



# MNFSR Newsletter

**Striving to Make Pakistan a Regional Agriculture Powerhouse**



## Content Sequence

**Cotton Revival Initiative: Landmark Bilateral Agreement Signed in Islamabad**

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**Rana Tanveer Hussain**

Federal Minister for National Food Security & Research

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**Amir Mohyuddin**

Acting Secretary National Food Security & Research



## TOP NEWS

### Achievements of MNFSR

- 🌱 Crackdown on Sugar hoarding
- 🌱 Crackdown on unlicensed-seed companies
- 🌱 NAFSA enforces consolidated regulatory oversight
- 🌱 Pakistani Olives won international acclaim in New York



## PM's Vision is to Make Pakistan a Regional Agri Powerhouse

### Technology is a Key to Improve Agri-Yield

- ✦ It is the vision of Pakistan's Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif to incorporate AI-powered tools.
- ✦ These include satellite imaging, predictive analytics, and precision irrigation systems along with international expertise to revamp Pakistan's struggling agriculture sector.
- ✦ To make Pakistan a global agri-powerhouse, MNFSR's is making strides to ensure materialization of this dream.
- ✦ The capacity building of 1000 agri-graduates in China is a first step towards this.

### 100 Agriculture graduates departed for six-month training

- ✦ This training is a flagship initiative launched by the PM for revolutionizing Pakistan's agri sector.
- ✦ This involves capacity building of 1000 agricultural graduates at various Chinese institutions.
- ✦ For six month training, a group of 100 young agri-graduates have departed for China on 20<sup>th</sup> July.

### RECENT UPDATES

#### Revival of Cotton Crop

PCCC, APTMA and MNFSR signed a historic agreement to revive cotton sector

#### Launch of NAFSA

NAFSA was formally established in 2025 to unify quarantine, food safety, and agri-trade regulation

#### Pesticide Testing Lab

With MNFSR's financial support HEJ Lab ICCBS Karachi is establishing Pakistan's first EU-accredited food safety certification lab for exports facilitation competitiveness





## Federal Secretary's Message



- At MNFSR, we are driving transformative reforms in seed regulation, digital agriculture, and international collaboration.
- With renewed focus on innovation, sustainability, and farmer empowerment, we aim to build a resilient agri-food system.
- I thank our partners and stakeholders for their support as we work together to ensure food security and economic growth for Pakistan.

## Rana Tanveer Hussain Leads Historic Agreement to Revive Pakistan Cotton Sector

- Rana Tanveer Hussain, signed a landmark agreement between the All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA), the Pakistan Central Cotton Committee (PCCC) and MNFSR.
- It is signed to resolve the long-standing cotton cess issue and sets a clear direction for the revival of Pakistan's cotton economy.
- This marks a pivotal step in the efforts to restore cotton's main role in national textile value chain.
- This agreement is a demonstration of the MNFSR's commitment to institutional reform, public-private collaboration, and long-term agricultural sustainability.

### The resolution of the cotton cess issue is a historic breakthrough

- Cotton remains the backbone of Pakistan's textile exports and rural livelihood. It's strategic revival of demands research, seed reforms, improved inputs, and strong regulatory institutions.
- The revival of our cotton sector has become an economic imperative.



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# National Agri-Trade and Food Safety Authority Approved

- The Ministry of National Food Security and Research has merged two key departments – the Department of Plant Protection (DPP) and the Animal Quarantine Department (AQD) – to form the National Agri-Trade and Food Safety Authority (NAFSA).
- It is aimed at modernizing Pakistan's agricultural trade infrastructure in line with global phytosanitary and food safety standards.

## The Animal Quarantine Department (AQD) and the Department of Plant Protection (DPP) merged into NAFSA

- The DPP was originally established under the International Plant Protection Convention.
- While AQD was tasked with preventing the entry of foreign animal diseases.
- Their integration into NAFSA is intended to create a modern, scientific, and data-driven body capable of ensuring compliance with Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) requirements.
- It will also facilitate access to quality agricultural inputs to promote surplus production and national food security.



## MNFSR is making an impact:

- **Unjustified methyl bromide imports banned**
- The government has uncovered a methyl bromide scandal within the Department of Plant Protection (DPP) and suspended a suspicious company's license, while halting shipments worth \$1 million.
- Amid a major crackdown on the DPP, the government has reviewed the policy for methyl bromide imports and imposed a ban on the unjustified import of the product.
- Under the leadership of Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research Rana Tanveer Hussain, the DPP has undertaken a series of transformative, corrective and disciplinary measures over the past six months to overhaul its operations, systems and regulatory mechanisms.



# Empowering Pakistan's Next-Generation Agriculture Professionals

The short-term training program is a significant collaborative effort between Pakistan and China designed to enhance the skills and expertise of Pakistan's agriculture professionals.

This initiative will provide them exposure to advanced agricultural technologies and modern farming practices from leading Chinese institutes.

**1000 Agriculture graduates will get 3-6 month training in China. First batch of 292 graduates already returned after completion of same on 20 July, 2025. Second batch of 100 graduates departed while 600 will depart later**



- ◆ The program targets vital areas such as:
  - Seed processing and development
  - Livestock breeding and genomics
  - Efficient irrigation systems
  - Farm mechanization
  - Aquaculture
  - Disease surveillance
- ◆ The integration of cutting-edge technologies like drones, AI and robotics for smart farming may contribute to crop disease control.



- ◆ The initiative aims to equip Pakistani professionals with practical knowledge to replace outdated agricultural methods.
  - ◆ And to address low productivity and food security challenges.
- It complements governmental efforts, including the Green Pakistan Initiative, solar-powered irrigation projects, and a comprehensive roadmap under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).
- ◆ This may lead to agricultural modernization and growth in exports.



- ◆ This training is part of a long-term vision to:
  - Sustainable agricultural development
  - Improve product quality
  - Increase exportable surplus
  - Create employment in rural areas
  - Promote climate-resilient crops
  - Agro-based cottage industries
- ◆ The initiative reflects a deepening of Pak-China cooperation and strengthening of a shared commitment to transforming Pakistan's agriculture sector.

# The 4th International Conference on Olive Value Chain in Pakistan

The 4th International Conference on Olive Value Chain in Pakistan concluded on 17-18 June 2025 at National Agriculture Research Centre (NARC). International researchers including Dr. Cinzea, Dr. Marco, Dr. Parma, Dr. Biago, Dr. Kostas, Dr. Philipos and Dr. Maria shared research knowledge on:

- 🌿 Olive oil quality
- 🌿 Tech innovations (AI, carbon credits)
- 🌿 Value chain sustainability



**MNFSR is making an impact:**

**Loralai Olives won Silver Award at New York in May 2025 and achieved global acclaim**



Scientists from various institutions in Pakistan also shared their research at the conference. The highlights are appended below:

- Pakistan's olive value chain can be globally competitive
- A holistic stakeholder approach is key to sector growth
- Artificial Intelligence can boost olive oil quality & traceability
- Olive groves offer carbon credit potential



- ✦ Pakistan currently imports over Rs. 2 billion worth of olive oil annually.
- ✦ The cultivation of olive in Pakistan is a flagship program of Ministry of National Food Security and Research initiated back in 2014.
- ✦ With the rising local production and global recognition of LO-Loralai Olives, that have recently won a Silver award at New York in 2025, Pakistan is on track to become olive oil self-sufficient and an exporter within 5-7 years.



# Minister Rana Tanveer Present Best employee awards

- Rana Tanveer Hussain, Federal Minister for MNFSR, addressed the employee award ceremony at the NARC.
- He emphasized the importance of recognizing and rewarding exemplary performance within the ministry.
- As the chief guest, the minister lauded the efforts of the ministry's employees, marking the occasion as a milestone in fostering a culture of excellence.

## Fostering a culture of excellence: Federal Minister acknowledges outstanding employee's contributions

- This ceremony, the first of its kind in the ministry's history, celebrated the dedication and high performance of employees.
  - In his address, the minister stated that rewarding performance acknowledges individual achievements and also encourages a spirit of healthy competition and motivation among all employees.
  - He reiterated the ministry's resolve to maintain a merit-based work environment where professionalism and dedication are given due recognition.
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- Rana Tanveer Hussain stressed that innovation, research, and public-private partnerships are essential for sustainable agricultural development.
  - He acknowledged the role of the dedicated employees whose efforts have significantly contributed to the ministry's accomplishments.
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The minister extended his heartfelt congratulations to the employees. He encouraged all ministry staff to continue working with the same zeal and dedication. He also expressed hope that the recognition of these outstanding performers would set a positive precedent and motivate others to follow suit.



## SNAPSHOT OF THE BEST EMPLOYEE AWARDS



# MINISTER RANA TANVEER PRESENT BEST EMPLOYEE AWARDS



## SNAPSHOT OF THE BEST EMPLOYEE AWARDS



Eco-Friendly AI Innovations



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