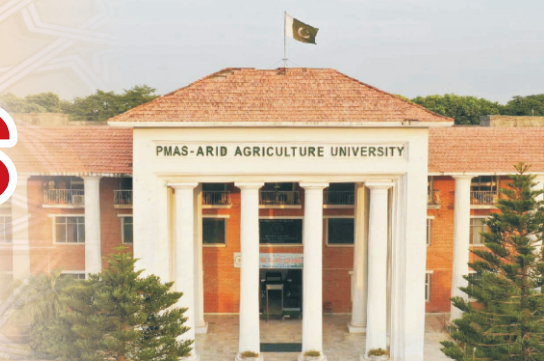




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Minister for Agriculture, Punjab Visited PMAS-AAUR

Minister for Agriculture Punjab, Syed Muhammad Ashiq Hussain Kirmani, accompanied by Secretary Agriculture Punjab Mr. Iftikhar Ali Sahoo, visited Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) on November 22, 2025. They warmly welcomed by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, along with the Registrar, Deans, Directors and faculty members.



During the visit, the Minister and Secretary Agriculture toured key research and innovation facilities including the Center for Precision Agriculture, the China–Pakistan Research & Development Center for Modern Agriculture and Efficient Water Technologies, and the Green AI Hydroponic Unit. The visit highlighted the university's advancements in modern agricultural technologies and its contribution to farmer awareness and capacity building.

The Minister also chaired a meeting where Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman presented ongoing projects and university-led interventions aimed at transforming traditional farming

systems through technology-driven solutions. Minister Kirmani emphasized the critical role of universities as hubs of research, innovation, and technology transfer. He underscored the importance of Academia–Industry–Government collaboration in achieving sustainable growth in the agriculture sector.

The Minister appreciated the university's leadership, noting that Arid University is at the forefront of implementing the Chief Minister Punjab's Agriculture Transformation Plan in the Potohar region.

Secretary Agriculture Punjab Mr. Iftikhar Ali Sahoo also briefed the Minister on the department's

efforts to strengthen coordination with agricultural universities. He shared that new committees have been formed to identify field-level challenges faced by farmers and develop practical, research-backed solutions.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman expressed gratitude for the Minister's visit and reaffirmed the university's commitment to supporting the CM Punjab's Agriculture Transformation Plan. He also emphasized the university's focus on indigenous development of affordable modern technologies, noting that faculty experts and researchers have filed several patents, with more underway.



9th International ICPPS Conference held at PMAS-AAUR



A three-day (Nov 16-18, 2025) 9th International Conference of the Phytopathological Society (ICPPS) held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR). The conference, titled “Combating Plant Pathogens in Changing Climate for Sustainable Food Security,” was jointly organized by the Department of Plant Pathology, Faculty of Agriculture, PMAS-AAUR, and the Pakistan Phytopathological Society (PPS). The inaugural session was graced by Prof. Dr. Mohammad Akmal, Chairman Pakistan Science Foundation, as the Chief Guest, while Dr. Liaqat Ali Khan, Project Director Green AI, served as Chief Guest for the closing ceremony.

Addressing the participants, Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, noted that plant diseases combined with shifting climatic conditions continue to endanger agricultural productivity and long-term food sustainability. He stressed that the theme of this year's conference is both timely and critical, expressing confidence that the scientific community will advance practical and impactful solutions.

The event brought together renowned scientists, researchers, and experts from Pakistan and across the globe. Conducted in a hybrid format, the conference featured both in-person and online

participation, allowing several international speakers to join onsite while others delivered their talks virtually. During the sessions, distinguished guests and keynote speakers emphasized that plant pathogens are rapidly evolving, disease boundaries are expanding, and challenges to food security are intensifying. The Insights and collaborative research presented at the conference were recognized as essential for developing innovative, sciencebased solutions and fostering global scientific partnerships. The conference featured technical sessions, panel discussions, expert lectures, poster presentations and also an exhibition.



9th ICPPS Highlights



Orientation Session of Aridian Character Building Society

Livestock Genetics & Genomics Conference 2025



A Two-Day (November 19-20) Livestock Genetics & Genomics Conference (LGGC) 2025 was organized by the Institute of Animal Sciences (IAS) and the National Center for Livestock Breeding, Genetics & Genomics (NCLBG&G), PMAS-AAUR under the theme "From Genes to Sustainability."

Bringing together leading scientists, geneticists, breeders, industry professionals, policymakers, and students from across Pakistan, the conference

served as a dynamic platform to explore the transformative impact of modern genetics and genomics on livestock production. Participants discussed cutting-edge research and innovations aimed at improving the productivity, resilience, and overall sustainability of dairy cattle, calves, heifers, meat animals, sheep, and goats.

Speaking at the occasion, Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman said that the LGGC-2025 demonstrates

University's commitment to modernizing livestock sector through evidence-based innovation. By harnessing genetic and genomic advancements, we can significantly enhance animal productivity, reduce production costs, and promote climate-smart farming systems.

He applauds the collaborative efforts of researchers, industry partners, and academic institutions working toward a more sustainable and food-secure Pakistan.

1st AAUR World AMR Awareness Campaign

The National Center of Industrial Biotechnology (NCIB), PMAS-AAUR organized the 1st AAUR World Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Awareness Campaign, bringing together leading national experts, scientists, and students to highlight one of the world's most pressing public health challenges. The campaign was held under the theme, "Act Now; Protect Our Present, Secure Our Future: Tackling Antimicrobial Resistance Using the One Health Approach."

Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman graced the event as the Chief Guest, while Prof. Dr. Shahzad Ali Khan, Vice Chancellor of Health Services Academy (HSA), Islamabad and Prof. Dr. Shahana Urooj Kazmi, Vice



Chancellor IIHIR attended as Guests of Honour. Representatives from various academic institutions, healthcare organizations, research bodies and a large number of students were also participated in the event.

During the campaign, keynote speakers and subject experts delivered talks focused on the growing threat of Antimicrobial

Resistance (AMR) and the global urgency required to mitigate it and also emphasized the critical importance of the One Health Approach. The event also featured an awareness walk led by the Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, where participants carried informative placards promoting responsible antibiotic use, infection prevention and coordinated national action.

“Seed to Startup 2025” Entrepreneurship Expo

The Department of Plant Breeding & Genetics, PMAS-AAUR successfully organized the Seed to Startup 2025 Entrepreneurship Expo. The event centered around the theme “Transforming Research into Agribusiness: Entrepreneurship in Plant Breeding, Genetics & Seed Technology,” bringing together a diverse group of students, researchers, policy-makers, agri-startups, and industry stakeholders.

Chief Guest MPA Punjab Malik Iftikhar Ahmed inaugurated the expo, which was attended by PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman along with



the Registrar, Deans, Directors, faculty members, and a large number of students. Keynote addresses were delivered by Mr. Muhammad Azam Khan, DG Federal Seed Certification & Registration Department and Mr.

Aamir Iqbal from Bayer Pvt. Ltd. In his address, MPA Malik Iftikhar Ahmed emphasized the importance of transferring research-based knowledge. He said that farmers look toward research institutions for innovative ideas and practical solutions.



Speaking on the occasion, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman highlighted the central role of seed quality and modern technologies in ensuring food security. He said that quality seed is the foundation for high productivity.

The Entrepreneurship Expo also includes Panel Discussions, Exhibition, Awareness Seminar and Poster Presentation.



A Mushaira was organized by the Aridian Literary Society, PMAS-AAUR

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