

Editorial

Nation is going to celebrate its 75th year of independence and has a lot to ponder on, the achievements, the plans, the regrets and the way forwards. The last seven decades have shown all kind of situations to the country and amidst the chaos, it is striving but standing tall, proving the resilience of this country which gives everyone a hope for a better future. Hoping to have next seven decades and all the times to come a prosperous Pakistan. Happy Independence Day and Month!!!

In the last 75 years the country has taken the road to development and making every effort to reach the destination, the example is current reforms in every field. The country has learnt to pave its way and will keep moving forward. The needs of the time to achieve the level of development desired are always changing and so the perception of the people. Over the time the world took a digital turn and to match the pace of the world we needed to adopt technology and with the pandemic Covid-19, another entity has taken the form of necessity and that's the INTERNET. Internet has provided the support to the world when everything was shut and everyone was in isolation, it became the link to learn and to connect. PIDE understands this and it is advocating that Internet is now a human right. The issue of this month is dedicated to the Internet, how it is required by everyone, we advocate and desire Internet for All!!!

In the issue the readers will get the flavor of the ideas of the people regarding the need, availability and readiness of the internet in Pakistan. P&R has collaborated with PTA, Telenor, Ufone, PTCL and Mobilink Microfinance Bank Limited to take their views and their efforts to make internet, digital platforms and products available for the people of Pakistan. We're extremely thankful for their collaborations and the enthusiasm that they showed to work with us to tell their side of the story, particularly Telenor. We're excited to present this issue to you, and are hopeful that it will be an amazing reading experience for our readers. Quaid e Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah said "we want to make this great State of Pakistan happy and prosperous we should wholly and solely concentrate on the well-being of the people, and especially of the masses and the poor. If you will work in co-operation, forgetting the past, burying the hatchet, you are bound to succeed." We believe in the equity and stand firm with the idea of availability of all the needed resources to everyone beyond caste, creed and social status. Tell us how best to beat the forces taking us to yet another inequity, the so-called **DIGITAL DIVIDE**.

Happy Reading on internet in the merged districts of KP, GB, AJK, Balochistan and places like Rajanpur in South Punjab. For feedback, write us on policy@pide.org.pk.