

“Education is the only way for overcoming poverty, ignorance and unemployment and putting the country on the road to progress and prosperity”, said Chief Minister Punjab, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif



IGNITE

LKPC IN HOUSE JOURNAL - VOL IX

- ◆ Proceedings on Pak-Italy University of Engineering, Science & Technology
- ◆ Consultations held at German Embassy
- ◆ Exploring Partnership Prospects at Swedish Embassy
- ◆ Meeting held with Beijing University of Technology (BJUT), China

PROCEEDINGS ON PAK-ITALY UNIVERSITY



Team of LKPC during a video conversation with the Italian counterparts.

A high level meeting held with the Italian counterparts to track progress on Pak-Italy University which will be set-up at LKP (Lahore Knowledge Park). The meeting was held on October 13th 2017 at the Head Office of LKPC. Mr. Nabeel Awan, Secretary Higher Education Department, Punjab and Dr. Zubair Iqbal Ghouri, Chief Executive Officer, LKPC attended the meeting with his team while Dr. Sohail Naqvi, member Board of Directors, LKPC and Dr. Atta-ur-Rahman, Chairman Steering Committee of Pak-Italy University virtually joined the discussion. From Italy, Dr. Bernardino Chiaia, Vice Rector International Office, Politecnico di Torino virtually attended the discussion along with his team. Discussion primarily involved various areas regarding the composition of degrees by partner Italian universities and its accreditation by the

pertinent authorities in Italy and Pakistan. Currently at the stage of feasibility, the university is expected to commence classes by fall 2018.

CONSULTATIONS HELD AT GERMAN EMBASSY

Officials from LKPC held preliminary deliberations at German Embassy in Pakistan to identify prospects of partnership with German institutes of higher education. Dr. Zubair Iqbal Ghouri, CEO, LKPC and Lt. Gen (Retd) Mohammad Akram Khan, Chairman LKPC called on the German ambassador, H.E. Mr. Martin Kobler on October 10th 2017 in Islamabad. CEO LKPC briefed the ambassador about the detailed concept plan and the salient features of Lahore Knowledge Park as the first knowledge and innovation hub of the country. H.E. Mr. Martin Kobler ensured embassy's assistance to connect LKPC with the institutes of higher education in Germany. The meeting was resolved with quantitative action points to make progress towards prospective partnership.



CEO LKPC, Dr. Zubair Iqbal Ghouri in discussion with the ambassador of Sweden to Pakistan, H.E. Ms. Ingrid Johansson.

EXPLORING PARTNERSHIP PROSPECTS WITH SWEDEN

Dr. Zubair Iqbal Ghouri, CEO LKPC met the ambassador of Sweden to Pakistan, H.E. Ms. Ingrid Johansson in Islamabad on October 9th 2017. Dr. Zubair apprised the ambassador about LKPC's ongoing academic outreach drive in Sweden. He also briefed her about the prospects of hosting Karolinska Cancer teaching, research and treatment institute at Lahore Knowledge Park. H.E. the ambassador appreciated the concept plan of LKP and affirmed her support for the project.

DISCUSSION HELD WITH BEIJING UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (BJUT)

Furthering the ongoing discussions, a meeting held with Beijing University of Technology (BJUT), China to set-up the campus of Chinese varsity at Lahore Knowledge Park. The virtual discussion was joined by Ms. Wenying Wu, Director International Office and Mr. Bob Zhang, Programme Manager, International Office from BJUT. The team of LKPC was represented by its Chairman, Lt. Gen (Retd) Mohammad Akram Khan and CEO, Dr. Zubair Iqbal Ghouri. They appreciated BJUT for showing keen interest in partnering with LKPC by setting-up its campus at Lahore Knowledge Park. Both parties explored about the range of disciplines which will be offered at the prospective university. Information and Communication Technology, Civil and Infrastructure Engineering and Mechanical Engineering were considered to be appropriate. A series of similar meetings are going to be held to firm up the plans.



Team of LKPC during a video conversation with the representatives of BJUT.

SPONSORING YOUTH SPEAK FORUM 2017

LKPC sponsored Youth Speak Forum 2017 as a premier sponsor to the conference. The conference was organized by AIESEC in Lahore, a sub-committee of AIESEC international. Youth Speak Forum is one of the largest local conferences promoting youth to lead the voice over various agendas of social and economic development. The conference held at November 4th 2017 hosting more than 300 student delegates from various universities of Lahore. The forum afforded an extensive chance to launch its Knowledge Ambassadors Program 2017. Mr. Abdul Razaq, Chief Operating Officer, LKPC was the keynote speaker at the event. He spoke about the significance of Lahore Knowledge Park as an initiative of national development and shared its promising features for the students of Pakistan. He apprised the students about the focus of provincial government to steer Punjab and by extension Pakistan towards a knowledge based economy. Taking a keen interest in LKPC as an initiative of national development, a large number of students registered themselves for the first cohort of LKPC Knowledge Ambassadors Drive.



Mr. Abdul Razaq, Chief Operating Officer, LKPC addressing the delegates at Youth Speak Forum 2017.



Information Desk of LKPC at YSF 2017.



Officials from LKPC attending YSF 2017

DELEGATION FROM ATX+PAK LAUNCH

Delegation of ATX+Pak Launch, headed by Ms. Alicia Dean visited the office of LKPC in Lahore on November 7th 2017. ATX+Pak Launch is an initiative of Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce, City of Austin. The program is aimed at introducing entrepreneurs and accelerators to opportunities in Pakistan, provide access for Pakistani startups to funders and mentors, as well as provide a platform for collaboration and joint talent development between Austin and Pakistan. Chairman LKPC, Lt. Gen (R) Mohammad Akram along with CEO LKPC, Dr. Zubair Iqbal Ghouri met the delegation. During a detailed presentation, the team of ATX+Pak Launch was briefed about the concept master plan of Lahore Knowledge Park. Ongoing interventions and future plans of project development were also shared with the foreign counterparts. During the discussion, prospects were explored to set-up Medical Innovation District and Media City hub at Lahore Knowledge Park following the models in the City of Austin. The meeting resolved with a note of thanks and affirmation from both parties to take the preliminary discussions forward.



Delegation of ATX+Pak Launch with the team of LKPC at company's head office in Lahore.

DISRUPTIVE INNOVATIONS

By Dr. Atta-ur-Rahman

Another area of intense research activity is that of regenerative medicine, involving the growth of human cells and tissues. Indeed stem cell therapy is heralding the advent of a revolution in medicine to repair damaged kidney and heart cells or to treat diabetes and other such diseases. Stem cells are the mother cells that can differentiate into different types of specialized cells (heart, kidney, pancreas etc). Adult stem cell therapies have been used for a long time to treat leukemia and other cancers by bone marrow transplants. Now a special bandage, seeded with stem cells, has been developed by scientists at the Bristol University in the UK for repairing cartilage tears that sometimes occur and are difficult to heal. The bone marrow is extracted from the hip of the patient with a needle. Stem cells are obtained from it and multiplied separately before being embedded into a special membrane/bandage which is inserted into the torn cartilage.

The stem cells present on the membrane are expected to help the healing process. The procedure could help in addressing a common problem of damaged cartilages (meniscal tears), particularly common in athletes.

Ink jet printers are commonly used for printing documents. An astounding break through has been made by doctors at the Wake Forest Institute of Regenerative Medicine in USA in which they have used a device that resembles an ink jet printer but it can be used for spraying new skin cells on to burn wounds, thereby dramatically shortening the healing time. This method results in rapid healing and it could eventually replace the need of having skin grafts.

The device resembles a color ink jet printer, comprising a tank that contains skin cells, stem cells and nutrients. These are sprayed by a computer controlled nozzle directly on the burnt area. In animal experiments, flesh wounds in mice were fully healed within 2 weeks as compared to 5 weeks taken by skin graft procedure, showed less scarring and better hair regeneration. The technology is being employed by the US army to "print-shut" bullet wounds and blast damage.

Magicians have been practicing the art of making objects disappear for centuries. Now however science can really make objects invisible! In 2006, Prof. John Pendry and colleagues proposed the design of a cloak that could steer light around an object, thereby making it invisible.

Soon thereafter Dr. David Smith at Duke University succeeded in making such a cloaking device using certain exotic "metamaterials" having unusual electromagnetic properties. The invisible threads of these metamaterials are made of components smaller than the wavelength of light.

This allows them to bend light waves and imparts optical properties not present in normal substances. Computer models indicate that such threads should not be thicker than 1 micrometer. When these "carpet cloaks" are placed over an object, the object becomes invisible. The technology has applications in defence, as it may allow soldiers, weapons, warships and planes to appear invisible. Harry Potter's cloak of invisibility is fast becoming a reality! What does the future hold? Invisible armies, ships, planes and submarines cloaked by metamaterials!

Countries investing in these cutting edge researches are making billions of dollars through such entrepreneurial ventures. If Pakistan is to prosper, we must give the highest national priority to education, science, technology, innovation and entrepreneurship. We must understand the critical role of a knowledge-based economy in the rapidly changing world of today.



Dr. Atta-ur-Rahman

An excerpt from the article by Dr. Atta-ur-Rahman. Dr. Atta-ur-Rahman is the president of Network of Academies of Science in Countries of the Organization of Islamic Conference (NASIC). He is Chairman of UN Committee on Science, Technology & Innovation for UNESCAP and former Chairman of Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan.

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