



# Minstec Post

Monthly Newsletter of Ministry  
of Science & Technology Islamabad



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## Minister is briefed on MoST



### Message from the Federal Minister for Science and Technology

Science and Technology plays an essential and vital role in the development of any country. No nation can survive without achieving progress in Science & Technology. The Ministry of Science and Technology is maintaining its focus on desired programmes for promotion of Science and Technology in different sectors of the economy particularly in renewable energy, water management, health and industry, quality assurance and standards, oceanography, information technology through R&D Organizations / universities.

The Government is spending a substantial amount on human resource development, enhancement of infrastructure and upgradation of research potential at research institutes and universities to promote scientific and technological research activities.

It is heartening to know that the Ministry of Science & Technology is issuing for the first time, its newsletter, Minstec Post, which I am sure shall go a long way in chronically authentic information about ministry and its allied departments. The editor board deserves my heartiest congratulation.

After assuming the charge as Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Muhammad Yusuf Shaikh chaired the introductory meeting of Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST) on June 11, 2018. Federal Secretary MoST, Mrs. Yasmin Masood, Heads of Wings and Organizations of Ministry of Science and Technology attended the meeting. Secretary MoST gave a brief presentation

on the progress and different activities of Ministry of Science and Technology, working of R&D Organizations as well as academic activities of the two universities, future targets and budget constraints. Federal Minister appreciated the efforts and achievements of Ministry of Science and Technology. He assured his full support to address the issues of immediate nature of Ministry and its organizations.

## Minister visits PCSIR labs, Karachi

Caretaker Federal Minister for Science and Technology visited Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR) Labs Complex, Karachi on June 19, 2018. Dr. Shahzad Alam, Chairman PCSIR and senior management greeted him. Later, Dr. Shahzad Alam gave a brief presentation to the Minister about R&D activities, its targets and over all progress of PCSIR. The Honorable Federal Minister appreciated the role and efforts of PCSIR, towards industrial development

and assured his full cooperation on behalf of the Federal Government. The Federal Minister visited several laboratories of Karachi Complex and advised to undertake demand driven R&D projects/ assignments. He also desired that linkages with industries, academia and public/private sector organizations should be strengthened with an aim to solve industrial problems and sharing of human and material resources. Furthermore, Caretaker Federal Minister also planted a tree at Karachi Complex.





*Federal Minister visiting PCSIR Labs at Karachi*

### **CUI ranked first in Pakistan**

COMSATS University, Islamabad (CUI) again tops the list from Nature Index of high impact factor journal publications from Pakistan. The list consists of high-quality research outputs ranking table 2018 released by internationally reputed scientific publication house, The Nature. Punjab University & Islamia University ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **PSF announces Science Popularization & Journalist Awards 2017**

Pakistan Science Foundation in collaboration with Ministry of Science and Technology and National Press Club has announced that Mr. Syed Ali Mustafa Zaidi from Islamabad has won the Science Popularization Award 2017 of Rs. 100,000. The award will be given in prestigious ceremony during the next month.

### **Addition of state of the art Hybrid Rework Station facility at NIE**

Due to the Progress at National Institute of Electronics in different areas, the technology of Repair and Rework process must play a crucial role in strengthening the output of organization in terms of repair of costly & exclusive electronic boards. The Hybrid Rework Technology is product of this update with a new technique. The Institute is now capable of providing service of industry & military for reworking of equipment.

### **Design and development of Smooth Power Conditioning Unit**

Smooth Power Conditioning Unit (intended to improve the quality of the power) is being designed and developed in National Institute of Electronics (NIE) in order to provide pure sinusoidal wave with regulated voltage output. Line Conditioner streamlines voltage fluctuations, frequency disturbance and harmonics filtration in power line.

### **Project Formulation Workshop held at PSF**

The Chairman, Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) Dr. Qaiser Majeed Malik inaugurated a 2-day Project Formulation Workshop for R&D organizations of the Ministry of Science & Technology at PSF on June 26, 2018. Prof. Dr. Shafiq-ur-Rahman, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Kohat University of Science and Technology, Member Finance, PSF, Mr. Tafakhar Ali Asadi and Secretary, PSF, Dr. Raja Raziul Hasnain also attended the session.

The workshop was aimed at training researchers from R&D Organizations of the MoST. Researchers from NIE, NIO, COMSATS University, NUST, PCSIR, PCRWR and PMNH also attended the workshop. The Chairman, PSF said that the workshop is very important for scientists to equip them with the skills of preparing fund winning project proposals. He further added that PSF is providing financial support for projects under its various

programmes like research support programme, R&D Industry Programme, Natural Sciences Linkage Programme, Institutional Support Programme, Funding for Scientific Societies, academies etc. The Chairman, Dr. Qaiser Majeed Malik hoped that the workshop will help researchers in understanding the priority areas and funding process of Pakistan Science Foundation.



*Meeting of Chinese Delegation at NIO, Karachi*

### **Chinese delegation visits NIO**

A five member delegation from Second Institute of Oceanography (SIO) visited NIO from June 25-27, 2018. SIO delegation's visit was with the reference to installation of sediment trap in the offshore area and marine seismometer in the coastal area of Pakistan for oceanographic, environmental and coastal hazard monitoring.

## MoU to be signed between PSQCA, PCSIR

Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA) is introducing quality culture in high ranking laboratories of Pakistan to promote quality consciousness, as expressed by Director General, PSQCA, Mr. Abdul Aleem Memon, during his visit to PCSIR laboratories, Karachi. During the visit at PCSIR, DG PSQCA was briefed about the activities and workings of PCSIR. PSQCA and PCSIR agreed on cooperation to promote activities on Standards and Quality. Both organizations agreed in principle to sign the MoU soon to facilitate Industry, manufacturers and consumers. The MoU will be beneficial for both organizations.

## PCSIR, PepsiCo commit to provide Quality Products

In a ceremony held on June 08, 2018, PCSIR and PepsiCo reiterated their commitment to ensure the highest quality for PepsiCo's snack products. Both parties signed a MoU, focusing on third party monitoring and testing of PepsiCo snacks products by PCSIR. The agreement builds on an existing partnership, PepsiCo has had with PCSIR since 2009, whereby the Council tests and assesses the safety of PepsiCo snacks products, for which the potatoes and corn are 100% locally sourced from Pakistani farmers. PCSIR will ensure that PepsiCo's snack products are compliant to all local and international regulations on quality and food safety.

## Federal Secretary MoST inaugurates Renewable Energy Park



*Solar Dryer for fruit and vegetable*

Federal Secretary, Ms. Yasmeen Masood, MoST inaugurated Solar / Renewable Energy Technology Park at PCRET on May 23, 2018.

## Policy roundtable on building resiliency in GB

A policy roundtable was organized as communication, coordination and demonstration activity under WWF, ICIMOD and PCRWR collaborative project on June 26, 2018 at Karakoram University, Gilgit Baltistan. Chief Minister, GB, Mr. Hafiz Hafeez-ur-Rehman chaired the event whereas, Australian High Commissioner, Ms. Margaret Adamson was the guest of honor. Other senior officials also participated in policy roundtable. CM, GB shared his Government's vision of provincial development. PCRWR team gave on-site briefing on climate smart agricultural water management interventions. Members of delegation appreciated the efforts of PCRWR. The dignitaries also visited the sites located in upper Hunza i.e. Gulkin, Hussaini, Khyber, Popdun and Morkhun where community representatives also shared their experiences working on these sites.

## Distribution of laptops among STFS students

A group of 37 students were awarded laptops at Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) under the Development project "Science Talent Farming Scheme for Young Students". In this regard, a modest laptop distribution ceremony was held at PSF on June 21, 2018.

## IPEA approves PEC to award IPE license

Engineers of Pakistan will now be able to take their share in the world job market as International Professional Engineering Agreement (IPEA) has approved the authority of Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) to award the title of International Professional Engineer (I.P.Eng) to its professional engineers. The PEC has also been approved as permanent member of the IPEA. The decision on the PEC evaluation report to get full

membership of IPEA was taken in International Engineers Alliance meeting held in London on June 29, 2018. Engr. Jawed Salim Qureshi, Chairman, PEC and higher management of PEC has congratulated all engineers on this remarkable achievement. Chairman, PEC said that jobs of Professional Engineers of the whole world will now be open for Pakistani Engineers also.



*Chairman, PSF awarding Laptop to a student*



## Federal minister visits NUST



*Federal Minister Examining Robot at NUST*

Federal Minister for Science & Technology, Muhammad Yusuf Shaikh, paid a visit to National University of Sciences & Technology (NUST) on June 21, 2018. The Minister was accompanied by Additional Secretary MoST, Mr Qaiser Majeed Malik. The Minister was given a detailed briefing on the functioning, multi-dimensional growth and future plans of NUST, including the establishment of Pakistan's first-ever National Science & Technology Park (NSTP), and the Medical Devices Development Centre (MDDC). The Minister lauded the efforts of NUST management, faculty and researchers towards developing the university as a centre of excellence. Stressing the need for promotion of quality tertiary education in the length and breadth of the country, he praised NUST for taking its outreach initiatives to

Balochistan, FATA/KPK to provide opportunities for quality higher education to students from under-privileged and remote areas of Pakistan; he laid emphasis on expanding this outreach to other under-served areas like Interior Sindh. Rector NUST, Lt Gen Naweed Zaman, HI (M), (Retd), briefed the Minister that NUST has plans to expand the outreach programme to Interior Sindh and Gilgit Baltistan. After the briefing session, the dignitaries then, visited NUST School of Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering (SMME), NUST Medical Devices Development Centre (MDDC), a breakthrough facility in Pakistan for the indigenous production of heart stents, and NUST Technology Incubation Centre (TIC), which nurtures budding entrepreneurs in technology-related fields.

## Message of Secretary, MoST

The Scientific and Technological advancement during the last few decades has literally transformed the overall standards of living across the globe. Science and Technology parks and Technology Incubation Centers have emerged as a new source of entrepreneurship, talent, economic competitiveness and are key elements of the infrastructure supporting the growth of knowledge economy. For swift economic growth, Pakistan ought to generate, manage and use its resources most efficiently. In this regard, scientific and technological knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurship must be used as drivers of economic growth and progress.

The economic growth and social development of all countries depend on advances in scientific and technological (S&T) knowledge, which require sustained research efforts and the widest possible circulation and exchange of ideas and information.

Furthermore, the global challenges facing the world today demand a collective response from all affected parties ensuing science, technology and innovation in a positive way.

With these objectives, Ministry of Science and Technology develops linkages with friendly countries and international organizations for pursuing cooperation in the emerging fields of S&T, thus providing and opening opportunities to our scientists, researchers and engineers to interact with the outside world on the principles of equality and mutual benefits.

## PNAC participates in 2018 APLAC/PAC joint meetings

APLAC/PAC final joint meetings held in Kyoto, Japan. It was an important meeting as key decisions and resolutions were made on the APAC Constitution, related regulations and MRA documents as well as membership fee structure, to realise goal of forming the new entity by January 01, 2019. All committees and working groups continued to discuss and implement key work items to bring about positive change and greater synergy under the new scenario.



*Dr. Baqer Raza, Director General, PNAC, attended APLAC / PAC Joint Meetings at the Kyoto International Conference Center, Japan*