

Meritorious Professor Dr. Talat Naseer Pasha, S.I.



Prof. Pasha earned DVM from College of Veterinary Sciences, Lahore in 1980 and M.Sc. (Hons.) in Animal Nutrition in 1984. His research work was aimed at the nutritional improvement of low quality crop residues as feed for livestock. Prof. Pasha worked as Research Officer at Livestock Production Research Institute, Bahadarnagar (Okara) and pioneer work on three sheep (Lohi, Kajli, Thali) and three goat breeds (Beetal, D.D.Pinah, Teddy) on their growth, carcass characteristics, physiological parameter and economics.

In 1987, he was selected as Assistant Professor (Animal Nutrition) at College of Veterinary Sciences, Lahore, where he worked as teacher and researcher. Dr. Pasha was awarded PhD scholarship on competitive basis in Animal Nutrition Program at West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, USA. He explored interactions of digesta viscosity of forages with digestion kinetics in sheep and cattle, this work provided him insight of the digestive physiology to improve feed intake and production performance of small and large ruminants. This work has been published in peer reviewed journals like Journal of Animal Science (USA).

In 1992 after completion of Ph.D, Dr. Pasha joined Department of Animal Nutrition and engaged in teaching and research. He won a competitive research grant from Punjab Agriculture Research Board on sustainable productivity enhancement of livestock (buffalo & goats) and poultry. In these studies early attainment of sexual maturity in Nili-Ravi buffaloes was obtained and a new concept of feeding of rice bran in poultry was described. These studies have an enormous impact in livestock and poultry farming community because of being an economical system of feeding. This effort was greatly recognized by the policy makers, administrator including the Vice Chancellor. Dr. Pasha is amongst one of few whose research is linked with livestock and poultry industry. He believes in demand driven and problem oriented research. He upgraded his laboratory facilities in order to provide analytical services to the allied industry on commercial basis. Dr. Pasha along with his peers launched

Nutritionists Association of Pakistan, which is a professional organization having over 500 memberships and conducting professional meetings, seminars and conferences.

In 2001, he was entrusted the responsibilities of secretary of the committee by the Chancellor for the Up-gradation of College of Veterinary Sciences to University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore. He played the leading role in the preparation of the first of PC-I of the University and was involved in various preparatory phases for the establishment of University. After the establishment of the University in 2002 he was appointed first Registrar of the University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore. His services in the initial phase of the UVAS have been very well acknowledged by the Vice Chancellor in form of a merit certificate.

In 2003, he was selected Professor and Chairman Department of Animal Nutrition and later rose to the rank of Dean, Faculty of Animal Production and Technology. During his tenure of the Dean, under his leadership this Faculty won major development projects, like Establishment of Small Ruminants Training and Research Center, Establishment of Poultry / Dairy Animals Training and Research Center and Dairy Training and Development Center, at New Campus, UVAS. The value of these projects is Rs. 580 million.

The Animal Nutrition Society of India recognized his contributions in the field of animal nutrition and he was presented Fellowship of the Society in 2007. Dr. Pasha was member board of studies Institute of Biotechnology, GC University, Lahore and Member, Executive Committee Punjab Agricultural Research Board, Lahore and Member, Syndicate, UVAS, Lahore.

Dr. Pasha, was elected President of Asian Buffalo Association for 2006-2010 during the Asian Buffalo Congress held at Naning China in 2006. He organized 6th Asian Buffalo Congress at Lahore on 27-30 October, 2009, where more than one thousand scientists from 22 countries of the world participated. The National Buffalo Fair was organized after the congress. These activities demonstrated the buffalo wealth of Pakistan to international professionals and provided business opportunities for local buffalo farmers for export of genetics and buffalo meat.

Based upon his interactions with the industry he was assigned the responsibilities of Dean, Faculty of Life Sciences Business Management 2007-2009. He initiated MBA (Life Sciences) program designed for the future managers with background of animal sciences, agricultural, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology and health sciences. He was selected for Best University Teacher Award by HEC in 2009.

Dr. Pasha again appointed Dean, Faculty of Animal Production and Technology and also assigned the arduous duties of Principal Officer (Building & Works), University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences. Under his leadership this department involved in renovation, repair, up-gradation of existing facilities and development and construction of new infra-structure and buildings at City Campus, Lahore, Ravi Campus, Pattoki, College of

Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Jhang and Avian Training and Research Center at Ferozepur Road, Lahore. His agricultural land management at Ravi Campus resulted in to net saving of over Rs. 12 million annually which was having deficit in the earlier years. He also established Dairy Research and Training center at Ravi Campus, Pattoki by purchasing elite Nili-Ravi buffaloes and Sahiwal Cows.

He has the honor to be appointed as UVAS Vice-Chancellor in December 2011. During his tenure as Vice Chancellor, through private-public partnership he instituted working of feed mill, poultry breeding farms, fisheries farms, milk processing plant, livestock market, health center, quail breeding facility, vaccine production facility and agriculture land at Ravi Campus. These facilities provided opportunity for hand on training of student and conduct of research on commercial lines. He initiated new academic programs, professional trainings and consultancy services. All these enhanced competence of faculty and students as well as resulted in 67.50% increase of record university income a year (2015-16). The University also achieved 'W' category for last four years in QEC rating. Furthermore, he initiated civic engagement project around Ravi-Campus, Pattoki and spear headed registration of 1500 small farmers in seven districts of Punjab and Sindh for their capacity building and linking them with markets in Pak – Australian dairy project. His innovative idea of 24/7 extension services which provide doorstep professional services to farming communities has an immediate impact in improving growing dairy, poultry and livestock industry. He initiated 'Dairy Club' and 'Poultry Club' to strengthen academic industry linkages. He secured funding from national and international donors like Nestle, Engro, SDF, DFID, USAID, USDA, UNIDO, ACIAR for research, trainings, teaching programs and faculty development.

Prof. Pasha has been awarded "Sitara-i-Imtiaz" Presidential Civil Award in 2015 for his outstanding performance and excellence in the field of veterinary science. Under his leadership as Vice-Chancellor, the UVAS attained its position among the top 10 universities of Pakistan in the Higher Education Commission's ranking for two consecutive years (2014 and 2015). Dr. Pasha established Para Veterinary Institute at Karor Lal Easan, Distt Layyah during 2014-15 that is catering the needs of para-veterinary professionals in the South Punjab. During the same period missing facilities of library, auditorium, student teacher center, labs, hostels and residences at College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Jhang were established in a project funded by Government of Punjab worth Rs. 185.5 million. He also developed, poultry dairy and livestock farm by securing additional 30 acres of state land adjoining the college which resulted in to excellent research and training institution.

In December 2015 Dr. Pasha has the honor of being appointed first veterinarian of the country in BS-22 as Meritorious Professor after successful completion of his first tenure of Vice Chancellor, UVAS, Lahore.

Dr. Pasha was selected again as Vice Chancellor, UVAS, Lahore in February 2016 for four years. During his 2nd tenure as Vice Chancellor, achieved many milestones as UVAS ranked by Times Higher Education and QS World Universities Ranking among Top Asian 351⁺ Universities. UVAS achieved 201-300 position in World University Impact Ranking by

Times Higher Education. As per HEC Sports Ranking UVAS achieved 3rd Position in Public Sector Universities of Pakistan both for boys and girls sports.

There were record number of development project completed and Rs. 9492 million funding secured by Prof. Pasha from both Provincial Government and Federal Government during the 2nd tenure as Vice Chancellor, UVAS.

Prof. Pasha was appointed focal person for the establishment of Cholistan University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Bahawalpur. He along with his team developed its PC-I, acquisition of 1000 acres of land, purpose build University established, approval of its act, formation of statutory bodies and hiring of highly qualified faculty (70% PhD holders), accredited from HEC and PVMC and initiated 9 degree programs and two diploma programs and short courses.

During this period he also added a new Academic Block, Student Hostels and Faculty Apartments at UVAS, City Campus, Lahore. Prof. Pasha established In-service training facility of advance veterinary education and professional development for veterinary professionals (**Veterinary Academy**). The pivotal component of the this project was continuing education of faculty at Royal Veterinary College London, United Kingdom for Certificate, Diploma and MSc in Veterinary Education. Established export facilitation center for Livestock and Poultry Center. UVAS also secured affiliation of American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges.

The other important projects were Establishment of College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, at Narowal; development of Camel Milk Value Chain by Adopting Modern Supply Chain Mechanism for Enhancing Farmers Profitability in Punjab, Developing of Ostrich farming In Punjab; Propagation of Ducks Rearing in Punjab; Commercialization of Value Added Meat (Fresh Beef, Organic Mutton and Camel Veal) From Fattened Young Buffalo Calves, Young Camel and Male Goats / Sheep Reared Under Extensive Organic Production system; Establishment of Training Centre for Biologics at UVAS, Ravi Campus Pattoki. Provision of Urgently Needed Male and Female Hostel Facilities at University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences at Ravi Campus, Pattoki; Enhancement of Research Facilities at Ravi Campus Pattoki; Livestock Sector Development through Capacity Building, Applied Research and Technology Transfer. Secured USDA Funded project establishment of training, research and demonstration farm of US Holstein at Ravi Campus, Pattoki.

All these projects have significant impact on Human Resource Development, Research, Training and services for Livestock and Poultry Sectors of Country.

Dr. Pasha extended UVAS- Business School facilities and secured project from USAID and established Center of Applied Policy Research in Livestock. The research based policy papers published by this center assisted Federal and Provincial Governments for develop their policies and Livestock and Poultry sectors.

In 2019, the value of ongoing research project at UVAS was Rs. 1800 million with many projects from International Research funding organizations.

Prof. Pasha has supervised over 142 MPhil and 23 PhD students and published over 140 research papers in refereed scientific journals. Prof. Pasha is author of chapters of two international books and presented papers in many national and international conferences. He won fifteen research grants worth over Rs. 564 million. He also has experience as member on the board of about one dozen public and semi-government, and private organizations. Right now, he is member syndicate University of Health Sciences, Lahore; Member Board of Trustee, Pakistan Science Foundation, Islamabad; Member, Selection Board, Women University, Multan, GC University Faisalabad and Sindh Agriculture University, Tando Jam; Member, Scientific Panel of Punjab Food Authority Lahore; Member, Livestock and Dairy Development Board, Lahore; and Member, Halal Development Authority, Lahore. He has been working as consultant to GTZ, SMEDA, US Grain Council, IDRC Canada and World Bank.

In view of his outstanding contribution to higher education sector, Prof. Pasha was selected Vice Chancellor of University of Education, Lahore.

