

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 Survey¹ 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.



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-pide-report>

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/>

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 coun-

try, 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 low.

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, Punjab 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 a very low level of social and civic engagement among the people of Pakistan which questions their viability of keeping themselves mentally and physically alive.

The research on "Shaping minds and bodies: do we have the facilities?" was conducted by Dr Durre Nayab, Pro Vice-chancellor, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE).

The report says that other ages also need enough libraries and 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.

The libraries provide not just information but also contribute to building communities. Public libraries can be a great equaliser by providing information and education to those who otherwise cannot afford it.

The PIDE's research indicated 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 of all age groups.

Dr Nayab further elabo-

rated in the report that it is worth mentioning 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, opening timings and it being gender-inclusive/exclusive. Factors like these can explain the lower reported accessibility by females than males in the study.

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 lev-

els 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 responses.

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, she says 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. 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.

May 01, 2023

Library remains an elusive luxury

PESHAWAR

Around 83 per cent of Pakistanis do not have access to any library, a latest research study of Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) has found.

The findings of the research report titled 'Shaping Minds and Bodies: Do We Have the Facilities?' were unveiled

here on Sunday, according to which 60 per cent of Pakistanis have no access to playgrounds.

According to a press statement issued by the PIDE, Dr Durre Nayab, Pro Vice Chancellor of National Think Tank, in her latest research, found a very low level of social and civic engagement among the people of Pakistan. APP

May 01, 2023

Study reveals 83pc of Pakistanis have no access to library

Around 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 of 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**



THE NATION

May 01, 2023

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 (PIDE).

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.

The libraries provide not just information but also contribute to building communities. Public libraries can be a great equaliser by providing information and education to those who otherwise cannot afford it.

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

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 responses.

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.

May 01, 2023

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

STAFF REPORTER

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.

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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.

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 no playground access, 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 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 study suggested 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.

According to the research study, 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 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.

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May 01, 2023

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TIMES REPORT

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T M Report

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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.

IS 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

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May 01, 2023

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MT REPORT

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Shaping minds and bodies: Do we have the facilities?

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DNA

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■ APP
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