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From the Chairman



"Behold! In the creation of the heavens and the earth; in the alternation of the night and the day; in the sailing of the ships through the ocean for the benefit of mankind; in the rain which Allah Sends down from the skies, and the life which He gives therewith to an earth that is dead; in the beasts of all kinds that He scatters through the earth; in the change of the winds, and the clouds which they trail like their slaves between the sky and the earth -- (Here) indeed are Signs for a people that are wise." (Surah Al-Baqarah, 2:164)

This inspiring declaration of the Qur'an stimulated the Muslims in the medieval period to research and investigate nature and natural phenomena that resulted in laying the foundation of practical science. Qur'an correctly describe natural phenomena in various disciplines and many of the processes and functions mentioned in it have been

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PSF Participates in Punjab Youth Festival 2013-14

S & T organizations Expo Center, Lahore during participated in S&T Expo the Punjab Youth Festival held on March 1-3, 2014 at (PYF). Mr. Hamza Shahbaz



Federal Minister for S&T, Mr. Zahid Hamid visiting the PSF stall. Mr. Abdul Rauf, SSO briefing the distinguished guests about PSF activities.

Sharif, MNA/Chairman Steering Committee requested the ministries including Ministry of Science & Technology (MoST) for participation in the PYF. MoST Designated Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) as Focal organization for S&T organizations regarding arrangements of S&T Pavilion in the PYF. The basic Purpose of this event was to provide an opportunity to the citizens of Pakistan of all ages to

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PSF Organizes "Invention to Innovation Summit-2014" in Lahore

Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister/ Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission inaugurated the two-day "Invention to Innovation Summit-2014" at University of the Punjab, Lahore on March 19, 2014.

The summit was jointly organized by Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF), Institute of Research



(L to R) Dr. Mirza Habib Ali, Team Leader, R&D-Industry Programme, PSF, Prof. Dr. Aamir Iqbal, Director, ORIC, University of the Punjab (UoP), Lahore, Dr. Mujahid Kamran, VC, University of Punjab, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister, Prof. Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto, Chairman, PSF, Prof. Dr. Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector, University of Management & Technology and Mr. Abid H.K. Sherwani, CEO, Institute of Research Promotion at inaugural ceremony of the Summit.

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From the Chairman

discovered only recently. Some examples are the Big-Bang Theory, Sex Chromosomes, Sex determination, solar orbit and human embryology etc.

Mankind has just entered the 21st century in terms of the Common Era. This age is rightly called the information age with computers, electronic mail and business and commerce and the Internet with WEB pages. All these developments are due to inventions and innovations to further improve functioning of different technologies that facilitated the mankind. Inspired from the birds flying in the sky, Wright Brothers in 1903 invented the first powered, heavier-than-air machine to achieve controlled, sustained flight with a pilot aboard. This historic and groundbreaking achievement of two small town businessmen invented a technology that defined the 20th century through different innovations in it by the coming generations. Thomas Edison invented light bulb and later on innovations in it led to energy savers etc to save electricity and improve its functioning. These are examples of some inventions and innovations which revolutionized the entire world.

Inventions and innovations are imperative to compete the world market in present era of science and technology. To achieve this objective Pakistan Science Foundation has launched different programmes i.e. Inquiry-Based Science Education, Funding for Research Projects, R&D Industry Programme, Awards to encourage Inventions and Innovations as well as holding Inventions and Innovation Summits in the country to encourage private and public sector entrepreneurs for showcasing their products and discuss their problems. The students and public-private sector R&D organizations as well as individuals should take full benefit from these programmes to make the country self-reliant in science and technology and overcome different national issues such as energy and water crisis etc.

indulge in healthy activities. One of the important features of the PYF was revival of economic activity in the Country. PSF coordinated with all S&T organizations and obtained their data for participation in S&T Expo. In this regard, a number of meetings were held regarding arrangements of participation of MoST in the Festival.

All S&T organizations under MoST showcased their achievements and products at their stalls which contained Story Boards, Large Screen LCD Displays, and Touch Screen System for self-oriented learning of student as well as Posters, Brochures and Presentations. PSF and its two Subsidiary Organizations namely Pakistan Scientific and Technological Information Centre (PASTIC) and Pakistan Museum of Natural History (PMNH) participated in the S&T Expo and arranged their stalls. The Expo was inaugurated by Federal Minister for S&T Mr. Zahid Hamid on March



Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto, Chairman, PSF briefing Mr. Zahid Hamid, Federal Minister for S&T about Dinosaurs Models on display at the Expo.

1, 2014 at the Expo Center, Lahore. He along with Rana Mashhood, Provincial Minister for Sports and other distinguished guests visited all stalls including the PSF.

Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto, Chairman, PSF, briefed the Federal Minister about PSF stall and activities. Dr. Ibupoto also presented PSF souvenir to the S&T Minister. Provincial Minister for Sports Rana Mashhood, DG Sports Mr. Usman Anwar and Ms. Hania Noor, Advisor to the Punjab Chief Minister also visited PSF Stall. All the



Visitors are being briefed about Scientific Working Models during the S&T Expo.



A view of PSF, PASTIC and PMNH Joint Stall during S&T Expo.

Quote of the Month

"Individual science fiction stories may seem as trivial as ever to the blinder critics and philosophers of today - but the core of science fiction, its essence has become crucial to our salvation if we are to be saved at all."

- Isaac Asimov



A view of PMNH specimens displayed during the Expo.



Visitors are being briefed about PMNH and PASTIC activities.



A joint stall of PSF, PASTIC and PMNH during S&T Expo in the Punjab Youth Festival in Lahore.

Electrician, and supporting In addition, Dr. Mirza Habib staff performed their Ali, PSO-NSLP delivered a assigned tasks with devotion a popular science lecture on in the event and make it a “Career Entrepreneurship” successful participation for on March 1, 2014. Dr. PSF. Muhammad Ismail Bhatti, PSF, PASTIC and PMNH Associate Curator, PMNH jointly participated in this also delivered a lecture on event and organized a “Medicinal Value of number of activities on this Indigenous Plants of occasion, like Science Pakistan”. Promotional Caravan Exhibition, material was also distributed Planetarium shows, Quiz among the visitors. Competitions, display of two The Expo was closed on working dinosaur models, March 3, 2014. The Expo display of PMNH specimens was visited by nearly 30,000 and PASTIC awareness stall. people including students,



Students taking part in Quiz Competition using touch screen monitors.



PSF Chairman Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto, Member Finance Mr. Haider Zaman Khattak and CSO Dr. H.U. Khan during the review meeting Punjab Youth Festival.



PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto and MoST Deputy Scientific Advisor Mr. Ahsan Feroz speak to the participants of the Review Meeting on Participation of PSF in the Punjab Youth Festival.

teachers, researchers and providing inspiration to the general public. As per young as well as future scientists of Pakistan.

Centre, approximately As a token of appreciation, a review meeting on PSF participation in the PYF was held on March 18. Officers/officials from PSF, PASTIC and PMNH as well as representatives from MoST participated in it. In the meeting, Mr. Abdul Rauf, SSO/ Focal Person PYF-2014 briefed the audience about the activities carried out during PYF-2014. Dr. Naushaba Atta, PSO, Dr. Muhammad Akram Shaikh, DG PASTIC, Mr. Abdul Rahim Rajpar, Director, PMNH, Dr. Ahsan Feroze, DSA, MoST also spoke on the occasion and all of them appreciated their team for successful event. In the end, Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto, Chairman PSF addressed the audience and greatly appreciated his team.

"Invention to Innovation Summit-2014"

Promotion (IRP) and University of the Punjab (UoP), Lahore.

The Federal Minister appreciated the efforts of PSF and other stakeholders for organizing this event and pledged to extend every help for the support of applied aspects of Science & Technology. The Federal Minister termed our economic downfall due to knowledge-production gaps which do not lead us to value creation. He emphasized that today is the time of knowledge revolution and the whole scenario of competition is linked to scientific knowledge. He advised universities to go ahead with inter-disciplinary approach where a doctor and engineer could know about each others' knowledge as they can no longer be successful working in isolation. He also emphasized upon the R&D institutes to take lessons from the contemporary world and accordingly plan their strategies of R&D work to compete with them.



Prof. Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto, Chairman, PSF receiving Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister/Deputy Chairman Planning Commission on the occasion of Invention to Innovation Summit-2014 at University of the Punjab, Lahore on March 19, 2014.

Prof. Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto, Chairman, PSF highlighted the collaborations the Foundation has made in past through its R&D-Industry Programme bridging gaps between Industry & Academia.

He emphasized that the strong collaboration between Industry and R&D organizations is pre-requisite to pass on the research results to end users. Dr. Mujahid Kamran, Vice Chancellor, University of the Punjab emphasized on providing more financial funds &

support to education from sector organizations from different organs of the state across the country.

Mr. Abid Sherwani, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), IRP gave an introduction about the whole event and provided a brief of the activities jointly taken up by PSF and IRP.

More than 300 technologies engrossed with local R&D were invited to put up to show their ideas through physical prototypes, posters presentations and documentaries etc. The Industries and Academia personnel also presented their innovative products and research experiences.

A total of 60 stalls were in place from public and private



Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister/Deputy Chairman Planning Commission visiting stalls set up during Invention to Innovation Summit-2014.



Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister, pours Jatropa oil as fuel in electricity generator during the Invention to Innovation Summit-2014.

Project Formulation Workshop Organized at University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore

Natural Sciences Linkage Programme (NSLP) has been organizing a series of Project Formulation Workshops to enhance the capacity building of researchers across the country. So far, eight workshops have been organized across the country. Chairman, Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF), Dr Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto inaugurated a two-day workshop on project formulation held on March 27-28, 2014 at University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (UVAS), Lahore. The workshop was organized to increase the research proposal writing skills of scientists working in different public sector universities and R&D organizations in Lahore. Proceedings of the inaugural session started with recitation of Holy Quran. Addressing on the occasion, UVAS Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Talat Naseer Pasha, Lahore welcomed the Chairman PSF, worthy guests and thanked PSF for organizing the workshop at the UVAS, Lahore. Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto, Chairman, PSF explained the role of PSF and emphasized the participants to take guidance from the PSF experts and speakers to formulate the fund winning quality proposals. He added that this area carries huge potential for livestock and agriculture



PSF Chairman Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto and UVAS VC Prof. Dr. Talat Naseer Pasha at inaugural ceremony of the Project Formulation Workshop.

production by properly researchers in good proposal guiding the researchers. He writing, create awareness said these workshops will about PSF-NSLP funding bring a positive economic process and procedures. He impact on the area. encouraged the scientists to Earlier, Dr. Mirza Habib Ali, prepare need-based research Principal Scientific Officer, proposals within the NSLP Natural Sciences Linkages priority areas. The Workshop will aid in explained the role of PSF for raising the skills of the promotion of science and researchers about technology in the country formulating research and main objectives of the proposals before submitting to PSF and elevating the workshop standards of research in the is aimed at training the country.



Researchers participate in Workshop.



Experts Prof. Dr. Subhan Qureshi and Prof. Dr. Nematullah during the Workshop evaluating proposals by trainees.

PSF Participates in 2nd National Quality Policy Forum

Ministry of Science & Technology (MoST) organized a Forum on "Finalization of National Quality Policy" on 20th March, 2014 at Ramada Hotel, Islamabad. Mr. Zahid Hamid, Federal Minister S&T chaired the opening session of the Forum. PSF Chairman Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto along with PSF officers participated in this Forum. Engr. Esam Al-Qararah, Representative, UNIDO made introductory remarks and welcomed all participants and also and social development of stakeholders. Mr. Zahid highlighted the need of Pakistan. He also realized Hamid, Federal Minister of import and export products the importance to meet S & T addressed the to accelerate the economic quality and regulatory



PSF Chairman Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto participates in the 2nd National Quality Policy Forum.



A group photo of participants of 2nd National Quality Policy Forum with Federal Minister for S&T Mr. Zahid Hamid.

requirement of international market. He said relevant Government policies and actions are required. He said through the quality policy, the Government of Pakistan commits to develop and implement a technical regulation framework that will be followed by all ministries. Dr. Martin Kellermann, International Expert conducted the technical session. At the end, Mr. Kamran Ali Qureshi, Secretary, MoST Infrastructure and technical regulation framework. the remarks that the quality policy can be considered the best arrangements for National Quality

PSF-USA Collaboration Under R&D Industry Programme in the Offing

Prof. Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto, Chairman, PSF, held a meeting with Mr. Christopher De Veer, Second Secretary, Economic Officer, Embassy of USA and Franklin A. Carrero-Martinez, Science Policy Officer, Embassy of USA on March 11 to strengthen scientific and technological collaboration.

Dr. Mirza Habib Ali, Team Leader, R&D-Industry Programme earlier invited the USA team to visit PSF and have discussion with the PSF Chairman for possible collaboration to organize a workshop on Science, Technology and Engineering. PSF shall coordinate with network of scientists and



Prof. Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto, Chairman, PSF conducting meeting with Christopher De Veer, Second Secretary, Economic Officer, Embassy of USA & Franklin A. Carrero-Martinez, Science Policy Officer, Embassy of USA and others.

engineers and will propose potential speakers from Pakistan and team of US Embassy and PSF will remain in touch for all arrangements. Endowment Fund for R&D-Industry Programme in the Foundation for sustainable idea of establishing an running of applied projects.

Meeting with French Diplomats

A team of three diplomats from French Embassy namely Ms. Martine HERLEM-HAMIDI, French Counselor for Cooperation and Cultural Affairs, Mr. Caouki Boutha Rouite, Attaché for Science, Embassy of France and Mr. Gilles Angles, French Attaché for Cooperation visited PSF on March 12, 2014 and held a meeting with Chairman PSF Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto. On the occasion seniors officers from PSF were also present. In the meeting a brief report regarding activities carried out by PSF in collaboration with French Embassy was presented. The presentation was supported with videos. The guests appreciated the efforts of PSF and showed their consent for future collaborative activities. In the end, Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto thanked the guests and presented a report and bouquets to the guest.



Glimpses of PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto's Meeting with French Diplomats

One-day Seminar on Educational Leadership & Management



Dr. H U Khan delivers lecture on Educational Leadership and Management.

Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) organized a "Challenging Scenario in one day seminar on Education & Need of Educational Leadership & Committed/Visionary Management for the Leadership at Islamabad Principals/Heads of College for Girls, F-6/2, Educational Institution of Islamabad, on 15th March, 2014. All the audience from PSF to conduct the interactive session in the said make them aware about the seminar. Dr. H.U. Khan, needs and demands of Secretary/CSO, PSF educational leadership.

Participation of PSF in “Green Pakistan” at Faisalabad

Mr. Naeem Abbas, Assistant Director, and Mr. Aamer Kamal, ASO, Science Caravan (Punjab) represented the PSF in a tree-plantation campaign “Green Pakistan”, organized by Govt Post Graduate College, Samanabad, Faisalabad on March 12. On behalf of PSF, they planted an arocaria sapling. The college has the largest enrollment in the Punjab province. The event was organized by Botanical Society of the college which invited the Pakistan Science



(Left) Mr. Naeem Abbas, AD and Mr. Aamer Kamal, ASO planting a sapling on behalf of PSF on the occasion of “Green Pakistan” Tree Plantation Campaign in Faisalabad. (Right) A group photo of the participants of the event.

Foundation/Science Centre / campaign. The principals and Science Caravan to participate professors from other colleges The Director Colleges was the in the tree plantation as well as local administration chief guest on this occasion.

Science Awareness Lecture on Water in Quetta and Jaffarabad

PSF Science Caravan Unit Quetta arranged a Science Awareness Lecture on “Water” and distributed Master Disaster Kits and Urdu Science Encyclopedia at Govt. Girls High School Jinnah Town, Quetta on March 25. About 50 students of higher secondary classes, the Principal and Science Teachers attended the programme. Mr. Maqbool Ahmad, Assistant Director, Caravan, gave a detailed Introduction of Pakistan Science Foundation and delivered a lecture on Water, its importance, sources and availability. He also discussed that how we can save water for our next generations. In the end,



Mr. Maqbool, Ahmed, AD Science Caravan Quetta Unit, delivering lecture on water at Quetta

question/answer session was held. Mr. Maqbool Ahmad handed over Urdu Science Encyclopedia and Master Disaster Kit along with DVD to Mrs. Farkhanda Nawaz, Principal, Govt. Girls High School Jinnah Town Quetta. The Principal lauded the efforts of PSF for promotion and popularization of science

March 27 at Govt. Boys School Rustam Khan Jamali, Tehsil Usta Muhammad, District Jaffarabad. Mr. Abdul Khaliq, Unit In-charge delivered a lecture on Importance of water. About 412 students and teachers, participated and they appreciated the efforts of PSF for popularization of science in rural areas of Balochistan. At the end, Mr. Abdul Khaliq gave Encyclopedia and UNESCO Disaster Master Kit along with DVD to Principal of the importance of water on school.

Two Meetings of NSLP Fund Management Committee Held

The 11th and 12th meetings of attended by members of the Fund Management Fund Management Committee (FMC) of Natural Committee.

Science Linkages In the 11th meeting, 20 Programme (NSLP) were projects recommended by held on March 05 and March the NSLP Technical 31, 2014 respectively. The Committee were approved meetings were chaired by by the FMC for funding with PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. a total cost of Rs. 61.023 Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto and million.



Mr. Abdul Khaliq, In-charge, Science Caravan Jaffarabad Unit, delivering lecture on importance of water at Jaffarabad.

Farewell Party of Dr Atta ul Mohsin

PSF arranged a farewell party in honor of Dr. Atta-ul-Mohsin, Director Research Support Section, PSF on March 13, which was attended by all the officials/officers of the Foundation. He also received gifts from Chairman PSF Dr. Ibupoto. During his stay in PSF, Dr. Mohsin served as CSO, Secretary and Acting DG of PMNH.

13 Employees of PSF Promoted to Next Grade

On the recommendations of Pakistan Science Foundation's (PSF) Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC), PSF Acting Chairman/Member Science Prof. Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto has approved the promotions of 13 officials to next higher grade in their respective cadres.

A meeting of the DPC was held under the Chairmanship of Prof. Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto, Member Science on March 10. Other members of the Committee included PSF Member Finance Mr. Haider Zaman Khattak, PSF Chief Scientific Officer Dr. H.

U. Khan and PSF Deputy Director (Estt) Mr. Muhammad Iqbal Khan.

The promoted officials included BS-1 to BS-14 employees and they were promoted to their next higher grade. These officials overwhelmed with gratitude for the DPC have vowed to serve the Foundation more efficiently and diligently for promotion of science and technology in the country.

Dr. Ibupoto and the other DPC Members have congratulated the promoted employees and hoped that they would put their best to serve the country.

Important Meetings/Events

PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto attended following important meetings/events during March 2014:

- Chaired Meeting of PSF Technical Committee on Earth Sciences on March 6.
- Attended Inaugural Session of International Conference AEME 2014 at Shams Auditorium, University of Health Sciences, Lahore on March 8.
- Attended Concluding Session of International Conference AEME 2014 at Shams Auditorium, University of Health Sciences, Lahore, on March 9.
- Held Meeting with Mr. Siddiq-ur-Rehman Rana, CEO, SME on March 10.
- Held Meeting with European Union Representatives on March 10.
- Chaired Meeting of PSF Technical Committee on Biological Sciences on March 11.
- Attended a Meeting of Federal Minister for S&T with Mr. Yuklya Amano, DG, IAEA in the Committee Room of

MoST on March 12.

- Chaired a Meeting of PSF Technical Committee on Medical Sciences at PSF on March 13, 2014.
- Chaired PSF Travel Grants Award Committee Meeting at PSF on March 14.
- Attended Meeting with MoST and HEC Representatives regarding Vision 2020 at PSF on March 14.
- Attended Meeting of National Assembly Standing Committee on Science & Technology in Committee Room No.2, 1st Floor, Parliament House, Islamabad on March 17.
- Attended Inauguration of "Farmers Day" Function at NIFA, Peshawar on March 18.
- Inaugural Ceremony of Pak-China business Forum 2014 at Pak-China Friendship Center, Garden Avenue, Shakarparian, Islamabad on March 21.
- Chaired Meeting of PSF Technical Committee on Physics on March 26.

Pakistan Museum of Natural History (PMNH)

Editor: Dr. Saleem Ahmad, Curator

World Wildlife Conservation Day Celebrated at PMNH

World Wildlife Conservation Pakistan Museum of Natural History Day was celebrated at History on March 3, 2014. Chancellor Qauid-e-Azam

University and Advisor COMSTECH, was the Chief Guest on this occasion. The event was jointly organized by Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST), Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF), Pakistan Museum of Natural History (PMNH), US Embassy Islamabad and Snow Leopard Foundation (SLF). Mr. Peter Brennan, Minister Counselor for



Affairs, United States Embassy, Syed Mahmood Nasir, IG Forests, Mr. Muhammad Akhter Javed Director General, PMNH, Dr. Muhammad Ali Nawaz, Director, SLF, Mr. Abdul Majeed, English Programme Manager, US Embassy and Dr. Muhammad Rafique, Director, Zoological Sciences Division, PMNH at a function organized to Celebrate World Wildlife Conservation Day at PMNH.

Public Affairs, United States Embassy, Syed Mahmood Nasir, IG Forests, Mr. Muhammad Akhter Javed Director General, PMNH, Dr. Muhammad Ali Nawaz, Director, SLF, Mr. Abdul Majeed, English Programme Manager, US Embassy and Dr. Muhammad Rafique, Director, Zoological Sciences Division, PMNH were also present on this occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest appreciated the efforts of the organizers who gathered together a number of audiences from diverse fields and institutions for a common cause leading to conservation of our ever threatening wildlife and natural resources.

Dr. Qasim Jan said due to anthropogenic activities, wildlife populations have declined dramatically in Pakistan for the last three to four decades as natural habitats are continuously being fragmented and degraded. It is feared that Pakistan is experiencing the world's second highest rate of deforestation and the country is losing its rangelands, forests, freshwaters and marine ecosystems at an alarming rate, he maintained. It is also facing the menace of climate change, uncontrolled emission of greenhouse gases, pollution, increase in human population, urbanization, unsustainable agricultural practices, encroachments, hunting, poaching, introduction of exotic species and weak implementation of wildlife rules and regulations.

Mr. Muhammad Akhter



Students and general public visit posters exhibition at PMNH on World Wildlife Conservation Day on March 3, 2014.

Javed Director General, PMNH, read message of PSF Chairman Prof. Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto. Dr Ibupoto in his message said "Wildlife maintains ecological balance & the organisms have their unique positions in food chains, food webs which keep ecological balance. In spite of uncountable services provided by wildlife to mankind, surprisingly it is the man himself who is responsible for destroying wildlife and its natural habitats. Hunting for fun or collecting skin, tusks, horns for sale has resulted in extinction of many species like the tigers, elephants, cheetah & some variety of birds. Excessive whaling is leading to the extinction of the largest creatures on the earth.

In this state of affairs, it is duty of all of us to play our role for the conservation of our wildlife and our natural resources. The Wildlife Conservation Day is celebrated each year worldwide to put together our joint efforts for the common cause of protection of wildlife. I hope this event will be helpful for raising

awareness among the masses and sensitize the students, teachers, researchers, media, civil society, wildlife conservationists, park managers and scientists to play their role for conservation and sustainable use of our natural resources." Mr. Peter Brennan, Minister Counselor for Public Affairs, United States Embassy, talked on animal trafficking and US efforts to control it. He said future of your country depends on future of your animals and plants.

He also threw light on English Access program in Pakistan which has 4,500 students spread across 19 sites in almost every province of Pakistan.

The winners of a poster competition titled "Why conserving wildlife in my community is important" were also awarded on this occasion. The winner students through presentations spoke on the concepts of their posters.

A large number of students and general public visited the poster exhibition organized at Pakistan Museum of Natural History (PMNH).

PMNH DG Akhtar Javed Retires

Mr. Muhammad Akhtar Javed, Director General, PMNH retired from



service on superannuation on 7th March, 2014. He was among the pioneers of PMNH and had valuable contribution on the development of display dioramas and other exhibits. His efforts led to the preparation and completion of the Virtual Orientation Gallery, which is one of the best attractions of PMNH display centre. The gap created by his retirement will not be easy to fill.

Dr. Leghari Given Charge of PMNH DG

Dr. Muhammad Khan Leghari, Director, Botanical Sciences



Division, PMNH, has been given current charge of Director General, PMNH with effect from 7th March by the Chairman, PSF.

PMNH Scientists Conduct Field Studies in Khushab & AJK

Dr. Ghazala Roohi, Curator, Mr. Aamir Yaseen and Mr. Hamadur Rahim, Research Associates, ESD carried out field work in Khushab District (Punjab) and Mirpur District of Azad Kashmir area for the collection of vertebrate fossils in the Siwalik rocks from 17th to 27th March. The main purpose of the field work was to interpret biogeographic changes in the fauna of localities in a geological Siwaliks and putting all fossil section. The scientists



PMNH Paleontologist/Geologists during field work in district Khushab



Plant Collection during field work.

collected 200 vertebrate fossils specimens of the indigenous plants along with the precious medicinal Proboscidean, Rhinoceros, flora. During this field work Bovidae, Crocodile, 200 plant specimens were Trigulidae and many other collected, many of which are species in the form of broken of economic and medicinal bones. The age of the fossils importance. Seeds and fruits is about 24 million years old. of the important medicinal Another field work was and economic value plants conducted by Dr. S. Aneel were also collected and Gilani along with Mr. deposited to the higher plants Jamshed Saqib and Mr. herbarium for further studies. Munir Ahmad, BSD to The important plants Lahore area including included *Ficus bengalensis*, Changa Manga forest, Jalo *Heterophragma* park and adjoining areas from *adenophyllum*, *Tectona* 26th February to 7th March. *grandis*, *Cassia fistula*, etc. The area of Changa Manga There was a very good algal collection too and some 180 higher plants flora including algal samples were collected.

Educational Tours to PMNH Continue

Over 5,000 people including young and old, male and female from all walks of life visited the PMNH Display Galleries in March. Attracted by the 75 feet skeleton of the blue whale and the 40 feet tall model of Baluchitherium, prominently visible from the Garden Avenue, the following student groups visited the Museum:

- A group of 25 students from the University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Kotli, Azad Kashmir.
- Twenty-two students from Institute of Archaeology & Social Anthropology, University of Peshawar.
- A group of 76 students along with three teachers from Fatima Jinnah Girls College, Kamoke, Gujranwala.
- A group of 95 students along with eight teachers from Kauthar College for Women, Islamabad.
- A group of 70 students along with four teachers from Dr. Rashad Degree College, Khaur.
- Thirty-four students of 3rd year Auto & Farm Machinery

from Technical Education & Vocational Training Authority, Govt. College of Technology, Bahawalpur.

- A group of 45 teachers under the supervision of Mr. Abdul Waheed, Director (T&G) from Federal Directorate of Education.



Students and teachers from Fatima Jinnah Girls College, Kamoke, Gujranwala visiting PMNH.

Pakistan Scientific & Technological Information Centre (PASTIC)

Editor: Syed Aftab Hussain Shah

PASTIC Organizes 5-Day Training Workshop on “Scientific Research Tools”



Mr Kamran Ali Qureshi, Federal Secretary, MoST, Dr Eataaz Ahmad, Vice Chancellor Quaid-i-Azam University, Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto, Chairman PSF, and Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akram Shaikh, Director General PASTIC at the Inaugural Ceremony of Training Workshop on “Scientific Research Tools” at PASTIC

Pakistan Scientific and Technological Information Centre (PASTIC), organized a 5-day training workshop on “Scientific Research Tools” at PASTIC National Centre, Federal Secretary, Ministry Quaid-i-Azam University of Science and Technology Campus, Islamabad on March 24-28, 2014. The workshop was to build the capacity of young researchers and to enhance their professional skills in data analysis, bibliography management and preparation of dissertation and research papers through utilization of latest software tools including QIQA, SPSS, LATEX, EndNote and R Language. Thirty-three participants including faculty members

and M. Phil/ Ph. D research scholars from different Universities of Islamabad were among the beneficiary of the workshop. Other participants included Chairman PSF, Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto, Vice Chancellor Quaid-i-Azam University, Dr. Eataaz Ahmad and Director General PASTIC, Dr. Muhammad Akram Shaikh. The Director General PASTIC highlighted the activities of PASTIC and the objectives of the workshop in his welcome address. He said that PASTIC owns the privilege of being pioneer in provision of S&T information services to scientific and research community of Pakistan since its inception for more than 50 years. Besides PASTIC also imparts training on modern



Chairman, PSF, Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto presenting shield to Dr Ijaz Hussain, a resource person of the Training Workshop on “Scientific Research Tools”

aspects of information handling and management techniques by organizing workshops and training courses for researchers, scientists and information professionals for preparing them to meet the challenges of this digital age. He added that keeping in view the recent needs of research community, PASTIC will be launching a series of training workshops on use of ICT tools in Research for searching, annotation, manuscript preparation and data analysis for young researchers which will not only save time and effort of researchers but also bring quality output in the form of thesis and scientific publications.

Federal Secretary, MoST Mr. Kamran Ali Qureshi while talking to the audience said that recent developments in Information Technology has revolutionized our lives and with the passage of time more and more new tools are developing therefore researchers should also keep themselves abreast of these latest developments. He highly appreciated the role of PASTIC for the capacity building and facilitation of the researchers in different areas of research which would definitely lead to economic, social and cultural progress, economic viability and defense capability.

Speaking at the occasion Chairman PSF, Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto said that this training will enhance the skills and knowledge of researchers about the latest “Scientific Research Tools” and will motivate the researchers to pursue their research work. The Vice Chancellor Quaid-i-Azam University, Dr. Eataaz Ahmad emphasized on arranging need based trainings which are important for improvement of the institutional performance to fill the gaps between availability of IT tools and their utility for promoting research culture in Pakistan.

Senior Librarian, PASTIC, Syed Habib Akhter Jafferi briefly highlighted an overview of the workshop contents including a brief introduction of the software tools e.g. QIQA, SPSS, R-



Director General PASTIC, Prof Dr Muhammad Akram Shaikh and Chairman, PSF, Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto addressing at the Closing Ceremony of the Training Workshop on “Scientific Research Tools” at PASTIC, Islamabad.

language, EndNote and LaTeX.

The workshop was successfully completed after five days of training sessions. The concluding ceremony was presided over by the Chairman, PSF, Dr. Khalil Ahmad Ibupoto. The coordinator of the workshop, Syed Habib Jafferri presented a brief report of the workshop in the concluding ceremony. He also informed that PASTIC is further planning to organize series of such workshops/trainings in near future for the capacity



Group photo of the participants of the Training Workshop on "Scientific Research Tools" with Chairman PSF, Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto.

building of young researchers to improve their research skills.

Director General, PASTIC, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akram Sheikh said that in this digital age of technology IT-based "Scientific Research Tools" are useful for making the

research process easier and faster. For better use of these tools, the researchers should have a thorough knowledge about the abilities and limitations of these softwares in order to meet the objectives of the research in a better way.

Chairman, Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF), Dr. Khalil Ahmed Ibupoto advised the participants to utilize the knowledge and the enhanced skills which they have acquired from this training in their research work. He also distributed certificates among the participants who successfully completed the training.

PASTIC has been organizing such workshops from time to time to train the scientific community on state-of-the-art softwares and technologies.

PASTIC Promotes Participation of Academia and R&D Organizations

PASTIC is playing its role as Scientific and Technological Information agency at national level by catering to the information needs of researchers, entrepreneurs, industry, educationists, policy makers and planners through anticipatory and responsive information services. Dissemination of Scientific and Technological (S&T) information for support of indigenous technological innovation process across the country is one of its core activities. PASTIC under its UIP-Programme (University Industry Partnership-Programme) is involved in building effective coordination between Academia and Industry for enhancing innovations, competitiveness and productivity of indigenous technologies through Seminars/Symposia and

Exhibitions in collaboration with different Chambers of Commerce & Industries across the country. In this concern PASTIC played its role as managing partner with Institute of Research Promotion (IRP), Lahore for Invention to Innovation Summit 2014, organized by IRP in collaboration with Pakistan Science Foundation and the University of Punjab on March 19-20, 2014 at Punjab University, Lahore.

PASTIC National Centre, Islamabad along with all its Sub Centres at Lahore, Faisalabad, Peshawar, Muzaffarabad, Quetta and Karachi launched the promotional campaign of Invention to Innovation Summit 2014 from January-March 2014. Correspondence and personal visits to VCs and HoDs of different institutions, universities and R&D organizations across the country were made for inviting institutions to joined hand in this activity and ensuring participation of researchers and display of their innovative research projects & technologies in the summit. PASTIC Stalls were organized at different universities for creating awareness of the summit among the young M.Phil and Ph.D. Scholars. Summit brochures were also distributed at the stalls. PASTIC efforts resulted in a very active participation of Academia and R&D organizations in the summit and were highly acknowledged and appreciated by IRP and University of Punjab during the inaugural and closing ceremonies.

PASTIC Services Stall



Raja Hassan Abbas, Secretary, Climate Change Division visiting PASTIC services stall organized by PASTIC during the workshop "Introduction to SCP in Pakistan: Workshop & Stakeholders dialogue" at Islamabad.

PASTIC Services Stall was organized during "Introduction to SCP in Pakistan: Workshop & Stakeholders Dialogue" which was held at Ramada Hotel, Islamabad on March 25-27.

QAU Students Visit PASTIC

52 students from Department of Plant Sciences, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad visited PASTIC on March 4, 2014. An orientation about S&T Services of PASTIC was given to these visiting students. They were also taken around the various facilities of PASTIC. Students showed their keen interest in the activities and services of PASTIC.

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