

12th August, 2005

State Bank of Pakistan Launches its SBP-Research Bulletin

The State Bank of Pakistan today launched its first-ever, externally refereed, research publication entitled 'SBP-Research Bulletin', which is aimed at publishing high-quality research in the area of macroeconomics, with special emphasis on monetary and exchange rate policy issues.

The Governor State Bank of Pakistan, Dr. Ishrat Husain in the inaugural issue of the journal has said: "The broader objective of the SBP-Research Bulletin is to enhance the scientific standards of the State Bank of Pakistan, and like any other scientific publication it aims at dissemination of knowledge particularly to policy makers, market stakeholders, and academic researchers. Indeed, a central bank in its quest for credibility and establishment of reputation, among other measures, needs to signal its scientific standards to the market. Creation of knowledge through rigorous research processes replace conjectures that reflect positively on the institute's policy-making, decision-making and thus on its credibility and reputation."

Edited by Dr. Omar Farooq Saqib (Senior Analyst, SBP, Research Department), this publication is another step in mobilizing SBP's forward-looking strategies. It would usher State Bank of Pakistan into the era of knowledge based central banking and bring it at par with the leading central banks of the world.

With a view to ensure high-quality research, the State Bank initially intends to bring out this journal once a year. After 2006, this journal will be published twice a year. It will become a quarterly publication of the State Bank in 2009.

The contributions in the SBP-Research Bulletin focus on Pakistan's economy and are by the staff members of the Bank. The journal has three sections. The 'Articles' section, the core section of the journal, publishes contributions that are subject to blind-refereeing review process. This review process is carried out by a panel of internationally recognized economists and takes, on an average, about ten months to complete. The articles published in this section typically analyze any intriguing economic phenomenon that needs a thorough examination and is of great interest to the Bank's policy making endeavors. In the 'Opinions' section, the contributions mainly focus on the issues of current interest. This section is subject to internal review process, carried out by the staff members of the Bank. The section on 'Book Review' simply reviews the books chosen subjectively by the contributors and relevant to Pakistan's economy.