



NEWS LETTER

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Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad
Vice Chancellor



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System



Pak-Korea Capacity Building Center
for Agriculture & Livestock



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for Escape from Rural Poverty in Pakistan



PMAS-AAUR 17th Convocation



Conference & Exhibition on Agriculture
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Kissan Mela Held at University Research
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PMAS-AAUR 17th Convocation

The 17th convocation of Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) held on April 16, 2016 at University's main campus.

Governor Punjab /Chancellor of the University Muhammad Rafique Rajwana was the chief guest and conferred degrees among the graduates. A total of 2360 students were awarded degrees in PhD, M Phil, Masters, and undergraduate courses, while 55 students who topped the examination in their respective disciplines were decorated with Medals. Forty one graduates got gold medals, 7 silver medals, 7 bronze medals, while 53 students got PhD degrees at Convocation.



Ambassador of South Korea Dr Song Jong-Hwan Chairman HEC Islamabad Prof. Dr Mukhtar Ahmad, PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor University of Gujrat Prof. Dr Zia ul Qayyum, Rector NUST Gen. Muhammad Asghar, Vice Chancellor Government College Women University Prof. Dr Noreen Aziz Qureshi, MNA Malik Abrar, MNA Raja Javed Akhlaq and MPA Raja Muhammad Hanif also conferred degrees among the graduates.

Senator Najma Hameed, Sardar Naseem Khan, Rahat Qudoosi, Controller Examinations, Registrar, Directors of Campuses, Directors of Institutes, Deans of all faculties, members of Syndicate & Academic Council, eminent educationists, faculty members and a large number of degree holder students and their parents were also present on the occasion.

Muhammad Rafique Rajwana Governor Punjab /Chancellor of the university while addressing urged the learned scholars, researchers and intellectuals to share a common vision to change the calamities into opportunities because it is only possible if the students work hard for changing the fate of poor farming communities by adopting new technology of 21st century.

He pointed out that it is quite encouraging that this seat of higher learning is taking lead on the concepts

of mountain agriculture and hydroponics, which has not only quantitative impact to produce fifty times more but also reduce the medical bills of overall community of Pakistan.

He said: "The universities are known for knowledge creation and research plays pivotal role in the development of any institute of higher learning. I would urge to further the concept of pragmatic and applied research and prioritize the benefit of common countrymen."

The agriculture is the backbone of national economy and 22% of our GDP whereas 70% of our labour force is associated with this sector but the full potential of this sector is needed to be realized yet. We have to pay attention on competitiveness of our agri-products to excel in national & international markets, he added.

He lauded different projects and initiatives launched for capacity building of the students in the field of agriculture and allied disciplines that would not only lead to train the graduates but would also broaden the horizon of agriculture sector through value addition of farm produce.

The Governor Punjab congratulated the recipients of various degrees and urged them to put in their best efforts to bring the country out of vicious cycles of poverty and scarcity of resources.

"Pakistan is blessed with enormous potential and talented human resource so the time is ripe to enjoy the fruit of these endowed natural and strategic



resources. You are currently under the umbrella of your parents, guardians, teachers and supervisors, now onward you have to play the role as guardian, teacher and supervisor and game changers," he said.

Ambassador of South Korea Dr Song Jong-Hwan, in his address, advised the students to perform an

active role based on their education and experience for the development and progress of Pakistan. He said that it was a matter of honor for him to attend the convocation of PMAS-AAUR and thankful to Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad. He advised the students to help a common man and poor segments of the society



Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad in his welcome address gave a detailed brief about university, academic & research activities, prominent statistics and other related matters. He thanked the Punjab Governor/Chancellor University of Education Malik Muhammad Rafique Rajwana to spare his precious time for convocation.

The Vice Chancellor said with each passing day the technological advancement is taking place in various fields that requires matching speed of up gradation in all sectors of economy, adding "PMAS-AAUR is putting optimum efforts to bridge the gaps and convert the issues into opportunities."

"Various myths and sayings about life so far you heard and learnt, would now be turning into feelings and realities. Face the challenges from the front and put your level best to achieve the targets. I am confident that you would be shining like stars of various fields and professions in years to come," he said.

He said they successfully indigenized state-of-the-art Hydroponic Vegetable Production facility that is ready for adoption at large by the farming community at very economical initial costs.

He said the efforts are under way to advance this technology to make it more feasible for common farmers and a reasonable experimentation is going on at the university research farm where remarkable success has also been achieved.

"To make this technology sustainable, permanent arrangements are being made and in this regard establishment of Institute of Hydroponics has been approved at the University by statutory bodies. This Institute will be commencing its R & D activities along with degree programme in Hydroponics from the upcoming Fall Semester 2016," he said.



Under Prime Minister's Youth Program, he said there are 70 students of various disciplines doing internship programme and hopefully they would earn more than public jobs by engaging themselves in entrepreneurial activities.

He informed that the Punjab Chief Minister has approved the establishment of sub-campus of the University at Mandra, Tehsil Gujar Khan, and PC-1 of the project has been submitted to complete this task at the earliest.

"What we need is that our universities must perform like skilled universities in their disciplines. We are ready to accept challenge of even training graduates of other disciplines for 21st century agriculture under the vision of Prime Minister and Chief Minister," he said.



He said integrated approach of rainwater harvesting and its use for production of fruits and vegetables can bring paradigm shift in the livelihood of this Potohar region.

The Vice Chancellor said the university has analyzed and assessed the entire Potohar region through application of GIS and Remote Sensing, and it is encouraging to know that more than 13,000 rainwater harvesting reservoirs can be developed in this region.

He also mentioned about Ostrich Farming, Mehr Drinking Water, Nursery Training, Students Practical Working Stations, Fancy Birds Breeding Centre, Farm Modernization and Mechanization initiatives like Trellising, and University Research Products Display Centre has been established at University.

He said it is the only University which provides its students mineral water for drinking both at campus and hostels at a cost of only Rs. 3 per day. He said that University is working in close collaboration with certain International R & D Cooperation Agencies and a Pak-Korea Capacity Building Centre for Agriculture & Livestock Technology has been established in University.

He congratulated the graduating students who have been rewarded for their tireless academic pursuits and urged them to put in their best efforts for development of the country.

Governor Punjab planted a sapling and inaugurated Staff Club & Sports Complex in University premises. He also did ground breaking ceremony of Institute of Hydroponic Agriculture and Aisha Hall a Block of Girls Hostel.



Federal Minister for Defense Production Rana Tanveer Hussain Inaugurated Indigenous Hydroponic System

Federal Minister for Defense Production Rana Tanveer Hussain, said agriculture is the backbone of Pakistan's economy, and the government is taking measures to support this sector.

Federal Minister was speaking at the inauguration of an indigenous hydroponics system at the Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) on March 23, 2016.



Pakistan Science Foundation Chairperson Dr Mohammad Ashraf, National University of Science and Technology Rector Gen Mohammad Asghar, Ministry of Science and Technology Secretary Fazal Hussain, MNA Raja Javed Ikhlas, Tahira Aurangzaib, Senator Najma Hameed, MPA Malik Iftikhar, Dr Noorul Islam, Dr Mushtaq Ahmad Gill, Dr Jahangir Khan Sial, as well as students, farmers and other scientists and faculty members attended the inauguration.



The Federal Minister said the exchange of experiences and innovative ideas between farmers would give the agriculture sector a boost.

He said the steps taken by PMAS-AAUR for indigenous hydroponics was commendable for making modern agricultural technology accessible to farmers so they can increase the yields of their crops.

"Pakistan has great potential in the agriculture sector and bringing it along modern lines will ensure future food security and nutrition," he said. He added that the Punjab government has already announced Rs100 billion for this sector, to improve farmers' lifestyles.

He said the government led by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif would take the country out of the electricity crisis by 2018.

He said farmers should be trained to use new technologies to increase production rather than relying on traditional instruments and in this regard the introduction of the first Indigenous Hydroponic/Soilless System of Pakistan by PMAS-AAUR would be a milestone in increasing the capability of agro-products.



The Minister said universities should improve research capabilities, and pledged the government's support in this regard.

Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmed, in his welcome address explained that hydroponics is a technique used to produce safe and high quality vegetables.

He said hydroponic products have great nutritional value and taste fresh because they are grown in a healthy environment.

He said the indigenous hydroponics system is giving the same yield as European hydroponics systems, even though the cost is 100 times lower. In traditional system farmer is gaining 5-7 ton in tunnel and in this system we are gaining production up to 300 ton/hect and its potential yield is 500 ton/hect, he added.

The Vice Chancellor expressed his commitment to transferring this technology to Pakistani farmers so they may benefit from it. Guests were also presented with shields, and the federal minister planted a tree.

Seminar on Saemaul Undong and its Lessons for Escape from Rural Poverty in Pakistan

A seminar on Saemaul Undong (New Village Movement) and its lessons for escape from Rural Poverty in Pakistan" held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) on May 20, 2016.

Federal Minister Planning, Development & Reform Dr Ahsan Iqbal was the chief guest while Ambassador of Republic of Korea (South Korea) Song Jong Hwan, PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor

rural population and needs to develop its rural areas to bring them at par with the urban centers of the country, he added.



Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, faculty members and a large number of students were also present.



Federal Minister Planning, Development & Reform Dr Ahsan Iqbal while addressing said that Pakistan will be among the top five fastest growing economies of the world in 2018 by persisting the current growth momentum. He further said that the economy of the country resurged by moving on positive growth trajectory for the consecutive last three years due to indigenous factors. The international community is reposing confidence in Pakistan, which is presently in the top eight fast economies of the world, he said.

Federal Minister along with Korean Ambassador and PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor also inaugurated "Saemaul Undong Chair" at Pak-Korea Capacity Building Center for Livestock and Agriculture at Arid University Rawalpindi.

Federal Minister said that Saemaul Undong movement in South Korea transformed its rural economy and Pakistan can learn lessons from it to boost up its own rural economy. Country has huge

He said that creation of employment opportunities and provision of basic facilities in the rural areas is also priority of government to check the population movement to urban areas. "Pakistan needs inclusive development rather than creating islands of prosperity, we want an ocean of prosperity which touches all regions and groups." He said. Present Government is embarked upon implementation of its Vision-2025 to ensure sustainable and inclusive development.



Ahsan Iqbal also highlighted historical growth and development patterns in the country and pointed out that these proved short-lived because of exogenous factors that drove the growth after country entered into geo-strategic alliances. "Now the present Government is embarked upon implementation of its Vision-2025 to ensure sustainable and inclusive development.

Today, Pakistan needs positivity and self-belief to continue build on the growth momentum Pakistan achieved in last three years, he emphasized and added that Pakistan of 2016 is much better than of 2013 after witnessing significant improvement in economy, energy and security situation. "This turn around should be reflected in our national psyche. We shouldn't let cynics confuse us who always see glass half empty, he stressed.

Ambassador of Republic of Korea (South Korea) Song Jong Hwan, in his address, briefed the participant's about the Saemaul Undong (New Village Movement) Program which is a community-based rural development programme to escape from poverty and was launched in 1970 by former Korean President Park Chung-Hee.



He informed the gathering that Korea is assisting Pakistan in many projects to make it prosperous. He said PAK-Korea Capacity Building Center (PKCBC) at the University will significantly contribute to improve agricultural technologies as well as educational capabilities of PMAS-AAUR with the help of Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

Korean Ambassador said that Pakistan is an

agricultural country, there are several opportunities to replicate Saemaul Undong in Pakistan. He recommended Pakistan to adopt the Saemaul Undong (new village movement) which was the first step towards prosperity for Korea and is a proven and practical model for success. He hoped to see Pakistan progresses quickly like the Republic of Korea by benefitting from Saemaul Undong.



Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, in his welcome address, said that Korea is now considered as one of the top economies of the world and that was happened because of Korean Leadership vision, people sacrifice, Export drive, education and new village movement. He was of the opinion if Pakistan adopts this vision there is no power that can stop its economic development.

He said both countries have strong bilateral relations and hoped that PMAS-AAUR could take lead in disseminating the "Saemaul Undong Movement" not only in the rural areas of Pakistan but can also play a central role in other countries. He expressed his appreciation for continuous support and cooperation of KOICA office and kind patronizing by His Excellency, Dr Song Jong-Hwan the Ambassador of Republic of Korea to Pakistan.



Goats Distributed Among Poor Villagers to Promote Livestock Sector

As a part of the efforts to promote livestock in line with the Korean New Village Movement, Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) has distributed ten goats among poor villagers on University research farm located in Koont (Mandra Road Chakwal) with an aim to augment its scope under a project worth 3.5 million \$ dollars.



The project Pakistan-Korea Capacity Building Center for Agriculture & Livestock Technology (PKCBC), initiated with the financial support of Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), will generate competition among the villagers who will be able to get more stocks of goats, cows and buffaloes on the basis of their performance.



MNA Raja Javaid Ikhlas was chief guest of the ceremony that was also attended by PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Project Manager (PKCBC) Dr Kil Ung Kim, Korean Aid Agency members, faculty members and union council nazims & councilors.

Chief Guest acknowledged the availability of water is very necessary to promote agriculture and livestock due to which the Punjab government is evaluating a proposal to build 500 small dams in the Potohar region.

"The federal government has also announced a project worth Rs. 350 billion for the agricultural community that would usher in new era of development in the agriculture sector," he said.

Launching the project to distribute animal heads among the villagers he said the time has come to put in best efforts to ensure that the country moves in the right direction to alleviate poverty at the grassroots level.



Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad highlighted that university has constructed Pakistan-Korea capacity building center with the help of Korean Aid Agency. He said that the veterinary graduates and Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences of the university would extend their services to the villagers in case of any disease and management problem.

"The university is also going to initiate a new project worth Rs. 2.5 billion in coordination with the Korean government that will help to improve socio-economic conditions in the area," he said.

Project Manager (PKCBC) Dr Kil Ung Kim informed the participants of the ceremony about Korean New Village Movement that is aimed at improving livestock and agriculture sector in coordination with the local people. Along with others Dean Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences Prof. Dr Safdar Anjum also addressed on the occasion.

Kissan Mela Held at University Research Farm

One day 'Kissan Mela' titled challenges, expectations of modern agriculture in Potohar region' held at University's Research Farm Koont, Chakwal on May 5, 2016.



Parliamentary Secretary/MNA Raja Javed Ikhlas was the chief guest while speakers included PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Chief Executive (PARB) Dr Noor-ul-Islam, Executive Director Lok Sanjh Foundation Shahid Zia and head of Korean Rural Community Corporation Dr Lee Bong Bang.



Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad said that Potohar region has the potential to fulfill the agricultural needs of the entire country if funded properly. He said Pakistan imports Rs 20 billion per annum tomato from India. There is no need to import even a single tomato from abroad if university is provided only Rs 4 billion for 10 years. Highlighting the main objectives of 'Mela', VC said that universities are beacons of light and play important part in leading the people. Arid Agriculture University is playing its important role in improvement of country's agriculture, he said, adding that the university has exhibited modern version of Rainwater Harvesting and Hydroponic (harvesting

without mud). The whole needs of the region of Potohar could be fulfilled by adopting two models. Welcoming the guests, he said the university has activated its abandoned form into a Role Model Form. Quality fruits, vegetables and edibles are being grown. Fish are being grown in the farm. He thanked Lok Sanjh Foundation and guests for attending the Mela.

Chief Guest Raja Javed Ikhlas in his address said that University's Research Farm is role model for Potohar region and announced it by making model research form as university's Potohar Campus. He also thanked Vice Chancellor for launching New Village Movement Project under Pak Korea Capacity Building Centre in Gujar Khan Areas. He also announced that such efforts of VC will be highlighted at government level.



Head of eight member delegation of Korea Dr Lee bong Bang (Korean Rural Community Corporation) introduced his company and said the productivity of the region can be increased if 700 to 1500 mili meter rain is stored. He said South Korea wanted to give \$2500 million for launching the Korean model of New Village Movement in Pakistan. The joint project will go for next 50 years. It is hoped that the areas could become major producer of fruits, vegetables and edibles, if locals cooperated with the university, he added.

Chief Executive PARB Dr Noor-ul-Islam, Director Lok Sanjh Dr Shahid Zia, Chairman Al Noor Group of Foods Ishtiaq Chaudhary also spoke on the occasion.

Punjab Secretary Agriculture Visited PMAS-Arid Agriculture University

The Secretary Agriculture Punjab, Muhammad Mahmood visited PMAS-Arid Agriculture University on Saturday May 14, 2016 and had one to one meeting with Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad of the university to share Kisan Package implementation process for small farmers.

University's Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad gave brief presentation to Secretary Agriculture on Raise Bed Technology for better crop and water productivity. The Secretary agreed to include Raise Bed Technology machine in Kisan Package.



Punjab Agriculture Secretary had also a meeting with all Deans, Directors, Chairmen and Administration staff along with Vice Chancellor. The Vice Chancellor told the participants about all ongoing research and development activities. It was appreciated by the Secretary that University is providing environment to students to become job creator rather than job seekers.

The Secretary share security concerns with university authorities. He also gives direction for use of alternate passage for newly and old constructed building of agriculture department through Dataa Gunj Baksh Road. He directed the concerned department to hand over the Tissue culture Lab to the university. The Vice Chancellor of the University along with Faculty members thanks the Secretary for taking quick action to address the security concern.

Moreover, The Punjab Secretary had a two hour discussion of successfully completion of Chief Minister's Kisan Package for small farmer. He also directed the senior members of the university to prepare the road map for important suggestion and submit to his office at their earliest for successful implementation of Kisan Package. He also appreciated the team work efforts of the university to convert the agriculture as a business for promoting the agricultural exports.



The Agriculture Secretary had a round of the campus for student training centers that is Trellising for Grapes, Fancy birds from breeding to sale, Nursery from sowing to sale and makes the university zero solid waste by converting solid waste to prepare compost and using the waste for energy production. He also visited the rain water harvesting pond of the University and had a discussion with the fish farming experimentation and also planted an Olive tree in Olive valley of the university. He also appreciated the efforts of university to providing enabling environment for students by providing shopping center of 22 shops on the side of play ground and in front of rain water harvesting pond as unique facility for students and earnings for the university.



At last Secretary also inaugurated Aridian Premier League "APL" where 80 teams of university students were participating for playing cricket. He also announced ten thousand rupees award from his side to the winning team. Earlier he inaugurated tournament by playing on the batting side with the vice chancellor from bowling side. He left after four hours visit with award of appreciation that university activities are not only appreciable but replicable by the other universities

Pothwar Art and Literature Festival 2016

The two days (March 06 to 07, 2016) 2nd Pothwar Art and Literature Festival 2016 held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) which was organized by the Office of the Senior Tutor and Directorate of Students Affairs, with an aim to provide the students an opportunity to demonstrate their talent.



Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR was the chief guest at the concluding ceremony while a big gathering of audience comprising distinguished faculty members and students were witnessed on the occasion.



Different competitions including Urdu & English Debate, Solo Performance, Punjabi Takra and Cultural presentation were held which were so inspirational and attention grabbing that not only the audience but also the judges at the end were in a dilemma as to who should be awarded the positions. The audience not only boosted the confidence of the participants but also appreciated them on their marvelous performance.

Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR, in his address highlighted the talent among the young students and advised them to also focus



on co-curricular activities besides education so that they emerged as successful people in their practical life and career. He congratulated the winners of the competitions for participating in it and makes it memorable. He also praised the efforts of organizers and asked them to motivate all students to participate in such competitions. At the end, Vice Chancellor also distributed prizes among the winners of different competitions.



In cultural presentation students presented the lifestyle of different regions of Pakistan to provide an opportunity to interact with other cultures. They created an environment like the presence of all provinces of Pakistan at a single stage. Students wore heavily embroidered & traditional dresses and also presented folk dance & music which highlighted the true colors of Pakistani culture. The audience applauded the ideas by means of it was presented.

Conference & Exhibition on Agriculture Dynamics in Potohar Region

Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research, Sikandar Hayat Khan Bosan has said that agriculture sector contributes 23 percent of GDP whereas around 45 percent of the work force is directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture for its livelihood.



He stated this while addressing at inaugural session of a conference & exhibition on Agriculture Dynamics in Potohar Region 2016 organized by Office of Research Innovation & Commercialization (ORIC) of Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) in collaboration with State Bank of Pakistan on March 29, 2016.

Parliamentarians, MNA Chaudhary Nasir Iqbal Bosal, MPA Raja Muhammad Hanif, MPA Zaib-un-Nisa, MPA Tehseen Fawad, MPA Surryia Naseem, as well as PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, MD State Bank of Pakistan Qasim Nawaz, Chief Manager State Bank of Pakistan Tanveer ul Islam, students, faculty members,

farmers, policy makers, agricultural experts & scientists from both public and private sector organizations attended the conference.

Federal Minister said that it is a matter of concern for all of us that the agricultural productivity is very low in Pakistan and stressed the need to improve agriculture production system on scientific lines to enhance sustainable food production.

He highlighted the importance of developing new products and technologies to promote agriculture sector and said that there is dire need for the promotion of agri-sector by concentrating on crop enhancement, livestock, fisheries and dairy sectors development by creating linkages with industry.



Highlighting the importance of water availability in the country, the minister said that development of water reservoirs and dams in Pakistan is the need of the hour. He informed that Pakistan is the 5th largest producer of milk and stressed the need for focusing on value addition of agricultural and dairy products for profit maximization.



He informed that there is a lot of potential in the region of Potohar for fruit industry. He emphasized the significance of orchards & Olive cultivation for the agricultural economy of Pakistan and said that high value agricultural products would help to generate better income for farmers in the country, if exported to other markets.



He urged the scientists of the university to play their role to create awareness in farming community about the latest techniques in the agriculture. The 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.



PMAS-AAUR, Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, in his welcome address highlighted the aims and objectives of the conference. He said that PMAS-AAUR administration and faculty members are determined for agriculture sector development and initiated different programmes for farmers to produce quality crops. He was of the view that there is a great potential in Potohar area for fruit crops and

government should pay special attention for its development. For better agriculture production we have to shift from conventional crops to olive and orchard farming Vice Chancellor added. At the end shields were also presented to the guests and federal Minister Sikandar Hayat Khan Bosan.



Federal Minister also inaugurated Agricultural exhibition and planted a tree in University premises. The exhibition was organized by University Institutes Management Sciences with an aim to bring together all stakeholders on one platform to engage in constructive dialogue, experience sharing and information dissemination. As many as 100 different stalls including products and agricultural items have been displayed in the exhibition by Pakistani



farmers, institutes and industrialists, PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad took dignitaries on visit of various stalls exhibiting agriculture products and machinery. Federal Minister Sikandar Hayat Khan Bosan appreciated the efforts of organizers for this exhibition and urged the farmers to adopt new technologies and improve agricultural productivity for a food secure Pakistan.

Punjab Secretary Agriculture Visited PMAS-AAUR Indigenous Hydroponic System

Punjab Secretary Agriculture Muhammad Mahmood visited indigenous Hydroponic System at Rawat of Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR, on May 25, 2016.



In his visit, he suggested to spread the 21st century agriculture to farmer level. He also appreciated consistent hard work of university to indigenous this very expensive technology to the adoptable level of our farming community. His emphasis was on water concern to save Pakistan agriculture was appreciated by the vice chancellor and promised to give full co-operation from university.



Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad briefed the Secretary that Agriculture Hydroponics is latest technique to produce safe, nutritious, delicious and high quality vegetables. Hydroponics products have enormous nutritional value and taste fresh because they are grown in healthy environment, he added. He said that a conventional farmer gets 5-6 tonnes yield of vegetables from per acre of land while a progressive farmer can yield 12-15 tonnes through tunnel farming. He further stated that but we (Arid University) are yielding 300 tonnes per acre at this Rawat farms through hydroponic system.

Secretary Agriculture Muhammad Mahmood also had a meeting with DDO, and EDOs of Water Management of Rawalpindi region. He along with Vice Chancellor Arid Agriculture shared different options to improve water production as well as water storage by rain water harvesting in Potohar and pre-mountain areas.

Secretary agriculture shared that CM Punjab Mina Shahbaz Sharif is very willing to complete the entire agriculture scheme well in time and package of Rs 100 billion would be spent during next two years for the development of agri sectors and prosperity of farmers and such programmes would be evolved to directly benefit the farmers.



He also directed a team headed by Vice Chancellor to arrange a farmer conference as concern about high efficiency irrigation system and prepare recommendations to address problems if any happening to promote the system on fast-track was also decided during discussion on-farm water management officers that the graduate students of agriculture should be trained for PCPS to involve passed out students in entrepreneurship of this big initiative of the government as well as to under the PM (internship scheme). He also constituted a committee of Vice Chancellor Arid Agriculture University, Director Water Management and Solar Company to prepare a full package for small farmers to address his livelihood by smart agriculture.



Vice Chancellor also appreciated his enforcement to his team to reaching at the level of small farmers and reporting mechanism using mobile services and introduces the E-agriculture mechanism.

Federal Minister for Inter Provincial Coordination Visited PMAS-AAUR

Federal Minister for Inter Provincial Coordination Mian Riaz Hussain Pirzada visited Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) on May 30, 2016.



Federal Minister, in a meeting with PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Rai Niaz Ahmad, emphasized the need of rainwater harvesting and drip irrigation to solve the problems regarding water scarcity.

Federal Minister 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 current scenario. Federal Minister appreciated the efforts of PMAS-AAUR being made regarding latest techniques of water management to make barren lands productive.

In a meeting, it was also decided that PMAS-AAUR and Pakistan Sports Board will sign MoU in the area of rainwater harvesting, drip irrigation, and landscape of sport's areas in Islamabad. Furthermore, Federal Minister was briefed about the efforts of Punjab Govt to improve water management for irrigation and crop-water productivity.

Prof. Dr. Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR, highlighted the need of water resource management and assured full cooperation of PMAS-AAUR. He recommended that it is time to increase investments in water reservoirs; improve water management, irrigation and crop cultivation; introduce rainwater harvesting and launch of mass awareness campaigns.



Federal Minister Mian Riaz Hussain Pirzada Visited PMAS-AAUR Indigenous Hydroponics System

Federal Minister for Inter Provincial Coordination Mian Riaz Hussain Pirzada said that now a day's food security is one of the major challenges and emphasized that Pakistan needs to adopt new technologies to ensure food security for the public at large.

He stated this while visiting Indigenous Hydroponics system of Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) on June 19, 2016. PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Rai Niaz Ahmad, a large number of faculty members, students, farmers and researchers were also present on the occasion.

He urged that agriculture innovations, new varieties and all other technologies must be shared among the farmers to develop agriculture on modern lines. He appreciated the steps taken by PMAS-AAUR for making modern agricultural technology accessible to farmers so they can increase the yields of their crops.

He said the establishment of the first Indigenous Hydroponic/Soilless System of Pakistan by PMAS-AAUR would be a milestone in increasing the capability of agro-products. Federal Minister also appreciated consistent hard work of university to indigenous this very expensive technology to the adoptable level of our farming community.



Three Days Regional Training Workshop on GIS for Agricultural Monitoring

A three-day (March 28-30, 2016) Regional Training Workshop on GIS for Agricultural Monitoring held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR), with an aim to impart knowledge on efficient use of Geo-Information for monitoring and mapping of various agricultural processes and systems.

The workshop was organized by PMAS-AAUR in collaboration Islamic Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and Inter Islamic Network on Information Technology (IINIT).



Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR was the chief guest while MPA Raja Muhammad Hanif and MPA Malik Ifthikhar were the guests of honor. Participants from Sudan, Morocco, Iran and Algeria, agricultural scientists, policy makers, GIS & Remote sensing analysts, faculty members and students from Pakistan were also attended the workshop.

Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR, in his address said that food security is one of the major challenges for the world. He emphasized that sustainable agricultural land use critically depends on continuous assessment and monitoring of agricultural processes. To reduce the threat of temporary imbalances between food supply and demand we have to obtain timely and accurate information on areas of crops and their productions, he added.



He further said that satellite based remote sensing and geographic information system substantially increases the value of information on agricultural land usage, crop production estimation and climate change assessment.



He was of the view that universities are the hub of research, innovations and capacity building. He urged the faculty members to play their pivotal role of capacity building of agriculture professionals in the emerging fields like GIS & Remote Sensing, Biotechnology, Nanotechnology and ICT for Agriculture.

Dr Aicha Bammoun Representative of ISESCO, Engr. Tahir Naeem Representative of IINIT and Dr Mobushir Riaz Khan Workshop Focal person in their key note addresses comprehensively enlightened the features of remote sensing and GIS that these are the reliable means of collecting information on crop monitoring and damage assessment, crop growth modeling, crop production estimation and yield gap analysis.

In the three days workshop participants were provided the practical knowledge regarding the use of satellite imagery, remote sensing and GIS applications as tool at various scales to assess the evolution of vegetation cover. The workshop also highlighted the importance of promoting the creation of national databases for agriculture indicators related to national and regional figures for vegetation cover, the evolution of crop lands and characterization of these lands (agriculture, forests, pastures etc.).

Three Days 16th International Soil Science Congress

Speakers emphasized the importance of protecting and improving natural resources particular soil for increasing agriculture production in the country. They stressed the need to adopt latest agri. practices and urged upon the agricultural scientists to pace up their work to boost up production in order to feed the increasing population.



They stated this on three Days March 15-17, 2016) 16th International Soil Science Congress held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR), under the theme "Healthy Soils for Food Security".



Federal Minister for Defense Production Rana Tanveer Hussain was the Chief Guest at the inaugural session while Dr Muhammad Ashraf Chairman Pakistan Science Foundation, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR, MNA Shizra Munsab were also present. Faculty members of PMAS-AAUR and more than 300 hundreds scientists include federal & provincial policy makers, education, Agri. Extension & Industry from Pakistan and abroad are attending this congress.

Federal Minister for Defense Production Rana Tanveer Hussain, in his address said the economy of a country is heavily dependent on the health of its soils, the productivity of which was resultantly effects its intrinsic characteristics coupled with interaction of external inputs such as water, fertilizer and climate and a host of other factors.

He said, the challenges ahead in the 21st century would undoubtedly be more complex, difficult and numerous in the wake of continued rapid depletion, degradation and pollution of soil resources.

He said scientific management of soil and water has to continue to play a key role in realizing the yield potential of the modern high yielding crop cultivars. In view of the changing global agricultural scenario, the future of agriculture has to be more knowledge based, the Minister said.

Minister urged Soil scientists to gear up efforts for meeting the future challenges of fulfilling requirements of the country's food security.



Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR in his welcome address highlighted the importance of efficient use of farm inputs and said water shortage for agricultural crops is a major problem faced by farming community. He said the per capita water availability has decreased and Pakistan is among the list of the water scare countries. He said that consistent efforts needed to meet the growing food requirement of the population. He urged the Soil Science Society of Pakistan to play leading role in conservation, land and water resources and guide policy makers in evolving research priorities.

Seminar on Small Farmers Access to Resources and Knowledge Issues & Options

A seminar on Small Farmers Access to Resources and Knowledge Issues & Options held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) in collaboration with Lok Sanjh Foundation (LSF), with an aim to enhance the capacity building of small farmers, here on Tuesday.

Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad was the chief guest while Deans, Directors, faculty members, a large number of students and farmers of different areas were also attended the seminar.



In his address, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad highlighted that how much farmer's issues are important and their answers that are required from the scientists' community to enhance the small farmers' capacity building. He announced that all the farmers nominated by the Lok Sanjh Foundation would be provided training in KOICA Building. He promised that the water problem of this region would surely be settled. An olive valley is being established by giving olive plants to farmers so that their livelihood could be addressed. Vice Chancellor also emphasized on the hard work of teachers, researchers and faculty by giving the example of farmers who are working day and night for the food security of our nation. A number of success stories and farmer related research products were introduced by the Vice Chancellor. He also appreciated the work of LSF in promoting organic farming. He also said that seeds and fruit plants would be provided by the university through LSF and then registered farmers would supply that seeds and plants to others as per certification of the University.

Representative of LSF, Ms. Farzana Shahid, in her address, spotlighted the collaboration and achievements of the both institutions in order to empower the small farmers and their efforts to enhance their capacity building to increase productivity, efficiency and effectiveness. She also acknowledged and appreciate the unflinching efforts of Dr Shahid Zia and Dr Ria Niaz Ahmad to focus the small farmers and improve their living standard



through learning by doing. She said that farmers know about their land, sowing and bowing crops, output and social order also but they need help in order to solve their issues. Producer becomes himself victim of price regulation when he becomes consumers in the market and face the queue to purchase basket of goods for survival, she added.



Dr Abdul Saboor, organizer of the seminar, in his welcome address, highlighted the aims and objectives of organizing this seminar. He admired the Korea by donating a capacity building center where farmers' classes will be held. Moreover, he appreciated the Lok Sanjh contributions and efforts by having Farmers' Open University. He gave the Korean model example (1960s) in which they empowered the farmers through New Village Development based on "Can Do" approach.

Mr. Mazhar Iqbal, a farmer from Chakwal, sharing his view with the participants, highlighted the issues like label issues of seeds in which private companies are exploiting the farmers. Wheat rate issued by Govt is Rs. 1200 but they are forced to sell at Rs.1110, crushing rate are high, no agriculture institution to raise their voices against this injustice. He also told the forum about the diseases to crops while pesticides that are available providing less resistance to them.

Seminar on Food Security and Export of Vegetable

Speakers in the seminar mentioned that food security is one of the main challenge that world is facing today and emphasized that Pakistan needs to acquire new technologies & adopt good Agricultural practices for production to ensure food security for the public at large. They also urged that agriculture innovations, new varieties and all other technologies must be shared among the farmers to develop agriculture on modern lines.



They stated this at a seminar on Food Security and Export of Vegetable organized by Department of Horticulture, Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR), on April 5, 2016, with aim to raise public awareness about food security.

Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad was the chief guest while Ms. Renate Pors, Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of the Netherlands was the guest of Honor. Faculty members, students, farmers and researchers were also present.

Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR, in his address appreciated the efforts of the organizers for holding seminar on a serious issue and stressed the need for improving the per acre crop out-put by utilizing innovative technologies as well as addressing the farm management issues.

He also explained the food security problem in Pakistan and said that if this matter is not taken seriously, Pakistan would be at risk of food shortage and hunger in the near future. He pointed out that academia and industry have to come together with strong linkage and find sustainable solutions to the situation of food in-security, safety, hunger and malnutrition.

He urged the scientists of the university to play their role to create awareness among farming community about the latest techniques in the agriculture to make Pakistan a food sufficient country in order to feed the increasing population.

Vice Chancellor informed that University is working closely with agricultural scientists, international partners and farmers to propagate agriculture-research and bring innovations at the doorstep of farmers across the country.

Ms. Renate Pors, Deputy Head of Netherlands Embassy in Islamabad addressed the faculty and students and said that Netherlands is a small country but has very high agricultural productivity.



She said " Our expertise in research, innovation and agricultural technology allow us to be one of major food exporters of the world and Pakistan as an agrarian society can benefit from this expertise to improve the state of food security here. We have to think of the growing population. Even today one billion people facing malnutrition and we need to improve research and farmers' practices on modern scientific lines to change that."

Mr. Romke Wustman, a Dutch expert on food security, while delivering his key note address, spoke about the need for good agricultural practices and understanding that there is chain of stakeholders in agricultural production which includes researchers, farmers and retailers amongst others.

He said "good agricultural practices"(GAP) allow the farmer to meet the specifications of the buyers and ensure the economic continuity of the stakeholders.

He suggested improving agricultural production system on scientific lines to enhance sustainable food production. This will not only improve the livelihood of population but will be a step towards assuring food security in the country, he added.

Seminar on "ADKAR: A Change Management Competency Model for Quality Assurance in Higher Education Institutions"

A seminar titled "ADKAR: A Change Management Competency Model for Quality Assurance in Higher Education Institutions" was organized at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) on the 17th of May, 2016 by the Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC) of the University.



PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad was the chief guest and the speaker of the seminar was Dr Almas Kiani, Associate Professor of Education, Faculty of Social Sciences, Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi. A large number of faculty members, Deans of Faculties, Directors, Head of Departments, and faculty members including from the Joint-Ventured Institutions of the University attended the seminar.

Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, the Vice Chancellor of Arid varsity in his remarks said that change is a difficult process and what's more is that it's inevitable. He said the ADKAR model could be applied to a variety of changes to derive change success. He appreciated the performance of QEC squad at the Arid Varsity and congratulated Director QEC, on organizing such an excellent seminar. He also congratulated all faculties and staff for the Arid University's having been ranked at 2nd Pakistani University by the IU Green Metric in 2016. Recently ranking of the World Universities by the Green Metric

declared only 05 Pakistani Universities in the Top 400 universities of the World. "The Quality Enhancement Cell has played a pivotal role in enhancing and ensuring the quality of education and research at this university and in particular changing the mindsets of the faculty, research scholars and staff because of which this institution now stands with top universities of the world", the Vice Chancellor said.



Dr Almas Kiani presented a goal-oriented change management model "ADKAR" to guide individual and organizational change. The Model represents five outcome competency milestones an individual must achieve for change to be successful: awareness, desire, knowledge, ability and reinforcement. These five enablers of change play significant role in assuring quality in higher education institutions. It was concluded that the quality of Higher Education institutions can only be assured through managing the challenges of educational changes within the context of globalized knowledge.



Conference on Agriculture Productivity Improvement Through Nudging

A conference on "Agriculture productivity improvement through nudging" was organized on June 6, 2016 at Pir Mehr Ali Shah University Rawalpindi in partnership with University of California Davis sponsored by Agriculture Innovation Program Pakistan.



The conference was aimed at exploring nudging techniques to achieve higher productivity in agriculture. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmed honored the inaugural session as the Chief Guest. Dr Aneela Afzal delivered the welcome address and introduced nudging as a tool to influence farmers. Dr Mark Bell from University of California Davis gave an overview of the conference and outlined some areas in which nudging can be used as a potential vehicle for agriculture extension. Dr Imtiaz Ahmed CIMMYT country representative, Dr Abdul saboor Dean Social Sciences, Dr Khalid saifullah Director ORIC and Dr Naimatullah Hashmi Chairman deptt of Sociology also graced the conference along with more than 350 faculty members, PhD ,MPhil scholars and people from Industry, Monsanto and Rafhan maiz.

The conference was divided into three technical sessions. First session was about nudging through academic reforms. The session was chaired by Dr Abdul Saboor and Dr Imtiaz Mohammed. Dr Imtiaz highlighted the importance of academic reforms needed to signify the effects of nudging in agriculture while Dr Saboor accentuated the importance of utilizing nudging as a revolutionary and free policy tool and prioritized some potential areas in which nudging can help raise agriculture productivity.

The second session, chaired by Mr. Gulzar Hussain Shah (MD Utility Stores) discoursed on 'Nudging through government policy reforms'. The worthy presenter proceeded by emphasizing on importance of governmental reforms in agriculture sector. Mr. Shahid Zia (Executive Director Lok Sanjh

Foundation) argued that with active participation of farmers, techniques such as nudging could be effectively used for sustainable development of agricultural sector. Mr Nadeem Ahmed from Leads Pakistan also addressed the importance of nudging and need of governmental policy reforms.

Dr Mark Bell from UC Davis led the third session which discussed nudging using ICT. Dr Bell being an expert in the areas of research extension linkages,

adult education and use of ICT highlighted the emerging concept of nudging in agriculture sector, developed frameworks for implementation, and identified skills required to craft effective nudging strategies and reforms. Dr Babar Shahbaz from UAF aptly linked nudging with contemporary information and communication technology and highlighted the benefits that can be reaped by rethinking the present ICT using nudge economics. Mr Saleem Ahmed Ranjha secretary Benazir Income support program addressed the relatively new and untapped avenue of mobile apps as a nudging tool to achieve higher productivity. Mr Ammar jaffri who has vast experience of electronic community development shared his expertise with the audience on use of nudging in electronic community development and rural economic uplift.



The conference was concluded on a high note with the participants heralding bright prospects and unparalleled opportunities for the best practices and scientific innovations to raise productivity in the agriculture sector.

Training Workshop on Quality Assurance

A three-day (May 31 to June 2, 2016) training workshop on "Quality Assurance" for administrative/non-teaching staff held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR).

The workshop was organized with an aim to create awareness about the quality assurance and promoting quality culture at the educational institutions in collaboration with the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan under the Modern University Governance Program on the Indigenous On-campus Training (IOT).

Around 35 participants from the administrative staff of the university including those from adjoining/affiliated educational institutions were also participated in this 3-day workshop.

Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor of the University was the chief guest and said this is the 2nd Quality Assurance workshop of its type that has been organized exclusively for the administrative staff of the university which will create quality culture for which we are struggling hard to create. He said that there was no comparison of this nation with any other nation of the world but the only thing we are lacking is "Quality". We need to address Quality in every walk of life and particularly in education, he added. He accentuate that the standards of Quality of higher education in Pakistan need to be improved to achieve the goals of competitiveness with the international standards. He further said, "There is no compromise on Quality and merit is the only criteria for our selection of new faculty for this university." He appreciated efforts of the Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC) at Arid Varsity and the HEC for their dynamic roles to enhance the quality of education and research in the University to meet the international

standards. He also appreciated the collaboration and financial support of the HEC for conducting this high quality workshop. He urged the participants to adapt best practices, equip themselves with the quality tools and play their roles as managers to take this institution to one of the best educational institutions of the world.

Prof. Dr Riaz Ahmad, Director QEC applauded the effort and the support of the Vice Chancellor to promote the quality culture at the varsity. He highlighted the importance of Quality and Quality Assurance for the administration and academics in the higher educational institutions



Professor Dr Yasin, the Convener of the Course and Shahbaz Ahmad Khan the Course Coordinator also addressed and welcome the Vice Chancellor. They highlighted the aims and objectives of organizing this workshop. They hoped that the all participants learned and benefited from the versatile and proven experiences of the speakers, professional trainers and consultants from the prestigious institutions.

During the 3 days of the workshop 9 sessions including presentations, lectures, activities and interactive sessions on Quality Assurance were conducted. The resource persons of the workshop were Farrukh Idrees (FAST) Zahid Iqbal (Ripha International University), Prof. Dr Riaz Ahmad (Director QEC-AAUR), Shahbaz Ahmad Khan (Deputy Registrar QEC-AAUR) and Prof. Dr Abdul Saboor, Dean Faculty of Social Sciences.



Annual Dinner Held at University Research Farm

MNA Raja Javed Ikhlas has said sub-campus of Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) will be established in Mandra and different degree programs will be started with special emphasis on agriculture of the area to uplift of the farming community.

He stated this while addressing at the Annual Dinner of the students of University Research Farm Koont organized by PMAS-AAUR on June 2, 2016. University's Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Deans, Directors, faculty members and a large number of students were also present.

Raja Javed Ikhlas said that Present Government particularly Chief Minister Punjab Mian Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif is taking keen interest in the development of higher education facilities to the youth living in far flung areas.



He said Pothwar area has high agricultural productivity due to the highly skilled farming community and hoped that the proposed campus would help bridge the gap between modern farming and the ongoing agricultural practices.

He said that young generation is our future and the

establishment of the University Campus would help to promote higher education in the area and youth after seeking higher education will serve the country in a better way.

He appreciated University Model Research Farm having drip/sprinkler irrigation for orchards, tunnel farming, & rainwater harvesting which is an example for the farmers. He suggested the local farming community to adopt these new techniques in agriculture to get maximum output. He also appreciated the efforts and developments being made by the University for socio-economic Uplift of the forming community with special emphasis on rain-fed agriculture in the country.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Rai Niaz in his welcome address said that this Campus would provide locals with modern agriculture education to the youth, which will help to develop agriculture sector of the region. He said students of the area would no longer have to move to other cities for higher education.

He said that Pothwar area has great potential for agriculture and progress of the country can be made only by the development of agriculture sector. He stressed that there is dire need to adopt latest techniques on farm water management to make barren lands productive.

He also briefed the participants about the integrated approaches of modern farming adopted by PMAS-AAUR on its Research Farm by using drip/sprinkler irrigation for orchards, tunnel farming for vegetable production etc. He said there is dire need of rainwater harvesting, drip irrigation to make irrigation more efficient and economical to solve the problems regarding water scarcity.

While highlighting the importance of Co-Curricular activities, Vice Chancellor said that the involvement of students in all such activities help them to build their confidence, personality and character.



Innovation Model Expo 2016

The Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) organized the Innovation Model Expo 2016 with an aim to highlight creative business products and services developed by students and to provide them self-employment opportunities in order to cope with the challenge of unemployment. Event was supervised by Project Management teacher Mr. Rizwan Shams and Director UIMS Dr Farida Faisal to encourage students who had prepared the best Business Ideas in their class.



PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Rai Niaz Ahmad was the chief guest while MPA Raja Muhammad Hanif was the guest of honor on the occasion. The expo was attended by prominent academics & researchers, faculty members, students and a wide range of representatives from national and multinational companies, who lauded the efforts of the expo management team in organizing such a successful event.

PMAS-AAUR, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Rai Niaz Ahmad, in his address said that Pakistan is rich in all resources and people have a lot of potential in all fields of life. He pointed that there is dire need of linkages between academia and industry and stressed upon that university-industry joint projects must be actively pursued in the country. He highlighted that many other challenges, technological advancements is the major one and developed countries are progressing because they are much

more innovative as compared to the developing countries. He encouraged the students and teachers to keep on making efforts for starting businesses which would provide employment to the poor people in Pakistan. He assured full support from University



administration to fund such projects which would be helpful to solve social problems.



MPA Raja Muhammad Hanif highly appreciated the efforts of students and teachers for organizing this expo. He said that organizing this expo will provide entrepreneurship opportunities to the students so that they could become employer instead of seeking employment.

More than 70 projects and products based on science & technology were presented by young scientists and faculty members. Students displayed their innovative business products and services including Bluetooth helmet, hatching incubator, funkada, magnifying glass instead of iPad and tablets to enlarge screen.

News in Pictures
Dignitaries sapling a plant in olive valley at University Main Campus



Governor Punjab Malik Muhammad Rafique Rajwana



Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reform Prof. Ahsan Iqbal



Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research Malik Sikandar Hayat Khan Bosan



Punjab Secretary Agriculture Muhammad Mahmood



Chairman Metro Bus Project Hanif Abbasi and Chairman Pakistan Poultry Association Dr. Muhammad Aslam

News in Pictures



Annual Dinner 2016 at University Research Farm



2nd Pothwar Art and Literature Festival 2016



Girls Sports Gala 2016

News in Pictures



Aridian Premier League 2016



Sports Gala 2016 at Jinnah Hall