

فی ایڈیٹر ان چیف، پبلشرز، اکثر خالد محمود شوق نے سلیم نواز پر تنقید پر بس فیصل آباد سے چھپوا کر دفتر مفت روزہ و ستر نئی تہذیبیہ 392/A من آباد فیصل آباد سے شائع کیا۔ ایڈیٹر، اکثر محمد جمیل، ایگزیکٹو ایڈیٹر، نواز خان







تہذیبوں میں آج کی تمام اقواموں سے بھارت کی تہذیب و تمدن کا اثر نظر آتا ہے۔ بھارتی تہذیب کا اثر انگریزوں نے بھی تسلیم کیا ہے۔ انگریزوں نے بھارت کی تہذیب و تمدن کا اثر انگریزوں نے بھی تسلیم کیا ہے۔ انگریزوں نے بھارت کی تہذیب و تمدن کا اثر انگریزوں نے بھی تسلیم کیا ہے۔

**زرعی یونیورسٹی میں بھینسوں کا مقابلہ حسن و دودھ 5 تا 17 اپریل تک منعقد ہوگا**  
دودھ کے مقابلے میں اول آنے والی بھینس کو 3 لاکھ روپے اور مقابلے حسن میں اول آنے والی بھینس کو 50 ہزار روپے اور اول آنے والے سانڈ کو 50 ہزار روپے دیئے جائیں گے۔ ہوسٹائی وزیر لائیو سٹاک چخاب مہمان خصوصی ہوں گے

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I appreciate the appropriate response of the AAVMC. The AAVMC and AVMA are different Organization but Both work for the standard of Veterinary Medical Education within their domain. Indeed AAVMC is not linked with the Accreditation process of Veterinary Institutions but off course the AAVMC has its representation in the committee on Education. Dr Andrew Maccabees is a wonderful Personality and a true well wishers of Veterinary Education Profession. His recent Visit on the invitation of RCVets and UVAS established his commitment to Veterinary Education at large. There I welcome the response of AAVMC and sincerely hope that in future AAVMC will continue its support to Pakistani Veterinary Medical Colleges in terms of sharing their Experience's to improve Veterinary Education in Pakistan.



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## ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL COLLEGES CEO ADREW T MACCABE CALLED ON UAF VICE CHANCELLOR DR. ZAFAR IQBAL RANDHAWA AT VC CHAMBER

Faisalabad: Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges Chief Executive Officer Adrew T Maccabe along with University of Animal and Veterinary Sciences Pro-Vice Chancellor Dr. Masood Rabbani visited the University of Agriculture Faisalabad and called on Vice Chancellor Dr. Zafar Iqbal Randhawa and discussed strengthened ties in veterinary sciences. He said that AAVMC provided leadership for and promoting excellence in academic veterinary medicine to prepare the veterinary workforce with the scientific knowledge and skills required to meet societal needs through the protection of animal health, the relief of animal suffering, the conservation of animal resources, the promotion of public health, and the advancement of medical knowledge. He said that collaboration in veterinary sciences between the two countries would be further strengthened to flourish the sector.



academia and research. Dr. Masood Rabbani said that there is a room for the improvement in the education sector for which we have to take the collected measures. He said that the strengthened ties between both countries would help address the issues facing the animal and human health. He viewed that the skilled manpower, quality education and research were prerequisite to alleviate the poverty from the country. UAF Vice Chancellor Dr. Zafar Iqbal Randhawa said that the university was enjoying excellent ties across the world, and is running tens of projects worth billions of rupees with the collaborations of the international donors. He said that there is a need to learn from the developed nations to fight the challenges and to uplift the agriculture and livestock sectors which contributes 20 percent to the Gross Domestic Product. He said that UAF has revised its DVM courses in collaboration with University of California Davis. He said that the university has produced 9000 students so and offering 165 degree programs. Dean Faculty of Veterinary Sciences UAF Dr. Zafar Iqbal Oureshi said that Faculty of Veterinary Science has been playing a significant role in flourishing the livestock and poultry production in the country since 1962. The Faculty has so far trained 1935 Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) graduates, 1375 M.Sc. and 39 Ph.D's. He said that Faculty members have made significant contributions in their specific field of specialization and contributed to the advancement of basic and applied knowledge at the national and international level. All deans and directors attended the meeting. They also visited the ORJC, Quality Enhancement Cell and Faculty of Veterinary Sciences UAF as well.

## A DELEGATE OF THE VETERINARY DOCTORS ASSOCIATION PUNJAB MET WITH HONORABLE MINISTER LIVESTOCK SARDAR HASNAIN BAHADAR DRESHAK

A Delegate of the Veterinary Doctors Association Punjab met with Honorable Minister Livestock Sardar Hasnain Bahadar Dreshak at his office in Lahore. VIDA delegate representatives (Dr. M. Younas Bhulla, Dr. Abdul Malik, Dr. Usman Maqsood Chatha, Dr. M. Sufyan Pansota, Dr. Ahsan Samra and Dr. Zeeshan Maqsood) discussed the following issues regarding Livestock Sector:

1. Budget allocation to Livestock Sector as per its share in GDP.
2. Specific budget allocation for quality FMDV production locally in VRI.
3. Introduction of regular trainings to Vets, Paravets and ultimately to Farmers on Modern advancement in



Veterinary practices in collaboration with private sector.

4. The Delegate raised the concerns about the huge gap of salary packages between Livestock and Health (sister) Department.
5. Preferably posting of Livestock employees near their homes.

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## UVAS INITIATES PROCESS OF GETTING AAVMC ACCREDITATION: AAVMC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER VISITS UVAS

Lahore: Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) Washington DC USA Chief Executive Officer Dr. Andrew T. Maccabe visited the University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences Lahore on Monday as a first step to initiate process of getting AAVMC accreditation to UVAS.

Dr. Andrew T. Maccabe held a meeting with Vice-Chancellor Meritorious Prof. Dr. Talat Naseem Pasha, Pro Vice-Chancellor/Dean Faculty of Veterinary Science Prof. Dr. Masood Rabbani, senior faculty members and took a round of university departments, labs, library and clinical facilities at City Campus.

The veterinary university already has provisional membership of AAVMC which is a supreme body of veterinary education in the States. According to Dean Veterinary Science Prof. Dr. Masood Rabbani, AAVMC accreditation will make easy the process of obtaining license for UVAS veterinary graduates to do clinical practice in the United States. Giving a detailed presentation, the Vice-Chancellor



briefed the AAVMC CEO on the university's academic, research, training and extension programmes and clinical services/facilities. Prof. Pasha said the UVAS is one of the oldest and best veterinary educational institutions in Asia. UVAS is 3rd top university among public sector universities of Pakistan in Higher Education Commission's sports ranking while it is among top 10 universities of Pakistan according to the HEC's overall ranking of Pakistani higher education institutions.

Prof. Pasha told the US delegate that focus of the university is on applied research, quality human resource development, knowledge generation and technology transfer. He said that the university is working in close

collaboration with the relevant industry and Livestock and Dairy Development Department for quality education, stakeholders' problem solving and quality services delivery.

Dr. Andrew T. Maccabe appreciated the UVAS achievements and its fast growth in a short span of time after getting university status.

Later, Dr. Andrew T. Maccabe accompanied by Prof. Dr. Masood Rabbani visited the Theriogenology Lab, Pathology Lab, Parasitology Lab, Physiology Lab, IVPD Facility, Microbiology Labs, Anatomy and Histology, Meat Technology Departments, Pet Centre, IBBT Labs, Quality Operations Lab, Outdoor Facility, University Diagnostic Lab, Business School and IT Centre.

## 6 TIPS TO PROTECT CALVES AGAINST COCCIDIOSIS

As coccidiosis is a serious disease that can result in significant economic losses, managing coccidiosis is imperative to ensure healthy young stock.

Managing coccidiosis, and reducing the impact of coccidial infections, depends on allowing a low level of exposure, so that young stock can develop immunity, but preventing levels of infection that will cause decreased growth rates or clinical disease. Follow the guidance below on how to protect calves (and lambs) against this parasite:

1. **Treat all animals in a group:** if there is no history on which to base a strategic treatment plan, all animals in the group should be treated following a positive diagnosis of pathogenic Eimeria species on routine dung samples, or immediately after clinical signs of coccidiosis are seen.
2. **Take farm history:** it is important to get a diagnosis of the species of Eimeria to check if it is a harmful species along with considering the individual farm history. Timing of treatment should be based on the timing of suspected exposure and knowledge of previous outbreaks on the farm.
3. **Treat in time:** strategic treatment is often required, and is necessary to prevent losses associated with sub-clinical infections. Ideally treatment should be given after infection but before the parasite starts damaging intestinal cells and causing clinical signs. This helps to prevent the build-up of environmental contamination, reducing the risk of any animals in the group picking up a heavy infection and suffering from clinical disease.
4. **Ensure good hygiene:** water troughs should be cleaned and emptied regularly to help prevent contamination with faeces, and bedding should be kept clean and dry. Good ventilation will also help reduce infection pressure by reducing the build-up of warmth and moisture which favour oocyst survival.
5. **Keep animals in similar age-groups:** Older animals can act as a source of infective oocysts for younger animals. In addition, providing optimum grouping of young stock will help avoid environmental stressors which can increase risk of disease.
6. **Ensure adequate colostrum intake:** Colostrum taken in shortly after birth allows calves and lambs to absorb whole antibodies, which gives them some protection in the first weeks of life. As these colostrum antibodies decline, calves and lambs become vulnerable to infection.

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<b>AVIFLOR-10°</b> <b>Florfenicol ..... 100 mg/ml</b> AVIFLOR - 1 ml / litre of D/W for 3-5 days.	<b>COLISTIN "AVICO"°</b> <b>Colistin (as Colistin sulphate)..... 2000000 IU /ml</b> Colistin -1 ml/4litre of D/W for 3-5 days.	<b>DICLACOX°</b> <b>Diclozauril ..... 10 mg/ml</b> DiclacoX -1 ml/4 litre of D/W, continue for 48 hours.	<b>NEOMIN PLUS 20°</b> <b>Neomycin (as Neomycin sulphate).... 200 mg/gm</b> Neomin Plus 20% -1 gm for 4 litre of drinking water till 3-5 days.	<b>TYLOSIN "AVICO"°</b> <b>Tylosin (as Tylosin tartrate) ..... 1000mg/gm</b> Tylosin -1 gm/2 litre of D/W for 3-5 days.
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**پانیئراکیڈمی فار نیوٹریشن اینڈ ڈائیٹکس اور ایگری ٹورازم پاکستان کے اشتراک سے قادر بخش فارم پر 8 فروری کو سیمینار کا انعقاد**

## یہ رپورٹ نفیسہ بتول نے سید اختیار شاہ کی ارسال کردہ تحریر کو ایڈٹ کر کے تیار کی ہے

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سیمیٹار کی روح رواں ڈاکٹر ثریا اختیار چیف ڈائٹیشن الائیڈ ہسپتال فیصل آباد تھیں جو اس وقت پانیپت کیمڈی فارمیوٹریشن اینڈ ڈیٹیکٹس میں بڑی مہارت اور کامیابی کے ساتھ طبباء و الہبات کو اس بارے میں عملی تربیت فراہم کرتی ہے۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ ہم نے جب اس شعبے میں قدم رکھا تو اس وقت اس کی کوئی اہمیت نہ تھی اور نہ ہی ڈاکٹر حضرات اس شعبے کو کوئی اہم خیال کرتے تھے لیکن سخت محنت کے بعد ہم نے اپنے آپ کو منوایا اور یہ بات ثابت کی کہ مریض کو اگر صحیح اور متوازن غذا نہ فراہم کی جائے تو بیماری اس کا ساتھ نہیں چھوڑتی۔ کسی بھی مریض کو صحت مند بنانے کے لئے ضروری ہے کہ آپ اس کی غذا کو متوازن بنائیں اور اس کے مزاج کے مطابق اس کو غذا فراہم کریں۔ الائیڈ ہسپتال میں ہم یہی خدمات سر انجام دے رہے ہیں اور اب اللہ کے فضل سے ہمیں کامیابی مل رہی ہے۔ کینسر کے مریضوں کو سخت غذائی مشاورت کی ضرورت ہوتی ہے ہم نے کینسر کے مریضوں اور کئی دوسرے پیچیدہ امراض میں مبتلا خواتین و حضرات پر تجربات کئے ہیں اور ان کو الائیڈ غذا فراہم کی ہے جو ان کی بیماری کو دور کرنے میں اہم کردار ادا کرتی ہے۔ متوازن غذا نے ان کے مرض میں کمی بھی کی اور ان کو علاج و معالجے کا بھی فائدہ ہوا۔ 20 سال پہلے ماہر غذائیات کا مضمون کسی اہمیت کا حامل نہیں تھا لیکن اب 20 سال بعد یہ شعبہ علاج و معالجے سے بھی زیادہ اہمیت اختیار کر گیا ہے۔ اب اس کی تعلیم و تربیت کے لئے ملک بھر کی یونیورسٹیوں میں ڈگری پروگرام شروع ہو چکے ہیں اور وہاں سے فارغ التحصیل طبباء و وطالبات ہسپتالوں اور دیگر اداروں میں پڑکھش دیتیں بھی حاصل کرتے ہیں اور اپنے غذائی کلینک قائم کر کے عوام کو بھی مشاورت فراہم کر رہے ہیں۔ ہمارا آئندہ بھی یہی کوشش ہے کہ ہم اس طرح کے سیمیٹارز اور ورکشاپوں کا قاعدگی سے انعقاد کریں اور طبباء و وطالبات کو خوبصورت صحت مند ماحول فراہم کرتے ہوئے ان کی تعلیم و تربیت کا بندوبست کریں۔ ڈاکٹر ثریا اختیار نے ایگری ٹورازم کے چیف مارکیٹنگ افسر کی خدمات کو خراج تحسین پیش کیا اور کہا کہ ان کی بدولت ہمیں نئے نئے رجحانات سے واقفیت ملی ہے۔



# ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE; CAUSES AND MEASURES TO OVERCOME IT

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The use of antibiotics in Pakistan has been increased 65% during the years 2000-2015.

Since, the introduction of antibiotics in medicine in 1940s, they have now been central to modern healthcare. Their role has diversified from treating fatal infections to prevent infections in surgical patients, protecting the cancer and immunocompromised patients. Intensification of production from food producing animals to fulfill the increasing demand of protein is leading to greater use of antibiotics as growth promoter in livestock sector. Second when the treatable infections become difficult to treat, the costs to healthcare facilities and patient mortality may rise, with costs to both individuals and society. Decreasing antibiotic efficacy has risen from being a minor problem to a global threat.

The penicillin was developed in 1927, first commercially available antibacterial. Soon after its introduction, its resistance was reported in late 1930s. Prior to that, in 1928, Alexander Fleming discovered the first antibiotic, penicillin. It took more than a decade to introduce against bacterial infections as a treatment. The introduction of penicillin was a milestone of the beginning of what was called the "golden age" of antibiotics. First case of penicillin resistance was identified against *Staphylococcus aureus* during 1940. Between 1940 and 1962, most of the antibiotic classes, used as medicines today, were discovered and introduced to the market. After a short time, penicillin resistance became a major clinical problem. During 1955, 13% of common infections with *Staphylococcus aureus* became resistant to penicillin. In 1958, this rate rose up to 91%. Today, penicillin is no longer recommended as the first line of therapy against *Staphylococcus aureus* infections. There was a need for developing new antibiotics that will have efficacy against *Staphylococcus aureus* that has developed resistance against penicillin. Hence, methicillin was appeared as an alternative to penicillin in 1960 and it showed good results against *Staphylococcus aureus* infections. But, just two years of its development, methicillin resistance was identified against *Staphylococcus aureus* infections especially in case of *Staphylococcus aureus*. The situation became worse and critical in 1965, when a new case of penicillin resistance appeared against *Staphylococcus aureus*. According to a recent study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, approximately 19,000 deaths per year in the United States are caused by methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). It is larger than annual AIDS deaths in the United States. Resistance of tetracycline was identified in 1959 just after nine years of its introduction in clinics. In 1953, erythromycin was discovered and it has been used as a good alternative to penicillin for many years. However, resistance of erythromycin was appeared against *Streptococcus* in 1968 and organism is known as erythromycin resistance *Streptococcus*.

Aminoglycosides constitute an important class of antimicrobial agents. The prevalence of aminoglycoside resistance among gram negative bacteria (i.e. in *Escherichia coli*) has been observed worldwide. Gentamicin belongs to this group and it was introduced in 1967 to treat the infections especially leading to aerobic gram negative bacteria. However, due to extensive and improper use of gentamicin, its resistance to development of resistance in bacteria. In 1979, most of bacteria belong to *Enterococcus* produced resistance against gentamicin.

Vancomycin was introduced in 1972. Vancomycin Resistance *Enterococcus* (VRE) was identified in 1988. In 2002, Vancomycin Resistant *Staphylococcus* was isolated and situation became worse. Then, linezolid was synthesized in 1985 to overcome antibiotic resistance but shortly after thirteen years, its resistance was reported in *Enterobacteriaceae* in 1998. Quinolones are a group of synthetic antibacterial agents. Nalidixic Acid was the first member of quinolones family, introduced in 1964. This was followed by the introduction of fluoroquinolones (having extended spectrum activity against bacterial action) in 1980s. Levofloxacin belongs to third generation was introduced in 1996 to treat gram negative bacteria as it has excellent activity against gram positive bacteria and anaerobes. Levofloxacin resistant *Streptococcus* was isolated soon after its clinical use in 1996. Linezolid is a synthetic antibiotic. It belongs to the oxazolidinone class used in the treatment of infections caused by highly resistant bacteria such as *Streptococcus* and methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). It was synthesized and introduced in clinical practice in 2000. At that time the case of multi drug resistant tuberculosis was appeared.

Daptomycin was introduced in 2003. It is a lipopeptide antibiotic used to treat systemic and life-threatening infections caused by gram positive bacteria. After several years gap, an antibiotic belongs to cephalosporin class was introduced in 2010. Ceftriaxone is a broad-spectrum cephalosporin. It is currently under clinical investigation for the treatment of complicated skin and skin-structure infections (cSSSI), including those caused by methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and community-acquired pneumonia (CAP). Ceftriaxone-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* was also identified in 2011. In short, most of the antibiotics become resistant against *Staphylococcus aureus* and many other groups of bacteria. During 2009, Ceftriaxone (third generation cephalosporin) showed resistance against *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. Due to the resistance of various bugs against various antibiotics, we are now in pre-antibiotic era, where a minor infection may cause thousands of deaths. The issue of antibiotic resistance is increasing day by day. It is mainly due to overuse and misuse of antibiotics in humans and food producing animals. Moreover, over-prescribing antibiotics for problems caused by viruses (e.g. flu, fever etc), which antibiotics are unfit to treat, contributes towards global threat, i.e. antibiotic resistance. Failure to complete the prescribed antibiotic regimen for a bacterial infection is another common cause of the development of new antibiotics resistance. Antibiotic resistance has a direct relationship with antibiotic consumption i.e. as the volume of antibiotics used increases, the probability of antibiotic-resistant population of bacteria to compete for survival at the bacterium level increases. From 2000 to 2015, the consumption of antibiotics has drastically increased especially in low and middle income countries. This fact was presented in the proceedings of the National Conference on Antibiotic Resistance (NCAR) held in Islamabad (PNAS) based upon the antibiotic sales data of 76 countries. India, China and Pakistan were the top for high

est usage of antibiotics belonging to low and middle income groups. During 2000 to 2015, antibiotics consumption became double in India and went up 79% in China. In case of Pakistan, its usage has increased by 65%.

The rapidly increasing human population has increased the strain on production of animal protein. To enhance the production, farmers are moving towards and adopting intensive agricultural practices including the extensive and irrational use of antibiotics as growth promoters. According to an analysis the use of antibiotics in the livestock are estimated to be 8000 tons in year 2016, globally. This figure is supposed to elevate to 10500 tons by 2030 in order to fulfill the requirements of human population which is estimated to reach 8.5 billion by that time. Recently a few studies have surfaced suggesting that the growth promoters have minor effect on the growth of animals.

There are many reasons that account for now a day's antibiotic resistance. Most common reasons include:

1. **Misuse of antibiotics.** Misuse of antibiotics is the most common reason of antibiotic resistance. Some times patient use antibiotics without even asking the doctor or take antibiotics for minor infections. This makes the bacteria resistant. Misuse of antibiotics must be avoided.

2. **Self-diagnosis and administration of antibiotics.** Self-diagnosis must be avoided. Parents give their kids antibiotics for common cough or throat infections. Such uncheck administration of improper antibiotics make bacteria strong.

3. **Improper diagnosis of infection and prescription of antibiotics.** Sometimes doctor couldn't diagnose the infection properly and advise the antibiotics. This again harms the natural gut flora.

4. **Patients don't follow prescribed schedule of antibiotics properly.** Patients don't complete the timely schedule of prescribed antibiotics. This is the biggest reason for emerging antibiotic resistance.

5. **Uncontrolled use of antibiotics in agriculture and livestock.** Now a day's farmers are using antibiotics as growth promoters to their farm animals. It is thought as that treating livestock with such supplements increase the yield of animals and good quality of product. Such meat when ingested by humans may transfer resistant bacteria.

6. **Poor hygiene and sanitation control.** The agricultural use of antibiotics affects the environmental micro-biome. Animals excrete in water cause many epidemics. Poor sanitation and intake of contaminated water again transfer mutagenic and resistant bacteria.

7. **Availability of few new antibiotics.** For many decades we are using the same antibiotics. Now bacteria have been adapted to these antibiotics. There is a need of investment and funding for the development of new antibiotics. To overcome the incidence of antibiotic resistance, avoid its misuse. Maintain hygienic environment. Aseptic conditions of hospitals must be improved. Only take antibiotics when prescribed by the doctor. Pharmaceutical companies should be encouraged to invest in health care to develop new antibiotics. Avoid sub-therapeutic use of antibiotics in agriculture/livestock. There must be strict laws against misuse of antibiotics. In agriculture/livestock and to ensure the political dedication to control the hazard of antibiotic resistance.

The Lahore Resolution of March 23, 1940, widely believed to have paved the way for a separate homeland for the Muslims of India on the basis of "two nation" theory, received a jolt in 1971 when Bengal claimed separate state post-independence. Many historians, academicians and political analysts say that even after existence of seven decades, the Constitution of Pakistan lacks clarity about nation's true identity. Religious over-zealots and forces of obscurantism keep on saying that the country was created in the name of Islam though multiple theological schools have serious differences and disputes on basic concepts. In the name of religion, they advocate enforcement of "Sharia" laws, though when asked to draft codes, sectarian convulsions shun any unified text. The ethnic identities-Punjabis, Pashtuns, Sindhis, Sids, Sarikis, Aghazis, Baloch, Hindikawans, Chitralis, Gujaratis and many more-are historic realities, but are asked by clergy to say, "We are first Muslims, then Pakistanis and nothing else." Resultantly, even any demand for ending economic disparities and/or providing fundamental facilities to residents of backward areas is taken as "threat to national unity". The religious political parties have no concerns/agenda for an egalitarian Pakistan keep on convincing the masses that their demand for equality and equal opportunity should yield to the "divine cause" of keeping their poor. Behind creation of Pakistan, they plead "holy scheme" and this justifies witch-hunting in the name of self-created "Islamic ideology". This politicization of Islam got credence in the dark era of General Zia and continues till today. Since its inception, Pakistan faced a daunting challenge of establishing true democratic polity based on constitutional supremacy, rule of law and equity. From 2009 to 2018, the Supreme Court invoked suo moto powers many times causing hysteria in a lot of circles and in the end nothing worthwhile was achieved except the disqualification of two elected prime ministers and other members and undoing international agreements that later elicited suits of damages against the state of Pakistan. There has been severe criticism from many quarters that judiciary has been "transgressing its constitutionally-defined limits". In Panama case, this was the main thrust of all the three lawyers who represented the Sharif.

Unfortunately, political polarisation diluted vital struggle waged from 2007 to 2009 by all segments of society-lawyers, media, social and political activists-for restoration of an independent judiciary. After restoration of higher judiciary, people were hopeful to get their fundamental rights, but courts failed to enforce the same. They remained busy in fixing the prices of commodities or fees of private schools instead of asking the federal and provincial governments to provide the right of free and compulsory education under Article 25 of the Constitution. Since 2007, little attention is paid to reform the judiciary and ensure rule of law. The much-needed and long-delayed fundamental structural reforms in all spheres-legislature, judiciary and executive-are still awaited.

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HUZAIFA BUKHARI AND DR IKRAMUL HAQ

## PAKISTAN DAY'S RESOLVE

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## AN OPEN LETTER.. FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Dr. Khalid Shouq  
I am writing following line as FOOD FOR THOUGHT to be shared with vets owning industrial concerns. Some of our senior vets are glibbed by Allah and they are rendering services to humans and livestock by establishing state of the art farms, hatcheries, feed mills etc. I think that they are, by the grace of Allah doing very profitable business. Some of them are known to me as students and others as professional colleagues. It is a matter of great satisfaction and pleasure for me that

By Prof Dr Shokat Ali Choudhary  
(+92 333 5983031) Former Dean FVS UAF  
good deeds.  
May I suggest THAT PVMA, PVMC or the institutions, individuals, or joined as a group should come forward to support such mega projects.  
Please give a serious thought to it and hope that this will bring good name for the profession as a whole.  
Dr Shokat Ali  
Ex Dean, FVS, UAF.  
For News updates always visit:  
www.facebook.com/VetNewsViews

## CHINA START TO BUY US FEED INGREDIENTS AGAIN

China has recently purchased US feed grains from the US. These sales provide reinforcement for Chinese buyers' willingness to purchase US raw materials in a time where the 2 countries are still in a political war.

The US Grains Council reports that private exporters have registered a total of 458,300 metric tons (18 million bushels) of US corn sold to China as of March 22. Combined with 130,000 tons (5.12 million bushels) of US soybean sold as of March 14, these sales provide reinforcement for Chinese buyers' willingness to purchase US feed grains when political conditions permit.

### Welcome news for US agriculture

"The corn purchase by China announced in USDA's export sales report is very welcome news for US agriculture, and we see it as a positive sign for the US-China relationship as intense negotiations continue."



The trade war began in early July of last year when US President Donald Trump introduced tariffs on China for its alleged unfair trade practices.

according to the US Grains Council. "The outcome of these talks is crucial to US grains and ethanol, and we appreciate continued engagement by our negotiators and their counterparts in China."

trade practices. So far, the US has already slapped tariffs on US\$ 250 billion worth of Chinese products, and has threatened tariffs on US\$ 267 billion more. China, for its part, has set tariffs on US\$ 110 billion worth of US goods, and is threatening qualitative measures that would affect US businesses operating in China. The US-China trade negotiations remain a point of conversation. The US is planning to host a Chinese delegation in early April. The US Grains Council will continue conversations, with key players to keep members and customers informed.

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www.facebook.com/VetNewsViews

## FAISALABAD HAS UNIQUE PRIVILEGE TO PRODUCE LEGENDARY PERSONALITIES WITHIN A SHORT PERIOD OF ONLY ONE CENTURY

Madam Robeena Amjad President Faisalabad Women Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FWCCI) was addressing the first "Lady of Lyaalpur" award ceremony organized by FWCCI

Faisalabad. Faisalabad has unique privilege to produce legendary personalities within a short period of only one century, said Madam Robeena Amjad President Faisalabad Women Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FWCCI). She was addressing the first "Lady of Lyaalpur" award ceremony organized by FWCCI here. She told that the history of Faisalabad could be divided into pre and post independence eras. Many personalities born in this city preferred to migrate to India during pre independence period, however, a new journey of progress and prosperity was ushered immediately after the creation of Pakistan on August 14, 1947. During this tenure females also contributed their productive role and earned fame for this city because of their God gifted capabilities of head and heart. She told that FWCCI is a platform to represent the female business entrepreneurs in addition to resolving their genuine problems. However, in line with CSR (Corporate Social Responsibilities) the FWCCI has decided to identify legendary ladies who have excelled in 15 different



sectors of life. She told that it is an initial attempt to identify female celebrities belonging to this city but still there may be many more but we failed to identify them. He told that in this connection we have decided to make this event a regular annual feature to identify, acknowledge and plumb them with the prestigious award of "Lady of Lyaalpur". Regarding FWCCI, she told that it has been trying its optimum best to facilitate, guide and nurture young entrepreneurs who have potential to contribute their role in the overall development of Pakistan. She also appreciated the cooperation of FWCCI in helping the FWCCI to manage its affairs on strong footings. She hoped that this cooperation between two chambers will continue for the best interest of the business community

all most to half. He paid tribute to Madam Robeena Amjad who has been striving hard to sensitize and involve women in economic development of Pakistan. The function was also addressed by Secretary General FWCCI Mr. Abid Masood, Mian Saeed and Mian Aftab Ahmed. Earlier "Lady of Lyaalpur" awards were presented to different famous personalities who have excelled in different sectors. Among these include Professor Sofia Anwar Vice Chancellor GCWUF, versatile singer Ifra Shireen, Madam Tehmina Afzal from Arts and Designing, Urdu Waqar maqam Artist, Sports girl Saibeh-Astra, Politician Miss Firdous Roy MPA, Sadaf Amir from organic Farming Department, Bersish Sarwar from Social Welfare, Miss Resham Shidza as a emerging business lady, renowned poetess Ambreen Ashraf, Yasra Saleem from fashion designing Department, Model Miss Zartaj Ali, Madam Murtat ul Ain from the field of hospitality.

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## COWS SUFFERING FROM HEAT STRESS BENEFIT FROM LIVE YEAST

Besides having a beneficial effect on milk production, live yeast have also shown to have a possible effect on the immune system in cows kept in heat stressed conditions.

Heat stress is a growing concern for the dairy industry due to its adverse effects on productivity, health, reproduction, and therefore the profitability of the dairy operation. Earlier studies showed that yeast supplementation improved lactation performance of dairy cows suffering heat stress. However, less information exists concerning the effects of a yeast supplement on immune function and insulin sensitivity in transition dairy cows during the hot months of summer. Therefore, the objective of this study was to examine how a yeast supplement would affect milk production, blood metabolites, insulin sensitivity traits, and immunological measures of dairy cows during hot months of summer.



Cows receiving a yeast supplement produced more milk (+1.40 kg/d) and had greater concentrations of milk fat and total solid than those receiving no yeast.

wrote about their study to determine effects of feeding a live yeast supplement on the productive performance, blood metabolic profile, the immune function, and insulin sensitivity traits of transition dairy cows during the hot months of summer. From 214 before expected date of calving until 60 postpartum, 2 groups of multiparous Holstein cows (6 cows per treatment) were fed a diet without or with a live yeast supplement (4g

milk (+1.40 kg/d) and had greater concentrations of milk fat and total solid than those receiving no yeast. Loss of body condition scores from calving to 421 postpartum tended to be lower in yeast-fed cows than control cows. Yeast supplementation had no effect on the response variables to the glucose tolerance test. Plasma concentration of Hsp70 was also lower on d 14 and 28 after parturition in yeast-fed cows. Yeast supplementation enhanced cellular immune function; however, it had no effect on immunoglobulin G secretion against ovalbumin immunisation. Overall, live yeast supplementation benefited milk production and milk composition, lowered plasma level of Hsp70, and enhanced the lymphocyte proliferative response in transition dairy cows, which may suggest an immunomodulatory effect of yeast supplement.

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## AN INTERVIEW WITH DR MUHAMMAD ARSHAD, CEO HI-TECH GROUP OF COMPANIES 'WE CAN BE A 10-MILLION-TON SOYA BEAN MARKET IF GMO SEED IMPORT IS REGULARISED'

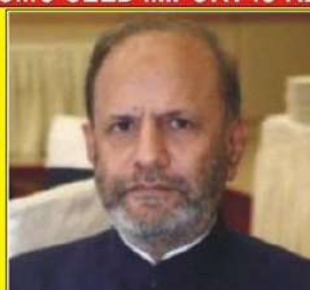
Dr Muhammad Arshad is the Director and the Chief Executive Officer at Hi-Tech Group since 1988. He has over 40 years of professional experience in providing fiscal, strategic, and operations leadership in both public and private sector, with emphasis on operational management of poultry and cattle feeds, edible oils, grain mills, poultry breeder farms, hatcheries and pharmaceutical business. Hi-Tech Group of Companies is one of the top five poultry sector organisations in Pakistan. The group has six operational companies in its fold with vast distribution and sales network across the country. BR Research recently had a candid conversation with Dr Arshad regarding oilseeds and poultry. Edited excerpts are produced below.

BR Research: Walk us through your business structure?

Dr Muhammad Arshad: Hi-Tech Group of Companies comprises of 6 business segments. Hi-Tech Foods business produces both poultry and cattle feed. Then we have Hi-Tech Poultry Breeders and Hi-Tech Farms where we breed around 6-8 million one-day old broiler chicks in a month; quality day old chicks (DOC) are produced by adopting strict standard operating procedures starting from collection of fertilised eggs, proper storage, ideal transportation, optimal incubation conditions, grading and above all, delivery of DOC in good health.

Hi-Tech Edible Oil Mills is another business segment where we import soybean seeds from US, Brazil etc. which are converted into two categories of products. We get around 18 percent stable edible oil, which we sell to the edible oil companies in Pakistan in semi-refined form. This semi refined form is achieved by processing the soybean through mechanical extraction and chemical extraction, and what's left behind is soybean meal, which goes as a protein supplement to the feed mill industry. This is the second product that comes out of our facilities. Crushing of soybean seed started only four years ago in Pakistan and its import became viable when the government imposed 25 percent duty on soybean meal that was previously being imported from India. Hi-Tech Grain Mills (Pvt) Ltd was established in 2016 with the sole purpose to tap in to the growing demand for premium "Basmati Rice" worldwide. We have a capacity of producing 250 tons of premium quality long grain Basmati rice per day. We also have a pharmaceutical wing called the Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals which manufactures quality poultry vaccines and medicines for livestock and companion animals. The Group's total turnover for fiscal year 2018 stood at Rs22.362 billion.

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cent. This is compared to 16 percent taxes and duties we pay on the import of the soybean seed.

BR: Where do you procure your seeds from?

MA: Hi-Tech Group is the largest customer of Cargill in Pakistan. An American privately held global corporation for food, agricultural, financial and industrial products. We only buy seeds from Cargill.

BR: Total import bill of oilseeds and oils in the country is around \$2.5-3 billion; and the government these days is very keen on import substitution. Do you think there will be any progress in this regard?

MA: The ideal situation is when we produce the raw material ourselves i.e. soybean in this case, especially when we have the right climate and soil. However, the problem with these non-conventional crops is that they need guaranteed marketing to attract growers. And in case of loss even during one period, farmers begin to avoid these non-conventional crops altogether. Back in 2008-09, when I was the Chairman of All Pakistan Solvent Extractor's Association (APSEA), we had the highest ever oilseed crop consisting of sunflower and canola with a total quantum of 1.2-1.3 million tons. When the two products from these crops oil and meal entered the local market, prices crashed, resulting in heavy losses to the growers.

Another barrier I believe for growing soybean in Pakistan is our existing crop pattern. Also, the issue is about creating demand. Last year, around 2.3 million tons of soybean was imported, and we had to sell the local soybean meal at \$80 discount in comparison to the imported meal. If you want to grow soybean in Pakistan, you first need to develop the international market for the local soybean meal to avoid supplying surplus as the domestic market is quite small.

This has two barriers, one, we cannot export without Duty & Tax Remission for Exporters (DTRE) on soybean meal, we cannot export at the cost we are currently incurring on the import of the oilseed. Second, Department of Plant Protection has not officially legalised and regularised the import and crushing of GMO seed for unlimited time period; they have just granted permission to import for an interim period of which is 6 or 8 months.

MA: First of all, keep in mind that palm oil is not a replacement for soybean oil. The palm oil sector has recovered over the last 40 years, they pay on the import of soybean oil, which is somewhere between 25-30 per-

they require very little water. If I'm not wrong, soybean requires half the water that wheat requires. Also, since soybean is grown in the same season as wheat and corn, one issue that is raised normally is that farmers will have to replace the crop or change the crop pattern. Today, this is not true as 'Crop Rotation' is something that not only helps farmers have both crops, but also helps increase the yield per acre of each crop. We are very hopeful that the government will seriously look into the matter for an export friendly regime. Apart from China, Vietnam and Cambodia too offer huge potentials for our soybean meal.

BR: Is there any quality difference in the seeds being imported?

MA: The quality of seed is very critical. I always say that we stick to three-four reliable and authentic sources for seed import and not let any fifth or sixth global company sell seeds to our farmers. This will ensure uniformity and guarantee quality crop and products.

Twenty years ago, corn production in the country was around 12 million per acre; today it is 112 million per acre and is the third important cereal after wheat and rice. The sole reason for this increase in yield is the quality of seed being imported from reliable sources. Today, corn production is close to 7 million tons annually, and it could go up to 10 million tons easily if GMO seed plantation is openly allowed. Not only that, we can then think of exporting corn; also, we can significantly decrease the cost of our poultry; and make poultry meat and eggs viable for exports. Corn is one crop that has not witnessed acreage shifting.

The best way to achieve quality crop and increased yield is to make sure that the best seed quality reaches the farmers in at least the first five years. Once the farmer is able to reach desirable production levels, I can guarantee you that he won't lower quality seed to cut costs. Local seed companies in Pakistan, on the other hand, do not have the ability or the morality to sell seeds to growers. In my opinion, we should not have any seed production in the country if we cannot guarantee quality.

BR: You talked about exporting eggs. How is that achievable?

MA: We have been at borderline for eggs. The recent currency depreciation has now tilted us slightly towards export friendly market. Today, the export of eggs has become viable. On the other hand, export of chicken meat is not viable as the industry isn't developed. Precisely, the rule of the thumb is that if demand of such sensitive commodities increases by 10 percent, prices goes up by 40 percent. Similarly, if supply increases by 10 percent, prices fall by 40 percent. Prices of poultry in Pakistan have been stable in the last 4-5 weeks. And the production is likely to stay stable unless a huge dent upwards or downwards is witnessed in consumer demand.

One advantage of growing all sorts of legumes is that

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## UVAS OBSERVES WORLD WATER DAY, VICE-CHANCELLOR CALLS FOR CREATING AWARENESS ABOUT WATER CONSERVATION

Lahore: University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (UVAS) Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Talat Nasser Pasha has called for creating awareness among the public about the importance and conservation of water.

"We should make joint efforts, use social media and other means of communication to spread awareness about water conservation," said the Vice-Chancellor while addressing a seminar arranged by the Department of Environmental Sciences of UVAS in connection with World Water Day on Friday.

UVAS observed the day in a befitting manner by arranging a walk and a seminar with the theme "Leaving no one behind". Prof. Pasha said it is very unfortunate that we waste a lot of water in our daily life due to lack of awareness.



He stressed the need to use latest techniques of irrigation like drip irrigation system and precision farming, etc. to save precious water. Regional Director Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources Zameer Ahmad Soomro spoke about major water challenges in Pakistan, water management, water conservation and water conservation techniques and national water policy. He said that access to safe water is a human right but it is not available to all in our country.

He said although Pakistan is 35<sup>th</sup> at the list of water richest countries yet per capita water availability is very low. He called for increasing water productivity, its economical use and saving it from being wasted. Earlier the Vice-Chancellor led a walk to create awareness about the water conservation techniques. Teachers and students participated in the walk in a large number. Earlier, the Vice-Chancellor inaugurated "Groundwater recharge well" on the campus.

## FAO AND EGYPT FOR LIVESTOCK FUTURE SCENARIOS 2050

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (MoALR) conducted a three-day technical workshop to formulate livestock development scenarios 2050 in Egypt under the Africa Sustainable Livestock 2050 (ASL 2050) project, funded by The United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The workshop was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP), the Ministry of Environment (MOE) and USAID Egypt, in addition to representatives from the General Organization for Veterinary Services (GOVS), Animal Production Sector, General Organization for Fisheries, Animal Health Research Institute (AHRI), Animal Production Research Institute, and Egyptian Poultry Association representing the private sector.



The objectives of the workshop were to formulate with the participants different future scenarios towards 2050 describing the expected development of poultry, bovine and fish production systems based on dietary protein requirement from animal origin, to explore the future impact of different scenarios on public health, livelihoods and the environment. It has also validated livestock projections elaborated from the current Egypt Sustainable Agriculture Strategy 2030 and estimated protein requirements today and tomorrow (2030 and 2050). We are presently formulating alternative scenarios for the livestock sector development up to 2050 at country level. Hassan Gaidan, FAO representative in Egypt said.

"ASL 2050 project, which is funded and supported by USAID, aims to involve all sectors and stakeholders in order to improve livestock development efforts to ensure sustainable development of the sector and to align it with the sustainable agricultural development strategy 2030 of Egypt that aims to achieve comprehensive economic and social development based on a strong and effective agricultural sector. Dr. Akmal Elkerian, USAID/Egypt's representative said. He added that USAID, through its strategic partnership and cooperation with the Egyptian gov-

ernment and FAO, has invested more than \$ 40 million in the prevention and control of emerging diseases.

"We appreciate the support provided by FAO and USAID to control the transboundary animal diseases and formulate livestock development scenarios 2050 in Egypt and other African countries, as we seek to achieve food integration and increase intra-trade with African countries, which will have a positive impact on Egyptian citizens, and to address all challenges and constraints through the "One Health" approach and involve all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector," Mehrez added.

"ASL 2050 since its start in Egypt two years ago, has finalized the compiling of official quantitative and qualitative information on current and future livestock production parameters and their effects on public health, livelihoods and the environment. It has also validated livestock projections elaborated from the current Egypt Sustainable Agriculture Strategy 2030 and estimated protein requirements today and tomorrow (2030 and 2050). We are presently formulating alternative scenarios for the livestock sector development up to 2050 at country level. Hassan Gaidan, FAO representative in Egypt said.

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## NEW PROTOCOL FOR CREATING VACCINES

Researchers at The Pirbright Institute have published their procedures on video for creating a vaccine that protects against Marek's disease and infectious bursal disease (IBD) using a CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing system.



Both viruses cause highly infectious diseases of poultry and can cause huge economic losses around the globe. For example, Marek's disease is the worldwide poultry industry loss annually, according to studies released in 2017. Herpesvirus of turkeys (HVT) is an ideal vector for the generation of recombinant vaccines against a number of diseases, using bacterial artificial chromosome mutagenesis or conventional recombination methods. The clustered regularly interspaced palindromic repeats (CRISPR)/Cas9 system has been successfully used in many settings for gene editing, including the manipulation of several large DNA virus genomes.

Research carried out at Pirbright's Viral Oncogenesis group by UK and Chinese scientists utilised fast and accurate gene editing tools to insert an IBD virus gene into the Marek's vaccine virus. This results in the creation of a recombinant vaccine, which allows the single vaccine to protect against both diseases simultaneously. Speaking in the video journal JoVE, professor Venugopal Nair, head of the Viral Oncogenesis group, said developing the protocol was not easy but the hard work shown by the team had paid off. "Extensive work went into defining the correct quantities and timings of each step, and it has taken the last two years to streamline the process," he said. "We now have a procedure that is highly efficient and represents a vast improvement on previous techniques," he added.

Although other recombinant vaccines exist that protect against both viruses, the methods for producing them are lengthy and not as reliable. The new system, demonstrated in JoVE, is precise and allows vaccines to be developed rapidly, which improves the capacity for responding to changing outbreak situations. There are video sections covering transfection and infection, harvesting and purification of the HVT recombinant virus, excision of the fluorescent reporter gene via the Cre-lox system, plaque purification, verification of the recombinant HVT, the stability of the recombinant virus and a results section covering analysis of the generated recombinant avian herpesvirus vectors. The methods' flexibility also offers the potential to expand and protect against three or four diseases, including influenza, which remains a major challenge to both producers and human health.

Sharing the methodology through video allows scientists to see how the recombinant vaccine is created step-by-step. This could benefit other laboratories which are looking to use CRISPR-Cas9 systems to target other poultry diseases such as Newcastle disease virus. Dr. Yongxian Yao, senior scientist in the group who led the work, added: "The development of new vaccines using this approach will be highly beneficial for the poultry industry to protect against multiple poultry diseases."

## NATIONAL FLAG CARRIER PAKISTAN INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES (PIA) HAS ENSURED 1.5 TON AIR CARGO FROM FAISALABAD TO KARACHI

Mr. Qaiser Iqbal District Manager PIA had a meeting with Syed Zia Alundar Hussain President Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI) and discussed various meetings relating to the PIA with a specific focus on the facility of air cargo for this export city.



Faisalabad, National Flag Carrier Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has ensured 1.5 ton air cargo from Faisalabad to Karachi while Faisalabad to Jeddah flights would also be made nonstop reducing traveling time from 8 to only 5.30 hours.

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Syed Zia Alundar Hussain appreciated the efforts of the Chairman PIA Mr. Marshal Arshad Mahmood Malik to fully exploit the passenger as well as cargo potential of this city. He assured that FCCI will extend full cooperation to the National Flag Carrier to make it leading and most profitable airlines of the world. He appreciated the facility to accommodate 1.5 ton air cargo in existing PIA flights from Faisalabad to Karachi from where it would be forwarded to other international destinations. He told that according to conservative estimates air cargo available from Faisalabad is around one thousand tons. Out of it only 400 tons is directly exported through Faisalabad airport while remaining load is routed through Lahore and Sialkot Airports. He told that the allocation of 1.5 tons quota from Faisalabad is a positive sign which will help PIA to assess the availability of air cargo with projected increase in it in the coming days. "It will certainly help PIA to enhance more space for air cargo leading to start a dedicated freight flights from Faisalabad. He told that currently 5 Lac people travel from Faisalabad Airport and we are expecting that their numbers will jump to 8 Lac within the couple of years.

Qaiser Iqbal told that Faisalabad to Jeddah flights have to stay for one and half an hour at Karachi for refueling. However, now arrangements are being made to make these flights direct and non-stop. It will trim down the traveling time from 8 to 5.30 hours," he added.

Syed Zia Alundar Hussain appreciated the steps taken by new management of the PIA and demanded that PIA should now start direct flights from Faisalabad to Dubai and London as sufficient passenger load from Faisalabad is available for these international destinations.

## Issuance and payment of promissory notes is expected to start during next month, said Chairman Federal Board of Revenue Mohammad Jahan Zaib Khan.



Faisalabad: Issuance and payment of promissory notes is expected to start during next month, said Chairman Federal Board of Revenue Mohammad Jahan Zaib Khan.

Addressing a function in Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI) here today, he said that earlier a cut date of February 15 was given to issue the promissory notes but State Bank of Pakistan and Finance Ministry raised some irritants. These issues have now been resolved while it has also been approved in the Finance Supplementary (second amendment) Bill 2019 and hopefully the payments of refund claims through promissory notes will be starting during next month. He said that a fair system is being evolved under which the promissory notes will be issued to the exporters who will opt for it. "Cash payment will also continue side by side," he assured and told that one third payment of total refund claim will be made in cash while remaining will be settled through promissory notes. "Ten percent markup will be allowed on these promissory notes which will be paid after three years," he added. However, these promissory notes will also be acceptable and valid trading instrument in the financial market.

He further told that every individual is responsible to pay taxes and system will take its own course when they will fail to fulfill their mandatory obligations. Regarding 40-B, he told that the persons involved in under-reporting are under FBR radar and could not conceal their actual tax liability. However, he offered to declare Faisalabad "40-B free" if they agree to give the certain revenue targets and in this connection FCCI will have to play its role as a guarantor. Regarding 40-B, he said that this law was implemented in another city where a visible improvement of 70 percent was recorded.

Regarding distortion in the working of Provincial Revenue Authorities (PRA) and FBR, he said that particularly the sales tax laws are not fully harmonized. National Finance Commission (NFC) has established a working group which is reviewing different proposals to resolve this issue. He said that FCCI and other chambers should also present viable proposals to resolve this棘手 issue. He said that although every province has different views yet FBR is trying to evolve a mutually acceptable way to file a single return.

Chairman FBR told that tax system has some inherent complications and we have to sit together to resolve the same. In this connection, he told that a commissioner level female officer has been nominated as focal person at the FBR. He said that business community through their relevant chambers could approach her to get resolved their genuine problems. He said that the said focal person will also help for the efficient follow up of the decisions taken during the meetings between business community and the chairman FBR.

Mr. Jahan Zaib Khan said that traders are also integral part of our economy and we must bring them into tax net to resolve our financial problems. He told that a simple and easy tax system is being evolved for the small traders which will be initially implemented in Islamabad. He asked president FCCI to submit its proposal to further fine tune this system.

About trust deficit between taxpayers and tax collectors, he said that through social evolution of last many decades, we have to change our mindsets. Regarding the harsh language of tax notices, he said that it was designed during the colonial era but he is ready to change the same at the earliest.

Commenting on the problems of the business community, he told that some of them are forced to open fake bank accounts. He said that Financial Action Task Force is already reviewing our financial system. "It is of the opinion that Pakistan's financial management system lacks credible safeguards. He said that the laws are being improved to facilitate the business community. He also mentioned Finance Supplementary (second amendment) Bill 2019 and said that it was prepared by the FBR and hence no new tax was proposed in it and rather we have facilitated the business community. He told that government revenue will automatically increase with positive growth in the businesses. He mentioned the tax to GDP ratio and said that it is 11.4 percent and we could not even meet our domestic expenditures with it. He said that this ratio should be enhanced to 20 percent and government is working on it.

Earlier, President, FCCI Syed Zia Alundar Hussain welcomed the Chairman

## SEAFOOD EXPORT CONTINUES TO DWINDLE

Karachi: Pakistan's seafood export continues to dwindle due to the federal government's export ban over 6 percent. President Sindh Trawlers Owners and Fishermen Association (Stofa), Habibullah Khan Niazi told Business Recorder, saying that "the country's fishermen suffered more from the policy over the past four months than anything else." He asked the federal authorities to revisit the policy at once to help the country earn maximum out of the business.

In Feb 2019, Pakistan managed to export \$30.737 million of seafood to the world markets, which is lower by over 11 percent or \$3.826 million from \$34.563 million exported in Feb 2018. In terms of quantity, the seafood export dropped by 9 percent or 1506 metric tons to 15,449 metric tons in Feb 2019 from 16,955 metric tons in Feb 2019. "The policy that bans the ordinary fishermen from going beyond 12 nautical miles into deep sea for fishing in fact reduced the catch in the last four months," Habibullah said.

As a result, he said, the country suffered a sudden fall in the seafood export, while the fishermen and fisheries stakeholders went into a dormant phase with no businesses at hand. "Fishermen actually suffered big unemployment over the ban period, which now on the court order has been suspended till a policy is reframed in consultations with the stakeholders," the Stofa President said, adding that a meeting between the parliamentary committee and fisheries stakeholders is going to take place on Mar 22, 2019 to end the impasse emerged from the policy.

Export to China suffered more that was a main revenue chunk from the country's exchequer, as the entire squid family fisheries are found beyond the red-marked belt of 12 nautical miles, where unlicensed fisheries is banned by the policy. Now, fishing in the deep sea belt has begun with help of the court, hoping catch of the key export, fisheries will grow from the past, he said, adding that "the government should also place a permanent ban on shrimp lands in creeks" to help improve the country's fisheries export as well. Creeks are considered the main hatcheries for reproduction of shrimp, he said.