HEC Proposes Measures to Promote PhDs Employability

Governor Sindh Emphasises Comprehensive Policies for Socio-economic Development

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Higher Education Commission, Pakistan
Launch Conference of
Islamabad National University

A two-day launch conference of the Islamabad National University (INU) entitled Emerging Challenges and Opportunities for Pakistan was recently organised by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) at the former Prime Minister House. Prime Minister Imran Khan presided over the inauguration ceremony.

The conference encompassed four thematic areas including Governance, Development, Climate, and Technology. The four areas will be INU’s main focus. The conference brought together experts from all over Pakistan as well as many renowned scholars from China, US and European countries. The experts discussed how the new university will help in addressing the emerging challenges and converting them into opportunities for Pakistan.

Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister said that this university will not just be a symbolic representation of what “we envisage for our youth but also become a Centre which will provide research based guidance for all the social, economic as well as institutional challenges. There is no second opinion that nations cannot progress without quality education in general and higher education in particular.

Islamabad National University is envisioned as an institution designed to support research-based policy formulation. It will initially consist of an Institute for Advanced Studies, which will be charged with providing a science-based annual report to the government on emerging challenges confronting Pakistan and the world, and the menu of options for addressing these challenges.

The Prime Minister emphasised that human development is the major means of national and social prosperity. “This university will be an autonomous entity and will function without any government intervention. It will take a start from a very good institution, maintain its progress, and turn into a Centre of Excellence which will attract scholars from across the world to help find solutions to national and global problems,” he said this while referring to the ‘House of Wisdom’, a major Abbasid academy set up by Khalifa Haroon ur Rasheed.

Earlier in his welcome address, Mr. Shafqat Mahmood, Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training underscored that
establishment of INU is a step towards fulfilment of the government’s commitment to make best public use of the lavish government estates.

“INU is envisioned as an institution designed to support research-based policy formulation. It will initially consist of an Institute for Advanced Studies (IAS), which will be charged with providing a science-based annual report to the government on emerging challenges confronting Pakistan and the world, and the menu of options for addressing these challenges.”

He explained that INU will be dedicated to helping Pakistan address its emerging challenges. “It will be a national institution of international standard and will become a symbol of new Pakistan,” he affirmed.

In his remarks, Dr. Tariq Banuri, Chairman HEC stated that the academic community firmly stands behind the government agenda to move towards simplicity, efficiency and service to community. He said the design of new university is driven by effective use of public money, demonstration of values, and finding solution to challenges facing the country. “HEC will ensure that the university begins to deliver from day one and continue on the path to excellence,” he affirmed.

Dr. Ishrat Hussain, former Governor, State Bank of Pakistan underlined that governance is the biggest challenge amidst the phenomenon of knowledge growing exponentially. He emphasised that INU should be a prototype for new type of governance characterised by transparency and good management. It must bring about innovation, experimentation and flow of new ideas in order to keep pace with the world.

The Prime Minister said that this university will not just be a symbolic representation of what “we envisage for our youth but also become a centre which will provide research based guidance for all the social, economic as well as institutional challenges.

Sharing his views on development, the second theme of the conference, Dr. Norman Waitzman, Professor of Economics, University of Utah, USA said development denotes holistic progress in all key sectors including education, health, and urbanisation etc. He said the emerging challenges of the current era require new research and monitoring, evaluation and impact of research.

Dr. Adil Najam, Professor of International Relations and Earth & Environment, Boston University highlighted the challenges caused by climate change. He said that climate change is also Pakistan’s biggest opportunity. Our response to
climate change will create new prospects of growth. He stressed the need for collaboration and excellence while making advancement in science by its application to society. Translating the climate problems into opportunities for Pakistan is a need of the hour, he said. He added that water is the single biggest climate issue of Pakistan. He stressed that Pakistan needs to decide to proceed towards an economy that provides solution to climate related problems.

Dr. Umer Saif, former Vice Chancellor, Information Technology University, Lahore urged the academic community to pay due importance to technology and innovation as the world is being changed by the fourth industrial revolution. He said the large population of youth in Pakistan increases its potential to head towards a knowledge-based economy. He said technology can be better utilised in Pakistan as it is a country with more internet users as compared to Canada. He revealed that it is always hard to shun old habits and traditions and turn into a new and emerging way of living.

Mr. Asad Jamal, venture capitalist, termed the 21st century goldmine is technology and youth, and said that using brainpower may help promote a startup and entrepreneurial culture. Giving example of China, he said nine internet companies among top 20 firms belong to China as the country focuses on technological advancement. He said youth is the most precious resource of Pakistan. Let’s educate the youth, empower them, and cultivate in them a strong craving for excellence in science, technology and success, he underlined.

Dr. Sania Nishtar, Chairperson, Benazir Income Support Programme, chief guest at the closing ceremony, said the conference was of great importance as it provided a discourse about knowledge, learning and policy. She said knowledge and evidence have a critical role in driving decision making process of a country. She added that the conference marked the launch of a new university charged with analytical thinking and foresight to identify and help address challenges. “A forward-looking academia will provide evidence based research solutions for policy formulation,” she elaborated.

She revealed that decision making in the public sector used to be guided by Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), adding that it has turned out to be a worldwide consensus that it is imperative to analyse threats and opportunities and develop own capacities.
Presenting recommendations of the conference, Dr. Muhammad Aslam Chaudhary, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Utah, USA said that in all the sessions, the experts reviewed the quantity and quality of knowledge already developed and applied to policy innovation and implementation, and identified the persistent gaps in knowledge development, exchange and application.

During the two-day conference, participants emphasised the need to create capacities to capitalize on various opportunities, and accelerate efforts for knowledge creation through applied research and its sharing.

The deliberations under the governance theme focused on transparency, administrative efficiency, security and devolution. Improved governance was viewed as a pre-condition not only for the successful implementation of socioeconomic development.

The discussion under the development focused on addressing issues related to expansion and provision of social services such as affordable housing, quality education, and improved health facilities. All of which have to be insured through improved urban planning and economic management. The climate theme covered discussions on impact of climate on water and food security, glaciers, energy and managing climate change induced disasters. The participants identified several challenges emanating from climate change. The experts emphasised the need for more research and knowledge both on the prediction side and on the adaptation front.

The fourth thematic area was technology. The participants noted that there are tremendous applications of technology in different sectors and hence can provide solutions to major problems Pakistan is facing in areas of health, energy, agriculture, environment, etc.
The promotion of higher education is among the top priorities of government, said Mr. Shafqat Mahmood, Federal Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training, while addressing the launching ceremony of Pakistan-UK Education Gateway held at the Commission Secretariat.

Dr. Tariq Banuri, Chairman, HEC, Lt. Gen. (R) Muhammad Asghar, Executive Director, HEC, Mr. Thomas Drew, British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Ms. Rosemary Hilhorst, Country Director, British Council, Ms. Joanna Newman, Secretary General, Association of Commonwealth Universities, Dr. Mahmood-ul-Hassan Butt, Consultant, HEC and large number of Vice Chancellors also graced the ceremony. A delegation of 20 representatives of top UK universities also attended the meeting.

Pakistan and the United Kingdom have a long history of friendship and academic collaboration. Pakistan-UK Education Gateway Programme will prove to be a constant means of cooperation between the higher education sectors of the two countries.

The critical areas to be covered in the Pakistan-UK Education Gateway include split PhD programmes, full-fledged PhD programmes, student and faculty exchange, easy student mobility, involvement of funding agencies and research entities, quality and governance at higher education institutions, and capacity building through short training programmes.

There are seven elements of the Pakistan-UK Gateway. From Research Partnerships; helping to find PhD Scholarships for Pakistanis; supporting Leadership development and introducing Quality Assurance systems; bring more opportunities through Distance Learning; more Pakistani students studying in the UK; building on Pakistan’s position as a market for Transnational education and finally a compulsory three credit course on Citizenship-modelled on Active Citizens.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Shafqat Mahmood said the launch of Pakistan-UK Education Gateway is an august occasion in the history of Pakistan-UK relations. He said the two countries enjoy deep and strong cordial relations, adding that the initiative will further strengthen the bilateral relations between Pakistan and the United Kingdom.

Identifying challenges facing the higher education sector, he said the country needs to exert tremendous efforts on improving quality and ensuing relevance of higher education and research. He urged the Vice Chancellors to prepare students for the future challenges and work on
improving the methodology of imparting knowledge. It is also imperative to develop skills of our youth in consonance with the job market needs, he said.

Dr. Banuri said Pakistan and the United Kingdom have developed outstanding academic relationship. He informed the audience that as many as 386 Pakistani scholars have completed their PhD studies from the UK universities in the recent years.

“It is a brilliant start. Yet, we want to take it not only to thousands but to tens of thousands,” he said. He stressed the need for developing the bilateral academic relationship in a way that helps Pakistan build up its universities. He underscored that global parity is essential to help the future generations address the challenges. “We need to train our children to be global citizens, as we know for sure that the challenges they will face will be of global character and all academic institutions need a strategy to enhance global engagement.”

The Chairman said HEC has marked tremendous success in the last 15 years achieving a number of goals set at the time of its inception. He added that the number of research publications has increased up to 15 times as compared to 2002. He observed that amid this rapid expansion and tremendous cultural change, two areas including quality and relevance need more attention.

Ms. Hilhorst said, “the successful future of several million young people is in our hands, as they have great expectations and aspirations.” She said through this partnership, we continue to bring the UK’s knowledge and expertise to Pakistan in support of HEC to develop and build the capacity of higher education institutions in the country. “We look forward to working with the HEC and our UK partners in making this gateway a success and add value to bilateral and mutually beneficial relationships.”

The additional investment of one million GBP will fund Research and Partnership Grants, the development of a Research Excellence Framework and building capacity of Pakistan’s research and doctoral base.

The ceremony was also addressed by Ms. Joanna Newman and Dr. Mahmood-ul-Hassan Butt who shed light on the significance of Pakistan-UK Education Gateway.
Dr. Tariq Banuri, Chairman, HEC has urged higher education institutions, faculty and students to avail the opportunities offered under Erasmus+ Programme.

He said this while addressing a workshop on Erasmus+ Programme, as HEC has launched a series of workshops to create awareness about the opportunities offered under the European Union’s Erasmus+ Programme for higher education institutions, students and staff from the partner countries outside the European Union.

Erasmus+ is an education programme aimed at promoting academic and cultural understanding between the European Countries and partner countries. It contributes to the development of human resources, international cooperation, and capacity of higher education institutions across the world by increasing mobility between the EU and other countries.

As the structure of Erasmus+ is based on two categories including Programme Countries and Partner Countries, Pakistan being located in Asia region falls under the category of Partner Countries. The budget allocated for the programme funds Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees, scholarships for Master Degree students and staff, scholarships for individuals, capacity-building projects for higher education, and Jean Monnet projects.

A higher education institution can send its students, doctoral candidates and staff to a partner higher education institution in a Programme Country. Similarly, individual students and doctoral candidates will receive funds under a set criteria.

Dr. Tariq Banuri said the Erasmus+ Programme is a great opportunity that is under-utilised in Pakistan. He stressed the need for submission of an increased number of research proposals to avail the opportunities under the programme.

In his remarks, Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Muhammad Asghar, Executive Director, HEC emphasised on creating awareness among the academic community and students about the opportunities offered under the programme. Earlier, Dr. Mehmood-ul-Hassan Butt, Consultant, HEC briefed the participants about the background and objectives of Erasmus+ Programme. He urged the universities and faculty members to promote the programme so that maximum people could benefit from it. He said the programme was launched in Pakistan in 2016 and only 35 scholars received scholarships.

He maintained that the number of scholarships awardees reached 60 in the following year, adding that 97 scholars have received the scholarships in the current year. He informed the participants that the target for 2019 is to avail 250 scholarships for Masters’ degree and at least four capacity building institutional grants.
In light of decision regarding launch of series of workshops on Erasmus+ Programme. A workshop was recently held in Sukkur Institute of Business Administration (IBA) University in which faculty and students of Sukkur IBA and Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur participated.

Mr. Waseem Hashmi Syed, Adviser Human Resource Development, HEC briefed the participants regarding opportunities available under EU Erasmus+ scholarship programme and other programmes being offered by HEC.

Dr. Javed Shahni was resource person of the workshop. He gave a detailed presentation on the Erasmus+ scholarships and elaborated different techniques to get funding for research projects and scholarships. After the presentation, there was a brief question-answer session about different funding options, procedures and other related matters.

Likewise, another workshop was held at HEC Regional Centre, Karachi in which all the public and private sector Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) of Sindh Province were invited. Mr. Hashmi encouraged the faculty and administrative representative of HEIs to avail maximum funding allocated for Pakistan by European Union. Mr. Hashmi also stressed on quality proposals to be presented for award of scholarship and asked HEIs to collaborate with HEC on capacity building projects. Dr. Javed Shahni and Dr. Muhammad Aamir were the resource persons who conducted sessions on Erasmus+ scholarship programme and capacity building programmes.

Mr. Micallef Joseph, Project Officer for Capacity Building in Higher Education Projects at Brussels joined the workshop through video conference facility. He briefed on the Erasmus+ grant selection process and results, management of grants, and financial management according to grant agreement and financial rules.

Under HEC and USAID-funded Merit and Needs-Based Scholarship Programme (MNBSP) a Talent Grooming Workshop for newly enrolled students was recently organised at University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (UAJK), Muzaffarabad, Chehla Campus.

57 USAID MNBSP scholars including 17 male and 40 female students from Neelam and City Campuses of UAJK participated in the workshop. They were given training on improving communication skills, inter/intrapersonal skills and presentation skills while they were given hands on training on research methodologies and developing research proposals. Other key aspects discussed in the workshop were personality development, confidence building and decision making skills.

Dr. Kaleem Abbasi, Vice Chancellor, UAJK, while chairing closing ceremony said that such workshops also provide them a platform to interact with the multi-disciplinary students of different universities and boost their confidence and knowledge.
Recognising the hardships facing unemployed PhDs, the HEC has recently proposed to take measures to help increase employment opportunities for PhD graduates.

“HEC recognises difficulties being faced by the unemployed PhDs. To alleviate the hardships, HEC has held several deliberations with representatives of unemployed PhDs and other stakeholders to evaluate the problem and institute steps that will help in creating additional employment opportunities for PhD graduates,” says an HEC statement.

According to the statement, eligibility criteria under Interim Placement of Fresh PhDs (IPFP) programme will be reviewed to strengthen placement of PhD graduates in all HEC recognised universities. HEC will institute capacity building programmes for the development of young PhD graduates in essential soft skills, including measures to assess and determine capacity building needs.

HEC will evaluate the possibility of including R&D organisations and affiliated colleges, through the corresponding affiliating university, under IPFP to open up new placement opportunities. HEC will compile data on current faculty recruitment practices in HEIs with reference to regular vis-à-vis visiting, contractual, daily paid and subject specialist faculty, undertake analysis thereof and issue advice to the HEIs regarding the admissible ratio of regular vis-à-vis temporary faculty, periodical convening of Selection Boards, and completion of recruitment cycle within a period of 90 days. Incompliance of the policy guidelines will have reflection on the university funding and ranking.

The eligibility criteria for international Post-Doc Fellowships will be revised to include both employed and unemployed PhD graduates upon approval of the competent authority. All unemployed and employed PhD graduates will register themselves at PhD Data Bank launched by the HEC in August 2018 to avail HEC services. Unregistered PhD scholars shall not be considered eligible for HEC services.

HEC will examine the feasibility of instituting ‘PhD Scholars Support Programme’ for protecting their livelihood. Under the programme, unemployed PhD graduates will be placed at public educational, research and administrative institutions for a maximum period of 12 months on a monthly remuneration not exceeding Rs.50000.

Governor Sindh Emphasises Comprehensive Policies for Socio-economic Development

A delegation comprising Dr. Raza Bhatti, Member Operations, HEC, Javed Ali Memon, Regional Director, HEC and Naveed Shah, Director Monitoring, HEC called on the Mr. Imran Ismail, Governor Sindh in Governor House.

The Governor Sindh presided over a meeting regarding functioning and responsibilities of HEC in which he was briefed about powers and functions of HEC with special reference to policy making and provision of grants to both public and private sector universities.

The delegation informed Mr. Imran Ismail that HEC supports development of linkages between institutions and industry as well as national and
international organisations that fund research and development in higher education institutions (HEIs).

Mr. Imran Ismail vowed to strengthen the HEIs in Sindh with grant and scholarships to the students in order to maintain standards of education, faculty and research. During the meeting, the Governor Sindh was informed that few private sector universities are operating illegal campuses and in Sindh there are illegal campuses functioning without NOCs of HEC.

The Governor Sindh while expressing his concern over the illegal operation of campuses in the province, called upon HEC to initiate legal action. “Establishment of illegal campuses, charter without prior NOC, non-standard curricula and deficient infrastructure are the root cause of producing low quality professionals having incompatible skills and poor employability”, he observed.

The Higher Education Commission (HEC) is keen to work with friendly countries and develop international academic linkages for promotion of higher education and collaboration.

This was stated by Dr. Tariq Banuri, Chairman, HEC in a meeting with a two-member delegation from Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, Nigeria at the Commission Secretariat. The delegation comprised Mr. Abayomi Oguntunde, Director, Bioresources Technology Department, Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, Nigeria and Mr. Samuel Thomas, SA to Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Science and Technology.

Dr. Banuri said HEC has set up Centres of Advanced Studies in water, energy and food security which can contribute to problem solving in Pakistan and other developing countries. He stressed the need for identifying potential areas of collaboration between HEC and Nigerian higher education institutions. “HEC looks forward to enhancing collaboration with our brotherly nations in all areas of education and research,” he stated. He underlined that an HEC team would be sent to visit Nigeria to enhance bilateral collaboration and assess option for cooperation and mutual support with Nigerian institutions. He said HEC encourages promotion of research collaborations with international institutions and can also extend assistance to Nigeria.

The delegation appreciated HEC for its programmes and initiatives to develop the higher education sector in Pakistan.
High Commissioner of Pakistan in Austria Vows to Promote Academic Collaboration

The Higher Education Commission (HEC) accords high importance to engagement with the international world for academic and research activities as it will help develop the higher education sector.

This was stated by Dr. Tariq Banuri, Chairman HEC while talking to Mr. Mansoor Ahmad Khan, High Commissioner of Pakistan in Austria who called on him at the Commission Secretariat.

Dr. Banuri asserted that the government and HEC welcome the world partners with open arms to collaborate in service, instruction and research endeavours. He stressed the need for efforts to promote exchange of students and faculty members. “HEC looks forward to placement of Pakistani faculty at international organisations for a specific period of time in order to expand their exposure,” he underlined. He emphasised on addressing visa restrictions for students aspiring to take admission in Austrian higher education institutions.

The High Commissioner said that efforts are afoot to address visa issues, adding that there are a number of collaborative opportunities for Pakistani students and scholars to pursue their advanced studies and research in Austrian institutions. He said entities like Austrian Academy of Sciences, and International Anti-Corruption Academy, Laxenburg can be approached to seek collaboration for education programmes and capacity building of Pakistani students, faculty members, and researchers.

Dr. Banuri expressed his desire for revival of Pakistan’s membership of International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Laxenburg. To this, the High Commissioner assured him of his full cooperation to revive Pakistan’s membership of this institution. He promised to promote collaborative professional relations between Pakistan and Austrian Academies of Sciences to promote innovative joint research that is mutually beneficial.

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Curriculum Based Workshops on Environmental Sciences and Botany

Learning Innovation Division (LID), HEC recently organised three-day curriculum based workshop on orientation of environmental sciences revised curriculum for different faculty members from Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) of Pakistan. During the workshop participants were given
orientation on latest additions in different fields of environmental science curriculum. Dr. Muhammad Irfan Khan, Department of Environmental Science, International Islamic University, Islamabad was the key resource person of the workshop and explained about vision behind new curriculum of environmental sciences.

Similarly, a 3-day Curriculum Based workshop on Botany was recently organised by the LID HEC.

In the workshop 22 faculty members from various universities participated.

The objective of the workshop was to give orientation to the participants about latest additions in different fields of Botanical Science Curriculum. Dr. Faheem Aftab, Department of Botany, University of Punjab was the Resource Person of the workshop. He explained in detail the vision behind new curriculum of botanical sciences.

The Chief Guest of closing ceremony was Ms. Shaheen Khan, Adviser Learning Innovation Division, HEC. She emphasised on need of curriculum revision and appreciated participation of faculty members in training programme.

The Academics Division, HEC in collaboration with International Islamic University, Islamabad and Federal Directorate of Education, Islamabad organised five-day workshop of faculty members and examination staff of the affiliated colleges of twin cities, offering four-year BS degree programmes.

The workshop was part of HEC’s efforts for smooth implementation of HEC policy guidelines on semester system in affiliated colleges of the region as well as orientation on test development procedures and evaluation practices as an added feature of the workshop.

Over 35 participants from the affiliated colleges of the region participated in the workshop. Mr. Muhammad Raza Chohan, Director General Academics, HEC addressed the training participants on the occasion about the objective of the training workshop. He also provided the orientation on HEC policy guidelines on semester system, national qualification framework, associate degree and phasing out of two-year old Bachelors and Masters Degree programmes.
Raja Yasir Humayun Sarfraz, Provincial Minister of Punjab for Higher Education recently called on Dr. Tariq Banuri, Chairman, HEC and discussed issues pertaining to improvement and promotion of higher education in the country.

Talking to the Minister, Dr. Banuri said HEC is committed to rights of students, as they are the primary stakeholders of higher education sector. He underlined that HEC pursues a policy of holistic development of higher education sector in the entire country. He informed the Minister that HEC is taking measures to improve quality of education and research in higher education institutions. Raja Sarfraz appreciated the HEC efforts to achieve its objectives of enhancing quality, increasing access, and aligning the higher education and research with the national needs. He said the promotion of higher education is one of the highest priorities of the incumbent government.

He elaborated the provincial government’s plans to ensure appointment of Vice Chancellors and other key university administrators on merit and in a timely fashion and expand training opportunities for faculty members and promote sports.

A delegation of DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst), the German Academic Exchange Service recently met with Dr. Tariq Banuri, Chairman, HEC at the Commission Secretariat. Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Muhammad Asghar, Executive Director, HEC and Mr. Waseem Hashmi Syed, Adviser Human Resource Development, HEC were also present in the meeting.

The delegation comprised Dr. Katharina Fleckenstein, Dr. Simone Burkhart, Inge Iqbal and Ms. Rosenberger.

Talking to the delegation, Dr. Banuri appreciated the ongoing collaborative endeavours between HEC and DAAD. He said Germany hosts Pakistani
students who win HEC scholarships to study in Germany, while the DAAD representatives guide them in all academic issues.

He said the two sides need to enhance research collaboration. He said HEC encourages Pakistani students going into German universities to develop networking, and come back to serve Pakistan. He said around 60 PhD students have been sent to German universities this year.

Since inception of HEC Overseas PhD Scholarship Programme, 700 Pakistani PhD scholars were sent to German universities, while 400 students have completed their studies and returned to Pakistan. It was discussed that the collaboration needs to be expanded on the pattern of US-Pakistan Science and Technology Cooperation Programme and Pak-France PERIDOT Research Programme under which researchers identify areas of research and the concerned side fund them.

Ambassador Paul W. Jones, US Chargé d’Affaires to Pakistan recently visited the HEC Secretariat.

Welcoming the dignitary, Dr. Tariq Banuri appreciated the US Embassy’s role and efforts to promote collaboration between the Pakistani and US universities and higher education institutions. “The US and Pakistan have an extensive record of collaboration in the higher education sector,” he stated.

He mentioned that the US support has been very critical in establishing and strengthening some of the best Pakistani universities including Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Karachi; Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS); and, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF). The Ambassador said the US extends general support to its friendly countries in various areas, especially education, as it is a very significant sector of long term growth. Appreciating the USAID Centre of Advanced Studies (CAS) programme, Dr. Banuri said that efforts are afoot to ensure sustainability of the centres.

He maintained that the US-Pakistan research collaboration is another milestone, as the 7th phase of the US-Pakistan Science and Technology Programme is being completed while the 8th phase of the programme will soon be launched.

The Ambassador said that undergraduate Pakistani students also need to apply for admission in the US universities. He said the number of undergraduate students studying in the US institutions could be increased.
The students holding final examination certificates of the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Pakistan (ICMAP), Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP), and Membership of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), UK need not apply to Higher Education Commission (HEC) for equivalence certificate of Master of Commerce (MCom) from now onwards.

The employers and universities have been requested to consider the said certificates as equivalent to MCom degree, further advising them to determine suitability of the candidates for jobs and admissions respectively as per their rules and regulations.

Previously, HEC considered applications for this equivalence on individual basis and certificates were issued accordingly. The step is part of the HEC efforts to simplify its operating procedures for convenience of general public, students and faculty.

Confirm Accreditation of Professional Degree Programme

It has been noticed with concern that degree programmes of some Universities are being initiated/continued without obtaining accreditation from the concerned Professional Councils. Non-Recognition of such graduates by the Councils creates a direct negative impact on the future of these students. In the larger public interest, it is important that commencement of new professional programmes be only undertaken after complete observance of all the requirements prescribed by the Councils. Students and Parents are advised to confirm whether the degree programme of their interest is accredited by the concerned Council before getting admission.

List of Accreditation Councils

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Students seeking admission are advised to confirm that the degree programmes they choose are accredited by respective Councils.

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Tel: 051-90402700, Fax: 051-90402702
For complaints and suggestions, please email us: nrshah@hec.gov.pk & hquddus@hec.gov.pk

ICMAP, ICAP, ACCA Certificates Equivalent to MCom
Sukkur IBA Initiates Faculty Sharing Programme

Sukkur Institute of Business Administration University in collaboration with HEC recently initiated faculty sharing programme to community colleges through video conferencing facility.

The aim of this initiative is to make teachers and pedagogy to be adaptive as traditional classroom teaching and learning is limited to the knowledge that teacher has and can access whereas through video conferencing facility students’ ability to find and evaluate information and construct new knowledge can be enhanced through connecting the classroom from outside, opening new possibilities.

Sukkur Ambassador Keen to Deepen Academic Ties

Mr. Ihsan Mustafa Yurdakul, Ambassador of Turkey to Pakistan recently called on Dr. Tariq Banuri, Chairman HEC at the Commission Secretariat.

While talking to the Ambassador, Dr. Banuri Stated that the HEC wants to further strengthen academic relations with Turkish higher education institutions, as the two countries enjoy strong historical fraternal bonds at all levels.

He stressed the need for expanding the scope of collaborative endeavours between Pakistan and Turkey. He said Islamabad National University (INU) has been launched at the former Prime Minister House which will conduct research in areas relevant to national needs. Prime Minister Imran Khan wants this university to be a paramount institution which may attract scholars and students from across the world. He added that work is underway on involving partner countries and volunteers in conceptualising and implementing the idea.

Expressing his interest in INU, the Ambassador assured Dr. Banuri of his all-out support in the initiatives meant to make INU a world-class university. He said Turkey wants to deepen educational relations with Pakistan. He mentioned Turkey’s support in setting up a Centre of Excellence for vocational training.

The Chairman informed the Ambassador about HEC’s plan to set up National Academy of Higher Education (NAHE) to provide trainings to potential university leadership, faculty, and university staffs. He said the Prime Minister is committed to educational reforms, especially bringing madressahs into the national mainstream. Turkish experiment in the area is useful for Pakistan.

To this, the Ambassador said Turkish universities managerial system is being channalised and Turkey will extend all possible support in materialising the HEC’s plan of establishing NAHE.
Demonstrating its commitment to higher education, the Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan marked new accomplishments towards promotion of higher education and research in the country in 2018.

In this connection, several measures were taken for development of skilled human resource, strengthening research culture, enhancing academic relations within national institutions and with international entities, and strengthening higher education institutions.

In 2018, 200 Pakistani students who were selected for Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship under the Bilateral Higher Education and Scientific Exchange Programme left for Hungary. Likewise, HEC sent off the second batch of 36 students from Gwadar for one-year Chinese language course in Beijing Polytechnic University, Beijing, China. The first batch of 14 students was sent off in March 2018. Twenty four Pakistani students proceeded to China for Master’s studies in various fields of Transportation Engineering, Structural Engineering, Geo-Technical Engineering, Railways, Bridges and Tunnels.

HEC awards scholarships to Afghan students as a part of the Government of Pakistan’s efforts to play its role in stability of the neighboring country. HEC launched a documentary entitled “The Real AfPak Fighting Terrorism through Knowledge”.

As many as 52 research awards were won by faculty members of different universities and researchers in connection with 6th HEC Outstanding Research Awards. Furthermore, 64 university teachers were awarded Best University Teacher Awards 2016 in recognition of their outstanding performance. Each winner was awarded a certificate and a cash prize worth Rs. 100,000.

HEC and British Council, Pakistan signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) to enhance strategic collaboration for the next three years. The collaboration is aimed at strengthening educational relations under UK-Pakistan Education Gateway. In order to play its role in addressing corruption in the country, HEC renewed Memorandum of Understanding with National Accountability Bureau to foster awareness and prevention activities against corruption.

Meanwhile, HEC and the Council of Higher Education (CoHE), Turkey mutually approved 11 joint research projects under Pak-Turk Researchers Mobility Grant Programme. The Programme is part of the Turkish-Pakistani cooperation within the scope of internationalisation effort of higher education systems.

The HEC Research & Development initiatives have been producing constructive outcomes. The projects of one of the R&D programmes named Technology Development Fund started yielding results in the year, as cost effective and safe synthetic pro-angiogenic skin grafts were constructed for the treatment of burns and chronic non-healing ulcer wounds.

Similarly, under TDF programme, a project entitled, “Transforming Biomass Ash Residues into Commercialisable Products” started pilot production in the year under discussion.
HEC sent off a large number of students abroad to pursue higher education. It entered into various agreements with foreign countries and institutions to promote collaboration and joint research initiatives. A number of research projects were launched, while several projects yielded productive outcomes. Trainings were organised for faculty and staff of universities.

In the year, HEC organised the launch conference of Islamabad National University (INU) at the former Prime Minister House to ponder upon “Emerging Challenges and Opportunities for Pakistan”.

It was attended by a large number of field experts from across Pakistan as well as expatriate Pakistani and foreign academicians.

University of Baltistan Organises 1st Convocation

The University of Baltistan, Skardu recently organised its 1st Convocation in which 103 students were awarded with degrees.

Dr. Muhammad Naeem Khan, Vice Chancellor informed the audience about priorities, potentials, planned activities, academic department, programmes and prospects of the university. Dr. Khan applauded the efforts of parents and students, who from remote rural areas of Baltistan managed to attain higher education.

He said that the youth of Gilgit Baltistan have extraordinary physical and intellectual capabilities with resilience and culturally mild and civilised soft behaviour. He informed that there are huge opportunities of research and development in the fields of natural resources, energy sector, water resources and glaciers, mineral and biodiversity.

Major General Dr. Ehsan Mehmood, GOC Force Commander Northern Areas (FCNA) was chief guest of the convocation. Dr. Mehmood referred to several books written by the local authors of GB and highlighted the geo-strategic and geo-economic significance of the region. He also handed over a check of Rs. 1 million to the Vice Chancellor for the university scholarship endowment fund.

He also announced prize of Rs. 13000 each to medalists and gave FCNA hats to all graduates. He also announced free vocational training to 100 youths from each district of GB.

Haji Akbar Taban, Senior Minister and Acting Chief Minister, GB in his speech applauded the graduating students and announced Rs. 2 lac in his personal capacity and Rs. 1 million from Government of GB for University Scholarship Endowment Fund.
The credibility and acceptability of result of an experiment using mice depends on how they were handled during trial. Keeping the fact in view, the Department of Anatomy and Histology, University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (UVAS), Lahore recently organised a daylong hands-on training on Mice Handling, Tissue Sampling and Oocyte Collection in which undergraduate and postgraduate students from Department of Zoology, Government College University (GCU) Lahore, Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, Biological Sciences and Biochemistry from UVAS were present.

Dr. Habib-ur-Rehman, Dean, Faculty of Biosciences chaired the concluding session of training and distributed certificates among participants and resource persons.

A seminar on Climate Change and its Impact on Pakistan was recently organised by Centre for Pure and Applied Geology, University of Sindh. Dr. Fateh Muhammad Burfat Vice Chancellor, was the chief guest of the seminar whereas prominent American expert and scholar, Dr. Robert Raynolds and Dr. Ghulam Sarwar were invited to speak in the seminar.

In his welcome speech, Dr. Burfat said that the global warming has become an alarming issue and no country is safe from its hazards. “There are many reasons for this climate change; such as an increase in population, noise and pollution and lack of planting. As a result, we are suffering from much heated climate in our region”, said Dr. Burfat.

Dr. Robert Reynolds said that there are many reasons which add fuel to fire such as growth in population, increase in sea level, increase of carbon dioxide, etc. Further, he said that melting of glaciers has also increased.

Dr. Ghulam Sarwar, a US-based scholar gave a detailed talk on Indus River on this occasion.
Breast Cancer Awareness Walk at IIUI

The HEC in collaboration with Pink Ribbon recently organised Breast Cancer Awareness Walk in the International Islamic University, Islamabad (IIUI).

The purpose of the walk was to illuminate intensity of the disease and sensitise people to seek awareness and take guards against this silent killer.

Ms. Shaheen Khan, Adviser Learning and Innovation (LI), HEC and Mr. Omer Aftab, Chief Executive Officer, Pink Ribbon took part in walk among many other dignitaries and students.

The participants were holding banners and placards with slogans of breast cancer prevention and motivational quotes for the victims and survivors.

Breast Cancer prevalence in Pakistan is the highest in the entire region and every 9th woman here is at high risk of the disease. Every year, 40,000 lose their lives due to breast cancer and 90,000 new cases are reported.

Speaking at the conclusion of the walk, Mr. Aftab said that there are associated certain myths and misconceptions with Breast Cancer in our society and due to this, majority of the women feel hesitated to report and seek treatment. The hospital we are building will have female doctors and nurses so that every victim can be comfortable to get diagnosis and treatment.

He told the participants that 70 per cent of the Breast Cancer risk can be avoided by making certain lifestyle changes like giving up on processed and canned food and doing regular exercise. “We are committed to build a breast cancer hospital in every province and in Islamabad so that maximum number of women can be saved from this fatal disease,” affirmed Mr. Aftab.

Launchpad programme Conducted in GIK Incubation Centre

The Ghulam Ishaq khan Institute of Engineering, Sciences and Technology (GIK) conducted Launchpad Programme at newly constructed Incubation Building.

Mr. Kamran Khan Bangash, Special Assistant to Chief Minister, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Science, Technology and Information Technology (ST&IT) was chief guest of the ceremony. He was accompanied by Mr. Qaisar Alam, Provincial Secretary ST&IT and representatives of Directorate of Science and Technology.

Engr. Jehangir Bashar, Rector GIK Institute, Dr. Jameel-Un Nabi, Pro-Rector (Academics), Mr. Abdullah Soomro, Director Incubation Centre, Faculty and students of GIK Institute also attended the programme.

A large number of applications were received from across the country, out of which 21 startups were shortlisted to pitch in front of judges and academia. The incubator is funded and supported by DoST and GIK Institute. Selected Start-ups receive business development support in addition to mentorship, office space and accommodation, access to GIK laboratories and facilities and stipend for each member of the team.

Engr. Bashar said that he is quite impressed to see the talented educated youth to put forward new entrepreneurial ideas.
IoBM Marks International Anti-Corruption Awareness Day

The students of Public Relations, Institute of Business Management (IoBM) recently organised third an anti-corruption awareness programme to mark International Anti-Corruption Day amid the directives of National Accountability Bureau (NAB) and HEC of observing anti-corruption awareness drive in universities across the country.

Mr. Mohammad Altaf Bawany, Director General, NAB talked about character building of youth as he pinned high hopes in the future architects of Pakistan.

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Mr. Talib Karim, President IoBM said that it is moral responsibility of faculty and university management to not only impart education among students but also inculcate in them ethical and moral values.

Dr. Shahid Amjad, Director Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC), IoBM said that cheating is also a form of corruption and that students must be honest when giving examinations, preparing their assignments or research papers because plagiarism and copying ideas is also a form of corruption.

IoBM Holds 21st Convocation

The Institute of Business Management (IoBM), Karachi held 21st convocation in which over 1000 graduates were awarded degrees in business management and allied disciplines. Among graduating students 11 were awarded with gold medals while 45 graduates won merit certificates.

Mr. Bashir Jan Mohammad, Chancellor IoBM highlighted IoBM's mutually beneficial academic and professional relations with foreign universities, student outreach programme of financial assistance to deserving students and graduates' success accredited to the sacrifices of their parents.

News in Picture

The 13th Convocation of Beaconhouse National University (BNU) was recently held in which Mr. Shahid Hafiz Kardar, Vice Chancellor conferred 442 degrees upon graduates of Visual Arts & Design, Architecture, Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Media & Mass Communication, Computer and IT, Psychology and Education.
To infuse research culture in the Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Pakistan, Higher Education Commission (HEC) through National Research Programme for Universities (NRPU) is awarding research grants of Rs. 20 million.

Following HEC’s mission to engage faculty in the research activities, Office of Research Innovation and Commercialisation, (ORIC) Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology, (SZABIST) Karachi and Haiderabad Campuses jointly conducted a training activity on NRPU.

The training session was organised by Dr. Ahmad Hussain, Director ORIC SZABIST and Absar Ahmed Khan, Research Associate in collaboration with Department of Management Sciences, Department of Computer Sciences and Department of Mechatronics Engineering.

This training session began with an introductory presentation on the NRPU followed by question and answer session on preparing diverse faculty for a well-drafted research proposal, creating awareness on how proposal under NRPU is graded (out of 100 marks) for various sections and sub-sections by the HEC appointed evaluator.

During the training, the trainer presented sample of NRPU proposal that was earlier graded by the NRPU evaluator to identify key points that can raise chances of accepting proposal under NRPU.

The department of Media Sciences, Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology, (SZABIST) Islamabad recently arranged 6th Media Festival at media studios.

The festival aims to bring together students, faculty, industry and parents at one platform to discover latest trends, talents and content in work of students in art, design film, TV and digital media.

The festival was inaugurated by Mr. Iwan Suyudhie Amri, Indonesian Ambassador to Pakistan accompanied by Mr. Khusro Pervaiz Khan, Head of Campus, SZABIST, Islamabad and Dr. Wajid Zulqarnain, Head of Department, Media Sciences, SZABIST, Islamabad.

The Indonesian Ambassador visited all the stalls and installations created by students and admired the art and design pieces of students. The faculty from media departments of public and private sector universities of twin cities also visited the festival and acknowledged the creative work of students and faculty.
A workshop on Basic and Advanced Electrocardiography (ECG) was recently conducted at Isra University, Hyderabad. Dr. Fariha Sadiq Ali, Cardiac Electrophysiologist was invited as a guest speaker. She delivered lecture on ECG interpretation, diagnosis and management of common arrhythmia, common and uncommon ECG emergencies.

Also, one day workshop on Career Counselling was organised at the university. Mr. Ghulam Mursalin Ghorri, a Motivational Speaker, and Mr. Noman Ahmed Kazi, Assistant Director, Human Capital were the facilitators of workshop. The objective of the workshop was to guide students, faculty and staff to build their capacity and to help them write effective CV/resume and cover letter for job hunting.

The Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialisation (ORIC), Bacha Khan University, Charsadda in collaboration with the Ministry of Narcotics organised one-day seminar on Drug Abuse Awareness and Prevention.

The main objective of the seminar was to aware youth about drug addiction and its preventive measures. Dr. S. M. Saqlain Naqvi, Vice Chancellor, Bacha Khan University highlighted the importance of the seminar and its role in the prevention of the drug abuse.

Mr. Akbar Ghani Khattak, representative of the Ministry Narcotic Control briefed about signs and symptoms of drug addiction and its psychological and social effects. In the end, a documentary on drug use in the area was also presented.

The 15th Annual Convocation of the Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology (SZABIST), Karachi was recently held at the PAF Convention Centre. The Chief Guest of the occasion was Mr. Hussain Dawood, who is the Founding Chairman of Karachi School of Business and Leadership.

Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho, Chancellor and Dr. M. Altaf Mukati, Vice President Academics conferred degrees to 528 undergraduate students, 540 MS and one PhD from various disciplines. During the ceremony, 11 Gold Medals were awarded to recipients, 9-Silver Medals and 93 students' names were placed on the Chancellor’s Honour List for securing CGPA equal to or greater than 3.50.

1069 Students Graduated

15th Annual Convocation at SZABIST

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Science Competition 2018 held at UVAS

The Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialisation (ORIC), University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore recently organised UVAS Science Competition 2018. The main objective of the science competition was to present research outputs of UVAS scientists to industry with a motive to strengthen academia-industry partnership.

UVAS Science Competition was divided into tangible and intangible categories. In the tangible category, the scientists displayed their prototypes whereas in intangible category, the process or technique developed were displayed in the form of banner/poster.

Pets Gala Organised

The University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, (UVAS) Lahore Student Society Vets Care Club in collaboration with private sector pets feed and medicine companies recently organised Pets Gala.

Dr. Arif Khan, Chairman, Department of Clinical Medicine and Surgery, UVAS and Major Kaleem Ullah, Remount Veterinary and Farms Corporation, Pakistan were the chief guests of the gala. The purpose of the gala was to impart demonstration, knowledge and information to the young veterinarians and also to educate pet owners regarding food and feed general management and health parameters of the pets.

Pashto Academy Quetta, PSC Agree to Exchange Literary Delegations

The Pashto Academy Quetta and Pakistan Study Centre, University of Peshawar recently held a meeting to discuss possibility of mutual cooperation.

The institutions agreed to exchange literary delegations in light of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by both institutions for conducting research and promoting regional languages of Pakistan.

During the meeting, Dr. Fakhr-ul-Islam, Director, Pakistan Study Centre, UoP said that signing of MoU with Pashto Academy Quetta is aimed at achieving longstanding objective of promoting regional languages of Pakistan.
The University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF) and South Central University for Nationalities, China have recently inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate in the area of academia and research.

The MoU was signed by Dr. Zafar Iqbal Randhawa, Vice Chancellor, UAF and Zhao Xiashan, Vice President, South Central University for Nationalities, China. It was agreed that mutual students exchange programmes for students would be initiated. The two sides will also exchange research material in the field of mutual interest. They will also arrange joint training programmes, workshops and exchange programme for academic staff.

Talking to the delegation, Dr. Randhawa said that China Pakistan Economic Corridor would bring prosperity in the region. He said that both countries are enjoying excellent bilateral relations and academic ties would help us to get benefit from each others.

The Centre of Excellence in Art and Design (CEAD), Mehran University of Engineering and Technology recently organised 5-day art work exhibition of more than 60 students. The exhibition was jointly inaugurated by Dr. Khan Muhammad Brohi, Dean Faculty of Architecture and Civil Engineering, MUET and Dr. Bhai Khan Shar, Director CEAD. The art work of students carried various messages related to social, political, economic issues, career counseling, and life style, etc.

During the exhibition, students from other institutions and people from other walks of life witnessed the exhibition and appreciated creative skills of students.

National Institute of Food Science and Technology, University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF) in collaboration with Pakistan Institute of Food Safety and Nutrition recently organised a training on food safety.

Dr. Masood Sadiq Butt, Dean Faculty of Food Nutrition and Home Sciences, UAF stated that lack of adoption of food safety measures is denting our food exports and it is also responsible for the outbreak of diseases.

Dr. Butt said that food safety is a process of producing, handling, storing and preparing food in such a way to thwart infection and contamination in the production chain and to help ensure food quality for a healthy society. He also said that food-borne diseases were one of preventable public health issues affecting a large proportion of population around the world.

Dr. Nuzhat Huma, UAF said that the county had a lot of potential to earn foreign exchanges by exporting
its food. She said that we have to put special focus on meeting our export standards to grab the international market. She said that the people right from selling food products on carts to high quality food processing units must ensure safety measures for a healthy society.

The Culture Day was recently celebrated at Syed Pannah Ali Shah Model School, University of Sindh, Jamshoro under the theme entitled Our culture-Our identity. Dr. Fateh Muhammad Burfat, Vice Chancellor, University of Sindh (SU) said that language and culture serve as identity emblems and Pakistan is a bouquet of diverse cultures, merged into one harmonious cultural costume bearing global appeal. He maintained that culture helps all federating units of Pakistan towards creation of one, holistic cultural characteristic we call Pakistani Culture.

The Vice Chancellor asserted that culture possess potential to work as an antidote to all forms of extremism and terrorism.

Mr. Abdullah Hussain Haroon, former Speaker Sindh Assembly was the chief guest of the event. Mr. Hussain said education has been, certainly is, and will always be the only viable option for any nation whatsoever including Pakistan to combat all ills and evils, be they of any nature. “There is no wealth as rich as values. Values, not wealth, sustain a society. This is what Islam emphasises and is widely practiced in western world,” he stressed.

Earlier, Dr. Farida Shaikh, Principal welcomed the guests and briefed them about the school. The students presented cultural skits, tableaus and dance performances in cultural costumes.

Chinese Academy of Fishery Science, Guangzhou recently signed an agreement with the Centre of Excellence in Marine Biology, University of Karachi to work together in the field of Fisheries and Marine Science.

Initially a grant was approved by the Chinese Academy of Fishery Science, under One Belt One Road Programme in which Dr. Sher Khan Panhwar was co-scientist from University of Karachi. A group of 3 faculty members including Dr. Ghazala, Director, Centre of Excellence in Marine Biology, (CEMB) Dr. Shahnaz Rashid and Sher Khan Panhwar signed a Memorandum of Understanding for future collaboration in the field that would be fruitful in future research in marine fisheries and climate change. The collaboration will be based on mutual interests of both institutions and would provide necessary facilities to exchange professors, researchers and students for conducting research, teaching and training facilities or exchange of ideas.

The MoU would undertake relevant research that will contribute sustainable management of marine, estuarine and coastal resources, improvement in welfare of people, promoting ecological stability of South China Sea and northern Arabian Sea waters.

The MoU would ensure publishing of joint scientific articles, patents and other documents.
The Capital University of Science and Technology (CUST), Islamabad recently held its Convocation to confer degrees to 867 graduates.

Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Former Finance Minister and Governor State Bank of Pakistan graced the event as Chief Guest while Dr. Inam-ur-Rehman, renowned Scientist and academician, was the Guest of Honour of the ceremony.

In her address, Dr. Akhtar said that in present scenario, education does not end with acquiring degrees; it is lifelong affair exploring new horizons, broadening of the visions, marching on a never-ending journey towards new frontiers of knowledge.

The 3rd two-day International Conference on Emerging Trends in Engineering, Management and Sciences (ICETEMS-2018) was recently held at the City University of Science and Information Technology (CUSIT), Peshawar.

Dr. Asif Khan, Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar inaugurated the conference while Senator Nauman Wazir Khattak was the chief guest of the closing ceremony.

Senator Khattak said that new ideas given during the conference could turn the market productive if translated into actions. He said that there is a need to replace old ideas with the new ones to enable the market to grow.

Dr. Anwar Fazil Chishti, Vice Chancellor, City University in his address highlighted the importance of research in context of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. The technical sessions were an important part of the conference, which covered different subjects such as Education, English, Computer Science, Management Sciences, Mathematics, Civil Engineering, Architecture, Health Sciences and Electrical Engineering.

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In the convocation, 32 PhD scholars received their degrees and 54 medals were awarded to distinguishing graduates. Out of 54 medals, 32 were gold, 12 were silver and 10 bronze. The Quaid-e-Azam Gold Medal was awarded to Mr. Qaiser Malik, an overall best Graduate, on his overall distinguished performance in curricular and extracurricular activities.
PARENTS AND STUDENTS ALERT

HEC-recognised Universities/ Campus(es)

The Higher Education Commission (HEC) recognises degrees of chartered universities/ institutions from public and private sector in Pakistan along with their approved campuses as mentioned at HEC website on the following web links:

Link of Recognised Universities/ Institutions
http://hec.gov.pk/site/HEIs

Link of Recognised Campuses of Public and Private Sector Institutions:
http://hec.gov.pk/site/recognizedCampuses

List of Illegal/ Fake Institutions:
http://hec.gov.pk/site/Illegal-DAIs

Any other university/ institution which is not listed in HEC-recognised universities/ institutions/ campuses available at our website will not be considered/ recognised by HEC.

In the larger interest of general public and in view of the forthcoming admission season, students and their parents are advised to verify legal status of the university/ institution or its campus from the above-mentioned links before seeking admission. Students are advised NOT to take admissions in those institutions which are not listed in the list of HEC-recognised universities/ institutions/ campuses given on HEC website. Degrees obtained from non-recognised institutions/ campuses will not be recognised by HEC.

NOTE
Students and parents are cautioned not to get admission in the universities/ DAIs wherein admissions are banned due to various irregularities as mentioned on HEC website.

Director General (A&A)
Higher Education Commission, Sector H-9, Islamabad.
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www.hec.gov.pk