



# ANNUAL REPORT

2021 - 2022



PUNJAB ECONOMIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE

## About Punjab Economic Research Institute

British Government established a Board of Economic Inquiry in India in the year 1919 to undertake evidence-based policy research on different socio-economic issues including Agriculture and Rural Economy. After the partition in 1947, the organization was renamed as Board of Economic Inquiry, West Pakistan. In 1975, it was reorganized as Economic Research Institute and in 1980 it was reactivated as Punjab Economic Research Institute (PERI) with the status of Autonomous Body of the Planning and Development Board. Therefore, it is the oldest economic research institution in the country with an unbroken record of economic research going back to 1919.

## Vision

A dynamic and vibrant research institute that provides analytical inputs for the formulation of forward-looking provincial development strategies, and also undertakes high quality, evidence-based research to broadly improve public policy making in the province.

## Mission

To be Punjab's leading provider of socio-economic insight on evidence-based research by adopting proactive and new ideas/ orientation to assist in policy formulation.

## Our Strategic Focus

Research and Consultancy: present neutral, independent and objective analyses and solutions to major policy issues; and undertake research projects and consultancy work.

**Think Tank:** contribute to debate on public policy issues and undertake a strong advocacy role on issues of vital significance; and through intense study and interaction, provide strategic analysis and policy prescriptions of the concepts and doctrines in selected areas of public policy.

**Education and Learning:** formulate and conduct education and training courses in the field of public policy and leadership; and enhance capacity and competency for public policy development and implementation.

Knowledge Management: collate, generate, store, exchange and share knowledge, publications, knowledge products, best practices etc.; Facilitate knowledge transfer between research institutes and relevant stakeholders; Produce publications, journals, and analytical notes on public policy.

## Office Address:

Punjab Economic Research Institute (PERI)  
48-Civic Center, Johar Town, Lahore  
Office: 042-99233441



# MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR

PUNJAB ECONOMIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Research plays a pivotal role in fostering economic growth within a nation, primarily through the facilitation of technological advancements and the propagation of spillover effects. Economic analyses, encompassing both theoretical constructs and empirical investigations, yield invaluable insights into individual and aggregate behaviors and interrelations, thereby aiding society in the judicious allocation of scarce resources. The significance and centrality of research and development (R&D) for economic progress in developing economies, such as Pakistan, are undeniable, with R&D emerging as a cornerstone for growth in the contemporary era.

Pakistan faces formidable challenges in attaining sustained economic expansion. To address this, economists and policymakers are diligently scrutinizing the determinants of economic growth within the country. Effective policymaking necessitates a robust foundation of empirical evidence and rigorous analysis. Consequently, the caliber of research directly influences the efficacy of policies and their subsequent implementation.

The Punjab Economic Research Institute (PERI) epitomizes a dynamic and vibrant research entity committed to furnishing analytical insights essential for crafting forward-looking provincial development strategies. Moreover, PERI is dedicated to conducting high-caliber, evidence-based research aimed at enhancing the quality of public policy formulation within the province. Positioned as the forefront provider of socio-economic intelligence rooted in evidence-based research, PERI espouses a proactive ethos, continually embracing novel ideas and methodologies.

Throughout the fiscal year 2021-22, PERI engaged in a multifaceted research agenda, producing an array of research reports and policy papers addressing diverse socio-economic issues. Additionally, PERI assumed the critical role of conducting third-party evaluations of government projects, ensuring accountability and efficacy in public expenditure. Complementing these endeavors, PERI organized seminars and webinars, convening esteemed experts to deliberate on socio-economic challenges, propose viable solutions, and chart paths forward. Moreover, as an active participant in numerous government committees, PERI contributed evidence-based insights to inform policy deliberations across various forums.



**Dr. Muhammad Avais Tahir**



The background of the slide is a grayscale image of a globe with a grid of latitude and longitude lines. A semi-transparent green rectangular box is centered horizontally and vertically, containing the text.

# **Training Workshops/ Webinars**

## Training workshop on Impact Assessment of Capacity Building of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Regime to Promote Safer Conditions at Workplaces

A two-day training workshop on "Impact Assessment of Capacity Building of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Regime to Promote Safer Conditions at Workplaces" was held at PERI office on **October 15-16, 2021**. Training sessions were conducted by Mr. Khawar Ata (Research Economist) and Mr. Aamir Imtiaz (Research Assistant)



Prominent among the participants were; Mr. Arshad Mehmood, Project Director, Impact Assessment of Capacity Building of OSH Regime to Promote Safer Conditions at Workplaces, Dr. Muhammad Avais Tahir, Director PERI, Mr. Muhammad Shahzad Sardar, Research Economist, Dr. Shahzada M. Naem Nawaz, Research Fellow, and Ms. Wajiha, Secretary PERI.





## PEPRI Delegate Visits PERI Office

A delegation from the Pakhtunkhwa Economic Policy Research Institute (PEPRI) at the Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan (AWKUM) visited Punjab Economic Research Institute (PERI) office on **October 22, 2021**. The delegate headed by Prof. Dr. Zahoor Ul Haq, Vice Chancellor, AWKUM/ Project Director, PEPRI, was comprised of Dr. Shehzad Khan, Deputy Director (Admin), PEPRI, and Mr. Shehzad Ali, Assistant Director (Finance), PEPRI.



PERI Director, Dr. Muhammad Avais Tahir, along with a senior PERI team welcomed the distinguished guests. Aim of the visit was to exchange excellence, experiences and opportunities in the field of economic policy research among the two Institutes.





Punjab Economic Research Institute (PERI)



# Seminar /Webinar on Diversified Cropping Systems: Challenges & Opportunities

## OUR SPEAKERS



**Dr Anjum Ali**  
Director General Extension  
and Adaptive Research



**Dr Abedullah**  
Chief of Research, PIDE



**Dr Muhammad Avas Tahir**  
Director, PERI

Date and Time: December 2nd, 2021 | 11:00 to 1:00 pm

Contact : [sobia.rose@peri.punjab.gov.pk](mailto:sobia.rose@peri.punjab.gov.pk)

phone # 03366557591

## Webinar/ Seminar on “Diversified Cropping Systems: Challenges and Opportunities

Punjab Economic Research Institute (PERI) held a webinar/seminar on “Diversified Cropping Systems: Challenges and Opportunities”. Dr. Anjum Ali, Director General Extension and Adaptive Research, Agriculture Department; and Dr. Abedullah, Chief of Research, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), were the key speakers at the webinar/seminar





# SEMINAR/WEBINAR on Climate Resilient Communities

A Policy Dialogue

## Date & Time

**09th December-2021**

**10:00 am to 12:30pm**



### Chief Guest

**Dr. Muhammad Abid Bodla**  
Member (Environment & Climate Change)  
Planning & Development Board,

**SPEAKERS**



**Dr. Muhammad Avais Tahir**  
Director PERI



**Mr. Niaz Ullah Khan**  
UNICEF Consultant



**Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmed Baig**  
Dean Faculty of Social Sciences  
and Humanities  
MNSUAM



**Dr. Sobia Rose**  
Research Fellow (PERI)  
Moderator

**Venue:**



**Punjab Economic Research Institute (PERI)**  
48-Civic Centre, Johar Town, Lahore.



## Webinar/ Seminar on Climate Resilient Communities: A Policy Dialogue

PERI organized a seminar on “Climate Resilient Communities: A Policy Dialogue” to discuss the ambitious actions to support resilience that benefits persons, groups, and people in vulnerable situations. Dr. Muhammad Abid Bodla, Member (Water, Environment & Climate Change), Planning and Development Board was the chief guest at the session.

Mr. Niaz Ullah Khan, Consultant UNICEF and Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmed Baig, Dean Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, MNSUAM, were the key speakers. Prominent among the participants were: Ms. Sabahat Ambreen, WASH Specialist, UNICEF; Mr. Nouman Ghani, PMER Specialist, UNICEF; Mr. Sajid Rasool, DG, Bureau of Statistics, Pb; Mr. Imran Khalid, WWF, Islamabad; Mr. Rizwan Ali, JICA, Japan; Chief (Irrigation), P&D Board; Dr. Rukhsana Kaleem, Dean, Department of Economics, UMT; Dr. Babar Amin; Dr. Moeen Butt; Ms. Rabiya Nasir and Dr. Ammara. Dr. Sobia Rose, Research Fellow at PERI moderated the seminar





**SEMINAR/WEBINAR**  
**HEALTH JUSTICE: A POLICY DIALOGUE**  
**&**  
**DISSEMINATION OF PERI REPORTS**

**15 DEC**  
**2021**

Wednesday

**AGENDA**

10:00 am Recitation of Holy Quran

10:05 am Welcom Adress

10:10 am Presentation by Dr. M. Ashraf

11:10 am Presentation by Director PERI

12:00 noon Refreshment

**OUR SPEAKERS**



Prof. Dr. M. Ashraf Majrooh  
Chairperson Department of  
Community Medicine,  
Director, ORIC



Dr. Muhammad Awaiz Tahir  
Director, PERI



Dr. Sobia Rose  
Moderator

Venue: Punjab Economic Research Institute Office  
48-Civic Centre Johar Town Lahore

## Seminar in hybrid mode on “Health Justice: A Policy Dialogue

PERI held seminar in hybrid mode on “Health Justice: A Policy Dialogue” at PERI office. Prof. Dr. M. Ashraf Majrooh, Chairperson, Department of Community Medicine, Director ORIC and Dr. Muhammad Avais Tahir, Director PERI, were the key speakers on the occasion. Dr. Sobia Rose moderated the seminar.

The seminar was attended by representatives from Planning & Development Board, Bureau of Statistics, The Urban Unit, other allied departments, as well as by the healthcare practitioners, academicians, and other stakeholders.







## Research Reports

- Exploratory Analysis of Road Traffic Accidents in Punjab (2015-2019)
- Analysis of the carpet industry in Pakistan: A special focus on Punjab
- Diversification in Punjab's Agriculture; A District Level Approach
- A study on Gender Roles and related work burden and their effects on Child Labor in Agriculture in Punjab
- Baseline Survey of National Programme for Enhancing Profitability Through Increasing Productivity of Rice

## Exploratory Analysis of Road Traffic Accidents in Punjab (2015-2019)

The global impact of road traffic accidents (RTAs) is underscored, with 1.35 million deaths in 2016, primarily affecting the 5-29 age group. Despite 90% of fatalities occurring in low and middle-income countries, the economic toll reaches 5% of GDP. The study focuses on Pakistan, where RTAs ranked ninth in causes of death in 2016, constituting 3% of total deaths. It analyzes RTAs in Punjab from 2015 to 2019, revealing 1.4 million incidents, 1.6 million victims, and over 17 thousand fatalities, primarily involving motorcycles and human errors. The report urges urgent policy interventions, emphasizing the need for safer road environments in Punjab.

### Exploratory Analysis of Road Traffic Accidents in Punjab (2015-2019)



Punjab Economic Research Institute (PERI)

#### Authors

Muhammad Irfan Malik (Associate Research Fellow)  
Hassan Hameed Khan (Assistant Research Fellow)  
Sajid Amin (Assistant Research Fellow)



## Analysis of the carpet industry in Pakistan: A special focus on Punjab

The carpet industry in the subcontinent, tracing back to the 11th century Mughal era, has evolved, with Pakistan specializing in labor-intensive hand-knotted carpets. While knotted carpet demand declined from 21% in 2001 to 5.8% in 2019, tufted and woven carpets now comprise 79.67% of demand. Despite knotted carpets dominating exports with a 92% share, global trends show a shift to tufted carpets. Pakistan faces challenges such as declining global market share, concentrated industry locations, and issues like child labor and health hazards. Government initiatives aim to support the industry, but the recommendations stress the need for adapting to changing global demand, leveraging existing programs, updating training, and seeking international exposure.



### ANALYSIS OF THE CARPET INDUSTRY IN PAKISTAN: A SPECIAL FOCUS ON PUNJAB

Publication No. 459



PUNJAB ECONOMIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE

#### Authors

Dr. Shahzada M. Naeem Nawaz (*Research Fellow*)  
Zubair Khalid Saleemi (*Associate Research Fellow*)  
Dr. Muhammad Avais Tahir (*Director*)

# Diversification in Punjab's Agriculture; A District Level Approach

Punjab's agriculture sector, thriving due to favorable conditions and accessible inputs, faces sustainability challenges outlined in the economic survey. With a population set to exceed 229 million by 2022, feeding the growing populace is a concern.

Diversification, proposed as a strategy, involves horizontal (multiple cropping) and vertical (incorporating activities like livestock rearing). District-wise diversification levels in Punjab are identified, emphasizing the need for targeted policies and a bottom-up approach to ensure inclusive and sustainable agricultural development, aligning with several Sustainable Development Goals.

## Diversification in Punjab's Agriculture: A District Level Approach

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**Dr. Sobia Rose**

*Research Fellow*

**Sajid Amin**

*Assistant Research Fellow*

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Punjab Economic Research Institute

### Author

Dr. Sobia Rose (*Research Fellow*)

Sajid Amin (*Assistant Research Fellow*)



## A study on Gender Roles and related work burden and their effects on Child Labor in Agriculture in Punjab

The study delves into daily life realities in key cotton-producing districts of Punjab, considering gender differences in labor division. Focusing on child labor and its gender impact, it explores family labor dynamics, resource use, and gender relations in small farm communities. Highlighting the invisibility of gender roles in quantitative assessments, the research aims to provide insight into the lives and informal networks of these communities. It emphasizes the agricultural system's lack of inclusivity, exposing challenges such as child labor, gender-based constraints, and limited access to information and resources. The study advocates for a holistic understanding of small farm families' contributions and challenges, addressing gender disparities in decision-making and work allocation within households.

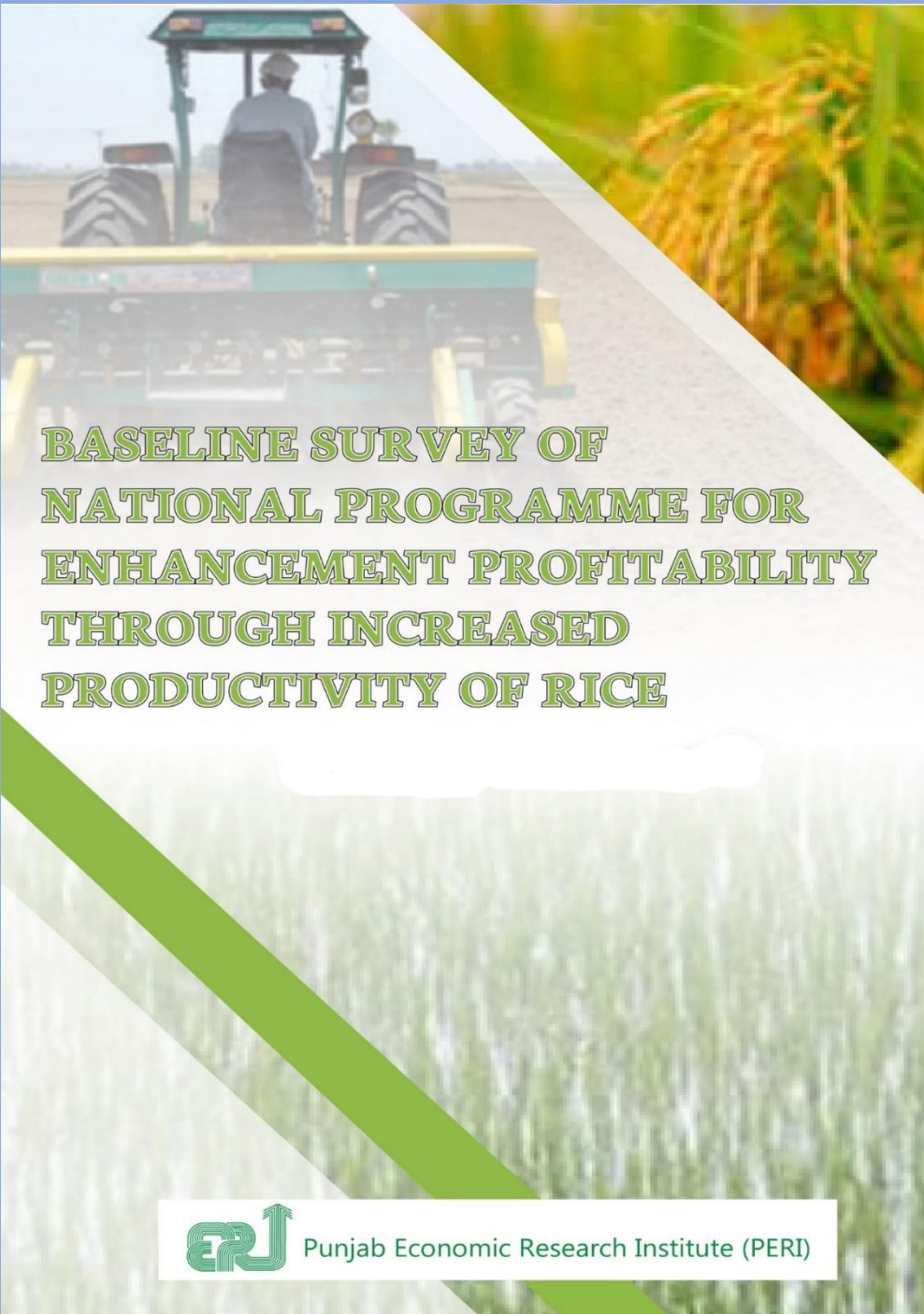


### Authors

Dr. Muhammad Avais Tahir (*Chief of Research*)  
Khawar Ata (*Research Economist*)  
Uzooba Hureem (*Staff Sociologist*)  
Dr. Muhammad Nadeem (*Assistant Research Fellow*)

## Baseline Survey of National Programme for Enhancing Profitability Through Increasing Productivity of Rice

The agriculture sector remains a significant contributor to Pakistan's economy, despite a declining share in GDP. Challenges such as climate change, water scarcity, and pest attacks have hindered optimal productivity. The government's "Prime Minister Agriculture Emergency Programme" aims to revitalize the sector with a focus on rice farming, particularly in Punjab. The initiative includes mechanized transplanting, addressing issues like inefficient land use and low adoption of modern farming practices. A study involving 393 rice growers highlights challenges like illiteracy, traditional practices, and limited access to agricultural machinery. The Rice Research Institute plays a role in introducing new varieties, training farmers, and allocating budgets efficiently. The Agricultural Extension's vital role in promoting sustainable farming practices is emphasized, revealing the need for increased awareness and knowledge dissemination among farmers.



### **BASELINE SURVEY OF NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR ENHANCEMENT PROFITABILITY THROUGH INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY OF RICE**



Punjab Economic Research Institute (PERI)

#### **Authors**

Khawar Ata (*Research Economist*)

Dr. Muhammad Avais Tahir (*Director*)

Zubair Tanveer (*Staff Economist*)

Sajid Amin (*Assistant Research Fellow*)





## **Policy Papers**

# THE STATE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION IN PUNJAB: ISSUES, CHALLENGES, AND WAY FORWARD

Zubair Tanveer  
(Staff Economist)

Dr. Muhammad Nadeem  
(Assistant Research Fellow)

Dr. Shahzada M. Naeem Nawaz  
(Research Fellow)



PUNJAB ECONOMIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE (PERI)  
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## DEVELOPING A HOLISTIC UNDERSTANDING OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND RE- EVALUATING STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONNECTIVITY

Hassan Hameed Khan  
(Assistant Research Fellow)

Dr. Shahzada M. Naeem Nawaz  
(Research Fellow)

**UNDERSTANDING THE METHODOLOGIES AND  
INDICATORS FOR EVALUATING IMPACT OF ROAD  
INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS**

Hassan Hameed Khan  
(Assistant Research Fellow)

Dr. Shahzada M. Naeem Nawaz  
(Research Fellow)





Dr. Muhammad Avais  
Tahir has assumed the  
charge of Director PERI  
w.e.f. 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021.  
His predecessor was Dr.  
Shahid Adil, who has been  
transferred to a new  
position



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