

## Editor's Note

*The ISSRA Papers*, (The Journal of Governance and Public Policy), 2<sup>nd</sup> Half 2017, is in your hands. It is, indeed, a privilege to present a bouquet of well researched and informative papers, written by seasoned academics and research scholars. The papers cover a wide range of policy studies, which are likely to help readers gain meaningful insight about various issues, besides substantial recommendations to bring about improvement in those areas.

The First paper, 'Welfare State and Islam: Can Pakistan be a Welfare State?' has been authored by Dr. Ejaz Akram and Mr. Nauman Hassan. It explains the principle of welfare in Islamic sources and appraises the modern welfare practices in the light of Islamic principles. The authors argue that relative povertization of filthy rich countries is better for world welfare rather than waging a war on poverty.

'Crisis of Governance in the Bureaucracy of Pakistan: Study of Administrative Ramifications with Apposite Policy Recommendations', is the Second paper, written by Mr. Ahmad Khawar Shahzad. The article is an overview of the dynamics and nature of bureaucratic governance in Pakistan. The author explicates the grey areas in the bureaucracy and puts forward some policy recommendations to minimize politicization of bureaucracy, gradual institutional decay and culture of unaccountability.

The Third paper, Challenges of National Integration in Pakistan and Strategic Response, has been authored by Syed Jawad Shah and Dr. Waseem Ishaque. In this article the authors present four models for national integration and discuss factors affecting it. They bring to fore the challenges being faced by Pakistan and suggest strategies for enhancing national integration.

Climate Change: Implications for Pakistan and Way Forward' is Fourth paper by Ms. Afifa Kiran and Ms. Qurat-ul-Ain. The article appraises various national and international initiatives aimed at enhancing awareness about the recurrent effects of climate change. The paper puts forward certain implications of climate change and recommends measures to be taken at national, regional and international levels.

The Fifth paper is Eradication of Poverty through Empowerment of People by Mr. Manzoor Ahmed Abbasi and Dr. Shahzad Hussain. The article brings to fore the factors that hinder human development and subsequently jeopardize efforts for poverty reduction. The authors present deplorable conditions of South Asia in general and Pakistan in particular. The paper suggests a fundamental shift in prioritization of policies that should focus more on investment in human capital.

Bureaucratic School Policymaking and Attendant Implementation Issues: The Case of Punjab Province, is Sixth paper written by Dr. Sarfraz Hussain Ansari and Dr. Rafaqat Islam. The article deals with bureaucratic policy making process, wherein, stakeholders are ignored, leaving great margin to street-level bureaucrats to modify, even to distort policies at implementation stage. The paper analyses three policies relating to school education in order to illustrate how various levels of bureaucracy are involved in deviance of public policies amounting to shirking and sometimes outright sabotage.

Role of Media in Promoting Peace and Harmony is Seventh paper written by Dr. Saqib Riaz. It highlights the causes of social and political fragmentation in the society and the significance of the media in promoting peace and harmony. The paper analyses the role of the state as an arbitrary entity to keep a fair and equitable check on the presentation and communication of contending viewpoints.

The Last paper is Strategy for Development of FATA, by Mr. Naveed Yousef and Mr. Kashif Zaheer. The paper gives an analysis of the

development efforts being made in FATA and brings out major issues hampering the development process. The paper proposes a development strategy emphasizing the need for participation of the people in development process.

At the end, the Editorial Board extends profound gratitude to all the writers, who trusted ISSRA Papers for their worthwhile contributions. We are equally indebted to experts and reviewers, who helped a great deal in the improvement of these papers. Since, with the upgradation of this Journal, a large number of papers are likely to be sent, it is urged upon the writers to follow the proper format and send quality research papers, so that the standing of this magazine, the only 'Journal of Governance and Public Policy in Pakistan', should be further lifted, whereby, it could expeditiously reach the highest level of accreditation.

