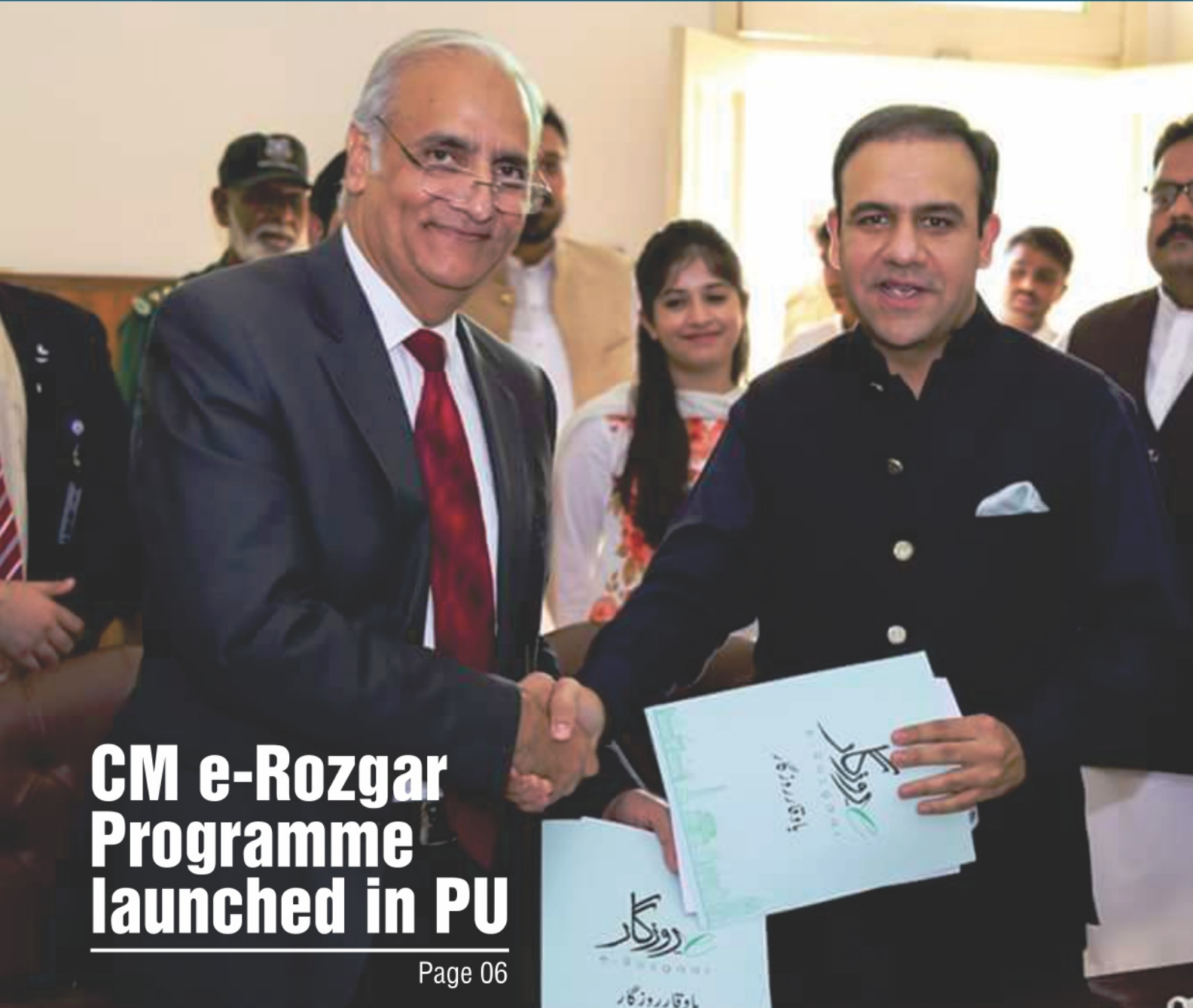




August 01-15, 2017

NEWSLETTER OF UNIVERSITY OF THE PUNJAB, PAKISTAN (ESTD. SINCE 1882)



## CM e-Rozgar Programme launched in PU

Page 06



Page 08

Campus Life: Students perform at annual dinner

Page 13

Excelling in IT: PUCIT Job Fair attracts multinationals

Page 14

Speakers vow to eradicate narcotics from Pakistan

Page 15

PU wins 120 athletic championship



## Chief Minister's Message

We are living in the world of knowledge economy. In the past, manpower, mine resources, fertility of land and geographical whereabouts had been the significant resources for the economic enrichment. No doubt, these four resources still have the importance but there is the fifth much inevitable and the foremost reserve that is economic growth on the basis of knowledge.

In this context, the government has put the foundation of Higher Education Commission at provincial level. The Government of Punjab has taken a big step to establish a Knowledge Park in Lahore to comply with the International Research and Education. This is Pakistan's first Knowledge Park and for it, 852 acres land has been allocated. In this Park, the best and the prominent universities of the world would establish their campuses where our students will get opportunities to get world-class education in their own land.

I am much hopeful that our efforts and sincerity will prove as milestone for Punjab as well as Pakistan's education-based economic growth. I hope that along with manpower, mine resources, fertile land and geographic importance, the fifth resource – education based economy, will play an auxiliary role to make our beloved Pakistan a peaceful, honourable, strong and prosperous country in the comity of nations.

## Vice Chancellor's Corner

Established in 1882 in historically and culturally alive city of Lahore, University of the Punjab is the largest and oldest alma mater of Pakistan. Since its inception, PU has provided conducive environment to the students for achieving academic excellence. This varsity is an academic world with its 42,000 on-campus and over 0.5 million off-campus students. PU is the first choice for seeking admission because of quality education, high value degree programmes, affordable tuition fee, amiable environment and state of the art hostel facility. Our mission is to generate new knowledge at technological forefronts and produce adequately skilled manpower required by indigenous industries.

We are focusing on applied research and innovation to provide solutions to the challenges faced by the country.



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# Editor's Note

PU News has been relaunched with a new cover design and masthead under the administration of Vice Chancellor Dr. Zaffar Mueen Nasir, who is very concerned about the university's world ranking and its image building. The second edition of the newsletter is in your hands and we have made it fortnightly to give you quick updates about policy decisions of the university, conferences, seminars, research contribution, external linkages, student activities, university distinction and achievements. This edition highlights Chief Minister's message about education, Iqbal Memorial Lecture and other activities. The inauguration ceremony of Chief Minister's e-Rozgaar Centre was held on July 14, 2017 at Jhelum Campus in collaboration with Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB). PU won various national sports competitions and we decided to adorn the tile with such a distinction in the national athletic championship, while blending it with the e-Rozgar scheme and other important events. We invite your feedback and brief reports on our students and teachers' distinctions for publication in the upcoming editions at: punews@pu.edu.pk.

Stay writing and stay blessed.

(Editor)

## In this edition

PAGE **04** | **Interview**  
We have restructured ORIC, says Dr. Tahir Jamil



PAGE **07** | **External Linkages**  
Belgian experts to help improve research projects' quality



PAGE **10** | **Philosophy**  
Need to read Iqbal a new, says Dr. Absar



PAGE **13** | **Job Fair**  
Excelling in IT: Job fair at PUCIT attracts multinationals



PAGE **14** | **Awareness**  
Speakers vow to eradicate narcotics from Pakistan



PAGE **15** | **Distinction**  
PU grabs HEC inter- university volleyball competition



## We have restructured ORIC: Dr. Tahir Jamil

# PU focusing on research, innovation based solutions

By Abdullah Qureshi

Punjab University Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (PU-ORIC) has been restructured and we have achieved a lot of quick milestones. Our focus is not merely getting registered patents but to contribute practically by giving research based solutions to the country, said Prof. Dr. Tahir Jamil during an exclusive interview. Following are some excerpts from our talk with him:

**Q.1. What key achievements have you made since you assumed the office of Director ORIC, Punjab University?**

**Dr. Tahir:** Since my joining, ORIC has been restructured and a lot of quick milestones have been achieved. Initially, hierarchy of ORIC has been completed by the induction of three deputy directors; Dr. Syed Nadir Hussain from Institute of Chemical Engineering, Dr. Farah Shakoory from Department of Zoology and Muhammad Haris from GIS Center, PUCIT. Following is a brief overview of the most recent achievements of the ORIC.

- ORIC has organized 6th Invention to Innovation Summit on March 8-9, 2017 at University of the Punjab, representative from ORIC has participated in World Intellectual Property Day.
- Over 40 projects have been submitted by the



faculty members to Punjab Higher Education Commission through ORIC for the Thematic Research grant.

- ORIC has organized five meetings with the EPA department, UET, PU and PCSIR on the issue of the replacement of polyethylene bags with the biodegradable bags to encourage the development of linkage between industry and academic.

**Q.2. How many patents are in the credit of Punjab University so far?**

**Dr. Tahir:** PU has filed 16 patents from different faculties and a few are in process. These patents are in the process of commercialization. CEMB has negotiated with FMC to commercialize a patent on genetically modified cotton seed that is going through field experiments in the cotton belt of Southern Punjab. College of Pharmacy has patent its project as Life Saving Drugs. Now OIRC is encouraging all faculty members to submit the laboratory findings (products) that have the potential for commercialization through university-industry linkages. ORIC has planned to organize regular workshops on Patent Filing & Intellectual Property System for awareness of the faculty.

**Q.3. What new initiatives you are planning in coming months?**





We are planning to replace ORIC old website, to promote university industry linkages, entrepreneurship awareness, improvement of quality of research, commercialization of research, patent filing, awareness workshops/ seminars, organize faculty training and research seminars to improve teaching and research output.

**Q.4. What incentives your office offers to those teachers/students who contribute significantly in research, innovation and invention?**

To encourage originality in research, ORIC will organize the Best Innovative Idea Award among the faculty members.



- Faculty members who will commercialize their projects/research work will be rewarded.
- ORIC will facilitates the faculty members for



submission of NRPU Projects, SIOP, PHEC Research Projects, Startup Research Grant and Thematic Research Grant.

- ORIC is giving cash awards for the best technology, best oral presentation and best poster presentation to the participants in the annual national "Invention to Innovation Summit".

**“Our focus is not merely getting registered patents but to contribute practically by giving research based solutions.”**

# CM's e-Rozgaar Program launched at PU Jhelum Campus

JHELUM: The inauguration ceremony of Chief Minister's e-Rozgaar Centre was held on July 14, 2017 at University of the Punjab Jhelum Campus in collaboration with Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB).



PU Vice Chancellor Dr. Zaffar Mueen Nasir was the chief guest while Dr. Umar Saif, Chairman PITB was guest of honor on this occasion. Mr. Sajid Latif, Director General e-Governance (PITB), Mr. Nabeel A. Qadeer, Director Entrepreneurship (PITB) and Syeda Mehak Jamal Zaidi, Senior Program Manager e-Rozgaar (PITB) were also present.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by Vice Chancellor Dr. Zaffar Mueen

Nasar University of the Punjab Lahore and PITB Chairman Dr. Umar Saif.

## Dr. Zaffar Mueen and Dr. Umar Saif sign MoU

Dr. Zaffar Mueen Nasar acknowledged the vision of Chief Minister Punjab and appreciated the efforts of Dr. Umar Saif and his team. The vice chancellor showing his concern about Jhelum region, said it has a long history of producing talented people, especially army persons. He however, said the future belonged to knowledge economy and wars can only be won through extensive knowledge based on research and innovation.



## E-ROZGAAR

## CENTER LAUNCH

## UNIVERSITY OF THE PUNJAB, JHELUM CAMPUS





Punjab University has signed an MoU with a Belgium-based PUM-The Netherlands Senior Experts for improving quality of research, projects and cooperation in other areas of mutual interest.

In this regard, an MoU signing ceremony was held at committee room of the Vice Chancellor's office. PU Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Zafar Mueen Nasir, Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) Director Prof Dr Tahir Jamil, PUM-Netherlands Country Coordinator Afghanistan, Pakistan Frans Friedman and others were present on the occasion. According to the MoU, PUM-The Netherlands Senior Experts will provide PU with consultancy

## Belgian experts to help improve research projects' quality

services through deploying senior experts as volunteer professionals on mutually agreed conditions and understanding.

Addressing the meeting, Dr Zafar Mueen Nasir said that the consultancy services PUM in collaboration with PU would first execute a fact finding mission. He said that after the successful execution of the fact finding mission, PU and PUM would draft a mutually agreed upon project plan which would specify the consultancy services and the timeline. He said that PUM senior experts would also make special travel arrangements for the senior expert.

## PU students to get internships at Chinese ICET



Punjab University Institute of Chemical Engineering and Technology (ICET) has signed a memorandum of understanding with Shenyang

University of Chemical Technology, China.

In this regard, a ceremony was held at Vice Chancellor's office in which PU VC Prof Dr Zafar Mueen Nasir, PU ICET Director Prof Dr Amir Ejaz, Dean at Shenyang University Prof Weiru Chen and Registrar Dr Muhammad Khalid Khan were present on the occasion.

Later, Shenyang University delegation visited ICET and visited laboratories, met students and teachers of the institute. Shenyang University of Chemical Technology has agreed to provide 20 internships to 6th semester students of ICET. In this regard, they will provide opportunity to ICET students with all the expenses of boarding and lodging covered for six weeks internship every year.



Students of Girls Hostel No. 4 perform a skit at annual dinner.



PU Chief Medical Officer Dr. Tehseen briefs Vice Chancellor regarding free sugar test camp at university Health Center.



Students of Girls Hostel No. 5 perform a skit at annual dinner.



Students of PU Institute of Education and Research (IER) pose for a photo at annual sports gala.



Students perform a skit at the annual dinner.



PU students hoist university flag after winning the National 20th Athletic Championship at university greens.



PU VC Dr. Zafar Mueen Nasir, Dean Dr. Fakhar-ul-Haq Noori and Dr. Muhammad Kamran present team trophy to winners of Oriental College annual sports winners. Dr. Sardar Asghar is also present.



PU VC Dr. Zafar Mueen visits a stall in the Textile Exhibition at College of Art and Design.





Students of Girls Hostel No. 9 perform a skit at annual dinner.



Students of Girls Hostel No. 6 perform a skit at annual dinner.



PU Teaching Department student wins the 20th All Pakistan Athletic championship



Students show their certificates after learning Chinese language course from PU Confucius Centre.




Students of PU Institute of Education and Research (IER) pose in cultural dresses at annual sports gala.



Students of Girls Hostel No. 11 perform a skit at annual dinner.



Students of Girls Hostel No. 05 perform a skit representing national personalities and professionals at annual dinner.



**Iqbal Memorial Lecture**


Topic  
**Need to Re-Read Iqbal and Beyond**

Speaker  
**Prof. Dr. Absar Ahmad**  
Formerly Chairman, Department of Philosophy  
University of the Punjab

Presided by  
**Prof. Dr. Zafar Mueen Nasar**  
Vice Chancellor, University of the Punjab

**Wednesday April 26, 2017**

**Organized by: Department of Philosophy, University of the Punjab, Lahore**




# Need to read Iqbal a new: Dr. Absar

Punjab University Department of Philosophy organized Iqbal Memorial Lecture on "Need to re-read Iqbal and beyond" with Dr. Absar Ahmed as the keynote speaker.

Punjab University Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Zafar Mueen Nasir, Philosophy Department Chairperson Dr Shagufta Bukhari, senior faculty members and a large number of students were present at Al-Razi Hall on this occasion.

Dr. Absar Ahmed said that Allama Iqbal needed to be read anew in the light of more recent development in human thought. He said that indeed, of the vitality and vigour of Islam, there could be no proof wanting in our own days. He said that today, secular modernity was incapable

of sapping its spiritual energy and shaking its cultural foundations. He said that in an age bent upon civilizational suicide, Islam offers a venue of hope, sanity and universal bliss.

PU Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Zafar Mueen Nasir said, "we must have faith in ourselves in the light of teachings of Allama Iqbal. Unfortunately, we are not committed to our goals as our youth has neither recognized nor fixed their responsibilities." He congratulated Dr Absar for his thought-provoking and scholarly lecture. Dr. Shagufta Bukhari said that every person of any society could seek guidance from the teachings of Allama Iqbal maintaining national identity.



# National symposium on personalized medicine

Punjab University Institute of Biochemistry and Biotechnology (IBB) organised a national symposium on personalized medicine, detection, diagnosis and treatment.

PU Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Zafar Mueen Nasir, Acting Director IBB Prof Dr Javed Iqbal Qazi, Incharge IBB Dr Mahjabeen Saleem, resource person Dr Johar Ali, Dr Asma Manzoor, faculty members and a large number of students were present on the occasion.

Addressing the inaugural session, Dr Zafar Mueen Nasir said, "We must take interest in information about our body. The only difference between

human beings and animals is knowledge, otherwise similarity between genetic map of human beings and animals is about 95 percent". In his address, Dr Johar Ali threw light on genome sequencing, biotechnology data generation, data interpretation, data analysis and data mining. He said that biotechnologists would have to come forward in various fields in which scientists were advancing in the modern world.





## Dr. Zafar emphasises writing unbiased history

Punjab University Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Zafar Mueen Nasir has said that historians must write history without any prejudice and rewrite what happened in the past to preserve facts for the upcoming generations so that they can unearth facts.

He was addressing the book launching ceremony of Dr Naumana Kiran on "The Federal Cabinet of Pakistan Formation and Working, 1947-1977" published by Oxford University Press at the Al-Raazi Hall.

Faculty of Arts and Humanities Dean Prof Dr Iqbal Chawla, Dr Massarrat Abid, Dr Naumana Kiran, Dr Farhat Mahmood, Tariq Haq, senior faculty members and large number of students were present on the occasion.

Addressing the ceremony, Dr Zafar Mueen Nasir said that most historians wrote history with their

own perspective. He said that realities were either ignored or distorted. He said, "It is unfortunate that our history has biases". He congratulated Dr Naumana Kiran on writing the first book of its kind and pointing out strengths and weaknesses of the era. The speakers appreciated Dr Naumana Kiran on providing comprehensive information regarding federal cabinet in that era and congratulated her on achieving this exclusive milestone.

**“Most historians wrote history with their own perspective, realities were either ignored or distorted”**



## Excelling in IT: Job fair at PUCIT attracts multinationals

The 7th job fair of the Punjab University College of Information Technology (PUCIT) attracted 43 leading multinational and national IT companies for around 700 students of the college. Punjab University Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Zafar Mueen Nasir, while speaking on the occasion, said that PU College of Information Technology (PUCIT) had been producing market-driven graduates due to which graduates were playing a leading role in multi-national and national IT companies. PUCIT Principal Prof Dr Syed Mansoor Sarwar, faculty members and a large number of students were present on the occasion. As many as 43 leading multinational and national IT companies had set up their stalls and around 700 students participated in the event. Dr Zafar Mueen Nasir said that leading

multinational and national IT companies were benefiting from the expertise and ideas of PUCIT graduates, who were working on key positions. He said that such events provide a good job opportunity for students. Prof Dr Mansoor Sarwar said that many of these companies had been started by PUCIT graduates. He said that the purpose of the job fair was to facilitate our graduates in matching their skills and abilities with the available career opportunities by having them interact with recruitment executives and team leads of various software houses. He said that participant companies had conducted interviews and preliminary recruitment tests, collected CVs, presented technological trends and shared job descriptions/specifications of the available opportunities with the students.



## Speakers vow to eradicate narcotics from Pakistan

Speakers at an awareness seminar vowed to play their role and eradicate narcotics from the country and make Pakistan a drug-free country.

They were speaking at an awareness seminar on "Drugs and Anti-Narcotics" organised by Punjab University Centre for Applied Molecular Biology (CAMB) in collaboration with Anti-Narcotics Force, Punjab and Willing Ways (Pvt) Ltd at Al-Raazi Hall.

Punjab University Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Zafar Mueen Nasir said that academic institutions must play their role to help government institutions for complete eradication of narcotics from the country.

Punjab Anti-Narcotics Force Commander Brigadier Khalid Mahmood Goraya, Willing Ways Director Dr Saddaqt Ali, Faculty of Life Sciences Dean Prof Dr Muhammad Naeem Khan, CAMB Dr Nadeem Sheikh, faculty members and a large number of students were present on the occasion.

Brigadier Khalid Mahmood Goraya said that narcotics trade had become an issue of national security now. He said that due to efforts of Pakistan's security agencies, Pakistan was now a

poppy-free country. However, he said, "We are the victim of regional production of poppy in Afghanistan". He said that Pakistan was playing an important role in saving the world from the menace of illicit drugs.

Brigadier Goraya said that according to the United Nations, Pakistan stood among the top positions in the previous years for seizure of narcotics in huge quantities. He said, "This

showed our seriousness in the mission. We have 98 percent ratio of convictions of criminals arrested in drug cases, which is the highest ratio in the world".

He said that unfortunately, there were 6.45 million drug users in Pakistan aging

between 15-64 years. He said that the Anti-Narcotics Force had established 21

police stations and five regional directorates to strictly monitor drug trade routes. He said

that since 2013, as many as 1119 cases had been registered and 1,489 criminals had

been arrested. He said that ANF had also established drug rehabilitation centres and some 8,000 patients had been given treatment free of cost.

Brigadier Khalid Mahmood Goraya advised the students to point out people involved in the business of illicit drugs and play their role in creating awareness.

Dr Nadeem Sheikh said that narcotics trade was an attack on the country and society and, through it, youth were being targeted.





## PU win 120<sup>th</sup> athletic championship

Punjab University Teaching Department showed outstanding performance and won 120th PU Intercollegiate Boys Athletic Championship held at New Campus ground.

PUTD scored 303 points in the competition, the Government Akhwan Burki College stood 2nd by obtaining 169 points, while Government College Jhang bagged the third position with 111 points.

Government Akhwan Burki College's Zulqarnain was declared the best athlete who secured 54 points in the championship. A prize distribution ceremony was held at the New Campus ground in which PU VC Prof Dr Zafar Mueen Nasir, Sports Committee Chairman Prof Dr Shahid Kamal, Students Affairs Director Shahid Mahmood Gul, Sports Acting Director Shamsa Hashmi, Sports Additional Director Mahmood Khalid Chaudhry, officials and a large number of players were present on the occasion.

In the two-day competition, 31 teams from affiliated colleges participated in the event in which competitions of hammer throw, long jump, discs throw, rally race, shot put, high jump etc were held.

PU VC Dr Zafar Mueen Nasir appreciated the talented students and said that PU was playing its role in the development of the country. Later, the VC distributed shields and cash prizes among the players and winning teams.

## PU grab HEC inter-university volleyball competition

Punjab University Teaching Department (PUTD) has shown outstanding performance and secured the first position in the 4-day Higher Education Commission (HEC) 40th Inter University Volleyball Championship 2016-17.

Superior University Lahore grabbed the runners-up position, Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan obtained the third and University Central Punjab got the fourth position.





## Punjab Governor urges positive thinking for development

Punjab Governor and Chancellor Punjab University Malik Muhammad Rafiq Rajwana has said that so far, around 310,000 students have received laptops under the Chief Minister's laptop scheme and after completion of the fourth phase, more than four hundred thousand students would have received the laptops purely on merit basis. He was addressing the inaugural ceremony of 4th phase of Chief Minister's Laptop Scheme at Faisal Auditorium. Punjab University Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Zafar Mueen Nasir, Higher Education Department Secretary Nasim Nawaz, senior faculty members and a large number of students from various institutions of higher learning were present on the occasion. Addressing the ceremony, the Governor said that failures in the field of education foiled

nations and the journey on the road to development got halted. Addressing the ceremony, Dr Zafar Mueen Nasir said that the Punjab government was helping poor students through PEEF scholarships.

He said that in HEC-The Educationist Co-curricular Competitions 2017 organised at PU, the students from Daanish Schools obtained most of the positions, which reflected that

the government's investment in Daanish Schools had proved fruitful. He said that the Punjab governor had supported PU administration in every problem faced by the university. Earlier, the governor distributed laptops among distinguished students of various universities. Earlier, Punjab Police presented guard of honour to laptop recipients in Faisal Auditorium.

