



39th PSDE International Conference & AGM Mission \$100 Billion

The National Race for Sustainable
Export-led Prosperity

PROGRAMME



October 14 & 15, 2026



PIDE, Islamabad

PAKISTAN SOCIETY OF DEVELOPMENT ECONOMISTS
Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Islamabad



psde.pide.org.pk

INAUGURAL SESSION

PIDE Sky Hall

09:00 – 09:30 AM

ARRIVAL OF GUESTS/REGISTRATION

09:30 – 09:40 AM

WELCOME REMARKS

Dr Muhammad Tahir Noor

Federal Secretary, Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives

09:40 – 09:50 AM

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dr Faheem Jehangir

Dean (Policy), PIDE/Secretary, PSDE

09:50 – 10:00 AM

GUEST OF HONOUR

Mr Yuan Jianmin

Senior Advisor, Xinjiang Government, China

10:00 – 10:20 AM

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Dr Nadeem Javaid (SI)

Vice Chancellor, PIDE/President, PSDE

10:20 – 10:45 AM

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

Prof Ahsan Iqbal

Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives/DCPC/Chancellor, PIDE

10:45 – 11:00 AM | Tea Break



ZOOM LINK DETAILS

Meeting ID: **825 1833 1615**

Passcode: **988095**

11:00 AM –
12:30 PM

PANEL DISCUSSION 1

Leveraging CAREC & CPEC as
Engines of Trade & Investment

PIDE Sky Hall

CHAIR

Dr Tofiq Babayev

*Head of International Cooperation Department,
Institute of Mathematics, Ministry of Science and
Education, Republic of Azerbaijan*

PANELLISTS

Mr Yang Guangyuan

*Minister Counsellor,
Embassy of People's Republic of China, Islamabad*

Prof Dr Li Kouqing

Deputy Director 1, CAREC Institute

Dr Hassan Daud Butt

*Senior Associate Professor, Bahria University,
Islamabad/Senior Advisor, CEEC (Pak)*

Ms Farzana Noshab

Lead Economist, Asian Development Bank-Pakistan

Mr Masood Khalid

Former Ambassador to China

MODERATOR

Dr Ghulam Samad

Chief (Research Division), CAREC Institute



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11:00 AM –
12:30 PM

PANEL DISCUSSION 2

**Better Workplaces, Stronger Exports:
Working Conditions as a Driver of
Export-led Prosperity**

JCR

CHAIR

Mr Muhammad Ubaid

Head of WE Project, GIZ Pakistan

PANELLIST

Mr Irfan Mufti

*Executive Director,
South Asia Partnership, Pakistan*

Mr Zain Ul Abideen Ahsan

Deputy CEO, Vision Technologies

Ms Maliha Ameen

Marketing and Sales Director, Immi Garments

Ms Zoha Shahzad

*Head of Corporate HR,
Mahmood Group of Industries*

MODERATOR

Ms Saman Sardar

*Economic Cooperation and Private Sector
Development Advisor, WE Project*

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

SHOWCASE 1: RASTA (Tobacco Excise Compliance)
Dr Nasir Iqbal (Sartaj Aziz Room)

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

SHOWCASE 2: RASTA (Time Use Survey)
Dr Muhammad Jehangir Khan (A. R. Kemal Room)



ZOOM LINK DETAILS

Meeting ID: **851 0589 6241**

Passcode: **827963**

12:30 –
01:45 PM

THE QUAID-I-AZAM MEMORIAL LECTURE

Realising the Quaid's Vision:
From Moth-eaten Dependent State
to a Strong and Resilient Nation

PIDE Sky Hall

CHAIR

Mr Tariq Bajwa

SAPM/Former Governor, SBP

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr Ehtisham Ahmad

*Special Advisor (Finance) /IMF Advisor/
Senior Fellow, LSE /University of Bonn*

DISCUSSANT

Dr Ikram ul Haq

Author and Senior Expert on Tax

01:45 – 02:30 PM | Lunch Break



ZOOM LINK DETAILS

Meeting ID: **825 1833 1615**

Passcode: **988095**

02:30 –
4:00 PM

PANEL DISCUSSION 3

Customs & Tariff Reforms for Exports Take-off

PIDE Sky Hall

CHAIR

Dr Imtiaz Ahmed

Chief Economist, M/o PD&SI

MODERATOR

Mr Mukarram Jah Ansari

Director General-I, Strategic Tariff and
Revenue Analysis Wing, FBR

PANELLISTS

Mr Aamir Allawala

CEO, Tecno Pak Telecom (Pvt) Ltd

Dr Manzoor Ahmad

International Trade & Customs
Facilitation Expert

Dr Ikram ul Haq

Author and Senior Expert on Tax

Ms Robina Ather

Former Chairperson, NTC

Dr Aadil Nakhoda

Assistant Professor, IBA

02:30 – 04:00 PM

SHOWCASE 3: RASTA (Citypedia)

Dr Faheem Jehangir (Sartaj Aziz Room)

02:30 – 04:00 PM

SHOWCASE 4: RASTA (SYIG Tracer Study)

Mr Saddam Hussein & Mr Usama Rauf

(A. R. Kemal Room)



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Meeting ID: **825 1833 1615**

Passcode: **988095**

Parallel Technical Sessions 1

04:00 – 05:30 PM



ZOOM LINK DETAILS

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1A - PIDE Sky Hall

1B - JCR

CULTIVATING COMPETITIVENESS: AI, AGRITECH & THE AGRICULTURAL EXPORT TRANSFORMATION

CHAIR

Dr Najeebullah Marwat

*Member (Science & Technology),
M/o PD&SI*

PRESENTERS

- **Dr Manan Aslam**
Jiangsu University, Zhenjiang, China
Digital Technologies, AI-Enabled Tools, and Agricultural Export Performance: Evidence from Citrus and Mango Value Chains in Pakistan
- **Dr Ghulam Rasool Madni**
University of Education, Lahore
AI, AgriTech, and the Export Turnaround: A Data-Driven Roadmap to Achieve Pakistan's \$100 Billion Vision
- **Dr Qamar Ali**
Virtual University, Islamabad
A Hybrid Computational Framework for Climate-Smart, Digitally-Enabled, and Sustainable Agri-Export Resilience: Evidence from Pakistan, India, China, and Japan (2000–2025)

DISCUSSANT

Dr M. Jehangir Khan

*Associate Professor/Director ORIC,
PIDE*

THE INSTITUTIONAL COMPASS: POLITICS, GOVERNANCE & PAKISTAN'S EXPORT TRAJECTORY

CHAIR

Dr Mumtaz Anwar Chaudhary

Professor of Economics, Punjab University

PRESENTERS

- **Dr Fatima Ejaz**
FJWU, Rawalpindi
Rethinking Pakistan's Exports Bottleneck: How Economic, Political and Institutional Factors Shape Pakistan Exports
- **Dr Chaman Hussain**
Punjab University, Lahore
Corridors and Codes: Provincial Language Politics, Decentralised Governance, and Trade-driven Growth in Pakistan
- **Dr Muhammad Sohail Akhtar**
IBA, Karachi
Political Uncertainty and Market Behaviour: Evidence from the Karachi Stock Exchange

DISCUSSANT

Dr Shahzada M. Naeem Nawaz

*Professor of Economics/Director MPL,
PIDE*

Parallel Technical Sessions 1

04:00 – 05:30 PM



ZOOM LINK DETAILS

Meeting ID: **883 9309 2808**
 Passcode: **241556**



ZOOM LINK DETAILS

Meeting ID: **863 9198 6614**
 Passcode: **952872**

1C - Sartaj Aziz Room

BENCHMARKING GROWTH: SECTORAL PERFORMANCE & COMPARATIVE EXPORT ADVANTAGE

CHAIR

Dr Manzoor Ahmad

*International Trade & Customs
Facilitation Expert*

PRESENTERS

- **Dr Masood Ahmed Siddiqui**
IBA, Karachi
Revisiting Export-led Growth in Pakistan: Evidence from Medium Term Sectoral Projections and Real Exchange Rate Elasticities
- **Dr Uzma Zia**
PIDE, Islamabad
Pakistan's Sectoral Comparative Advantages and Export Challenges
- **Dr Jamshaid ur Rehman**
GC University, Lahore
Divergent Pathways: A Comparative Analysis of Industrial Development and SME Dynamism in Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, and Vietnam

DISCUSSANT

Dr Imtiaz Ahmad

Head of Policy for Trade, Investment & Industrial Cooperation, CoE-CPEC, PIDE

1D - A. R. Kemal Room

SMALL FIRMS, BIG GAINS: SMEs, CLUSTERS & INCLUSIVE INNOVATION

CHAIR

Dr Syed Hasanat Shah

*Executive Director,
CoE-CPEC, PIDE*

PRESENTERS

- **Dr Yusra Shehzadi**
IoBM, Karachi
Empowering Women-led SMEs for Sustainable Export Growth: A Pathway to Inclusive Industrial Development in Pakistan
- **Dr Muhammad Ali**
NESPAK, Islamabad
Unlocking Value in Pakistan's Gemstone Economy: A Cluster Upgrading Strategy for Namak Mandi, Peshawar
- **Dr Muhammad Sohail**
Bacha Khan University, Charsadda
Quality of Institutions and Firm-level Innovation in Pakistan: A Disaggregated Analysis

DISCUSSANT

Dr Nasim Faraz

*Director General, Macro-Fiscal Policy Unit,
Finance Division*

Parallel Technical Sessions 2

09:00 – 10:30 AM



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2A - PIDE Sky Hall

CODE, CLOUD & CUSTOMS: ICT, AI & DIGITAL TRADE REFORM

CHAIR

Dr Sohail Munir*Chairperson, Pakistan Digital Authority*

PRESENTERS

- **Dr Farhat Mahmood**
PIDE, Islamabad
ICT Development and Services
Exports in South Asia
- **Mr Haider Ali**
MNS Agriculture University, Multan
Federated Medical AI and Digital
Health Service Delivery:
A Techno-Economic Feasibility
Assessment Using Skin-Lesion
Classification
- **Ms Ana Khattak**
State Bank of Pakistan, Karachi
Redefining Pakistan's Trade
Trajectory through the Pakistan
Single Window (PSW):
A Data-Driven Reform

DISCUSSANT

Dr Zahid Asghar*Member (Economic Analysis),
Pakistan Bureau of Statistics*

2B - JCR

THE BLUE FRONTIER: MARITIME TRADE, COASTS & OCEAN GOVERNANCE

CHAIR

Dr Waqas Anwar*Member (Infrastructure & Regional
Connectivity), Planning Commission*

PRESENTERS

- **Dr Saba Anwar**
PIDE, Islamabad
Leveraging Green Maritime Tourism
for Climate-Resilient Coastal
Development in Pakistan:
Opportunities and Policy Pathways
- **Dr Hafeez Ahmed Jamali**
Balochistan CSA, Quetta
Sustainable Fisheries and Coastal
Development through "Blue
Economy" Framework in
Balochistan: Progress, Challenges,
and the Way Forward
- **Dr Muhammad Aamir Mahmood**
Virtual University, Islamabad
Navigating the Blue-Green Nexus:
Maritime Governance, Digitalisation,
and Sustainable Port Development
in Asian Economies (2000-2025)

DISCUSSANT

Dr Amjad Masood*Chief of Research/Director CTLI,
PIDE*

Parallel Technical Sessions 2

09:00 – 10:30 AM



ZOOM LINK DETAILS

Meeting ID: 883 9309 2808
Passcode: 241556



ZOOM LINK DETAILS

Meeting ID: 863 9198 6614
Passcode: 952872

2C - Sartaj Aziz Room

BEYOND BORDERS: SKILLS, LABOUR MOBILITY & HUMAN CAPITAL EXPORTS

CHAIR

Dr Ather Maqsood

Professor of Economics, NUST

PRESENTERS

- **Dr Hummaira Jabeen**
Indus University, Karachi
Bridging the Skills-to-Market Gap: The Role of Skills in Enhancing Pakistan's Freelancing and IT Export Competitiveness
- **Dr Moazzam Ali**
AIOU, Islamabad
The Dynamics of Manpower Export in Pakistan: Challenges, Reforms, and Global Prospects
- **Dr Umer Khalid**
PRIDE Consulting, Islamabad
Labour Exports from Pakistan: Case Study of Gulf Cooperation Council Countries

DISCUSSANT

Dr Junaid Ahmed

Chief of Research, PIDE

2D - A. R. Kemal Room

FROM COASTLINES TO COKE STUDIO: TOURISM & THE CREATIVE ECONOMY AS EXPORT FRONTIERS

CHAIR

Ms Amena Aly Kamaal

Member (Development Communications), M/o PD&SI

PRESENTERS

- **Dr Bushra Yasmin**
FJWU, Rawalpindi
Tourism-led Export Diversification: Empirical Evidence from South Asian Economies
- **Dr Syeda Azra Batool**
BZU, Multan
Beyond Tourism-Led Growth: The Role of Institutions in Unlocking Pakistan's Tourism Potential
- **Dr Muhammad Rafi Khan**
Minhaj University, Lahore
From K-pop to Coke Studio: Policy Pathways for Music Export Development in Pakistan

DISCUSSANT

Dr Fahd Zulfqar

Assistant Professor/Director CSBA, PIDE

10:30 – 11:00 AM | Tea Break

11:00 AM –
12:30 PM

PANEL DISCUSSION 4

How to Export More: Learning from
Newly Industrialised Economies

PIDE Sky Hall

CHAIR

Prof Dr Zafar Nawaz Jaspal

Vice Chancellor, Quaid-i-Azam University

MODERATOR

Mr Tahir Habib Cheema

Chief (Admin & Finance), FBR

PANELLISTS

Syed Asad Ali Shah

Governance & Economic Reform Specialist

Dr Babur Wasim

Senior Economist, Asian Development Bank-Pakistan

Mr Shafiq Shehzad

Director General, Trade Policy, Ministry of Commerce

Dr Madiha Riaz

Professor of Economics/Director CSF, PIDE

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

SHOWCASE 5: CoE-CPEC

Dr Syed Hasanat Shah (Sartaj Aziz Room)

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

SHOWCASE 6: CoE-CPEC

Dr Uzair Khaleeq uz Zaman & Dr Nayyar Hussain Mirjat
(A. R. Kemal Room)



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12:30 –
01:45 PM

THE ALLAMA IQBAL MEMORIAL LECTURE

Beyond the Mandi: Connecting
Pakistan's Farms to Finance, Markets
and Exports

PIDE Sky Hall

CHAIR

Mr Fawad Hasan Fawad

*Former Federal Minister/Former Principal
Secretary to the Prime Minister of Pakistan*

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr Kabir Ahmed Sidhu

*Chairman,
Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan*

DISCUSSANT

Dr Shujaat Farooq

Professor of Economics/Dean Research, PIDE

01:45 – 02:30 PM | Lunch Break



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02:30 –
03:45 PM

THE MAHBUB UL HAQ MEMORIAL LECTURE

Economic Take-off Need Not be
Difficult: Three Key Lessons and
Pragmatic Forms of Assistance
from China

PIDE Sky Hall

CHAIR

Dr Samuel Rizk

Resident Representative, UNDP

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Prof Dr David Daokui Li

Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

DISCUSSANT

Dr Nasir Iqbal

Professor of Economics/Registrar, PIDE



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03:45 –
05:15 PM

PhD SYMPOSIUM

PIDE Sky Hall

03:45 - 04:30 PM

CONDUCTING & WRITING RESEARCH

Dr Eatzaz Ahmed

*Professor of Economics/Associate Dean,
Iqra University, Islamabad*

04:30 - 05:15 PM

PUBLISHING WITH SPRINGER

Ms Tatiana Golea

*Associate Publisher,
Springer Nature*

MODERATOR

Dr Karim Khan

*Professor of Economics/Dean Academics,
PIDE*



ZOOM LINK DETAILS

Meeting ID: **825 1833 1615**

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05:15 –
06:00

CLOSING SESSION

PIDE Sky Hall

05:15 – 05:30 PM

AWARD CEREMONY

- Announcement of Best Paper Awards
- Poster Competition Winner Announcement

05:30 – 05:40 PM

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Dr Faheem Jehangir

Dean (Policy), PIDE / Secretary, PSDE

05:40 – 05:50 PM

CLOSING ADDRESS

Chief Guest

05:50 – 06:00 PM

VOTE OF THANKS

Dr Nadeem Javaid (SI)

Vice Chancellor, PIDE / President, PSDE



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PAKISTAN SOCIETY OF DEVELOPMENT ECONOMISTS

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