



### From the Chairman



*The science camps provide students opportunity of interaction with eminent scientists and learn about interesting phenomena of science. The science camps promote scientific literacy among the students, as these are designed to instill a deeper appreciation of what science is all about, the idea that science can be challenging as well as fun, and that science is both exciting and practical. These camps also help students understand that today's science is an interdisciplinary and cooperative endeavor and leads many students to pursue careers in science and choose to major in one of these*

To be continued

### Winter Science Camp-2012

## Passion Vital to Excel in Research: Dr Ishfaq Ahmad

PSF Chairman Dr Soomro Urges Students to Explore their Special Strength



Dr. Ishfaq Ahmad, Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro and Dr. Hamid Saleem at the First One-Day Winter Science Camp-2012 at the NCP.

The First One-Day Winter Science Camp-2012 was held at the National Centre for Physics (NCP), Quaid-i-Azam University Campus, Shahdara Valley Road, Islamabad on December 19, 2012.

Some 340 students from 45 educational institutions across Pakistan along with their professors & teachers participated in the camp aimed at motivating and inspiring youth to adopt research careers in high grade science & technology; as well as inculcating among them the importance of Physics, Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology and allied subjects in pursuit of high tech research and development.

The camp's day-long programme included thematic lectures, visit to scientific laboratories at NCP, group activities, display of model experiments on science and technology. PSF also organized an exhibition of S&T Models and Planetarium show for the students.

Renowned nuclear scientist Dr. Ishfaq Ahmad (N.I, H.I, S.I) former Advisor Planning Commission Government of Pakistan, ex-Chairman of Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) and Chairman of NCP Board of Governors) inaugurated the camp as the Chief Guest of the event.

NCP in collaboration with

Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) organized the camp attended by science students (14-21 years age group) from educational institutions (high schools, colleges, universities) from across Pakistan.

Addressing the inaugural session of the camp, Dr Ishfaq Ahmad called upon students to develop passion for knowledge and then transforming it into technology for use of the mankind. He said Pakistan could not make progress like western countries due to various reasons. Dr. Ahmad said in old days science and technology were two different things but in today's age technology and science are interlinked.

Science brings knowledge and

### Quote of the Month

“Science is facts; just as houses are made of stone, so is science made of facts; but a pile of stones is not a house, and a collection of facts is not necessarily science.”

—Jules Henri Poincaré, French mathematician.

From the Chairman

fields in their future studies. Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) is utilizing all possible means, including the organization of science camps, to promote science for socio-economic growth of the country. The Foundation in collaboration with other scientific institutions is arranging winter and summer science camps in the country mainly for high school students interested in learning more about modern science. The students do not have to be science majors to attend, but those who have taken several science courses gain the most from this programme. Students from across the country are being encouraged to participate in these camps.

It is responsibility of all scientific and educational institutions to come forward to make these camps meaningful, build collaboration for promotion of science and further improve such programmes. PSF will welcome any suggestions and plans in this regard to promote scientific literacy among the masses.



Dr. Ishfaq Ahmad, Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro and Dr. Hamid Saleem address the participants of the First One-Day Winter Science Camp-2012 at the NCP.

technology shapes it into useable form, he said, adding, knowledge breeds more knowledge but it is a big challenge to generate knowledge.

He also quoted the example of Nobel Laureate Dr. Abdul Salaam, who studied at Government College of Jhang and then at Government College Lahore and got world recognition through his work.

Recalling his memories, Dr Ahmad said Dr. Abdul Salaam told him that he worked 12 hours a day and believed that his work would earn good name for him. He urged the students to develop passion for their work.

Dr. Ishfaq Ahmad said Dr. Abdul Salaam in 1970s suggested the holding of a yearly event for young scientists and as a result Nathiagali Summer College is being organized for the last 35 years.

PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro in his address said such events are very important for the Foundation as they provide an opportunity to renowned scientists and youth to gather at



PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro and Prof. Dr. Aslam Baig view PSF Science Models exhibition during Winter Science Camp at NCP on December 19, 2012.

one platform and interact with each other. Dr. Soomro said Allah has created every individual with some special quality that nobody else possessed. The individuals must explore this quality and strength of mankind, he added.

The Chairman highlighted PSF's different functions, activities and achievements. Dr. Soomro said PSF undertakes a number of science popularization activities for the students including science caravans (mobile science exhibitions), strengthening the laboratories of the government high schools in rural areas,

science poster, essay and quiz competitions and popular science lectures etc. He made a mention to PSF's programme of students' interaction with Nobel Laureates and inquiry-based science education programme-LAMAP going on in collaboration with French Embassy. He said on the initiative of PSF five students participated in London International Youth Science Forum 2012. He asked the students to visit PSF website for benefitting from the Foundation's such programmes. NCP Director General Dr. Hamid Saleem said NCP Islamabad has been established on the lines of International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy to promote research in Physics and related disciplines, and to develop a science culture in the country. Dr. Saleem said public-oriented departments like NCP are meant for youth, who are future of Pakistan. "We want that there should be more Nobel Laureates like Dr. Abdul Salaam from



PSF officials brief students about scientific models and solar system (planetarium show) during the Winter Science Camp at NCP.

Pakistan,” he said. Dr. Saleem urged the students to adopt science as career and work with passion to become a Nobel Laureate and revolutionize the society through science culture. NCP Director Collaborations & Academic activities Department Dr. Riffat Mahmood Qureshi in his introductory remarks said since its inception the NCP has been organizing different national and international scientific events every year in which a large number of young



PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro awards certificates to participants & organizers of the Winter Science Camp.

Pakistani students and scientists & researchers. He said one-week, they received over 500 nominations of students from across Pakistan and they selected 340 of them for participation in the science camp, which shows students interest in the science subject. The PSF Chairman was Chief Guest at the closing ceremony during which students and teachers expressed their views about the camp. They thanked NCP and PSF for it and said such activities should be a regular feature to provide them opportunity of interaction with top scientists. The Chief Guest, Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro on this occasion also awarded certificates to participants of the Winter Science Camp.



A group photo of Winter Science Camp organizers and teachers with PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro

## Science Clubs, LAMAP Associated Teachers Awarded

Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) held a Review Meeting and Award Ceremony for the Science Clubs and Inquiry Based Science Education (IBSE) – La main a la pate (LAMAP) associated teachers on December 20, 2012.

PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro chaired closing ceremony of the meeting, while Director General Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) Dr. Shahnaz A. Riaz was the Guest of Honor on this occasion. PSF Member Science Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibutoto, FDE Director Training Mr. Abdul Waheed and PSF Principal Scientific Officer Dr. Naushaba Atta were also present in the ceremony attended by heads of educational institutions, LAMAP associated teachers



PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro chairs closing ceremony of LAMAP Review Meeting on Dec 20. DG FDE Dr. Shahnaz A. Riaz, PSF Member Science Dr. Khalil Ibutoto and FDE Director Training Mr. Abdul Waheed are also present.

and students. PSF is running LAMAP programme in collaboration with French Embassy. During the Review Meeting, two Resource Persons from National Institute of Scientific and Technological Education (NISTE) Mr Imran Ahmad Khan and Ms Tahira Abdullah guided the teachers in experiments/class activities

designed by them for inquiry based science education. The resource persons evaluated the activity and checked the level of students' confidence in asking questions from teachers to understand different scientific phenomenon.

Addressing the closing ceremony, PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro called upon the principals and teachers

to work with PSF for evolving some mechanism to institutionalizing the concept of science clubs in educational institutions. He said it is necessary that the basic concepts of science should be clear to all the teachers. Dr. Soomro said PSF is working on a programme to engage science graduating students for assisting the said teachers in designing classroom activities. FDE DG Dr. Shahnaz A. Riaz thanked the PSF for training the FDE teachers. She said it is imperative to build the human resources that are vital for development of any country. The DG said PSF helped FDE in training of Islamabad teachers and the Foundation should also make some programme for training of teachers of FDE's other 400 educational

institutions.

FDE Director Training Mr. Abdul Waheed said only 19 percent teachers in FDE schools are with science background. He suggested that there should be some policy for induction of science teachers through Federal Public Service Commission. He assured FDE cooperation in all those activities that may benefit the students.

On this occasion, eight schools which got Rs 25,000 each grant for Science Clubs in 2nd Phase included IMS, Near Mughal Market, I - 8/1, Islamabad, IMCB, F-7/3, Islamabad, IMS (Boys) (VI-X), I -10/2, Islamabad, FGBS, Lohibhair, Islamabad, IMS (Boys) Rawal Dam, Islamabad, FGGSS, QAU



Hands on activities of the students being assessed by the experts from NISTE during the Review Meeting of LAMAP on December 20, 2012.

Colony, Islamabad, FGGSS, Zeba Samin, DHM from Tarlai, Islamabad and IMCG, FGGSS No. 6, I-10/4, Islamabad, Mr. Sultan Mahmood, DHM I M S (Boys), I-10/2, Islamabad, Mr. Abdul Rauf, TUGT, IMS (Boys), I-10/2, Islamabad, Mr. Ahsan Rafiq, MTT FGBS, Lohibhair, Islamabad, Ms.

Irfan Azeem, TUGT IMS (Boys), Rawal Dam, Islamabad, Ms. Hanifa BiBi, TUGT FGGSS, Quaid-e-Azam University Colony, Islamabad, Ms. Shaheen Khurram, TGT, FGGSS, Tarlai, Islamabad, Mr. Imran Akbar, MTT, FGBSS, Bhadana Kalan, Islamabad, Ms. Sumaira Yaqoob, TUGT, IMCG, Thanda Pani (F.A), Islamabad, Mr. Amir Khatoon, JLT, IMCG, G-10/2, Islamabad and Ms. Rehana Begum, IMS, I-8/1, Islamabad. Services of Federal Directorate of Education's focal person for teachers training Mr. Nadeem Ahmed, Assistant Director, were acknowledged on this occasion by Pakistan Science Foundation.



PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro awards cheques of grants to science clubs in educational institutions and teachers.

## MAB Programme Revived in Pakistan

The UNESCO's Man and Biosphere (MAB) is an intergovernmental programme to set a scientific base for improvement of relationships between people and their environment globally.

The MAB Programme has been revived in Pakistan due to the joint efforts of PSF, MoST and UNESCO Pakistan. In this regard, the first meeting of National Man and Biosphere (MAB) Committee of Pakistan was held on December 04, 2012. Mr. Akhlaq Ahmad Tarar, Federal Secretary, Ministry of Science & Technology/Chairman National MAB Committee-Pakistan chaired the meeting.

The meeting was attended by 23 members representing provincial Forest and Wildlife Departments, Ministry of Climate Change, MoST,

UNESCO, PSF, PMNH, IUCN and WWF-Pakistan.

The Federal Secretary appreciated PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro for reviving MAB Programme in Pakistan and enabling the National MAB Committee to function again after a long period of dormancy.

The PSF Chairman being the Co-Chairman of National MAB Committee delivered a presentation on the concept of Biosphere Reserves and their role in conservation and

development. He highlighted the role of MAB Programme for conservation of natural resources and their sustainable use for socio-economic uplift of the local communities. The Chairman also briefed the meeting on the UNESCO-MAB institutional setup with its main components and functionaries as well as the main stakeholders of Biosphere Reserves. He elaborated the role of National MAB Committee at the federal level and the key functions to be performed by Provincial MAB

Committees. Dr. Muhammad Rafique, Country Focal Person for MAB Programme and Curator, ZSD, PMNH, gave a presentation on the status of MAB Programme in Pakistan and criteria for declaring biosphere reserves. Details on Ziarat Juniper Biosphere Reserve and the status of Lal Suhanra National Park were also shared. The next meeting of National MAB Committee was decided to be held at Lal Suhanra National Park, Bahawalpur.



Mr. Akhlaq Ahmad Tarar, Federal Secretary, Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST) presides over the first Meeting of National MAB Committee at MoST.

[Conference on “Sustainable Development in South Asia: Shaping the Future”](#)

## PSF Chairman Calls for Research, Situation Analysis & Need Assessment for Future Planning

Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro chaired a session on “Role of Public Infrastructure in Reshaping Asia's Future”, on December 12, 2012 during Fifth Sustainable Development Conference titled “Sustainable Development in South Asia: Shaping the Future” organized by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in Islamabad at a local hotel from December 11-13, 2012.

The speakers of this session included Dr. Yumei Zhang from China, Dr. Nadia Tahir from University of Lahore, Mr. Naveed Iftikhar from Ministry of Finance and Dr. Vaqar Ahmad from SDPI.

Making transport and communication infrastructure's comparison of regional countries, the PSF Chairman,



PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro chairs a session on “Role of Public Infrastructure in Reshaping Asia's Future”, during Conference on “Sustainable Development in South Asia: Shaping the Future” organized by SDPI.

Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro, stressed the need for research studies in situation analysis and need assessment for future planning to develop transport and communication infrastructure in Pakistan.

Dr. Soomro said the researchers must collect independent data for future plans. He said investment in infrastructure is vital to reshape Pakistan's future. He said Pakistan is spending less than 0.5% of GDP

in Railways infrastructure as compared to 4% by India and 12.5% by China and as the result China's railway system is considered number one in the world. He also pointed out that Pakistan Railway's revenue and expenditures' gap is widening day by day due to its less earning and increase in wages by the government. He called for paying attention to these factors as well to improve railway infrastructure in the

country.

Dr. Yumei Zhang said China's growth rate is 10 percent per annum and it is 2<sup>nd</sup> largest economy in the world. He said though China is 2<sup>nd</sup> largest population of poor people, labor costs in China are witnessing 10 percent increase each year.

Dr. Nadia Tahir said Pakistan Railway has great potential but inefficiency is killing it. She said rail industry linkages are the answer to growth of railway in Pakistan.

Talking about Pakistan's power sector, Mr. Naveed Iftikhar said investment in this sector is badly needed. He said we will remain fragile if we continued to depend on imported fuel. He said the government makes good plans but there is no action on them and this trend should be revisited.

### Science Centre Faisalabad Up-gradation Discussed

PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro along with his team including; Member Science Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto, PASTIC DG Dr Muhammad Akram Shaikh, PSF Secretary Mr. Haider Zaman Khattak, Science Popularization Principal Scientific Officer Dr. Naushaba Atta and Senior Scientific Officer Mr. Abdul Rauf visited Science Centre Faisalabad on December 15, 2012.

The visit was aimed at reviewing the performance and matters pertaining to

Science Centre Faisalabad, Science Caravan Punjab Unit and PASTIC Sub-centre. The chairman held a meeting with the officers and staff concerned and technical matters regarding the up-gradation of Science Centre and PASTIC Sub-Centre were also discussed. The Chairman directed the Science Centre Faisalabad staff to approach local industrialists and philanthropists for strengthening and expansion of the Centre.



A group photo of PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro and the team of the PSF Science Centre Faisalabad on December 15, 2012.

### 22nd Intra Board Science Essay & Poster Competitions Continue

PSF's 22nd Annual Intra Board Science Essay and Poster Competitions are going on in all boards of intermediate and secondary education (BISEs) of the country under science popularization programme of the Foundation.

Kohat, Faisalabad, Multan, Peshawar, Larkana, Sukkur, Lahore, Karachi, Gujranwala, Rawalpindi, Mirpur (AJK), Hyderabad, DG Khan, Abbottabad and Sargodha boards have completed the Competitions process and announced the results.

### Scientific Literature Donated to High Schools

Donation of popular science magazines and scientific books is one of the regular activities of PSF under its science popularization programme. Copies of Monthly “Global Science” magazine (Oct and Nov) and quarterly “Urdu Science Magazines” were distributed among 1,500 schools in December 2012.

## Modalities Discussed for Indigenous Production of Color Sorter

PSF Chairman Dr Manzoor H. Soomro, and PSF R&D-Industry Programme team leader Dr. Mirza Habib Ali held a meeting with National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTTC) Chief Executive Mr. Tariq Shafi Chak and NUST Rawalpindi College of Electrical & Mechanical Engineering's Assistant Prof. Dr. Sajid Ullah Butt on December 26, 2012. They discussed modalities of colour sorter development in collaboration with private sector. The issue of the colour sorter was raised by the private sector to improve rice quality in the country and R&D Industry Programme has undertaken the responsibility of its indigenous production in Pakistan. Dr. Mirza Habib Ali delivered a talk on "Career Entrepreneurship" during one-day workshop on "Minds to Market" organized by National Academy of Young Scientists (NAYS) at CIIT, Abbottabad on December 01, 2012. The same talk was also



PSF Chairman Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro holds a meeting with NAVTTTC Executive Director Mr. Tariq Shafi Chak to discuss development of Rice Colour Sorter in collaboration with private sector.

delivered at the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad on December 15, 2012 at the event of "Skill Development Workshop" jointly organized by NAYS and Agrarian Society.

## PSF Chairman Inaugurates Flower Show Competition at UAF



PSF Chairman Prof Dr Manzoor H. Soomro inaugurates Flower Show Competition at University of Agriculture, Faisalabad on December 15, 2012.

PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro inaugurated Flower Show Competition at University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF) on December 15, 2012. Addressing the inaugural ceremony, Dr. Soomro stressed the need for organizing such competitions regularly. He said competitiveness is imperative to improving the quality of different products. He said floral industry is growing in the world and various countries are earning a major chunk of foreign exchange through

improving the quality of flower crops and their export. Pakistan Science Foundation Chairman Prof. Dr Manzoor H. Soomro was also the Chief Guest at "Skill Development Workshop" jointly organized by National Academy of Young Scientists (NAYS) and Agrarian Society at the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, on December 15, 2012. Young scientists of the area and the University's faculty members attended the workshop. The Chairman highlighted PSF

programmes aimed at promotion of science and technology in the country. He especially talked about the Foundation's programmes meant for young researchers. The PSF Chairman called upon the young scientists to fully benefit from this workshop as well as PSF's research funding programmes. Dr. Mirza Habib Ali, Team Leader, R&D-Industry Programme, Pakistan Science Foundation, delivered a talk on "Career Entrepreneurship" during the one-day workshop.

## PSF Represented in Symposium on Dice Concept 2012

Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) Member Science Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto and Sr. Science Promotion Officer Syeda Rehana Batool participated in a symposium titled "Dice Concept 2012: Distinguished Innovations, Collaborations and Entrepreneurship" jointly organized by British Council and University of Engineering and Technology (UET), Taxila on Dec. 19-20, 2012, at the UET, Taxila.

Symposium's two sessions on "Power Crisis & Development of Power Generation Resources in Pakistan" and "Role of Media in Promoting the Importance of Higher Education in Pakistan" were of special interest to them. On this occasion, the PSF Member Science interacted with participants of the symposium, especially vice chancellors of the universities and exchanged views on research projects related to energy crisis and energy production in the country.

## PSF, UNESCO Officials and Chinese Delegates Discuss Collaborative Programmes

A meeting of PSF officials, UNESCO's regional officials and Chinese, Japanese and Australian experts in disaster management was held at PSF on December 12, 2012. PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro chaired the meeting which discussed PSF and UNESCO collaboration in the region. Mr. Shahbaz Kahn, UNESCO's Regional Science Bureau for Asia and Pacific headed the 8-member delegation of UNESCO. PSF Member Science Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto and PASTIC DG Dr. M. Akram Shaikh were also present.



PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro presides over meeting with UNESCO officials and Chinese delegates.

PSF Director Planning and Development Dr. Darakhshanda Kokub gave presentation on the Foundation's organizational structure, functions and activities. UNESCO officials said their visit to Pakistan is multi-purpose and it will open new doors of collaboration in the region.

The meeting decided that 2013 will be Year of Cooperation and UNESCO and PSF will organize Caravan Exhibitions in Punjab and Sindh on Water Issues and innovative systems of disaster management. Matters related to Man and Biosphere Programme, Biodiversity, Indus Dolphin and Palla fish conservation also came under discussion.

Chinese Experts from Capital Normal University, Beijing, China, suggested that there should be some linkage between National Science Foundation China, Chinese Scientific Institutions and PSF. They said UNESCO network can help in exchange of staff and students and offered Beijing University's support for it.



PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro meets Lahore Children Library Complex (CLC) Project Director Ms. Shahera Shahid at his office on December 28,

### PSF, Children Library Complex Authorities Plan Joint Activities

PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Mohsin and Principal Scientific Officer Dr. Naushaba Atta and Children Library Complex (CLC) Project Director Ms. Shahera Shahid held a meeting which also discussed at the former's office on various aspects of the MoU designed for mutual collaboration between the two organizations to promote scientific research and popularize science among children.

### NSLP Monitoring Team Visits ongoing Research Projects at Peshawar

PSF's Natural Sciences Linkages Programme (NSLP) is currently funding 45 research projects, which are at different stages of execution, across the country. Ten projects are running successfully in three different institutes in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) province. Of them eight are going on at Nuclear Institute for Food Agriculture (NIFA), Peshawar, one each at KPK Agricultural University, Peshawar and COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, Abbottabad. PSF has devised a system of monitoring to get a better idea about the issues of principal investigators (PIs) in projects' execution.

Dr. Mirza Habib Ali, Principal Scientific Officer visited COMSATS Abbottabad on Dec 1, 2012 to evaluate the progress of ongoing project "Wheat Improvement by the use of Targeted Genomic Approaches".

The project has completed its first two years and its progress was found satisfactory.

Another monitoring team comprising Prof. Dr. M. Saqlain Naqvi, Member Technical Committee of NSLP, Dr. Mirza Habib Ali, PSO-NSLP and Nasir M.

Khokar, SSO visited the projects at NIFA, Peshawar and KPK Agricultural University, Peshawar on Dec 11, 2012.

The team discussed issues and hurdles regarding execution of projects and observed that all the projects are going on smoothly.



Dr. Mirza Habib Ali, PSO observing the field trails at COMSATS, Abbottabad.



PSF monitoring team observes the laboratory trails at NIFA Peshawar.

## Science Caravan Exhibitions Continue in Different Parts of Country

Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) Caravans continued exhibitions in different parts of the country to popularize science among students and general public.

In December 2012 Science Caravan Federal Unit arranged science caravan exhibition at National Centre for Physics (NCP), Islamabad on the occasion of First One-Day Winter Science Camp, jointly organized by PSF and NCP on December 19, 2012. About 400 students and teachers participated in the exhibition.

Science Caravan Sindh Unit (Sukkur) arranged science caravan exhibition at Govt. Boys High School, Taluka Mehar District Dadu on December 9-20, 2012 and 3,550 students and teachers from 20



Students are being briefed by Science Caravan Jaffarabad Unit Staff inside Planetarium system at Usta Muhammad.

schools participated. The Tandojam Unit arranged exhibition at Govt High School (Boys and Girls) Nagarparker and Chachro District Tharparker from November 20 to December 08, 2012.



Students are being briefed about Scientific Models (Tandojam Unit)

About 3,679 students and teachers from 19 schools benefitted from it.

The Science Caravan Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) unit arranged science exhibition in GHS Latambber and GGSS Chokara District Karak on December 3-23, 2012. As many as 3,987 students and teachers from 26 schools participated in it.

Science Caravan Jaffarabad Unit organized exhibition in the schools of Tehsil Usta Muhammad, District Jaffarabad from November 13 to December 6, 2012. Some 4,413 students and teachers from 20 schools participated in these exhibitions.

Science Caravan Punjab Unit arranged exhibition at the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF) for schools/college on December 03-05 and 1,100 students visited the exhibition. The exhibition was also arranged at Community College & School, PARAS Campus UAF and Laboratory Higher Secondary, main campus, UAF on December 10-12 and December 17-21 respectively. These exhibitions were visited by 2,570 students.



Students wait in queues to visit science caravan exhibition at Govt. Boys High School, Taluka Mehar District Dadu, while Irfan Sheikh, Assistant Director, Science Caravan Sukkur Unit supervises the activity.

### Important Meetings

PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro participated in following important activities held during December 2012:

- Film Screening of "Snow Leopard: Beyond the Myth" followed by a panel discussion with Pakistan Wildlife experts on the occasion of Wildlife Conservation Day 2012 in the Conference Room of Department of Social Sciences, QAU, Islamabad on Dec 5. The US Ambassador was the Chief Guest.

- Chaired Meeting on the Presidential Technology Award at PSF on December 6.

- Inaugural Ceremony of PCRWR Commercialization and Innovation Cell at PCRWR Auditorium on December 6.

- Public Accounts Committee Meeting in

the Committee Room of Parliament House on December 7.

- Meeting of the Preliminary Sub-Committee of President's Medal for Technology in PSF on December 7.

- Inauguration of SDPI's 15th Sustainable Development Conference at Hotel Best Western, Islamabad on December 11.

- Inauguration of 2-Day Conference on "Productivity, Growth and Poverty Reduction in Rural Pakistan: The Pakistan Strategy Support Program (PSSP) First Annual Conference" at Planning Commission Auditorium on December 13.

- Chaired PSF's Technical Committee on Biological Sciences Meeting on December 13.

- Meeting to review the promotion policy of PCSIR in the Committee Room of MoST on December 20.

- Inaugural Ceremony of Production of High Quality Solar Panels from mono Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells at PCRET, Islamabad on December 21.

- 10th Convocation of Shifa College of Medicine and Shifa College of Nursing at Bahria University Auditorium, Islamabad on December 22.

- Seminar on "Turning Customer Interactions into Business Insights" organized by TERADATA at Marriot Hotel, Islamabad on December 27.



# Pakistan Museum of Natural History (PMNH)

Editor: Dr. Saleem Ahmad, Curator

## Avenues of Cooperation Between PMNH-Balochistan Forest & Wildlife, Livestock, Dairy Development and Sindh Education Departments Explored

Mr. Ghulam Ali Baloch, Secretary, Forest and Wildlife Department and Mr. Muhammad Naseem Lehri, Secretary, Livestock and Dairy Development Department, Government of Balochistan visited Pakistan Museum of Natural History (PMNH) on December 5, 2012. Mr. Muhammad Akhtar Javed, Senior Operational Manager, PMNH along with the Directors received the Secretaries, who visited the display galleries and laboratories of the museum. The PMNH scientists briefed the guests about the museum functions, collection, achievements, displays and future plans. They also held a meeting with the Senior Operational Manager and Directors of PMNH to explore the avenues of



Secretaries, Forest & Wildlife and Livestock & Dairy Departments, Balochistan and PMNH officers pose for group photo with life-size display of Baluchitherium at PMNH.

cooperation between PMNH and Balochistan Livestock & Dairy Development and Forest & Wildlife Departments.

During the discussion various options came under consideration including MoU, development of Natural History Centre at Hangol National Park, providing software of VOG and training to the teachers from Balochistan about VOG software and for the construction of Ziarat Juniper forest exhibit at PMNH. They were of the common view to strengthen bilateral cooperation to increase love and friendliness among the people of Balochistan with the people of other regions.

Mr. Mukhtiar Hussain Soomro, Secretary

Education, Government of Sindh, visited Pakistan Museum of Natural History (PMNH) on December 21, 2012. Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro and PMNH Senior Operational Manager Mr. Muhammad Akhtar Javed received the guest. They visited different galleries and Laboratories of the Museum. The PMNH scientists brief the secretary about the museum functions, collection, achievements, displays and future plans. During the discussion various options came under consideration including about VOG software.

Later, the PSF Chairman along with PMNH staff belonging to Christian community cut a cake to celebrate Christmas with them. The Sindh Government Secretary Education was also present. The Chairman also gave gifts to the staff on this occasion.



Mr. Mukhtiar Hussain Soomro, Secretary Education, Government of Sindh, visits PMNH. PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro is also present.



PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro cuts to celebrate Christmas with PMNH staff.

## University of Swat Vice Chancellor Visits PMNH

Prof. Muhammad Jahanzeb Khan, Vice Chancellor, University of Swat (UoS), Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), visited PMNH on December 6, 2012. Mr. Muhammad Akhtar Javed, Senior Operational Manager, PMNH received the guests.

Prof. Dr. Manzoor Hussain Soomro, Chairman, PSF was also present during the visit. The guest visited the display galleries of PMNH.

He remarked that these displays



University of Swat VC Prof. Muhammad Jahanzeb Khan with PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro, PMNH Senior Operational Manager Mr. M. Akhtar Javed and PMNH Directors during his visit to PMNH on December 6.

are unique informative source further said that UoS will of informal education. He support all kinds of research

activities within Swat, including the establishment of the Institute of Gemology, which was proposed by Dr. M. Nayyer Iqbal, Director Earth Sciences Division, PMNH. After the visit to displays, the guest held a formal discussion with Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro, the Chairman, PSF, Mr. Muhammad Akhtar Javed, Senior Operational Manager and others senior officials of PMNH to foster collaboration between the two departments.

## French & PMNH Scientists Conduct Joint Research



Prof. Dr. G. Matias and Prof. Dr. Sarfraz H. Solangi meeting with PMNH officers.

Dr. Gregoire Matais from Paris Museum of Natural History, France and Prof. Dr. Sarfraz Hussain Solangi, Director, Institute of Applied Earth Sciences, University of Sindh, Jamshoro, visited Pakistan Museum of Natural History (PMNH) on December 3, 2012. Senior Operational Manager, PMNH Mr. Muhammad Akhtar Javed and senior scientists received the distinguished guests, who visited different display galleries and repositories of Earth Sciences Division (ESD).

They also held a meeting with the Senior Operational Manager and geologists of ESD. Dr. Nayyer Iqbal, Director, ESD, briefed the guests about the functions of museum and research activities of geoscientists through multimedia presentation. Dr Matais also shared his views on research project. His team has been collecting faunal evidences from the area of Rani Kot, Sindh to unlock the

secrets of past climate. Dr. Gregoire Matais and Prof. Dr. Sarfraz Hussain Solangi discussed about the possibilities of future research collaboration among PMNH, National Museum of Natural History, Paris and University of Sindh. They mutually decided that both museums will facilitate collaborative research and display activities.

ESD, Paris Museum of Natural History and University of Sindh scientists also carried out joint field work in the village of Ranikot, 50 Km east of Jamshoro, Sindh. Consul General of French Embassy (Karachi) along with his delegation also visited the Ranikot Fort. He encouraged PMNH and French Museum of Natural History's research collaboration.



The French Consul General with the PMNH, Paris Museum of Natural History and University of Sindh, Jamshoro scientists at Ranikot, Sindh.

## Winners of Painting Contest on Ozone Layer Awarded



A group photo of winner students and organizers of the art competition on Ozone layer

Pakistan Museum of Natural History (PMNH) organized an Art Exhibition and Prize Distribution Ceremony of drawing sketches on the topic "Ozone is our Friend" here the other day to celebrate 25 years of Montreal Protocol. PMNH organized the event in collaboration with Ozone Cell, Ministry of Climate Change and an NGO, Funkor, Islamabad. Mr. Asif, Manager Ozone Cell and Ms. Fozia Minallah, Director of Funkor were also

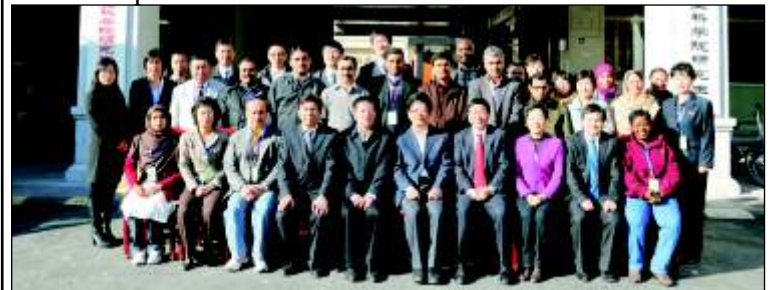
present on the occasion. Mr. Muhammad Akhter Javed, Senior Operational Manager PMNH was the chief guest. The art competition was arranged among the students from remote areas' schools to create awareness about ozone layer's rapid depletion and its causes. PMNH Sr. Operational Manager inaugurated the exhibition and later on distributed prizes among the position securing students.

## PMNH Botanist Gets Training in Plant Factory Technology

Ms. Shehnaz Zakia, Research Associate, Botanical Sciences Division (BSD), PMNH countries as well as attended a 20-day training developing collaboration in workshop on High Efficient advanced research to Plant Factory Technology strengthen the scientific and technical relationship.

from November 10-30, 2012 in Beijing, China. Ministry of Application of soil-less culture Science and Technology, (hydroponics and aeroponics) China with the collaboration being used in plant factories of Graduate School of Chinese were introduced to the Academy of Agricultural participants of the workshop.

The PMNH scientist also programme attended by 20 visited Beijing Natural scientists and researchers History Museum and from nine countries. The National Zoological Museum workshop was aimed at of China.



A group photo of participants of the training workshop on High Efficient Plant Factory Technology in Beijing, China.

## PMNH Participates in Farmer Sharing Mela at NARC

PMNH established an educational and informative stall during FAO-Alumni Association Network (AAN) Farmer Sharing Mela held from December 19-20 at National Agriculture Research Centre (NARC), Islamabad. The farmer-groups from Azad Jammu Kashmir, Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), Punjab and Sindh provinces participated in this fair and presented their innovation in a farmer-to-farmer forum, followed by interactions with private sector providing services and goods for farmers. Scientists from NARC presented recent outputs ready for adaptation by the farmer in their farms. PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Manzoor H Soomro and PARC Chairman Dr. Iftikhar Ahmed practically introduced the basic concept of IPM-FFS based approach. PMNH displayed different natural history specimens related to activity. Dr. Muhammad Ismail, Mr. Naseem Ahmed Khan and their team facilitated the visitors about specimens and aim and objective of the organization. The FAO representatives, Chairman PARC, Senior Operational Manager PMNH and other officials visited the stall and appreciated the efforts



Mr. Akhter Javed, Mr. Abdul Rahim Rajpar and Dr. M. Ismail with PARC Chairman Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad at the PMNH stall during AAN Farmer Sharing Mela at NARC.

being made by PMNH/PSF to general public, officials visited promote science and the stall. A souvenir shield was technology in the country. More also awarded to PMNH for than 2500 scientists, students, participating in the event.

## Pakistan Scientific & Technological Information Centre (PASTIC)

*Editor: Syed Aftab Hussain Shah*

### PASTIC signs MoU with RIU

Pakistan Scientific and Technological Information Centre (PASTIC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Riphah International University (RIU), Islamabad on December 15, 2012. The MoU signing ceremony was held at RIU, Islamabad. The MoU is aimed at

developing cooperation in areas of information resources, University-Industry Partnership (UIP), training and collaborative research to promote digital content security at country's cyber space through development of National Information Security (NIS) forum.



PASTIC DG Dr. Muhammad Akram Shaikh, RIU Faculty of Computing Dean Dr. Saad Naeem Zafar exchange MoU document after the signing it, while RIU VC Prof. Dr. Anees Ahmad is also present.

### MUET VC Visits PASTIC

Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan Rajput, Vice Chancellor (VC), MUET visited PASTIC National Centre, Islamabad on December 5, 2012.

PASTIC Director General Dr. Muhammad Akram Shaikh welcomed the VC at PASTIC. Mr. Muhammad Aqil Khan, Additional Director (STI) gave a presentation to the VC on PASTIC activities while Mr. Saifullah Azeem, Sr. System Analyst delivered a demonstration on PASTIC website. The VC appreciated the services being rendered by PASTIC for the scientific research community of the country.

During discussion, a consensus was made for opening PASTIC S&T Cell at MUET for serving the academia / researchers and scholars through PASTIC Information Services; activity such as organizing PASTIC services exhibition/seminar. Later on, awareness seminars and stalls (quarterly); sharing of



Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro Chairman, PSF along with D.G. PASTIC, Dr. Muhammad Akram Shaikh present a PASTIC souvenir to Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan Rajput, VC, MUET during visit at PASTIC National Centre, Islamabad.

information resources (library and databases, digital and non-digital) available at PASTIC & MUET and possibility of holding a joint University-Industry Partnership (UIP) activity such as exhibition/seminar. Later on, The VC visited different sections of PASTIC.

## PASTIC Arranges Service Awareness Seminars

PASTIC and its Sub-Centers continued organizing awareness seminars and stalls on PASTIC S&T Information Services in different parts of the country.

PASTIC Sub-Center, Peshawar organized an Awareness Seminar on PASTIC S&T Information Services and a Publication Stall at the Pharmacy Department, University of Peshawar on December 26, 2012. Ms Ghazala Yasmeenn Malik, Deputy Director, PASTIC Sub-Center, Peshawar and Dr. Jamshaid Ali Khan, Associate Prof. Pharmacy Department,

coordinated the event. PhD, MPhil research scholars and faculty members attended the seminar and registered themselves as a free member of PASTIC.

A seminar was also organized for BSc Honors to PhD level researchers at Zoology Department, University of Peshawar to promote PASTIC S&T information services on December 11. Ms. Ghazala Yasmeenn Malik, Deputy Director, PSC, Peshawar delivered a comprehensive presentation on PASTIC/PSF S&T information services.



Mr. Muhammad Hasnain, Deputy Director (STI), PASTIC Sub-Centre, Faisalabad briefs the researchers about the PASTIC services at National Textile University, Faisalabad.

PASTIC Services brochures were distributed among the participants. Bibliographic Service was provided to 21 students while 34 students researchers/students and senior faculty members visited the stall and submitted their topics for data acquisition.



Ms. Ghazala Yasmeen Malik, Deputy Director (STI), PASTIC Sub-Centre, Peshawar briefs the students about PASTIC services.

## PASTIC Reprographic Unit Manager Attends Workshop in Germany

Mr. Zaheer Nasir, Manager Reprographic Unit (MRU), Pakistan Scientific and Technological Information Centre (PASTIC) visited Heidelberg, Germany and attended two days Managers meeting/workshop from 10-11 December, 2012 for the use of Heidelberg Equipment. He visited different manufacturing and production units of Heidelberg and its utilization through computer console.



Mr. Zaheer Nasir, Manager Reprographic Unit (MRU) with Dr. Ali Makari, Area Sales Manager, at Heidelberg Demonstration Hall, Germany.

## PASTIC, UoB Collaboration Discussed

During the month of December, Acting Asst. Director (STI), PASTIC Sub-Centre, Quetta held meetings with Dr. Muzaffar, Dean of Research, Sardar Bahadur Khan Women University, Quetta and Director, CASVEB (UoB), Quetta, Dr. Rasool Baksh Tareen, Dean of Life Sciences, University of Balochistan, Quetta and Librarian, Sandeman Provincial Library, Quetta for seeking possibility of collaborative activities including PASTIC services awareness by organizing stalls and seminars in the respective organizations/universities.

### Pakistan Science Foundation

Constitution Avenue, Islamabad  
Phone: 9201887, Fax: 9202468  
www.psf.gov.pk  
E-mail: psfsecy@psf.gov.pk

### Pakistan Museum of Natural History

Garden Avenue,  
Shakarparian, Islamabad  
Phone: 9252086, 9252087  
www.pmnh.gov.pk

### PASTIC National Centre

Q. A. University Campus, Islamabad  
Phone: 9248103-04, Fax: 9248113  
www.pastic.gov.pk  
E-mail: director@pastic.gov.pk