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MUHAMMAD NAWAZ SHAREEF UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, MULTAN

Edition Highlights

- Regional Agriculture Forum Meeting on the Action Plan for the Mango Industry of South Punjab
- Scientific Writing Training Program for Improving the Research Skills of Postgraduate Students
- Visit of Consul General Sun Yan and Inauguration of the Sino-Pak Guard Cotton Lab
- 49th Syndicate Meeting on Academic, Administrative, and Financial Affairs of the University
- Proposed “Knowledge to Business” Partnership between the University and the Multan Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 154th Global and 2nd National Rank of Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture Multan in the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings 2026

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01 Regional Agriculture Forum Meeting on the Action Plan for the Mango Industry of South Punjab

The 11th meeting of the Regional Agriculture Forum was held at Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture under the chairmanship of Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.). In the meeting, the research activities, performance, and future action plan of the Mango Research Institute were reviewed. Strengthening the mango nursery sector on modern scientific lines was declared a top priority so that certified and healthy plants can be produced and supplied to growers. Also, participants were informed that high-yielding and low-yielding orchards will be mapped to understand yield gaps, that varieties suited to the Small Tree System will be screened, and that high-quality germplasm will be acquired. The forum resolved to prepare an effective integrated pest management program and to launch a Mango Pruner Training Program in mechanized pruning. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) described mango as an essential crop of southern Punjab and stated that research must align with the practical needs of farmers and reach the field directly. Prof. Dr. Ayesha Hakeem presented her proposal on a mango traceability system and smart fruit-fly traps, and a consensus was reached on installing pilot smart traps in orchards. The session was attended by representatives of the Mango Research Institute Multan, university faculty members, and a substantial number of industry experts.







02

Scientific Writing Training Program for Improving the Research Skills of Postgraduate Students

The 26th session of the seven-day Scientific Writing Training Program began at Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture to improve the research and academic capabilities of postgraduate students. In the inaugural session, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) urged the participants to focus on “learning how to learn” rather than only acquiring information, to think creatively and critically, and to learn something new every day. He added that quality research remains the foundation of national progress and sustainable agricultural production. Director Graduate Studies, Dr. Rao Ikram, briefed the participants that the Scientific Writing Certificate Program is a signature program offered by Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture. He further stated that the university takes pride in training its postgraduate students in modern skills of academic writing. During the program, 18 foreign qualified master trainers will provide practical training in preparing research proposals, planning and conducting experiments, writing theses and research papers, and developing proposals to secure research grants. Also, special attention will be paid to the principles of scientific writing and the presentation of research with confidence. The session was attended by the focal person of the program, Dr. Usman Ali, several faculty members, and the 36 participating postgraduate students, who welcomed the initiative with enthusiasm.





03 Seminar on Modern Scientific Methods and Mapping Technology in Cotton Production

A seminar on “Cotton Plant Mapping” was jointly organized by Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture and INNOGROW (Fatima Group). The seminar was attended by students, faculty members, agricultural experts, and growers. The guest speaker, Dr. Cator Davis Hack, Agronomy Consultant at INNOGROW, spoke on plant physiology, balanced use of water and nutrients, critical growth stages, and the impact of climate change on cotton. He stated that conventional practices alone are no longer sufficient and that modern field mapping technology enables better monitoring, efficient use of water and fertilizer, and timely diagnosis of production bottlenecks. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) stated that cotton is an important crop for the national economy and the textile industry and that strong linkages among universities, industry, research institutions, and farmers are urgently needed. He added that collaboration with INNOGROW and Fatima Group helps transfer research directly to the field. A question-and-answer session followed and covered climatic, nutritional, and irrigation challenges. Thus, the attendees considered the seminar beneficial and informative for all cotton stakeholders and stated that the continued organization of such training and awareness programs is warranted for the benefit of the cotton sector of the country.





04

Visit of the CropLife Asia, CropLife Pakistan, and FMC Delegation on Collaboration in Plant Protection

A delegation of CropLife Asia, CropLife Pakistan, and FMC Pakistan, comprising Ms. Mary Goh, Mr. Rasheed Ahmad, and Mr. Aamir Bashir, visited Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture to review cooperation in plant protection, pesticide stewardship, insecticide resistance monitoring, joint research, and capacity building. The guests toured the Insecticide Resistance Monitoring Laboratory, which was established with the support of CropLife Pakistan. In the laboratory, whitefly collected from the major cotton zones of Punjab is being tested against various insecticides. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) welcomed the delegation and described insecticide resistance as a persistent and evolving challenge that must be tracked continuously. Thus, he stated that monitoring data should be translated into actionable resistance management guidelines for the Agriculture Department, Pest Warning, farmers, and the agrochemical industry. The Vice Chancellor also directed that plant protection, and pesticide stewardship should be integrated into the curriculum, together with regular training programs for students. He described the research policy of the university as farmer-centric and stated that research must reduce costs and risks, raise yields, and improve farm profitability. The meeting was attended by Dean Prof. Dr. Hammad Nadeem Tahir, Director ORIC Prof. Dr. Mubashir Mehdi, Prof. Dr. Shafqat Saeed, and other faculty members.





05

Visit of Consul General Sun Yan and Inauguration of the Sino-Pak Guard Cotton Lab

Consul General of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Sun Yan, visited Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture and was welcomed by Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.). The Vice Chancellor briefed the Consul General on the achievements of the university in education, research, international linkages, and global rankings, with special reference to ongoing bilateral research projects with China. The Consul General interacted with faculty members and students who pursued PhD, post-doctoral, and other training in China, with graduates of the Prime Minister's 1000 Agriculture Graduate Training Program, and with graduates of a joint diploma program. The Sino-Pak Guard Cotton Lab was inaugurated during the visit. The laboratory was established with the financial assistance of Guard Agro Services Pakistan to promote research, innovation, and industry collaboration in cotton. The delegation then toured experimental cotton fields to observe varieties developed through Pakistan-China collaboration. The Consul General expressed confidence that the next 75 years of Pak-China friendship will be even more successful. In addition, cultural stalls were set up, and a cake was cut to celebrate 75 years of friendship. Special Secretary Agriculture South Punjab, Mr. Sarfraz Hussain Magsi, was also present on the occasion.





06

Campus Plantation Drive under the Theme “Plant a Tree, Grow a Future”

A plantation drive was organized on the campus of Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture by the Green Youth Movement Club and the Agriculture Volunteers Society in collaboration with the Faizan Global Relief Foundation under the theme “Plant a Tree, Grow a Future.” The objective of the campaign was to raise awareness among students and youth about environmental conservation and the adverse impacts of climate change. The event was attended by Senior Tutor Dr. Akhtar Hameed, Dr. Rasheed Ahmad, Dr. Fawad Zafar, Dr. Umar Akram, Dr. Arslan Ali, members from FGRF, and representatives of the Education Department. The speakers described tree plantation as significant in Islamic, social, and environmental terms and stated that trees cleanse and beautify the environment and help mitigate the effects of climate change. Thus, participants urged the youth to treat plantation as a lasting responsibility rather than a symbolic activity and to ensure the regular care and protection of every sapling. The organizers appreciated the efforts of both societies in promoting an eco-friendly campus and observed that the partnership has strengthened ties among educational institutions, faith-based organizations, and civil society. Finally, participants pledged at the end of the drive to maintain the newly planted saplings and to continue such environment-friendly initiatives at the university in the days ahead.





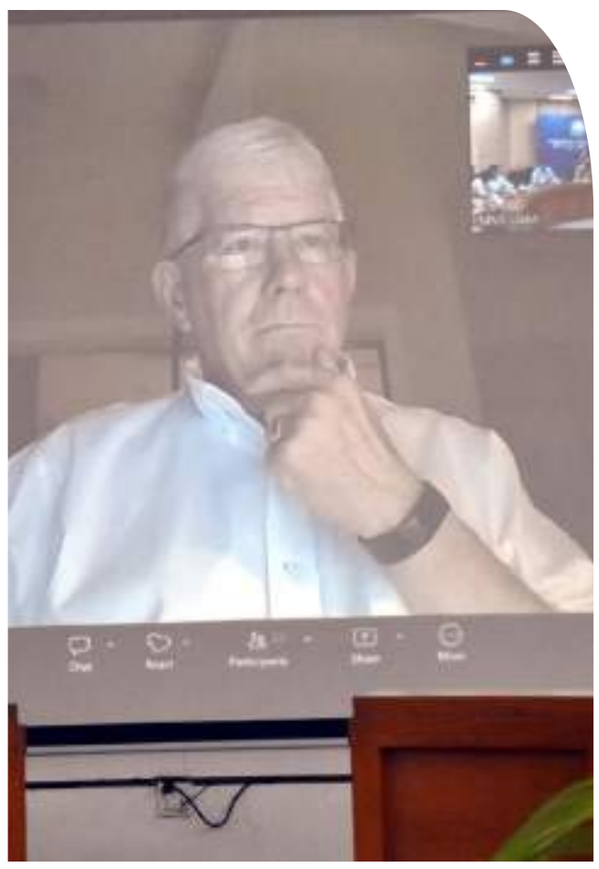
07

Training on Cotton Plant Physiology and Mapping by an International Expert for Scientists of Punjab

A training session on “Cotton Plant Physiology and Mapping” was organized at Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture in collaboration with INNOGROW. The session was attended by cotton scientists from the university, the Cotton Research Institute Multan, and its substations across Punjab. The resource person, Dr. Kater Hake (USA), shared his experience of more than four decades in cotton research, extension, and production systems. He explained that varieties should be assessed on traits such as plant height, first fruiting node, boll distribution, fruit retention, and maturity behavior and should not be judged on final yield alone. Also, he stated that plant mapping is an effective diagnostic tool for tracking the development of fruiting branches, squares, and bolls and for identifying early-maturing, high-yielding, and locally adapted genotypes. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) thanked Dr. Hake for sharing his expertise with local cotton researchers. He stated that such interactions with experienced international experts build the capacity of researchers and support a rigorous scientific mindset. He added that the revival of cotton cannot be achieved by expanding acreage alone and that it requires high-performing varieties, efficient production technologies, better crop management, and strong coordination among research, extension, and industry.







08

Awareness Seminar on the Importance of Breastfeeding for Mother and Child

An awareness seminar on the promotion of breastfeeding was organized at Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture by the Faculty of Food and Home Sciences, the Planning and Development Board Punjab, and the PHEC Food and Nutrition Cluster. The objective of the seminar was to explain the importance of breastfeeding to mothers and society, to raise awareness of the benefits of mother's milk for the healthy development of newborns, and to promote a supportive environment for the practice. In the seminar, Prof. Dr. Farhana Nosheen, Dr. Nadia Taj, Dr. Shehnaz Razina, and Dr. Nighat stated that breast milk is the finest and most complete nourishment for an infant and supports physical and cognitive growth and immunity. The speakers stated that breastfeeding is a clinical necessity and a social and national responsibility that requires the support and encouragement of all. Thus, the speakers added that families, educational institutions, the healthcare sector, and civil society must together ensure that mothers can breastfeed without hesitation. The event was attended by Prof. Dr. Umar Farooq, Dr. Shams Murtaza, Dr. Muhammad Shahbaz, faculty members, and numerous students. Participants reiterated their collective commitment to promote, protect, and support breastfeeding.





09

49th Syndicate Meeting on Academic, Administrative, and Financial Affairs of the University

The 49th meeting of the Syndicate of Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture was held in the Syndicate Hall under the chairmanship of Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.). Syndicate members Justice Tariq Nadeem, Mr. Shabbir Ahmad, Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali, MPAs Aun Hameed Dogar and Rubina Nazir, Mr. Hamza Abbas, Prof. Dr. Asif Raza, Dr. Naheed Bano, Dr. Mahmood Alam, and Barrister Chaudhary Usama Fazal joined the proceedings virtually, while Registrar Mr. Imran Mahmood was Secretary to the Syndicate. The members reviewed the administrative, academic, financial, and research affairs of the university, including confirmation of the previous minutes, the status of earlier decisions, recommendations of the Departmental Tenure Review Committees, nomination of experts for faculty boards, and appointment of departmental chairpersons. Also, several faculty matters were considered, including study leave for PhD and post-doctoral studies, ex-Pakistan leave, extraordinary leave, and deputation cases, together with HEC policy guidelines and agreements with national and international institutions. At the conclusion, participants reaffirmed their collective commitment to the development of the university and to providing an improved academic and administrative environment for students and faculty.





10

Awareness Walk and Plantation Drive on Smog and Air Pollution

An awareness seminar, walk, and tree plantation drive on the harmful effects of smog and air pollution were organized at Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture by the Department of Climate Change in collaboration with Rotary Club Multan, the Plant for Life Society, and Lions Club. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) led the awareness walk, in which students, faculty members, and representatives carried placards promoting cleaner air and environmental responsibility. A ceremonial plantation on campus followed the walk. The Vice Chancellor stated that smog and air pollution are major challenges that require coordinated action by government, academia, civil society, and the public and that smog and air pollution can be curbed through afforestation and environmental literacy. Rotary Club Zonal Coordinator South, Mr. Saleem Nasir, termed public awareness the need of the hour. In the seminar, a speaker from the Environmental Protection Agency Multan and Dr. Muqarrab Ali discussed the consequences of air contamination on health, ecology, and quality of life. Thus, they stressed timely precautions, sustained plantation, and continuous public information campaigns. The attendees reaffirmed their commitment to a clean and green environment. The event was attended by Mr. Kashif Khalil, Ms. Syeda Urooj Fatima, faculty members, and a large number of students.





11

Cotton Traveling Seminar 2026 in Multan on Certified Seed and Truth in Labelling

The Cotton Traveling Seminar 2026, organized under the auspices of the National Seed Development and Regulatory Authority (NSDRA), concluded in Multan after multi-location field assessments of cotton varieties across Punjab and Sindh. On the final day, the delegation visited the Cotton Research Institute, the Central Cotton Research Institute, and Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, where the delegation inspected demonstration trials, mechanical picking trials, and early-maturing cotton varieties. Experts commended the performance of the trials and collected field data for further analysis. Also, a technical session was held at Sun Crop Farm with researchers and stakeholders. At the concluding ceremony, NSDRA Chairperson and Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) welcomed the participants and stressed the need to enforce “Truth in Labelling,” ensure certified quality seed, upgrade the seed regulatory system, and take firm action against misbranded or substandard seed. Dr. Qamar Shakeel and Dr. Nazar Iqbal briefed the audience on the findings of the seminar. Representatives of NSDRA, FSCRD, research institutes, Agriculture Extension, Pest Warning, and the private sector attended the ceremony and stressed transparent and rigorous evaluation of cotton varieties, certified seed governance, and stronger research-industry linkages. They described the seminar as an important milestone toward technical synergy.





12

Proposed “Knowledge to Business” Partnership between the University and the Multan Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) proposed a partnership between Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture and the Multan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) to translate research, innovation, and human capital into viable enterprises across South Punjab. During the meeting, ways to strengthen linkages between academia and the chamber and to align scientific research with industrial needs were discussed. Thus, a joint coordination committee and thematic working groups were suggested to operationalize the “Knowledge to Business” framework, which will cover climate-smart agriculture, water management, farm mechanization, digital agriculture, bio-agri products, and technology transfer. High priority will be given to value addition, food processing, packaging, food safety, cold chain logistics, and exports in sectors such as mango, citrus, dates, and dairy, along with opportunities for youth and women entrepreneurs. It was recommended that three to five pilot projects be selected and that a 12-month joint action plan be prepared. Additional Chief Secretary Punjab Iftikhar Ali Sahoo, who joined online, stated that such collaboration will promote the agricultural and socioeconomic development of South Punjab. The meeting was attended by Dr. Shafiq Pitafi, Mr. Asif Majeed, and other chamber representatives, who expressed optimism about the partnership.





13

Road Safety Seminar and Helmet Distribution Ceremony for Female Motorcyclists

A road safety seminar and helmet distribution ceremony for female motorcyclists was organized at Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture under the auspices of Rotary Club Multan Midtown and City Traffic Police Multan. Helmets donated by Rotary Club Multan Midtown were presented to female students who ride motorbikes. Rotary Club Coordinator South, Mr. Saleem Nasir, stated that the club remains committed to supporting the youth and empowering women. City Traffic Officer Multan, Mr. Nabeel Khokhar, stated that safe driving is of major importance and that road accidents claim more lives than wars. Thus, adherence to traffic rules is necessary. Journalists Mr. Nasir Mahmood Sheikh and Mr. Iftikhar-ul-Hassan also stressed road safety education. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) stated that the university has built a peer-learning ecosystem in which students learn from one another and that this peer-learning ecosystem will be used to impart road safety and defensive driving training to the youth. The ceremony was attended by Chairman DOCE Dr. M. Usman Jamshaid, Director Student Affairs Dr. Aamir Hussain, Senior Tutor Dr. Akhtar Hameed, faculty members, students, and university drivers. The ceremony concluded with the formal handover of helmets to the students, followed by an awareness bike rally on campus. This initiative shows the commitment of the university to the safety and well-being of its students.





14

Inauguration of a Month-Long “Sponge City” Training Course with the Farmers Development Organization

A month-long training course on the concept of “Sponge City” began at Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture in collaboration with the Farmers Development Organization (FDO). The inaugural ceremony was held in the Training Hall of the Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Library, and Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) attended as chief guest. Forty university students are enrolled in the course, and Mr. Muhammad Usman Wahla, Project Director of the FRCP project of FDO, and his team were also present. Chairman of the Department of Environmental Sciences, Prof. Dr. Sohail Iqbal, explained the Sponge City model and the urban challenges caused by climate change, including urban flooding. Project Focal Person Dr. Muqarrab Ali stated that Nature-Based Solutions are important for managing urban vulnerabilities, and Dr. Usman Jamshed, Dr. Umair Raees, and Dr. Muhammad Arslan demonstrated practical mitigation strategies. The Vice Chancellor urged the students to learn these contemporary concepts and to apply them in practical life. He appreciated the efforts of FDO toward addressing climate change and advancing sustainable development. In addition, he affirmed that the university would continue to lead climate mitigation and adaptation through research, professional training, and field interventions for a climate-resilient future.





154th Global and 2nd National Rank of Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture Multan in the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings 2026

15

Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture secured the 154th position globally in the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings 2026. The university also ranked second overall in Pakistan and first among all public sector universities in the country. This ranking recognizes the sustained efforts of the university toward environmental sustainability, a green campus, optimal use of resources, and environmental protection. The UI GreenMetric rankings assess institutions worldwide on sustainable campus policies and eco-friendly measures, which suggests that the university gives high priority to ecological responsibility alongside education and research. The university has been pursuing initiatives in energy efficiency, solar energy adoption, extensive tree plantation, water conservation, waste management, campus greening, and sustainable agricultural practices, with contributions from the whole university community. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) credited this accomplishment to the collective dedication of the entire university community and congratulated all. In addition, the administration reaffirmed its resolve to accelerate efforts toward green campus development, sustainable agriculture, and eco-friendly growth and described the ranking as a milestone in the progress of the university toward a sustainable and greener future.



16

Interactive Session on Agriculture, Food Security, and Sustainability in the Light of the Holy Quran

A special interactive session titled “Agriculture, Food Security, and Sustainability in the Light of the Holy Quran” was organized at Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture by the Institute of Plant Breeding and Biotechnology. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) attended as chief guest. The session was attended by Dean FAES Dr. Hammad Nadeem, faculty members, and B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. students of Agronomy, Plant Breeding and Genetics, Biotechnology, and Seed Science and Technology. The resource person, Mr. Muhammad Mushtaq Khan, CEO of Petal Seed Company, Mardan, delivered a talk on the responsible use of natural resources, the conservation of land and water, higher agricultural output, and sustainable farming for future generations. The Vice Chancellor stated that such scholarly sessions are important because conserving natural resources, raising yields, and securing food stability are major challenges that require modern research and prudent use of resources. In addition, he praised the role of Petal Seed Company in improving maize production in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and stressed close collaboration among academia, research institutions, and the private sector. A discussion followed, and the Institute thanked the Vice Chancellor, the Dean, the resource person, faculty members, and students for making the event a success.





17

Study Visit of Officers of the MPDD Training Course to the University

Participants of the 10-week mandatory promotion-linked training course for BS-18 to BS-19 officers, organized by the Management and Professional Development Department of the Punjab Government, made a study visit to Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture. The group comprised 25 trainees and two faculty members. During the visit, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) delivered a briefing on the academic and administrative framework, development projects, research activities, and milestones of the university. He stated that the university has made major progress in a short time in modern agricultural education, scientific research, technology adoption, and academia-industry linkages. Also, he stated that the university is dedicated to finding practical solutions to the agricultural challenges of South Punjab, promoting modern agronomic technology, and leading research on climate change adaptation and efficient water management. He added that development initiatives are progressing rapidly to make the university a hub of research and quality education. The objective of the study visit was to familiarize the officers with field-level operational experiences and to further develop their administrative and professional skills.





18

Visit of IBA Business School Delegation and Consensus on Joint Degree Programs

A delegation from IBA Business School visited Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture. During the visit, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) delivered a presentation on the academic, research, and development initiatives of the university. He informed the guests of the recognition of the university at national and international levels in a short time and of its ongoing research across diverse fields, which received keen interest from the visiting members. In the meeting, discussions were held on strengthening mutual academic cooperation, joint degree programs, collaborative research, and faculty and student exchange between the two institutions. The IBA delegation expressed interest in launching a joint BBA Agribusiness degree program in the future. Also, a consensus was reached on pursuing joint research and educational ventures at the intersection of agriculture and business. Both institutions affirmed their commitment to operationalizing this collaboration through modern academic and research programs that provide students with quality education and hands-on training aligned with the evolving demands of agriculture, business, and industry. Both sides agreed to expand their joint academic endeavors further, and the visit then concluded.



