







# GCU Quarterly Vol.6: Issue III, 2018 July 01 - September 30, 2018

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#### **Chairman HEC Visits GCU**

Prof. Dr. Tariq Banuri, Chairperson HEC said that the commission would approach the incoming government to create 15 slots for universities which would be granted full autonomy and additional resources to be competitive with the top higher education institutions of the world. However, the HEC chairman explained that the issue of quality and autonomy are interrelated; universities would have to compete for these slots by assuring the commission that they have a transparent system of management in place to safeguard quality. The voice to protect quality should come from within the universities, not from outside, and once this starts happening, there would be no need for anybody, nor HEC neither ministry, to keep a check, said Prof. Banuri while addressing the senior faculty & staff members of Government College University, Lahore.

Earlier, the chairman held a detailed meeting with Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor and discussed different issues related to the funding and management of universities. "I am happy that my tour to Lahore begins with the most prestigious higher education institution i.e. GC University Lahore", the recently appointed Chairman HEC while sharing his vision for higher education with the GCU's academic and administrative heads. He stated that HEC was funding universities for research but it must review the quality as well. There are islands of excellence in research but we need the whole sea of excellence, it is most important that we need to put up proper quality safeguards for research as well and also develop the National Research Agenda for economic and social development of the country in collaboration with other stakeholders and funding agencies.

Prof. Banuri stressed that universities should not start those academic programs where they could not maintain the quality, saying that these programs didn't only affect students but also devalue the degree of the university. He also hinted at reviewing the degree attestation procedures in order to simplify them. He asked the university administration to groom their young faculty members to instil in them the leadership qualities.

Chairman HEC stated that he would ask the federal government for stable budgetary propositions for next five years, so that they could guarantee the universities their share and plan their development and expansion accordingly. Prof. Banuri shared his vision that by the time he leaves,

the top universities in the country would be autonomous universities and would have transparent system of quality management and additional resources to be















GOVERNMENT COLLEGE UNIVERSITY LAHORE

2018 One Day Workshop on Nonlinear Analysis

and Its Applications

# **International Workshop on Nonlinear Analysis and Its Application**

An international workshop on "Nonlinear Analysis and its Applications" was held at the Department of Mathematics. Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor chaired the workshop. About 200 participants from different universities of Pakistan

attended the workshop which was spread over four technical sessions. The workshop was also addressed by two eminent international speakers, Prof. Dr. Abdul Rahim Khan from King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals, (KFUPM), Dhahran, Saudi Arabia and Prof. Dr. Safeer Hussain Khan from Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Physics, Qatar University.

The Vice Chancellor said that research had become complex and multidisciplinary and it is imperative for science students to have knowledge about multiple disciplines. He expressed gratitude to the international speakers for their invaluable time and

contribution. He also talked about the relevance of the workshop with reference to the other disciplines and emphasized on the continuation of such creative and fruitful activities in future. The Chairperson Department of Mathematics Dr. Mujahid Abbas also spoke on the importance of such workshops to update the knowledge of relevant discipline.



# Women-Led Start-ups Put on Display at GCU

From women engineers creating world's cheapest 3D printers, from house to a female manufacturing all organic and natural makeup products for beauty parlors, a large number of exciting recent women-led start-ups were put on display at the Women Innovation Network (WIN), a business incubation centre set up at GCU Lahore by the Punjab Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW).

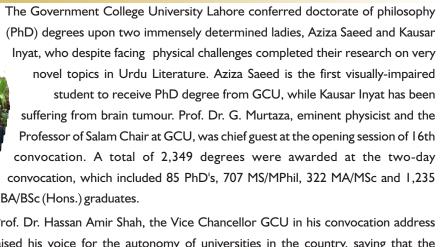
Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor GCU and Ms. Fauzia Viqar, Chairperson PCSW inaugurated the exhibition which was launched with the support of WIN; the only women business incubation centre in the country.

Ms. Fauzia Viqar said that Pakistan had the lowest rate of female entrepreneurs in the world, with only one percent of female entrepreneurs compared to 21% of male entrepreneurs. She highlighted a need for legislation to facilitate women in establishing their businesses. She added that WIN aimed to nurture women entrepreneurs by fighting the "bro culture" prevalent in incubators, especially tech-based incubators which hindered the growth of women entrepreneurs. PCSW's women focused incubator network aims to break this culture and welcome women entrepreneurs in a safe space. Ms. Fauzia Vigar also hinted at establishing more women business incubators at district level across Punjab.

The Vice Chancellor said that the ratio of female students was constantly increasing in the universities, so their talent and education must not go waste. There should be such business incubation centres in all universities which facilitate them in becoming successful entrepreneurs.

Ms. Maryam Mohiuddin, the WIN Business Manager, gave a detailed presentation on different start-ups supported by WIN, saying that the WIN is home to some of the most exciting start-ups in Pakistan from women engineers creating 3D printers to female scientists using nanotechnology to solve some of Pakistan's most pressing problem of clean water to all the way to Pakistan's first registered female tourism company owner. She highlighted that PCSW's WIN is an important platform to promote female entrepreneurship. She mentioned that WIN was offering a range of services to women entrepreneurs including physical and technological amenities such as co-working space and high-speed internet as well as business support services such as networking opportunities, access to finance and day care centre. The selected women entrepreneurs are contributing to a diverse set of industries like tourism, EdTech, CleanTech, agriculture, food and design.

## **16th Convocation of GCU**



Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor GCU in his convocation address raised his voice for the autonomy of universities in the country, saying that the proverbial "red-tape" impeded their smooth functioning at every stage. Prof. Shah said that it had become increasingly difficult for the common man to afford quality education, GCU, therefore, this year granted the scholarships worth Rs. 62 million

to the deserving students from its own budget and Endowment Fund. The Vice

Chancellor advised the graduates that in pursuit of glory they must retain the fundamental norms of creativity, farsightedness and persistence which were always cherished at GCU. Prof. Shah told the students that they must bridge the gap between their ideals and the bitter realities of life. "Your success lies in the measure of patience and determination that you may muster up.," he concluded.

Prof. G. Murtaza asked the students to never forget the contributions of their parents in their life, saying that the parents compromise a lot so that their children can be successful. He also shared the inspiring story of Nobel Laureate Prof. Dr. Abdus Salam with the young graduates and told them how a Pakistani village boy became a towering personality in the world of Physics.

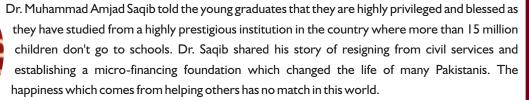
Talking to media, Dr. Aziza Saeed said that she had never allowed her physical inability to challenge her mental capabilities. She mentioned that studying Urdu Literature was the most challenging task for the blind students, as books in this discipline are not available in digital format for audio listening. She credited her parents and teachers for the PhD degree. Dr. Kausar Inyat said that she had done a big part of her research work on patient bed in the hospitals but didn't let this brain tumour imped her



dreams. She requested the government to support her treatment. Mr. Saboor Ahmed Khan, the Registrar GCU said that these two ladies were inspiration for other students and wished that all students of GCU be able to realize their dreams and make us proud just as we are proud of their predecessors today.

On the second day of Convocation, Dr. Muhammad Amjad Saqib the Executive Director of Akhuwat and Prof. Dr. Naveed A. Malik, Rector Virtual University awarded medals and rolls of honour to the talented students at second and third session of convocation. Dr. Naveed Malik said that an era of single discipline degree is over now; every scholar and professional need to know little about other fields as well. Dr. Naveed stated that he was very impressed by the research output of GCU Lahore and indeed the international ranking of the university which

speaks volumes of good work done by its faculty.



The overall performance says, girls secured 26 of 40 academic medals for first positions in different disciplines of BA/BSc (Hons) programme. However, boys secured 21 of 24 rolls of honour for excellent performance in co-curricular activities and sports. Mr. Naqeeb Ahmed Khan, a driver in a Government Department, broke into tears while receiving the co-curricular medal and degree of his son who has recently got commissioned in Pakistan Army. He expressed gratitude to all the

#### **Vice Chancellor meets Caretaker CM**

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor of GC University Lahore, met Prof. Hasan Askari Rizvi caretaker Chief Minister Punjab and apprised him about the academic achievements and development of the university.

The Chief Minister said that GCU Lahore had been imparting quality education with full devotion and commitment for the last 154 years, adding that the government must facilitate and support this prestigious institution on priority basis for infrastructural, academic and research developments. Prof. Rizvi also shared his memories of studying at Government College Lahore in the 1960s, saying that those were one the best and most memorable days of his life.

The Vice Chancellor told the Chief Minister that GCU Lahore had made it to the Times Higher Education (THE) Emerging Economies University Rankings this year and ranked among the top 400 best research-led universities from the 50 emerging economy nations. Only 10 universities of Pakistan made it to Times Higher Education ranking and GCU was among them, he concluded.

The Chief Minister appreciated the peaceful environment, maintained by the GCU Lahore, on its campus and active participation of its students in co-curricular activities.

#### **GCU Celebrates Independence Day**

The academia and faculty of Government College University Lahore celebrated the 71st Independence Day of Pakistan with the traditional zeal and zest, and prayed for the peace and prosperity in the country. Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor inaugurated the day-long celebrations by planting a sapling in the university's Bukhari Lawns, which was followed by a grand flag-hoisting ceremony.

The Vice Chancellor laid stress on strengthening the national institutions and mentioned that extremism and high population growth were the biggest challenges to the country. Prof. Shah







reiterated the commitment that the faculty members, staff and students of GCU should endeavour for the development of country in the realm of research and education.

The staff secretary said that Pakistan had been created with immense sacrifices by their forefathers. Earlier, the Vice Chancellor along with academic heads hoisted the national flag in university's Bukhari Auditorium. It was followed by the presentation of Mili Nagmas by the GCU Nazir Ahmed Music Society. The portraits of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, sketched by Osama Ishaq, GCU Intermediate student, were also put on display at the flag-hoisting ceremony.









# **GCU Debating Society Wins 315 Oratory Awards**

The Debating Society of Government College University (GCUDS) set an unprecedented national record by clinching a total of 315 trophies at various national and international competitions during the academic session 2017-18. The record includes 33 team trophies, 16 runners-up trophies, 133 best speaker awards, 79 second positions, 49 third positions and 05 consolation prizes at the various declamations, parliamentary style debates, model united nations style, recitation and poetry competitions in English, Urdu, Pashto and Punjabi languages.

According to the annual report presented to the Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, Chairman Societies Board Prof. Mirza Ather Baig and Registrar Mr. Saboor Ahmad Khan by GCUDS, the Society during the last academic year stood victorious at almost all the major Parliamentary tournaments including LUMS, GIKI, Punjab University, Shahjiwana (UCL), Forman Christian College and King Edward Medical College. The high achievers in Parliamentary Style Debates included Mohiba Ahmed, Raza Aftab Gillani, Abdullah Cheema, Hamza Abbas, Haris Ali Virk, Sarmad Wali Khan, Fahad Sokhta, Gohar Shaukat and Moavviz Siddiq Nizami. In the Under 19 Category, GCU young orators, Talha Seemab, Muneeb Ur Rehman, Shah Jahan Tahir, Baryab Raja, Abdullah Hamid and Bahawal Baig lifted the trophies at KEMU, FAST and AMC.

In declamations, GCU orators won the team trophies at Chenab College Jhang, University College Lahore, University of Azad and Jammu Kashmir, FMH Medical College, and many others. The speakers who excelled in Declamation included Mohiba Ahmed, Saad Khan, Ali Nawaz, Shahrukh Baig, Syed Irfan Mehdi, Kafeel Rana, Zain UI Hassan, Haris Ali Virk, Romaisha Tauseef, Hanan Mir, Harram Malik, Abdullah Mohsin, Zohaib Alam, Kinza Tariq, Umer Duabia, Muhammad Shahbaz, Sheherbano, Abrar Ali, Ghulam Mustafa, Amna Ghafoor, Umair Ali, Ahmad Sultan and Ali Sherdil. Mohiba Ahmed, president GCUDS won the British High Commission's (BHC) Great Debate Competition and was awarded British scholarship of 2,000 pounds. Abdullah Hamid, GCU Intermediate student represented Pakistan at the Second Session of 'World International University Tashkent

Model United Nations' and brought home an international MUN debating award.

The Vice Chancellor congratulated the Ravian orators on their excellent performance in the national debating competitions.





# **GCU Pays Tribute to The Martyrs on Defence Day**

The Government College University has paid tribute to martyrs in connection with the Defence and Martyrs Day. The university decorated its buses with pictures of soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the country. Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor said that Pakistan is a peace-loving nation and it never preferred war but believed in dignity and honour and kept its defence strong to ensure their liberty and sovereignty. He stated that the civilians should support their armed forces for defence of the country by performing their duties honestly and justly. He also shared his memories of 1965 war, and the enthusiasm which the nation had at that time. The students also expressed their love for their



armed forces and chanted slogans in favour of the brave soldiers of Pakistan Army while boarding buses.

# **Atomic Absorption Lab Set Up at GCU**





The multi-sequential atomic absorption spectroscopy laboratory and biochar furnace room were established at the Government College University Sustainable Development Study Center (GCU SDSC) for the identification and quantification of heavy metals in soils. Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor GCU and Dr. Akram Qazi, Executive member Punjab Agricultural Research Board (PARB) inaugurated the laboratory and furnace room which was set up under the project funded by the research board. Dr. Waqas-ud-Din Khan, the project manager, said that PARB had awarded research project worth Rs. 21.9 million to the GCU for cost effective improvement in nutritive value of rice and wheat crops. He gave insight into how the project will benefit to the farmers and briefed that multi sequential atomic absorption spectrometer was imported from Germany with a cost of Rs. 4.5 million. Dr. Waqas said that a grinding mill and stirring vessel were prepared locally.

## International Workshop on "Algebraic Geometry and its Applications"

Eminent Norwegian Mathematician Professor Olav Arnfinn Laudal said that the world's leading mathematicians and scientists have no hesitation in coming to Pakistan to interact, collaborate, learn or teach the bright minds of this country. The government and funding agencies must support the country's doctoral schools like Abdus Salam School of Mathematical Sciences (ASSMS) for research and expanding their international linkages said Prof. Laudal, who is one of the founders of the Abel Prize, while addressing the closing ceremony of international workshop.

As many as 90 students and faculty from different universities of Pakistan participated in the four-day workshop organized by ASSMS in collaboration with the Punjab Higher Education Commission and Pakistan Science Foundation. Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah the Vice Chancellor GCU chaired the closing ceremony which was also addressed by Prof. Ignacio Luengo from Spain and Prof. Gerhard Pfister from Germany.

Prof. Dr. Ghulam Murtaza, Director General ASSMS said that the Salam School had been running exclusively by the foreign faculty but in



the last couple of years, they had started inducting local faculty members as well. He elaborated that the school presently has five local faculty members and besides this, they are expecting 15 foreign faculty members for the fall semester. The GCU ASSMS also provides travel grants to its students to visit their foreign supervisors when they are abroad.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah said that the school gave immediate pride to GCU, adding that the competent local faculty was indispensible for the survival, stability and existence of ASSMS. He desired to organize an International Conferences on Mathematical Sciences in association with Prof. Arnfinn Laudal, so that he can deploy his acquaintances to attract renowned Mathematician in Pakistan.

Prof. Laudal mentioned his contribution in building the International Collaboration of ASSMS with International Centre for

Theoretical Physics. Prof. Gerhard Pfister talked about the importance of Algebraic geometry and gave some suggestions for improvements. Dr. Shahid Soroya Director General PHEC also addressed the closing ceremony and assured the financial support to doctoral school's faculty of ASSMS for research and international conferences. The organizer of the Workshop Dr. Afshan Sadiq expressed her gratitude to PHEC and Pakistan Science Foundation for funding to organize the workshop.





### **LCCI Donates to GCU-EFT**

The Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industries (LCCI) donated rupees one million to the Government College University Lahore Endowment Fund Trust (GCU-EFT) for the scholarships of financially-challenged students. The scholarships would be given to the deserving students every year on merit. Malik Tahir Javaid Bashir president LCCI handed over the cheque to the Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah while Executive Committee Secretary GCU-EFT Dr. Khalid Manzoor Butt, Vice President LCCI Mr. Zeshan Khalil, and eminent businessman and Trustee Endowment Fund Trust Mian Misbah ur Rehman were also present. The president LCCI said that unfortunately he was not a Ravian, but he had great trust in working of GCU and its Endowment Fund. He also pledged to provide more funding to the trust.

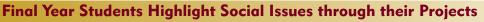
#### **GCU Secures Seven Positions in Intermediate Exams**

The Government College University Lahore secured seven positions in the Lahore Board Intermediate Examinations 2018. The students Hussnain Mushtaq (1045 marks) and Humza Ahmed (1044 marks) have clinched the first and second positions in the Pre-Medical Group among Boys.

In the Pre-Engineering among Boys, three students of GCU secured positions; Muhammad Haris Shah (1049 mraks) and Sheraz Ahmad (1049 marks) achieved the second position, while Muhammad Usama (1048 marks) was declared third in this group. In the Commerce Group among Boys, Muhammad Safi Ullah Javaid was awarded the second position with 997 marks. However, in the Humanities Group among boys, Taimoor Raza Sultan got the third position with 948 marks.

The students Muhammad Haris Shah and Sheraz Ahmad also stood overall second among boys in all groups while Muhammad Usama was third in this category. The Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah congratulated the position holders saying that "students' achievements bring glory to their alma mater."





The final year students of Department of Fine Arts at Government College University put on display their digital artwork highlighting different social issues including Child Labour, Intolerance and Women Empowerment. The Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah inaugurated the exhibition titled "Degree Show" at the University's Salam Hall, while Registrar Mr. Saboor Ahmed Khan was also present. As many as 17 students displayed their projects which comprised of complete advertisement material including electronic media advertisements, pamphlets and social media pages for promotion of their brands and raising awareness about social issues.

The Chairperson Department of Fine Arts said whether artwork was digital or manual; creativity, imagination, technical knowledge and aesthetic sense are essential component for an artist. However, he mentioned that future of marketing belonged to social media through digital artwork. The chairperson stated that this was the fourth batch of GCU BFA (Hons) progarmme, and there was not a single student who didn't get job before the final examinations.

The Vice Chancellor appreciated the hard work of the Fine Arts students, saying that they had adopted a comprehensive approach for promotion of their products, separately



#### Vice Chancellors Concern about PHEC Abolishment

The Vice Chancellors of public sector universities of Punjab voiced their concern over news reports and propaganda regarding the abolishment of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), saying that these reports are causing deep resentment among the academia in the province.

The committee chairman, Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, said that the provincial universities cherished the existence of PHEC and the additional funding they were getting from the commission for foreign post-doctoral fellowships, faculty development training, split PhD programme, international travel grants, career counseling centres and indigenous post-doctoral programmes.

Prof. Shah said that the VCs Committee welcomed the statement of Punjab Higher Education Minister Raja Yasir Humayun Sarfraz that the government has no plans to abolish PHEC and hoped that this clarification by the honourable minister would bury this propaganda against the commission once for all. The Vice Chancellors Committee of Punjab Public Sector Universities said that the commission needs to be further empowered and strengthened to improve the quality of education and research in the province. The Chairman of the VC's Committee said that they had high expectations from the new government for promotion of higher education in Pakistan.

# **GCU Improves International Ranking**

The Government College University Lahore this year elevated its international ranking; standing sixth among the top nine universities of Pakistan who made it to the Times Higher Education World Universities Ranking 2019. Last year, 10 Pakistani universities made to this coveted list and GCU Lahore was standing at the ninth position. This year only nine universities of Pakistan made it to the World Universities Ranking 2018-19 which include COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, University of Agriculture Faisalabad, NUST Islamabad, BZU Multan, UET Lahore, GCU, University of Lahore, PMAS Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi and University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore. The universities were judged on the pillars of teaching, research, citations, industry income and international outlook – to provide the most comprehensive and balanced comparisons. According to the Times Higher Education, the GCU Lahore's strongest pillar was International Outlook while its weakest pillar was Citations. However, GCU Lahore stood overall 1001+ among all universities of world and 351+ in Asia.



Ms. Iram Sohail, Director Quality Enhancement Cell said that ranking was improved due to an increase in the university's industrial income and research

output. "Our industrial income was zero a couple of years back which has now increased to an aggregate of about Rs. 80,000 per academic staff member which is a milestone achievement," she stated.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor GCU expressed immense pleasure on improvement in the university's ranking, saying that these rankings were important because besides giving international recognition, they also helped universities understanding their weak and strong areas. Prof. Shah hoped that GCU's ranking would further improve next year. He called upon the government to provide funding to GCU, saying that their biggest challenge is to improve quality and ranking while remaining affordable to the students.

# GCU only University from Pakistan to Collaborate with Italian Education Ministry

Eminent Italian philosopher Prof. Debora Spini visited the Government College University Lahore on the invitation of the university's Department of Philosophy and met the Vice Chancellor.

Prof. Spini found the bright prospects of mutual collaboration between GCU and prestigious Italian Universities including Pisa,

Florence, Syracuse, Rome and Sant' Anna School of Advanced Studies especially in the field of Philosophy. The Italian philosopher mentioned that Lahore is a beautiful city of lively and hospitable people and the GCU is an amazing and mesmerizing institution in architecture, ambiance, mystique and quality of education.

The Chairperson Department of Philosophy Dr. Sobia Tahir, Prof. Mirza Athar Baig eminent writer and Ms. Ammara Batool Deputy Director Academic Planning & External Linkages were also present at the meeting.

Dr. Sobia Tahir appreciated the interest of mutual collaboration with the Italian Universities and remembered that Professor Spini had last year facilitated GCU in signing a ground-breaking project with Ministry of Education, Italy in which GCU was the only collaborating University from Pakistan. The Project has been approved and its implementation is going to start from October. Further joint ventures may include, student and faculty exchange, conferences, research and course-development.



# **PCSW sets up Women Innovation Network at GCU**

A Women Innovation Network (WIN) was set up at the Government College University by the Punjab Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW) to support women in developing their businesses. United States (US) Consul General to Lahore Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau was chief guest at the launching ceremony. The Innovation Network was also addressed by Mr. Nauman Kabir Punjab Minister for Labour & Human Resource, Mr. Faisal Mushtaq Minister for Human Rights and Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah the Vice Chancellor GCU. Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau said that PCSW and GCU are two organizations that do ground breaking work every single day and Pakistan should be very proud of them. "As I travel around Punjab and other parts of the country, what I see is that Pakistani women are not looking for gifts; they are looking for tools and this is exactly what this women's business incubation centre at GCU would do,"she said.

Ms. Fauzia Waqar Chairperson PCSW said that there was a lot of potential in the women entrepreneurs of Pakistan and WIN would provide them a platform where they can learn to overcome the challenges. Women Innovation Network would offer a range of support service to women entrepreneurs to enable them to develop their businesses, including physical and technology amenities as well as business support service, networking opportunities,

access to finance and daycare centre. Mr. Nauman Kabir said that the women owned businesses represent only 2-3.5 % of the 3.2 million enterprises registered in Pakistan whereas the global percentage is almost 35%. Women entrepreneurship has a long way to go to come at par with men and initiatives like WIN are a step in the right direction.

Mr. Faisal Mushtaq, Minister for Human Rights, said that women have to face number of physical and social challenges that refrains them from starting their own business ventures.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah said that the ratio of female students was constantly increasing in the universities, so their talent and education must not go waste. There should be such business incubation centres in all universities which facilitate them to become successful entrepreneurs.































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