



NEWS LETTER



Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad
Vice Chancellor



16th Convocation 2015



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Massey University Delegation



Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Sheikh Aftab Ahmad inaugurated PMAS-AAUR Sub-Campus at Attock

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The 16th Convocation of Arid Varsity

The 16th Convocation of Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) was held on March 30, 2015 at Jinnah Convention Center, Islamabad. On the occasion, Federal Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources, Mr. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, was the chief guest where as Chairman Higher Education Commission (HEC) Prof. Dr Mukhtar Ahmed, Vice Chancellor University of Engineering & Technology Taxila (UET), Prof. Dr Niaz Ahmad and Director General Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) Mr. Sung Choon-ki were the guest of honor.

A total of 2109 students were awarded degrees. Among them 42 students received Ph.D degrees, 365 awarded with M.Phil and MS degrees, 1056 secured Masters degrees and 646 students got Undergraduate degrees in their respective disciplines. Gold medals were awarded to 32 students for their outstanding performance in their academic record where as seven bagged silver and six secured bronze medal in the convocation. Four students got sponsored Gold medals and certificates for their distinctions and quality work.



While addressing, chief guest Federal Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources, Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, said that Pakistan was passing through a crucial phase and due to current challenges faced by the country there is a scarcity of jobs. He advised students to work as entrepreneurs and contribute their due share in the national economy. The minister said entrepreneurship is a vast sector and there were a number of opportunities in it but youth would have to explore them with their hard work as it is the only key to success. Federal Minister appreciated the role of PMAS-AAUR for the uplift of higher

education and assured full support from the government.

Chairman Higher Education Commission (HEC), Prof. Dr Mukhtar Ahmed sharing his remarks said, It is great privilege for us that Islamic Bank has announced Pakistan as the third country for transfer of technology". He said only two countries Turkey and Malaysia were ranked above in this category, He announced that within next three to four years, university or its sub-campus would be established in every district of the country to promote higher education in the country. The Chairman further said the universities which are not meeting the criteria of higher education would be closed as there is no compromise on quality.



Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, in his welcome address, informed that planning commission had approved an amount of Rs 751 million to AAUR for strengthening newly established Faculty of Agriculture Engineering and Technology this year. He further said pursuing guidelines of HEC for promotion of University- Industry linkages; we are strengthening the ties with Industry & Community through entrepreneurial activities by the students. Since my joining this campus a number of initiatives were started like (i) Ostrich Farming (ii) Mehr Drinking Water (iii) Students Practical Working Stations (iv) Students Entrepreneurship Projects, (v) Establishment of University Shopping Centre, which I mentioned in my last year's report, are in full swing and very positively contributing towards capacity building of the

students. It is elating to share that by this year we added (i) Fancy Birds Breeding Center at University, (ii) Farm Modernization and Mechanization Initiatives where we are developing our own Trellising, Tuff-Pavers and Fiber-Glass for Green Houses and last but not the least is the Establishment of Community Centre as University Products Display Centre (UPDC) Research Products.



Recently, 9 faculty members have been inducted in different disciplines that will be responsible to look-after the student practical in all subjects to get out of these sale able products for the business

initiatives and pay focused attention towards expansion and enhancement of this approach. All these projects are almost at break-even point and I am confident that by the next convocation we will be reporting the profits earned as well, besides their prime aim of capacity building of the students.



On the occasion, Federal Minister, Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, Chairman HEC Prof. Dr Mukhtar Ahmed, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor UET, DG KOICA, Senator Najma Hameed, MPA Raja Muhammad Hanif, MPA Malik Muhammad Iftikhar and Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, distributed degrees and decorated the students with medals.



Inauguration of Arid Varsity Sub-Campus at Attock

Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Sheikh Aftab Ahmad, inaugurated the sub campus of the Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) at the Government Degree College Attock on October 20, 2014. Speaking on the occasion, the Federal Minister said that present Government is utilizing maximum available resources to provide higher education facilities to the youth living in far flung areas and for the purpose billions of rupees were being spent as evident from



the establishment of PMAS-AAUR campus in Attock. He said "Education is the basic requirement and no nation can make progress without strengthening education and educational institutions". He congratulated the community, especially youth of the city, on establishment of campus and said that young generation was

our future. He further said that the establishment of university campus at Attock would help promoting higher education in the area and intelligent students of the district would get better chances of higher education. He said that Chief Minister Punjab, Mian Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif, was taking keen interest in the development of far flung areas.

The Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmed in his address said that Attock Campus of Arid Agriculture University would prove a mile stone in imparting agricultural education to the youth of this area, which would help to develop agriculture sector of the region. He said that so far 87 students had taken admission in this campus who would be provided all necessary facilities.



He was also of the view that progress of the country could be made only by the development of agriculture sector and Pothwar area had great potential for it. He stressed on the need for focusing value addition and orchard farming. He lauded the services of the State Minister Sheikh Aftab Ahmed in establishing this campus.



Sports Gala held at the Arid Varsity

A colorful girls' sports gala was held at Arid University on March 25, 2015 to provide female students an opportunity to explore their talent in a practical way. More than 100 students of different departments exhibited their sports spirit and enthusiasm by participating in different sports activities, including 100 meter race, 400 meter rally race, discus throw, volleyball, long jump, handkerchief snatching, short put and tug of war.

The Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR inaugurated the gala while Senator Najma Hameed was the guest of honor. The event was also attended by Deans/Directors, faculty members, staff and a large number of female students.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad said that sports related activities helped the students to polish their hidden potential. He said that women were the half of the country's population and through healthy sports activities we could prepare them for the tough future challenges. A woman can play a pivotal role in the uplift of



the society, Vice Chancellor added. He said Pakistan's future depends upon education and the abilities of students could be utilized through such activities for benefit of the country. PMAS-AAUR has been trying to provide better opportunities for extracurricular activities to the youth so that they could play their role in nation building, he said. At the end, the chief guest distributed prizes and shields among the students who got top positions in different competitions.

Massey University Delegation at the Arid Varsity

A delegation from Massey University, New Zealand visited Arid Agriculture University, here on 29 October 2014 to introduce higher education & research system of the

New Zealand in Pakistan educational institutions to identify and to establish long-term collaborations and bilateral relations. The delegation comprising of Prof. Dr Richard Archer & Mr Michael O'Shaughnessy met the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad and discussed the possibilities of collaboration in academics, research and training between the two institutions.



The visiting delegation also exchanged the views with the Arid University academic leadership and applauded its numerous steps to develop the institutional relations with leading institutions and corporate entities. The delegation also visited the field area including Ostrich Farm, model of roof rainwater harvesting and was impressed by a number of research and development activities at the University.

World Water Day Celebrated at the Arid Varsity

World Water Day was celebrated at the Arid Agriculture University on March 19, 2015. Dr Shamsul-Mulk, former Chairman Wapda, was the chief guest, while Professor Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor of the PMAS-AAUR, was the guest of honour.



Dr Shamsul-Mulk, while addressing, encouraged the students to pursue contemporary knowledge in the fields of science and technology. He said "Pakistan possessed the largest water drain system in the world and it is difficult to understand how a country with such resources is poor". He was of the view that Pakistan Government should take up concrete projects in this regard.

International Day for GIS Celebrated at the Arid Varsity

International Day for Geographic Information Systems (GIS) was celebrated at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi on 20 November 2014. The Vice Chancellor of PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad was chief guest on the occasion. More than 15



organizations/institutes displayed their stalls carrying GIS information and its practical benefits. In this regard a seminar was also held with the objectives to create awareness about GIS in general public with providing platform for students & organizations to network for their carriers and to present their specialties and expertise.



While addressing the participants of seminar, Vice Chancellor, highlighted the importance of GIS and said "The GIS is a location based information system useful for almost all fields of life. It enhances the capability of informed decision making in day to day life." The GIS would not only help the country but also play pivotal role in natural resource management and its efficient utilization to get the country on the track of prosperity and development, he added.

Seminar on "Soy in Improving Human Health" held at the Arid Varsity

A seminar titled "Soy in improving Human Health" was organized by PMAS-AAUR Department of Food Technology on 21, November 2014 in collaboration with American Soybean Association (ASA) & World Initiative for Soy in Human Health (WISHH), with an aim to promote this crop in the country and save foreign exchange on the import of soybean oil and meal. On the occasion, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR was the chief guest and Mr. David William Agricultural Counselor of the US Embassy in Pakistan was the guest of Honor.



Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, while addressing on the occasion highlighted the importance of soybean. He said Soy was the richest source of quality protein for livestock and human consumption.



Mr. David William Agricultural Counselor of US Embassy Pakistan in his address highlighted that food security issue can be resolved by soy and its products.

Arid Varsity and Indus Consortium, Islamabad Signed a Memorandum of Understanding

Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University and Indus Consortium, Islamabad signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) here on 25 November 2014 to make joint efforts to address food security in Pakistan and to increase knowledge of youth regarding climate change and food security so that policy discourse can be generated. Both organizations agreed to jointly carry out various activities in order to achieve objective of the project titled "Harvesting Global Food Security and Justice in the Face of Climate Change" under the GROW Campaign supported by Oxfam Novib, funded by Swedish International Development Cooperation (SIDA) and being implemented by Indus Consortium.



Both parties also agreed to exchange/collaborate the information and identification of resource material for establishing resource centers to increase the effectiveness, efficiency and quality of the initiatives.



Prof Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR and Mr. Hussain Jarwar of Indus Consortium Islamabad signed MoU on behalf of their respective organizations. Under the MoU both parties agreed to develop coordination & communication mechanism to collaborate in matters of common interests addressing the program objectives.

World Soil Day Observed at the Arid Varsity

Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi organized a seminar to celebrate World Soil Day here on 05 December 2014 to promote and raise awareness on soils for sustainable agriculture development, nutrition, and food security. The event was organized by the PMAS-AAUR, Department of Soil Science and Soil & Water Conservation (SS & SWC). Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR was the chief guest on the occasion. University Deans, Directors, faculty members and large number of students attended the seminar.



While addressing the participants, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, emphasized on the management of soil through latest technologies including precision agriculture for maximum output/production to meet the world's demand for food. He further suggested the Pakistani soil scientists to have analyzed the soils of the whole country for their nature and properties, which could better reflect its needs and the required practices/inputs.



Mr. Patrick T. Evan, the FAO representative in Pakistan in his address greatly appreciated the celebration and admired the efforts of the faculty and students of Department of Soil Science in this regard. He shared with the participants, the latest developments taking place in the developed countries for sustainable management of soils to grow healthy foods.

Basketball Championship Held at the Arid Varsity

A three day Championship was held at the PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi on 16 December 2014 by Directorate of Sports. Eight teams including Faculty of Agriculture, Faculty of Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, University Institute of Information Technology, University Institute of Management Sciences, Barani Institute of Information Technology, Faculty of Agricultural Engineering and Faculty of Forestry & Wildlife Management participated in the championship.



Prof. Dr. Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR was the chief guest on the occasion. In the end the Vice Chancellor congratulated the winner of the championship and distributed prizes/certificates among the players.

A large number of students and faculty members were also present on their respective faculty teams matches and enjoyed the game and hoped that such event would be organized in future as well.



The Faculty of Basic Sciences became the Inter-faculty Basketball Champion after beating University Institute of Information Technology (UIIT) by the score of 46-42.

Inter-University Qiraat and Naat Competitions held at the Arid Varsity

All Pakistan Inter-University Qiraat and Naat competitions were held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi in connection with the holy month of Rabiul Awal, on January 22, 2015. The Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR, Prof. Dr. Rai Niaz Ahmad was the chief guest. A large gathering of audience comprising distinguished faculty members and students were also present on the occasion.

Both the competitions were very inspirational and attention grabbing. The winners of the Qiraat completion included Hafiz Hanzla Mushtaq of PMAS-AAUR as first, Qari Abdul Rehman of International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI) second and Ayesha Irfan of Fatima Jinnah Women University Rawalpindi (FJWU) as the third position holder. In the Na'at competition, Syeda Saira Jafri of FJWU won the first prize, Aziz Haider of IIUI got the second and Bilal Ahmad of PMAS-AAUR received the third prize.



At the end, the chief guest Prof. Dr. Rai Niaz Ahmad praised the performance of the students and distributed prizes & certificates to the position holders. In his address, he emphasized the need of moral development and character building as a part of the students' preparation for their practical life ahead. He cited the life of the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) and his traditions as practical demonstrations of the teachings of the Holy Quran and urged the students to follow the Quran and Sunnah in their daily lives. He also announced to hold such events on regular basis to aware the younger generation about the teaching of Holy Prophet's (PBUH).

Workshop on Quality Assurance and Self-Assessment Held at Arid Varsity Rawalpindi

A training workshop on Quality Assurance and Self-Assessment of programs was held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi on 26 February 2015. It was organized by the Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC). A large number of academia, researchers and Programs Team Members attended the workshop. The Vice Chancellor Professor Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, in his inaugural speech, highlighted the importance of quality in all fields,



especially in higher education. He said, "Quality is never an accident - it always the result of sincere effort, high intention and intelligent direction and the Arid Varsity is trying to achieve it at all costs. Earlier, Professor Dr Riaz Ahmad, Director QEC in his welcome address thanked the Vice Chancellor for his keen interest on the quality front. He also appreciated the Program Team members and the faculty for their contribution in this regard. He said the QEC was established in 2007 as Higher Education Commission Islamabad initiative



and it has played a vital role boosting the quality of education and research. Later sessions on Self-assessment of programs and quality assurance were conducted in which Professor Riaz Ahmad, Director QEC and Shahbaz Ahmad Khan, Deputy Director (QEC) made the presentations. These followed interactive session with the participants

Indigenous on Campus Training Under Modern University Governance Programme

A five-day indigenous on-campus training (IOT) workshop for administrative/non-teaching staff commenced at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi on March 2, 2015.

The workshop titled "ICT for Office Management and Computer Applications" is organized by Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), PMAS-AAUR in collaboration with the Higher Education Commission under Modern University Governance Program,



Chairing the inaugural session, PMAS-AAUR, Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad said that this is first time that PMAS-AAUR Is organizing training for non teaching staff and it is the need of time to equip the staff with skills to enrich their knowledge with latest trends and technologies. He hoped that this training will be beneficial for the better governance and development of University. He appreciated the efforts of Higher Education Commission for providing the training opportunities to the staff of University. He congratulated all the participants and advised them to deliver best services to students



Korean Ambassador Mr. Jong Hwan Song Visited Arid Varsity

Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) and The Republic of South Korea have agreed to initiate collaborative research projects in the field of agriculture, particularly for promotion of soybean cultivation in the country. It was decided in a meeting held between PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad and Korean delegation headed by Korean Ambassador in Pakistan Mr. Jong Hwan Song, on March 04, 2015. They discussed the possibilities of collaboration in academic, research, training and value chain activities for the development of agriculture sector.

Both parties also agreed to train the farmers in how to increase their farm productivity, more effective means for production of superior-quality seeds, post-harvest handling of crops, value-addition and marketing and advanced on-farm management.

On the occasion, Korean Ambassador Mr. Jong Hwan Song, said that soybean is one of the most valuable crops in the world not only as an oil seed crop but also as a good source of protein for the human diet. He appreciated the efforts of PMAS-AAUR in the development of higher education and research, especially in the field of arid agriculture, where the harvestable resources are limited.



The Vice-Chancellor briefed the delegation on the academic, research and extension programs of the University and its role in the development of agriculture sector. Vice Chancellor said scientists are working to reduce the cost of production in the country and make the crop profitable for farmers. He said that the university has its own Farm on

the Chakwal Road for hands-on training of students. He said that the university is actively involved in extension activities and working with the farmers to focus on the development agriculture of small farmers.

Seminar on "Criminological Sciences in Pakistan: Connecting Research with Practice" held at PMAS-AAUR

seminar on "Criminological Sciences in Pakistan: Connecting Research with Practice" held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR), on March 18, 2015. On the occasion, Dr M. Shoaib Suddle, Ex IG Police, was the chief guest while Prof. Dr. Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR was the guest of honor.

Dr Shoaib Suddle highlighted the importance of Criminology and said that there is dire need of practicing this subject in all the universities of the country. He further said that research based criminal knowledge must be implemented over the country as it is the need of time in present challenging scenario. Moreover he admired the dedication efforts of the PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor for starting the criminology degree at campus. He was of the view that



"By learning criminology we can fight criminality more effectively", and in this modern era policing the study and research in criminology is vitally important for the law enforcement agencies to play a proactive role in crime control.

Prof. Dr Rai Niaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR, in his address, said that criminology is emerging field in social sciences right around the world and urged the social scientists to take the leading role to comprehend crime, criminality and criminals.

He requested to the teachers and criminal justice experts and professionals to help the nation in controlling and curbing crime and criminality in Pakistan. On the occasion, Vice Chancellor also announced to establish a separate department, of criminology and justice studies" to enhance learning capacity, expertise and skills of students.

PMAS-AAUR ongoing Projects

University has won development projects which includes

Development of On Farm Students Research Facilities (at Koont, Gujjar Khan) worth of rupees 343.224 millions funded by Higher Education Commission (HEC).



University has also won projects titled The Establishment of Pak-Korea Capacity Building Center for Agriculture & Livestock Technology at University which is worth of 395.500 rupees million sponsored by KOICA.



Establishment of Faculty of Veterinary & Animals Sciences, with an amount of

rupees 468.620 millions, funded by Higher Education Commission (HEC).



project titled Establishment of Sub-Campus of PMAS-AAUR at Attock worth of rupees 188.260 millions sponsored by Government of Punjab.



Strengthening of Agricultural Engineering & Women Development Program at PMAS-AAUR which is worth of 751.244 rupees funded by Higher Education Commission (HEC).

AUR-0809: A Candidate Wheat Variety of PBG Department of Arid Varsity

A high yielding wheat variety with resistance against rust diseases (a major problem of currently cultivated wheat varieties in Pakistan) has been developed by the Department of Plant Breeding & Genetics PMAS-AAUR. The candidate wheat variety ranked top in the National Uniform Wheat Yield Trial (Rain-fed) 2011-12. National Uniform Wheat Yield Trial was conducted on 15 different rainfed locations of Pakistan and it ranked top among 15 candidate genotypes. It is a high yielding and possesses considerable resistance against rust diseases which is a major problem of currently cultivated wheat varieties in Pakistan.

Book Published

Dr Shahzada Sohail, Assistant Prof. Department of Soil Science & SWC has published a book titled "Introductory Soil Science" by the Empire Publishers, Lahore ISBN: 969-546-004-6. The book aims at providing basic information for the introductory courses in the discipline of Soil Science.

Research Projects Awarded



Dr Shahzada Sohail Ijaz, Assistant Prof. Department of Soil Science & SWC has been awarded a research Project title "Inter-Comparison of CENTURY and DSSAT Model Simulations to Improve Soil Based Climate Change Resilience and Adaptability of Rainfed Crop Production Systems in Pakistan" funded by Higher Education Commission (HEC) of worth Rs. 3.5 million. Moreover, another research project worth Rs. 2.0 million submitted by Dr Ijaz has also been approved by Pakistan Science Foundation.



Dr Qaiser Hussain, Assistant Professor, Department of Soil Science & SWC has been awarded by the HEC a project title "Enhancing nitrogen fixation, soil water

holding capacity and agronomic benefits through biochar application in dryland area" at total cost of Rs. 4.0 Million for period of 36 months.

First Novel Rhizobium Species Identified From Pakistan

A novel species of bacteria *Rhizobium pakistanensis* has been isolated from groundnut (*Arachis hypogaea*) nodules grown in rainfed Pothwar, Pakistan, by Miss Rabia Khalid, PhD candidate under supervision of Dr Rifat Hayat at the Department of Soil Science & SWC. The bacterium has been recognized as a new species in genus *Rhizobium* and the first *Rhizobium* species to be identified from Pakistan. This species has been deposited in two different International Culture Collections i.e. LMG, Gent University, Belgium (LMG 27895) and CCBAU, Culture Collection of China Agriculture University, Beijing (CCBAU 101086) for verification and to be available for international scientific community. The success was possible with the mutual collaboration of PMAS-AAUR and China Agricultural University, Beijing, China.

Conference/Workshop Participation



Dr Abida Arshad, Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, PMAS- Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi presented her research paper at the 8th International Conference on Systems Biology and the 4th Translational Bioinformatics Conference (ISB/TBC 2014) held in China from October 25-27, 2014. Her research work on topic "In silico analysis of mutations in PITX3 gene" has been published in conference proceedings as well as the IEEE Xplore,

and has also been submitted to EI Compendex for consideration for indexing.



Dr Shamim Akhter, Associate Professor of Zoology participated in the 11th Annual Conference of Asian Reproductive Biotechnology Society (ARBS) held during 3-8 November 2014 at the Sukosol Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand and presented a paper titled "Effect of Amino Acid Supplementation of Extender on Post-Thaw Quality of Sahiwal Bull Spermatozoa" in one of the technical sessions for oral presentations.

News in Pictures



Minister for Agriculture, Punjab, Dr Farrukh Javed Visited University



Students get Laptops under PM's Scheme



University Research Farm Products Exhibition held at Campus



Secretary P&D Punjab, Waseem Ajmal Chaudhry Visited University



Fish Hatcheries Launching in Rain Water Harvesting Ponds at University

News in Pictures



Vice Chancellor Inaugurated Tree Plantation Campaign at Campus



HEC Indigenous on-Campus Training Workshop



Inter-Faculty girls Badminton Championship held at PMAS-AAUR



Hydroponic Replica Established at FMP



Chairman Metro Bus Project Rawalpindi, Hanif Abbasi Visited PMAS-AAUR

Exclusive Interview Agro Voice Magazine

WALLPAPER OF THE MONTH - WALLPAPER OF THE MONTH

WALLPAPER OF THE MONTH

Wallpaper of the month is Agro Voice Magazine's top most interview series with the National Heroes who have proven themselves as well renowned personalities of their respective fields. Hereby if any reader is interested to be encompassed in this segment is welcome to contact us at wallpaper@agrovoice.com.pk.

You find his eccentricities adorable and his observations insightful. He would hook you "in" with one smile only; born on 22nd May 1958 in Okara Punjab Prof. Niaz is Educationist best known for his extension work and research in agriculture. With an international talent in agriculture science and technology he holds a Doctorate Degree in Agriculture Engineering in 1991, from Iowa State University USA, and two Post Doctorates each from Kyoto University Japan in 1997 and Tottori University Japan in 1998. He has a vast career carrying variety of bright shiny stars on his shoulders which include Deanship, Chairmanship, Directorship, Officership, Investigatorship and a range of Memberships with worldwide organizations. Eventually he has a total of 33 years experience in teaching, fellowship and research inland and abroad on various faculty and positions. He has also supervised 4 Ph.Ds and 30 M.Sc.s during his tenure. His lifelong achievements contain launching of innovative planting machines for wheat, maize and cotton



crops, solar energy based tube wells, automatic irrigation systems for orchards, solar operated drip and raingun systems, mobile power units for irrigation, drainage models, spraying machine, solar track systems, clay Porus Cup System for collection of soil water samples, sprinklers and high efficiency irrigation systems.

His challenging agribusiness proposals are highly noted at students and scholars capacities equally. After the huge success of those ideas, he has also drew his attention to modern farming concepts for poultry birds. The Aquarium-cum-Aviary in university is a novel combination of his efforts. It is a model for integrated farming where the waste of birds on top will be used as feed for fish in pond at the bottom. The model is an effort towards resource optimization for farming community in the area.

The paradigm shift is his message for the students. He urged them for self employment. "Skill is main thing learn it and earn it" Prof. Dr. Rai Niaz Ahmad emphasized in conclusion.

PROF. DR. Rai Niaz Ahmad

Vice Chancellor, Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi

A bright, adventurous & super creative man

Always looking for something special; Which keeps his brain running, wondering what's around the corner. The existence of project Rainwater Harvesting Model in Chakwal is one of great example of his inventive approaches!!!

