



NewsLetter

Jul-Dec, 2021

Pir Mehr Ali Shah
Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi

Directorate of Public Relations & Publications

NewsLetter

Jul - Dec, 2021

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Silver Jubilee Celebrations started with Great Enthusiasm



After completing the 25 years of academic excellence PMAS-AAUR has marked the occasion by launching week-long Silver Jubilee Celebrations beginning with educational and social activities on November 22, 2021.

Federal Minister for Ministry of Information & Broadcasting Chaudhary Fawad Hussain, Federal Minister for National Food Security & Research Syed Fakhar Imam, Punjab Agriculture Minister Syed Hussain Jahania Gardezi, PMAS-AAUR Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, Prof. Dr Khalid Mehmood Khan (S.I.) Former Vice-Chancellor PMAS AAUR, President PAS & Secretary-General NASIC Dr Shaista Sohail, Executive Director Higher Education Commission, Chairman Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, Chairman PCRWR, Members of Parliaments, Diplomats, faculty members and students were also present on the occasion. Vice-Chancellor of the university Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman said that the institute has been an innovator in the field of agriculture education since 1994, having over 12000 students, 1000 teaching faculty and management staff.

Federal Minister for National Food Security & Research Syed Fakhar Imam attended a seminar on "Role of SMEs to achieve Self Sufficiency in Food Security" and also inaugurated the Book Fair at the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of PMAS-Arid

Agriculture University Rawalpindi. Federal Minister said that it is a good achievement that PMAS AAUR comes 8th best university in Pakistan and the 2nd best in Agriculture but it's a long way to go as Pakistan is still lagging in the world's best educational institutions. We have to introduce modern agriculture technology in our agriculture sector as per our farmer's demand and the requirement to contribute to the development of the country. He said that Pakistan has a bright future and the capacity to rule in the agriculture sector but our educational institutes have to show their commitment towards quality research and education.

The federal minister for Narcotics Control Ijaz Ahmad Shah said during his participation in a drama arranged by Aridian Society on the title of "Manshyat Mout Ka Jaal Hain" drugs are the tool





of hybrid war which is enemy using against Pakistan so it is the responsibility of every Pakistani this war. The Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman assured the guests that Arid University is working hard towards a narcotics free campus and ANF also appreciated its efforts. Referring to the hybrid war, he said that all the university administration stood by the country's security agencies in every difficult time.

The university has also conducted a seminar on Dukhtaran-e-Pakistan to educate and empower the female students about their rights. Dr Samia Raheel Qazi Ex-Parliamentarian, Prof. Dr Farkhanda Zia from IIU Islamabad and Nayla Chouhan Ex-Ambassador of Pakistan participated as a guest speakers. While addressing Dr Samia said that Islam is the only religion in the world that gives a woman the highest respect and high status in society which is evident from placing paradise under the footsteps of a woman. Dr Farkhanda and Ms Naila, while discussing the rights of females in their speeches, also urged the students

for pursuing their higher education and start their businesses or jobs which is allowed by Islam and the religion is full of women businesswomen.



A Flower exhibition was also arranged by the university's horticulture department which was inaugurated by DG Parks & Horticulture Department Rawalpindi and Special Assistant to CM Punjab Mr. Asif Mehmood. In the ceremony, DG Parks & Horticulture Department appreciated the efforts of the department and said that PHA Rawalpindi is working hard to beautify the city, the





efforts and inputs of the university's students are needed desperately which was assured by the university vice-chancellor.

A kissan Mela was held at University Research Farm, Koont, Tehsil Gujar Khan with the aim on changing agricultural practices by reducing expenses, making optimum use of fertilizers, starting side agri-businesses, making farming a profit-oriented venture and strengthen academia-Industry partnership. The Mela was inaugurated by Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, Vice-Chancellor PMAS-AAUR as a chief guest along with Ch. Sajid Mehmood MPA where faculty members, students and a large number of farmers were present.

The farmers appreciated the efforts of PMAS-AAUR, providing agricultural guidance to them which will help them in solving agricultural issues. In addition to awareness stalls traditional sports like horse riding, javelin throwing and bull racing were also organized for where prizes were also distributed among the winners.

During the Silver Jubilee of the University, various technical seminars, Bird Show, Food Exhibition,

Recitation and Naat Competition, Speech Competition, Poster Exhibition, Book Fair, Job Fair, IT Exhibition, Flower Exhibition, Art & Craft Exhibition, Agricultural Machinery will be held throughout the week. Successfully hosted exhibitions, health galas and various sports. At the end of the celebrations, the students praised the initiative of the university to celebrate the Silver Jubilee in which they not only had the opportunity

to showcase their talents which also gave them the best guidance for career building. He appreciated the job fairs organized by the university and the industry so that he did not have



Arid Varsity 22nd Convocation 4439 Degrees were awarded



A total of 4439 degrees awarded to the students of undergraduates, graduates, MPhil and PhDs scholars at the 22nd convocation of the PMAS-AAUR, here on December 8, 2021.

Minister for Higher Education (Punjab) & PITB Raja Yassir Humanyun Sarfraz was chief guest while President Pakistan Academy of Sciences and Former Vice-Chancellor of PMAS-AAUR, Prof. Dr Khalid Mahmood Khan (SI), was guest of honor. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman along with deans, Directors, faculty members, students and their parents were also present on the occasion.

During the ceremony 37 students received PhD degrees, 1893 were awarded M.Phil/masters degrees, while 2509 students got undergraduate degrees in their respective disciplines. Gold medals were awarded to 38 students, 22 bagged silver and 18 secured bronze medals in the convocation. Two sponsored Gold medal were also awarded by Bank of Punjab.

While addressing, Minister Raja Yassir Humanyun Sarfraz congratulated all the graduate students, especially those who have got distinctions throughout their course of study and advised that they should not end their hard work and effort here but should make it more stable in their life which would not only brighten the name of Pakistan but also make the country prosperous. He also appreciates the University for quality education.

Earlier, Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman read out a message from the Chancellor for the students to congratulate them for successfully completing & achieving their degrees. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, in his welcome address said that University made substantial efforts to improve academic and research activities along with enhancement of financial resources. He also congratulated all the staff of the university and students for the successful completion of quality education and academic excellence.



Inaugural Ceremony of Hemp Value Chain Development Programme



The inaugural ceremony of “PCSIR Hemp Value Chain Development Programme-2021”, held at Institute of Hydroponics Agriculture (IHA) of PMAS-AAUR on Sep 30, 2021 at Rawat. The Hemp Development Programme is a development project of the Government of Pakistan, initiated on the directives of the honorable Prime Minister of Pakistan.

The Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR), Ministry of Science and Technology will execute the project in collaboration with the PMAS-AAUR. Under the project, Hemp will be cultivated and processed for the development of medicinal/ industrial products.

The Federal Minister for Science and Technology Senator Shibli Faraz graced the occasion as chief guest. During his address, senator Shibli Faraz said that Pakistan has a natural climate to grow hemp in different areas of the country and the Ministry has started work to formulate National Hemp Policy. The Federal Minister said that the future of the country's development lay in Science. He also said that it is very unfortunate that the agriculture sector which was the backbone of our economy had not received due attention in the past. He said that academia industry linkage is very important

for any country's progress and appreciated the efforts of PMAS-AAUR for its hard work to bridge the gap between academia and industry.

Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR, Dr. Syed Ata-ur-Rehman Additional Secretary, Ministry of Science and Technology and Dr. Syed Hussain Abidi, Chairman PCSIR, senior faculty members, government dignitaries and prominent scientists also attended the ceremony. Dr. Qamar uz Zaman said that the hemp program will be a landmark to strengthen the economy of Pakistan. While appreciating the government support he said that Prime Minister gave a go-ahead for the hemp plantation last year after a detailed briefing on its advantages and export.

An MoU was also signed between PMAS-AAUR and PCSIR to collaborate for the Hemp Value Chain Development Program-2021.



Sarsabz Wheat Campaign 2021 for Potohar



A ceremony of Sarsabz Wheat Campaign 2021 for Potohar was organized at PMAS-AAUR to urge the farmers for enhanced wheat production.

Federal Minister FS&R Syed Fakhar Imam, Punjab Agriculture Minister Syed Hussain Jahania Gardezi, Vice-Chancellor UAF Prof. Dr Iqar A. Khan, Vice-Chancellor PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, Punjab Agriculture Secretary Asad Rehman Gillani, DG Extension AR Dr Anjum Ali Butter, faculty members, students and farmers were also present on the occasion.

Federal Minister said that to tackle the problem of agricultural cost, the federal government has decided to give a subsidy of Rs 16 billion to the farmers, half of which will be given by the provinces and half by the federation.

The Agriculture Minister Punjab Syed Hussain Jahania Gardezi termed the strong linkages of the academy industry as the need of the hour. He said that it is a moment of reflection for us that despite being an agricultural country, Pakistan is forced to import food commodities to meet its food needs.

Both Ministers appreciated the outreach program carried out by PMAS AAUR and paid tributes to the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman and his team for its success and termed it as a role model for other agricultural universities.

Prof. Dr Iqar Ahmad Khan said that the provision of certified seed is a major challenge in which

agriculture experts should have to play a pivotal role to boost per acre productivity, ensure food security and agriculture development.

Earlier, Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, in his welcome address, stressed the need to adopt precision agriculture to meet the challenges of providing food for the increasing population.

He highlighted the importance of academia-industry linkages for technology development and said that due to the new agricultural technologies farmers not only minimize the cost of the yield but also improve the quality of the product.

The Vice-Chancellor urged the faculty members to solve the issues and challenges face by the local industries to play a vital role in the development of the country's economy and society.



Federal Minister Inaugurated the Harvesting of Hemp



Shibli Faraz, Federal minister for Science and Technology said hemp exports could reach \$5 billion in a few years, contributing to the country's economy. Honorable Minister has recently inaugurated the harvesting of Hemp crop in Institute of Hydroponic PMAS-AAUR where the chairman of PCSIR Dr Syed Hussain Abidi, Vice-Chancellor of PMAS AAUR Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, Dean, Directors and the concerned staff was present.

He said, under the vision of the prime minister to diversify export in the country, the ministry was taking practical steps to increase hemp production in which its export would touch to five billion dollars in a few years.

He was of the opinion that the initiative would prove to be a game changer for the country, adding that in next three years, 3 to 4 percent market approach would get its targets. The minister said the export of hemp would be replaced with the import of fiber and added that earnings through export would increase with the use of hemp in textile and medicinal.

He also announced that the government will soon issue license for its cultivation in the country. The minister expressed his gratitude over successful first legal crop of hemp which is ready for harvesting, saying that the government wanted

the agricultural industries to be able to capitalize on available opportunities.

In his address Dr Syed Hussain Abidi said that the hemp market to generate billion of the dollar in revenues for Pakistan in next coming years and several countries including America, Canada, and Australia are cultivating hemp on tens of thousands of acres and getting benefits from its crops.

During his address the Vice Chancellor of PMAS-AAUR Prof Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman said that the industrial hemp plant contains a compound called cannabis, which would 'play a very important role' in medical therapies meant to mitigate severe and chronic pain. He thanked the government especially the Prime Minister for their support in the project which will play a vital role in the development of country's economy.



Seminar on Progressive Farming and Agriculture Entrepreneurship

A seminar on Progressive farming and Agriculture Entrepreneurship held on July 8, 2021 at PMAS-AAUR. Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR, Syed Javed Hassan Chairman NAVTTC, Shah Faisal from Shah Faisal Entrepreneurship and Daniyal Iqbal CEO Simply Great Food also attended the seminar.

Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman said that over the past 30 years, there has been a major shift in agricul-

tural markets and the international trade of agricultural products as the world is moving from local and national markets towards a global system of trading.

He said that University has developed a strong link between academia & industry now it is the responsibility of students to utilize this link. He also appreciated the role of NAVTCC to coordinate with the PMAS-AAUR.



Incubation Center Inaugurated at UIIT

An Incubation Center established at University Institute of Information technology (UIIT) of PMAS-AAUR with an aim to promote entrepreneurship. The center will not only provide students a workplace by organizing training courses & workshops but also teach, guide and help students to formalize their projects. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman inaugurated the Center on July 1, 2021 and said that Incubation Centers are playing an important role and such a center is the need of time.



Program for Promotion of Mechanization

To start a Joint Program for the promotion of Mechanization, Mr. Tariq Shaheen (DG Field Agri. Deptt.) and Mr. Arif Manzoor (Director Agri. Engr., Lahore Region) met with the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman on July 1, 2021. All parties agreed for the combined effort of forwarding research and promotion of need-based research to promote operation and maintenance of Machinery available in the field with the farmer. It helps to resolve machinery related issues of farmers and manufacturers.



Vocational Training Program

An Inaugural session of Vocational Training Program was held on July 7, 2021 at PMAS AAUR under PMs Kamyab Jawan Program in collaboration with National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTTC).

Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman was chief guest while Suleman M Mirza from NAVTTC and Choi Jun Ho Deputy Country Director Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) were the guest of honor.

Prof. Dr Qamar uz Zaman said that training and skills development play a vital role in the



development and the demand for vocationally trained and technically educated human resources rises with every step towards industrialization and modernization of production units and work premises. He said that technical and vocational education and training

refers to education and training that prepares people for employment and makes them more productive in various economic fields. He appreciated the session and asked if more work should be done for building a strong academia-industry and government link.

International Seminar on Fighting Hunger through Wheat Breeding

An international seminar on Fighting Hunger through Wheat Breeding was held on July 6, 2021 at PMAS AAUR. Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman Vice Chancellor of the University was chief guest while Afaq Ahmed DG FSC & RD was guest of honor.

Dr Gao Xin & Prof. Zhang Zheng-mao from NW Agriculture & Forestry University, Yangling China, Dr Lee Hickey from the University of Queensland, Australia, Dr Thakur P. Tiwari Country Rep. Of CIMMYT, Mexico in Pakistan, Dr Attique ur Rehman Rattu from PARC Islamabad and Dr Munir Ahmed from PMAS AAUR were guest speakers.

Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman said that producing enough food for a growing population has always been a challenge since humans became sedentary and started agriculture.

He said that massive increases in the use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, irrigation water, and other yield-enhancing inputs have helped to raise food production and feed the rising population even though chronic hunger is still widespread in many developing countries, to ensure food security, the adoption of breakthrough technologies such as speed breeding, marker-assisted selection and biotechnology is the need of

time for the development of high yielding wheat in Pakistan. Breakthrough technologies such as speed breeding, marker-assisted selection and biotechnology is the need of time for the development of high yielding wheat in Pakistan.

Afaq Ahmed said that high temperature has affected the yield of wheat, to overcome this issue and food security new hybrid seeds and technologies are the need of time. He said that a good seed guarantees a good harvest, a good harvest guarantees a good yield and a good yield guarantees food security. He appreciated the University for arranging the seminar on a sensitive issue.

PMAS-AAUR & SVASVC, China Signed MoU

Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) and Shandong Vocational Animal Science and Veterinary College, China (SVASVC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to provide the framework for the parties to collaborate closer to explore and achieve any mutually beneficial educational cooperation in Veterinary and Animal Sciences.

In beginning, Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, the Vice-Chancellor of the PMAS-AAUR introduced his team and shared the institution's achievements concerning educational and research initiatives especially in the field of veterinary and animal sciences. While sharing



his views he said that the University is a quality-focused higher education institution that provides an excellent academic and research environment for producing researchers and scholars in the fields of Agriculture, Livestock and allied sciences.

Formerly, Dr Li Xuetai, the President of SVASVC, China also introduced his team along with sharing brief history and

accomplishments of his institution. Prof. Dr. Ahrar Khan (University of Agriculture Faisalabad) liaised with the leadership of both institutions in materializing this collaboration.

Both of the Institutions intended to work together to identify and develop any mutually beneficial cooperation opportunity, which may include exploring collaboration to conduct Student Exchange Program for short-term study, internship, & entrepreneurship to jointly establish a student exchange based in Pakistan. The parties also agreed to organize online/offline training, teachers' communication and technical guidance sessions on Veterinary Sciences & Livestock Production, etc.



World Egg Day

To create public awareness about the nutritional value of eggs and its importance in human diet, Faculty of Veterinary & Animal Sciences (FV&AS) of PMAS-AAUR in collaboration with US Soy, SB Eggs & Pakistan Poultry Association Islamabad organized different events including Egg Dish Cooking Competition, National Seminar on Importance of Egg and awareness walk. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman appreciated the organizers for organizing such a colorful event and said that eggs have a vital role to play in feeding people around the world due to an excellent and affordable source of high quality protein.



Delegation Met Vice Chancellor

A delegation comprising of Shad Khan, Muhammad Naveed with a foreign expert visited the VC office to discuss the possibility of the Establishment of a centre for advanced bio-reactor farming (CABREF) at PMAS Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi. The project aims to develop nature-based technologies and solutions to achieve harmless humanity in harmony with life, wellbeing and compassion. The activities of the centre will include:

- Organic waste recycling
- Organic waste processing using BSFL bio-

reactor technology

- Integrated high-density food and medicinal fungi cultivation
- Vertical farming techniques
- Advanced aquaponics
- Bio-medical agriculture
- Integrated Aquaculture
- Integrated vermiculture
- Biogas

The meeting ended with the conclusion to discuss the details about the project and the possibility of its implementation as soon as possible.



Workshop on Emotional Intelligence

In line with the vision of the Vice-Chancellor a workshop on "Emotional Intelligence: Know Yourself and other humans around you" for females employees was jointly organized by the CAS-D, NCIB and Department of Sociology, to manage emotions of one's self as well as of others to handle the challenges of life successfully.

The workshop was attended by the female directors, associate and assistant professors and lecturers of different disciplines of the university. The workshop was initiated with the welcome address by the speaker and trainer, Dr Aneela Afzal, CAS-D, Assistant Professor (Department of Sociology). She

highlighted the significance of effective and efficient dealing of emotions at the workplace as well as for personal relationships.

The participants shared their success stories and their ways of dealing with stressful situations, their dream roles and their plans to achieve professional and personal targets. They were trained on self management, self-awareness, social awareness &

relationship management. They were motivated to look for those pathways through which they can achieve their work and personal life targets to nurture their emotional intelligence.

Dr Abida Akram Professor/ Chairperson Botany department also addressed the participants about grooming oneself, building stronger relationships and tenacity to achieve life goals and to overcome challenges.



Monsoon Tree Plantation Drive

A Monsoon Tree Plantation Drive (August 1-7, 2021) under Prime Minister's Program "Clean and Green Pakistan" was launched at PMAS-AAUR by the University Green Office (UGO). The Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman kicked-off the campaign by planting a tree of Chir Pine in the University. During the event, the Registrar of the University along with Deans, Directors and senior officials also participated in the event.

The Vice Chancellor said that this campaign will be helpful to encourage our employees and especially students to collectively plant trees with national cause and spirit. He also directed all heads of departments to take part in the "Plant

for Pakistan" campaign by planting saplings in their respective departments. He also augmented that as per the decision of Vice Chancellor's Forum, under Tree-20 Program every student of the University is bound to plant and save 20 trees during his tenure of study.

The Director UGO Mr. Shahid Ali Khan said that two nurseries were established which are providing saplings of different species free of cost not only to the University staff & students but also the community of twin cities. Participants planted the trees not only at the Campus but outside the campus side. A massive campaign was also held at Sub-Campuses Attock & Khushab.



PMAS-AAUR, Sybrid Signed MoU

PMAS-AAUR and Sybrid Pvt. Ltd. both organizations agreed to introduce digital interventions in the country's agriculture sector, impacting the economic development of farmers and other stakeholders involved in

the agricultural ecosystem of Pakistan. PMAS-AAUR and Sybrid will conduct joint research and development projects, targeting the promotion of precision agriculture, leading to overall agriculture growth in the country. The organizations have also agreed to take joint steps for the promotion and adoption of data-driven agriculture in the country by sharing the available human resources along with the academic, technical and commercial resources.



Flag Hoisting Ceremony to Observe Independence Day

Independence Day celebrated at PMAS-AAUR by organizing a mega-plantation Drive, cake-cutting and Flag hoisting ceremony at its campus. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, Registrar Mr. Aqeel Sultan, other administrative officers, heads of various faculties and departments, employees and children participated in the event. The ceremony began with a recitation of the Holy Quran. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman hoisted the national flag followed by the national anthem.



Addressing the ceremony, Dr. Zaman congratulated the university staff and students on celebrating Independence Day. He asked them to work hard for the progress of the university and the country. He urged them to stay united in order to meet all the challenges that are being faced by Pakistan.

To celebrate Independence Day, a cake cutting ceremony

was also held and a prayer was offered for the prosperity & solidarity of the country especially for Kashmir.

Later, all students and faculty members along with the Vice chancellor moved to different locations of University to plant a tree. The University Green Office provided the plants and the Vice Chancellor planted a sapling, followed by the faculty, staff and students.

Earlier, Vice Chancellor accompanied by senior officials visited University Green Office Nursery. On the occasion, the Vice Chancellor distributed free of cost plants not only among the faculty members, students but also children and citizens of twin cities. He urged citizens, faculty members and students to ensure conservation of each tree which they plant to promote forestation in keeping the environment clean.

International Conference on Camel Farming

A Two days International Camel Conference was organized at PMAS-AAUR. Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman participated as a chief guest accompanying by the Founding President Camel Association of Pakistan Prof. Dr M Younas. Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman and other speakers from different organizations & countries emphasized to explore and share the potential and future of this creature under the climate change circumstances as they can serve the best useful addition to the food supply chain in terms of milk, meat and other products.



MoU signed between PMAS-AAUR & UAD

PMAS-AAUR and the University of Agriculture, Dera Ismail Khan (UAD) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on August 9, 2021 to promote the advanced state of science and technology within the country and strengthen the scientific and industrial infrastructure. Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR and Prof. Dr. Masroor Ellahi Vice Chancellor UAD signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organizations. Under the MoU, both Institutions agreed to work together for the mutual exchange of technical, scientific information, personnel and research material for quality research and academic development. They also agreed to facilitate the creation of opportunities in terms of internship for the students and cooperate with each other in all aspects i.e. beekeeping Research farms, Laboratories and staff interaction. The leadership of both institutions hoped that this MoU not only for the capacity building of students & faculty but will also be helpful for the development of the country.



Laptop Distribution Ceremony Under Scotland Scholarships

A laptop distribution ceremony of Scotland scholarships for young women and girls (through British Council) was held at PMAS-AAUR on August 9, 2021. PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman was the chief guest while Deans, Directors and students also attended the ceremony. Addressing the ceremony, Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman said that the need for women education is very imperative for the growth of society. He was of the view that educated women can play a significant role in the development of a society by practicing the learned knowledge in every aspect of life. He appreciated the British Council for providing scholarships and congratulated female students. Earlier, Director Financial Assistance PMAS-AAUR, Chaudhry Waqas Ahmed shared with participants that British Council and PMAS-AAUR collaboration played a vital role to facilitate maximum number of female students from developing areas. He further elaborated the eligibility criteria & selection process of British Council Scholarship and shared that Rs. 05 million has been distributed among female students of PMAS-

AAUR. Ms. Sara Parvez, Head of Higher Education & Skills at British Council, Pakistan informed about the ongoing scholarship schemes offered by British Council. She also applauded the cooperation and efforts of the Directorate of Financial Assistance for providing timely financial assistance to female students for continuation of their studies. At the end, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar uz Zaman distributed laptops among the students, including Miftah Quraishi, (B.Sc Hons. Horti.), Kinza Nazir (B.Sc Hons Food Technology) and Wajeeha Muazim (M.Phil Education). The Vice Chancellor also presented the shields to officials of the British Council of Pakistan.



GPS & GNSS Training Workshop for Surveying and Mapping

A two days (August 3-4, 2021) "Global Positioning System (GPS) and Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) Hands-on Training Workshop for Surveying and Mapping" was held at PMAS-AAUR.

The workshop was organized by PMAS-AAUR Data Driven Smart Decision Platform (DDSDP) in collaboration with Industry Partners, SETC, with the objectives to train the participants on the application of GPS and Geographic Information System (GIS) in agriculture.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman was the chief guest. He highlighted the need for advancement and precise application of agrochemicals in the agriculture industry and how GPS and GIS can play pivotal roles. He said that PMAS-AAUR is working in collaboration with

government & industry to develop & implement new agricultural technologies which will not only help to improve the input methods but also enhance crop productivity and profitability.

Participants appreciated the initiative taken by the DDSDP team under the visionary leadership of the Vice Chancellor and encouraged the DDSDP team to visit national universities and train their faculty and graduate students on the use of GPS and GIS.

Dr. Allah Baksh, Director, Institute of Geo-Information and Earth Observation (IGE&EO) and Prof. Dr. Khalid Saifullah, Director, Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), PMAS-AAUR distributed the certificates among the participants.



International Webinar on "Soilless Farming-The Spectrum Explained"

An international webinar on "Soilless Farming-the Spectrum Explained" was held on 5th August, 2021 under the vision of Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR through a zoom link.

Resource person was, Lt. cdr C V Prakash, who is a well known resource person across the sub-continent in the field of soilless agriculture. C V

Prakash shares his views about the challenges in growing high value crops in soilless condition. He also appreciated the activities of the Institute of Hydroponics, PMAS-AAUR. That was a very informative and interactive session with students and faculty members joining through zoom from different institutes. It was organized by the Hydroponic section of the National Center of Industrial Biotechnology.

Meeting between AC of Chinese Embassy & VC

A meeting between Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman and Agriculture Commissioner Dr. Gu Wenliang Chinese Embassy, Pakistan held in PMAS AAUR to discuss the joint collaboration with PMAS-AAUR, future dimensions of



mutual working in the wake of R&D activities related to CPEC Program and towards some potential initiatives like testing and demonstration of Smart Agricultural Machinery, Environment Friendly Technologies, Mushroom cultivation & its preservation and Value Addition especially in high value crops. He was also briefed about the establishment of “CPEC-Agriculture Cooperation Center” at PMAS-AAUR. Dr. Gu Wenliang expressed his deep gratitude and appreciation for inviting him and offered all possible support of the Chinese Embassy and Institutions of higher Education & Research.

Seminar on Water Conservation and Management



A seminar on “Water Conservation and Management in Potohar Region” was organized by the PMAS-AAUR Faculty of Agricultural Engineering and Technology (FAE&T) in collaboration with the Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) on August 24, 2021.

PCRWR Chairman Dr. Mohammad Ashraf highlighted the way forward to address water challenges faced by the Potohar region. He said water conservation and management in the Potohar region was the need of the hour and agriculture scientists should make their plans accordingly. Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, emphasized the need for collaboration

and an integrated approach to address the water and agriculture productivity challenges. He appreciated the initiatives taken by different organizations related to water conservation in the Potohar region. Earlier, speakers included Dr. Jehanzeb Masud Cheema (In-charge FAE&T), Engr. Malik Akbar, ABAD Chief Quratul Ain Rasheed and soil scientist from DSC Dr. Attiqur Rehman, Dr. M Ramzan Ansar from BARI Chakwal and Engr. M Iqbal Chohan from Water Management shared their research and development activities related to water conservation and management. At the end, chief guest Dr. Ashraf and Dr. Qamar uz Zaman distributed certificates and shields among the participants and guest speakers of the seminar.

Training Workshop on Modern Beekeeping



A three days (August 24-26, 2021) training workshop on Modern Beekeeping was held at PMAS-AAUR. The workshop was organized by the Department of Entomology under the project "Billion Tree Honey (BTH) Pilot Phase" in collaboration with the Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC) Pakistan, with the main objective to disseminate the applied knowledge regarding modern beekeeping.

PMAS-AAUR Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman was the Chief Guest while Member Punjab Assembly (MPA) Asia Amjad was the guest of honour at the concluding session.

Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman said Pakistan has great potential to

increase honey yield by establishing standards and new habitats. He said that the BTH-Pilot Phase project has been successfully executed by the university after organizing this workshop. He said that the University is also in collaboration with the Ministry of Climate Change, will also establish the accredited "Bee Product Standardization and Formulation Laboratories" for research and product development activities of all hive products. The finding of these labs will be shared with the industry and government laboratories throughout the country for scaling up and commercialization of all bee products, he added.

Miss Asia Amjad said PM's "Billion Tree Honey Initiative" will not only

be helpful to promote tree plantation and honey production but also in poverty reduction. She said that Pakistan is blessed with unparalleled quality and taste of honey in the world and hoped that Pakistan will soon be amongst the top producers of honey. She appreciated the university management for taking the government's initiatives on the front foot and playing a vital role in boosting the beekeeping sector in Pakistan.

Prof. Dr. Fayyaz ul Hassan Sahi, Dean Faculty of Crop and Food Sciences said that beekeeping is an important entrepreneur in Pakistan and assured full support not only in establishing modern beekeeping enterprises but also for more collaboration in other areas as well.

Country Director WFP Visited IHA

World Food Program Country Director Mr. Chris Kaye visited the Institute of Hydroponic Agriculture PMAS-AAUR on August 17, 2021. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman welcomes the guest and appreciated the interest of WFP in hydroponics and ensured that University will extend all possible collaboration to WFP in hydroponics technology adoption. He also appreciated the efforts of the IHA team in the promotion of hydroponics technology in the country. Director IHA, Dr. Arshad Mahmood Malik presented

comprehensive presentation on hydroponics research and development activities of the institute and its future prospects. The Chief Guest has shown great interest in the hydroponic technology and anticipated that WFP wants to partner with the University for promotion of this technology for food safety & security in Pakistan.



Training Workshop on "Smart Potato Cultivation and Strategies"

PMAS-AAUR Department of Horticulture in collaboration with Research and Industrial Partners organized three day (Aug.30 to Sep.1, 2021) training workshop on "Smart Potato Cultivation and Strategies for Value Chain Development". Renowned Potato Scientists and industrial representatives from Potato Research Institute Sahiwal, Hazara Agriculture Research institute, Potato Breeding substation Murree, Aceto America, Ismail Industries and Beacon House group delivered

their scientific talks and real life field experiences on potato cultivation in different regions of Pakistan. Strengths, weaknesses and issues faced by the growers and industry were discussed in detail. Dr. Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, DG AARI and Dr. Abid Mahmood, Chief executive PARB grace the occasion with their presence and shared their valuable thoughts. Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, Vice-Chancellor, in his address, emphasized to develop a strong academia, Research and industry

linkages. As a take home message it was identified that farmers are facing problems due to the unavailability of quality seed, high Input costs, adequate storage facilities and market price fluctuations. It was further discussed that precision agriculture could be an alternative for a sustainable, cost-effective and environment friendly production system for potato cultivation. The DDSDP project team demonstrated their strengths and initial work towards the mechanization in potato cultivation and further stressed that this work can be a way forward for future prospects. The Organizer of the training workshop, Dr. Muhammad Azam Khan, Chairman Horticulture Department thanked the participants, scientists and industrial partners to make this event fruitful.



93 scholarships Awarded under PM's Tuition Fee Reimbursement Scheme

PMAS-AAUR has awarded 93 scholarships amounting to Rs. 1.2 Billion to the Ph.D. students under Prime Minister's Tuition Fee Reimbursement Scheme. The ceremony was arranged by the Directorate of Financial Assistance & University Advancement. Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman the vice-chancellor of the University distributed cheques among the awardees. Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman said that PM's Tuition Fee Reimbursement Scheme for the under privileged areas is an excellent step towards the promotion of education for those areas. Highlighting the steps taken by the university towards quality education. Vice-Chancellor said that the Senior Management of the University is committed towards quality education and research opportunities and advised the Ph.D scholars to remain focused on field work & research activities to achieve their individual as well as collective objectives.



Seminar on Climate Change and Crop Quality

A one-day seminar on Climate Change and Crop Quality with Recent Advances in the Management of Aflatoxin for Improved Crop Quality and Food Safety was held at PMAS-AAUR on September 8, 2021. The main objective of this seminar was to provide a platform to the experts to share their knowledge and experiences of the science behind aflatoxin production with special reference to climate change and the biological control model for aflatoxin management in Pakistan.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman was chief guest while Dr Sabyan Faris Honey, Coordinator Bioscience, CABI, Dr Atif Jamal, Principal Scientific Officer, NARC

Islamabad, Dean Faculty of Agriculture Prof. Dr. Fayyaz ul Hassan Sahi and faculty members of the PMAS-AAUR also address the participants.

Speaking as a chief guest, Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman said that aflatoxins represent global public health and economic concerns affecting consumers and farmers worldwide. He highlighted the factors related to food insecurity and malnutrition not only influence human health and welfare, but also impact social, economic and political aspects of society. As Pakistan is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change, the responsibility lies on agricultural scientists to

help industry partners improve their safety compliance for the benefit of consumers by sharing information, skills and technologies to meet international standards. This will result in food safety.

Dr Zaman appreciated efforts of the agronomy department as they organized the seminar, adding, the world is changing with each passing day and technologies which were meant for security purposes are now being used in the agricultural sector and this is revolutionizing it. He said if Pakistan wants to benefit from its agricultural sector to deal with economic and food security challenges then modern agri-tech is a need of the time.



Strengthening of Classrooms at Arid Literacy School



Vocational Trainings

In order to build capacity of unemployed youth of Pakistan through various vocational skills, two vocational trainings i.e, Livestock Manager (6 months Hi-Tech Diploma course) and Bee Keeping Farm Manager (3 months Diploma course) were initiated at Pak Korea Capacity Building Center (PKCBC) at PMAS-AAUR.

These training were started under NAVTTC “Prime Ministers Hunarmand Pakistan” Program, sponsored by NAVTTC Islamabad Regional Office. 24 trainees for Honey Bee Farm Manager Course and 21 trainees for Livestock Manager Course from Punjab, KPK, Azad Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan are participating in these training sessions.

PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Qamaruz Zaman, urged trainees to learn the modern techniques during these training in an effective and excellent way to initiate and develop enterprises for a better livelihood. He also urged the management of PKCBC to organize some more vocational skills training for the youth.

Dr. Ata ul Mohsin, Administrator, PKCBC and Coordinator for NAVTTC

Training Program at PMAS-AAUR, briefed the Vice Chancellor about training objectives and hoped that in future such kind of training will also be organized in future as well.

Mr. Ahmed Salman Mirza, Deputy Director NAVTTC Regional Office Islamabad and Mr. Chow, Deputy Country Director, KOICA office, Islamabad also visited the training sessions and talked about the role of vocational training in reducing unemployment and poverty.



Q.Zaman E-Library Inaugurated at PMAS AAUR

Vice-Chancellor PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman inaugurated Q.Zaman e-library at the main campus to facilitate the research students, where Director IT, Librarian and dean, directors of the university were also present.

Dr Zaman said that timely access to authentic and reliable information is essential for quality research and the aim of the PMAS E-library is to deliver the most effective print, digital & online database, catalogues and reference services to support the learning, teaching and research activities.

PMAS AAUR is fully devoted to strategic arrangements that reflect the target on the updated

information to fulfil the needs and requirements of our students, departments & faculty. Digital library has been established with the cost of 1 million rupees at the data centre to provide online access to the full text of e-books, e-journals, e-theses, online reference collections, Nobel laureate

collections, documentaries, simulated videos, newsroom and other local and international resources in the time of the global pandemic through direct access to the national, international digital libraries & data basis like world digital library, HEC digital library, IEEE, springer etc.



Inauguration of Kiwi Plantation at ZTBL Farm

Inauguration of kiwi fruit adaptability was carried out on September 22, 2021 at ZTBL farm Islamabad under PARB funded project "Evaluation and Introduction of Some Exotic Kiwi Cultivars" which is executed by Department of Horticulture, PMAS-AAUR.

The objective of our project is to introduce and evaluate adaptability of different exotic kiwi fruit cultivars having different chilling requirements. We have established trails at four different ecological locations in north Punjab (Chakwal, Attock, Islamabad and margalla foot hills).

The Vice Chancellor PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi Prof Dr Qamar uz Zaman was the chief guest and President ZTBL Muhammad Shahbaz Jameel was

the guest of Honor. Deans/Directors from University and Senior Administration of ZTBL witness the event.

Earlier, Dr. Muhammad Azam Khan, Project Manager/Chairman Department of Horticulture briefed the participants about the activities going under kiwi project.

To establish industry academia partnership and technology dissemination to the farmers the trail has been designed at ZTBL

demonstration farms located in Orchard Scheme Islamabad. This is going to be an open access opportunity for the farmers, students, researchers and other stockholders to visit and learn about the exciting opportunities regarding this new crop.

The Chief guest and Guest of honor appreciated the efforts of the project team and Mr Asad Ullah Habib EVP/Head of Planning, Research & Technology Division ZTBL.



Center for Precision Agriculture Inaugurated

Inauguration ceremony of the Center for Precision Agriculture & Engineering Lab, Pakistan Society of Agricultural Engineers Secretariat and Oath taking of the Pakistan Society of Agricultural Engineers (PSAE) new office barriers followed by a brief seminar was held at PMAS-AAUR on September 21, 2021.

Engr Muhammad Najeeb Haroon, MNA & Chairman Pakistan Engineering Council was the chief guest while Dr. Samreen Hussain Vice Chancellor Begum Nusrat Bhutto Women University (BNBWU) Sukkur, Engr. Dr. Nasir Mehmood Khan, Registrar PEC was the guest of honor.

PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, Engr. Dr. Muhammad Jehanzeb Masud Cheema General Secretary PSAE, senior faculty members and more than 200 agricultural engineers from various government departments were also present on the occasion.

Earlier, Chief Guest along with president PSAE, PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor, Registrar PEC, Vice Chancellor BNBWU and General Secretary PSAE inaugurated the CPA & Engg. Lab and PSAE secretariat. Chief Guest also took oath to the newly elected officer barriers of the PSAE society.



University Management System Inaugurated

To reduce the workload and facilitate both students and employees, PMAS-AAUR launched the University Management System (Centrally Digitalized/ Paperless System) on campus. Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman vice-chancellor of the university was the chief guest along with Muhammad Aqeel Sultan, Registrar and Nadeem Ahmad Malik, Director Network & IT Services Centre (NITSC) while all faculty and administrative staff were also present on the occasion. After Inaugurating the University Management System, Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman said that the university's NITSC department was working for many months on this system which is



a smart, adaptable, and affordable IT-based solution that covers all aspects of the University. Nadeem Ahmad Malik, Director, NITSC, thanked the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, for taking the initiative to modernize the traditional system of the University and entrusted the responsibility of these important matters to the NITSC. He said that the system will provide innovative means to the university to overcome the present and future issues.

Training Workshop

A hands-on training workshop on "Silage Making Practices and Preparation of Silage Based Total Mixed Ration for Animal Feeding during Fodder Scarcity Periods" was conducted on 14-15 September 2021 at the Research Farm (Koont) of Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi. The training was organized jointly by the Department of Livestock Production & Management, Department of Agronomy, and Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization. The workshop aimed at training farmers of the potohar region in small-scale silage, Wanda, and TMR preparation. More than fifty farmers got trained in different types of silage-making techniques and small-scale TMR and Wanda preparation. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, Prof. Dr. Arfan Yousaf, Dean FV&AS and Dr. Tanveer Ahmad, workshop organizer, and Chairman Department highlighted address the participants at the inaugural session of the workshop.

Online Training Course

Pak-Korea Capacity Building Center organized a "Certificate Distribution Ceremony" on September 22, 2021 at successful conclusion of one-week online training for faculty members of various disciplines of Agriculture and Livestock. Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) office Islamabad sponsored this training for 22 faculty members of University. The Focus Area of this training was Enhancing Crop Yield / Produce in Agriculture and Livestock. Mr. Lee Heungsu, Deputy Country Director KOICA office Islamabad; Dr. Ata ulMohsin, Administrator PKCBC, Dr. Arfan Yousuf, Dean Faculty of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Mr. Abdul Rehman, Program Manager KOICA office Islamabad, Ms. Park JeongYoung Professional KOICA and Dr. Asif Aziz Additional Director PKCBC attended the event. Prof. Dr. Khalid Saifullah Khan, Director ORIC urged the trainees to utilize modern techniques in planning and executing projects to enhance crop production and profitability.

Policy Dialogue

A policy dialogue was conducted at PMAS-AAUR in order to strengthen the academia-industry linkages for economic development of Pakistan on September 23, 2021. The main objective was to bring together the academia, industry & researchers to discuss the way forward for agricultural/industrial development which can lead to the economic development of Pakistan. The Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman was chief guest along with representatives of industry, research, NGOs, Corporate sector and Deans/ Directors of various faculties of the university. Vice Chancellor said that industry, research and academia must be strongly connected as none can progress working in silos. He said that strong Industry academia linkages possess a wide range of benefits that can influence universities, companies, society and the nations. At the end, academia-industry personnel presented their proposals and plans for mutual cooperation between academia and the industrial partners.

Celebrations of Ashra Shaan-e-Rehmatul lil Alameen (Peace be Upon Him)

PMAS AAUR has started its activities to celebrate the Ashra Shaan-e-Rehmatul lil Alameen (Peace be Upon Him). In this regard, a Naatiya Competition and Seminar was organized to highlight the different aspects of the Seerat of the Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (Peace be Upon Him).



PEC Team Visited PMAS-AAUR

Pakistan Engineering Council team visited Faculty of Agricultural Engineering and Technology for re-accreditation of B.Sc Agricultural Engineering Program comprising of Engr. Dr. Nadeem Amjad (Ex-DG Agricultural Engineering Division, PARC), Engr. Dr. Zia ul Haq (Chairman, Agricultural Engineering Department, UET, Peshawar), Engr. Dr. Zahid Mehmood (Chairman, Agricultural Engineering Department, BZU Multan), Engr. Dr. Azam Khan (Chairman, Department of Farm Machinery and Power, UAF, Faisalabad), Engr. Seemab Qureshi (Assistant Registrar, PEC), PEC Representative, Engr. Bint-e-Zahra (Deputy Registrar, PEC).



During the visit Engr. Dr. Jehanzeb Masud Cheema (Incharge FAE&T) along with faculty members briefed the team about the facilities and initiatives of the university.

In a parallel session, Program Evaluators (PEVs) also inspected the Labs, classrooms, Library,

Computer Lab, and other facilities available for engineering students. After the visit a meeting was conducted with Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman (Vice Chancellor, PMAS AAUR) where he highlighted the new initiatives of the university like Center for Precision Agriculture and the steps for the quality education & research.



Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman chairing concluding session of five-day (Aug 30 - Sep 03, 2021) Scientific Training on "Genetics Related to Health & Fertility for Profitable Livestock Production"

Faculty of Agri. Engr. & Tech., PMAS-AAUR has awarded PEC Accreditation OBE Level-II

PMAS-AAUR got accreditation of the engineering program under Level-II. The university has successfully implemented Outcome Based Education and Assessment procedures.

The decision was taken by the Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) 103rd EAB meeting, based on the satisfactory level visit report of compliance against accreditation criteria/quality standards and implementation of the Outcome-Based Assessment procedures & Continuous Quality Improvement.

The PEC team visited the agriculture engineering faculty and thoroughly checked different facilities, engineering-specific labs, the record of the classwork, lab works, students, faculty, industry linkage, different measu-



res taken for environmental, safety, and health perspectives.

After the detailed visit of the PEC, the team conducted a meeting with Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman (Vice-Chancellor, PMAS AAUR) where he highlighted the new

initiatives taken by the university. It is the result of the tireless work and efforts of the Vice-Chancellor Engr. Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman that the University has been awarded OBE Level-II Accreditation in Agri. Engr. Faculty for the first time in Pakistan.



Students receiving PEEF scholarship card at a Ceremony



Vocational Training Course on "Honeybee Farm Manager"

To train unemployed youth with various vocational skills, two diploma trainings viz., Honeybee Farm Manager (3 Months) and Livestock Manager (6 Months) were initiated during at Pak Korea Capacity Building Center of PMAS-AAUR with the financial support of the National Vocational & Technical Training Commission (NAVTTTC) under its "Prime Ministers Hunarmand Pakistan Program".

One of these vocational training courses "Honeybee Farm Manager" successfully concluded in which 23 trainees from different areas of the country viz., Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit Baltistan and Azad Kashmir were



trained. In the training, trainees were given on-hand training on modern techniques of bee-keeping, bee's identification, colony management, honey production, harvesting, standardization and marketing etc. Field visits were also arranged where participants were interacted with different ongoing enterprises of

the honeybee to provide them know-how regarding entrepreneurial activities to establish their own small business for better livelihoods and to increase their income.

Trainees from far areas were also provided with the free residential facility at the university hostel.

Kisan Mela

With the objectives to apprise growers about the modern production techniques of groundnut and pulse crops, a Kisan Mela was organized at "Mari Village" near Balkasar Interchange, Chakwal on October 29, 2021, where Seed of best-performing chickpea variety "Bittle-2016" and Lentil variety Merkaz-09 along with other crop inputs were distributed among the contact growers for promotional purposes. At the event efficiency of three groundnut harvesters including imported KMC groundnut harvester was also evaluated by demonstrating three harvesters in the field. Prof. Dr Fayyaz ul Hasan, Dean Faculty of Crop and Food Sciences participated as the chief guest in the event along with Dr Shahid Riaz, Coordinator Pulses Program, NARC, Islamabad and other faculty members where above 100 farmers from different areas of Chakwal participated. Dr Shahid Riaz, Coordinator Pulses Program, NARC, Islamabad apprised growers about the project's achievements in all national components. During the demonstration of the efficiency and working of groundnut harvesters in a field, the KMC groundnut

harvester was found the most efficient machine in groundnut harvesting by the growers. Field teams of NRSP, BARI, Chakwal, and the Agriculture Extension Department also shared the brochures about modern agricultural technology was distributed among the growers. PMAS-AAUR Component of ACIAR Pulses Project-041 is working with the farming community of Chakwal and Attock districts of the Pothwar region.



Seminar on "Smart Agriculture Technology for Potato Production"

A seminar on Smart Agriculture Technologies for Potato Production was held in PMAS-AAUR to increase the output by minimizing input cost by utilizing and implementing the smart agriculture techniques.

The Vice-Chancellor of the university Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman participated as a chief guest along with Dr Aitazaz A. Farooque, Associate Professor & Industry Research Chair, Precision Agriculture University of Prince Edward Island, Canada.

In his address, Dr Aitazaz A. Farooque said that our traditional methods in agriculture are insufficient to deal with the food insecurity uncertainty caused by the global Corona epidemic, growing population and climate change.

Smart agriculture techniques are the only key to achieving the food security goal, which provides better management of resources, improvement in conservation of ecosystem and landscape, and more adequate services for farmers to ensure the implementation of the necessary changes, he said.

Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, Vice-Chancellor, in his address, said that there is a lot of potential in Pakistan to export potatoes and their products to not only the

developing but the developed countries also if we yield them as per the international standards.

He said that PMAS AAUR is working hard to achieve the government's goal of food security and some of the smart solutions to the agriculture sector problems are in their final phase and will be available for the farmers after the coordination with the industry. He hoped that with dedication, honesty and hard work we will be able soon to innovate our industry on a modern basis.



Seminar on Awareness of Breast Cancer

A seminar on awareness of Breast cancer was held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR). The seminar was organized by the Director of Women Development Studies Center (WDSC). Dr. Asifa Dyan (surgeon of Breast Cancer at Benazir Hospital Rawalpindi), Dr. Humaira Naz Altaf (Surgeon at Shifa International Hospital) and Dr. Sunya Qamar (General Surgeon DHQ

Hospital Rawalpindi) addressed the participants of the seminar. Moreover, the awareness walk on Breast Cancer was organized under the supervision of Worthy Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman. At the end of the seminar, the Director Women Development Studies Center (WDSC) Dr. Qaisara Parveen gave a vote of thanks to the participants of the seminar.



Orientation Ceremony for Newly Admitted Post Graduate Students

An orientation session for the newly admitted postgraduate students was held at the PMAS-AAUR on November 2, 2021, to brief them about the university's rules & regulations, facilities available at the campus and the most proficient faculty.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, while welcoming the new entrants, congratulated them for becoming a part of this prestigious institution and hoped that the 2021-22 education year will bring new hope and less uncertainty.

He said that the University provides an environment that enables its students to develop their academic skills excellently, and this institution endeavours professionalism and demands a



sense of responsibility from its students.

"Arid University is the only university in Pakistan that has attained worth five billion projects during the difficult phase of Corona, which is now in the final stages of completion," he said.

On the occasion, the Director Advanced Studies Dr Muhammad Azam, Director Quality Enhancement Cell Dr Riaz Ahmad and Director Student Affairs Dr Ghulam

Hussain Babar also addressed the students.

Dr Muhammad Azam and Dr Riaz Ahmad informed the students about rules and regulations and provided guidelines. They also covered important academic, administrative rules, scholarships and the introduction of various facilities available at the campus. Dr Gulam Hussain Babar also talked about non-academic facilities, students clubs, societies and community support programs.

HEC Accreditation Team Visited PMAS AAUR

An Accreditation Team of HEC visited Departments of Plant Breeding and Genetics, Soil Sciences, Agronomy and Entomology of PMAS AAUR to accreditation the ongoing degrees and facilities being provided to the students. During their visit the team inspected labs, class rooms, library, faculty offices, glasshouse, University Research Farm, Koont and the state of the art facility at Institute of Hydroponic Agriculture, Kalyam, Rawat. They also interacted with faculty members, postgraduate and undergraduate students along with allied support staff for their feedback to improve the education standards.



At the end of the visit HEC Accreditation team showed their full satisfaction with areas of improvements in a meeting held in Vice-chancellor office with the worthy Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman.

Training Workshop on Advanced Techniques in Forests



Department of Forestry and Range Management, PMAS-AAUR conducted two days training workshop on "Advanced Techniques in Forests" on 30th Nov-1st Dec 2021 to aware the participants about Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) and modern techniques to involve for forest management.

The Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-zaman participated in

the workshop along with Mr Saqib Mehmood, Conservator of forests North Circle Rawalpindi, Prof. Dr Shahid Ali Baig from PSF, National REDD+ Coordinator Syed Ghulam Qadir Shah, Dr Rukhsana Kauser, Assistant Professor, IIUI, Dr Samiullah, Chairman Forestry Department, Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University, Upper Dir KPK, Dr Farrakh Nawaz, Chairman Forestry, Agriculture University Faisalabad and Dr Shahid, Punjab Forest Department Lahore.

In his address, Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman said that Climate change and global warming have sealed the fact that if we want the world to be not destroyed and humanity to survive, we must first change our priorities and focus on forests. Appreciating PM's initiative to increase green cover and plant more trees across the country he said that the plantation drives will help mitigate climate change impacts, protect wildlife and help the country in food security.

World Soil Day 2021

To celebrate World Soil Day a seminar was held in PMAS-AAUR to raise awareness of the importance of maintaining healthy ecosystems and human well-being by addressing the growing challenges in soil management, fighting soil salinization, increasing soil awareness and encouraging societies to improve soil health. In the seminar, Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, the Vice-Chancellor of the university participated as chief guest along with Mr Sarfraz Ahmad, Chief Scientist/Director, Soil Salinity Research Institute Pindi Bhattian, faculty members and the students.

Vice Chancellor said that soil science is one of the main and major subjects of the agriculture sector

where the entire field revolves around and its importance can also be gauged from the fact that 95% of the food we eat comes from our soils. The soil degradation process of Soil salinization and sodification are threatening the ecosystem and recognized as being among the most important problems at a global level for agricultural production, food security and sustainability in arid and semi-arid regions, he said. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman said that Civil degradation is a global problem but its situation in Pakistan is even more devastating mainly due to deforestation & desertification, salinity and sodicity, soil erosion, water-logging, depletion of soil fertility and negative nutrient balances.



Seminar on Challenges in Cotton Production & Strategies for the Future

A seminar on "Challenges in Cotton Production and Strategies for the Future" was held at PMAS AAUR where Secretary Agriculture South Punjab Mr. Saqib Ali Ateel participated as a chief guest.

In his address Secretary Agriculture South Punjab has said that with the implementation of the IPM model, the cotton crop has become 115% profitable with more than 15 million bales and Next year, it will be cultivated on more than 7 million acres in Punjab.

He further said that the use of bio-pesticides and implementation of the IPM model has significantly reduced the cost of cotton cultivation as, In South Punjab alone 57 per cent less pesticides have been used on the cotton crop



this year, which has saved farmers about Rs 40 billion.

The average yield from IPM demonstration plots in South Punjab is 34.23 Mn per acre but some plots have produced more than 50 Mn per acre of cotton which is a clear indication that Better yields can be achieved by implementing this strategy, he added.

IPM tools have seen a reduction in the cost per acre of cultivation as

well as improved yields, which has made cotton a profitable crop after many years and will not only make the farmer prosperous but will also enable the revival of cotton and further strengthen the national economy, he said.

On this occasion, Prof. Dr Shafqat Saeed MNS Agricultural University Multan and Prof. Dr Fayyaz Sahi Dean Faculty of Arable Agriculture University Rawalpindi also highlighted the challenges faced in cotton production.

Seminar on Anti-Corruption Awareness

Corruption is the root cause of Pakistan's Economic and Social Problems, to initiate various steps to eliminate this menace and make Pakistan a corruption-free society PMAS AAUR and NAB, Rawalpindi organized an awareness Seminar on anti-corruption where Director NAB Rawalpindi Mr Naseem Ahmed Khan participated as a chief guest along with Registrar of the university Mr M Aqeel Khan, faculty members and students. Mr. Naseem Ahmed said that corruption is a horrible form of dishonesty that not only leads to inequality but also reduces public

accountability which in turn increases frustration among the people and their hardships. University Registrar Muhammad Aqeel Sultan in his address highlighted the steps taken by the university against corruption and said that the university is always ready to work side by side to make Pakistan a corruption-free country.



Christmas Celebrations at PMAS AAUR

A cake cutting ceremony for the celebrations of Christmas in PMAS-AAUR was organized by the Christian staff of the university where Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, Vice Chancellor participated as a chief guest along with the Registrar Mr Aqeel Sultan, Dr. Bishop Amanat Masih, Estate Care & Security Officer Mr Kashif Mehmood, Deans, Directors, and Christian employees.



In his address, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman said that the Christian community is an important part of our society and performing significant services in all fields of life. He said that Islam

teaches the lesson of peace, friendship and the promotion of inter faith harmony which is dire need of the hour. He said that we must forget our all differences for the prosperity of the country. He congratulated the organizers for

organizing the ceremony and extended Christmas greetings to the participants. At the end of the ceremony the Vice Chancellor cut the Christmas cake and offered the prayer for the peace and prosperity of the country.

Seminar on Poultry Industry Challenges & their solutions

A Seminar on poultry sector's importance and challenges was held at PMAS AAUR where Prof. Dr Iqar A. Khan vice-chancellor UAF participated as a chief guest along with the vice-chancellor PMAS AAUR Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, Mian Jan M. Javaid Rathore President WPSA Pakistan, Dr Hassan Sarosh Akram Director Quality Poultry Breeder and Dr Rana Sajjad Arshad Central Chairman PPA. While addressing the occasion



Prof. Dr Iqar A. Khan said that since the start of commercial farming the poultry sector in Pakistan is providing a significant portion of daily proteins to the community and has emerged as one of the main sources of employment. In his address, Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman emphasized the importance of strong industry linkages and lauded the program organized by the industry which has not only to help the students to understand the real problems of the industry but also the opportunities lying in this industry.

Seminar on Prison Reforms in Punjab

A seminar was held in PMAS AAUR with the title of "Prison Reforms in Punjab" to enlighten the students about the importance of the prison and its reforms with the passage of time. In the seminar, Dr Qadeer Alam AIG Prison participated as a guest along with the dean, directors and the students. While addressing Dr Qadeer said that the function of prisons is not only to protect society from criminals but also to re-enable the criminals to play their important role in building and developing the society. He said that the good performance of prisons can be gauged from the contribution of the criminals who came out of the prisons but unfortunately since the formation of Pakistan till now no major changes were made except a few ones in our prisons system for this purpose. Unlike other members of the society the fundamental rights of the prisoners should also be protected which would play a vital role in their rehabilitation, he said.

International Seminar on China-Pakistan Beidou Navigation and Precision Agriculture Technology

An International Conference on China-Pakistan Beidou Navigation and Precision Agriculture Technology was held on Dec 12, 2021 at PMAS-AAUR which was jointly organized by the Technology Innovation Alliance on Beidou Navigation Precision Agriculture Industry of Xinjiang Production, Construction Corporation (Beidou Alliance of XPCC) and PMAS-AAUR. The purpose of the seminar was to highlight the importance of Precision Agriculture Technologies and the role of CPEC for revolutionizing Pakistan Agriculture sector. Mr. Shakeel Ramay, External Coordinator, CPEC agricultural cooperation participated as a chief guest along with Dr Nveed Tahir and international researchers in the field of precision agriculture and navigation technologies from Shihezi University, Tarim University, Xinjiang Jiangtian Aviation Technology Co. Ltd., Suzhou Eavision Robot Technology Co. Ltd. and Shanghai Lianshi Satellite Navigation co. Ltd. In the session.





UI GreenMetric World Universities Ranking 2021

CONGRATULATIONS

to All Faculty Members, Employees & Students

PMAS-AAUR Clinches Great Achievement in UI GreenMetric World Universities Ranking 2021




Ranking Indicators

- ◆ Education & Research
- ◆ Setting & Infrastructure
- ◆ Energy & Climate Change
- ◆ Waste Management
- ◆ Water
- ◆ Transportation

Ranked

3rd

among 52 Pakistani Universities

Ranked

90

among 512 Asian Universities

Ranked

191

among 956 World Wide Universities

2019

295th among
780 World Wide Universities

2020

201st among
912 World Wide Universities



University Green Office, PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi

News in Pictures



Commander ANF meeting with Vice Chancellor & Registrar pertaining to drug control mechanism at educational institutions



Chief Executive PARB Dr. Abid Mehmood Inaugurating Kiwi Fruit GPU at Plant Propagation Unit



Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman addressing on Kashmir Solidarity Day at Arts council Sahiwal



Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman inaugurating New Academic Block (Science Block) at BIS-Burewala

68th Academic Council Meeting



Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Chairing 68th Academic Council Meeting on Sep 01, 2021



Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Presiding the 69th Academic Council Meeting held on Dec 13, 2021

89th Syndicate Meeting



Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman presiding 89th Syndicate Meeting on July 10, 2021

90th Syndicate Meeting



Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Chairing 90th Syndicate Meeting on Sep 11, 2021

91st Syndicate Meeting



Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman presiding 91st Syndicate Meeting on Oct 15, 2021

92nd Syndicate Meeting



Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Presiding the 92nd Meeting of the Syndicate held on Dec 15, 2021

Mehfil-e-Qirat-o-Naat during Silver Jubilee



Directorate of Sports organized Faculty Vs Admin Cricket Match, Tug of War, Badminton, Table Tennis





Pir Mehr Ali Shah

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