



# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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**PUNJAB HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION**



PROGRAM  
FOR  
VICE CHANCELLORS

June 20-23, 2019

PUNJAB HIGHER EDUCATION



FALETTI'S  
LAHOR



# Expanding Horizons: The Multitude of Benefits from International Student Enrollment

Being Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission, I write to you today regarding a matter of great significance – the need to enhance the enrollment of International students. I firmly believe that the enrollment of International students brings forth a multitude of benefits that we simply cannot afford to overlook.

First and foremost, embracing International students promotes cultural harmony within our university community. By warmly welcoming individuals from diverse backgrounds, we create an inclusive and enriching environment that fosters global understanding, appreciation, and respect. The exchange of ideas, traditions, and perspectives among students from different countries not only enhances their educational experience but also broadens the horizons of all those involved. It allows for the cultivation of a vibrant and intellectually stimulating atmosphere where students can learn from one another and develop a global perspective that is invaluable in today's interconnected world.

The enrollment of International students also carries significant economic implications. These students contribute to the financial well-being of our institutions, as their tuition fees and related expenses generate additional revenues. These students spend their time here, they contribute to local businesses, tourism, and various industries. Their expenditures on housing, transportation, and daily needs inject vitality into the local economy, creating job opportunities and fostering economic growth. This financial support provides us with the means to invest in cutting-edge resources, improve our infrastructure, and enhance the overall quality of education we offer. By bolstering our financial resources through the admission of International students, we can ensure that all students, both domestic and International, benefit from an enriched academic environment that prepares them for success in an increasingly globalized society.

Moreover, the presence of International students opens up doors for collaboration, trade, and cultural exchange between their home countries and ours. By attracting a diverse group of talented individuals, we not only contribute to the development of a global workforce but also create opportunities for long-term partnerships and economic cooperation on an International scale.

Furthermore, the enrollment of International students serves as a testament to the academic excellence and global recognition of our universities. By attracting talented individuals from around the world, we enhance our reputation as a hub for quality education. The presence of International students enriches the academic discourse and challenges our students to think critically and globally. It showcases our commitment to fostering a dynamic learning environment that prepares students to become responsible global citizens. Furthermore, the achievements and successes of International students in various fields contribute to the global recognition of our institution, shining a positive light on the educational opportunities available in Pakistan.

The aforementioned benefits are merely a glimpse of the advantages that arise from the enrollment of international students. Their presence enriches our academic environment, promotes cultural understanding, strengthens our economy, and elevates the reputation of our institution and our nation.

In light of these numerous benefits, I urge all head/Vice-Chancellors of higher education institutions to wholeheartedly support initiatives aimed at enhancing the admission of International students. Let us collaborate and work hand in hand to create an environment that celebrates diversity, fosters academic excellence, and paves the way for a brighter, more interconnected future. Together, we can unlock the tremendous potential that lies within the International student community and propel our universities and our nation to new heights.

Another matter I wish to highlight is "Academic Governance". It is imperative for all Vice-Chancellors and Pro-Vice-Chancellors to keep themselves abreast of the latest developments in Higher Education, applied research, alternative financial models, and the evolving demands of the job market in the future and the character building of our students.

I appreciate your attention to these concerns and eagerly anticipate our collaborative endeavors in achieving success in the aforementioned target objectives.

**Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir**  
Chairperson

### Promoting International Student Enrollment: The Punjab Higher Education Commission's Initiative

The Punjab Higher Education Commission, in Pakistan has taken a proactive step to promote the enrollment of International students in the universities of Punjab. In order to achieve this goal, the PHEC has organized the first International Students Convention. This convention serves as a platform to showcase the educational opportunities available in Punjab and attract students from around the world to pursue higher education in the province.

The primary objective of this convention is to encourage more International students to choose Punjab's universities as their preferred academic destinations. By hosting such an event, the PHEC aims to highlight the quality of education, research opportunities, and diverse cultural experiences that await International students in Punjab. The convention provides a space for universities to showcase their academic programs, faculty expertise, infrastructure, and student support services, emphasizing the benefits of studying in Punjab.

The PHEC is committed to sustaining these efforts annually, demonstrating a long-term commitment to promoting International student enrollment. By organizing the convention regularly, the PHEC aims to establish Punjab as an attractive and renowned educational hub for students from all over the world.

Furthermore, the universities themselves are also dedicated to maximizing their efforts in attracting a larger number of International students. They recognize the value that International students bring to their campuses in terms of diversity, cultural exchange, and global perspectives. Universities in Punjab are determined to enhance their outreach initiatives, scholarships, and support systems to facilitate the enrollment and integration of International students into their academic communities.

Through these collective efforts of the PHEC and universities, it is hoped that Punjab will witness a significant increase in the enrollment of International students. This would not only contribute to the cultural diversity of the universities but also strengthen academic collaboration, foster global understanding, and promote Pakistan as an emerging educational destination.

Given that, the Punjab Higher Education Commission's organization of the first International Students Convention reflects their commitment to promoting International student enrollment in Punjab's universities. The convention serves as a platform to showcase the educational opportunities available in the province and attract students from around the world. By continuing these efforts annually, the PHEC aims to establish Punjab as an attractive educational hub for International students, while universities in Punjab are dedicated to providing the necessary support and resources to ensure a positive academic experience for these students.

**Dr. Bushra Inayat Raja**  
Editor-in Chief

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# Strengthening Leadership and Management



## PHEC's 4-day Vice Chancellors' Conference

The Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) under the leadership of the Chairperson Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, organized the Vice Chancellors' Leadership and Management Conference from 20 - 23 June, 2023, which commenced with an inauguration ceremony led by Dr. Javed Akram, the Provincial Health Minister. This four-day conference took place at a local hotel and had a primary objective of enhancing the leadership and management skills of the Vice Chancellors. The event witnessed the presence of Vice Chancellors and Pro-Vice-Chancellor from different Public and private universities of the Punjab Province. The Chairperson, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, provided valuable insights into the objectives and significance of the Vice Chancellors' Leadership Conference.

The Chief Guest of the opening ceremony Dr. Javed Akram, in his address to the attendees, emphasized the untapped potential for further improvement in the quality of universities through the effective utilization of administrative skills. He also highlighted the Department of Specialized Healthcare and Medical Education's forthcoming initiative to introduce a leadership program tailored specifically for doctors. The program's aim is to foster leadership qualities within the medical field and enhance the provision of healthcare services for patients visiting government hospitals in Punjab. Dr. Javed Akram reiterated the significance of

administrative skills during his speech, emphasizing their pivotal role in elevating the quality of universities.



Leadership conference, organized by PHEC, provides a valuable opportunity for participants to acquire knowledge and cultivate their personal growth.



Dr. Javed Akram, the Provincial Health Minister

The Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir expressed his utmost pleasure in welcoming the participants to the esteemed Leadership and Management Program for Vice Chancellors/Pro-Vice-Chancellors of Universities (Batch-III) in Punjab. He underscored the primary purpose of the conference, which focused on enhancing the efficiency of responsibilities and administrative skills among the Vice Chancellors and Pro-Vice-Chancellors. By placing emphasis on the importance of administrative skills and promoting professional development, the conference ultimately aims to elevate the overall quality of education in the universities in Punjab.

According to the Chairperson, the 4-day program had been thoughtfully designed to provide Universities leaders with essential skills, knowledge, and tools necessary to navigate the ever-evolving landscape of higher education. The Chairperson believed that effective leadership and management played a pivotal role in addressing the challenges faced by universities and fostering their growth and development.

The chairperson elaborated that, throughout the program, a distinguished lineup of the speakers and accomplished leaders from the higher education sector were requested to share their invaluable insights and experiences, enlightening the participants on various aspects of leadership, governance, quality assurance, and the competencies required for successful administration of higher education institutions.

The chairperson said that the participants, from both public and private sector universities, had been chosen based on their dedication and commitment to the field of education. He encouraged the participants to actively engage in the sessions, make the most of the networking opportunities, and foster meaningful collaborations with fellow participants. He emphasized that the program offered a unique platform for knowledge-sharing, idea generation, and professional development. The Chairperson expressed confidence that it would yield valuable insights and actionable strategies that could be implemented in the participants' respective universities.



**Left to Right:** Prof. Dr. Asif Raza, Rector, University of Management and Technology, Lahore, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Rector, University of Lahore, Lahore, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ramzan, Vice Chancellor, Emerson University Multan, Prof. Dr. Javaid Akhtar, Vice Chancellor, University of Sahiwal, Sahiwal, Prof. Dr. Sohail Naqvi, CEO Knowledge Streams, Mr. Mian Imran Masood, Vice Chancellor, University of South Asia, Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, COO, PHEC, Prof. Dr. Sajid Mehmood Shahzad, Vice Chancellor, Minhaj University Lahore, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Wajid, Pro Vice Chancellor, The University of Okara, Prof. Dr. Qaiser Abbas, Vice Chancellor, University of Sargodha, Prof. Dr. Nadeem Bhatti, Vice Chancellor, Lahore Leads University, Lahore, Prof. Javed Akram, Minister of Health, Govt of Punjab, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission, Prof. Dr. Anwar-ul-Hassan Gilani, Former VC, University of Haripur, Dr. Nassar Ikram, Pro Rector University of Central Punjab, Lahore, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kamran, Pro Vice Chancellor, The Ghazi University, Dera Ghazi Khan, Dr. Zil-i-Huma Nazki, Pro Vice Chancellor, Govt. College Women University Faisalabad, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ali, Pro Vice Chancellor, Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan, Prof. Dr. Uzaira Rafique, Pro Vice Chancellor, Fatima Jinnah Women University Rawalpindi, Prof. Dr. Nabila Rehman, Acting Vice Chancellor, The University of Jhang, Prof. Dr. Shagufta Naz, Pro Vice Chancellor, Lahore College for Women University, Lahore, Prof. Dr. Adnan Noor Mian, Pro Vice Chancellor, Information Technology University of the Punjab, Lahore, Prof. Dr. Ashfaq Mehmood, Pro Vice Chancellor, Govt. Sadiq College Women University Bahawalpur



# Themes of the Vice Chancellor's Conference



The Leadership and Management Program for Vice Chancellors of Universities in Punjab (Batch-III) covered the following themes:

- i. Leadership in Higher Education: Exploring effective leadership styles and strategies for Vice Chancellors in the context of higher education institutions.
- ii. Governance and Administration: Enhancing governance practices, decision-making processes, and administrative efficiency in universities.
- iii. Quality Assurance and Accreditation: Understanding the importance of quality assurance mechanisms, accreditation processes, and promoting excellence in higher education.
- iv. Strategic Planning and Development: Developing strategic plans, setting goals, and implementing effective strategies for the growth and development of universities.
- v. Financial Management and Resource Mobilization: Managing financial resources, budgeting, and exploring strategies for resource mobilization in higher education institutions.
- vi. Innovation and Research: Fostering a culture of innovation, promoting research activities, and leveraging research outcomes for institutional development.
- vii. Student Success and Engagement: Enhancing student engagement, promoting holistic development, and ensuring the success and well-being of students in universities.
- viii. Internationalization and Global Partnerships: Exploring opportunities for international collaboration, promoting global partnerships, and enhancing the international profile of universities.
- ix. Technology and Digital Transformation: Harnessing the power of technology, promoting digital transformation, and integrating innovative educational technologies in higher education.
- x. Stakeholder Engagement and Community Outreach: Engaging with stakeholders, fostering collaborations with the community, and enhancing the university's impact on society.
- xi. Ethical Leadership and Social Responsibility: Understanding the importance of ethical leadership, promoting social responsibility, and cultivating ethical values in higher education institutions.
- xii. Change Management and Adaptability: Building skills in change management, fostering adaptability, and leading institutional change in response to evolving trends and challenges in higher education.

## Participating Vice Chancellors/Pro-Vice-Chancellors

A total of 22 Vice Chancellors and Pro-Vice-Chancellors from public and private sector universities in the Punjab Province were nominated for the conference: Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, Pro Vice Chancellor, University of the Punjab, Lahore, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ali Pro Vice Chancellor Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan, Prof. Dr. Mahmood Ayaz Vice Chancellor King Edward Medical University, Lahore, Prof. Dr. Adnan Noor Mian Pro Vice Chancellor, Information Technology University of the Punjab, Lahore, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kamran, Pro Vice Chancellor, Ghazi University, Dera Ghazi Khan, Prof. Dr. Javaid Akhtar Vice Chancellor University of Sahiwal, Sahiwal, Prof. Dr. Nabila Rehman, Acting Vice Chancellor, University of Jhang, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Wajid, Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Okara, Prof. Dr. Masood Sadiq, Vice Chancellor, University of Child Health Sciences, Lahore, Prof. Dr. Shagufta Naz, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Lahore College for Women University, Lahore, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ramzan, Vice Chancellor Emerson University Multan, Mian Imran Masood, Vice Chancellor University of South Asia, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf Rector University of Lahore, Dr. Asif Raza, Rector University of Management and Technology, Lahore. Dr. Nassar Ikram Pro Rector, University of Central Punjab, Lahore, Prof. Dr. Nadeem Bhatti, Vice Chancellor, Lahore Leads University Dr. Sajid Mahmood Shahzad, Vice Chancellor, Minhaj University Lahore, Major General (R) Shahzad Sikander Vice Chancellor of Lahore Garrison University, Prof. Dr. Jameel-Un Nabi, Vice Chancellor at University of Wah, Prof. Dr. S. Kamran Afaq, Vice Chancellor, HITEC University Taxila, Prof. Dr. Uzaira Rafiq, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Fatima Jinnah Women University Rawalpindi, Prof. Dr. Ashfaq Mehmood, Pro Vice Chancellor, Govt. Sadiq College Women University Bahawalpur, Prof. Dr. Kalsoom Pracha, Pro Vice Chancellor, Women University Multan, Prof. Dr. Zil e Huma Nazli, Pro Vice Chancellor, Govt. College for Women University Faisalabad, Prof. Dr. Sajid Rasheed, Acting Vice Chancellor, University of Kamalia.





## Conference Program: Distinguished Speakers and Engaging Sessions

### Day-01

The Leadership and Management Program for Vice Chancellors featured a remarkable lineup of keynote speakers and accomplished leaders from the higher education sector, who shared their invaluable insights and experiences. The event, held on June 20-23, 2023, commenced with a panel discussion on "Challenges and Reforms in Higher Education." The panelists included distinguished individuals such as Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, Prof. Dr. Sohail Naqvi, CEO of Knowledge Streams, Prof. Dr. Anwar-ul-Hassan Gilani, Former VC of the University of Haripur, Prof. Dr. Mahmood-ul-Hassan Butt, Program Coordinator, HEDP, HEC, and Mr. Abid Shirwani from UMT, Lahore. Prof. Dr. Qaiser Abbas, Vice Chancellor of the University of Sargodha, moderated the session.

Subsequent sessions covered essential topics, such as "Issues and Solutions of Governance in Universities: Role of Vice Chancellors" addressed by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, and "Improving the ranking of universities" presented by Prof. Dr. Mujahid Kamran, Former VC of the University of the Punjab, Lahore. Another session, led by Prof. Dr. Hamood ur Rehman, Chief Technology Officer of the National University of Science and Technology, Islamabad, delved into "University-Industry Linkage."

The event also emphasized the significance of leadership and change management in universities. Prof. Dr. Zafar Iqbal Qureshi, a member of the BOG at Qarshi University, spoke about "Leadership and Managing Change in Universities: Barriers and Facilitating Factors." Promoting diversity, democracy, and discipline among students through student societies was the subject of a lecture by Prof. Dr. Athar Mahboob, Vice Chancellor of Islamia University Bahawalpur. Lastly, Prof. Dr. Shahid Qureshi, Rector of Gift University, Gujranwala, shed light on "Promoting Entrepreneurship among University Students."



## Conference Program: Distinguished Speakers and Engaging Sessions



### Day-02

Day 2 of the program commenced with a panel discussion on "Engagement with Government- HED, HEC, PHEC, and other bodies." The panelists included Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizammudin, former Chairperson of PHEC, Prof. Dr. Khalid Masud Gondal, VC FJMU, Mr. Ehsan Bhutta, Secretary of Industries, Commerce, Investment & Skills Development Department, Ali Bahadur Qazi, Chief Economist of P&D Govt. of Punjab, and Prof. Dr. Rauf-i-Azam, Vice Chancellor of Punjab University of Technology, Rasul. The session was moderated by Mr. Muhammad Farooq Akmal, Additional Secretary Universities (HED) Punjab.

Subsequent sessions on Day 2 covered various topics. Prof. Dr. Syed Muhammad Junaid Zaidi, Former Rector of COMSATS University, Islamabad, delivered a lecture on "University of the Future: Challenges and Requirements." Lt. Gen (R) Muhammad Asghar, CEO of Qarshi Knowledge City, presented a case study on "Road Map to Entrepreneurial University: A case study of NUST." Dr. Muhammad Amjid Saqib, Founder & Executive Director of Akhuwat, shared a case study on "Inspirational Leadership: A Case of Akhuwat." Prof. Dr. Ehsan Ul Haq, Professor Emeritus at LUMS, discussed "Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS): Developing a Dashboard."





## Conference Program: Distinguished Speakers and Engaging Sessions

### Day-03

Day 3 began with a session on "Higher Education in the 4th Industrial Revolution" presented by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC. Prof. Dr. Fazal Ahmad Khalid, Rector of GIKI, addressed the topic of "Quality Assurance and Enhancement of University Programs to bring them up to par with international standards." Prof. Dr. Arshad Saleem Bhatti, Rector of Virtual University, Islamabad, spoke on "Leveraging Information Technology: Challenges & Choices." Mr. Zafarullah Khan delivered a session on "Universities in the 21st Century," and Dr. Ayesha Razzaque, Deputy Chief of Party of USAID Project on Higher Education System Strengthening, discussed the "Changing Role of University Leaders."

Day 3 also featured a panel discussion on "Human Resource Requirement: Users' Point of View on Higher Education." The panelists included Prof. Dr. Fazal Ahmad Khalid, Rector of GIKI, Mian Misbah ur Rehman, Chief Executive of Popular Chemical Works, Mian Muhammad Idrees, CEO of Sitara Chemicals, Mr. Kashif Anwer, President of LCCI, Lahore, Mr. Umar Iqbal, Technical Director of Nimir Industrial Chemicals, and Mr. Salem Rehman, Director BOD of Emco Industries. Syed Qasim Ali Shah, Chairman of Alhamra Arts Council, served as the moderator.





## Conference Program: Distinguished Speakers and Engaging Sessions



### Day-04

Day 4 commenced with a session on "Finance Planning & Budgeting" presented by Mr. Muhammad Amjid Saleemi, former Additional Secretary Finance. This was followed by a lecture on "Finance Planning & Budgeting: Preparing PC-1" delivered by Mr. Nawaz Khalid Aarbi, former DG of Home Department. Dr. Irfan Ahmad, Principal of the Institute of Tender Management, Lahore, discussed "Managing Procurement- PPRA Framework." Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, concluded the program with a session on "Reply to Islamophobia through Education Diplomacy."





## Promoting Higher Education: Empowering Commissions and Universities:

**On the second day of the workshop, Dr. Shahid Munir shared his insights**



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, emphasized the need for promoting higher education through the empowerment of provincial higher education commissions and granting autonomy to universities. He highlighted that transparency and improved management are essential for creating good governance in educational institutions.

One of our top priorities is the formation of a global think tank network. The Vice Chancellors' training workshop aims to enhance their leadership skills, enabling them to become exemplary administrators, fostering the development and stability of their institutions. Dr. Shahid Munir provided a briefing on the second day of the workshop, which saw participation from 20 Vice Chancellors representing public and private universities in Punjab.

Dr. Munir emphasized that universities have a crucial role in presenting alternative narratives based on research concerning national issues. The decline in higher education is often attributed to governance issues within universities. Effective governance can significantly improve the quality of education. A competent Vice Chancellor provides a clear vision for the university, motivates faculty and staff to achieve these goals, and devises strategies for success. Creating an environment conducive to professional growth and research is also vital.

Dr. Munir advocated for universities to focus their research on topics that address social, economic, and cultural challenges in society. He stressed the importance of providing Vice Chancellors with complete freedom to work and academic freedom, freeing them from unnecessary constraints. Dr. Munir believes that freedom of expression within universities is essential for building balanced personalities among students. In addition to advancing education and new sciences, universities should prioritize moral training and character building of students.



## Successful Conclusion of the four-day Leadership and Management Program for Vice Chancellors on June 23, 2023

### PHEC Chairperson Presented A Comprehensive Set of 13 Recommendations

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Moreover, stakeholders will work on devising effective marketing campaigns to promote Pakistani universities and attract international students. Simplifying visa procedures for the enrollment and integration of international students is also a key priority.



Dr. Munir emphasized the importance of fostering stronger collaborations between universities and industries to bridge the gap between academia and the job market. The implementation of measures such as internships, apprenticeships, and industry-focused research projects will equip students with practical skills, enhancing their employability.

Allocating funds for research and innovation within universities was another significant recommendation put forth by Dr. Munir. This allocation would enable faculty and students to engage in research projects addressing national and global challenges.

To promote innovation and knowledge creation, the establishment of networking opportunities and centers of excellence was advocated by the PHEC chief. Furthermore, Dr. Munir hinted at the implementation of reforms in the college sector to improve the quality of education in colleges.

In addition, Dr. Munir urged the provincial government to provide funds for the establishment of centers of excellence in artificial intelligence, industrial robots, and data science at universities.

To ensure improved performance and effective decision-making, Dr. Munir suggested empowering universities to develop robust governance frameworks and mechanisms that prioritize transparency and accountability.

Recognizing the importance of professional development, Dr. Munir stressed the need for educational heads and administrators to participate in programs that enhance their management skills and promote good governance practices.

According to Dr. Munir, implementing these recommendations will not only meet the demands of the modern world but also improve educational opportunities for local students, attract international talent, and foster peace and tolerance within Pakistan's education system.

The Vice Chancellors (VCs) of 20 universities have collectively presented a resolution urging the provincial government to increase the higher education budget.

Finally, in a fitting end to the program, the chief guest distributed certificates and souvenirs to the participants and organizers, signifying the successful conclusion of the Leadership and Management Program for the Vice Chancellors.



# Successful Leadership and Management Program Receives High Praise from the Vice-Chancellors

We are pleased to share the feedback we received from the vice-chancellors who took part in the Leadership and Management Program, which was held from June 20th to June 23rd, 2023. They expressed their satisfaction and extended their congratulations to the chairperson of PHEC for successfully organizing a comprehensive, thought-provoking, and fruitful program. The vice-chancellors described it as an excellent and highly impactful initiative that addressed current issues in universities and the country as a whole. They found the training to be extremely informative and beneficial for enhancing their academic and administrative skills.

The participants greatly appreciated the excellent networking opportunities and engaging sessions led by experienced government officials, secretaries, and specialists. They believed that the program played a crucial role in equipping vice-chancellors with the necessary skills to effectively tackle various challenges. The program's content was relevant and aligned with its themes and objectives. Additionally, the participants praised the well-organized nature of the training, which fostered a friendly learning environment.

The vice-chancellors commended the diverse and exceptional topics discussed during panel discussions, which provided them with valuable insights and knowledge. The program specifically offered valuable guidelines in financial management for vice-chancellors. The participants were pleased that the training was not overcrowded, allowing for meaningful and theme-based sessions. The vice-chancellors considered their experience of listening to legendary speakers as invaluable. All the speakers demonstrated professionalism and expertise in their respective fields. The overwhelming majority of participants found the speakers to be effective, and the panel discussions were highly productive.

Based on their experience, the vice-chancellors suggested organizing more training sessions and arranging visits to foreign universities/countries. They believed that such programs would play a crucial role in promoting excellence in universities and higher education institutions (HEIs) in Punjab. They also expressed their admiration for the speakers and requested additional sessions on financial management. It was recommended to invite esteemed researchers and publishers to future events.

Furthermore, they expressed their gratitude for the warm hospitality and dedicated staff, as well as the productive interactions with industry officials.





# 1<sup>st</sup> International Students Convention: Embracing Global Diversity and Knowledge Exchange



To provide a platform for International students from various countries to showcase their cultures and foster cultural exchange, On May 17, under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) has organized its first-ever International Students Convention at the Punjab level. The convention was honored by the presence of distinguished guests: Honorable Governor of the Punjab/Chancellor, Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman, Honorable Provincial Education Minister Mr. Mansoor Qadir, Prof Dr. Muhammad Nizamuddin former Chairperson PHEC, CEO, Knowledge Streams Prof. Dr. Sohail Naqvi, Chairman P&D Board Mr. Ali Sarfraz Hussain.

The convention witnessed the active participation of over 1,000 students from Afghanistan, Iran, Sri Lanka, Morocco, Syria, China, Sudan, Nepal, Somalia, UAE, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Palestine, Yemen, and Nigeria. These students represented their respective cultures through various stalls and cultural performances, providing a vibrant and diverse atmosphere.

In addition, PHEC extended invitations to ambassadors and dignitaries from 14 international participating countries. This gesture demonstrated PHEC's commitment to fostering international cooperation and strengthening cultural ties. Furthermore, all Vice Chancellors and Rectors of public and private universities in the Punjab Province were invited to participate, emphasizing the importance of collaboration among educational institutions.

Through their participation, the students not only celebrated their cultural heritage but also had the opportunity to engage with students from other countries, fostering mutual understanding and promoting global citizenship. The convention served as a platform for cultural exchange, creating an enriching experience for all participants.

Overall, the first-ever International Student Convention organized by PHEC under the leadership of Dr. Shahid Munir was a remarkable event that brought together students from different countries to celebrate diversity, promote cultural exchange, and enhance international cooperation in the field of higher education.

## Promoting Global Engagement and Cultural Exchange: Governor of Punjab Addresses International Students Convention



During the international students' convention, the Honorable Governor of the Punjab/Chancellor, Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman, expressed his encouragement towards the growing trend of foreign students enrolling in Pakistani universities. He emphasized that these students receive comprehensive protection and facilities within the universities of Punjab. The students showcased the cultural activities of their nations, underscoring the importance of such events in promoting science, arts, and research on a global scale.

The Governor emphasized that education and awareness of modern science are crucial for the development of any society. He recognized the ongoing technological revolution and urged the need to adapt to change, understand problems, and embrace innovation. Unity and national cohesion were highlighted as essential elements in better serving the country. The Governor also emphasized Pakistan's status as a peaceful and knowledge-friendly nation, ensuring various facilities and state support for foreign students studying in Punjab.

The Governor focused on the increasing enrollment of foreign students in Pakistani universities and the significance of internationalization in higher education. He acknowledged the valuable role played by international students in promoting cross-cultural understanding and acting as honorary ambassadors. The Governor recognized their contributions in fostering academic collaborations and business partnerships, bridging the gap between nations and enhancing cultural exchange.

He commended Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson PHEC, for successfully organizing the International Student Convention, appreciating the effort in providing a platform for students to share their experiences and cultural traditions. The Governor personally interacted with international students at their stalls, expressing gratitude for their participation and contributions to the success of the event.



## Chairperson PHEC, Highlights Peace, Quality Education, and Global Engagement at International Students Convention

During the International Student Convention, Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson PHEC, expressed his views and aspirations regarding international students studying in Pakistan. Here are the key points from his statement:

**Message of Peace, Love, and Knowledge:** Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized that Pakistan's message to the world is one of peace, love, and knowledge. He highlighted the role of universities in spreading these values globally.

**Quality Education at Affordable Fees:** Dr. Shahid Munir acknowledged that universities in Pakistan offer quality education at significantly lower fees compared to other countries. However, he recognized the need for universities to work harder to attract more international students.

**Welcoming Foreign Students:** Dr. Shahid Munir reaffirmed that Pakistan is a peaceful country and extended a warm welcome to foreign students to come and study in Pakistani higher education institutions. He emphasized the readiness of the institutions to facilitate international students.

**Improving University Rankings:** Dr. Shahid Munir mentioned that Pakistani universities are actively working towards improving their positions in world rankings. By doing so, they aim to open their doors to more foreign students and create a diverse and inclusive academic environment.

**Positive Media Message:** Dr. Shahid Munir expressed the hope that the media would help spread a positive message about Pakistan as a peaceful country for acquiring knowledge. He emphasized the importance of showcasing Pakistan's welcoming environment and commitment to international students.

**Current and Future Number of Foreign Students:** Dr. Shahid Munir mentioned that currently, there are 1,119 foreign students studying in the universities of Punjab. He expressed the intention to increase this number in the future, reflecting the efforts to attract more international students to Pakistani institutions.

**Appreciation for Participants:** Dr. Shahid Munir extended his gratitude to the Governor of Punjab, the provincial education minister, ambassadors/dignitaries, and other guests for their participation in the event. He acknowledged their support and involvement in promoting internationalization in Pakistani universities.





# Highlights of the Discussions Held in Both Panel Sessions

Two Panel discussions were held in the International Students Convention.

## The 1st Panel Discussion

The first panel discussion during the International Student Convention involved Vice Chancellors of provincial universities. The session was moderated by Prof. Dr. Saima Hamid, Vice Chancellor of Fatima Jinnah Women University in Rawalpindi. The panelists included esteemed individuals from various universities:

- Prof. Dr. Syed Habib Bokhari, Vice Chancellor of Kohsar University Murree.
- Dr. Asif Raza, Rector of the University of Management & Technology, Lahore.
- Prof. Dr. Bushra Mirza, Vice Chancellor of Lahore College for Women University.
- Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Rector of the University of Lahore.
- Dr. Nassar Ikram, Pro-Rector of the University of Central Punjab, Lahore.
- Prof. Dr. Asghar Zaidi, Vice Chancellor of Govt. College University, Lahore.
- Representative from Fatima Jinnah Medical University, Lahore.

The panel discussion primarily focused on the importance of international students and explored potential collaborations with international institutions to promote research and facilitate the exchange of knowledge. The panelists shared their insights, experiences, and perspectives on fostering a welcoming environment for international students and establishing fruitful partnerships with universities from around the world. The discussion aimed to enhance understanding and promote initiatives that would benefit both local and international students in terms of education, research, and cultural exchange.





## The 2nd Panel Discussion

During the International Students Convention, the second panel discussion focused on the experiences and challenges faced by international students studying in Pakistan. The panel comprised students from various countries, including Yemen, Sri Lanka, UAE, China, Iran, Kashmir, and Afghanistan. The session aimed to shed light on the lives of international students in Pakistan and explore the support provided by national universities in terms of accommodation, healthcare, and financial aid. Here are the key details of the panel discussion:

**Moderator:** Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor of Rawalpindi Women University in Rawalpindi, Pakistan.

Participants:

- International students from Yemen
- International students from Sri Lanka
- International students from the UAE
- International students from China
- International students from Iran
- International students from Kashmir
- International students from Afghanistan

The panel discussion provided a platform for international students to share their experiences and discuss the challenges they face while studying in Pakistan. The moderator facilitated the conversation, ensuring that all participants had an opportunity to express their views.

The Topics discussed included:

The daily life and cultural adjustments of international students in Pakistan.

The challenges faced by international students, such as language barriers, adapting to a new educational system, and homesickness.





## Cultural Extravaganza: International Students Showcase Rich Heritage at the International Student Convention

During the International Student Convention organized by the Punjab Higher Education Commission, students from various countries presented cultural performances, showcasing the rich diversity of their respective cultures. The following countries and regions were represented:













## Cultural Stalls at International Students Convention Celebrate Global Diversity and Heritage





## Minister Of Higher Education Highlights Commitment To Internationalization At International Students Convention's Closing Ceremony



During the closing ceremony of the International Student Convention, the Minister of Higher Education, Mansoor Qadir, delivered his remarks. He began by congratulating the Chairman of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, for the successful organization of the event, which brought together individuals from diverse cultures and backgrounds. The Minister expressed the government's commitment to promoting internationalization and fostering cross-cultural ties with countries around the world.

Minister Mansoor Qadir acknowledged that foreign students are guests in Pakistan and emphasized the government's dedication to providing them with all the necessary facilities and security. He assured the international students that they would have a conducive environment to pursue their studies with utmost dedication.

The Education Minister actively engaged in the convention by visiting the stalls set up by international students, where they showcased their respective cultures and countries. This interaction allowed him to appreciate and understand the diversity and rich heritage represented by the international student community.

In addition to Minister Mansoor Qadir's remarks, Prof. Dr. Sohail Naqvi, Prof. Dr. Nizamuddin, and Consul General of Iran, Jafar Rohanas, also addressed the convention, sharing their insights and perspectives.

During the closing ceremony, the Governor of Punjab and the Minister for Higher Education took part in the distribution of shields to the vice-chancellors, ambassadors, and participating international students. This gesture acknowledged and recognized their contributions and participation in the convention.

Overall, the closing ceremony served as a platform to honor the achievements and contributions of the participants while reinforcing the commitment of the government and educational institutions to internationalization and fostering a welcoming environment for foreign students in Punjab, Pakistan.





## 41<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Expert Review Committee for International Travel Grants

On April 4th, the 41st meeting of the Expert Review Committee for the allocation of International Travel Grants took place in the conference room of the Punjab Higher Education Commission. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson PHEC.

During the meeting, the committee members convened to discuss and evaluate applications for International travel grants. These grants are designed to support individuals in the field of higher education who are seeking opportunities to travel abroad for educational or research purposes. The committee members, experts in various disciplines, carefully reviewed each application and assessed its merit based on predetermined criteria and selected following candidates the detail of the awardees is as under:

Dr. Saba Khalid from GCU, Lahore is pursuing her research in Physics at university in Austria, Dr. Muhamamd Shahid Maqbool, Department of Economics from Government Graduate Collage Gojra, has been granted the opportunity to study in Poland for further specialization, Dr. Tanvir Shahzad, Department of Environmental Sciences from GCU, Faisalabad, has been accepted to pursue his research in Austria, Dr. Muhammad Aslam, Department of Statistics from BZU, Multan, has been awarded a study opportunity in UK, Mr. Osama Majeed Butt, Department of Electrical Engineering from PU, Lahore, has been selected to study abroad in UK, Dr. Vicar Solomon, Department of Psychology from the University of Jhang, will be pursuing his research in Canada, Mr. Hafiz Fawad Ali, Department of Management Sciences from the University of Okara, has been granted the opportunity to study in South Africa for further academic enrichment,

This event marked the 41st edition of the committee's meetings, highlighting its enduring commitment to promoting international collaborations and academic exchanges. By awarding these travel grants, the committee aims to facilitate knowledge sharing, foster research collaborations, and enhance the professional development of individuals in the higher education sector.



## Scholar Prof. Dr. Zahid Munir Amir Presents his Published Books to Chairperson PHEC Professor Dr. Shahid Munir

Prof. Dr. Zahid Munir Amir, scholar, poet, critic, researcher, and professor at the Institute of Urdu Language and Literature, Punjab University, Lahore, had the privilege of meeting with Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson PHEC, on April 5, and present his recently published books to him. His books covered a range of subjects, reflecting his expertise and contributions to the fields of Urdu language, literature, and critical analysis. These publications could have encompassed scholarly works, collections of poetry, literary criticism, and research studies.

This meeting not only provided an opportunity for Professor Dr. Zahid Munir Amir to engage with an intellectual figure in the higher education sector but also enabled Professor Dr. Shahid Munir to gain insights into the scholarly contributions and literary endeavors of Professor Dr. Zahid Munir Amir. Such interactions foster intellectual exchange, promote collaboration, and contribute to the overall development and advancement of higher education and research in the region.



## The 30<sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting of Punjab Higher Education Commission



On May 19, 2023, the 30th commission meeting of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, took place at the PHEC Conference Room. The meeting was led by the Chairperson PHEC, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, and attended by the distinguished members of the commission, Prof. Dr. Athar Mahboob, Vice-Chancellor, IUB Bahawalpur, Mian Imran Masood, Vice-Chancellor, University of South Asia, Lahore, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ali, Chairman, Accreditation Committee, Prof. Dr. Khalid Masud Gondal, Vice-Chancellor, Fatima Jinnah Medical University, Prof. Dr. Sumaira Rehman Rector, Superior University Lahore, Mr. Muhammad Haider Amin CEO, RUH Group

(online), Prof. Naazish Ata-Ullah, Former Principal, NCA, Mr. Awais Ahmad, HEC Nominee/Advisor, Prof. Dr. Naima Khurshid, Principal, Govt. APWA Graduate College for Women Lahore, representatives from the Secretary of Health, Finance, Higher Education Department, and Agriculture Department Government of Punjab, and Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, Chief Operating Officer/Secretary of the Commission.

During the meeting, discussions and deliberations on various matters related to higher education in Punjab took place, with each attendee contributing their expertise and perspective to enhance the quality and development of higher education.

## Committee Meeting on Enhancing Research Quality in Punjab's Higher Education Institutions: Charting the Path for Academic Excellence



On June 13, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson PHEC, presided over a meeting of a committee that was specifically formed to address the issue of research quality. The members included Professor Dr. Kanwal Ameen, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Home Economics, Professor Dr. Rukhsana Kausar, Vice Chancellor Government College Women University Sialkot, Professor Dr. Anjum Nasim Sabri, Director, Institute of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics at Punjab University, and Dr. Muhammad Asif Munir, Director Training at PHEC.

The purpose of the committee meeting was to discuss and devise strategies to enhance the quality

of research being conducted within the higher education institutions of Punjab. The presence of such experienced and knowledgeable individuals on the committee ensured a comprehensive and well-informed approach to tackling this important issue. Their diverse expertise in different academic fields provided valuable insights and perspectives for formulating effective solutions.

Under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the committee members engaged in in-depth discussions to identify the challenges faced in maintaining research quality and to explore possible avenues for improvement. They exchanged ideas, shared experiences, and proposed initiatives that could enhance the overall research landscape in Punjab's higher education institutions. Their collective efforts aimed to develop a framework that would raise the bar for research quality and foster a culture of excellence in academia.



## Midterm Evaluation of the Punjab Innovation and Research Challenge Award

The Punjab Higher Education Commission, has introduced the Punjab Research Fund to provide support for technological advancement and research, aimed at facilitating the commercialization of innovative ideas. In line with this initiative, the PHEC invited proposals for the Punjab Innovation and Research Challenge Award (PIRCA) in various fields that have the potential to contribute to economic development in Punjab and align with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Following the decision made during the 24th meeting of the PHEC Commission on June 11, 2021, a total of 25 proposals were approved under the PIRCA program, and research grants amounting to Rs. 172 million were awarded. As a result, all Principal Investigators were required to submit Deed of Agreements to the PHEC, specifying the approved amount for each expenditure category. In accordance with clause 17.2 of the Deed of Agreements, the PHEC is obligated to appoint an inspection team to conduct audits and inspections of the granted funds.

On September 1, 2022, the Chairperson of the PHEC formed a committee to assess the progress of projects funded through the Punjab Innovation & Research Challenge Award (PIRCA). This evaluation, in accordance with the Deed of Agreement issued by the PHEC, aimed to review the accomplishments and adherence to budget allocations, as well as examine Project Progress Reports, project deliverables, overall summaries, and relevant grant-related records. The committee's findings and progress reports are to be submitted to the PHEC.

As part of the evaluation process, the committee conducted on-site visits to the following universities to assess the advancement of projects that were granted funds under the Punjab Innovation and Research Challenge Award.

During the onsite visits, the committee noted specific observations that varied from one university to another. These observations were compiled and presented to the Chairperson PHEC, who subsequently shared them with the Commission during its 29th meeting. The Commission recommended taking additional measures to uphold the quality of the projects, and the committee diligently implemented all the directives provided.

The decisions and recommendations of the Commission regarding the observed issues were duly communicated to the respective universities. As a result, approximately 95% of the universities responded positively to the conveyed decisions.

Upon receiving the outstanding 5% of responses from the remaining universities, the committee will gather and compile them to form a comprehensive final report. This report will then be submitted to the Chairperson PHEC, for review and consideration.



## 42<sup>nd</sup> Expert Review Committee Meeting for International Travel Grants



Under the convenorship of Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, the 42nd Meeting of the Expert Review Committee for the Award of International Travel Grants took place on May 29. The meeting was held in the conference room of PHEC and was attended by Prof. Dr. Athar Mahboob, Vice Chancellor IUB, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Afzal, Vice Chancellor Bab Guru Nanak University, Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, Chief Operating Officer PHEC, Prof. Dr. Bushra Mirza, Vice Chancellor, LCWU, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Bilal Khan, Vice Chancellor University of Chakwal, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Iqbal Chawla, Former Dean of the University of Punjab, Dr.

Muhammad Shahid Soroya and Dr. Muhammad Mumtaz Khan, Director HRD, PHEC.

During the meeting, the Expert Review Committee assessed and reviewed applications for International Travel Grants, which aimed to support scholars and researchers in their endeavors to attend international conferences, workshops, and seminars related to their respective fields. The committee, led by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, carefully evaluated the applications based on the predetermined criteria and selected the following recipients for the grants:

Dr. Syed Amer Mahmood, Department of Space Science from PU, Lahore, has been accepted to study in Turkey for further research and academic exploration, Dr. Sahzad Ahmad, Department of Mechanical Engineering from MNS University of Engineering and Technology Multan, has been granted the opportunity to pursue his studies in Australia, Ms. Mubashra Shaheen, Department of Political Science from Govt. Graduate College For Women Jhleum, has been selected to study abroad in Argentina to expand her knowledge in the field, Dr. Mubashir Mehdi, Department of Applied Economics from MNS University of Agriculture, Multan, has been awarded a study opportunity in New Zealand, Dr. Tauseef Anwar, Department of Botany from IUB, Bahawalpur, has been accepted to study in the USA, Dr. Tazanfal Tehseem, Department of English from the University of Sargodha, has been granted the opportunity to pursue his studies in Belgium, Ms. Sarah Mahmood, Department of Applied Psychology from BZU, Multan, has been awarded a study opportunity in the UK, Dr. Abida Ashraf, Department of Public Relations from PU, Lahore, has been accepted to study in France, Dr. Muhammad Sajid Arshad, Department of Food Science from GCU, Faisalabad, has been granted the opportunity to pursue his research and studies in the USA, Mr. Atif Mahmood, Department of Computer Science from UCP, Lahore, has been selected to study abroad in Malaysia. Dr. Sairah Hafeez Kamran, Department of Pharmacology from LCWU, Lahore, has been accepted to study in Portugal for advanced academic training and research opportunities.

## The 62<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Syndicate of the University of Sargodha



On June 6, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission, attended the 62nd Meeting of the Syndicate, University of Sargodha. The Syndicate is the highest governing body of the university, responsible for making important decisions and setting policies related to academic affairs, administration, finance, and overall development. During the meeting, various agenda items were discussed. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir actively participated in the deliberations, providing valuable insights and recommendations based on his extensive knowledge and experience in the higher education sector.



## Meeting for the Committee for Award of International Research Support Fellowship-Phase IV, Batch-II (IRSF)



On May 23, a meeting took place at the conference room of the Punjab Higher Education Commission. The meeting was held under the convenorship of Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and decide upon the Committee for the Award of International Research Support Fellowship-Phase IV, Batch-II (IRSF).

Several prominent individuals in the field of education and research attended the meeting. Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin, a former Chairperson PHEC, was present along with Prof. Dr. Muhammad Afzal, the Vice Chancellor of BGNU (Benazir Bhutto University, Nawabshah). Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, a former Vice Chancellor, Government College University Lahore, was also in attendance.

Other attendees included Mr. Babar Yaqoob Fateh Muhammad, a former Federal Secretary, Prof. Dr. Jamil Anwar, a former Vice Chancellor, Lahore Garrison University. Prof. Dr. Malik Zawwar Hussain, the Chairman of the Department of Mathematics at University of Punjab. Prof. Dr. Iqbal Chawla, a former Director of the Department of History at University of Punjab, Prof. Dr. Aqil Inam, a Professor at Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology PU, and Qazi Muhammad Ali, Assistant Director Human Resource Development at PHEC.

The Committee for the Award of International Research Supports Fellowship (IRSF) plays a crucial role in ensuring transparency, fairness, and meritocracy in the selection process for research fellowships and supporting research activities in Punjab. The committee members discussed and evaluated applications, reviewed research proposals, and made decisions regarding the awarding of the fellowship. The participation of experienced academics, researchers, and professionals from different institutions and backgrounds adds valuable perspectives and expertise to the decision-making process.

Dr. Shahid Munir is committed to foster a thriving research culture and provides support for scholars and researchers in Punjab. He always encourages innovative research, enhances academic collaboration, and contributes to the advancement of knowledge and intellectual development in the region.

The PHEC International Research Support Fellowship Phase-IV (Batch-II) has made the following selections: In the field of Science and Technology, Ms. Rimsha Khan from the University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Lahore, has been selected for the University of Florida, USA, and Cardiff University, UK. Ms. Ayesha Sadiqa from Khwaja Fareed University of Engineering and Information Technology, Rahim Yar Khan, who has been selected for The University of Melbourne, Australia. In the field of Humanities & Management Sciences, Ms. Madiha Afzal from Government College for Women University, Sialkot, has been selected for the University of Groningen, Netherlands.

## Collaboration Between PHEC, Allah Waly Trust, and Public Sector Universities for Scholarships and Higher Education Promotion



On April 12, a significant collaboration took place between the Punjab Higher Education Commission, Allah Waly Trust, and six public sector universities and colleges in Punjab. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with the aim of providing scholarships to financially needy students and promoting higher education in the region.

The MoU entails a partnership between Allah Waly Trust and PHEC to extend financial support to selected public sector universities and colleges. The educational institutions involved in this collaboration include the University of Punjab, the University of Engineering and Technology (UET), Fatima Jinnah Medical University (FJMU), King Edward Medical University (KEMU), Allama Iqbal Medical College (AIMC), and the de'Montmorency College of Dentistry.

The signing ceremony was attended by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson PHEC, and Mr. Shahid Lone, the Chairman of Allah Waly Trust. Additionally, Vice-Chancellors and representatives from the partner universities were present, including Prof. Dr. Khalid Masud Gondal (Vice Chancellor of KEMU), Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood (Vice Chancellor of the University of Punjab), Dr. Syed Mansoor Sarwar (Vice Chancellor of UET), Prof. Dr. Mahmood Ayaz (Vice Chancellor of KEMU), Prof. Dr. Nadeem Hafeez Butt (Principal of AIMC), and Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ilyas (Vice Principal of DMDC).

The scholarship program established through this collaboration will cover the tuition fees of deserving students who demonstrate financial need. The selection process for the scholarships will be based on a thorough assessment of the applicants' financial circumstances.

The meeting was also attended by Engr. Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, the Chief Operating Officer of PHEC, Dr. Muhammad Mumtaz Ali Khan, the Director of Human Resource Development at PHEC, and Mr. Qazi Muhammad Ali, the Assistant Director of Human Resource Development at PHEC.

This collaboration between Allah Waly Trust, PHEC, and the partner universities aims to provide opportunities for deserving students who face financial constraints. It reflects the commitment of all parties involved to promote higher education and support students in their educational pursuits.



## Vice-Chancellors' Focus on Enhancing Quality of Education

On April 20, a significant event took place under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson PHEC, which brought together vice-chancellors from more than 20 universities in Punjab, creating an opportunity for fruitful discussions and collaborative decision-making. The primary agenda of the event was to address the pressing issue of enhancing the quality of education across all levels, with a particular focus on colleges.

One of the central topics of discussion revolved around the affiliation of government colleges with divisional-level universities. Recognizing that such affiliations have the potential to significantly improve the quality of education, the participants engaged in in-depth conversations to formulate effective strategies. Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the importance of streamlining the affiliation process to ensure its smooth implementation and favorable outcomes.

During the event, Dr. Shahid Munir reiterated the unwavering commitment to prioritize the enhancement of education quality in colleges. It was clearly emphasized that the collective efforts and collaboration of all stakeholders are vital for the successful implementation of reforms within the college sector. To facilitate this process, the participants reached an agreement to develop a comprehensive monitoring system that would enable tracking and assessment of the progress and impact of the implemented reforms.

The collaborative efforts, ensuring that the vision of enhancing the quality of education becomes a reality and paves the way for a brighter future for students in Punjab, The event was a productive one for the vice-chancellors and other participants to exchange ideas, share insights, and address the challenges faced in improving the quality of education in Punjab.



## Collaboration between PHEC and Al-Hamra to Promote Literary Activities

On April 27, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson PHEC, had a meeting with Mr. Qasim Ali Shah, the Chairman of Al-Hamra. The meeting focused on matters of mutual interest and resulted in an agreement to promote literary activities between the literary societies of universities and Al-Hamra.

Both PHEC and Al-Hamra expressed their commitment to working together to ignite interest in arts and literature among the youth. Professor Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the fundamental role of literature in promoting moderation and mutual tolerance within society.

Mr. Qasim Ali Shah, during the meeting, stated that it is the primary responsibility of teachers, writers, poets, and religious scholars to safeguard the youth from social immorality. Muhammad Saleem Sagar, the Executive Director of Al-Hamra, was also present in the meeting, for further facilitating discussions on collaboration and coordination between the two organizations. He expressed his determination to transform Al-Hamra into a genuine center for literary and cultural activities. Additionally, Mr. Qasim Ali Shah presented his book to Chairman PHEC, during the meeting.



## 43<sup>rd</sup> Expert Review Committee Meeting for International Travel Grants



The 43rd Expert Review Committee Meeting for International Travel Grants took place on June 15, at the conference room of the Punjab Higher Education Commission. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, served as the convenor for the meeting. Attendees included Prof. Dr. Athar Mahboob, Vice Chancellor of IUB, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Afzal, Vice Chancellor of Bab Guru Nanak University, Prof. Dr. Bushra Mirza, Vice Chancellor of LCWU; Prof. Dr. Kanwal Ameen, Former Vice Chancellor of the University of Home Economics; Prof. Dr. Muhammad Bilal Khan, Vice Chancellor of the University of Chakwal; Prof. Dr. Muhammad Iqbal Chawla, Former Dean of the University of Punjab, Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch,

COO of PHEC, and Dr. Muhammad Mumtaz Khan, Director HRD. The meeting was held to review and assess applications for international travel grants as per set criteria, and awarded travel grant to the following scholars:

Dr. Farhan Navid Yousaf, Department of Sociology from PU, Lahore, has been accepted to pursue his studies in Australia, Dr. Akhtar Hussain, Department of History from Govt. Islamia Graduate College Civil Lines, Lahore, has been granted the opportunity to study in Canada, Dr. Faisal Saleem, Department of Polymer Engineering from UET Lahore, Faisalabad Campus, has been awarded a study opportunity in UK, Dr. Waqas Haider Khan Bangyal, Department of Computer Science from Kohsar University Murree, will be pursuing his studies in China, Dr. Haseeb Anwar, Department of Physiology from GCU, Faisalabad, has been accepted to study in USA, Dr. Nayyer Abbas, Department of History from GCU, Lahore, has been granted the opportunity to pursue his studies in Germany, Dr. Bushra Naz, Department of Food Sciences from GCU, Faisalabad, will be studying in Australia, Mr. Waseem Subhani, Department of Business Administration from PU, Lahore, has been selected to study in Malaysia, Dr. Sumaira Rashid, Department of Education from PU, Lahore, has been accepted to study in Spain.

### Chairperson PHEC Congratulates Professor Dr. Khalid Mahmood on his Appointment as Pro Vice-Chancellor and Acting Vice-Chancellor of the University of Punjab



On April 5th, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson, PHEC paid a visit to the University of Punjab. During his visit, he extended his heartfelt congratulations to Professor Dr. Khalid Mahmood on his recent appointment as Pro Vice-Chancellor and Acting Vice-Chancellor of the university.

Professor Dr. Shahid Munir's visit and congratulations highlighted the recognition and support from the Punjab Higher Education Commission towards the University of Punjab's decision in appointing Professor Dr. Khalid Mahmood to these esteemed positions. It signifies the commission's confidence in Professor Dr. Khalid Mahmood's capabilities, expertise, and commitment to academic excellence.



## Meeting between Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir and Federal Minister for Education: Advancing Higher Education in Punjab

On May 25, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission had a meeting with Rana Tanveer Hussain, the Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training, at his office. The purpose of the meeting was to address various matters pertaining to higher education. As the Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir carries a huge responsibility in overseeing and improving the higher education system in the province. By meeting with the Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training, he aimed to discuss and potentially collaborate on initiatives that could positively impact higher education in Punjab.



During the meeting, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir and Rana Tanveer Hussain discussed a range of topics related to higher education. These discussions have included issues such as educational policies, funding for universities and colleges, curriculum development, quality assurance, research initiatives, and student welfare.

The meeting between Mr. Rana Tanveer Hussain and Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir reflects the importance of cooperation between provincial and federal authorities to address the challenges and promote the advancement of higher education in the country. Such discussions and collaborations can contribute to the development of effective policies, allocation of resources, and implementation of reforms in the higher education sector, ultimately benefiting students, institutions, and the overall educational landscape of Punjab.

## Meeting between Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir and Federal Secretary: Advancing Higher Education and Collaboration

On May 26, an important meeting took place between Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson PHEC, and Mr. Waseem Ajmal Chaudhry, the Federal Secretary of the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training. It aimed to drive positive changes and advancements in higher education, ultimately benefiting students and the entire education sector in the country.

Both Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir and Mr. Waseem Ajmal Chaudhry engaged in discussions, exchanging valuable insights and perspectives on the current state and future of higher education. They focused on addressing challenges, exploring opportunities, and finding ways to enhance the quality and accessibility of education for students across the country.

As a gesture of appreciation and goodwill, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir presented Mr. Waseem Ajmal Chaudhry with a special souvenir representing PHEC. This token of appreciation symbolized the collaborative efforts between the two organizations and their commitment to promoting excellence in higher education.

In addition to the souvenir, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir also shared a newsletter from PHEC with Mr. Waseem Ajmal Chaudhry. The newsletter provided an overview of recent developments, initiatives, and achievements in the field of higher education. It served as a comprehensive source of information, enabling the Federal Secretary to stay updated on the progress made by PHEC.



## Exploring Opportunities for Commercializing Intellectual Property in Pakistani Universities: A Meeting Between IPO Pakistan, IP Experts' Forum, and PHEC



On June 16, an important meeting took place between representatives from IPO Pakistan and Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson PHEC. The delegation from IPO Pakistan was headed by Mr. Muhammad Ismail, the Director of IPO-Pakistan, and Ms. Noor Asfia Awan, the Secretary General of the IP Experts' Forum (IPEF). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the commercialization of products that have been developed by scientists and researchers affiliated with Pakistani universities.

Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, the Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Asif Munir, the Director of Training, and Mr. Nouman Maqbool Rao, the Director of Planning & Development were also present in the meeting.

The primary focus of the meeting was to explore avenues for the commercialization of intellectual property (IP) generated within Pakistani universities. Intellectual property refers to creations of the mind, such as inventions, discoveries, designs, and artistic works, for which exclusive rights are recognized. The delegation from IPO Pakistan, along with representatives from the IP Experts' Forum, aimed to collaborate with PHEC to develop strategies and frameworks that would facilitate the successful commercialization of these products.

Commercialization of products developed by scientists and researchers can bring numerous benefits to the academic community and the country as a whole. It can generate revenue, foster innovation, attract investment, and contribute to the economic growth of Pakistan. Furthermore, it can encourage collaboration between academia and industry, leading to the practical application of research and development findings.



## International Research Support Fellowship Award Distribution Ceremony

Earlier a meeting had been convened on May 23 at the conference room of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, chaired by the Chairperson, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir. The main objective of the meeting was to deliberate and select the candidates, for the Award of International Research Support Fellowship-Phase IV, Batch-II (IRSIF). Subsequently, on June 25, the Punjab Higher Education Commission, held a ceremony in their conference room to distribute the International Research Support Fellowship awards (F.Y. 2022-23). During the ceremony, provisional award letters were presented to the candidates who had been selected.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, welcomed the selected scholars and congratulated them upon their selection. International Research Support Fellowship (IRSF) is a six-month program designed to provide a first-hand experience in research to highly motivated students who are presently pursuing a full-time PhD program in provincially chartered universities of Punjab. Prof. Dr. Kanwal Ameen, Former Vice Chancellor, UHE, Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, Chief Operating Officer, PHEC, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Iqbal Chawla, Former Dean, University of Punjab, Dr. Mumtaz Ali Khan, Director, HRD, PHEC and Qazi Muhammad Ali, Assistant Director HRD were also present at the ceremony.



## Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir Engages with **BEMS Medical Association Pakistan** Delegation to Discuss **Eastern Medicine and Integration into the Mainstream**

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson PHEC, had a meeting with a delegation from the Bems Medical Association Pakistan. The delegation consisted of teachers from various educational institutions such as Islamiyah University Bahawalpur, University of Agriculture Faisalabad, Lahore College Women University, Minhaj University, and Superior University.

The meeting primarily focused on discussing several key topics related to Eastern Medicine, including its introduction, syllabus, service structure, and other pertinent issues. In addition to the delegation, experts from diverse fields such as homeopathy, herbalism, alvethi, medicine, psychology, as well as intellectuals and journalists, also participated in a dialogue held during the meeting.

During the dialogue, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the need to integrate individuals associated with Eastern medicine into the national mainstream. Considering the significant shortage of MBBS doctors in the country, he highlighted the importance of promoting alternative methods of treatment. He further advocated for accreditation and ensuring that doors are not closed for practitioners of Eastern medicine. He expressed that these individuals can not only contribute to public service by actively engaging in their respective departments but also significantly contribute to the country's economy through foreign exchange.

The participants in the meeting unanimously recommended including departments of medicine and homeopathy in the public hospitals. They also highlighted the popularity of Greek medicine and homeopathy as preferred treatment methods among the people. They mentioned that neighboring countries have established separate universities and ministries to promote traditional methods of treatment.

The session featured a chief guest, Mr. Mujibur Rahman Shami, who holds a Bachelor's degree in Eastern Medicine and Surgery. Mr. Naeem Masood, a senior columnist, served as the moderator for the dialogue. Other participants included Mr. Ahmed Waqas Riaz, Dr. Irfan Malik (a pulmonologist), Dr. Mansoor Baluch, Mr. Salman Abid, and Mr. Ziaul Haq Naqshbandi. Additionally, Dr. Muhammad Afzal, the Dean Lahore College for Women University, Dr. Waqas A. Khan, Dr. Shazia Qayyum, and Mr. Shoaib Hakeem also took part in the dialogue.



## 6th syndicate meeting of Kohsar University, Murree

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson, PHEC participated in the 6th syndicate meeting of Kohsar University, to discuss various matters related to the university's governance, administration, and academic affairs. During the meeting, the Chairperson provided valuable insights and guidance on matters pertaining to higher education policies, quality assurance, and the overall development of the university.



## Science Technology Innovation in the Context of the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution



On April 29, 2023, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson PHEC, participated in the Kazakhstan Alumni Forum-Second Meeting, held at the Kazakhstan House Lahore. He delivered a lecture on the topic of "Science Technology Innovation in the Context of the 4th Industrial Revolution."

During his address, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir highlighted that humanity is currently at the brink of the fourth industrial revolution, where humans will have to compete with machines. He emphasized the need to adopt new social, political, technological, and economic models to address emerging challenges. While the world is embracing globalization in its curriculum, Dr. Shahid Munir acknowledged that regional and religious biases still persist in social sciences within Pakistan.

He stressed the importance of promoting investment, educational models, and technology in public policy under a high-tech strategy. Dr. Shahid Munir mentioned key elements of the fourth industrial revolution, such as the Internet of Things, globalization, artificial intelligence, automation, supercomputing, and quantum computing. He highlighted that implementing Industry 4.0 technologies can lead to a 30% increase in production.

Dr. Shahid Munir discussed the various threats to human life in the 21st century, including population growth, environmental changes, war, famine, and economic instability. He emphasized the need for evolving management systems to address these challenges. Additionally, he mentioned advancements in autopilot technology, indicating that fully automatic planes may become a reality in the near future. He also stressed the importance of collaboration between academic institutions, industry, and the government.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir commended the activities of the Kazakhstan Alumni Forum and expressed his belief that the event would play a significant role in promoting educational and cultural relations between Pakistan and Kazakhstan. Several important individuals were present at the ceremony, including Prof. Dr. Iqbal Chaudhry, President of the Kazakhstan Alumni Forum and Coordinator General COMSTEC; Rao Khalid, Honorary Consul General of Kazakhstan Lahore; Prof. Dr. Rubina Farooq, Vice Chancellor of Government College Women University Faisalabad; Prof. Dr. Muhammad Sulaiman Tahir, Vice Chancellor of Khawaja Farid University of Engineering and Information Technology Rahim Yar Khan; Dr. Kanwal Amin, Vice Chancellor of Home Economics University; Dr. Nadeem Bhatti, Vice Chancellor of Leeds University; and other senior academicians.



# The Webinar titled "Chat GPT, AI, and Academic Integrity: Challenges and Opportunities"

The webinar on "Chat GPT, AI, and Academic Integrity: Challenges and Opportunities" held on April 27, was a collaborative effort between the Punjab Higher Education Commission and the Centre for Academic Integrity Pakistan. It was meant for discussing the implications of Chat GPT, an artificial intelligence language model, on academic integrity. Experts and professionals from various fields, including AI research, education, and academic integrity, were invited to share their insights and experiences during the webinar. It was also to explore the potential challenges and opportunities arising from the use of Chat GPT in the academic context. As Chat GPT and similar AI technologies become more prevalent, it becomes crucial to understand their impact on maintaining academic honesty and upholding ethical standards.



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson PHEC, actively participated in the webinar. As the head of PHEC, he highlighted the significance of the topic and setting the stage for the subsequent discussions. In his speech, he emphasized the need for a balanced approach to leverage the benefits of AI while safeguarding academic integrity. He also shared PHEC's initiatives and strategies to promote academic integrity in the context of AI technologies. He has underlined the importance of collaboration among various stakeholders, including educational institutions, researchers, policymakers, and AI developers, to collectively address the challenges and opportunities presented by Chat GPT and similar AI models.

Additionally, the event also highlighted the opportunities presented by Chat GPT and similar AI technologies, such as enhancing language learning, facilitating research, and promoting innovation in education. Participants engaged in productive conversations, sharing best practices, strategies, and tools to mitigate the risks associated with AI while harnessing its potential for educational advancement.

The joint efforts of PHEC and the Centre for Academic Integrity Pakistan showcased their commitment to addressing the evolving challenges and opportunities posed by AI and ensuring the preservation of academic integrity. By organizing this webinar, they aimed to create awareness, encourage collaboration, and foster a responsible and ethical integration of AI in academic settings in Pakistan.

## Dr. Bashir Jafery's Remarkable Dinner Unites Education Leaders

On June 17, Dr. Bashir Jafery, a Gystentrologist, organized a dinner that brought together a distinguished group of individuals. Among them were, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission, Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin, former Chairperson PHEC, Dr. Waqar Malik, Mr. Kanwar Muhammad Dilshad, Dr. Mujahid Mansoori, Mr. Shafiq Jullandhry, and Hakeem Rahat Naseem Sohndri.

Dr. Bashir Jafery's careful selection of this diverse group fostered an environment conducive to the flourishing of innovative ideas that are poised to have a positive impact on the country, driving advancements and promoting overall development. Each contributed their distinct perspectives and expertise to enrich the discussions.



# University of Punjab Establishes Center of Excellence in Maternal and Child Health



On April 5, the University of Punjab took a significant step towards improving maternal and child health by establishing a Center of Excellence in Maternal and Child Health within its Department of Public Health. The event was attended by notable figures including Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission, Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, Vice-Chancellor University of Punjab, Prof. Dr. Zakria Zakir Vice-Chancellor, University of Poonch, Dr. Rubina Zakir, Director of Institute of Social and Cultural Studies, Prof. Dr. Mubbsher Munawar Khan, the Dean of

Faculty of Commerce, faculty members, and others.

During his address, Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the role of the state in providing better healthcare facilities for mothers and children. He highlighted that maternal and child health is a priority in welfare states and suggested that allocating 4% of GDP to healthcare could help address related issues. He further expressed the importance of reducing national debt to allocate more resources to health and education sectors. Dr. Shahid Munir underscored the significance of women's participation in a country's development and stated that the Center of Excellence could collaborate effectively with PU's School of Communication Studies to create awareness about maternal and child health. He also mentioned the positive impact of social work on students.

Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood emphasized that universities have a fundamental responsibility to serve the community through teaching, research, and community service. He advocated for the promotion of the concept of an endowment fund and encouraged departments to establish such funds to provide facilities to students.

Prof. Dr. Zakria Zakir acknowledged the severe challenges faced by Pakistan but stressed the importance of approaching them with hope, positive thinking, and courage. He highlighted the progress made by the country despite limited resources in its early days.

Dr. Rubina Zakir outlined the purpose of the newly established center, which aims to enhance maternal and child health. She emphasized the role of maternal and child health in achieving social development goals and mentioned that the center has initiated a pilot project focused on improving maternal and child health in a specific area. Dr. Rubina Zakir also highlighted the establishment of an endowment fund by PEP Foundation USA, which has enabled the purchase of 25 tablets to enhance the digital skills of intelligent students.

## Dr. Shahid Munir Shares Expertise on Education and Research on "Chupay Khazanay" TV Program



On April 22, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), had the honor of being a Special Guest on the program "Chupay Khazanay" aired on Special TV.

During the program, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir engaged in an insightful and informative discussion on a variety of topics related to education, research, and knowledge management. The program provided a platform for him to share his expertise and insights with the viewers.

As a Special Guest, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir delved into the importance of higher education and its impact on society. He highlighted the role of universities and research institutions in driving innovation, knowledge creation, and economic development.



## Tablet Distribution Ceremony: Empowering Students for Digital Inclusion

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson PHEC, had the honor of being the chief guest at the tablet distribution ceremony held on April 5, at the University of the Punjab. The purpose of this ceremony was to provide tablets to financially disadvantaged students from various departments of the university through the "Students Advancement Fund Endowment" (SAFE). This endowment was established in 2015 at the university with the generous financial support of the PEF Foundation.

The distribution of tablets through SAFE aims to bridge the digital divide and ensure that all students, regardless of their financial backgrounds, have access to necessary technological resources. These tablets will enable the students to enhance their learning experience, access online educational materials, and participate effectively in digital learning environments. The support provided by the PEF Foundation demonstrates their dedication to empowering students and facilitating their academic success.

By distributing tablets to needy students, the University of the Punjab and the PEF Foundation are taking proactive steps to enhance digital inclusion and support students in their educational journeys. This initiative aligns with the broader vision of promoting equitable access to education and fostering an environment where every student can thrive, regardless of their socio-economic background.



## Construction of a Shelter with Indigenous Building Methods and Materials

On April 13, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson PHEC, had the honor of being the Chief Guest at the concluding ceremony of a workshop titled "Construction of a Shelter with Indigenous Building Methods and Materials." The workshop was organized by the Department of Architecture at COMSATS University Lahore.

During the ceremony, Dr. Shahid Munir inaugurated the shelters that were constructed by the participating students. In his address to the participants, the Chairperson PHEC, emphasized the significance of sustainable building practices. He highlighted the potential of utilizing local resources and indigenous building methods to create structures that are both durable and efficient.

Dr. Shahid Munir expressed his belief that initiatives like this workshop not only benefit the environment but also contribute to the economic development of the region. By supporting local industries and promoting traditional knowledge and skills, such initiatives create opportunities for economic growth and preserve cultural heritage. He added that the workshop provided students with hands-on experience in construction techniques that are environmentally friendly and cost-effective. It provided them with a deeper understanding of sustainable architecture and the importance of utilizing locally available resources.



# Importance of Producing Skilled Professionals:

## Chairperson PHEC detailed Visit to Islamia University Bahawalpur



On the occasion of his detailed visit to the Islamia University Bahawalpur, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission addressed a meeting of deans, directors, and principal officers at the Vice Chancellor Secretariat at Baghdad Al-Jadeed Campus. He commended the progress made by Islamia University Bahawalpur under the leadership of Vice Chancellor Engineer Prof. Dr. Athar Mehboob. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir praised the achievements of the university in the fields of health, medical, allied sciences, engineering, and information technology. He also acknowledged the establishment of new departments and the provision of a large number of admissions for students as positive initiatives.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir expressed his happiness at visiting various campuses and facilities of Islamia University Bahawalpur, including the historic Jamia Islamia Abbasia campus, the solar park of renewable energy at Baghdad al-Jadeed campus, the College of Nursing, the Business Management and Sports facilities, and the Health Center. He highlighted the importance of these facilities in providing quality education and meeting the demand for skilled professionals in various fields.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir also praised the university's efforts in the agricultural sector, particularly the launch of a pilot project to increase rainfall in Cholistan, which he believed could significantly contribute to the national economy. He also appreciated the establishment of a modern nursing college, highlighting the increasing demand for nursing professionals both nationally and internationally.

Regarding arts and social sciences, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir acknowledged the progress made by Islamia University Bahawalpur and emphasized the importance of these disciplines for a balanced society. He encouraged the university to continue focusing on faculty development programs and improve competency tests for students.



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir also emphasized the need to establish a Center of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence and praised the high-level services provided by the IT Department of Islamia University Bahawalpur in various areas. He lauded the development works worth over Rs 12 billion at the university, noting their long-term impact on the social and economic development of the region.

The Oath Taking Ceremony of University Level Students Societies (Term-2023) was held on May 3rd, 2023, at the Khawja Ghulam Fareed Auditorium in BJ Campus, Islamia University Bahawalpur (IUB). Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson PHEC, graced the event as the chief guest, alongside renowned motivational speaker Prof. Dr. Javed Iqbal and esteemed columnist Prof. Naeem Masood, who attended as guests of honor. Engr. Prof. Dr. Athar Mahboob, the Vice Chancellor of Islamia University Bahawalpur, hosted the ceremony, assisted by Mr. Rizwan Majeed, the Director of Students Affairs, and Dr. Azhar Hussain, the Additional Director of Students Affairs.

In addition, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir inaugurated the Civil and Environmental Microbiology Laboratory established at the Faculty of Civil Sciences of Agriculture and Environment by Dr. Muhammad Arshad (TIDNP). This highlighted the university's commitment to promoting research and innovation in relevant fields.

#### Oath Taking Ceremony of IUB Students Societies (Term 2023) & Interactive Session with Faculty and Students

Bahawalpur, Pakistan





## 1st International Symposium Art & Design: Tradition Fusing Innovation Inaugurates Exhibition of Research Posters and Artworks



On the occasion of the 1st International Symposium Art & Design: Tradition Fusing Innovation, organized by the Faculty of Arts & Design at the University of Home Economics, Lahore, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson PHEC, inaugurated the exhibition of research posters and artworks.

As the chief guest, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir highlighted the importance of art and design in the context of tradition and innovation. The symposium aimed to bring together artists, designers, researchers, and scholars from around the world to explore the fusion of traditional artistic practices with innovative approaches. Which provided them a platform to present their research findings, creative projects, and artistic expressions, fostering collaboration, exchange of ideas, and appreciation for the diverse perspectives in the field of art and design. They engaged with the visual displays, gained insights into the research and artistic endeavors of the other participants, and appreciated the intersection of tradition and innovation in the realm of art and design.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's presence at the inauguration of the exhibition added prestige to the event and underscored the significance of promoting research, creativity, and innovation in the field of art and design within the academic community.



## Farewell Party Honoring Retired Heads of Departments and Faculty Members at the Institute of Metallurgy & Materials Engineering



On May 6, the Institute of Metallurgy & Materials Engineering at the University of Punjab organized a special farewell party to honor and pay tribute to the retired Heads of Departments (HODs) and faculty members. The purpose of the event was to show gratitude and acknowledge the immense contributions made by these individuals throughout their tenure at the institute.

Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson PHEC, was invited as the chief guest. He delivered a speech, highlighting the remarkable achievements and commendable efforts of the retirees. He commended their unwavering commitment to education and research, which helped shape the institute's success and reputation. He emphasized the pivotal role they played in advancing the institute and their significant contributions to the field of metallurgy and materials engineering. It was a moment to reflect on their valuable contributions, celebrate their achievements, and wish them well in their future endeavors.





# International Conference Explores Connectivity between South Asia and Central Asia: A Path to Regional Development

On May 8, 2023, A three days conference, titled 'South Asia and Central Asia Reconnected,' organized by the Punjab University Department of History and Studies, took place at Al Razi Hall and witnessed the presence of esteemed guests, including the Ambassador of Kazakhstan, Mr. Yerzen Kistifan, Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, Vice Chancellor University of Punjab, Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, representatives of Conrad Edinor Stufting, Prof. Dr. Eleanor Zeno, Chairman of the History Department, Prof. Dr. Mehboob Hussain, and Historian Prof. Dr. Iftikhar Malik. The aim was to explore solutions to common challenges and promote regional development in various sectors, including trade, security, culture, and the environment. The event attracted numerous renowned researchers, scholars, faculty members, and students from various institutions.

During the opening ceremony of the conference, Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, expressed optimism about the construction of the Tapi Gas Pipeline. This pipeline will connect Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, and Pakistan, and he believed that it will contribute to the strength of Pakistan's economy while creating new investment opportunities. Dr. Shahid Munir highlighted the significance of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in driving economic growth by facilitating trade, investment, and job creation. Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized that promoting regional connectivity is vital for harnessing the potential of the diverse and dynamic Central and South Asian regions. He emphasized that regional connectivity goes beyond physical infrastructure, such as roads, railways, and airports, and encompasses people-to-people connections, the exchange of ideas and knowledge, and trade and investment. Dr. Shahid Munir acknowledged that the development of new highways, railways, and ports is transforming the movement of people and goods across borders, creating opportunities for trade, investment, and tourism.

Ambassador Yerzen Kistifan of Kazakhstan emphasized the importance of collaboration between South Asian and Central Asian countries to enhance commercial, cultural, religious, and historical ties for regional development. He highlighted the significance of peace in Afghanistan for the stability of the region, and expressed concern over the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine, which has global repercussions. Ambassador Kistifan pointed out the impact of the conflict on wheat production in Ukraine, affecting multiple countries. He stressed the need for regional self-reliance, development, peace, and prosperity, emphasizing peaceful diplomatic negotiations as the way forward.



## Celebrating Motherhood on Mother's Day: Unveiling Dr. Bushra Inayat Raja's Book "MAA" and Honoring Mothers



On May 14, the ceremony commemorating International Mother's Day was arranged by the Punjab Higher Education Commission. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson, presided over the event. The highlight of the event was the unveiling of Dr. Bushra Inayat Raja's book titled "MAA" (mother), in which she expressed her thoughts behind writing this book and shared a few verses from it, adding a personal touch to the occasion. Distinguished individuals such as Prof. Dr. Nizamuddin, Former Chairperson PHEC, Chairman Al-Hamra Qasim Ali Shah, Dr. Mansoor Baloch, COO PHEC, Dr. Fakhrul Haq Noori, Dr. Zahid Munir Amir, Prof. Dr. Abdul Qayyum Chaudhry, Prof. Dr. Mumtaz Akhtar, Dr. Nabila Irfan, Dr. Faleha Kazmi, and Dr. Fauzia Naz were invited to share their valuable comments on the occasion as well on the book. The book received high praise from the speakers and reviewers. All the participants paid tribute to Dr. Bushra Inayat Raja for her contribution in writing such beautiful book that focuses on mothers and shared their valuable thoughts and experiences about the significant role of mothers in our lives. The speakers emphasized that this book could serve as a valuable tool to inspire respect for parents among the new generation.

The ceremony concluded with a profound statement from Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the chairperson PHEC, who underscored the value and importance of mothers. He stated that mothers are priceless and hold immense significance in the universe. He further expressed that the relationship with a mother is irreplaceable, embodying the love of God in the world. He acknowledged that the favors, rewards, and honors bestowed upon parents, particularly mothers, are so abundant that even a lifetime of gratitude from children could never fully repay them.

The coordination of the event was effectively managed by Director Coordination Dr. Tanveer Qasim.





## 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Trends and Research in Chemistry: Fostering Global Collaboration and Innovation

On May 16, 2023, the University of Education Lahore, commenced the three-day 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on "Trends and Research in Chemistry (Hybrid)" at its Main Campus in Township. The ceremony was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir the Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission as the chief guest. Distinguished researchers and scholars from more than 30 countries, including the USA, Netherlands, France, Malaysia, China, Great Britain, Bulgaria, Australia, Iran, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, among others, participated in the conference. The presence of experts from diverse backgrounds and countries enriched the conference,



providing an opportunity for networking, collaboration, and the exploration of innovative approaches to chemistry-related research. Additionally, a significant number of scholars from various universities in Pakistan also attended the event. The conference featured the presentation of approximately one hundred research papers by researchers and scholars.

During his address, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, expressed his appreciation for the University of Education, particularly Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Talat Naseer Pasha, for their efforts in organizing this conference. He emphasized the importance of international collaboration in promoting research and innovation in the field of chemistry. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir recognized the significance of sharing knowledge, expertise, and ideas across borders to advance scientific progress and address global challenges. By fostering international cooperation, he believed that researchers and scholars could collectively contribute to the development and advancement of the field.

The University of Education, under the leadership of Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Talat Naseer Pasha, was commended for its dedication and commitment to organizing such a prestigious international conference. The event aimed to create an environment conducive to academic discourse, inspire new ideas, and promote advancements in the realm of chemistry. The shared goal of the conference was to contribute to the global knowledge base and nurture a spirit of collaboration and innovation among researchers and scholars in the field.



## The Inauguration of the Student Discourse Center: Fostering Intellectual Engagement and Academic Growth

On May 18th, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson PHEC, officiated the opening ceremony of the Student Discourse Center (SDC) at the Punjab University College of Information Technology (PUCIT), which is affiliated with the University of the Punjab. By establishing the Student Discourse Center, PUCIT aims to foster a culture of intellectual curiosity, encourage collaborative learning, and stimulate academic growth among its students. It marked an important milestone in the development of PUCIT, providing students with a dedicated space for intellectual discussions, debates, and academic discourse, where students can engage in meaningful conversations, exchange ideas, and enhance their critical thinking and communication skills.



The newly inaugurated center is expected to host a wide range of activities, including seminars, workshops, panel discussions, and guest lectures by renowned scholars and industry experts. It will facilitate an inclusive and diverse intellectual discourse that transcends disciplinary boundaries and encourages interdisciplinary collaboration.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir highly commended the efforts of the establishment of Student Discourse Center, and said that the PUCIT demonstrates its commitment to providing holistic education and cultivating well-rounded individuals who are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in their chosen fields. Which is in line with PHEC's dedication in promoting academic excellence and fostering an intellectually stimulating environment in Punjab's higher education institutions.

## The Wisdom and Artistic Expressions Conveyed by Writers and Poets have Played A Crucial Role In Advancing The Progress of Humanity As A Whole

On May 30, the Dr. Jameel Jalbi National Conference took place at the old campus of University of Punjab Lahore. The conference was graced by the presidential address delivered by Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission. In his address, Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the significance of literature as a means of discovering and promoting new possibilities in life. He highlighted how the intellectual guidance provided by writers and poets has contributed to the development of collective civilization. He further emphasized that education and training play a pivotal role in shaping new pathways of development. By taking steps forward in a systematic manner, societies can pave the way for the emergence of a new and modern civilization.



During his speech, Dr. Shahid Munir also acknowledged the exceptional contributions of Dr. Jameel Jalbi, stating that his cases, debates, and research reflect outstanding criticism and scholarly work. He praised Dr. Jalbi's comments and editorials as exemplifying the best practices of Urdu literary journalism. He credited Dr. Jalbi as someone who has brought about a modern approach to discourse.

Among the distinguished guests at the conference was Mr. Khawar Jameel, the Federal Accountant Insurance Pakistan. Additionally, Mr. Ghulamuddin Nizami, Mr. Muhammad Kamran, Dr. Saleem Mazhar, and Dr. Abdul Basit also addressed the conference, sharing their insights and perspectives.



## Honoring the Martyrs: Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir Pays Tribute to the Sacrifices of the Pakistan Army

On Thursday, May 25, 2023, the nation observed 'Youm-e-Takreem Shuhada-e-Pakistan' to honor and pay heartfelt tribute to the martyrs who made the ultimate sacrifice in defending the motherland and its people. On this solemn occasion, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson PHEC, expressed his profound admiration and paid tribute to the martyrs of the Pakistan Army. His words carried immense respect and reverence for the sacrifices made by the brave soldiers who have laid down their lives in service to their country.



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir acknowledged the martyrs of the Pakistan Army as the "tower of greatness." This phrase rightly portrays the heroic and selfless nature of these individuals who have made the ultimate sacrifice to defend and protect their nation. Their unwavering courage, dedication, and willingness to lay down their lives for the security and well-being of Pakistan serve as a shining example for all. Their sacrifices transcend personal aspirations and reflect a deep sense of duty towards the nation and its people. Their dedication and bravery have safeguarded the sovereignty and integrity of Pakistan, allowing its citizens to live in peace and harmony.

By paying tribute to the martyrs, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir highlighted the importance of honoring and remembering these remarkable individuals. Their sacrifices should serve as a constant reminder of the valor and commitment displayed by the Pakistan Army in defending the country against internal and external threats.

The remarks made by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir also acknowledge the profound grief and loss experienced by the families and loved ones of the martyrs. Their sacrifice is not only personal but also leaves an indelible impact on the entire nation, reminding everyone of the sacrifices made by these brave souls and the responsibility to preserve their legacy.

It is important to note that such tributes hold significant weight and contribute to the collective appreciation and recognition of the sacrifices made by the Pakistan Army. This recognition further strengthens the bond between the armed forces and the civilian educated population, fostering a sense of unity and gratitude for the sacrifices made to ensure the nation's security.

## Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir Joins Inaugural Online Board of Governors Meeting of Grand Asian University in Sialkot

On June 14, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission, took part in the Board of Governors meeting of Grand Asian University Sialkot. The meeting, conducted virtually, provided an opportunity for the esteemed members of the Board of Governors to convene and discuss various important matters concerning the university's governance and strategic direction. As a prominent figure in the field of higher education, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's presence in the meeting underscored the significance of the event.



## Inaugural Ceremony of Punjab University Institute of Energy and Environmental Engineering's New Building Marks a Milestone in Research and Education



The inaugural ceremony of the new building of the Punjab University Institute of Energy and Environmental Engineering was held on June 13, graced by the presence of notable personalities. The Federal Minister of Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, Engr. Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Vice-Chancellor University of the Punjab, Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, Vice-Chancellor Mir Chakar Khan Rind University of Technology DG Khan, Prof. Dr. Mahmood Saleem, Director of the Institute of Energy and Environmental Engineering Prof. Dr. Hamid Sattar, faculty members, and a large number of students attended the ceremony.

During the ceremony, Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Prof. Dr. Ahsan Iqbal unveiled the plaque, officially inaugurating the new building of the Institute for Energy and Environment Engineering at Punjab University. This marked a significant milestone in the institute's development and its commitment to promoting research and education in the fields of energy and environmental engineering.

The new building is expected to serve as a hub for research, innovation, and academic activities in the fields of energy and environmental engineering. It will provide advanced laboratories, classrooms, and other essential resources to facilitate cutting-edge research and quality education. The presence of a large number of students at the ceremony showcased their enthusiasm and eagerness to utilize the new facility to enhance their learning experience.

During the inauguration ceremony of the new building of the Institute of Energy and Environmental Engineering at Punjab University Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission, once again challenged the renowned nuclear scientist Dr. Samar Mubarakmand. He stated that they have successfully generated 500 KW of electricity in the Punjab University Coal Center using cotton shoots, coal, and an investment of 20 crores. Dr. Shahid further asserted that Dr. Samar Mubarakmand's suggested technology, along with Thar coal, has failed to produce even a single megawatt of electricity and will continue to be unsuccessful in the future. This ongoing challenge remains unresolved.

Dr. Shahid Munir expressed his determination to establish a superior energy institute in Pakistan compared to those in the United Kingdom and the United States. He stated that he has bestowed numerous new institutions and educational programs upon Pakistan, including the Institute of Energy Center established at Punjab University with an investment of 98 crores. Dr. Munir emphasized that Pakistan possesses a total coal reserve of 185 million tons, with Thar alone accounting for 175 million tons. However, he argued that it is not economically or technically feasible to generate electricity by burning Thar coal underground, as it would not only cause destruction but also result in the release of hazardous gases.

Professor Dr. Shahid Munir highlighted that Pakistan has abundant resources such as wind, solar, water, and coal reserves, totaling 27 trillion tons. He pointed out that China generates 10 million megawatts and India generates 200 million megawatts of electricity from coal, whereas Pakistan spends 17 billion dollars on importing diesel, furnace oil, LNG, and RLNG.



It is worth to note that the Institute was the brain child of Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir when he was the Director of the Center for Coal Technology. He prepared PC. 1 of this project. Recognizing the inseparable relationship between energy and the environment, he proposed the establishment of an Institute of Energy and Environment Engineering to the planning commission. The project required a funding of Rs. 976.65 million. The institute comprises 20 specialized laboratories dedicated to various energy sources such as solar, wind, biofuel, coal gas, and other forms of energy and fuel.

In addition to the infrastructure, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir also introduced degree programs to be offered by the institute. Many of these programs were previously unavailable anywhere in the country. He aimed to establish an energy institute that surpassed the standards set by institutions in the United Kingdom and the United States, with a focus on enhancing its quality and impact. The primary objective of this institute is to educate and train future professionals in the disciplines of energy and environment Engineering, thereby providing Pakistan with a skilled workforce in these crucial fields.

During the online meeting the Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, once again reiterated his challenge to the renowned nuclear scientist Dr. Samar Mubarakmand, asserting that his claims regarding the generation of electricity through Thar coal and sugarcane peels lack a solid foundation. In contrast, he argues that Thar coal, despite its vast reserves, has failed to generate even a single megawatt of electricity and will continue to fall short in the future. Dr. Shahid Munir highlights the successful construction of a 500 KW electricity system in Punjab University Coal Center, accomplished with a budget of 20 crores and utilizing cotton shoots and coal.

Given that, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir actively contributed to the discussions, sharing his expertise and insights on matters related to the university's development, academic programs, research initiatives, infrastructure, and overall growth. His participation demonstrated his commitment to fostering excellence in higher education institutions and promoting collaboration among different stakeholders.



## Universities at the Forefront: Advancing Technology and Product Development - Insights from PHEC Chairperson, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson PHEC, underscored the paramount significance of universities leading the charge in technological advancements and product development. This message was reiterated during the First National Joint Universities Conference on Upcycling of Local Production of Polymeric Materials, a collaborative effort between the Polymer and Textile Engineering departments and the Pakistan Academy of Science held on June 15. Eminent personalities, including Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Mehmood, former VC UET Prof. Dr. Fazal Ahmed Khalid, and esteemed scholars, seized the opportunity to deliver speeches and presented papers at this influential conference.

In his address, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the pivotal role of polymers, textiles, and related materials as the backbone of the nation, boasting significant potential for exportation. He highlighted the textile industry's prominent status as Pakistan's largest manufacturing sector, contributing approximately 8.5% to the country's GDP. By bolstering local production of polymer and textile materials, a multitude of employment opportunities can be generated, benefiting millions of individuals across the nation.

With a vision for progress, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir called upon engineers and specialists to channel their research efforts toward the discovery of innovative materials for product manufacturing. To exemplify the remarkable strides in materials science, he cited notable achievements, such as the development of a metamaterial capable of concealing defense installations by researchers from esteemed institutions like Imperial College London, Duke University, and the University of California. Additionally, he referenced the creation of graphene-based nano-paper, a material stronger than steel, pioneered by researchers at the renowned Royal Institute of Technology. Moreover, he highlighted the success of researchers from the prestigious California Institute of Technology and Barclay Lab in developing a glass material surpassing steel in terms of strength.

Furthermore, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir underscored the potential of utilizing plant-based materials, including stems, banana plants, and coconut husks, in the production of plastics, particularly in the automotive industry. He noted a remarkable innovation showcased at the Tokyo Motor Show in Japan, featuring solid "thermoplastic" tires with exceptional puncture resistance.

In line with his vision for progress, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the need to model our nation's trajectory after emerging economies and technologically advanced states and universities worldwide. He stressed the importance of adopting a critical and creative mindset to foster a culture of innovation, paving the way for groundbreaking developments and transformative growth.





## Insufficient Funding for Education Hinders Research, Stresses Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir at Amal Academy Ceremony



The lack of sufficient funding for education poses a challenge to research work, according to Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, the chairperson, PHEC. This was highlighted during his speech at the Amal Academy ceremony organized by the Educational Welfare Organization. On May 31, the event, held at Awari Hotel, featured addresses from various experts in the field of education, including Dr. Amjad Saqib, Director, Akhwat Foundation, Prof Dr. Asghar Zaidi, Vice Chancellor Government

College University, Prof. Dr. Talat Naseer Pasha, Vice Chancellor University of Education, and others.

Dr. Shahid Munir acknowledged the limited budget allocated to education, which hampers research efforts. He emphasized the need to bridge the gap between the academic and industrial sectors, suggesting that curriculum development plays a crucial role in achieving this goal. Dr. Munir stressed the importance of creating a curriculum that aligns with industry requirements. Furthermore, he advocated for the promotion of entrepreneurship among students to address the country's challenges effectively.

Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized that the current environment, population growth, and economic challenges require educational institutions to produce a workforce that meets market needs. He identified four major issues faced by South Asian countries: population expansion, climate change, conflicts, and unemployment. Limited resources coupled with rapid population growth affect both economic stability and the educational system. Dr. Munir highlighted the importance of implementing measures to control population growth, considering that the world's population is projected to reach 10 billion by 2050.

Dr. Munir also praised the Academy for its efforts in providing scholarships that align with the requirements of the 21st century and the job market.

## International Art Exhibition Promotes Cultural Exchange between China and Pakistan

The Institute of Design and Visual Arts, Lahore College for Women University, in collaboration with Hebi Academy of Fine Arts, China, and the University of Education, organized an international art exhibition on June 1st. The event was inaugurated by Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson Punjab Higher Education. Prof. Dr. Bushra Mirza, Vice Chancellor Lahore College for Women University, and Prof. Dr. Talat Naseer Pasha, Vice Chancellor, University of Education, also participated in the exhibition. Chinese students and teachers were present at the event as well.

Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the significance of art as a means of expression and reflection of nature and culture. He highlighted the importance of promoting positive cultural values for fostering peace and security in society. Dr. Munir also emphasized the boundless nature of knowledge and art and the strong friendship between China and Pakistan. He welcomed Chinese students to study in Punjab universities and assured them of the provision of all necessary facilities. Dr. Munir further emphasized that international students contribute to intercultural harmony and that the PHEC is committed to safeguarding their well-being. Additionally, Lahore College for Women University signed a Memorandum of Understanding, taking a step towards educational and cultural exchange between China and Pakistan.



## Chairperson PHEC Addresses International Business Conference, Stresses Climate Change, Economic Development, and Education



Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission, was the Chief Guest at the 8th International Business Conference hosted on June 5th at the University of Central Punjab Lahore. In his address, Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the impact of climate change on Pakistan and attributed the environmental destruction to the actions of America, China, and India. He highlighted the crucial connection between peace and economic development, expressing Pakistan's efforts to foster peaceful and friendly relations with neighboring countries.

During his speech, Dr. Shahid Munir advocated for the formation of a regional trade alliance to tackle economic challenges. He also discussed the negative effects of population growth on the economy and the necessity of taking serious measures to combat black marketing. He emphasized the importance of governance reforms and empowering local governments.

Dr. Shahid Munir mentioned that the Punjab Higher Education Commission, supports research activities through the grants of funding programs. He stated that PHEC is committed to providing significant support to researchers exploring new areas of knowledge. To promote a research-oriented environment in universities, Punjab HEC plans to offer more scholarships to students and researchers.

Furthermore, Dr. Shahid Munir highlighted the interdependence of education and economic development, stating that no country can achieve its economic goals without prioritizing education. He stressed the need for peace and political stability for a prosperous Pakistan, emphasizing the role of universities in producing intellectuals, scientists, and entrepreneurs.

Dr. Shahid Munir mentioned Pakistan's substantial coal reserves, valued at \$30 trillion, with the capacity to generate 100,000 MW of electricity for over 500 years using clean coal technologies. He urged Pakistan to leverage its indigenous resources, such as coal, gas, solar energy, shale oil and gas, and wind energy, to meet the growing demand for affordable electricity instead of relying on costly imports. Pakistan currently spends \$17 billion on imported oil and gas.

## Flag Raising Ceremony Commemorating Philippine Independence and Philippine-Pakistan Bilateral Relations



During the Flag Raising Ceremony held at the Philippine Consulate in Lahore on June 17, an event marking the momentous occasions of the 125th Anniversary of Philippine Independence and the 74th Anniversary of Philippine-Pakistan Bilateral Relations, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission, was in attendance as an esteemed guest.

Amidst the auspicious occasion, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir had a fruitful discussion with Her Excellency Maria Angles M. Cervantes, the Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines in Pakistan. The primary focus of their conversation revolved around fortifying educational ties between the two nations.

One of the key highlights of their exchange centered on the exploration of a student exchange program between universities in the Philippines and Pakistan. This noteworthy initiative aims to foster cultural understanding, promote academic collaboration, and cultivate enduring friendships that transcend borders.





## Recognizing Professor Dr. Shahid Munir's Remarkable Contributions to Higher Education Internationalization

On June 6th Higher Education Advocacy and Development (H.E.A.D.) expresses its sincere appreciation and recognition for Professor Dr. Shahid Munir's outstanding efforts in advancing the internationalization of higher education through the Punjab Higher Education Commission platform. H.E.A.D. acknowledges and pays tribute to Professor Dr. Shahid Munir for his significant contributions in this field.

Under Professor Dr. Shahid Munir's leadership and dedication, the Punjab Higher Education Commission has taken remarkable steps to promote the internationalization of higher education. This includes fostering collaborations with international universities and institutions, establishing exchange programs, and facilitating academic partnerships.

The internationalization of higher education plays a crucial role in enhancing the quality and competitiveness of educational institutions. By promoting cross-cultural understanding, global collaborations, and knowledge exchange, it creates an enriching environment for both students and faculty. Professor Dr. Shahid Munir's efforts in this regard have had a positive impact on the educational landscape of Punjab.

H.E.A.D. recognizes the significance of these initiatives, commends Professor Dr. Shahid Munir for his vision, leadership, and dedication and declares them as assets to the higher education system. The internationalization efforts implemented under Professor Dr. Shahid Munir's guidance have opened up new avenues for students, researchers, and educators, allowing them to explore global perspectives and experiences.



## Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir Highlights the Importance of Skills Development for Pakistani Youth on "Morning @ Home" Show

On June 22, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission made a special appearance as a guest on the popular show "Morning @ Home" on PTV. The show was hosted by Juggan Kazim. This particular episode of the show focused on a significant and thought-provoking topic—the importance of skills development for the talented youth of Pakistan.

During the show, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir and Juggan Kazim engaged in a stimulating conversation that shed light on the urgent need to empower and equip the youth of Pakistan with the necessary skills to thrive in the modern world. They delved into various aspects of skills development, exploring how it plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of the nation.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, shared valuable insights and perspectives on the topic. He emphasized the significance of fostering a conducive environment that promotes skill acquisition and nurtures talent from an early age. The discussion revolved around identifying and harnessing the potential of young individuals, providing them with opportunities to develop and refine their skills in alignment with their interests and aptitudes.



## Comprehensive Outcome Based Education (OBE) Training Workshop Empowers Faculty Members of Public Sector Universities In Punjab



On June 7, The Punjab Higher Education Commission, coordinated a comprehensive two-day training workshop focused on Outcome Based Education (OBE) specifically designed for faculty members of public sector universities in Punjab. The inaugural session of the workshop took place at the Institute of Agriculture Sciences, University of the Punjab. Adding their expertise and insights to the session, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, Faculty Dean, Prof. Dr. Saleem Haider, Chairperson, Department of Plant Pathology Prof. Dr. Tehmina Anjum, and Director Training at PHEC Dr. Asif Munir were present at the event,

The 50 faculty members from different universities across the province participated in the workshop. The objective of the training workshop was to equip faculty members with the necessary knowledge and skills to implement OBE principles in their respective institutions. OBE is a student-centered approach that focuses on the desired outcomes of the learning process. It aligns curriculum, teaching methodologies, and assessment practices to ensure that students acquire the essential knowledge, skills, and competencies needed in today's dynamic world.

The workshop consisted of comprehensive sessions delivered by Mr. Shahid Imran, Prof. Dr. Fahad Noor, and Prof. Dr. Muhammad Amjad. These sessions provided in-depth understanding and practical guidance on various aspects of OBE, such as its philosophy and principles, curriculum alignment, effective learning experiences, and quality assurance mechanisms. The faculty members highly valued the expertise and insights shared by the trainers.

Throughout the workshop, the participants actively engaged in discussions and shared their feedback and suggestions. Their valuable input enriched the learning experience and provided useful insights for the successful implementation of OBE in their respective institutions.

On the 2nd day, upon the successful completion of the training workshop, certificates of participation were awarded to all the faculty members. The commitment and dedication demonstrated by the participating faculty members, along with their valuable feedback and suggestions, highlight their strong determination to embrace innovative teaching methodologies and enhance the learning outcomes for their students.

PHEC expresses its gratitude to all the faculty members, trainers, and the Institute of Agriculture Sciences, University of the Punjab, for their active participation, valuable contributions, and support in making this workshop a success.





## Vice Chancellor's National Peace Conference: Promoting Peace and Tolerance within Universities



The Vice Chancellor's National Peace Conference themed "Academic Discourse on Countering Extremism: The Way Forward," took place on June 9, in partnership with the Federal Higher Education Commission (HEC), the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA), and the Shaoor Foundation for Education and Awareness (SFEA) aimed at countering extremism and promoting tolerance through academic discourse and community engagement. During the conference, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission, introduced a comprehensive peace formula consisting of 34 points, with the objective of fostering peace and tolerance among universities.

During his address at the conference, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized that respect for humanity and tolerance are key pillars of an educated society. Without peace and tolerance, higher education cannot flourish, and harmony and equality are crucial for the progress of nations. Recognizing the importance of fostering peaceful environments in universities, the PHEC put forth a comprehensive peace formula encompassing various aspects of promoting peace and tolerance within educational institutions.

Dr. Shahid Munir stressed the need for a "moral think tank" of experts in the country who can provide recommendations and act as role models in building a balanced society. Promoting peace and tolerance is essential in eradicating intolerance from society, as the primary purpose of education is to foster compassion, empathy, and goodwill among individuals.

To cultivate well-rounded personalities, the creation of a culture of dialogue and understanding within universities is imperative. The world at large is grappling with issues such as poverty, terrorism, climate change, and various conflicts. Extremist attitudes like xenophobia, Islamophobia, racism, and divisiveness only serve to fracture societies. Therefore, it is crucial to bridge gaps between people and societies and foster an environment of civilization and tolerance to facilitate development.

Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the importance of creating opportunities to enhance human resources, as intolerance only leads to destruction, and development cannot thrive in an atmosphere of civil unrest. He further urged political, social, and religious leaders to impart moral values to the people.

An important highlight of the conference was the signing of a Letter of Intent between NACTA and HEC Pakistan, reaffirming their commitment to collaborate for the cause of peace, tolerance, and inclusion on university campuses. This partnership aims to strengthen and sustain the progress achieved through the regional-level Vice Chancellors' conferences.

## Launch of Provincial Non-Formal Education Management Information System Scorecard (Punjab): Strengthening Education in Punjab



The Provincial Non-Formal Education Management Information System Scorecard (Punjab) was launched on June 12th at the Auditorium of Punjab Higher Education Commission. The launch event was organized in collaboration with the Pakistan Institute of Education, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and Punjab Higher Education Commission. The distinguished Chief Guest for the occasion was Rana Tanveer Hussain, the Federal Minister for Higher Education and Professional Training. Several esteemed individuals attended the event, including Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of Punjab HEC, Ms. Chi Ho Ohashi, Chief Advisor from JICA, Dr. Shazra Mansab Ali Khan Kharal, Chairperson, Board of National Education Foundation, Dr. Shahid Saroya, Director General, Pakistan Institute of Education, Dr. Khurram Shahzad, and other prominent educationalists.

During his address, Federal Minister Rana Tanveer Hussain expressed concern over the alarming situation of 23 million children not attending school. He emphasized the need for practical work and role models to address this issue effectively. He highlighted the efforts being made to alleviate the educational disparities among provinces and the importance of the Pakistan Institute for Education in this regard. The Federal Minister mentioned the transition from single curriculum to the National Curriculum and stressed the significance of qualified teachers for quality education. He also mentioned the construction of a world-class teachers' training center in Islamabad and the importance of developing skills in youth to meet the demands of the job market.

The Chairperson, Punjab HEC, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, reiterated the commitment to promote access to quality education in Punjab. He highlighted the low access rate to education, particularly in rural areas, and emphasized the need for mutual cooperation among all stakeholders to address this challenge. Dr. Munir emphasized the importance of the Non-Formal Education Management Information System (NFEMIS) in improving education management and enhancing the quality and accessibility of education in Punjab. He praised the Scorecard initiative as a significant effort to improve the educational landscape in the province.

Dr. Muhammad Shahid Soroya, Director General of Pakistan Institute of Education, presented the institution's performance and highlighted the positive impact of their efforts, with more than 24,000 children being enrolled in schools within a few months. He expressed confidence that this number would increase to 50,000 in the coming year. Chief Advisor JICA, Chi Ho Ohashi, and Dr. Khurram Shahzad also delivered addresses during the ceremony, sharing their insights and perspectives.

The launching ceremony of the Provincial Non-Formal Education Management Information System Scorecard (Punjab) brought together key stakeholders to address the challenges in education management and improve the educational landscape in the province. It showcased the commitment of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, Pakistan Institute of Education, JICA, and other organizations to enhance the quality of education and increase access for all in Punjab.



## Enhancing Educational and Trade Ties: PHEC Chairman Recommends Japanese Language in Curriculum

Punjab Higher Education Commission, Chairperson, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, expressed his intention to recommend the inclusion of the Japanese language in the curriculum. He made this announcement during a ceremony organized by the Pakistan Japan Socio-Economic Association, which aimed to promote the Japanese language.

According to Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, incorporating the Japanese language into the curriculum would not only enhance language skills but also contribute to fostering a free trade partnership with Japan. He emphasized that Japan holds a prominent position in industries such as automotive, electronics, and machinery.

Highlighting ongoing efforts to improve educational infrastructure and increase enrollment rates, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir stressed the significance of technical and vocational education in preparing a skilled workforce. He further emphasized that promoting the Japanese language in higher education institutions would generate additional employment opportunities for Pakistani graduates. He added that this initiative could also foster cooperation in fields such as IT, engineering, and manufacturing. Proficiency in the Japanese language was deemed crucial for securing scholarships as well.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's recommendations for incorporating the Japanese language into the curriculum aimed to strengthen educational and trade ties between Pakistan and Japan while creating avenues for employment and collaboration.





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**DAWN**  
TODAY'S PAPER | JUNE 17, 2023

**Call for inclusion of Japanese language in curriculum**

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) Chairperson Prof Dr Shahid Munir announced that the commission will propose the inclusion of the Japanese language in the curriculum during a ceremony organised by the Pakistan Japan Socio-Economic Council (PJSEC).

Dr Munir stated that the commission has made the decision to incorporate the Japanese language into the curriculum and will recommend it to the government. He said that the inclusion of the Japanese language will facilitate a stronger trade partnership between Pakistan and Japan, as Japan is a hub for industries such as automotive, electronics, and machinery.

Dr Munir highlighted ongoing efforts to enhance educational infrastructure and increase enrolment in higher education.

ment rates. He stressed the importance of technical and vocational education for the workforce, noting that the introduction of the Japanese language in higher education institutions will generate employment opportunities for Pakistani graduates, particularly in fields like IT, engineering, and manufacturing.

He added that proficiency in the Japanese language is crucial for securing scholarships, and mastering this challenging language will establish a solid foundation for a strong socio-economic partnership.

Consul Head of the Embassy of Japan Ryoji Iwasaki, Chief Mission Head Ito Takeshi, Kashif Anwar, President of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Kongso Hayatsu, IT Head of Pak Japan Centre.

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**The News** International Lahore, Friday, June 16, 2023

# Polymers, textiles backbone of national economy: PHEC chief

### Our correspondent

**CHAIRMAN** Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) Prof Dr Shahid Munir has said polymers, textiles and allied materials are the backbone of our country and there is a need to strengthen these sectors to uplift the national econ-

He was addressing the 1st national joint universities conference on Sustainable Indigenous Production & Upcycling of Polymers/Allied Materials (SIP-UP): Future Challenges jointly organised by Punjab University Institute of Polymer & Textile Engineering, Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute, Khawaja Fareed University of Engineering and Information Technology and University of Engineering and Technology (UET)

PU VC Prof Khalid Mahmood, Director of PU Institute of Polymer and Textile Engineering Prof Dr Shahzad Maqsood Khan, VCs from various universities, researchers, faculty members and students were present.

In his address, Dr Shahid Munir said that polymer is one of the most progressive materials in many areas replacing different materials with polymers. He said that textile industry was the largest manufacturing sector in Pakistan, accounting for a significant share of the country's GDP. He said that it contributed around 8.5% to the country's GDP and employed millions of people.

Dr Khalid Mahmood said that holding a joint conference of various uni-

versities will promote our local industry. He said that universities' researchers and industry experts should work together for sustainable development. The universities have to expand their scope of research according to the industry so that they can directly serve the public, he added.

He said that the future of Pakistan depends on the research done in the universities. The products made of polymer were causing environmental damages due to several reasons, for which development of environment-friendly polymer technology was necessary. He said that all departments should cooperate with each other to assess the effects of climate change and to eradicate such problems.

Prof Dr Suleman Tahir while speaking online said that to meet the challenges of the future, an integrated policy on sustainable environment-friendly, less toxic and recycled polymer materials and awareness was important.

Dr Fazal Ahmad said that the role of polymer was very important for various products and in many places the polymer was being replaced by steel. He said that the world was rapidly moving from physical to digital for which we also have to work together in the fields of science, engineering and technology.

On this occasion, CEOs, group heads and management officials of various industries took part in the panel discussion and termed the conference as a platform for mutual cooperation between industry and academia.

**ABC** **Daily Notable**  
Certified

**Celebrating the 125th Anniversary of Philippine Independence and 74th Anniversary of Philippine -Pakistan Bilateral Relations!**

Lahore: According to the sources of Daily Notalab, Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Philippine Independence and 74th Anniversary of Philippine-Pakistan Bilateral Relations? Honored to witness Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of Punjab HEC, attending the Flag Raising Ceremony at the Philippine Consulate in Lahore. During this auspicious occasion, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir had an engaging discussion with Her Excellency Maria Angeles M. Cervantes, Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines in Pakistan, focussing on enhancing



stand universities. This initiative aims to promote cultural understanding, and academic collaboration, and create lifelong friendships across borders

- PUNA

DAWN  
10-06-2023

By Our Staff Reporter

**LALORE:** Punglio, Higher Education Commission (PHCEC) Chairperson Prof Dr Shahid Muneer has emphasized the significance of respect for humanity and tolerance in the development of a peaceful society. He highlighted that harmony and equality are crucial for the progress and development of nations.

Dr Muneer expressed these views during his address at the Vice Chancellors National Conference on Higher Education Commission (HEC), and the National Counter Terrorism Authority (Necta).

The conference revolved around the theme "Academic Discourse on Countering Extremism - The Way Forward," which marks an important milestone in the implementation of HEC's vision and commitment to engagement through Tolerance Project.

Dr Muneer emphasized the need for a moral compass that is similar to those in developed countries, that can provide recommendations and strategies to be adopted to promote peace and tolerance and eliminate intolerance from society.

He stated that:

Dr Munir urged political, social and religious leaders to instill good values in people.

This partnership aims to strengthen and sustain the program, scheduled through the fourth quarter of the fiscal year 2000.

IIEC Chairman Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed shared his insights on the crucial issue of societal conflicts.

Dr. Zakir Husain, Nectra director general, highlighted the organization's efforts in unifying the state's response to extremism and terrorism through policies, action plans, and coordination.

He emphasized that this conference will lay the groundwork for a strategy to foster peace and harmony in educational institutions.

As a result of the conference, recommendations were prepared based on extensive research conducted in 30 universities.

04 | The Nation  
Thursday, May 04, 2023 | Labor

Universities can transform  
unskilled people into  
professional workforce: PHC

OUR STAFF REPORTER  
RAHAWA PUR

Prof Dr Shahid Munir has said that the country can be given a high position at the world level only by coming the workforce into human wealth. In this regard, the role of universities is which can transform unskilled people into professional workforce.

Says country can be given a high position at world level only by converting workforce into human wealth

ctors and Principal Officers of the Islamic University of Bahawalpur at the Vice Chancellor's Secretariat in Baghdad. He addressed the gathering on Wednesday morning. He said that it is very gratifying that the Islamic University of Bahawalpur is making progress in this direction under the leadership of Vice Chancellor Engr Prof Dr Athar Uddin. He said that the achievements achieved at the Islamic University of Bahawalpur in teaching and research forum are worthy of emulation for all universities. Especially, the establishment of new departments in health, medical allied sciences, engineering and technology.

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پاکستان کا مستقبل جامعات کی ریسرچ پر منحصر: مقررین

پنجاب یونیورسٹی میں جامعاتی کانفرنس سے شاہد منیر، خالد محمود دیگر کا خطاب

لاہور (ایجوکیشن رپورٹر) چیئرمین پنجاب ہائر ایجوکیشن کمیشن، پروفیسر ڈاکٹر شاہد منیر نے کہا ہے کہ پولیمر، ٹیکنیکل اور سائنس سے متعلقہ اکیڈمک کی معیشت میں ریزکھ بڑی کی حیثیت رکھتی ہیں۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے پنجاب یونیورسٹی انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف پولیمر اینڈ ٹیکنیکل انجینئرنگ، غلام اسحاق خان انسٹی ٹیوٹ، خواجہ فرید یونیورسٹی انجینئرنگ اینڈ ٹیکنالوجی، ٹیکنالوجی اور یونیورسٹی آف انجینئرنگ اینڈ ٹیکنالوجی لاہور کے زیر اہتمام پائیدار مقامی پیداوار اور پولیمر / ایلائیٹ میٹریلز کی اپ سائیکلنگ: مستقبل کے چیلنجز پر پمیلی کو مشترکہ جامعاتی کانفرنس سے الرازی ہال میں خطاب کرتے ہوئے کیا۔ ڈاکٹر شاہد منیر نے کہا کہ پولیمر تیزی سے ترقی کرتا ہوا مواد ہے۔ وہ سی پروفیسر ڈاکٹر خالد محمود نے کہا کہ پاکستان کا مستقبل جامعات میں کی جانی والی ریسرچ پر منحصر ہے۔ وائس چانسلر خواجہ فرید یونیورسٹی آف انجینئرنگ اینڈ ٹیکنالوجی رحیم یار خان سلیمان طاہر نے آن لائن خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ مستقبل کے چیلنجز سے نمٹنے کے لئے پائیدار ماحول دوست، کم زہریلے اور ری سائیکل پولیمر سے متعلق مواد بارے مریوط پالیسی اور کاغذی ضروری ہے۔ پروفیسر ڈاکٹر فضل احمد خالد نے کہا کہ پولیمر کا کردار مختلف اشیاء کے لئے بہت اہم ہے۔ ڈائریکٹر انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف پولیمر اینڈ ٹیکنیکل انجینئرنگ پروفیسر ڈاکٹر شہزاد مقصود خان نے بھی خطاب کیا۔













# PUNJAB HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

## INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH SUPPORT FELLOWSHIP (IRSF)

Phase V (2023-2024)

Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) invites applications from eligible full time PhD scholars of provincially chartered universities of Punjab for award of International Research Support Fellowship in Science and Technology, Social Sciences, Arts, Humanities and Management Sciences and for a period of six-months in top 200 QS world universities general ranking of 2024.

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

**The eligible candidate must have:**

1. Domicile from any district of Punjab.
2. Maximum 45 years of age on closing date of application.
3. Enrolled in a PhD program of any public/private sector university of Punjab and should have completed course work.
4. Applied after 1.5 years of enrollment and maximum up to 3.5 years in PhD program.
5. Passed the comprehensive examination (as per university norms).
6. PhD synopsis/ research proposal approved by the Board of Advanced Studies and Research (BASR) or equivalent statutory body of the university.
7. Valid acceptance letter from a foreign university/supervisor listed in top 200 QS world universities general ranking of 2024.

### GRANT PROVISION

**PHEC will provide funds to meet the following expenses:**

- 1) Bench fee (as per actual max. up to Rs.500,000/-)
- 2) Living allowance/stipend as prescribed.
- 3) Air ticket (as per actual max. up to Rs.300,000/-)

### HOW TO APPLY

Apply online at PHEC website and printed copy of application complete in all respects must reach on or before **August 03, 2023** at **05.00PM** through registered post only. Application submitted by hand will not be accepted.

Application form and related details are available at PHEC website: [www.punjabhec.gov.pk](http://www.punjabhec.gov.pk)



**DR. MUHAMMAD MUMTAZ ALI KHAN**  
**(DIRECTOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT)**

Punjab Higher Education Commission  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Arfa Software Technology Park, 346-B, Ferozepur Road, Lahore  
Ph: 042-99231903



# PUNJAB HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

## INTERNATIONAL POSTDOC SCHOLARSHIPS (2023-2024)

Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) invites applications from faculty of public sector colleges/universities chartered by the Govt. of Punjab for award of 8-10 months International Postdoc Scholarships. Preference will be given to emerging fields of science, technology and innovation that are applied, relevant to industry and have an impact on society.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The eligible candidate must:

1. Hold a PhD degree from an HEC recognized university.
2. Have maximum 45 years of age on closing date.
3. Be a regular (BPS or TTS) faculty member of a public sector university/college.
4. Have placement in a university listed in top 200 QS world university general rankings of 2024 and/or top 50 in QS subject wise ranking.
5. Submit a clearly written research proposal, relevant to the academic field, industry/society, and needs of the country.

## GRANT PROVISION

PHEC will provide bench fee, settlement allowance, stipend and return air fare under this scholarship, as per PHEC rules.

## HOW TO APPLY

Apply online at PHEC website and printed copy of application complete in all respects must reach on or before **August 10, 2023 at 05:00 PM** through registered post.

For more information, please visit [www.punjabhec.gov.pk](http://www.punjabhec.gov.pk)



**DR. MUHAMMAD MUMTAZ ALI KHAN**  
**DIRECTOR (HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT)**

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# PUNJAB HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

