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PROPOSITIONS

Attached to the thesis

Evaluating Political Capture and Targeting Performance of the Benazir Income Support Program in Pakistan

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1. It is easier for the political leadership and political organizations to identify the poorest among the poor households in an anti-poverty program when a locality is more unequal. (This thesis)
2. Due to better access to information, households living in urban areas have a higher chance of being enrolled in an anti-poverty program as compared to those living in rural areas. (This thesis)
3. Political factors determined the distribution of application forms in the Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) in district Swabi while socio-economic factors played no role. (This thesis)
4. Among the political factors, the presence of an incumbent politician in a locality played a substantial role in explaining inter-locality variation in the distribution of BISP forms. (This thesis)
5. Community targeting of BISP by local politicians leads to lower exclusion errors as compared to the Poverty Score Card (PSC) method. (This thesis)
6. Anti-poverty programs need a robust, transparent and effective grievance redressal system.
7. Community based targeting of anti-poverty programs can greatly reduce the cost of program administration.
8. Highlighting the importance of program administration, variability in targeting performance of anti-poverty programs is larger within different targeting methods as opposed to across methods.
9. Community targeting of anti-poverty programs enhances the satisfaction level of the intended beneficiaries.
10. A program targeting women members of a poor household should induct more women in different layers of the program administration, especially during household surveys.
11. Based on my own experience, there is a strong trade-off between completing a PhD in a reasonable period of time and engaging in human-rights activism.