



NEWS LETTER



Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad
Vice Chancellor



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World Ranking Position



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University Korea



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Federal Minister for National
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Farm



Ground Breaking Ceremony of
Pak- Korea Capacity Building
Center for Agriculture Livestock
Technology at University Campus

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The 15th Convocation of Arid University

The 15th Convocation of Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi was held on the 14th of April, 2014 at the Campus. Governor of the Punjab, Muhammad Sarwar, was Chief Guest on the occasion and being Chancellor of the University presided over the convocation. On the eve of this convocation a total of 1721

genetic sciences to cope up with ever emerging challenges of the future”, the Governor of the Punjab said.

Earlier Vice Chancellor of the University, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, in his welcome address declared that the University has converted its research farm at Chakwal Road into a model farm



students were conferred upon the Undergraduate, Masters, M.Phil and PhD degrees in different disciplines of agriculture and allied sciences, where as 36 students having outstanding performance in their respective academic careers were decorated with medals. The Chancellor in his address, said that upcoming era is the arena of competitive struggles and it is imperative to extirpate the inglorious evils of hunger, famine, maladies, deprivation and destitution. He stressed that there is a need to cast an inquisitive eye over the challenges of future such as food security, water scarcity, genetically modified crops, up-scaled and fortified nutrients and value addition of agricultural produce.



He appreciated triumphant initiatives of Arid University including rainwater harvesting, ostrich farming and development of Potowar region. He appreciated the rain water harvesting models developed by the University and desired that models may be replicated to harvest the true potential of the region. He urged the University faculty and researchers to continue developing new technologies with special emphasis on water harvesting and conservation which is the lifeline of agriculture sector. Today is a Gala Day for the young graduates as their long lasting aspirations and whims of their parents are being transformed into pragmatic reality. “I feel much elated when I see our progeny profoundly indulged into the quest of natural, social, spatial and



with provision for collecting rain water into small reservoirs through which the water harvested amounted to around 45 acres-feet and that was sufficient to irrigate its entire farm of 250 acres. Besides conventional cropping practices at the farm, the university has cultivated orchards of citrus, olive, date palm, fig, grapes and vegetables under tunnel farming, he added. He further said that the university is near to initiate a Fancy Birds-cum-Fish Aviary at campus and a model of roof rainwater harvesting for urban areas has also



been constructed at University Campus. University also maintains a state-of-the-art hydroponic vegetable production unit and a cost effective replica of this facility to be adopted by the common farmers particularly in the Potohar and rainfed belt of the country has also been designed. The university has established a Food Products Testing Lab to verify the suitability of various agriculture and food products for human consumption, he informed.



The Vice Chancellor informed that University has added two new faculties viz. Faculty of Agricultural Engineering & Technology and Faculty of Social Sciences to its portfolio and soon a sub-campus at Attock would be established. He further stated that University is also planning to establish its sub-campus at Bhakkar and Chakwal. Moreover the University has recently launched a Literacy Centre for un-attended children in the neighborhood that is running through donations by the university faculty and staff.



On the day Governor of the Punjab also inaugurated the University Mineral Water Plant under the name of "Mehr Mineral Water" to provide quality drinking water to students and staff apart from commercial venture for resource generation from open market. Three Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) were also signed on the day. Governor of the Punjab, Ch. Muhammad Sawar, Charge de Affairs, Embassy of Japan Takashi Katae, other dignitaries and University Faculty members witnessed the ceremonies. The MoUs were:



- PMAS-AAUR and International Center for integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
- PMAS-AAUR and Consortium of Research & Development Organizations (CRDO)
- PMAS-AAUR and Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF)



Dr David James Molden, Director General ICIMOD and Dr Khalil Ahmad Ibupoto, Chairman PSF signed MoUs on behalf of their respective organizations. The MoU of consortium was also signed by heads of the organizations aimed to establish a working relationship of mutual collaboration between CRDO and Arid University to have a long-term collaboration on the relevant topics related to mandates of all the organizations.



Arid University Celebrated its 152nd World Ranking Position

Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University ranked at 152 position by "QS World University Ranking" among Agriculture and Forestry universities of the world. To celebrate this achievement a full day program was organized



by the university on the 8th of October, 2013. The program started with the seminars in different Faculties in which eminent scholars and scientists participated and gave emphasis on the need of quality education and research to have bright future for motherland. On arrival of The Chief Guest Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman, Minister of State for Education, Training & Standards in Higher Education, Guest of Honor His Excellency Dr Jong Hwan Song, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, Prof. Dr Khaild Mehmood Khan, Former Vice Chancellor of Arid University, Prof. Dr Iqar Ahmad Khan, Vice Chancellor of University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Prof. Dr Mukhtar Ahmad Executive Director, HEC, Pakistan, tree Plantation ceremony took place. Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi welcomed all the participants of glorious celebrative event of University's 152nd position among the World Universities of Agriculture and Forestry. Vice Chancellor said that he is trying to put all of public sector departments and wings related to agriculture together for developing a common vision for future agriculture in Pothwar region in particular and rain fed agriculture at large. "I would suggest that this region be declared as a Valley of Olives and Vegetables" he said.



Chief Guest, Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman, Minister of State for Education, Training & Standards in Higher Education, congratulated the administration, faculty,

researchers and students of the University who worked hard to make this day happened.

He said that he is glad to learn the vision of the University and the programs it has initiated to uplift the educational system and innovative

developments at the campus as well as at the Research Farm. "I am very excited to learn about the Arid University's efforts for rainwater harvesting at the campus and at the University Research Farm Chakwal Road", he added.

Guest of Honor His Excellency Dr Jong Hwan Song, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, in his speech said that the Republic of Korea fully



supports Pakistan, and the Punjab's aim of improving education. He enlightened the audience that KOICA, the official aid agency of Korea, was establishing a Capacity Building Centre for Agriculture and Livestock Technology at the Arid Agriculture University which would bring great benefits to rural areas and improve the livelihood of farmers.



Earlier Prof. Dr Iqar Ahmad Khan, Vice Chancellor University of Agriculture Faisalabad, Prof. Dr Khalid Mahmood Khan Farmer Vice Chancellor Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi, and Prof. Dr Mukhtar Ahmad, Executive Director HEC, congratulated the Faculty Administration and the Vice Chancellor of Arid University for securing 152nd position in the world.



Seminar on "Role of Leadership in Steering Education Towards National Issues"

A seminar on "Role of Leadership in Steering Education Towards National Issues" was organized at the Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi on May 13, 2014. Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR, Dr Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto, Chairman Pakistan Science Foundation, Deans, Directors, faculty members and a large number of students were present on the occasion. Syed Babar Ali, Former Finance Minister of Pakistan and Executive Advisor of Packages Ltd. said that the ultimate goal of education must be to produce good human beings and not just the degree holders. He opined, if we want development in Pakistan, we have to allocate maximum resources for education sector.

He said we must keep ourselves updated on curriculum and we must be aware of latest developments in various fields. He emphasized on the mutual interaction among experts of different subjects and knowledge sharing in various fields. He stressed upon the need of bringing about revolutionary changes in the educational system besides urging the students and teachers to equip themselves with latest developments in their chosen field of study.

particular and community in general. He said, "University has its own Farm on the Chakwal Road for the hands-on training of students whereas university is also actively involved in extension activities and working with the farmers at their fields with focus on the development of small farmers". He further told that University's overall objective is to promote economic growth by bringing more farms under



improved technologies and management practices to increase the agricultural productivity.



Earlier, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor of the University gave a brief presentation on the academic, research and extension programs of the University and its role in the development of agriculture sector in

Syed Babar Ali also planted an Olive plant in University premises and visited Hydroponics Plant. The Vice Chancellor briefed Syed Babar Ali about the hydroponic farming. Syed Babar Ali praised the efforts & commitments of the university administration for successful running the Plant and emphasized on the commercialization of the project to ensure food safety for future generations. Vice Chancellor also told that University has successfully prepared its replica which will soon be made available to small farmers. The University is also providing a leadership role and advisory services for tunnel farming and green house crops.



Aridian Youth Festival Held at Arid University

The Annual Aridian Youth Festival 2014 was organized by Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi on January 22, 2014. Students of various faculties of the University took part in different competitions including Naat competition, singing challenge, Drama competition and Talent Show. Shiekh Aftab Ahmad, Minister of State for Parliamentary



Affairs was the chief guest. While highlighting the importance of co-curricular activities, the chief guest said that active participation and involvement of students in different extracurricular activities is a dire need of the day and it is essential for inculcating the sense of responsibility, discipline, obedience and punctuality. He also appreciated the efforts and developments made by the university and congratulated the university administration for organizing such a colorful event.



In his address Shiekh Aftab Ahmad declared that soon a sub-campus of Arid University will be established in Attock and different degree programs will be started with special emphasis on agriculture of the area to uplift the farming community. He was of the view that Pakistan needs to take tangible steps to educate the youth and government is committed to taking revolutionary steps for the improvement of the education facilities and making it accessible to everyone.



In the end, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, said such activities are essential part of the university's curriculum to help promote a sense of healthy competition among the youth. He lauded the efforts of faculty members, management, and students for organizing the event.



Charity Drama Show for IDPs of North Waziristan Held at Arid University

Charity Drama Show was organized by PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi on July 18, 2014. The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, in his welcome address informed the gathering that collaborative efforts would be greatly helpful in addressing the problems being faced by Internally Displaced Peoples (IDPs). He stressed for the immediate attention of all sections of the civil society particularly academia to solve the problems of the IDPs of North Waziristan Agency.

The Punjab Minister for Law & Education, Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan, said that Punjab Government will provide all support to the IDPs and urged philanthropists to donate wholeheartedly. He said that sacrifices of the IDPs had paved the way to the success of operation "Zarb-e-Azb". It is responsibility of every Pakistani to help IDPs of NWA who left their homes for making the future of our children safe and every member of the society should play his role in this noble cause, he added.

Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad also presented a cheque of Rs 2.5 million to the Provincial Minister for its deposit to the Chief Minister Punjab Relief Fund for IDPs.



Open House Held at Arid University

University Institute of Information Technology (UIIT) organized its 7th annual Open House to strengthen the linkage between industry & academia and to provide an opportunity to students to show their abilities and enable them to understand market trends. It was attended by 134 industry professionals from 35 different software development companies. More than 150 students of UIIT displayed varieties of unique and innovative IT based projects in the day-long Open House.



Speaking on the occasion, Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad applauded the projects presented by young students and emphasized to develop more agriculture related projects so that farmers and people of Pakistan can benefit from latest information and communication technologies. He urged them to give more importance to practical application of their degree subjects.



International Seminar on "Saemaul Undong & Economic Development" and Ground Breaking Ceremony of Pak-Korea Capacity Building Center for Agriculture & Livestock Technology at the Arid University

An international seminar was organized by Arid University on November 21, 2013. The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad in his welcome address said that the establishment of Pak-Korea Capacity Building Centre for Agriculture and Livestock Technology at the University was replication of Saemaul Undong Program which would be quite helpful for improving livelihood of the area farmers. He was of the view that there is great potential in Pothwar area for fruit crops and government should pay special attention for its development. The Vice Chancellor informed that University had harvested nearly 45 acre feet of rainwater in small ponds at its Research Farm at Chakwal Road which was enough to carry on agricultural activities at the entire farm. He further said that it was an excellent model for the Pothwar farmers to adopt and benefit from it.



He suggested that to exploit the true potential of Pothwar region we have to shift from conventional crops to olive and orchard farming that can revolutionize the livelihood of poverty stricken masses of the area.

Federal Minister for Planning and Development, Ahsan Iqbal, stressed the need for focusing on value addition as the country has still commodity-based economy and no attention has been given to value addition. He urged scientists of the Arid University to play their role to create awareness in farming community about the latest techniques in agriculture and insisted that the farmers should adopt the latest techniques of production and value addition in their produce so that they can earn more through export as well. The progress of the country can be made only by the development in agriculture sector, he added.

He further said that it is the need of the day to shift agriculture on modern trends to make Pakistan a food sufficient country and improve the financial condition of farming community.



Federal Minister appreciated the efforts and developments being made by the University for socio-economic uplift of the farming community with special emphasis on rain-fed agriculture in the country.

He emphasized the significance of orchards for the agricultural economy of Pakistan and said that high value agricultural products would help to generate better income for farmers if exported to other markets. He was of the view that there is a lot of potential in the region of Pothwar and if we work on it fruit industry can become a big industry of the area.



Korean Ambassador while addressing to the gathering said that Pak - Korea Capacity Building Center for Agriculture & Livestock would be helpful for achieving Pakistan's economic and rural development goals, as manifested in the Vision 2025, and would further strengthen the cooperation between Korea and Pakistan. While talking about the Saemaul Undong Program, he said, "This project has contributed significantly to transforming the rural communities in particular, and the Korean society as a whole". It was a community-based, rural development program which was initiated by the late president Park



Chung Hee in the early 1970s, who encouraged people to take ownership of their communities for their mutual benefit, he added. He proposed to start pilot projects in the light of Saemaul Undong, with the co-operation of WFP, in two districts of the Punjab.



Dr. Farrukh Javed, Minister for Agriculture, Punjab, in his address appreciated the efforts of Arif University for producing trained and inspired manpower and said that university was playing pivotal role in modernizing agriculture and enlightenment of rural communities in Pakistan. He hoped that Pak-Korea Capacity Building Center for Agriculture & Livestock Technology will be helpful in capacity building of farmers in the field of pest management, food technology, tunnel farming, kitchen gardening, value addition of fruits and vegetables and soil & water conservation.



Ambassador Oh Jay-hee, 1st Ambassador to Pakistan & President Korean-Pak Friendship Association, Mr. Sajjad Afzal Cheema, President Pak-Korea Friendship Society, Prof.

Dr Mukhtar Ahmad, Executive Director, Higher Education Commission of Pakistan, and Prof. Dr Park Seung-Woo, Dean, Park Chung Hee School of Policy & Saemaul Yeungnam University also addressed on the occasion.



On the occasion, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR and Prof. Dr Park Seung-Woo, Dean, Park Chung Hee School of Policy & Saemaul Yeungnam University signed an MoU on behalf of their organizations, to promote quality education, training of faculty & students, exchange of modern trends in research and education.



In the end Dr Farrukh Javed, Minister for Agriculture, Punjab and Dr Song Jong-hwan, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea performed the ground breaking ceremony of Pak-Korea Capacity Building Center for Agriculture & Livestock Technology at the University Campus. This capacity building center project having total cost USD3.5 million to be funded by KOICA will significantly contribute to improve agricultural technology as well as educational infrastructure of the university by transferring Korea's experience and knowledge.



University of California Delegation Visited Arid University

University of California, USA and Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) have agreed to initiate collaborative research projects and joint academic programmes in the field of agriculture. It was decided in a meeting of Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad with Dr Mark A. Bell, Director, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of California, USA.



The visiting delegation exchanged views with PMAS-AAUR academic leadership and applauded its numerous steps to develop the institutional relations with leading institutions and corporate entities. Both parties shared views to extend joint efforts for potential expansion of future academic collaborations.



World Bank Delegation Visited Arid University

A two member delegation of the World Bank visited Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi on May 15, 2014. The delegation comprised of Mr. Halil Dunder, Lead Education Specialist, Senior Education Specialist and Ms Ayesha Khan, Operations Analyst met the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad and other senior faculty members. The meeting aimed to reform and expand the participation of higher education sector to improve its contribution to the economic growth and prosperity of the country. They exchanged views on various educational aspects especially Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC), Office of Research, Innovation & Commercialization (ORIC), and Students Resource Center of the Arid University.



Vice Chancellor briefed the delegation about the ongoing academic, research and extra-curricular activities at university and contributions made by the faculty, staff and students. Appreciating the role of Higher Education Commission, Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad said that HEC funding had helped increase faculty participation in international conferences and access to research journals, leading to significant improvement in research output.

The world bank team appreciated the extensive work being carried on at the Arid University and wished joining hands in future to work for the issues related to higher education, by strengthening the QEC and ORIC.



Federal Minister For National Food Security Visited University Research Farm



Sikandar Hayat Khan Bosan, Federal Minister for National Food Security & Research visited the university Research Farm at Chakwal Road on September 27, 2013 on the invitation of Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmed, Vice Chancellor of the University. The minister appreciated rainwater harvesting program of the university and emphasized the significance of water availability for agriculture. He also said that adequate management of rainwater, particularly during the monsoon spells, would also reduce the flood risks apart from providing agricultural benefits and recharging of groundwater. Mr. Bosan also highlighted the issue of food security and urged to use modern and innovative agriculture techniques for enhancing agricultural yield and become self-sufficient in food production to cater the needs of burgeoning population of the country.

The minister visited the Rain Water Harvesting Ponds and planted various fruit plants including citrus, olive and fig. He inaugurated Grape Vine Plantation Campaign near main gate of the university research farm. He also performed groundbreaking ceremony for construction of Boys and Girls Hostels at the University Research Farm.



University Research Farm Before 2014



Inter-Universities Volleyball Championship Held At Arid University

The Inter-Universities Volleyball Championship was held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) from March 18-21, 2014. Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor of the Arid University, was the chief guest in the opening ceremony. Faculty members and a large number of students from various universities were also present on the occasion.



Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR welcomed the players and said that healthy competitions amongst youth were need of the hour. He further stated that these activities not



only play an important role in physical fitness but also make a person fresh and energetic. The Vice Chancellor appreciated the efforts of organizers and hoped that such type of activities/competitions would be held in future as well.

On the first day of the championship, four matches were played. International Islamic University, Muhammad Ali Jinnah University, National University Of Science And Technology and Punch University won their matches from Quaid-e-Azam University, National University of Modern Languages Preston and Bahria universities respectively.



Spring Flower Show Organized by the Arid University

The Annual Spring Flower Show commenced at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) on April 11, 2014. This magnificent show is organized by the department of Horticulture PMAS AAUR every year with the display of wonderful variety of plants and flowers, garden decoration, landscape features ornaments along with rangoli section and various artistic installations. Objectives are to promote horticulture activities in homes, create awareness for the affection of plants and to introduce the rare & precious resources to the common people which are found within the country. This time more than 300 types of flowers were displayed by 15 institutions from the twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad.



The show was inaugurated by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad. Addressing on the occasion, he said that floriculture industry had gained an immense importance and country can earn huge foreign exchange by promoting it. He was of the view that such shows can bring positive changes in the country. There is a dire need to take measures to make this country an ideal place to live in, he added. He further stated that such shows also provide healthy entertainment to the residents of twin cities.



Training Workshop on "On Farm Water Management" Held at the Arid University

A training workshop was organized by the Arid University in collaboration with Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of United Nations and Balochistan Agriculture Project of USAID. In the 10 days training workshop 32 young farmers participated from Balochistan and got training on High efficiency irrigation system, crop water requirements, landscaping, sources of irrigation water in Pakistan, surface irrigation methods, demonstration to solar system, conveyance and application efficiencies, irrigation scheduling and GIS remote sensing techniques etc.

Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR was the chief guest at the inaugural ceremony of the workshop. Speaking on the occasion, The Vice Chancellor told that on-farm water management was the key area that must be addressed to improve the agricultural sector. He said that it was important to find out ways and means to make irrigation more affordable as the expenses associated were major hindrance for many farmers and pointed out that the government should work to address this concern.

Speakers at the training workshop emphasized the need of rainwater harvesting, drip irrigation, investing in solar water pumps & biogas units to make irrigation more efficient and economical to solve the problems regarding water scarcity.



They stressed that to adopt latest techniques of on- farm water management to make barren lands productive. Four sessions on the subject training have been conducted so far where 140 participants were trained.



Training Course on Vegetable Cultivation and Tunnel Farming

One month training course on vegetable cultivation and tunnel farming was held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR), with an aim to create awareness among the participants regarding the vegetable cultivation and tunnel farming, kitchen gardening, drip irrigation, and organic farming.



Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR, was the Chief Guest at the concluding session of the training course. In his address, the Vice Chancellor said that there was dire need to enhance value added production in agriculture sector to attain self-sufficiency and wider access to international markets. He further said that proper processing, packing and marketing of agricultural produce could earn huge foreign exchange. He emphasized that uplift of the agroindustry would create job opportunities, help reduce poverty, raise living standards in the rural areas and impart diversity to the national economy.

Colorado State University Delegation Visited the Arid University

Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) and Colorado State University have agreed to initiate collaborated research projects and joint academic programmes in the field of agriculture, particularly On-Farm Water Management. It was decided in a meeting of Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad with a five members delegation of Colorado State University headed by Dr. Ajay K. Jha held at Arid University on April 24, 2014. They discussed the possibilities of collaboration between the universities in academic, research, training and value chain activities for the development of agriculture sector.



The Vice Chancellor informed the delegation that University has established a Model Farm with latest agricultural technologies like rainwater harvesting & drip irrigation to give awareness to the farming community to make their practices compatible with the modern world. The Arid University is also helping farming community in getting new technologies to increase agriculture production by using mechanized farming so that they could increase per acre production, he added. He also stressed that there is a need of capacity building programmes to promote water management system and urged the young scientists to come up with innovative solutions to the issues being faced by nation in the current scenario.



National Management Collage Delegation Visited the Arid University

A delegation comprising of 13 members of the National Management Collage (NMC) Lahore headed by Mr. Fareed Mehmood Chaudhry, faculty member In-charge visited Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi on April 22, 2014 in connection with the inland study tour of the senior management course. The participants belonged to different occupational groups and services including Pakistan Administrative Service, Information, Pakistan Audit and Accounts, Foreign Service of Pakistan, Pakistan Customs Service, Postal, Police, Railways, Inland Revenue, Secretariat and Provincial Services.

On the occasion, Prof. Dr. Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR, gave a detailed presentation relating to existing infrastructure and the future short and long term vision of the Arid University.

He highlighted the significance of close collaboration among organizations and mentioned that Arid University was working with different R&D organizations in the field of agriculture, livestock, range management, animal breeding & genetics, wildlife and fisheries to find solutions of problems faced by



the farming community. The University is also working on the joint research and development projects with other organizations/institutes to accelerate the production of plant nurseries of olive, grapes, citrus & other fruits for the purpose of research, education and their supplies to the farmers, he added.

The delegation thanked the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Rai Niaz Ahmad for providing such an excellent opportunity to visit the campus and updating about ongoing research activities of the University.

World Water Day Celebrated by the Arid University

Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) celebrated World Water Day 2014 on March 22, 2014 to raise awareness of water, its uses & importance and the present situation in the country. On the occasion, speakers highlighted the need for addressing the issue of water resources and action plans to promote water cooperation for sustainable water management in Pakistan. They were of the view that it is need of the hour to augment new water sources to overcome the upcoming shortage of water in Pakistan, especially in the pothowar region.

Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR, in his address pointed out that water is an essential element for agriculture which had a great potential to boost country's economic growth and productivity. He further

said that due to increasing population, land use was increasing and water resources were decreasing.



World Women Day Celebrated by the Arid University

International Women Day was celebrated at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi to create awareness on women rights & opportunities in social and economic fields of life.

Different events/competitions among the female students of the university including Walk/rally, English & Urdu debates, humorous poetry, regional dress show, songs, musical chair and tug of war were held. Member National Assembly Ms Asia Nasir was the chief guest. Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR was the guest of honor on the occasion.



The chief guest Ms. Asia Nasir in her address highlighted the rights of women and recognition of women work for the welfare of society. She said that, "Women of Pakistan have made significant contribution in the development of country despite social, cultural and structural constraints". She also stated that most of the women were performing their extraordinary efforts in every field of life including sciences, health and educational sector.



Seminar on "Strengthening Informal Seed Supply System through Participatory Technology Transfer"

Seminar on Strengthening Informal Seed Supply System through Participatory Technology Transfer was held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi. Prof. Dr. Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR was the chief guest on the occasion. He highlighted the importance of seed as one of the major inputs for better crop production and food security. He further said that quality seed production should be increased and there is a dire need to develop human resource in seed technology in Pakistan. He said this is right time to introduce a unique seed certification and delivery program which can boost the production of quality seeds and their distribution to farmers according to their demand. The Vice Chancellor informed the participants that University is going to establish Seed Center where seeds of various crops shall be made available to farmers.



Seminar on Leadership Skills

News in Pictures



2nd Annual Sports Gala at Jinnah Hall



Rain Water Harvesting at PMAS-AAUR



Jakob Moser Project Director USAID GRANTEE Visited PMAS-AAUR

Aridian Life Saver Blood Donor Society Launched at PMAS-AAUR

Dr. Bernhard Tischbein Visited PMAS-AAUR



HydroPonic Replica Established at FMP



Seminar on Cardiovascular Diseases Held at PMAS-AAUR

University Students Celebrating Their Victory with Vice Chancellor after Winning Different Competitions of Punjab Youth Festival 2014

Seminar on Information Security Awareness



Orientation Ceremony for Newly Admitted Students of Faculty of Crop and Food Sciences Fall-2014



Seminar on World Food Day at University



Fish Hatcheries Launching in Rain Water Harvesting Pond at University



World Rabies Day Observed at the Arid University



PMAS-AAUR Dispatched Relief Goods to Jhang for Flood Affecteds