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**POLICY ANALYSIS** 

Informing the design of a conditional cash transfer to improve mother and child health outcomes in Sindh

Improvements in maternal and child health indicators remain a priority area in developing countries. However, progress in the healthcare utilization during and after pregnancy continues to be a struggle in the south-eastern province of Sindh in Pakistan. To improve the state of health outcomes in Sindh, the provincial government has decided to launch a "Mother and Child Health Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT)" program as a policy response, the pilot of which is underway in the poorest two districts of the province. This project looks at the impact of the cash transfer on healthcare utilization and health outcomes, focusing on the interaction of cash receipt with the underlying norms captured by a household's

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decision-making structure and attitudes towards formal obstetric care.

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FELLOWS' ARTICLES

rainfall in July and August which overwhelmed the natural drainage system and flooded a vast area of rich farmland and human settlements. This article explores the financial cost of responding to

the disastrous consequences of these floods.

## This report has been funded by the International Growth Center (IGC). The Principal Investigators are Syeda Warda Riaz (PhD Candidate, University of California – Davis), Michael R. Carter (Distinguished Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California - Davis), and Rashid Memon (Assistant Professor, Qatar University).

The speakers for this session were: Watch (Professor of Economics, Brown University)

LAHORE POLICY

The Consortium for Development Policy Research in collaboration with the International Growth Centre (IGC) and the Mahbub ul Haq Research Centre (MHRC) held a session of Lahore Policy Exchange on 'Climate Change and Population Growth in Pakistan'. The session was

**EXCHANGE** 

held on Friday, February 10.

(Member National Climate Change Council)

(Human Geographer and Assistant Professor, Lahore University of Managament Sciences)

> contrast, our Midnight twin India has only been to the IMF seven times and never since the landmark Manmohan-Rao reforms of 1991. **Murtaza Syed Read More** Poverty of Thought MUCH of the current debate in our society is focused on whether or not the **IMF programme** can be put back on the rails. And if it can, then when? The hope is that when the IMF returns, it will unlock loans

and help from friendly countries as well as loan programmes from other multilaterals. But the message, even from friendly countries, seems to be that Pakistan needs to put its house in order before it can

Why Pakistan is IMF's Most Loyal Customer

**Faisal Bari** 

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People often wonder why Pakistan keeps going to the IMF again and again. A whopping number of 23 programs clearly suggests that we are addicted to the Fund's tough love. In fact, we are the IMF's most loyal customer. Argentina, with 21 programs, is number two. In

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READERS may remember there was much hue and cry over the amendments to the State Bank of Pakistan Act, 1956, that were legislated in January 2022. The present government, then in the opposition, had resisted it tooth and nail but let the law pass — thanks to establishment pressure — not necessarily as a reform measure but

Independent Central Bank

an obligatory IMF condition.

## Riaz Riazuddin

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3.1

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4.3

**Fellows' Articles** 

Dr. Ishrat Husain The Awam and Reform

Dr. Faisal Bari

Cost of Pollution Mr. Riaz Riazuddin

Dr. Umair Javed **Greener Pastures** 

**Growth Inflation Statistics** 

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3

expect money and help.

**Protecting the Powerful** LAST week, PTI supporter and 30-year-old resident of Faisalabad Sikandar Zaman was sentenced to three years in prison for a tweet.

punishments for online acts that are deemed unlawful. **Read More** 

His Twitter account, prior to his sentencing, had 184 followers. Legal proceedings were carried out under the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act, 2016, (Peca), which provides for a range of **Umair Javed CONTENTS OF LAST MONTH'S NEWSLETTER** 

