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PSF NEWS

June 2017

Monthly Newsletter of Pakistan Science Foundation

Vol. 15 No. 06

From the Chairman



Natural resources play an important role in development and prosperity of any country. Allah Almighty has gifted Pakistan with abundant natural resources from fertile land to huge deposits of minerals, rocks and metals to a large pool of human resources. Pakistan has vast deserts, beautiful coasts, swirling streams, gushing rivers, snow covered peaks, high mountains and plains having huge deposits of fossil fuel, gemstones and minerals, rocks and metals etc.

The role of these resources is very important in provision of food security, raw material for industrial uses and earning foreign exchange through export of fine quality products.

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7th Meeting of NSLP BoG Held

The 7th meeting of Board of Governors (BoG) of Natural Sciences Linkage Programme (NSLP) Endowment Fund of Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) was held under the Chairmanship of Rana Tanveer Hussain, Federal Minister for Science and Technology/ Chairman of the BoG, on June 22, 2017 at Pakistan Science Foundation, Islamabad.

The meeting commenced with the recitation of the Holy Quran. Thereafter, the Chairman BoG, the Federal Minister for Science and Technology welcomed and thanked the members for sparing time to attend the meeting.



Federal Minister for S&T Rana Tanveer Hussain chairs 7th meeting of PSF Board of Governors at PSF on June 22, 2017.

The Chairman, PSF in his capacity as Chief Executive of NSLP as well as Secretary of the Board, requested the Chairman of the Board to

formally open the discussion as per agenda of the meeting. The Board discussed agenda items one by one and decisions thereof were made.



Glimpses of the 7th meeting of PSF Board of Governors at PSF on June 22, 2017.

Four Pakistani Students Participate in "9th Kocaeli International Child and Science Festival"



PMNH Witnesses Huge Rush of Visitors during Eidul Fitr Holidays



From the Chairman

Though many natural resources in the form of deposits hidden underground need to be explored and dug out through use of appropriate technology for various uses, the open natural resources such as fertile land and water need to be used very judiciously in order to get maximum benefit out of them.

Pakistan is an agrarian country and almost 70 per cent of its total economy is based on agriculture. Pakistan has very fertile land and a good network of rivers and irrigation system which need to be improved to avoid wastage of these precious natural resources. Many countries in the world though lacked fertile land but they overcame this problem by establishing multi-storey agriculture farms and countries like Japan and South Korea etc. are good examples in this regard. Pakistan should follow the suit to increase its agricultural output through optimal use of its fertile land and water resources. In this regard Pakistan Science Foundation has initiated Natural Sciences Linkage Programme to fund natural sciences related science and technology projects. The scientists and researchers should benefit from this programme of funding for need-based research projects and play their role in national development.

Four Pakistani Students Participate in “9th Kocaeli International Child and Science Festival”

Four Pakistani students including Ms. Laiba Eman Awan, Mr. Wajahat Yasin, Ms. Parnia Ahmed and Anjleen Fatima participated in 9th Kocaeli International Child and Science Festival in Turkey on April 19-24, 2017. Kocaeli Metropolitan Municipality organizes "Kocaeli International Children Festival" every year in April to commemorate 23rd April as National Sovereignty and Children's Day.

Student groups from 37



Quote of the Month

“As both the Mercury and Apollo programs have shown, our science and technology are so powerful that, if an intense effort is made, we can do almost anything we want in say, ten years - provided we are not in conflict with the laws of nature.”

- Hannes Alfvén



countries participated in the Festival in 2017. This year the slogan of the festival was "My Festival" and the theme of fair was "Science and Kids". The aim of this festival was to create understanding that is based on human and education and building a bridge of peace and brotherhood from the



world to Kocaeli, from Kocaeli to the world.

The traditional dance performances, concerts, competitions and scientific activities in the Kocaeli Science Center provided the students an opportunity to celebrate April 23 National Sovereignty and Children's Day with enthusiasm. The Press and Public Relations Department of Kocaeli Metropolitan Municipality

worked hard to improve this tradition by adding innovations.

On 19th April organizers arranged trips of students to Science Museum, Paper Museum and beautiful Aquarium on seaside. Students learned and enjoyed visits of these high tech institutes which enable young students to develop a



better understanding of science and its application. In the evening there was reception dinner and meeting programme of group leaders and their introductions.

On April 20 the Governor invited all the children from 41 countries in the Governorship Conference Hall and met all of them. He emphasized on the peace and harmony among the young generation. He thanked the students for their participation to make this event meaningful. During the International Child Festival Gift Giving Ceremony, PSF souvenirs were gifted to the governor and mayor.

In the afternoon International Child Festival Parade was arranged from Central park of city to Mayor Office.

The opening ceremony of Kocaeli International Children and Science Festival was on 21st April. All the children visited the



scientific stalls of science festival and witnessed the scientific knowledge and expertise in various scientific fields. On different scientific stall they performed experiments by themselves and learned different scientific techniques.

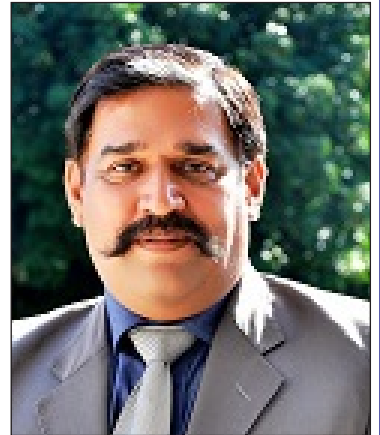
The April 22nd was the festival's picnic day for the students to enjoy the companies of students of

different countries.

The 23rd April, which declared as National Children Day was celebrated by cultural performances by all the students from 37 countries. All the students performed cultural show in their traditional dresses at the KBB International Exhibition Center.

A tour of the City for the students was arranged by the organizer on 24th April.

Dr. Raja Razi-ul-Husnain Gets Charge as MF



Dr. Raja Razi-ul-Husnain, Additional Director, Finance and Accounts, Pakistan Scientific and Technological Information Centre (PASTIC), has been given look-after charge of Pakistan Science Foundation's Member Finance (MF). He has assumed the charge as MF w.e.f. April 4, 2017. The position of MF was vacant after appointment of Mr. Hasnat Qureshi as Chairman of Private Educational Institutions Regulatory Authority (PERA).



Pakistan Museum of Natural History (PMNH)

Editor: Dr. Muhammad Ismail Bhatti

Birds of Pakistan Diorama Being Established at PMNH

Pakistan Museum of natural History (PMNH) has started to fabricate a state-of-the-art Exhibit on “Birds of Pakistan” to educate visitors about the birds-diversity of Pakistan. This diorama will include display of various aspects of birdlife including the origin of birds, different species of birds found in Pakistan, different types of bird-nests, bird-habitats, fancy birds of Pakistan, birds of prey and different types of bird eggs. The diorama once completed, will be a useful addition to the display galleries of PMNH to impart education to thousands of students and general public on the subject.



Director NMST Lahore Visits PMNH

Dr. Anila Qaisra, Director, National Museum of Science & Technology (NMST), Lahore visited PMNH on June 12, 2017 and called on PMNH Director General Dr. Muhammad Rafiq at his office. She also met officers of different divisions and visited PMNH display galleries. Dr. Anila appreciated the displays, repositories and educational activities of PMNH. She expressed the desire to get help of PMNH experts for developing new displays at NMST and improvement of the exiting-ones. She invited DG PMNH, scientists and artists to visit National Museum of Science & Technology, Lahore.



Meeting with Director NMST Lahore

UNESCO Paris approves PMNH project

UNESCO Headquarters, Paris has approved “Development of Dossier for Establishment of Indus Blind Dolphin Biosphere Reserve in Pakistan” with total cost of project US\$ 26,000. It's honor for the scientists of PMNH to win this project for the great cause. The Chairman PSF, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf appreciated the efforts of Dr. Muhammad Rafique, the DG PMNH, for winning the project.



PMNH Witnesses Huge Rush of Visitors during Eidul Fitr Holidays

During Eid holidays a large number of people from all over Pakistan visited PMNH, which remained open during the Eid Holidays on 26th June 2017 to 2nd July 2017. The visitors from Islamabad and other cities Preshawar, Nowshehra, Charsada, Mardan, Abbottabad, Haripur, Mansehra, Jehlum, Gujrat, Gujranwala, Chakwal, Attock, FATA and even other parts of the country visited PMNH displays and enjoyed nature of Pakistan. For the facilitation of visitors, special teams of PMNH staff were deputed on this occasion. The presence of the Director

General PMNH was a source of inspiration for the staff. A total of 14,609 visitors visited PMNH during the Eid holidays. The Chairman PSF Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf appreciated the staff and officers for providing best educational and recreational services to the visitors on this auspicious occasion.

It is pertinent to mention that a total of 162,000 persons including 62,932 students, 52,700 general public, 247 foreigners and 46,132 children under 5-year age visited PMNH during July 2016 to June 2017.



Pakistan Scientific & Technological Information Centre (PASTIC)

Editor: Ms. Rahila Khurram

PASTIC to Organize National IT Expo in September

In view of the objective of PASTIC to disseminate information about R&D for scientific, technological and socio-economic development of the country and promotion of technology, products and processes, PASTIC in collaboration with various organizations of the country is going to organize a National Exhibition on the theme "IT and Computer Tools for Science & Education-2017" on September 15-17, 2017 at Pak-China Friendship Centre, Islamabad. The idea behind the exhibition is to showcase modern ICT technologies, business ideas and display Innovative educational products, projects or ideas, connecting

professionals in the industry with emerging youth.

The major display items in the exhibition would include latest and innovative computer hardware and software tools, network security equipment, Telecommunication and I.T. gadgets as well as projects development by colleges and universities. There will be separate pavilions for each of these categories. Parallel session of conferences, seminars and workshops on emerging ICT topics will also be arranged. It is also planned to have a Software Development competition. Award distribution for best innovative idea and stall presentation is also planned. The exhibition is likely to

host more than a hundred participants to display their latest innovations and technological achievements in the form of products & projects. All major players in the IT industry in Pakistan are being invited such as hardware companies, Cellular companies, software developers as well as colleges & universities, involved in IT activities.

For display of products/exhibits, pre-fabricated booths 10x10 ft with basic furniture and electricity supply/sockets will be available on payment. Booking will be made on first come, first-served basis. Participating companies may book any number of stalls according to their requirement. Special

discount can be requested on booking of more than one stall. All potential exhibitors wishing to take part in the event, must submit the registration form to the Expo Secretariat by downloading the form from PASTIC website www.pastic.gov.pk or the application can also be filled online available at the PASTIC Website.

EXPO Secretariat

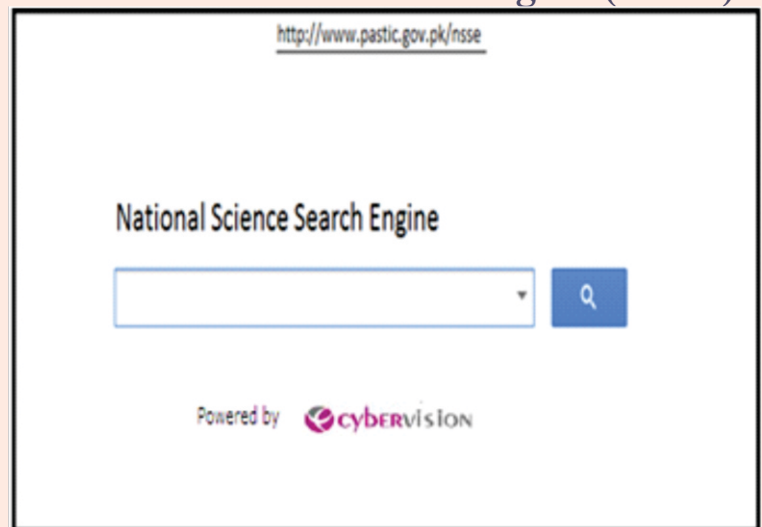
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PASTIC All Set to Launch Pakistan's first National Science Search Engine (NSSE)

PASTIC in collaboration with CyberVision is going to launch beta version of National Science Search Engine to optimize its online search facility. Initially application will cover research published in Pakistani Scientific Journals (Pakistan Science Abstracts). Later on other scientific repositories like database of scientists and engineers of Pakistan, database of R & D projects, database of Scientific periodicals of Pakistan, Union Catalogue of Pakistani Scientific libraries and other future databases

developed by PASTIC will be linked.

This initiative will help in Increasing efficiency, enhancing S&T information dissemination, archiving of national s&t information resources, standardization of processes, easy integration with other developed software systems and reducing the operating cost. PASTIC search engine, would definitely help the community to find all elements of research pertaining to Pakistan like Journals, abstracts, books, people, institutes and projects related to all disciplines under



Graphical User interface of National Science Search Engine

Natural and Applied Sciences. PASTIC National Science Search Engine initiative will come up with more enhanced features of citation counts and usage metrics with more powerful and fast search features.

Subscription of On-line International Databases

PASTIC carries out online literature searches from International Databases and bibliographies on specific topics are supplied to researchers/ users on request.

PASTIC has subscribed the following databases for the year 2017-2018.

1. Biological & Agricultural Index Plus: This database provides core literature of biological and agricultural sciences.
2. Wilson Applied Science and Technology (Full Text): This database provides access to Physical Science & Engineering literature.
3. Wilson Social Sciences (Full Text): This database covers the latest concepts, trends, opinions, theories, and methods from both applied and theoretical aspects of the social sciences.

Researchers can send their research topics or keywords for literature search through email. They can also personally visit PASTIC National Centre at Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad or their nearby sub-centres at Karachi, Lahore, Faisalabad, Peshawar, Quetta and Muzaffarabad. They will be provided abstracts / literature free of cost, within a day.

PASTIC National Science Reference Library Renovated

PASTIC National Science Reference Library was established in 1984 and the needed overall renovation. The book shelves, furniture, flooring, false ceiling air conditioning facility in the main library hall and other facilities of the library

developed three decades ago were required to be upgraded and renovated according to the technical needs, latest requirements of digital environment.

Therefore renovation of PASTIC National Science Reference Library was

planned in the third quarter of current financial year for providing a better environment to the library users for study, consultation and internet facility for web surfing. Upgraded and expanded study space was created for students and users. The library hall was made technologically enabled with

both desktop computers and plenty of electrical outlets so that the students and users can work on and charge their personal devices and use internet facility uninterruptedly provided in the library. This library renovation made will be helpful in improving and enhancing the library services.



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