

# Annual Progress Report

2024-25



## UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY BANNU

Administration Block, Main Campus, Township, Bannu

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<b>Table of Contents</b>	<b>Page #</b>
<b>Chancellor's Message</b>	<b>03</b>
<b>Vice Chancellor's Message</b>	<b>04</b>
<b>About the University</b>	<b>05</b>
<b>Chapter-1: Academics</b>	<b>06</b>
<b>A. Curricular</b>	<b>07</b>
i. Academic Activities	<b>07</b>
ii. Quality Assurance	<b>11</b>
iii. Faculty Development	<b>18</b>
iv. Students Enrollment and Degrees Awarded Annually	<b>28</b>
v. Ranking of the University	<b>30</b>
vi. Other Activities	<b>31</b>
<b>B. Co-Curricular</b>	<b>35</b>
i. Sports	<b>35</b>
ii. Student Societies and Activities	<b>40</b>
iii. Community Building and Awareness	<b>56</b>
iv. Leadership Building and Awareness	<b>57</b>
<b>Chapter-2: Research</b>	<b>60</b>
i. Research and Development	<b>61</b>
ii. Innovation and Commercialization	<b>96</b>
iii. University Liaison with Industry	<b>97</b>
iv. Universities Building Economies	<b>98</b>
v. Outreach Activities	<b>98</b>
vi. Other Activities	<b>101</b>
<b>Chapter-3: Administration</b>	<b>105</b>
i. University Governance	<b>106</b>
ii. Strengthening Physical Infrastructure	<b>115</b>
iii. Strengthening Technological Infrastructure	<b>134</b>
iv. Meetings of Authorities and Statutory Bodies	<b>140</b>
v. Litigation	<b>143</b>
vi. Progress Achieved from Foreign Tours	<b>143</b>
<b>Chapter-4: Finances</b>	<b>145</b>
i. Budget	<b>146</b>
ii. Funds Generation/Development	<b>147</b>

## Chancellor's Message

It gives me immense pleasure to extend my warmest greetings to the University of Science & Technology, Bannu a dynamic institution of higher learning that is rapidly emerging as a beacon of academic excellence in the southern region of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.



In today's world, the pursuit of knowledge and innovation is key to national development and global competitiveness. I am pleased to note that UST Bannu is making commendable strides in expanding the frontiers of science, technology, and research, while also nurturing an environment that upholds critical thinking, creativity, and ethical values.

The University's unwavering commitment to quality education, community engagement, and inclusive growth is evident from its steady academic progress, its growing research output, and its focus on producing graduates who are not only professionally competent but also socially responsible.

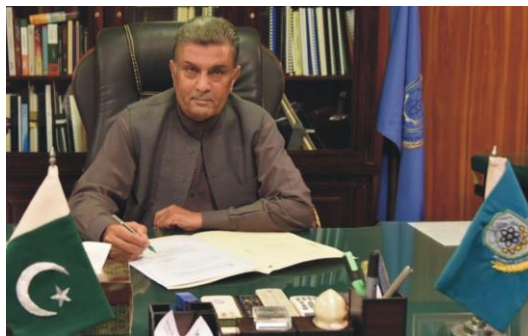
As Chancellor, I believe that universities are not merely institutions for the transmission of knowledge; they are vibrant centers of change, dialogue, and development. I urge the faculty, students, and administration of UST Bannu to continue working with dedication, integrity, and a forward-looking vision. The future belongs to those who prepare for it today.

Let us all strive together to make UST Bannu a hub of innovation, excellence, and opportunity for the youth of this region and beyond. I assure my full support in all initiatives aimed at uplifting the academic and research profile of the University.

**Sardar Ali Amin Khan Gandapur**  
Chief Minister, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa/Chancellor  
University of Science & Technology, Bannu

## Vice Chancellor's Message

It gives me great pleasure to present this Annual Report of the University of Science and Technology Bannu for the year 2024-25, highlighting the progress, achievements, and future aspirations of our institution. As a Vice Chancellor, I consider it a privilege to lead this University, which stands as a beacon of hope and opportunity for the people of southern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.



UST Bannu holds a unique and strategic position as

one of the first higher education institutions in this underprivileged region, following Gomal University. Despite being in its developmental phase, the University has made commendable strides in academic excellence, infrastructure development, faculty recruitment, and community engagement during the reporting period.

Bannu, with its rich cultural and intellectual heritage, has historically played an important role in National development. Yet, for decades, this region has faced numerous challenges due to its proximity to the Afghan border and socio-political instability. In light of this, our mission to bring transformation through education and training becomes even more critical. We are committed to reversing the effects of underdevelopment by empowering the youth through accessible, Quality Education.

My past contributions to the development of institutions such as the University of Swat, Peshawar, and FATA University have equipped me with the experience to steer this Institution toward meaningful growth. Guided by the University's vision and strategic plan, we are focused on creating an inclusive academic environment where innovation, critical thinking, and social responsibility are cultivated.

I am particularly encouraged by the dedication and resilience of our faculty, staff, and students. Their collective efforts have been instrumental in achieving the goals set for this academic year. I am also grateful for the support of the Higher Education Commission, Islamabad, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and the local community, all of whom play a vital role in our journey of progress.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to academic excellence, research productivity, and institutional development. With sustained efforts and Allah's blessings, I am confident that UST Bannu will emerge as a center of learning that not only uplifts individuals but also contributes meaningfully to national progress.

May this report serve as a reflection of our shared accomplishments and a roadmap for the milestones ahead.

**Meritorious Prof. Muhammad Jahanzeb Khan, PhD**

Vice Chancellor

University of Science and Technology Bannu

## About the University

University of Science and Technology Bannu (UST Bannu) aspiration is to bridge disciplines and establish new partnerships while identifying creative approaches of enhancing academic quality and research potentialities. The UST Bannu was established Public under Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Provincial Assembly Act No.XIII, 2005 vide Notification No: PA/NWFP/Legis:1/2005/28/16 dated, Peshawar, the 15/11/2005.

UST Bannu is paving towards the journey to impart high quality education in the fields of Life Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Social Sciences, Physical Sciences, Business Studies and Humanities. Since its inception, the UST Bannu is pursuing its mission successfully. The first academic year was started in September 2005 with total intake of 200 students in various disciplines of IIT (Institute of Information Technology) and IMS (Institute of Management Sciences) after conducting proper entry tests and interviews. Presently Bachelor, Master and Ph.D level degrees are offered. It is worth mentioning that the number of students would increase by initiating new faculties and higher enrollment rate in colleges of the affiliated region.

**Vision:** Developed human resource serves as the foundation for economic independence and prosperity in the global community.

To this end, futuristic and strategic thinking is vital in planning curriculum and providing an environment conducive to high quality learning and research in pure and applied sciences. This is the role that UST Bannu is committed to play in laying the foundation of our economy on solid basis. UST Bannu shall endeavor;

- To provide a productive environment, inevitable for the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest level of excellence.
- To promote and accelerate the study of, and research in pure and applied sciences and technology in the remote areas of Pakistan.
- To produce scientists, technologists and educationists of the highest order.
- To inject spirit into, and project the intelligentsia of the society it belongs to.
- To accelerate the application of sciences to the common purpose of life.

**Mission:** The core mission of University of Science & Technology Bannu is to invoke the inherent talent of the society it belongs to, and to instill a spirit in it to uncover the hidden horizons of knowledge and learning through the development of futuristic and strategic thinking in pure and applied Sciences thereby preparing the ground for enlightened luminaries to lead the world in scientific and technological development and thus ensuring a golden period for the Motherland. As a learning Institution, parallel endeavor shall be made to develop a community not only fully conversant in the issues of the modern world, but also with a cosmopolitan outlook, tolerant attitude, purpose-oriented thinking and completely alert to the changes, challenges and needs of the time.

**Chapter-1****Academics**

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Page #</b>
<b>A. Curricular</b>	<b>07</b>
<b>i. Academic Activities</b>	<b>07</b>
<b>ii. Quality Assurance</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>iii. Faculty Development</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>iv. Students Enrollment and Degrees Awarded Annually</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>v. Ranking of the University</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>vi. Other Activities</b>	<b>31</b>
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<b>iv. Leadership Building and Awareness</b>	<b>57</b>

## A. Curricular

### i. Academic Activities:

The University of Science & Technology, Bannu (UST Bannu) stands as a dynamic center of academic excellence in southern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Committed to quality education and innovation, the university has steadily expanded its academic portfolio to cater to the diverse educational needs of the region. UST Bannu actively promotes an environment conducive to advanced learning, critical thinking, and research-based education.

Academically, UST Bannu currently offers 33 undergraduate (BS) programs across 17 different disciplines including 02 Engineering programs, ranging from natural sciences and social sciences to computer science, management sciences, and engineering technologies. These programs are carefully designed to meet market demands and to prepare graduates for both local and global opportunities. The university has adopted a modern, semester-based system aligned with Higher Education Commission (HEC) standards.

At the postgraduate level, the university offers 13 MS and M.Phil. programs, including specialized programs like MBA 1.5-years for business graduates and MBA 3.5-years for non-business graduates. These programs emphasize research, professional development, and real-world application. In addition, UST Bannu offers Ph.D. degrees in 9 disciplines, totalling 10 programs across fields such as Physics, Chemistry, Management Sciences, Computer Science Islamic Studies, Engineering, Botany, Biotechnology, Zoology others. These doctoral programs foster scholarly research and aim to contribute to national development and academic advancement.

To facilitate flexible academic pathways, the university also offers Associate Degrees (AD) in various BS disciplines. These AD programs are awarded after the successful completion of four semesters (two years), enabling students to exit with a recognized qualification or continue toward the completion of a full four-year BS degree. This structure reflects UST Bannu's commitment to accessible, inclusive, and skill-oriented higher education.

**List of Academic Institutes/Departments and Programs Offering:**

<b>NO.</b>	<b>INSTITUTE/DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>PROGRAMS OFFERING</b>
1.	Department of Computer Science	1. BS Computer Science 2. BS Data Science 3. BS Artificial Intelligence 4. BS Cyber Security 5. MS Computer Science 6. Ph.D Computer Science
2.	Department of Software Engineering	1. BSc Software Engineering
3.	Department of Electrical Engineering	1. BSc Electrical Engineering
4.	Department of Mathematics	1. BS Mathematics 2. M.Phil. Mathematics
5.	Department of English	1. BS English
7.	Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education	1. BS SS&PE
8.	Institute of Education and Research	1. BS Education 2. B.Ed 1.5 3. B.Ed. 2.5 4. M.Phil Education 5. Ph.D. Education
9.	Institute of Management Science	6. BBA 7. BS Accounting and Finance 8. BS Hospitality and Tourism Mgt. 9. BS Interepreurship& Innovation 10. BS Business Analytics 11. MBA 12. MS Magement Sciences 13. Ph.DManagement Sciences
10.	Department of Statistics	1. BS Statistics
11.	Department of Economics	1. BS Economics 2. M.Phil Economics
12.	Department of Islamic Studies and Research	1. BS Islamic Studies 2. M.Phil Islamic Studies 3. Ph.D Islamic Studies
13.	Department of Political Science	1. BS Political Science 2. BS Pak Studies
14.	Department of Physics	1. BS Physics 2. M.Phil Physics 3. Ph.D Physics
14.	Department of Chemistry	1. BS Chemistry 2. M.Phil Chemistry 3. Ph.D Chemistry
15.	Department of Botany	1. BS Botany 2. M.Phil Botany 3. Ph.D Botany

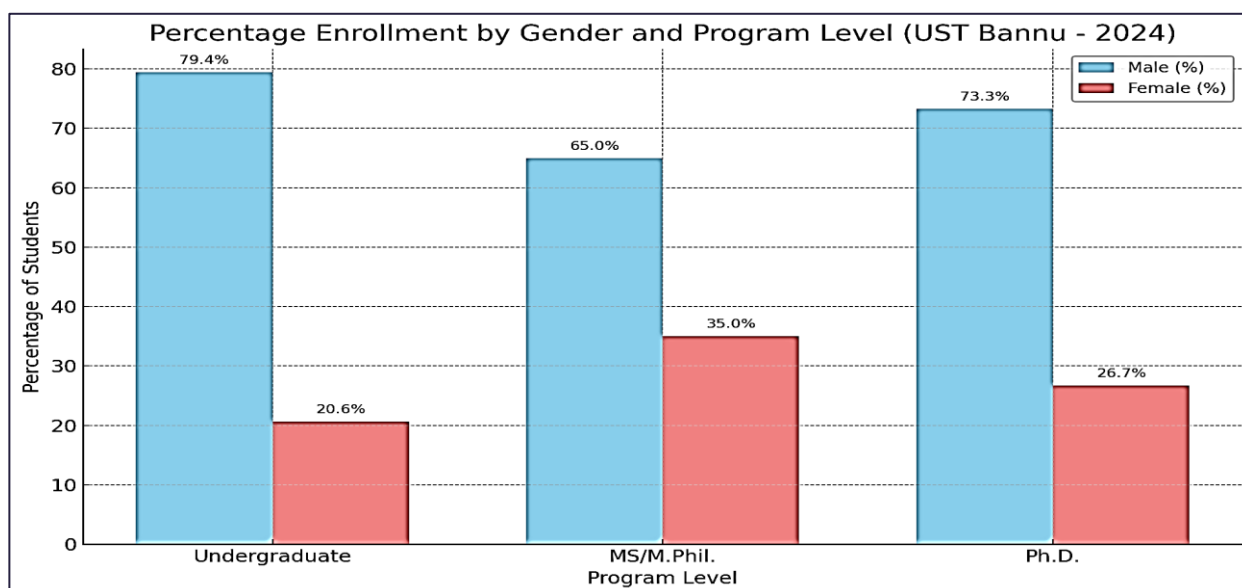
16.	Department of Biotechnology	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. BS MLT</li> <li>2. BS Health Technology</li> <li>3. BS Dental Technology</li> <li>4. BS Radiology</li> <li>5. BS Anesthesia</li> <li>6. BS Biotechnology</li> <li>7. M.Phil Biotechnology</li> <li>8. Ph.D Biotechnology</li> </ol>
17.	Department of Zoology	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. BS Zoology</li> <li>2. BS Microbiology</li> <li>3. M.Phil Zoology</li> </ol>

### a. Admissions Fall-2024

The University of Science & Technology, Bannu opened admissions for all undergraduate and graduate programs for Fall-2024, reaffirming its commitment to academic excellence and inclusive education. A total of 1,664 applications were received across various disciplines, and after a fair, merit-based as well as quota based admission process, 951 students were successfully enrolled in their desired programs. These include admissions at the undergraduate (BS), MS/M.Phil., and Ph.D. levels. The university continues to attract a diverse student body, with strong representation from both male and female candidates.

The Discipline and Gender-wise Enrollement of Fall-2024 are as follows:

Program Level	Male Students	Female Students	Cummulative Enrolled
Undergraduate	548	142	690
MS/M.Phil.	160	86	246
Ph.D.	11	04	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>719</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>951</b>

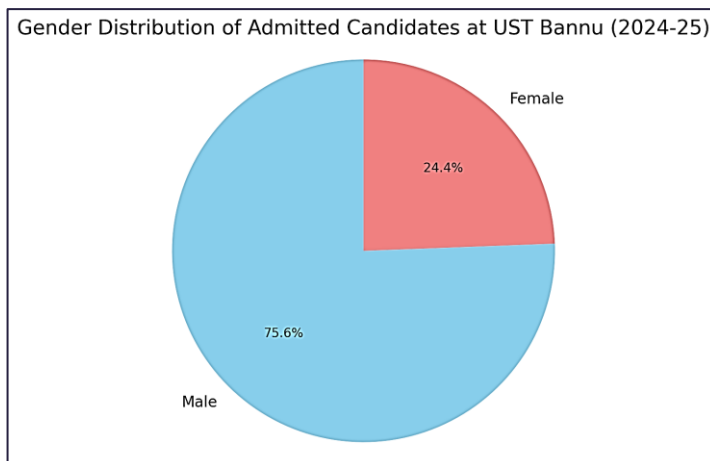


**Gender Ratio:**

- **Male Students:**  $\approx 75.6\%$
- **Female Students:**  $\approx 24.4\%$

These figures demonstrate that while male students constitute the majority (75.6%) of the admitted candidates, female enrolment (24.4%) shows a promising upward trend, especially at the postgraduate level. UST Bannu

remains dedicated to enhancing female participation in higher education by fostering a supportive and progressive academic environment.

**b. Implementation of UGP-2023 and GEP-2023 of HEC:**

To streamline the Scheme of Studies for all undergraduate and graduate programs in compliance with the HEC Undergraduate Education Policy (UGE) 2023 and the Graduate Education Policy (GEP) 2023, all departments of the University conducted meetings of their respective Boards of Studies during the year 2024. These meetings were aimed at aligning academic structures with national standards and ensuring quality enhancement across all disciplines. Currently, meetings of the Boards of Faculties are in progress to further review and refine the proposed curricula. The consolidated recommendations emerging from these academic forums shall be submitted for approval in the upcoming meeting of the Academic Council, scheduled to be held in mid-July 2025. This process reflects the University's commitment to academic excellence and policy compliance.

**c. Meetings of Advanced Studies & Research Board:**

In order to ensure timely decisions on matters related to postgraduate studies and research, the University of Science & Technology (UST) Bannu conducted eight meetings of the Advanced Studies & Research Board (ASRB) during the academic year 2024–25. These meetings were convened to review and approve research proposals, thesis evaluation reports, appointment of supervisors, award of degrees, and other academic matters pertaining to MS/MPhil and Ph.D. programs. The regular holding of these meetings facilitated smooth academic progress and strengthened the research culture within the University.

S.No.	Meeting	Dated
1	63 <sup>rd</sup> meeting of ASRB	9-10-2024 & 18-10-2024
2	64 <sup>th</sup> meeting of ASRB	06-12-2024
3	65 <sup>th</sup> meeting of ASRB	18-12-2024
4	66 <sup>th</sup> meeting of ASRB	31-12-2024
5	67 <sup>th</sup> meeting of ASRB	27-01-2025
6	68 <sup>th</sup> meeting of ASRB	25-02-2025
7	69 <sup>th</sup> meeting of ASRB	11-04-2025
8	70 <sup>th</sup> meeting of ASRB	25-04-2025

#### d. Meetings of Academic Council:

The University of Science & Technology (UST) Bannu conducted three meetings of the Academic Council during the academic year 2024–25. These meetings were held to deliberate upon and approve various academic matters such as revision of curricula, approval of new academic programs, policy decisions related to examinations and admissions, and recommendations of the Boards of Studies and Boards of Faculties. The Academic Council, being the highest academic body of the University, plays a pivotal role in maintaining academic standards and ensuring the smooth functioning of teaching, research, and examination processes.

S.No.	Meeting	Dated
1.	17 <sup>th</sup> Emergent Meeting of the Academic Council	02-10-2024
2.	18 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Academic Council	28-11-2024
3.	19 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Academic Council	13-02-2025

## ii. Quality Assurance:

### 1. Introduction:

Quality assurance is the process of evaluating/assessing of the individual/unit/institution in delivering on its vision, mission & goals. It promises and refers to operational techniques, procedures and objectives that are used to fulfill the requirements of quality. The overall aim is to deliver the best service possible and to ensure continuous improvement. The assurance of quality is fundamental for all work undertaken by the university and should be implemented by all staff and its stakeholders in their work.



To that effect the university shall maintain consistency in work methods throughout in accordance with already set policies, procedures, regulations and codes of practice without significant deviation. Realizing the challenges to be faced in the field of higher education during 21st century, impact of globalization and the need for knowledge-based economy the University of Science & Technology Bannu established the Secretariat of Quality Enhancement Cell in 2011. Its focus is to improve the standard of education and research and make it compatible with international requirements. It is believed that the issue of quality enhancement cannot be separated from the quest of excellence. Quality Assurance (QA) provides means by which an institution can guarantee with confidence and certainty, that the standards and quality of its educational provision are being maintained and enhanced.

For the quality assurance process, the QEC acts as a focal point to hold the quality of higher education and research. It works with quality Assurance Agency of Higher Education Commission in the process of capacity building of academia, awareness campaigns, training of teachers for preparing Self-Assessment Reports (SARs) of the various teaching programs in their respective departments. In this regard, through a system of surveys and feedback, the QEC attempts to protect the interest of students, teachers, employees, and other stakeholders in the field of higher education. The QEC is operational to provide support to internal & external quality assurance mechanisms. It is tasked with developing and executing quality assurance policies, conducting self-assessments, and ensuring that academic programs meet national and international standards. Through workshops, training sessions, and collaborative efforts, the QEC aims to foster a culture of continuous improvement, thereby enhancing the overall educational experience and institutional performance.

### 1.1. Vision and Future Directions:

Our vision is to establish a dynamic and responsive quality management system that not only adapts to the changing educational landscape but also sets a benchmark for excellence. As we look to the future, the QEC is dedicated to embracing emerging trends and challenges in the field of quality enhancement. We are committed to fostering an environment of innovation and collaboration, ensuring that our institution remains at the cutting edge of academic and operational quality.

### 1.2. Mission and Core Objectives:

Our mission is to systematically enhance the quality of all aspects of university life including learning, teaching, research, scholarship, human resources, infrastructure, administrative and governing processes, procedures & operations. This involves the following core objectives.

#### 1.2.1. Academic Excellence:

Ensuring that our programs, curricula, and teaching methodologies are aligned



with best practices at national and international standards. We aim to foster an environment where academic programs are continuously developed to meet the highest educational standards.

#### 1.2.2. Operational Efficiency:

Streamlining administrative processes and systems to improve effectiveness and efficiency. This includes the implementation of best practices in resource management, human resources management, student services, and institutional support functions.

#### 1.2.3. Stakeholder Engagement:

Actively involving students, faculty, staff, and external partners in the quality assurance process. We seek to create feedback loops and collaborative mechanisms that allow for the continuous gathering and incorporation of feedback on diverse perspectives.



#### 1.2.4. Compliance and Accreditation:

Ensuring adherence to regulatory requirements and accreditation standards. The QEC plays a crucial role in preparing for quality enhancement/accreditation reviews and maintaining compliance with national and international quality standards.

### 1.3. Key Functions and Activities:

To fulfill its mission, the QEC engages in a range of functions and activities:

#### 1.3.1. Quality Audits and Reviews:

Regularly conducting comprehensive audits and assessments of academic and administrative processes to identify strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement. These audits are instrumental in developing targeted action plans for enhancement.

#### 1.3.2. Development of Quality Assurance Frameworks:

Design and implement frameworks and policies that standardize quality practices across the institution. This includes setting measurable quality indicators and performance metrics.

#### 1.3.3. Training and Capacity Building:

Organizing and facilitating professional development programs for faculty and staff to enhance their understanding and application of quality management principles. Workshops, seminars, and training sessions are tailored to address specific needs and emerging trends.

#### 1.3.4. Feedback Collection and Analysis:

Deploying surveys, focus groups, and other tools to collect feedback from students, faculty, and other stakeholders. Analyzing this feedback to identify areas for improvement and inform decision-making.

### 1.3.5. Strategic Planning and Implementation:

Collaborating with institutional leadership to develop and execute strategic plans that align with the institution's goals and objectives. This includes setting long-term quality enhancement goals and monitoring progress towards achieving them.

### 1.3.6. Achievements and Impact:

Over the past year, the QEC has made significant strides in advancing quality across various domains. Notable achievements include the introduction of new quality assurance frameworks, enhanced stakeholder engagement practices, and substantial improvements in institutional processes. These accomplishments underscore our commitment to driving positive change and achieving excellence.

### 1.4. Activity Calendar for the Year 2024-25:

Months	Activities
July, 2024	➤ Arranging Evidences for the preparation of Yearly Progress Report (YPR) 2023-2024.
August 2024	➤ Preparation of YPR 2023-2024 and its Submission to QAA HEC Islamabad.
September 2024	➤ Brainstorming and preparation for working on Targets to be achieved regarding Quality Assurance during Assessment Year 2024-25
October 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Preparation of Activity Calendar for Assessment Year 2024-25 in light of the Targets communicated by QAA, getting it approved from the Vice Chancellor and submission to HEC.</li> <li>➤ Collecting of Data from Academic Department for Postgraduate Program Review by HEC.</li> <li>➤ Uploading the PGPR Data on the University website and creation of web link.</li> <li>➤ Submission of PGPR Data to QAA HEC for perusal and further necessary process.</li> </ul>
November 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ph.D. Program Review and MS/M. Phil &amp; Equivalent Program Review by HEC has communicated by QAA.</li> <li>➤ Written Correspondence with concerned Head of Academic Departments for acceleration of programs Accreditation Process.</li> <li>➤ Written Correspondence with concerned Portfolio Managers of the University to provide status of corrective actions taken so far, for Self IPE of 2023-24 and execution plan for other corrective measures.</li> <li>➤ Sensitize the Quality Enhancement Cells (QECs) in Affiliated Colleges</li> </ul>
December 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Correspondence with Heads of all academics Departments of University and Affiliated Colleges regarding preparation of Programs' Self-Assessment Report (SARs) as per SAR Target Policy for YPR 2024-25 for Main Campus and Affiliated Colleges.</li> <li>➤ Correspondence with Heads of All Academics Departments of the</li> </ul>

	<p>University and Affiliated Colleges regarding the preparation of Programs Teams.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Taking Approval of Programs Teams from the Vice Chancellor and their Notification.</li> <li>➤ Written Correspondence with Heads of All Academics Departments of the University and Affiliated Colleges to provide the status of corrective actions taken against the Assessment Teams (ATs) findings for all SARs completed till 2023-24.</li> <li>➤ Written Correspondence with Heads of All Academic Departments of the University and Affiliated Colleges to provide the status actions taken on the online feedback survey reports of 2023-24.</li> <li>➤ Conduction of Awareness Seminar/Conference/Workshop on Quality Assurance by the University for its QEC staff/students/faculty involving internal resource persons.</li> </ul>
January 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Written Correspondence with Heads of All Academic Departments of the University and Affiliated Colleges to provide the details of measures taken to enhance the response rate of all stakeholders in survey feedbacks.</li> <li>➤ Written Correspondence with Heads of All Academic Departments of the University and Affiliated Colleges to provide the Consolidated Analysis Report of the Students satisfaction survey of 2023-24 and measures taken to address the findings of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Course Evaluation by Students</li> <li>❖ Teacher's Evaluations by Students</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Written Correspondence with Heads of All Academic Departments of the University and Affiliated Colleges to provide the Consolidated Analysis Report of the Graduating and Alumni survey of 2023-24 and measures taken to address the findings of these surveys.</li> </ul>
February, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Written Correspondence with Heads of All Academic Departments of the University and Affiliated Colleges to provide the Consolidated Analysis Report of the Employer's survey of 2023-24 and measures taken to address the findings of these surveys for each program.</li> <li>➤ Written Correspondence with Heads of All Academic Departments of the University and Affiliated Colleges to provide the Consolidated Analysis Report Teacher's evaluation of the course 2023-24 and Measures taken to address the findings of these surveys.</li> <li>➤ Written Correspondence with concerned Heads of Academic Departments and Sectional Heads to provide the status of corrective measures taken against the self-review report of 2023-24.</li> </ul>
March, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Written Correspondence with Heads of All Academic Departments of the University to provide required data for conducting online surveys.</li> <li>➤ Uploading the following Proformas, having the requisite data, on the University website and creating web links for onward access to Stakeholders during surveys. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Course Evaluation by Student</li> <li>❖ Teachers' Evaluation by Student</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Graduating Student Survey</li> <li>❖ Alumni Survey</li> <li>❖ Employer Survey</li> <li>❖ Course Evaluation by Teacher</li> <li>➤ Written Correspondence with Heads of All Academic Departments of the University to conduct online surveys.</li> <li>➤ Written Correspondence with Heads of All Academic Departments of the University and Affiliated Colleges to prepare Programs' Self-Assessment Reports.</li> <li>➤ Written Correspondence with Heads of All Academic Departments of the University and Affiliated Colleges to send nomination of Assessment Teams for External Evaluation of SARS.</li> <li>➤ Conduction of Awareness Seminar/Conference/Workshop on Quality Assurance by the University for its QEC Staff/ students/faculty involving External Resource Person.</li> </ul>
April, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Taking Approval of Assessment Teams from the Vice Chancellor and their Notification.</li> <li>➤ Written Correspondence with Heads of All Academic Departments of the University to submit Programs Self-Assessment Reports to the QEC.</li> <li>➤ Written Correspondence with Heads of All Academic Departments and Sectional Heads of the University to provide the required data to conduct the piloting of the RIPE process.</li> </ul>
May, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Preparation for conducting piloting of the Self-RIPE Process.</li> <li>➤ Conduction of the Self-RIPE Process in light of the extensive training to be provided by QAA HEC.</li> <li>➤ Preparation of Self-RIPE Report.</li> <li>➤ Preparation of Self- RIPE Compliance Implementation Plan.</li> <li>➤ Taking the Vice Chancellor's Approval of the Revisit Panel of Self-RIPE Report/Compliance Plane and its Notification.</li> </ul>
June, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Revisiting the Self-RIPE Report and the Resultant Compliance Implementation Plan by a Revisit Panel.</li> <li>➤ External Evaluation of SARs by Assessment Teams.</li> <li>➤ Sharing of Assessment Teams Findings with all the Heads of Academic Departments.</li> <li>➤ Getting Compliance Implementation Plan for Heads of all Academic Departments in light of the Assessment Teams Findings.</li> <li>➤ Preparation of Executive Summary for YPR and getting it duly approved by the Vice Chancellor.</li> <li>➤ Formation of Institutional Quality Circle (IQC) and related bodies as per spirit of the PSG-2023.</li> </ul>

### 1.5. Progress on Yearly Tasks for Quality Assurance:

- 1.5.1. Review of Institutional Performance & Enhancement (RIPE): Letters sent for data collection. The QEC is waiting for receipt of accurate and complete information and documentary evidence. External reviewers have been contacted.
- 1.5.2. Graduate Program Review/PREE of MS/MPhil/PhD Programs: External review was scheduled for 18-19<sup>th</sup> June 2025, but was postponed due to security reasons.
- 1.5.3. Undergraduate Program Review for Effectiveness and Enhancement (PREE): In process
- 1.5.4. Students Feedback through online Google Forms: In process
- 1.5.5. Teachers' Feedback: In process
- 1.5.6. Employers Survey: Some feedback received.
- 1.5.7. Plagiarism check of MS/MPhil/PhD theses; 270 theses checked.
- 1.5.8. MS/MPhil/PhD Theses corrections: 270 theses checked.
- 1.5.9. Research papers verification of Staff & Students: 2034 research papers checked.
- 1.5.10. MS/MPhil/PhD Theses Defense/ Viva Voce Examination: Director QEC is member of the Panel of Examiners and monitored/observed all the Theses Defense/ Viva Voce Examination, either in person or through a nominee/representative.

Moreover, the Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC) Secretariat is actively reviewing the revamped draft QA Framework of the HEC and will take necessary actions to implement. The draft has also been shared with university stakeholders. During the transition to the PSG-2023 implementation, the QEC will participate in training sessions organized by HEC to ensure effective understanding and adoption by July 1, 2025. Additionally, a quality-related webpage <http://www.ustb.edu.pk> has been developed on the university's official website, where the PSG-2023 relevant information will be uploaded.

### iii. Faculty Development:

#### 1. Faculty Development Training

In December 2024, the University of Science and Technology Bannu successfully organized a one-month faculty development training under the National Outreach Program of the Higher Education Commission (NAHE), with a funding of 3.5 million PKR. Thirty faculty members from various departments participated in this extensive training. Renowned trainers from across Pakistan conducted sessions on modern teaching methodologies and academic excellence. The program significantly enhanced the professional capacity of our faculty. This initiative contributed greatly to strengthening higher education in the region and building academic leadership.



#### 2. 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Recent Advances in Computing, AI, and Data Science (CAIDS-2024).

The Faculty of Computer Science & Information Technology, University of Science & Technology Bannu (UST Bannu), in collaboration with the Faculty of Computing, Riphah International University Islamabad (RIU Islamabad), and Multimedia University Malaysia (MMU Malaysia), has organized the **2nd International Conference on Recent Advances in Computing, AI, and Data Science (CAIDS-2024)**.

The conference is scheduled to be held on **November 23,24 2024**, at **Riphah International University, Islamabad**. This event follows and builds upon the success of the 1st CAIDS conferences, which were successfully held in 2023, respectively.

### International Contribution and Review Outcomes of CAIDS 2024

A total of 82 submissions were received for the conference, out of which 60 were accepted, resulting in an overall acceptance rate of 73%. The review process involved 142 reviews conducted by 38 external reviewers, ensuring a thorough and diverse evaluation of the submitted papers.

Submissions	82
Accepted	60
Acceptance rate	0.73
Reviews	142
External reviewers	38
External reviews	142

Figure: CAIDS2024 General Statistics

The conference attracted a diverse range of submissions from multiple countries, with Pakistan contributing the largest number of authors (146), accounting for over 67 submissions and 48 acceptances, resulting in an acceptance rate of 72%. China and Malaysia also had notable participation, with 6 authors each; however, China had a high acceptance rate of 91%, whereas Malaysia's was significantly lower at 51%. India submitted two papers, both of which were accepted, indicating a 100% acceptance rate. Similarly, countries like Morocco, Norway, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States also reported perfect acceptance rates, although with fewer submissions. The Philippines, despite 11 authors, had no accepted papers. In terms of Program Committee (PC) representation, only Malaysia and Pakistan had members serving on the committee, each contributing one PC member. These statistics reflect a strong regional interest, particularly from South Asia, and highlight the conference's international reach and selective acceptance process.

### Statistics by Country

country	authors	submitted	accepted	acceptance rate
China	6	3.78	3.45	0.91
India	5	2.00	2.00	1.00
Malaysia	6	1.52	0.77	0.51
Morocco	3	1.00	1.00	1.00
Norway	2	1.00	1.00	1.00
Pakistan	146	67.10	48.18	0.72
Philippines	11	2.00	-	0.00
United Arab Emirates	1	0.10	0.10	1.00
United Kingdom	2	0.50	0.50	1.00
United States	4	3.00	3.00	1.00

Figure: Geographical Distribution and Acceptance Trends of Conference Submissions

## Number of Reviews Per Submission

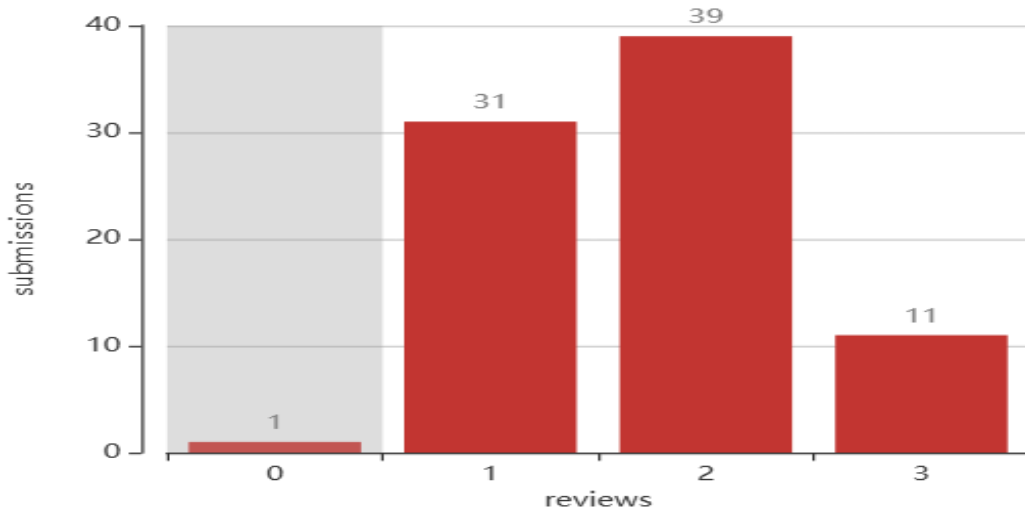


Figure: Number of Reviews Per Submission

## Number of Submissions and Acceptance Rate by Country

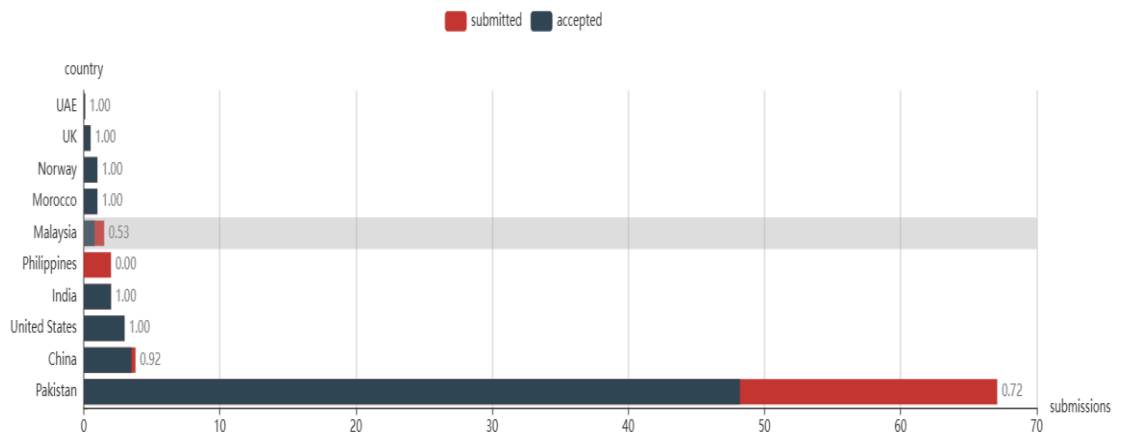


Figure: Number of Submissions and Acceptance Rate by Country

## Number of Submissions Per Author

- The **maximum** number of submissions for an author was **7**.
- The **average** number of submissions for an author was **2.38**.
- The following diagram shows, for every **n** in (1 ... 7) the number of authors having **n** submissions.

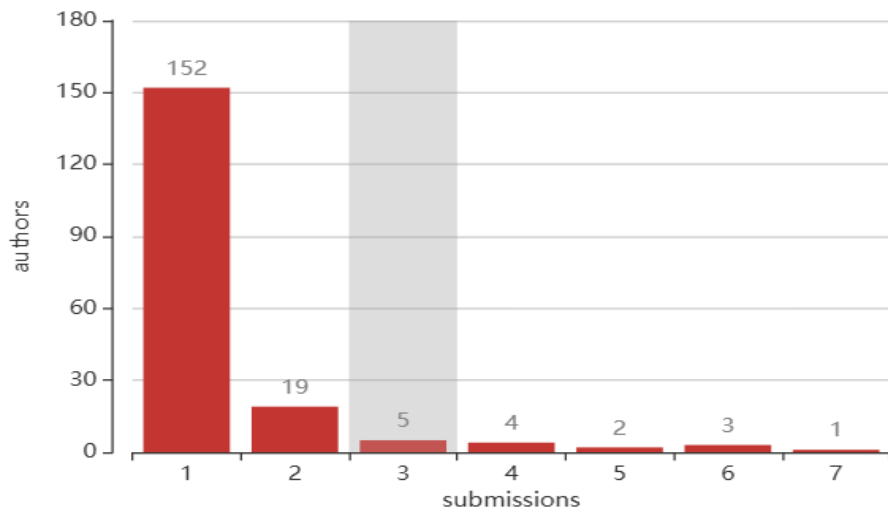
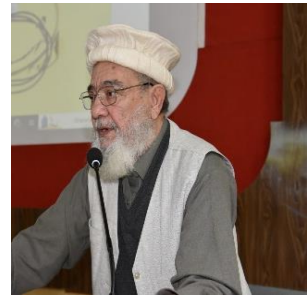


Figure: Number of Submissions Per Author

Glimpses from the CAIDS-2024:



Dr. Umar Farooq and Dr. Nasir Gul is Receiving Organizer Sheild from Chief Guest at CAIDS-2024

### Random Glimpse of Participants, Presenters and Session Chairs







## Two Days Training/Workshop at the Department of Mathematics

The two-day training workshop titled "Unlocking Research Insights with fsQCA (Software)", scheduled for February 25–26, 2025, is organized by the Department of Mathematics, UST Bannu. The primary purpose of this workshop is to equip researchers and scholars with hands-on skills in using fsQCA) software—a powerful tool for analyzing complex causal relationships in social science research. Led by **Dr. Safdar Husain Tahir**, an experienced academic from the Lyallpur Business School, GCU Faisalabad, the workshop aims to enhance participants' ability to uncover nuanced insights in their research through methodological rigor and advanced analytical techniques. It is particularly valuable for postgraduate students, early-career researchers, and faculty members engaged in qualitative or mixed-methods research.

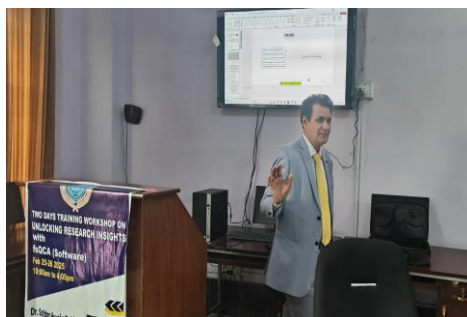
**TWO DAYS TRAINING WORKSHOP ON UNLOCKING RESEARCH INSIGHTS with fsQCA (Software)**  
Feb 25-26 2025  
10:00am to 4:00pm

**Dr. Safdar Husain Tahir**  
Postdoc UWA-Business school, Perth Australia.  
Associate Professor Lyallpur Business School, Faculty of Economics & Management Sciences GCU Faisalabad.

**REGISTRATION** >  
Registration Fee: PKR 500/-  
Registration here: Easypaisa 03325609126

**VENUE** >  
Durshal Lab, IT Campus UST Bannu.

**ORGANIZED BY:** >  
Department of Mathematics UST, Bannu



## Faculty Development Training Program at IMS

Institute of Management sciences (IMS) hosted an intensive faculty development training program under the National Outreach Program for Faculty was successfully conducted at the Youth Development Centre (YDC), Institute of Management Sciences (IMS), University of Science and Technology (UST) Bannu, from December 2 to December 26, 2024. This initiative, supported by a PKR 3.5 million grant from NAHE, Higher Education Commission (HEC), aimed to enhance the pedagogical, technological, and research capabilities of faculty members, particularly early career teachers. A total of 30 participants, including 6 female and 24 male teachers, benefited from this comprehensive training. The program covered critical modules such as Technology Integration in Classrooms, Microteaching, Educational Psychology and Teaching, Research Methodology, and Academic Planning. These modules were strategically designed to address the evolving demands of higher education and to empower educators with practical tools and contemporary methodologies. The training played a pivotal role in equipping young faculty members with the skills needed to foster student engagement, improve learning outcomes, and contribute meaningfully to institutional academic excellence.



#### iv. Students Enrollment and Degrees Awarded Annually:

##### a. Programs-wise total Enrolment in undergraduate program during 2024-25.

S.No.	Name of BS Program	2021		2022		2023		2024		Total
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
1	BS Computer Sc.	105	45	147	19	131	36	90	13	586
2	BS-English	200	51	228	40	101	33	78	32	763
3	BS MLT	0	0	96	1	40	8	93	5	243
4	BS Zoology	57	39	87	36	54	17	20	15	325
5	BBA (H)	57	4	50	5	44	1	34	3	198
6	BS Psychology (WC)	0	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	19
7	BS Data Science	44	12	56	5	44	1	47	0	209
8	BS-Mathematics	15	9	8	4	6	2	10	4	58
9	BS Sports Sc: & Physical Edu	19	8	35	8	56	9	19	6	160
10	BS Botany	27	14	11	10	20	5	11	3	101
11	BS-Physics	23	10	8	9	13	15	8	16	102
12	BS Political Science	64	17	49	4	37	4	13	4	192
13	BS-Islamiyat	8	5	14	6	8	4	6	5	56
14	BS-Biotechnology	22	7	10	8	15	1	8	10	81
15	BS Chemistry	39	21	18	7	20	13	9	9	136
16	BS Bio Chemistry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	BS Artificial Intelligence	0	0	14	1	35	1	0	0	51
18	BS Sociology (WC)	0	8	0	5	0	0	0	0	13
19	BS Microbiology	0	0	0	0	7	7	7	7	28
20	BS Statistics	0	0	0	0	5	0	10	0	15
21	BS-Economics	6	2	0	0	8	0	11	0	27
22	BS Urdu (WC)	0	32	0	18	0	0	0	0	50
23	BS Home Economics (WC)	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	27
24	B.Ed 1.5	0	0	0	0	2	8	3	9	22
25	B.Ed/BS (Edu) (H) (WC)	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
26	BS Electrical Engineering Tech	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	6
27	BSc Electrical Engineering	23	0	28	0	15	0	36	0	102
28	BSc Software Engineering	31	0	39	5	47	3	47	3	175
	<b>Total</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>3763</b>

**b. Programs-wise total Enrolment in MS/M.Phil program during 2024-25**

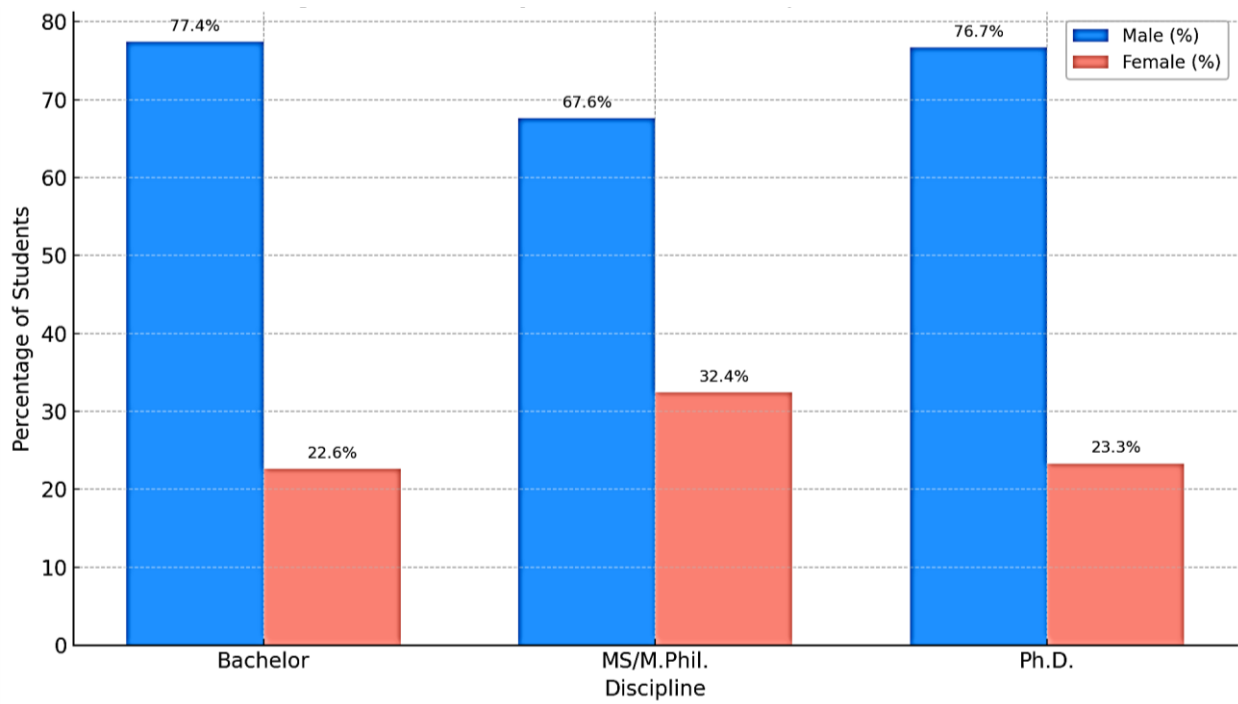
S.No.	Name of Program	2023		2024		Total
		M	F	M	F	
1	M.Phil Islamic St.	27	14	16	11	68
2	MSCS	20	10	9	3	42
3	M.Phil Physics	31	5	16	1	53
4	M.Phil Maths	17	5	13	3	38
5	M.Phil Botany	27	15	19	16	77
6	M.PhilEdu	13	8	8	6	35
7	M.Phil Chemistry	29	17	28	14	88
8	M.Phil Economics	8	5	3	3	19
9	MBA/EMBA	23	0	6	0	29
10	M.Phil Biotech	8	8	8	9	33
11	MS Electrical Engr.	11	0	11	0	22
12	MS Management Sc.	6	0	1	0	7
13	M.Phil Zoology	18	18	22	20	78
		<b>238</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>589</b>

**c. Programs-wise total Enrolment in Ph.D. program during 2024-25**

S.No.	Name of Program	2022		2023		2024		Total
		M	F	M	F	M	F	
1	Ph.D Chemistry	7	1	3	3	1	0	15
2	Ph.D Botany	4	2	3	2	2	1	14
3	Ph.D Biotech	1	2	5	0	0	0	8
4	Ph.D Computer Science	1	0	1	0	2	1	5
5	Ph.D Education	3	2	5	2	2	2	16
6	Ph.D Physics	3	0	3	0	1	0	7
7	Ph.D Islamic Studies	8	2	6	1	1	0	18
8	Ph.D Management Science	0	0	3	0	1	0	4
9	Ph.D Electrical Engineering			2	0	1	0	3
		<b>27</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>90</b>

**d. Total on Campus Discipline-wise Enrollment 2024-25**

Discipline	Male	Female	Total
<b>Bachelor</b>	2912	851	3763
<b>MS/M.Phil</b>	398	191	589
<b>Ph.D</b>	69	21	90
<b>G.Total</b>	<b>3379</b>	<b>1063</b>	<b>4442</b>

**e. Percentage Enrollment Gender Wise and Discipline wise 2024-25****f. Degree Awarded in the year 2024-25 (Annually):**

The data is based on the candidates applied for award of degree.

Discipline	Nos. of Degree Awarded
MS/Phil	186
PhD	14
BS	236
Total	436

**v. Ranking of the University:**

University of Science & Technology Bannu has a good record in the HEC university ranking. The one provided is the last University ranking by the HEC; the university got 2nd position in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and 15<sup>th</sup> position in Pakistan, in the general category of universities.

Recently HEC has collected data on the specified proformas for the Universities Ranking in the Year 2023-24.

However, the university is working to compete in the coming times Higher Education University Rankings. We also intend to compete in the QS university rankings as well.

## vi. Other Activities:

### i. Transition of Affiliated Colleges of the University of Lakki Marwat (ULM)

A meeting regarding the Status of Implementation of HEC and HED Decisions on Affiliated Colleges of the University of Lakki Marwat (ULM) was convened on the directions of the Secretary of Higher Education Department (HED), Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The objective was to resolve various issues faced by students of ULM-affiliated colleges and to discuss the transition of these colleges to the University of Science and Technology, Bannu (USTB).

The meeting was chaired by the Special Secretary of HED KP and held in the Committee Room of HED. It was attended by senior officials from HED, representatives from both Directorates of HED, officers from ULM and USTB, and the Principal of Government Postgraduate College (GPGC) Lakki Marwat, who also serves as the JMC Coordinator.

Several key issues were discussed, and all participants emphasized the need for a clear way forward to ensure the academic continuity and future of the affected students.

Following the meeting, the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Higher Education, Archives, and Libraries Department issued the official meeting minutes via letter No. SO(U-V) HE/25-2/Misc/ULM/2021-652936 dated 11-08-2023, outlining the decisions regarding the implementation status of HED and HEC directives concerning the affiliated colleges of ULM.

In response, the Examination Section of UST Bannu worked diligently day and night to facilitate the transition. Within a short and reasonable timeframe, the section successfully transferred the academic records of over **1,500 students** from **eight affiliated colleges**, covering various academic programs and semesters.

The Examination Section also made timely arrangements for conducting the examinations and ensured that result cards were issued within the stipulated time, thereby safeguarding the academic progress and future of the students.



Group Photo of senior officials from HED, representatives from both Directorates of HED, officers from ULM and USTB, and the Principal of Government Postgraduate College (GPGC) LakkiMarwat



Special Secretary of HED KP chairing the meeting held in the Committee Room of HED



Prof. S. Shafiq-ur-Rehman Advisor, Quality Assurance Program Higher Education Department Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Briefing the Special Secretary during the Meeting

## University Library:

University Library:

### Clientele/Users

1. Total number of registered members of the Central Library:
  - a. **Student: 1200**
  - b. **Staff: 280**



2. Condition of membership:

**All student and staff of the University can be a member of Library**

### Book Stock

- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 3. Total no. of Volumes at the Beginning of this year:  | <b>42500</b> |
| 4. Total no. of Volumes added During this year:         | <b>2800</b>  |
| 5. Total no. of Volumes at the close of this Year       | <b>45300</b> |
| 6. Total no. of thesis/Projects added in the Collection | <b>337</b>   |

**Note:** During the year a sum of Rs.540926/- Rupees has been utilized for the purchase of books and periodicals for central and departmental libraries. Moreover HEC and some other organization presented some donation in the form of Journals, Reports and Books

### Technical Services

7. Physical form of catalogue: **Book Form of Catalogue/Partially computerized**
8. Library has its own binding section and also provides binding facility to other departments or sections of the University. In this section binding of books, newspapers, periodical and other necessary documents are done in order to preserve them.
9. Photocopying facility is provided for the staff and research students of the university.

**Public Services:**

1. Average number of books issued and returned daily 150
2. Number of books issued and returned according to the subjects:
  - a. Engineering 80
  - b. Chemistry 35
  - c. Education: 15
  - d. English: 40
  - e. Islamic Studies: 50
  - f. Urdu fiction and non-fiction: 80
  - g. Other: 30
  - h. physics 20
  - i. botany & biotechnology 30

**Reference Service:**

1. Total no. of Reference Volumes in the Stock: 7000
2. No. of books consulted daily: 70
3. No. of enquiries received daily: 40

**Internet Service:**

1. No. of computers provided for Internet and Digital Library 13
2. No. of users/researcher accessed daily: 60
3. No. of hours daily used: 08 Hours

**Departmental Libraries**

S. No.	Name of Library
01	Library Institute of Management Science
02	Library Engineering Department
03	Library Economics Department
04	Library Computer Science Department
05	Library Department of Islamic Studies and Research
06	Library of Mathematics Department
07	Library of Institute of Education and Research
08	Library of Islamic studies and Research

## B. Co-Curricular

### i. Sports:

#### Sports Event Session 2024-2025 (Male)

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual General Body Sports Meeting for Male session 2024-25 was held at the Directorate of Sports Office at IECS Campus University of Science and Technology Bannu on 01/12/2024.

The meeting was chaired by the Registrar University of Science and Technology Bannu.

The house unanimously selected Prof. SaadUllah Jan Principal Government Post Graduate College No.1 Bannu as President of the BUSTC and Prof. ShahidUl Islam Govt Degree College MamashKhelBannu as Vice President of the BUSTC for the session 2024-2025.

#### RESULT OF INTER COLLEGES TOURNAMENTS SESSION 2024-25 IS THE FOLLOWING.

##### 1. BADMINTON:-

The Tournament was organized by Govt Degree College No.2 Bannu, the result is as under:-

WINNER.                      University of Science and Technology  
Bannu

RUNNER UP.                Govt Degree College SikanadarKhelBala  
Bannu



##### 2. TABLE TENNIS:-

The Tournament was organized by Govt Degree College No.2 Bannu the result is as under:-

WINNER.                      University of Science and Technology Bannu

RUNNER UP.                Govt Degree College No.2 Bannu

## INTER UNIVERSITY ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SESSION 2024-25

### 1. Badminton:

The HEC Inter University Badminton Zone “A” Championship was organized by the KUST University Kohat. The University of Science and Technology Bannu players won the Zonal Championship and qualify for All Pakistan Inter Universities Championship.

### 2. Volley Ball:

The HEC Inter University Volley Ball Zone “A” Championship was organized by the KUST University Kohat. The University of Science and Technology Bannu players won the Zonal Championship and qualify for All Pakistan Inter Universities Championship.

### 3. Basket Ball:

The HEC Inter University Basket Ball Zone “A” Championship was organized by the Gomal University Dera Ismail Khan. The University of Science and Technology Bannu players shown best performance and Got 2<sup>nd</sup> position in Zonal Championship.



### 4. Cricket:

The HEC Inter University Cricket Zone “A” Championship was organized by the KUST University Kohat. The University of Science and Technology Bannu players shown best performance but did not qualify for All Pakistan Inter Universities Championship.



## INTER UNIVERSITY FINAL ROUND CHAMPIONSHIP SESSION 2024-25

### 1. Badminton:

The HEC Inter University Badminton Final Round Championship was organized by the University of Engineering Taxila. The University of Science and Technology Bannu players shown best performance in this championship.

### 2. Volley Ball:

The HEC Inter University Volley Ball Final Round Championship was organized by the University of Peshawar. The University of Science and Technology Bannu players shown best performance in this championship.



### **Sports Events Session 2024-2025 (Female)**

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual General Body Sports Meeting (Female) for the session 2024-25, was held in Directorate of Sports IECS Campus University of Science and Technology Bannu, on 10/11/2024 at 10:00 am.

The meeting was chaired by Director Sports, University of Science and Technology Bannu. The house unanimously selected Prof. SaadUllah Jan Govt Post Graduate College Bannu BUSTC president and Prof. ShahidUI Islam Principal Noor, Govt Degree College, MamashKhelBannu as Vice President of the BUSTC for the session 2024-25.

### **Inter Colleges Tournaments Session 2024-25**

1. **Badminton:** The Badminton Inter Colleges tournament for Female was organized by Govt Girls Post Graduate College Bannu. The Govt Girls Degree College Mandan Bannu is the Winner and Govt Girls Post Graduate College Bannu is the Runner up.
2. **Table Tennis:** The Table Tennis event for female was organized by Govt Post Graduate College Bannu. The Govt Girls Degree College SurraniBannu is the Winner and Govt Girls Post Graduate College is the Runner up.
3. **Volley Ball:** The Volley Ball event for female was organized by Govt Girls Degree College Mandan Bannu. The Govt Girls Degree College Mandan Bannu is the Winner and Govt Girls Degree College SurraniBannu is the Runner up.



Prof. Dr. S.R. Ghazi (Acting Vice Chancellor) Inaugurates Inter Department Football Tournament 2025

## Inter-Institutional Cricket Match – UST Bannu vs. Pakistan Army

As part of its commitment to promoting physical fitness, teamwork, and institutional pride, the Director Students Affairs organized a friendly yet competitive cricket match between the cricket team of UST Bannu and a strong contingent from the Pakistan Army stationed in the Bannu region.

This sporting event provided students with a platform to showcase their talent, build confidence, and engage with national forces in a spirit of camaraderie and respect.

The Director Students Affairs, congratulated both teams with the remarks that Sports bring people together, break barriers, and teach lifelong values of teamwork, resilience, and respect. Today's match is a proud reflection of UST Bannu's growing spirit and sports potential."

The cricket match against the Pakistan Army was not just a sports event, but a celebration of discipline, unity, and mutual respect. It showcased the talent and sportsmanship of UST Bannu students and set a benchmark for future inter-institutional collaborations.



## ii. Student Societies and Activities:

- The student societies at UST Bannu play a vital role in promoting co-curricular engagement and leadership skills among students. These societies organize academic, cultural, and social events that enrich campus life. They serve as platforms for students to express creativity, build networks, and contribute to the university community as under:
  - Green Youth Movement Club
  - Blood Donor Society
  - Society for Awareness about Thalassemia
  - Environmental Club
  - Youth Empowerment Club

### A Grand Launch of the Billion Trees Plus Plantation Campaign 2025

In line with the vision of the Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the Billion Trees Plus Plantation Campaign 2025 was officially launched by Commissioner Bannu Division Muhammad Ali Shah, Commander 116 Brigade Brigadier Naveed Ahmed, and Deputy Commissioner Bannu Abdul Hameed Khan, by planting 400 fruit-bearing trees at the University of Science and Technology, Bannu.

Under the leadership of Divisional Forest Officer Bannu Shah Fahad, pomegranate, red orange, and date palm saplings were planted at the university's Islamic Studies Section and KalamBibi Branch. On this occasion, the Vice Chancellor, faculty members, and students participated enthusiastically and expressed their commitment to making the campaign a success.

The Commissioner and the Brigade Commander mingled with the students in a friendly environment, listened to their concerns, and held detailed discussions on the



importance of trees. They emphasized that trees are essential for environmental protection, eliminating pollution, and enhancing soil fertility.

The Vice Chancellor stated that organizing plantation

drives in educational institutions not only raises environmental awareness among students but also helps create a broader understanding of the importance of trees throughout society.

Students participating in the event pledged not only to take care of the planted trees but also to promote plantation in their homes, neighborhoods, and other areas to help turn the dream of a greener and prosperous Pakistan into reality.

- The **Department of Economics** focuses not only on academic excellence but also on the overall development of students. Along with regular studies, the department provides students the opportunity to **organize and participate** in various **seminars, workshops, and co-curricular activities**.
- Through student societies, many events are arranged throughout the academic year, helping students to build confidence, improve communication skills, and gain practical experience. These activities encourage teamwork and leadership among students and create a more engaging and interactive learning environment.
- The department continues to support such events to ensure students are well-prepared for both academic and professional challenges.



## Annual Cultural Festival 2025



Meena Khan Afridi (Minister Higher Education) as a Chief Guest on the day

## Students Orientation Day – November 2024

To welcome the newly admitted students of the BS English program (Fall 2024), the Department of English, USTB, organized a comprehensive **Student Orientation Day** in November, 2024. The event aimed to familiarize fresh students with the academic structure, departmental culture, faculty members, and university policies.

### Key Highlights of the Orientation Program:

- **Welcome Address:** After recitation, the program formally began with a welcome speech by the Head of Department, Mr. Aziz Ullah Khan, introducing students to the values, vision, and academic standards of the department.
- An academic briefing session was conducted by faculty members to explain the **BS English curriculum**, including core courses, elective options, credit hours, and assessment methods. The students were guided about the semester system and progression rules.
- **Rules & Regulations:** The students were informed about university rules related to attendance, examination, plagiarism, and code of conduct. The emphasis was placed on discipline and respectful academic environment.
- **Campus Tour & Facilities:** A guided tour of the university and department premises was arranged, covering the **language lab, common room, and classrooms**.
- **Entertainment & Interaction:** Light recreational and cultural activities were included to help students socialize and build rapport.
- **Q&A Session:** The orientation concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session, where senior students and faculty addressed queries of new entrants.

Indeed, this orientation program played a key role in creating a positive academic start for the new batch, fostering confidence and a sense of belonging in the university environment.

### Student Orientation Day:



## **Dosti Literature Festival – February 13, 2025**

The Department of English, University of Science and Technology Bannu, successfully hosted the **Dosti Literature Festival** on **February 13, 2025**.

The festival served as a vibrant platform to celebrate literature, foster intellectual dialogue, and promote cultural harmony among students and scholars.



**Prof. Dr. SafdarRehman Ghazi**, a renowned scholar and academician of ust, Bannu, and **Imran Shahid (RPO Police Bannu)**, delivered a keynote speche emphasizing the transformative power of literature in promoting peace, tolerance, and critical thinking in society. **Mr. Aziz Ullah Khan (HOD)** delivered a compelling talk on the evolution of literary thought and its contemporary relevance, inspiring students to engage deeply with literature and social issues.

Sessions were enriched by presentations and talks from the eminent scholars.

**Dr. Abdul Karim Khan** spoke on the importance of bridging classical and modern literary traditions while **Dr. IhsanUllah Khan** made a significant contribution with his insightful analysis of postcolonial literature and its relevance to current socio-political narratives, emphasizing literature's role in redefining identity and resistance. **Dr. Tariq Mehmood**, **Dr. YousafJazab**, and **Mr. JavedIhsas** contributed thought-provoking discussions on literary research, critical theory, and indigenous literary voices.

### **Celebration of Local Literature:**

A special segment was dedicated to **local poets**, highlighting the literary richness of the region. Their poetry resonated with themes of identity, peace, and human connection, receiving appreciation from the audience.

### **Student Engagement:**

The event provided students a rare opportunity to **interact directly with intellectuals**, ask questions, and gain exposure to real-world literary and cultural discourses. This interaction enriched their academic understanding and inspired their creative expressions.

The **Dosti Literature Festival 2025** marked a significant milestone in the department's ongoing mission to cultivate a literary culture that blends scholarship, creativity, and community engagement.

## Glimpses of Dosti Literature Festival – February 13, 2025



## NAVTTC-Sponsored Language Learning Program

In collaboration with the **National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTC), Government of Pakistan**, the Department of English, UST Bannu successfully conducted a **Three-Month Language Learning Program** aimed at enhancing students' practical language skills and career readiness.

### Program Duration: 3 months

**Focus Areas:** Spoken English, Creative Writing, Communication Skills, and IELTS Preparation

### Objectives:

- To improve learners' fluency and confidence in spoken English
- To develop effective writing and communication skills
- To prepare students for international English proficiency tests such as IELTS
- To foster creative and critical expression through writing workshops

### Tutors:

- **Mr. Aziz Ullah Khan** (Head of Department) led the program with a focus on creative writing, presentation skills, and applied grammar.
- **Mr. Osama Hameed** contributed significantly to IELTS techniques, listening/speaking drills, and structured communication modules.

### Program Highlights:

- **Interactive sessions**, group discussions, and mock interviews were part of daily activities.
- Regular **writing exercises**, vocabulary building, and pronunciation drills were integrated.
- Special **IELTS simulation tests** helped participants become familiar with test patterns.

### Student Impact:

Participants reported **significant improvement in fluency, confidence, and writing competence**. Many expressed readiness to pursue higher education and international opportunities thanks to the program's focused training. The course also helped participants prepare for **professional interviews and public speaking events**.

This NAVTTC-sponsored initiative not only enriched students' linguistic abilities but also aligned with national goals of youth skill development and employability.



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## Green Initiative – Plantation Drive by Student Welfare Society

As part of its annual progress and commitment towards environmental sustainability, the Welfare Society of the University organized a Tree Plantation Activity under the auspices of Mr. Aziz Ullah Khan, the Director Students' Affairs, UST, Bannu. This initiative aimed to instill environmental responsibility, promote greenery on campus, and actively engage students in social welfare projects.

### Objectives:

- To involve students in ecological preservation activities
- To promote a clean and green campus environment
- To foster a sense of responsibility, teamwork, and community service among students

### Impact and Outcome:

- Over **250 new plants** added to the campus environment
- Increased student awareness and enthusiasm towards environmental causes
- Strengthened the role of student societies in social service initiatives
- Created a cleaner and more vibrant university landscape



## Kashmir Solidarity Day-Expression of National Unity and Support

On the occasion of Kashmir Solidarity Day, the Directorate of Students Affairs, UST Bannu, under the able leadership of Mr. Aziz Ullah Khan, organized a comprehensive program to reaffirm solidarity with the oppressed people of Indian-occupied Jammu & Kashmir. The event featured patriotic expressions, student-led activities, and institutional commitment to the cause of Kashmir.

The event commenced with a flag hoisting ceremony. The national flag of Pakistan and the flag of Azad Jammu & Kashmir were jointly raised by the Director Students Affairs, faculty representatives, and student leaders.



A peaceful campus-wide walk was held immediately after the flag hoisting. Students and staff carried banners, placards, and Kashmiri flags, chanting slogans in support of the Kashmiri freedom movement.

Students passionately delivered speeches on the historical background, current situation, and human rights violations in occupied Kashmir. Their words reflected deep awareness and emotional connection with the Kashmiri struggle.

The auditorium echoed with soul-stirring patriotic songs performed by university students. These songs reinforced themes of unity, sacrifice, and resistance against injustice. Mr. Aziz Ullah Khan (Director Students Affairs), emphasized the responsibility of academia in advocating for oppressed communities and promoting peace with justice.

He stated: “Kashmir is not forgotten, nor is it far. It lives in our hearts, our conscience, and our prayers. Today’s youth must be the voice of the voiceless.”

## Drug Abuse Awareness Day

The Director Students Affairs, University of Science and Technology, Bannu, organized a highly informative and interactive seminar on Drug Abuse Awareness to educate students on the growing menace of drug addiction, its consequences, and preventive strategies. The event was part of the university's ongoing commitment to student welfare and holistic development. The keynote speaker for the session was Mr. Imran Shahid, Regional Police Officer (RPO), Bannu, who addressed the alarming rise in drug abuse among youth and emphasized the importance of law enforcement, family support, and personal discipline in curbing the threat. His insightful address focusing on:

- The psychological, physical, and social impact of drugs
- Law enforcement efforts and community cooperation
- The role of students as ambassadors of a drug-free society



Mr. Aziz Ullah Khan, the Director Students ' Affairs, highlighted the **significance of the day** and its relevance for students, encouraging them to take responsibility for their lives and peers. He spoke on the moral, educational, and societal damage caused by drugs and urged students to adopt a lifestyle of awareness, productivity, and purpose.

A vibrant Question & Answer session followed the keynote speech, where students actively participated, posed relevant and bold questions, and received honest, practical answers from the

speaker. Informational pamphlets and awareness material were distributed among students. The session concluded with a vote of thanks by the Director Students Affairs.

### Student Response & Impact:

- The Multipurpose Hall of the university was packed with students from across departments, showing keen interest in the topic.
- Many students expressed that the session changed their perspective on casual substance use and peer pressure.
- The open discussion environment allowed for the free exchange of concerns and experiences.

The Drug Abuse Awareness Seminar proved to be a day full of learning, reflection, and meaningful interaction. It not only informed students but also inspired them to become advocates for a drug-free environment both on and off campus.



## Participation in Pakistan Debating Championship-Bilingual

As part of its co-curricular development vision, the Directorate of Students Affairs, UST Bannu, facilitated and sponsored a talented group of students to represent the university in the Pakistan Debating Championship 2025, held in Peshawar. The event featured competitive bilingual debates in Urdu and English, attracting top institutions from



across the country. The UST Bannu team competed in both preliminary and advanced rounds with strong arguments and impactful delivery. Mr. Asad Khan and Mr. ShahidUllah Khan were particularly applauded for their rebuttal strength and clarity of thought.

“Debating is no doubt the art of reasoning, expression, and leadership. Our students not only represented UST Bannu, but also upheld the values of respectful dialogue and intellectual engagement on national platforms.”



## Celebration of Youm-e-Tashakur – A Day of Gratitude and National Unity

In continuation of the university's tradition of fostering national values and spiritual well-being among students, the Director Students' Affairs organized **Youm-e-Tashakur (Day of Gratitude)** with great zeal and solemnity. The event was marked by a series of reflective and motivational activities aimed at promoting thankfulness, unity, and moral consciousness among students and faculty.



### Objectives:

- To promote national cohesion, religious spirit, and personal reflection
- To involve students in meaningful and value-based co-curricular activities

### Walk:

A peaceful walk was held across the campus, led by faculty members and student volunteers, symbolizing collective thankfulness for peace, progress, and educational opportunities. Placards bearing messages of unity, resilience, and hope were displayed.



**Speeches:**

Selected students from various departments delivered heartfelt speeches on the importance of gratitude in personal and national life.

Keynote Address by Director Students Affairs – Mr. Aziz Ullah Khan:

The highlight of the event was a compelling and soul-stirring keynote speech by Mr. Aziz Ullah Khan, Director Students Affairs.

**Sports Society Gathering – Prelude to Sports Gala 2025**

To revive and promote a culture of physical well-being, teamwork, and healthy recreation, the Directorate of Students Affairs in collaboration with the Department of Sports organized a Sports Society Gathering. The session was aimed at preparing for the upcoming UST Bannu Sports Gala 2025 and inter-departmental sports competitions.

The gathering brought together student representatives, faculty coordinators, and members of the Sports Society for an interactive and motivational session.



Mr. Aziz Ullah Khan, the Director Students' Affairs emphasized the importance of co-curricular balance in university life. He added that,

“Sports are not just games; they are the foundation of character, endurance, and leadership. Our youth must excel in the classroom and on the field alike.”

The Sports Society Gathering no doubt served as a vital kickoff for the Sports Gala season at UST Bannu. It created momentum, enthusiasm, and a spirit of unity among departments, setting the tone for successful and inclusive sports competitions across campus.

### **Social Commitment in Action – Annual Activities of the Blood Society**

Operating under the Directorship of Students Affairs (DSA), the Blood Society of UST Bannu remained one of the most vibrant and socially impactful student organizations during the academic year 2024–2025. With a mission to promote voluntary blood donation and awareness of blood-related disorders, the society organized multiple successful initiatives, directly engaging the student community and building strategic health partnerships. Events were organized like Blood Group Checking Day, Voluntary Blood Donation Drives, Thalassemia Day Commemoration in order to promote a culture of voluntary blood donation across the university, developing a centralized Campus-wise Donor registr under DSA, to create lasting partnerships with public health institutions and to spread awareness about blood health and genetic disorders among students.

“The Directorate of Students Affairs is proud to support life-saving student initiatives. Through the Blood Society, our youth are showing that service, compassion, and responsibility define a true student leader.”

All activities carried out by the Blood Society during the year were planned and executed under the patronage of the Directorate of Students Affairs (DSA). The society's growth and outreach reflect the DSA's commitment to nurturing civic engagement, health awareness, and humanitarian responsibility within the university community.



## Grand Gathering of Student Societies

To mark the beginning of the new year with a spirit of community, positivity, and commitment, a Grand Gathering of Student Societies was held at UST Bannu. The event was generously sponsored by the Students Welfare Society and brought together members of literary, sports, debating, environmental, cultural, and social welfare societies under one roof.

The event served as a vibrant platform for recreation, entertainment, thoughtful reflection, and vision setting for the year ahead.

A reflective session was held where students from different societies came forward and shared personal and society-level resolutions for the new year—ranging from organizing more meaningful events to supporting students' mental health and academic performance. In a thoughtful and inspiring address, Mr. Aziz Ullah Khan appreciated the sponsorship by the Students Welfare Society and highlighted the pivotal role of student-led initiatives in creating an inclusive and progressive campus environment.

The Director of Students' Affairs emphasized that "Societies are the heartbeat of student life. They represent creativity, responsibility, and leadership. Let this new year be a journey of greater purpose,

The Grand Gathering of Student Societies, sponsored by the Students Welfare Society, was a meaningful blend of fun, purpose, and vision. It rejuvenated



the campus spirit and set the stage for a productive and socially active academic year. The Directorate of Students Affairs remains committed to empowering student voices and supporting creative, recreational, and welfare-focused student initiatives.

### iii. Community Building and Awareness:

#### National Vocational and Technical Training Commission Courses:

The Department of Computer Science, under the focal personship of Prof. Dr. Khairullah Khan, successfully conducted two cohorts of skill-based training programs in collaboration with the National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTTC). NAVTTTC is a key government organization dedicated to enhancing the employability of individuals by offering technical and vocational training opportunities that contribute to national workforce development and economic growth.

The training programs focused on equipping participants with practical, industry-relevant skills in high-demand areas. The main courses offered included *Advanced Python Programming and Applications*, *Web Programming*, and *Artificial Intelligence*. These courses not only provided participants with hands-on experience but also opened pathways to better job prospects in the rapidly evolving tech sector. The initiative reflects the department's commitment to promoting technical education and supporting national efforts in skill development.

The courses offered included

1. Advanced Python Programming and applications
2. Web Programming
3. Artificial Intelligence



A view of the NAVTTTC classrooms

#### iv. Leadership Building and Awareness:

##### 1. Awareness session on the Financial Literacy Program:

An awareness session on the Financial Literacy Program was successfully held on May 6, 2025, at the Institute of Management Sciences, University of Science & Technology (UST) Bannu. Organized by Bank Islami in accordance with the State Bank of Pakistan's initiative to enhance financial awareness across the country, the session aimed to equip participants with essential knowledge of financial systems, banking practices, and responsible money management. Mr. Adnan Faraz Khattak, Zonal Manager at Bank Islami, served as the keynote speaker, sharing valuable insights into Islamic banking and financial planning. He was accompanied by Mr. Ijaz Khan, Branch Manager, along with other senior officers of the bank. The event, facilitated by Dr. Ikram Ullah Khan, drew enthusiastic participation from a large number of students and faculty members, fostering greater understanding of financial concepts and promoting financial inclusion in the region.





## 2. National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTTC)

The Institute of Management Sciences (IMS), University of Science and Technology (UST) Bannu, in collaboration with the National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTTC), successfully organized a four-month intensive training program on *Introduction to Financial Markets* from March 10 to July 10, 2025. This fully funded training, conducted under the Prime Minister Youth Development Program, provided twenty students equally comprising 10 male and 10 female participants with practical insights into the structure and functioning of financial markets. Designed to complement their academic coursework in business studies, the program offered students valuable exposure to industry-relevant knowledge and tools that are essential for careers in banking, investment, and financial services. By bridging the gap between theoretical learning and real-world applications, this initiative significantly enhanced students' professional competencies and employability, equipping them to excel in competitive financial sectors and contribute effectively to the national economy.

On May 6, 2025, IMS hosted another special session of the NAVTTTC course "Fundamentals of Financial Markets" facilitated by trading expert Mr. Numan Qureshi, who served as a resource person alongside Dr. Ikram Ullah. Mr. Qureshi delivered an insightful lecture on Forex trading and Meta-Trader 5. The session was attended by NAVTTTC trainees as well as several other interested students at IMS.



### 3. IMS Collaboration with State Bank of Pakistan

The Institute of Management Sciences (IMS), UST Bannu, is proud to announce its collaboration with the State Bank of Pakistan in the Training on Fundamentals of Islamic Banking and Finance (TFIBF). IMS had the honour of nominating 10 talented students for this prestigious training program.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the selected students who successfully completed the training and received their certificates. Your achievement is a testament to your hard work and dedication. We wish you the very best in your future endeavours and hope this milestone serves as a strong foundation for your careers in Islamic banking and finance.

