

IUB NEWS

Vice Chancellor's Office, Bagh-e-Ul-Jadeed Campus

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1430 Laptops distributed under Prime Minister's Laptop Scheme



Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor and Mr. Aqeel Najam Hashmi, Mayor Bahawalpur city giving laptop to a student.

As many as 1430 laptops distributed at the Islamia University of Bahawalpur under Prime Minister's Laptop Scheme Phase III. In this connection, a grand ceremony was held at Main Auditorium. On this occasion, Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor and Mr. Aqeel Najam Hashmi, Mayor Bahawalpur city distributed laptops among students. In his address Mr. Aqeel Najam Hashmi said that presently Pakistan is at peak of economic stability in 70 years history. The national economy is booming with 5.6% GDP which is expected to rise, stock exchange index is touching record 54,000 points. First time in history of the country, development projects are under completion at such a large scale. Recently, Prime Minister directed to link Bahawalpur with Karachi-Lahore Motorway which will open new avenues of development for this region. Prime Minister's Youth Programme was initiated in 2013 to benefit country's youth

equipping them with modern technologies linking with global world. Initially, 100,000 brilliant students were given laptops and the government has recently announced 4th and 5th phases of the scheme to provide laptops to 200,000 students from across the country. He praised Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq for raising academic and research standards in the university as well as reforming administrative side. Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq said that 4417 students of the IUB benefited from Prime Minister's Laptop Scheme while 5100 laptops were distributed through Chief Minister's Laptop Scheme. Similarly, Rs. 249 million were distributed to 9987 students through Prime Minister's Fee Reimbursement Scheme. He thanked the dignitaries and notables for attending the ceremony.



A view of participants of laptop distribution ceremony

1100 apply against 150 University posts, IUB hires 128 PhDs, other professionals

Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor, the Islamia University of Bahawalpur said that academic discipline through implementation of academic calendar, reforms in academic and fiscal matters have enhanced credibility of the university which reflects in number of applications received against various advertised posts both in teaching and non-teaching departments. University advertised 150 posts of Assistant Professors, more than 1100 candidates applied against these vacancies. The IUB was facing shortage of human resources both in teaching and non-teaching departments since last many years which had affected the performance of almost every department. The University faced drastic fall in ranking status as IUB was declared on 51 position in HEC's general ranking of universities. However, the Vice Chancellor took this matter seriously and conducted 9 mega Selection Boards during last two years to appoint 128 faculty members. This step proved fruitful as university ranking jumped 40 points in a year and elevated to 11th position in general ranking and 6 position in research grants among 21 universities of the Punjab. Due to a congenial environment, IUB attracted thousands of job aspirants which shows tremendous progress of the university. The Islamia University of Bahawalpur prioritized hiring of PhDs during the last two years and recruited 128 faculty members including Professors, Associate Professors and Assistant Professors. The Vice Chancellor said that non-teaching departments at university were also lacking professionals especially key administrative posts were being run on additional charge. The university recruited professionals on merit through widely circulated advertisements across the country. Scrutiny and

processing of 46000 applications of non-teaching posts pending since 2013 was also streamlined to remove back log of previous years. As many as 562 staff members awaiting long delayed promotions were promoted to next grade as only 73 employees had been promoted previously. The conduct of 9 mega selection boards in a period of two years is also a record in university's history as there were only five selection boards held during previous three years. There were no boards of faculties in the IUB, these boards were established and regular meetings were organized during these two years. The university also followed Punjab Government's recruitment policies for disabled persons and deceased employees, around 23 special persons and 50 widows or close relatives of deceased staff members which was a noble step, neglected previously. The university also hired PhDs through HEC's Interim Placement of Fresh PhDs Programme to boost research activities. In this way 1258 persons were hired and promoted purely on merit in both teaching and non-teaching departments. The university also focused on training and development of employees and for the first time organized training sessions in collaboration with the Federal Education Ministry, Higher Education Commission and Punjab Higher Education Commission. The federal and provincial governments as well as educational circles hailed university's efforts for ensuring merit based transparent recruitment process. It is important to mention here that due to all these steps HEC has recently declared IUB on 6 position in 21 universities of Punjab for winning research grants and university is currently on 11th position in general ranking of universities.

Selection Board meeting, 187 candidates interviewed

As many as 187 candidates appeared in interviews for 49 posts of assistant professors in selection board of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur. The board meeting held under the chair of Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor while permanent members and subject experts also attended. The board interviewed candidates for departments of Applied Psychology, Commerce, Computer Science, Chemistry, Islamic Studies, Pakistan

Studies, Physical Education, Social Work, Mathematics and Urdu and Iqbaliat. This selection process was part of university's steps to overcome deficiency of teachers in all faculties since last many years. The hiring process is also in line with the policy guidelines of the Higher Education Commission to induct PhD faculty in universities at large scale to promote standards in academia and research. During last two years, IUB also inducted 128

faculty members at professor, associate professor and assistant professor level which produced positive results on academic activities boosting research in all fields. The university won 41 research grants unprecedented in history of the institution including 12 HEC research grants recently handed over to Prof. Dr. Qaiser

Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor by Malik Muhammad Rafique Rajwana, Chancellor and Governor Punjab. Educational circles hoped that current recruitment of PhDs will open new avenues of research and educational promotion in this historic higher education institution of Southern Punjab.



Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor presiding over selection board meeting

Selection Board meeting, 573 candidates interviewed

on direction of Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor the administrative department planned regular meetings of the selection board to select candidates for the posts of Assistant Professors, Associate Professors, Professors and administrative positions. Recently, the board conducted interviews for selection of Assistant Professors in 48 disciplines, 573 candidates appeared against 157 vacancies. It is important to mention that on joining of Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq there was acute shortage of faculty especially at senior level positions as there were only 12 Professors in the University while number of Associate and Assistant Professors was also very low. During the last two years, 9th selection boards were conducted as a result 10

Professors, 8 Associate Professors and 109 Assistant Professors were appointed. During the current phase, university is expected to fill vacant posts of faculty members at Professor and Associate Professor level to culminate adhocism prevailing in the university since decades as university cannot appoint administrative heads of faculties and teaching departments without having regularly appointed senior faculty members. It is expected that before the commencement of new academic session, the University will be able to fill vacant positions in teaching departments which will ultimately pave the way for standardization in academia and research, already improved significantly during the last two years.



A view of selection board meeting

18th International Pure Mathematics Conference



Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor giving address during inaugural session of 18th International Pure Mathematics Conference

The 18th International Pure Mathematics Conference 2017 (18 IPMC 2017) jointly organized by the Islamia University of Bahawalpur and the Higher Education Commission held in Islamabad. Other partner organizations included Pakistan Mathematical Society, Advanced Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Algebra Forum. The theme of this three day conference was Algebra, Geometry and Analysis participated by 55 speakers, 110 participants, 9 keynote speakers and 3 foreign delegates. International Pure Mathematics Conference has become the only forum in Pakistan bringing renowned and eminent mathematicians from around the world on one platform providing unique opportunity for researchers and scholars to share their latest ideas in this field. Founding Conference Convener, Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor, the Islamia University of Bahawalpur and President Pakistan Mathematical Society said that Mathematics has a vital role in the development of science and technology around the world and its innovations are benefiting people. He asked academia to focus on nurturing social values among students besides imparting education in their particular fields. Pakistan being one of the important countries in global affairs cannot compromise on latest advancement in science and technology, and Mathematics being backbone of science, Pakistan cannot afford to lag behind in this field. Our scholars and researchers in Mathematics should remain in touch with international mathematicians; our universities can facilitate such interactions by holding seminars, workshops, conferences and promoting exchange programmes. He also briefed the participants about historical background, contribution and significance of thematic mathematical conference series (IPMCs) being held since 2000. He thanked foreign and local delegates and participating organizations the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan and

the Islamia University of Bahawalpur for their support in making the event a great success. After the inaugural session, technical sessions were held in which experts highlighted various areas of Mathematics. The participants praised Conference Convener Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq and his team for sustained efforts and creating the forum of International Pure Mathematics Conference in generating a true mathematical culture in mathematics. During concluding session, a renowned Pakistani Mathematician Prof. Dr. Javed Ahsan was awarded gold medal. Pakistan Mathematical Society honoured him due to his extra ordinary services in the field of Algebra. Pakistan Mathematical Society recognizes contributions of a Pakistani Mathematician every year and this time awarded gold medal to Dr. Javed Ahsan. Earlier, Dr. S.M. Yusuf, Dr. S. M. Saleemi and Dr. Mumtaz Kazmi have received Pakistan Mathematical Society gold medals. Prof. Dr. Masoom Yasin Zai, Chairman, Vice Chancellor's Committee and Rector, International Islamic University, Islamabad was the chief guest on this occasion. Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Conference Founding Convener and Vice Chancellor, Islamia University of Bahawalpur said in the concluding session that IPMC is the only forum in the country which is providing a platform on annual basis to mathematicians from Pakistan to interact and share their research contribution with eminent mathematicians from around the world since 2000. He said a sound mathematical foundation is essential for development of Science in the country and it is main responsibility of academicians to promote and flourish mathematics in Pakistan. On this occasion, Pakistan Mathematical Society awarded gold medal to eminent mathematician Dr Javed Ahsan for his extraordinary contribution and services in the field of mathematics besides shields and certificates were distributed among speakers. Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq and Prof. Dr. Masoom Yasin Zai presented this gold medal to

renowned mathematician during the ceremony. Prof. Dr. Javed Ahsan was awarded Fulbright Scholarship and completed his PhD from University of Dundee, UK in 1972. He had been senior associate member of the ICTP Trieste, Italy and received many honours and awards locally and internationally. Conference Convener, Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq

congratulated the scholar for achieving gold medal, he also thanked speakers, participants specially foreign delegates for visiting Pakistan to attend the conference and share their experiences. He also thanked the Higher Education Commission and other collaborating institutions for supporting the conference.



Prof. Dr. Javed Ahsan received gold medal from Prof. Dr. Masoom Yasin Zai and Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq in the concluding session of International Pure Mathematics Conference

45th meeting of Academic Council

Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor presided the 45th meeting of Academic Council of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur. The meeting approved revised syllabi of BS, Master, MPhil and PhD programmes in various departments. The members also approved to adopt list of technically and academically

advanced countries given by the Higher Education Commission. Revised rules and regulations related to students discipline, bachelor and master programmes and examinations rules of affiliated colleges under semester system were also considered and approved.



Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice chancellor presiding over the academic council meeting

Advanced Studies and Research Board

Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor presided over 73rd meeting of Advanced Studies and Research Board of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur. The board approved admission and registration of candidates in various PhD programmes besides reviewing topics of PhD dissertations and appoint of supervisors. A

committee was constituted to determine equivalence of positions in MPhil and MS programmes. The meeting also reviewed implementation on decisions taken during the last meeting which included registration of 65 PhD scholars and appointment of supervisors for 30 PhD research projects.



Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor presiding over Advanced Studies and Research Board meeting

IUB gets hefty boost of Rs. 3.36 Billion

The Syndicate of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur approved Rs. 3364 Million budget for the fiscal year 2017-18. The 66th meeting of the syndicate held under the chair of Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor at Abasia Campus. The participants lauded Rs. 198 million decrease in fiscal deficit during the last two years maintaining exemplary fiscal discipline. The university had Rs. 343 million deficit in 2015-16 which was decreased to Rs. 217 million in 2016-17 and during the current financial year it has been further reduced to Rs. 145 million. The members also approved Rs. 1908 million allocation for developmental works budget which was Rs. 675 million in 2015-16 and Rs. 905 million in 2016-17 depicting fast paced and extraordinary progress during last couple of years. The syndicate also approved recommendation of the selection board to

appoint 2 professors, 2 associate professors, 120 assistant professors and 4 lecturers besides selection of 2 medical officers. It is important to mention here that during the last two and half year 251 faculty members at assistant professors and above cadres have been appointed through selection boards. The syndicate members also praised transparent and merit based recruitment process to fill hundreds of vacant posts both in academic and administrative sides. This was the 8th syndicate meeting held under the chairmanship of Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq who has regularized meetings of university senate, syndicate, selection board and academic council through timely appointment of members which has given tremendous boost to policy decision making, streamlining and smoothing administrative procedures.



The 66th meeting of the syndicate

Achievements in Financial Sector



Mr. Fakhar Bashir, Treasurer

After qualifying the highest competitive examination of Central Superior Services (CSS) in the year 2008, Mr. Fakhar Bashir, joined the most prestigious family of the Civil Bureaucracy of Pakistan. After undergoing the exhaustive administrative training in the shape of Common Training Programme at Civil Services Academy, he joined the rigorous specialized training on administration and finance in the shape of Special Training Programme at AATI Lahore. After successful completion of his CTP and STP with distinction, he got an opportunity to seek diversified experience at Lahore Headquarters under the motivated and inspirational leadership of seasoned bureaucrats which helped him to imbibe a rich and fertile administrative and financial experience and expertise. The outstanding and impressive performance at headquarters led the apex authorities to post him to serve in the field at Multan Cantonment for the period of more than three years. After getting an early promotion, he took over as Regional Director Audit (District Governments) D. G. Khan Division and continued to hold charge of four districts of D. G. Khan Division for the next one year which added multi-dimensional vast experience in the various relevant fields of maintenance of accounts and incorporation of internal and external controls to ensure a better financial discipline in the public sector organizations in Pakistan. On the request of the Punjab Government, the Federal Government of Pakistan forwarded a panel of suitable officers to the Secretary HED for onwards selection of the most appropriate and competent officer by the Chief Minister of Punjab. The Secretary Higher Education Department submitted the summary of the recommended panel of officers to the Chief Minister and after getting the formal approval of the Chief Minister and the worthy Governor Punjab notified his posting as Treasurer Islamia University Bahawalpur which was duly ratified by the Federal Secretary Establishment Division Islamabad.

Reforms in Treasurer's Department

Soon after joining as the Treasurer of Islamia University Bahawalpur on 9 December, 2015,

Mr. Fakhar Bashir had to cope with multifarious challenges in the shape of absolute overhauling and restructuring of a department. Absence of financial discipline, lack of internal and external controls, mismanagement and rampant corruption was the order of the day. The current incumbent introduced various reforms in the shape of internal and external controls along with issuance of detailed SOP's under the inspired leadership of Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, the Vice Chancellor of the IUB. He reorganized the system to ensure a better financial discipline and management in the financial sector of the university in the following areas:

1-Budgeting

The annual budget of the university used to be based on illogical and irrational estimates of the income and expenditures to reduce the expected deficit. Moreover the approved budget estimates were being maneuvered by irrational re-appropriations under the emergency powers of the Worthy Vice Chancellor under section 15(3) of IUB Act 1975.

- By incorporating better internal control and effective financial discipline, the budget of FY 2015-16 having an initial deficit of Rs.343 million was actually closed with the surplus of Rs.225 million, in addition to the implementation of an emergency project of Rs.232 million beyond the initial budget estimates.

- The different heads of the budget are being reformed in detail as per principles of budgeting and the policy of Zero Based Budgeting will be introduced in the upcoming budget.

- By incorporating effective internal controls and better financial management, the budget deficit was decreased to Rs.218 million as compared to Rs.343 million for the last FY 2015-16 and in the following years the picture will further improve in this regard.

2-Procurements

The procurement process was in absolute mess as the rules laid down in PPRA were an element of least concern of the procurement cell. Against the provisions of the PPRA, after the evaluation of the technical proposals and their qualifications thereof, setting aside the lowest bid of the technically qualified firms, purchase orders were being issued to the other firms of their own choice which offered much higher prices along with many of other major flaws in

the process of procurement.

- The procurement process has been absolutely overhauled in the light of PPRA rules and all the procurements are being made with the implementation of PPRA rules in true letter and spirit.

- Now bulk of the contingent expenditure is being operated through the proper procedure of tender and quotations where applicable with petty purchase to be allowed in the specific areas by the promulgation of proper SOPs in the light of the rules and regulations.

- Competitiveness of the rates is being ensured through strong internal controls.

- The availability of the budget is being ensured prior to commence the procurement process.

- An effective system of internal controls has been placed to ensure procurement as per rules through separate SOP's for petty purchase and permanent items to avoid any type of piece meals procurement.

- To ensure the supply of procured material through General Purchase Committee, the same is being ensured to be supplied in the main store section where it is being properly stamped to reduce the chances of misuse and misappropriation.

3- Management of University Funds, Accounts & Grants

- Now the investment of the university is being placed in line with the directions of the Syndicate along with broader guidelines of the

Government of Punjab to secure the interests of university and employees.

- The better funds management and reorganization and restructuring of the university funds and accounts, the present incumbent has been able to contribute an additional amount of around Rs. 85 million per annum to the university exchequer which was being lost over the period of time.

4- Diary & Dispatch System

- Proper diary & dispatch system has been introduced to ensure proper entry of each bill to be submitted in the Treasurer's Department.

- The incorporation of proper system not only minimizes the chances of misplacement of bills but also ensures their processing under FIFO system, promoting justice for all.

- It has stopped various types of serious irregularities and ill financial discipline in the Treasurer's Department.

5- Other Areas

The present incumbent under the inspirational leadership of Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Worthy Vice Chancellor has further introduced various reforms in the financial side of many of the other departments including Civil Engineering, Examinations, Transport Division, Sports Division, Estate Care and Space Management, Directorate of Affiliation, Private Students Affairs and Financial Aid Office to secure and safeguard the interest of university exchequer which has indirectly secured the interest of students and university employees.

German researchers visit University Agriculture College

A research team from University of Hohenheim Germany visited University College Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, the Islamia University of Bahawalpur to collect data from the field trials and laboratory analysis at Soil Microbiology and Biotechnology Laboratory. The Department of Soil Science IUB has developed strong collaboration with scientist from Germany, Taiwan and Uzbekistan. The visit was a follow up visit to the earlier Post-doctoral research stay of Dr. Maqsoof Ahmad at University of Hohenheim Germany. Dr. Maqsoof Ahmad is working as collaborating scientist in the BMZ/GIZ funded project "Seed inoculation with rhizobium and plant growth promoting rhizobacteria (PGPR) under the main project "entitled Beans with Benefits; Integrating improved mungbean as catch crop in to dry land systems of South and Central Asia for increased

small land holder farmer income and more sustainable production systems' implemented by World Vegetable Center Taiwan. It is important to mention that Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor has termed research benefiting people and the country, a top priority in the university which has given boost to research activities, resultantly, IUB was declared on 6th position in research ranking of 21 universities of the Punjab.



A joint research team of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur and University of Hohenheim Germany working in experimental area of Agriculture College at Bagh ul Jadeed Campus

Inauguration of Housing Project

Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor, the Islamia University of Bahawalpur inaugurated construction work of 78 housing units at Baghdad ul Jadeed Campus. On this occasion, he said that there was a dire need of residential houses for both faculty and employees as not a single house constructed during past 8 years. He directed to ensure quality in construction work and completion of the project within given schedule. The university focused on fast paced developmental work during the past two and a half year. Three mega projects including building of Bahawalnagar and Rahim Yar Khan Campuses and Agriculture College delayed since 2007 were completed at a cost of Rs. 1200 million. Similarly, sports complex was completed and made functional with addition of cricket ground, squash and tennis courts. New building of faculty of Education was constructed worth Rs. 270 million and Vice Chancellor's Office was also established at Baghdad ul Jadeed Campus. Three kilometers long carpeted roads with footpaths were constructed at Baghdad ul Jadeed Campus. Renovation works was carried out in all academic blocks and hostels after a gap

of 6 years. Historic buildings of Abbasia and Khawaja Farid Campuses were upgraded including renovation of Ghulam Muhammad Ghotvi Hall. University guest house was extended making it the best facility for boarding and lodging in the town. Further, two medical centers and canteens were also upgraded in the University.



Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor inaugurating construction work of 78 residential units at Baghdad ul Jadeed Campus

IUB launches Fall Semester's Admission Drive

The Islamia University of Bahawalpur, the oldest seat of learning of Southern Punjab has emerged as a leading public sector university touching new horizons of academia and research in the country. The university has shown tremendous performance during the last two years in every field through a fast paced developmental strategy based on reforms initiated by Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor. During recently held admission drive for fall semester 2017, as many as 21,665 students applied for various programmes from undergraduate to PhD level. The university has enhanced its standing among stakeholders specially students and parents due to supremacy of merit, transparency, continuity of uniform policies and congenial academic environment. Tremendous boost in quality of teaching and research, enforcement of academic calendar has streamlined academic activities, admissions twice a year and appointment of 251 faculty members have further strengthened the university. Students from Southern Punjab, all four provinces and from far-flung areas of Gilgit and Baltistan and FATA also applied for admission in the University

which depicts popularity of the University across the country. The Islamia University of Bahawalpur launched admission drive in 154 academic programmes at undergraduate, Master, MPhil and PhD level across campuses during fall semester 2017. Faculty of Arts offered admissions in Economics, English, International Relations, Library and Information Sciences, Media Studies, Political Sciences and Urdu & Iqbaliat departments. Faculty of Education offered admissions in subjects of Applied Psychology, Education, Educational Training, Sports Sciences and Social Work while Faculty of Islamic Learning provided admissions in subjects of Arabic, History, Islamic Studies, Pakistan Studies, Persian and Law. Departments of Management Sciences, Commerce and IT also offered admissions at bachelor's and Master level. Biochemistry and Biotechnology, Chemistry, Geography, Life Sciences, Mathematics, Physics, Statistics were part of Faculty of Sciences providing admissions. Professional degrees Pharm-D, BS Agriculture, Veterinary and Fine Arts were also opened for admission.

IUB announces BA, BSc and BCom Results

The Islamia University Bahawalpur (IUB) announced the results of annual examinations of BA, BSc and BCom. Out of the total 10,948 candidates who sat in the BA examination, 5,290 were declared successful showing a pass percentage of 48.32. First three positions were grabbed by girls. Private candidate Arshia Rehman was declared first by securing 663 marks, Maham Rida of Liaquatpur and Maliha Iqbal of Government Degree College for Women, Khairpur Tamewali were declared second and third with 662 and 660 marks, respectively. In the BSc examination, out of the total 12,025 candidates who appeared, 5,888 were declared successful with a pass percentage of 48.96. The first three positions were grabbed by students of

Punjab College for Women, Bahawalpur and Chishtian. Aisha Naeem of Punjab College for Women Bahawalpur won the first position by securing 721 marks. Sania Irshad of the same college and Somia Amjad of Punjab College for Women Chishtian clinched the second and third spots by securing 704 and 701 marks, respectively. In the BCom examination, 187 candidates were declared successful out of the total 572, showing a pass percentage of 32.69. Hafiz Abu Bakar and Sana Asghar of Punjab College of Commerce Bahawalpur took the first and third positions by obtaining 1,132 and 1,113 marks, respectively. Tasawar Hashmi of AIMAI College of Commerce, Ahmedpur East ranked second with 1,128 marks.

International Climate Change and Biodiversity Conference

The 1st International Conference on Climate Change and Biodiversity organized by the Islamia University of Bahawalpur in collaboration with Higher Education Commission, Punjab Higher Education Commission and Punjab Agriculture and Research Board held at Cholistan Institute of Desert Studies. The three day conference was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Ata-ur-Rehman, former Chairman, Higher Education Commission. Prof. Dr. Shazia Anjum, Conference convener welcomed 500 delegates including researchers and scientists from China, Turkey, Sudan, Iran and Pakistan. Prof. Dr. Ata-ur-Rehman said that the developed nations always focused on higher education and education based on research, innovation and technology. He also quoted the example of Singapore which is one fourth of the area of Karachi, where natural resources are very minimal, but its annual exports are more than \$ 518 billion. Pakistan has sent 11,000

students abroad for higher education and this number is increasing day by day. Increment in salaries and benefits of teacher, establishment of educational institutions across Pakistan, improvement in IT infrastructure is also showing the importance of education system in Pakistani society. According to the research of Thomson Reuters in 2006, Pakistan is equal in rank of India, China, Russia and Brazil in the field of research and development. The speakers presented many recommendations on biodiversity and climate changing majorly included; land and water protection, reduction in direct pressure on biodiversity and promote sustainability, adoption of deforestation solutions, establishment of nurseries for plants, involvement of farmers in awareness and implementation activities, plantation at small units, creation of organic farming/green strategies/research studies on biodiversity and



A view of inaugural session

wildlife, and strict implementation and monitoring of law and policies were major recommendations of the conference. On the basis of recommendation, actions plans were also suggested by the speakers; strengthening and monitoring of wildlife departments, investment in forest ecosystem conservation,

public awareness programmes and development of value chains, and enhancing expertise of local communities for species recovery and habitat restorations. The conference ended with the statement "Go ahead in the technology but don't disturb the ecology".



Prof. Dr. Ata ur Rehman and other speakers giving address during inaugural session

Flag Hoisting Ceremony

Flag Hoisting Ceremony on the occasion of Independence Day was held at Abbasia Campus. Faculty members, employees and students participated in the event. All campuses of the

university were beautifully illuminated on this occasion. The Government of Pakistan logo of 70th Independence Day celebrations was also displayed.



Independence Day celebrations at Abbasia Campus



Karwan e Yakjehti Quetta

Karwan e Yak Jehti is the creation of exemplary and endless efforts of various institutions including Higher Education Commission, Pakistan Army and Government of Baluchistan. This struggle is an endeavour to unite the nation like a family and to accomplish this objective student from every corner of Pakistan i.e. Gilgit Baltistan, Azad Kashmir, Islamabad, Punjab, KPK and Baluchistan were gathered on a single platform to show solidarity and celebrate the festival of Pakistan's Independence Day. This gathering of youth was a clear, bold and a powerful message to those who want to demolish our happiness and create hurdles towards the success of Pakistan. The main aim to celebrate this event is to enhance the inter-provincial harmony among the educated youth of the four provinces including Kashmir and

Gilgit Baluchistan. The other purpose is to provide young leadership an opportunity to exchange ideas through discussion and dialogue so that nationalism may prevail. These objectives were accomplished by inviting youth and faculty members from higher Education to participate in the Independence Day at the heart of Pakistan, Quetta, Baluchistan. More than 1500 participants were part of this festival from which, a contingent of 18 students and one faculty member from Islamia University of Bahawalpur also participated in the event to show the national solidarity. From Multan region, a convoy of four buses moved to Quetta via Fort Manro, Lorallai, Qilla Saif Ullah, Pasheen and Kachlak and reached at Quetta Garrison Club. The next morning, students participated in the seminar "Progressing towards success" at



IUB students at Quetta Garrison during Karwan e Yakjehti

Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering & Management Sciences. The conference had an interactive session because a panel of participants comprised of provincial and federal politicians from Baluchistan and the Vice Chancellor from Baluchistan University of Information Technology. There students raised various questions related to politics, education, economic stability and problems related to the

province and it was responded properly by the participants and the session ended with the motivational speech of the Lt. General Amir Riaz, Corp Commander. Later, in the evening, students attended the colorful event of Independence Day where, Chinese, Turkish and Egyptian delegates/artists made this evening lively and colorful. March past by the Pak Army and the Flag Hoisting ceremony by the Governor Baluchistan are the vital components of this function. Next day the awards

distribution ceremony along with musical night was organized to pay tribute to various personalities from different fields such as education, arts, science, culture, social work and philanthropy. The participants enjoyed every second of each event with full energy. During festival, students discussed various issues with their fellows, ranging from education to social aspects of life.

Faculty members attend National Integrity Workshop at National Defense University Islamabad

National Defense University Islamabad launched a platform under the project of "Manzile-e-Murad" in collaboration with Higher Education Commission, selected students faculty members of public and private universities were invited and engaged through deliberations and discussions with the view to build common understanding of the problem being faced by the Pakistan, and suggested their possible solutions. The Islamia University of Bahawalpur team comprising of Dr. Abdul Wajid Khan, Director Alumni and Senior Tutor, Mr. Sadaf Mehdi and Ms. Abida Noreen participated in this workshop. Prominent experts of different fields were also invited to deliberate on security

challenges of Pakistan. The plenary session was about the "Evolving Concept of Comprehensive National Security and its relevance to Pakistan". Day 1 of the workshop titled 'Counters of whole of nation approach, the need of state -society and soldier-citizens bonding within the framework of national security, 'Information as an element of national security paradigm, Elements of national power and the role of military. Day 2 of the workshop discussed the topics of Pakistan's traditional /conventional security challenges, Pakistan peculiar sub-conventional/hybrid threats and contribution of Armed force in peace, Internal security mosaic of Karachi and response of armed forces,



Group photo of workshop participants

Internal security mosaic of Baluchistan and response of armed forces, the most important module was foresight exercise Manzile-e-Murad. The entire University delegates were organized into six groups. The delegate from Gomal University, Khushhal Khan Khatak University, University of Turbat, Karakoram International University, University of Karachi and University of Sindh (Jamshoro). Islamia University, Bahawalpur, University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir presented the possible solutions to counter extremism and terrorism. Day 3 adjusted to the third module included visits and

briefings at national institutions. A reception was organized at Joint Staff Head Quarter (JSHQ), an eloquent briefing followed by an interactive session, the participants visited Armed Force Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine (AFIRM), Air University Bahria University, and Pakistan Monument. Participants visited Senate of Pakistan, HQ 10 corps adjacent to (GHQ) to get briefing on line of control, HIT Taxila, Pakistan Aeronautical Complex Kamra, the participants were apprised about different aspects of defence industry.

Dars-e-Quran during holy month of Ramazan

A regular Dars e Quran started in the mosques of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur in connection with the holy month of Ramazan. This activity initiated on special direction of Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor to apprise faculty and students about Quranic teachings in the holy month. Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq on this occasion said in his message that

Pakistan is an Islamic ideological state and spread of Islamic teachings is our religious duty. A large number of faculty members and students attended daily Dars e Quran after taravih prayers in Jamia Masajid, Baghdad ul Jadeed Campus and Jamia Masjid, Abbasia Campus.

Research Grant to explore economic opportunities of CPEC



The Higher Education Commission awarded a research grant to Dr Abou Bakar, Assistant Professor and his collaborator Dr. Fakhra Shamim, the Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Bahawalnagar Campus. This grant awarded for a research project titled; "CPEC: Understanding Pakistani exporters and opportunities in the Chinese Market." The results of this study will be valuable to Exporters, Industry as well as government institutions in developing better strategy and practice for increasing Pakistani exports to Chinese market. This project will create detailed understanding on possible expansions and growth opportunities for the local and generate vision for academic researchers and practitioners by resolving negative perspectives in operationalization of China Pakistan Economic Corridor.



HEC approves Thematic Research Project

The Higher Education Commission approved a thematic research project worth Rs. 4 Million for Dr. Muhammad Abdul Majid Makki, Associate Professor, the Islamia University of Bahawalpur titled "Good Governance for Sustainable Business and Economic Development of Pakistan" under the theme "The New Role and Emerging Status of Pakistan".

International Education Conference at Harvard University

Dr. Abid Shahzad, Assistant Professor, Department of Education, the Islamia University of Bahawalpur presented his research paper titled "A study of teaching styles adopted by

novice teachers at teacher education institutions in Pakistan" at the International Teacher Education Conference held at Harvard University USA. Researchers and delegates from



Dr. Abid Shahzad receiving conference presentation from Prof. Dr. J. Ana Donaldson President, Association of Educational Communication and Technology, USA

more than 35 countries participated and presented their research papers in the conference. The conference provided a chance to academia around the globe to come and share

their ideas and research in progress in their respective countries at the world famous Harvard University forum. Dr. Abid Shahzad presented his research findings that the novice teachers in Pakistan teacher education's settings are gradually moving to adopt the constructive teaching styles but there a lot to do to keep pace with the changing teaching approaches in the developed countries. Teacher educators are needed to be trained with the latest teaching styles in practice in other parts of the developed world. Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) provided the travel grant for this conference.

International Veterinary Conference in Romania



Dr. Umer Farooq, Assistant Professor, University College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, the Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Pakistan recently visited Bucharest, Romania to attend and present his

research work entitled "A Preliminary Study on Certain Blood Biomarkers of Cholistani Breed of Cattle being Reared under Nomadic Pastoralism at Various Stages of Pregnancy" at the International Conference of University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest. The congress was a magnanimous gathering of hundreds of participants from about 30 countries of the world. Dr. Umer Farooq presented his research work conducted on

Cholistani breed of cattle being reared by the nomads of Cholistan desert, Pakistan with a broad objective of protection/propagation of this neglected indigenous cattle. The work and the idea behind it was highly lauded by the participants (researchers, academicians and practitioners) and they were fascinated to know about the thermo-tolerance and hardiness of this breed. Especially the faculty/researchers of Moldova and Macedonia appreciated it as they also are keenly involved in protection / propagation of their indigenous breeds of livestock. Prof. Dr. Dumitru Dragotoiu and Prof. Dr. Paul Rodian of University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Romania were amongst the notables. The funding for the said congress was granted by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan.

Admission Test at Engineering College

As many as 1800 candidates participated in Engineering College admission test held at the Islamia University of Bahawalpur. Admission test was organized by the University of Engineering and Technology Lahore and conducted in Engineering College at Baghdadul Jadeed Campus. On direction of Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor special arrangements were made for guidance, parking, shades, drinking water and medical aid to facilitate candidates and their parents.



Students participating in Engineering College admission test at the Islamia University of Bahawalpur

IUB participates in HEC Education Expo

Hundreds of students thronged toward stalls of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur in educational expos recently held in Mansehra, Haripur and Multan. The Islamia University of Bahawalpur actively participated and presented educational programmes in Higher Education Commission's organized educational exhibitions in Haripur and Mansehra and another expo organized by a renowned media group in Multan. The students and parents were keen in seeking information about IUB educational programmes in Engineering, Pharmacy, Chemistry, Veterinary, Management Sciences, Information Technology, Media Studies, Agriculture and basic sciences.



Students gathered at stall of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur seeking information about admissions in various educational programmes

PEEF awareness session

The Punjab Education Endowment Fund (PEEF) disbursed scholarships worth Rs. 19.1 million among 384 students in the Islamia University of Bahawalpur academic session 2016. A special monitoring team of the PEEF had an interactive session with these scholarship recipients at Abbasia Campus. The team members discussed smooth provision of scholarships as well as academic performance of students. It is important to mention that due to strenuous efforts of Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor, Punjab Government has enhanced scholarships amount for the IUB students,

during the academic year 2014-15, 156 students availed scholarship of Rs. 19.8 million while 596 students of academic session 2015-16 were provided Rs. 64.8 million scholarships.



Students are participating in interactive session of Punjab Education Endowment Fund

National Agriculture Education Accreditation Council's delegation visits IUB

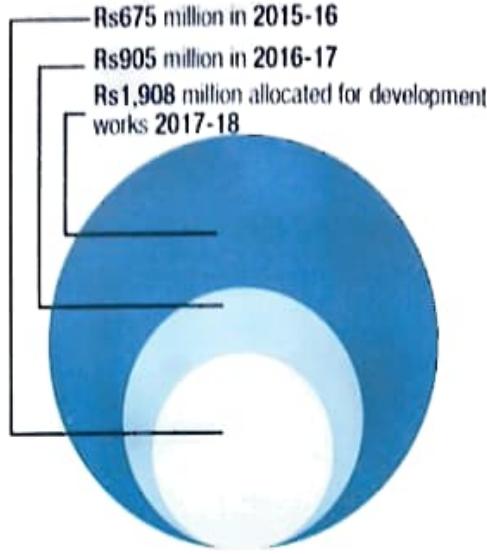
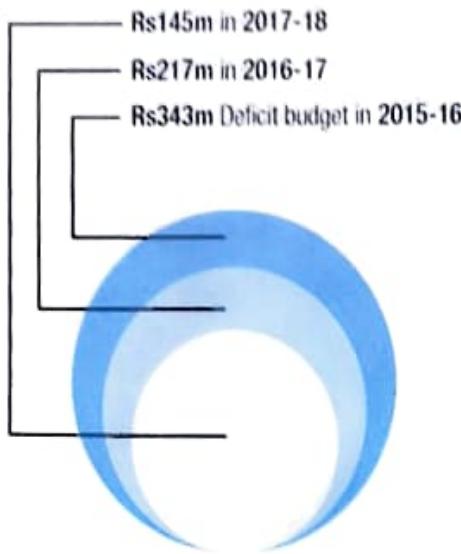
The University College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, the Islamia University of Bahawalpur has shown tremendous performance under the visionary leadership of Prof. Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor during the past two years. The college has recently shifted to a new building completed in 2016. The College is also famous for quality research on local crops including cotton, wheat and rice, promoting agricultural sciences for ensuring food security in the region and improving the living standard of the farming community. Recently, the Accreditation Inspection Committee of National Agriculture Education Accreditation Council (NAEAC) from Higher Education Commission visited University College of Agriculture and Environmental

Sciences for accreditation of Departments of Horticulture and Plant Pathology. The committee comprised of Professor Dr. Saleem Haider, Director, Institute of Agricultural Sciences, University of Punjab, Lahore and Professor Dr. Akbar Anjum, Chairman, Department of Horticulture, Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan.



Delegation of NAEAC with faculty of Agriculture College

BUDGET ▲ 2017-18 ▼ Bahawalpur's Islamia University gets hefty boost of Rs3.36b



■ KASHIF ZAFAR

BAHAWALPUR

The syndicate of Islamia University, Bahawalpur approved a massive sum of Rs3.36 billion as budget for the fiscal year 2017-18. The budget was approved during the meeting of the syndicate members which was chaired by varsity's Vice-Chancellor Dr Qaiser Mushtaq at Abbasia Campus.

On the occasion, the participants lauded Rs108 million decrease in fiscal deficit during the last two years. The university had Rs343 million deficit in 2015-16 which was decreased to Rs217 million in 2016-17. During the current financial year, the deficit was further reduced to Rs145 million. The budget deficit will be met through financial management, austerity measures and grants received from the federal and provincial governments.

The members approved Rs1,908 million allocation for developmental works which was Rs675 million in 2015-16 and Rs905 million in 2016-17.

While speaking to The Express Tribune, Islamia University Vice-Chancellor Dr Qaiser Mushtaq said, "The university is experiencing a new era of progress and development since the last two years as priorities have been redefined with excellence in education on top of the development strategy."



“Our strategy is to focus on academic excellence, financial discipline, infrastructural development and research

Vice-Chancellor Dr Qaiser Mushtaq

He added, "The academic excellence is combined with national goals and the students are trained in a way that would help them in becoming successful professionals, leaders and service providers in future." He maintained that certain basic parameters, which indicate the performance of a university, improved tremendously since December 2014 when the present administration assumed the responsi-

bilities and introduced agenda of reforms in administrative, academic and fiscal sectors.

"Our strategy is to focus on quality of human capital and productive research based on four priority areas academic excellence, financial discipline, infrastructural development and research benefiting people and the country," the VC said.

He elaborated the university improved tremendously in HEC ranking as it jumped to 11th position from 52nd position only in one year. "Similarly, Islamia University is on 6th position among 21 universities of Punjab in research grants," Qaiser Mushtaq remarked.

Meanwhile, University's Personal Relations Officer Shehzad Ahmed told The Express Tribune, "The increase in development funds depicts the fast paced and extraordinary progress of the university during the last couple of years." He added, "This is the highest budget that is approved in the history of Islamia University."

He maintained, "The syndicate also approved recommendation of the selection board to appoint two professors, two associate professors, 120 assistant professors and four lecturers. Besides, selection of two medical officers is also on the cards."