

Addressing Pakistan's Inflation Woes

Roundtable

Pakistan is facing inflationary pressures caused by various domestic and global factors. Exchange rate fluctuations, foreign exchange crisis and increase in crude oil prices are the key factors behind the consistent rise in price level in Pakistan. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased to [29.4% on year-on-year basis in June 2023](#) where urban inflation increased by [27.3% and rural inflation increased by 32.4%](#). The effects of sustained high inflation are far-reaching and multifaceted. It impacts the purchasing power of consumers and decreases their standard of living. Lower-income households are the most affected group due to higher prices of food and other necessary items. Businesses also face negative impacts because of higher input prices which result in lower production and layoffs.

In this background, it is vital for the government and central bank to implement effective policies and measures that help ease inflationary pressure and mitigate the negative fallout of inflation. This *Roundtable Discussion* will focus on the following are key questions:

- What are the main drivers of inflation in Pakistan?
- How are the Federal and Provincial Governments currently responding to inflation?
- What options are available to the central bank and energy regulators to ease the burden on citizens?
- What role can private sector, media, and think tanks play in reducing inflation?
- What is the role of technology e.g., food price dashboards in managing expectations and inflation?

Panel Organisers

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