



News Bulletin

Visit of ORIC Delegation from Govt. Sadiq College Women University to ORIC, MNSUAM

Early Cotton Cultivation Campaign at MNSUAM

Training Session on HEC Faculty Exchange Program



Visit of ORIC Delegation from Govt. Sadiq College Women University to ORIC, MNSUAM

On March 4, 2026, the Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization of Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan had the pleasure of hosting a delegation from Govt. Sadiq College Women University. The visit provided an opportunity to introduce the delegation to the vision, mission, objectives, and working framework of ORIC, along with its role in strengthening research, innovation, and commercialization at MNSUAM. During the visit, the ORIC team shared a comprehensive overview of its efforts to promote a culture of research excellence, innovation, and entrepreneurship among faculty members and researchers. The delegation was briefed on how ORIC supports the university's research community through funding opportunities, proposal development, project management, industry partnerships, intellectual property support, technology transfer, university rankings, and commercialization activities. The delegation showed great interest in the university's research ecosystem and appreciated the strategic role of ORIC in transforming innovative ideas into impactful solutions for society.



Early Cotton Cultivation Campaign at MNSUAM

On March 7, 2026, Mr. Iftikhar Ali Sahoo, Secretary Agriculture Punjab, along with Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.), Vice Chancellor, Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan, inaugurated the Early Cotton Cultivation Campaign at the university, marking a significant step toward revitalizing cotton production in Punjab. Addressing the gathering, the Secretary Agriculture shared that the province has set an ambitious target of cultivating cotton on 3.2 million acres this year, including 700,000 acres designated for early cultivation. He emphasized that MNSUAM will play a key role in leading and representing the campaign across the province by facilitating the transfer of modern agricultural research, innovative practices, and practical knowledge to farmers, particularly in the face of changing climatic conditions. He further highlighted that farmers will be provided with certified seeds of improved and newly developed cotton varieties aimed at enhancing resilience and boosting productivity. The ceremony witnessed active participation from farmers, industry representatives, and key stakeholders, reflecting a collective commitment to strengthening the future of cotton in Punjab.



Farmer Convention on Cotton Production

On March 7, 2026, a Farmer Convention on Cotton Production was held at Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan, in collaboration with the Punjab Agriculture Department and Fatima Fertilizer. The event brought together farmers, agricultural experts, and key stakeholders to discuss strategies for enhancing cotton production in Punjab. Mr. Iftikhar Ali Sahoo, Secretary Agriculture Punjab, attended as the Chief Guest. Experts shared practical and modern approaches to cotton cultivation, including improved crop management, effective pest control, and yield enhancement techniques, providing valuable guidance to farmers for the upcoming season. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.), Vice Chancellor MNSUAM, appreciated the Agriculture Department's efforts and highlighted the target of early cotton cultivation on 700,000 acres. Farmers were also informed about the availability of fertilizers and interest-free loans through the Kissan Card, reflecting a collective commitment to strengthening the cotton sector and improving farmers' productivity and livelihoods. The convention reflected a strong commitment to strengthening the cotton sector by connecting farmers with research, modern technologies, and institutional support.



Locally Developed Integrated Potato Digger under PSF-Funded Project (PSF/NSLP/P-MNSUAM-961):

The project, led by Engr. Dr. Umair Sultan from the Department of Agricultural Engineering, aims to enhance potato harvesting efficiency and reduce collection time through the development of an integrated mechanized potato digger. Under a prototype manufacturing agreement and project collaboration, Madina Zari Industry, Depalpur, along with the project team, successfully manufactured the integrated prototype of the digger under this PSF-funded project. A field demonstration and evaluation of the Integrated Partial Automatic Potato Digger was conducted on 09 March 2026 at farmer fields in Depalpur, with participation from experts of the Agricultural Mechanization Research Institute (AMRI), Multan, horticulture specialists, a PepsiCo representative, and local manufacturers from the Okara district. The machine was tested under field conditions in a standing potato crop, where key components—including digging blades, compaction rollers, conveyor systems, cleaning units, and elevator mechanisms—were demonstrated and evaluated in terms of performance, efficiency, and crop handling. Participating experts agreed that the development represents a promising step toward further refinement and strengthening of locally developed mechanized solutions to support potato growers. Although farmers are currently facing economic challenges due to declining potato prices and limited export opportunities, such innovations are expected to play a constructive role in the long term, highlighting the vital role of PSF funding and ORIC facilitation in translating research into practical, impactful technologies for Pakistan's agriculture sector.



Training Session on HEC Faculty Exchange Program

The Directorate of Academics at Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan organized a one-day training session to educate and train faculty members about the HEC Faculty Exchange Program on March 12, 2026. The session aimed to enhance awareness and encourage academic participation in opportunities that support professional growth and inter-university collaboration. Dr. Azhar Khan, Director Academics, delivered an informative presentation on the objectives, application process, collaboration opportunities, and professional benefits of the program. The session provided faculty members with practical insights and clear guidance on how to benefit from the initiative effectively. Faculty members actively participated in the training, appreciating the valuable information and hands-on guidance provided, which reflected their strong interest in academic exchange opportunities for teaching, research, and professional growth, while also highlighting the university's commitment to strengthening academic collaboration, faculty capacity building, and excellence in higher education through meaningful professional development initiatives.



Teachers' Learning Visit to Hydroponics Unit

The Department of Outreach and Continuing Education, in collaboration with the Department of Horticulture, organized a visit of school teachers to the hydroponic facility at Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan on March 17, 2026. The purpose of the visit was to expose educators to innovative and emerging farming practices and to explore their relevance in future agricultural education. During the session, teachers were introduced to modern hydroponic systems and their role in sustainable food production. They observed the working mechanisms of soilless cultivation, including nutrient delivery systems and plant growth management. Discussions also highlighted the importance of efficient water use and controlled environment agriculture in addressing climate challenges. The participants showed keen interest in understanding how such technologies can be incorporated into teaching practices. The visit also served as a platform to connect school-level education with advanced agricultural research. Teachers appreciated the initiative and acknowledged its educational value. They further expressed their intent to arrange student visits after school reopening. Such engagements are expected to enhance awareness among young learners. The activity reflects MNSUAM's commitment to community outreach and knowledge dissemination.



3rd meeting regarding the National Coordinated Varietal Trials

The third meeting regarding the National Coordinated Varietal Trials was held at Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture, Multan on March 17, 2026. The meeting was chaired by Chairman National Seed Regulatory and Development Authority, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.). The participants included Dr. Muhammad Idrees Khan, Ms. Sabahat Hussain, Muhammad Jameel, Dr. Khizar Hayat, Dr. Sagheer Ahmad, Hammad Hussain, Dr. Naeem Iqbal, and Dr. Furqan Ahmad. Those who participated online included Dr. Irfan Ahmad Baig, Dr. Qamar Shakeel, Muhammad Asim, Muhammad Azam Khan, Ehsan Ullah, Nazar Iqbal, Shahid Mumtaz, Dr. Muhammad Iqbal Bandesha, Hassan Raza, Dr. Muhammad Asif, Dr. Jahanzeb, Dr. Julia Abbasi, Ameer Hussain, Suleman Gohar, Muhammad Zahid Aslam, Nadia Hussain Ahmad, Amina Ahmad, Syed Hassan, Kamran Javed, and Tanis Chaudhry. On this occasion, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali emphasized collaboration between the public and private sectors and stated that both sectors must work together to improve cotton. He clarified that these trials will be conducted under the supervision of the National Regulatory Authority, and the objections raised in previous trials will be addressed by conducting the trials this year at the proposed locations in an effective manner. During the meeting, Dr. Asif Ali directed Dr. Qamar Shakeel and Dr. Furqan Ahmad to organize these trials in coordination with the Federal Seed Certification & Registration Department and committee members in a systematic manner. He further stated that monthly meetings will be held to review updates, and representatives from both public and private sectors will participate in these meetings. In addition, monthly visits will also be conducted, while the previously constituted committee will visit twice a week to address any concerns and evaluate the performance of all varieties in a comprehensive manner.



Expert Session on Drone Technology in Agriculture at MNSUAM

The Department of Outreach and Continuing Education at MNSUAM organized an expert session on drone technology in agriculture on March 18, 2026. The session focused on global advancements and local adoption challenges of drone-based agricultural solutions. It featured Mr. Rizwan Asif, an international expert from Finland, who emphasized the importance of structured training and certification systems. He highlighted the need for regulatory frameworks and safety compliance to support drone integration in Pakistan's agriculture sector. Dr. Hassan Mahmood from Al Karam Farm Technologies provided detailed insights into drone operations, safety protocols, and pilot certification procedures. Additionally, Mr. Anwar Rasheed from Suncrop Group shared practical experiences related to spray applications through drones. He stressed the importance of field demonstrations in building farmers' trust in modern technologies. Faculty members and experts from various departments actively contributed to the discussion. The session encouraged interdisciplinary dialogue on innovation and practical implementation. It highlighted the university's role in promoting technology-driven agriculture. Overall, the event strengthened awareness and capacity building in emerging agricultural technologies.



Seminar on “Water and Industrial Equity: Where Water Flows, Equality Grows”

A seminar was organized at Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan, in connection with World Water Day under the chairmanship of Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) on March 26, 2026. The seminar was held on the theme “Water and Industrial Equity: Where Water Flows, Equality Grows.” The inaugural meeting of the Water Research and Development Cluster was also held alongside the seminar. Online international guest speaker Dr. Emma Singh Karki (Australia) highlighted agriculture in the context of gender equality and climate change. Ms. Amina Bajwa (FAO) spoke about the role of women in agriculture. Dr. Abu Bakar and Ms. Tania Imran emphasized capacity building for improved water management. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali highlighted the importance of sustainable water use and inclusive development. He further stated that water is an essential component of life, and without it, the existence of life in the world would become meaningless. He added that the issue of water scarcity is becoming increasingly serious, despite the fact that 71 percent of the Earth’s surface is covered with water while only 29 percent is land. Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmad Baig and Dr. Saif Ullah stated that water and energy are matters of life and death for us. Unfortunately, Pakistan is currently generating only 8,000 megawatts of electricity from water, whereas there is a potential to generate up to 40,000 megawatts. They further emphasized that every drop of water must be conserved worldwide, as water is not only life but also wealth. A large number of university faculty members and students attended the event.



SMALL PAK Project Launch Workshop

On March 25, 2026, MNSUAM hosted a workshop to launch the SMALL PAK Project, aimed at promoting climate-resilient and sustainable agriculture for small farmers. The workshop brought together national and international experts, researchers, and practitioners to discuss the project's scope and expected outcomes. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) emphasized the significance of research, collaboration, and innovation in addressing climate change challenges. He highlighted the importance of developing practical solutions to support smallholder farmers facing water scarcity and environmental stress. Experts shared insights into implementation strategies and long-term impacts of the project. The session provided a valuable platform for knowledge exchange and stakeholder engagement. Participants discussed the role of community-based approaches in enhancing agricultural resilience. The workshop also encouraged collaboration between academia and field practitioners. It underscored the importance of sustainable farming practices for future food security. The initiative reflects MNSUAM's commitment to research-driven development. It also reinforces efforts to support vulnerable farming communities across Punjab.



View Highlights

<https://youtu.be/miOACLNv5PM>

7th Regional Agriculture Forum Meeting

The 7th Meeting of the Regional Agriculture Forum South Punjab was held at MNSUAM on March 27, 2026, under the chairmanship of the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.). The forum brought together researchers, policymakers, industry representatives, and agricultural experts to discuss key sectoral challenges. Major focus areas included climate-resilient agriculture, digital farming solutions, and improved crop management practices. Participants emphasized the need for adopting innovative technologies to enhance productivity and sustainability. Discussions also covered issues such as water scarcity, soil health, and supply chain efficiency. The importance of data-driven decision-making and farm monitoring systems was highlighted. Experts emphasized strengthening linkages between research institutions and farmers for effective knowledge transfer. The meeting encouraged collaboration among public and private stakeholders. Recommendations were made for practical interventions to address regional agricultural challenges. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) appreciated the collective efforts and called for continued coordination. The forum concluded with a shared commitment to sustainable agricultural development in South Punjab.



Review Meeting on Current Wheat Situation

A review meeting on the current wheat situation was held at MNSUAM on March 28, 2026, under the chairmanship of Secretary Agriculture Punjab, Mr. Iftikhar Ali Sahoo. The meeting aimed to assess crop progress and ensure effective harvesting and post-harvest management. It was reported that Punjab is expected to produce over 22.5 million metric tons of wheat this year. The Secretary emphasized timely guidance for farmers regarding harvesting, threshing, and storage practices. Special attention was given to managing operations under prevailing weather conditions. Discussions also focused on reducing post-harvest losses and improving storage infrastructure. Participants highlighted the importance of efficient transportation and supply chain management. The role of extension services in farmer awareness was strongly emphasized. Experts called for coordinated efforts among all stakeholders to maintain crop quality. The Secretary Agriculture appreciated ongoing efforts and encouraged continuous monitoring. The meeting concluded with a commitment to ensuring food security and a successful wheat season.



Cohort-5 Induction Process of Startups at BIAEC

The Business Incubation and Agricultural Entrepreneurship Centre (BIAEC) at MNSUAM has launched the Cohort-5 induction process for startups. The initiative invites students, faculty members, and aspiring entrepreneurs to apply for the incubation program by March 31, 2026. The program is designed to support early-stage startups in agriculture and allied sectors. It aims to transform innovative ideas into sustainable business ventures through structured support. Selected participants will benefit from mentorship, capacity-building sessions, and business development guidance. The program also provides access to research facilities and industry linkages. Startups will have opportunities to connect with potential investors and strategic partners. The initiative promotes innovation, entrepreneurship, and enterprise development within the university ecosystem. It reflects BIAEC's commitment to nurturing future business leaders. The program also contributes to economic growth and job creation. Overall, it strengthens the culture of innovation and commercialization at MNSUAM.






Cohort - 5

Applications are now open
for incubation at BIAEC MNSUAM
Make sure to apply before the
31st of March 2026

SCAN HERE



FOR REGISTRATION 

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MNSUAM Partners with FDO for Climate-Resilient Initiatives

Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture (MNSUAM), Multan, has initiated a collaboration with the Farmers Development Organization (FDO), Multan, to promote climate-resilient development, green infrastructure, and community-based research. The partnership focuses on capacity building, technical collaboration, student engagement, and the development of on-campus demonstration sites for sustainable practices. A short course on climate-resilient urban development is also proposed under this initiative. The Agreement of Cooperation was signed on March 30, 2026. Dr. Muqarrab Ali, Associate Professor of Climate Change, MNSUAM, will serve as the focal person for coordination. The collaboration will also include joint trainings, workshops, and outreach activities to ensure long-term sustainability and impact.



Proud Moment for MNSUAM - Dr. Asaf Khan Secures HEC NRPU Grant

MNSUAM proudly acknowledges the achievement of Dr. Asaf Khan, who has secured a competitive HEC-NRPU research grant worth Rs. 9.6192 million. The funded project will focus on investigating DNA methylation patterns affecting wheat resilience under climate stress. The research aims to enhance crop productivity and sustainability through advanced biological insights. This work is particularly relevant in addressing the challenges of climate change in agriculture. Dr. Asaf Khan's achievement reflects his academic excellence and research leadership.



It also highlights the growing research capacity of MNSUAM in agricultural innovation. His role in strengthening academic linkages further contributes to institutional development. The project is expected to generate valuable knowledge for climate-resilient crop improvement. It will support national efforts toward food security and sustainable agriculture. The university community has extended congratulations on this accomplishment.

Celebrate QS Ranking Achievement

Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan has achieved a significant milestone by securing a position in the 301–350 band in Agriculture & Forestry in the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2026. This recognition reflects the university's growing global standing in agricultural education and research. It highlights consistent efforts in delivering quality education and impactful research outcomes. The achievement is a result of the dedication of faculty, students, researchers, and academic partners. It also demonstrates the university's commitment to innovation and sustainable agricultural development. The ranking enhances MNSUAM's visibility on the international academic platform. It serves as motivation to further strengthen teaching and research excellence. The recognition also supports the university's mission of addressing real-world agricultural challenges. It reinforces confidence among stakeholders and collaborators. The Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization congratulated the entire university community. This accomplishment marks a proud moment and a step forward toward global excellence.

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE..!!!



SUBJECT RANKING: AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

301-350

**MUHAMMAD NAWAZ SHAREEF UNIVERSITY OF
AGRICULTURE MULTAN**