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- South Punjab Agri-Tech & Poultry Innovation Forum Fosters Pak-China Cooperation
- HEC Technology Development Fund Team Visits University
- Seminar Held on "Water for Food Security in the Indus River"

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August 4, 2026

1

Cotton Area Decline Analytical Committee Convenes Its Second Meeting

The Cotton Area Decline Analytical Committee, constituted to probe the persistent contraction in cotton acreage across Punjab, convened its second meeting at Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture, Multan. Representatives of the Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Extension, the Crop Reporting Service, Pest Warning, allied universities, the seed and pesticide industry, APTMA, and progressive growers graced the proceedings. Presiding over the session, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) apprised the house that the draft preliminary report had already been circulated among members and urged the timely submission of technical feedback to enable finalization for the Secretary of Agriculture, Government of Punjab. Detailed briefings were presented on farmer surveys and consultative sessions held across cotton-growing districts. The Committee resolved that a scientific, data-driven zoning framework, alongside a pilot cluster-farming model in Bahawalpur Division, must anchor the province's cotton revival strategy, with a comprehensive working paper to follow for governmental approval.



August 5, 2026

2 University Observes Youm-e-Istehsal Kashmir with Solidarity and Resolve

In heartfelt solidarity with the people of Kashmir, Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture, Multan organized a spirited declamation contest and a rally to mark Youm-e-Istehsal Kashmir. Addressing the gathering, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) observed that contemporary nations must pursue enlightened and modern strategies for the cause of freedom, urging the youth to embrace collective, reasoned thinking rather than extremist tendencies. He remarked that progress in technology, economic self-reliance, and prudent diplomacy would amplify Pakistan's voice on the global stage in support of the Kashmiri people's absolute right to self-determination, adding that affection for Kashmir remains woven into the nation's collective conscience. University students participated with great enthusiasm in the declamation contest, while the solidarity rally drew wide participation from faculty members including Dr. Umar Farooq, Dr. Irfan Ahmed Baig, Dr. Hammad Nadeem, Dr. Salman Qadri, Dr. Usman Jamshaid, Dr. Akhtar Hameed, Dr. Babar Farid, and Dr. Umar Akram, together with staff and students.



August 11, 2026

3 National Minorities' Day Marked with Interfaith Harmony Activities

The Directorate of Student Affairs at Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture, Multan organized a series of awareness, educational, and interfaith activities in observance of National Minorities' Day, aimed at fostering religious tolerance, mutual respect, and appreciation of minority contributions to national development. Proceedings began with a special Friday sermon by Dr. Rashid Ahmed on Islam and minority rights, followed by student visits to a local temple and church to promote interfaith understanding. A seminar themed "National Unity through Diversity: Celebrating Our Shared Future" was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmed Baig, Dean of Social Sciences, and Prof. Dr. Muhammad Hammad Nadeem Tahir, who underscored that Pakistan's true strength lies in unity amid diversity. Students delivered speeches celebrating minority achievements, while special speakers Ms. Shakuntala Devi and Ms. Umm-e-Farwa Hamdani highlighted issues of minority welfare and social inclusion. Prof. Dr. Tanveer Ahmed extended gratitude to all participants, commending the University's continued commitment to national solidarity and peaceful coexistence.



4 Tree Plantation Campaign Held at University Farm, Jalalpur Pirwala

A meaningful tree plantation campaign, geared towards environmental sustainability, biodiversity conservation, and climate resilience, was organized at the University Farm, Jalalpur Pirwala, in collaboration with the Environmental Protection Agency, PepsiCo, and Noubahar Cola. Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmed Baig, Dean of Social Sciences, emphasized that tree plantation is indispensable for curbing pollution, absorbing carbon emissions, and safeguarding biodiversity against the mounting perils of climate change. He noted that the University remains steadfastly devoted to eco-friendly initiatives alongside its academic and research pursuits, and appealed to students, faculty, and civil society to regard plantation as an abiding national responsibility extending well beyond the mere planting of saplings. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from Dr. Nasir Nadeem, Dr. Abdul Ghaffar, Dr. Mahmood Alam, Dr. Muqarab Ali, Abid Raza, Dr. Tahir Abbas, Muhammad Iqbal, Masood bin Ahmad, and Muhammad Irfan, together with the Jalalpur Pirwala Press Club and local community members, all reaffirming their resolve towards a greener, healthier future.



August 13, 2026

5 China-Pakistan Cotton Cooperation: University Delegation Visits Xinjiang Jinghua Seed Company

Under the distinguished leadership of Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.), Vice Chancellor of Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture, Multan and Chairman of the National Seed Development and Regulatory Authority, a University delegation held high-level engagements with Xinjiang Jinghua Seed Company Limited during a four-day academic visit to China, culminating in a cordial dinner hosted by the Chinese side. An industrial cooperation conference with the Bayingolin Mongol Autonomous Prefecture followed, featuring senior Chinese officials and covering germplasm exchange, technology transfer, and joint breeding research. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali articulated Pakistan's cotton sector challenges and its pressing need for advanced breeding technologies and quality-assured seed systems, while proposing a Joint Laboratory at the University for cotton breeding and molecular research, receiving an enthusiastic welcome from the Chinese hosts. An Agreement of Cooperation was formally signed to institutionalise long-term collaboration. The delegation, including Dr. Muhammad Iqbal, Dr. Zulqarnain Khan, and Dr. Farhan Ahmad, subsequently toured Jinghua's breeding and fibre-testing laboratories, commending their advanced infrastructure.



August 14, 2026

6 University Celebrates Pakistan's 79th Independence Day

Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture Multan commemorated Pakistan's 79th Independence Day with profound patriotism and national spirit. Ceremonies commenced with recitation of Quranic verses, followed by a solemn flag-hoisting presided over by the Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Irfan A. Baig, accompanied by deans, faculty, and students, with special prayers offered for the nation's continued security and prosperity. A tree plantation drive and sapling distribution were held at the sports complex, while students captivated audiences through patriotic speeches, debates, and national songs, earning warm appreciation as torchbearers of the nation's future. Prof. Baig conveyed a message from the serving Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.), emphasizing that higher education institutions bear the responsibility of nurturing youth through innovation and character building, while Dean Prof. Dr. Hammad Nadeem urged the community to channel youthful energy constructively. Shields and certificates were awarded to distinguished students, with the ceremony graced by the Registrar Ms. Somiya Ambreen, the Treasurer Mr. Muhammad Rafiq Farooqi, and the Controller of Examinations Mr. Zulfiqar Ali Tabassum.



August 20, 2026

7 Dialogue Explores Challenges and Prospects of Pakistan's Date Palm Sector

An enlightening dialogue on the date palm sector, encompassing climate-resilient production, quality nurseries, post-harvest management, and access to global markets, was convened at Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture, Multan, bringing together experts, growers, and exporters. Muhammad Akhlaq underscored the necessity of strengthening the entire value chain, from cultivation to processing and marketing, to unlock Pakistan's substantial export potential. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) affirmed the University's commitment to advancing research and practical guidance for growers, emphasizing the cultivation of internationally competitive varieties such as Medjool, Deglet Noor, and Ajwa. Dr. Sarwar presented a comprehensive review of prevailing challenges, including red palm weevil infestation and limited cold-storage capacity, while discussions highlighted Integrated Pest Management, modern grading, and value-added processing as pathways forward. The Vice Chancellor proposed robust linkages among growers, researchers, and industry, advocating grower consortiums, standardized branding, and traceability to elevate Pakistani dates within global markets.



August 23, 2026

8 Vice Chancellor Leads Special Tree Plantation Drive across Campus

The Directorate of State Management organised a special plantation drive at Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture, Multan, with Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) personally leading faculty, staff, and students in planting saplings at various locations across the campus. Addressing the gathering, the Vice Chancellor observed that trees perform an indispensable role in preserving ecological balance, mitigating air pollution, moderating temperatures, and countering the adverse effects of climate change. He remarked that universities must serve not merely as centres of learning but as vanguards of environmental stewardship and sustainable development. He further appealed to the University community not to confine its efforts to the planting of saplings alone, but to ensure their diligent watering and continued care. Reaffirming the institution's abiding commitment, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) pledged that the University would persist in expanding green cover to provide a cleaner, healthier campus environment for generations to come.



August 25, 2026

9 South Punjab Agri-Tech & Poultry Innovation Forum Fosters Pak-China Cooperation

Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture, Multan hosted the "South Punjab Agri-Tech & Poultry Innovation Forum", themed "Bridging Research and Enterprise: China-Pakistan Cooperation in Modern Agriculture, Poultry & Livestock", designed to connect Chinese agri-tech enterprises with the business community of Southern Punjab. The event was hosted by Mr. Rana Iqbal Siraj, CEO of RIC Nexus Pvt. Ltd., who underlined the importance of strengthening Pak-China commercial ties. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) affirmed that the University would extend its full technical support to translate research into practical, industry-ready applications, opening new avenues in smart farming, poultry management, and greenhouse technology. Chinese entrepreneurs, including representatives Yichi, Wang, Zhaowei, and Lambert, engaged in fruitful discussions with Pakistani stakeholders on technology transfer and joint ventures. The forum, graced by Senator Rana Mahmood ul Hassan and Cholistan University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Tariq, reaffirmed the vital role of university-industry linkages in modernizing Southern Punjab's agricultural landscape.



11 Friendly Cricket Match Enlivens Independence Day Celebrations

In a delightful conclusion to the Independence Day festivities, a spirited friendly cricket match was organized between the faculty and administration of Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture, Multan, graced by Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) as the special guest. Addressing the occasion, the Vice Chancellor remarked that Independence Day imparts abiding lessons of unity, solidarity, and national brotherhood, values which sporting activities admirably reinforce. He observed that sports nurture physical vitality and mental refreshment while cultivating teamwork and camaraderie among colleagues, adding that a wholesome, positive environment remains indispensable to a progressive institution. The contest, marked by keen sportsmanship and enthusiasm from both sides, concluded with the administration team securing a hard-fought victory over the faculty. In his closing remarks, the Vice Chancellor appreciated the players of both teams, noting that such initiatives strengthen institutional harmony while keeping alive the national spirit of Independence Day.



August 28, 2026

10

HEC Technology Development Fund Team Visits University

A distinguished delegation from the Higher Education Commission's Technology Development Fund visited Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture, Multan to assess avenues for translating university research into viable commercial ventures and market-ready technologies. Participants underscored that aligning academic research with industrial demand would generate meaningful employment opportunities for the nation's youth while strengthening the broader economy. Pakistan Science Foundation Chairman Prof. Dr. Akmal Khan warmly commended the endeavors of the University's Office of Research, Innovation, and Commercialization, lauding its steady contribution to bridging the gap between academia and industry. He further paid rich tribute to the visionary leadership of Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.), observing that his stewardship has been instrumental in propelling the University's research culture, fostering innovation, and cultivating enduring industry partnerships that continue to yield tangible benefits for the agricultural sector and the nation at large.



August 30, 2026

12 Vice Chancellor Visits Tara Research Farm, Lodhran

Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.), accompanied by Dr. Sagheer Ahmed, Chief Scientist of Tara Group, undertook an informative visit to Tara Research Farm, Lodhran, where he was briefed in detail on ongoing cotton research, novel variety development, and advanced seed production programmes. The Vice Chancellor inspected several research plots illustrating the scientific stages of variety development and integrated seed production, including heat- and virus-resistant varieties and lines suited to mechanical picking, and was further apprised of collaborative research with CEMB Lahore on pest-tolerant cotton lines. Commending Tara Group's dedication to modern agricultural research and quality seed production, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali particularly praised the farm's agronomic practices and its effective Integrated Pest Management system, assuring full institutional cooperation going forward. In response, Tara Group Chairman Dr. Khalid Hameed expressed sincere gratitude to the Vice Chancellor and reaffirmed the Group's enduring commitment to advancing national agriculture and farmer prosperity.



August 31, 2026

13 Seminar Held on "Water for Food Security in the Indus River"

A thought-provoking seminar on "Water for Food Security in the Indus River" was convened at Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture, Multan, chaired by Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.), bringing together eminent experts from academia, government, and research institutions. Deliberations centred on water conservation, sustainable irrigation, and the imperatives of climate resilience for food security. Dr. Bakhshal Lashari traced three decades of trends in agricultural production and water scarcity along the Indus, while Dr. Abubakar Muhammad and Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ashfaq called for modern irrigation methods and improved water management to safeguard smallholder farmers. Concluding the proceedings, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali affirmed that the future of Pakistan's food security is inextricably linked to prudent conservation of the Indus River, emphasizing robust collaboration among academia, government, industry, and farmers. He reiterated the University's unwavering resolve to advance sustainable agriculture through research, awareness, and practical initiatives for the nation's enduring prosperity.

