have no playground access. While one-third of the urban population lacked access to a playground, the proportion was three-fourths for rural people.

Along with low accessibility, satisfaction expressed in unhappy or very unhappy responses — too was much lower in the rural areas.

In terms of access to playgrounds, fared the best among the four provinces, followed by Balochistan and Sindh. KP showed the highest proportion of people without access to a playground (67.8pc). GB continued to show better trends than other territories, having the lowest proportion of those not having access to a playground (46.3pc). AJK lagged behind, with 62.3pc needing more access to a playground.



### Lack of facilities impairs shaping minds and bodies

#### Rasheed Khalid

Islamabad

A latest research has found tally and physically alive.

The research on "Shaping minds and bodies: do we have the facilities?" was Pakistan Institute of Devel-

the importance of having fa- groups. cilities where the young can

all the more important.

education to those who otherwise cannot afford it.

The PIDE's research indiconducted by Dr Durre Pakistanis (83%) do not have Nayab, Pro Vice-chancellor, access to any library, with study. only a tiny proportion (4.5%) opment Economics (PIDE). being very happy with the can remain unknown to a followed by Balochistan and sibility of a playground. In-The report says that one they can access. Access other ages also need enough remains low for both sexes, libraries and playgrounds but females have more inadbut with the number of equate access than their tionally, Accessibility to a li- (67.8%). GB continues to tain level, as we see some

shape and nourish their rated in the report that it is by females than males in the sponses

bility to a library by any significant margin.

How many Pakistanis have access to playgrounds? It may be clarified here that this question asks if the respondent can access a playground, not if they actually minds and bodies become worth mentioning that this do it. The research shows is reported access. A facility that 60% of Pakistanis have The libraries provide not might exist but still remain no playground access. While ground declines as we go up a very low level of social and just information but also inaccessible for a variety of one-third urban population civic engagement among the contribute to building com-reasons. Some of these rea-lacks access to a playpeople of Pakistan which munities. Public libraries sons can be the awareness ground, the proportion is questions their viability of can be a great equaliser by about its presence, distance three-fourths for their rural ings and it being gender-in- low accessibility, satisfacclusive/exclusive. Factors tion too is much lower in the happy/very happy also inlike these can explain the rural areas, expressed in the cated that a vast majority of lower reported accessibility unhappy/very unhappy re-

> The presence of a facility among the four provinces, in it or lacks knowledge proportion of those not hav- on the accessibility of a about its existence. Addi- ing access to a playground playground only after a cercreasing educational levels, other territories, having the access after reaching the Dr Nayab further elabo- while increasing income lev- lowest proportion of those third income quintile.

els do not improve accessi- not having access to a playground (46.3%). AJK lags behind other territories, with 62.3% needing more access to a playground.

In her report, she says that the education level positively correlates with the accessibility of a playground. The proportion of not having access to a playthe educational ladder from 75.1% for those who have never been to school, it reduces to 41% who have keeping themselves men- providing information and to the facility, opening tim- counterparts. Along with achieved more than a high school education. Those crease with increasing educational level.

Lastly, we see how in-Punjab fares the best come levels, expressed in quintiles, relate to the accesperson who is not interested Sindh. KP shows the highest come has a positive effect youth present in the country, male counterparts of all age brary increases with in- show better trends than reduction in those lacking



## Library remains an elusive luxury

#### PESHAWAR

cess to any library, a latest cess to playgrounds.

Facilities?' were unveiled people of Pakistan. APP

here on Sunday, accord-Around 83 per cent of ing to which 60 per cent Pakistanis do not have ac- of Pakistanis have no ac-

research study of Pakistan According to a press state-Institute of Development ment issued by the PIDE, Economics (PIDE) has Dr Durre Nayab, Pro Vice Chancellor of National The findings of the Think Tank, in her latresearch report titled est research, found a very 'Shaping Minds and low level of social and civic Bodies: Do We Have the engagement among the



# Study reveals 83pc of Pakistanis have no access to library

round 83 per cent of Pakistanis do not have access to any library and 60 per cent of Pakistanis have no playground access, revealed in the latest research study of Pakistan's Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) titled: "Shaping Minds and Bodies: Do We Have the Facilities?" which is the fifth BASICS Note of the Series, here on Sunday. According to a Press Release issued by the PIDE, Dr Durre Nayab, Pro

Vice Chancellor National Think Tank, in her latest research, showed a very low level of social and civic engagement among the people of Pakistan. Social connection between people is essential to stay mentally and physically alive. There should be enough libraries and playgrounds for all age groups to remain socially connected so youth can shape and nourish their minds and bodies. According to the research study, libraries provide not just information but also contribute to building communities. Public libraries can be a great equalizer by providing information and education to those who otherwise cannot afford it.

The study furthermore said that a vast majority of Pakistanis (83%) do not have access to any library, with only a tiny proportion (4.5%) being very happy with the one they can access. Access remains low for both sexes, but

females have more inadequate access than their male counterparts for all age groups. Dr Nayab further elaborated in the report that it is worth mentioning here that this is reported access. A facility might exist but remain inaccessible for a variety of reasons. APP



## 83pc Pakistanis have no access to library, says PIDE report

#### Reveals 60pc population lacks access to playground

#### FAWAD YOUSAFZAI ISLAMABAD

Pakistanis have a very low level of social and civic engagement, as 83% of Pakistanis do not have access to any library, while 60% have no playground access, claimed a research by Pakistan Institute of Development Economics

The PIDE's research titled 'Shaping Minds and Bodies: Do We Have the Facilities?' which is the fifth Basic note of the Series, shows that a vast majority of Pakistanis (83%) do not have access to any library, with only a tiny proportion (4.5%) being very happy with the one they can access. Access remains low for both sexes, but females have more inadequate access than their male counterparts for all age groups.

Pro Vice Chancellor PIDE, Dr Durre Nayab, in her latest research, showed a very low level of social and civic engagement among the people of Pakistan.

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The research further elaborated in the report that it is worth mentioning here that this is reported access. A facility might exist but still remains inaccessible for a variety of reasons. Some of these reasons can be the awareness about its presence, distance to the facility, opening timings, and it being gender-inclusive/exclusive. Factors like these can explain the lower reported accessibility by females than males in the study.

While the research shows that education improves a person's reported accessibility to a library, it may be mentioned here that education can bring awareness and information, which a person without it can lack. The presence of a facility can remain unknown to a person who is not interested in it

The libraries provide not just infor- or lacks knowledge about its existence. Additionally, accessibility to a library increases with increasing educational levels, while increasing income levels do not improve accessibility to a library by any significant margin.

How many Pakistanis have access to playgrounds? It may be clarified here that this question asks if the respondent can access a playground, not if they actually do it. The research shows that 60% of Pakistanis have no playground access. While one-third urban population lacks access to a playground, the proportion is three-fourths for their rural counterparts. Along with low accessibility, satisfaction too is much lower in the rural areas, expressed in the unhappy/very unhappy

Punjab fares the best among the four provinces, followed by Balochistan and Sindh. KP shows the highest proportion of those not having access to a playground (67.8%). GB continues to show better trends than other territories, having the lowest proportion of those not having access to a playground (46.3%). AJK lags behind other territories, with 62.3% needing more access to a playground.

In her report, PIDE Pro VC described that the education level positively correlates with the accessibility of a playground. The proportion of not having access to a playground declines as we go up the educational ladder from 75.1% for those who have never been to school; it reduces to 41% who have achieved more than a high school education. Those happy/very happy also increase with increasing educational level.

Lastly, we see how income levels, expressed in quintiles, relate to the accessibility of a playground, the research said. Income has a positive effect on the accessibility of a playground only after a certain level, as we see some reduction in those lacking access after reaching the third income quintile, it added.

#### Pakistan OBSERVER

May 01, 2023

### PIDE research shows very low level of social, civic engagement among citizens

#### STAFF REPORTER

all the more important.

Release issued by the cilities?" which is the fifth reasons.

PIDE, Dr. Durre Nayab, BASICS Note of the Series, Vice-chancellor of shows that a vast major-If people are rarely National Think Tank, ity of Pakistanis (83%) engaged socially, how are in her latest research, do not have access to any they keeping themselves showed a very low level library, with only a tiny mentally and physically of social and civic en- proportion (4.5%) being alive? Are there enough gagement among the very happy with the one libraries and playgrounds people of Pakistan. The they can access. Access available to do so? Not libraries provide not just remains low for both sexthat other ages do not information but also con- es, but females have more need these, but with the tribute to building com- inadequate access than number of youth present munities. Public libraries their male counterparts in the country, the im- can be a great equalizer by for all age groups. Dr. Nayportance of having facili- providing information and ab further elaborated in ties where the young can education to those who the report that it is worth shape and nourish their otherwise cannot afford mentioning here that this minds and bodies become it. The PIDE's research ti- is reported access. A facility tled "Shaping Minds and might exist but still remain According to a Press Bodies: Do We Have the Fa- inaccessible for a variety of

#### The Frontier Post

May 01, 2023

## 83% of Pakistanis do not have access to any library

#### F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: Around 83 percent of Pakistanis do not have access to any library & 60% of Pakistanis have revealed in a latest research study of Pakistan's Institute of Development Economic (PIDE) titled: "Shaping Minds and Bodies: Do We Have the Facilities?" which is the fifth BASICS Note of the Series, here on Sunday.

According to a press release issued by the PIDE, Dr. Durre Nayab, Pro Vicechancellor of National people of Pakistan.

socially, how are they keeping themselves mentally number of youth present in variety of reasons. the country, the importance

the young can shape and grounds? It may be clarinourish their minds and fied here that this question bodies become all the more asks if the respondent can important.

According to playground access, research study, the libraries tion but also contribute to building communities. great equalizer by providing information and educacannot afford it.

Pakistanis (83%) do not in the unhappy/very unhaphave access to any library, py responses. Think Tank, in her latest with only a tiny proportion research, showed a very (4.5%) being very happy low level of social and civic with the one they can engagement among the access. Access remains low for both sexes, but females The study suggested If have more inadequate accpeople are rarely engaged ess than their male counterparts for all age groups.

Dr. Nayab further elaboand physically alive? Are rated in the report that it is there enough libraries and worth mentioning here that playgrounds available to do this is reported access. A so? Not that other ages do facility might exist but still not need these, but with the remain inaccessible for a

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#### TIMES REPORT

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playground access, selves mentally and those who otherwise sons. How research study of physically alive? Are cannot afford it. The Pakistanis enough study furthermore access issued by the PIDE, shape and nourish for both sexes, but While Dr. Durre Nayab, Pro their minds and bod-females have more urban very low level of the libraries provide Nayab further elabo- terparts.

engagement among but also contribute that it is worth menof to building commu-tioning here that Public this is reported Pakistanis do not suggested If people libraries can be a access. A facility are rarely engaged great equalizer by might exist but still socially, how are providing informa- remain inaccessible Pakistanis have no they keeping them- tion and education to for a variety of rea-Pakistan Institute of libraries and play- said that a vast grounds? It may be of clarified here that "Shaping do so? Not that other Pakistanis (83%) do this question asks if Minds and Bodies: ages do not need not have access to the respondent can Do We Have the these, but with the any library, with access a playground, Facilities?" which is number of youth pre- only a tiny propor- not if they actually the fifth BASICS Note sent in the country, tion (4.5%) being very do it. The research of the Series, here on the importance of happy with the one shows that 60% of facilities they can access. Pakistanis have no to a Press Release where the young can Access remains low playground access. Vice-chancellor of ies become all the inadequate access lacks access to a playimpor- than their male ground, the propor-Tank, in her latest tant. According to counterparts for all tion is three-fourths groups.Dr. for their rural coun-



#### PIDE study reveals 83% of Pakistanis do not have access to any library

T M Report

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#### Shaping Minds and Bodies

### 83% of Pakistanis do not have access to any library

#### And 60% of Pakistanis have no playground access: PIDE Latest Research

#### Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: If people are rarely engaged socially, how are they keeping themselves mentally and physically alive? Are there enough libraries and playgrounds available to do so? Not that other ages do not need these, but with the number of youth present in the country, the importance of having facilities where the young can shape and nourish their minds and bodies become all the more important.

At PIDE, Dr. Durre Nayab, Pro Vice-chancellor of National Think Tank, in her latest research, showed a very low level of social and civic engagement among the people of Pakistan.

The libraries provide not just information but also contribute to building communities. Public libraries can be a great equalizer by providing information and education to those who otherwise cannot afford it. The PIDE's research titled "Shaping Minds and Bodies: Do We Have the Facilities?" which is the fifth BASICS Note of the Series, shows that a vast majority of Pakistanis (83%) do not have access to any library, with only a tiny proportion (4.5%) being very happy with the one they can access. Access remains low for both sexes, but females have more inadequate access than their male counterparts for all age groups.

Dr. Nayab further elaborated in the report that it is worth mentioning here that this is reported access. A facility might exist but still remain inaccessible for a variety of reasons. Some of these reasons can be the awareness about its presence, distance to the facility, open-

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Punjab fares the best among the four provinces, followed by Balochistan and Sindh. KP shows the highest proportion of those not having access to a playground (67.8%). GB continues to show better trends than other territories, having the lowest proportion of those not having access to a playground (46.3%). AJK lags behind other territories, with 62.3% needing more access to a playground.



# PIDE study reveals 83% of Pakistanis do not have access to any library

#### MT REPORT

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## Shaping minds and bodies: Do we have the facilities?

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DNA

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## PIDE study reveals 83 percent of Pakistanis have no access to library

■ APP PESHAWAR

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