

## DECEMBER 24; KOTLI: PRESIDENT MASOOD URGES TEACHERS, STUDENTS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES

Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) President, Sardar Masood Khan has urged the teachers and students to catch up with the pace of change and take advantage of the technologies to make



teaching and learning process easier and faster.

“Our educational establishments need to refocus on their program of studies and find out whether programs are adequately preparing the students for present and future needs or not,” President Khan said while addressing a ceremony after inaugurating newly constructed girls hostel of the University of Kotli on Monday.

The ceremony was also addressed by Vice Chancellor of the University, Professor Dr. Syed Dilnawaz Ahmed Gardazi and attended by Deans of the university, Principal Officers, Directors heads of the departments, faculty members, administrative staff and a large number of students.

Earlier the president and other guests observed the exhibition of drone developed by a student of IT Department of the university and distributed 35 laptops among the students of the university who

performed well in various disciplines.

Referring to the exhibition of drone developed by the research students of the university, the President said he was excited to witness the practical approach of the faculty and the students for the conversion of knowledge into practice by the Department of IT.

“I am sure this is not the only effort of one department but all departments are performing in the same way. I would like to see at least five patents and Industrial products of the University of Kotli in the next couple of years,” AJK President said.

He said that teachings programs at the university are all emerging technological fields ranging from Biotechnology to nanotechnology, Artificial Intelligence to Robotics besides the well-established fields of Business Administration and Social Sciences related to human development.

He praised the Higher Education Commission (HEC) for providing generous financial support to the University of Kotli to develop its basic infrastructure and improve the learning environment.

“Approval of a mega project worth Rs. 1.38 billion by HEC for developing a basic infrastructure of the university will reshape this institution with state of the art facilities for teaching and learning as well as research and creation of knowledge,”

The President said that the girls hostel constructed with the cost 132 million under HEC umbrella project will provide safe and secure environment for the female students of the university, adding that progress of the University of Kotli in short span of time, since its inception is praiseworthy.

“The collective wisdom, efforts, and dedication of administration, faculty and students of the university will soon bring this institution as

the most prestigious seat of learning within the country and at international level, Sardar Masood Khan said.

AJK president, who is also chancellor of the university, said that another facility provided by HEC through the Pakistan Education Research Network (PERN) and Smart University projects has facilitated the faculty and the students with high speed internet 24 hours for accessing the free online resources to learn.

It has also provided the opportunities for Computer Science and Information Technology students for online certification and surfing the market for earning good amount of money while sitting at home, he maintained.

The Smart University project, the president went on to say, also help the administration and academics to monitor the classroom teaching, laboratory activities and outdoor involvement of the students within the campus besides surveillance of the security of the campus.

While appreciating the efforts of the project planning and implementation office of the University for efficiently managing the resources, President Khan said he was told that there were 13 projects of similar nature funded by HEC to different universities of remote regions and the UoK was the first one to complete this project.

“Let me congratulate the team of the University of Kotli for this great achievement. I hope the female students will be provided with the best services and most conducive environment for studies and character building while staying at this hostel,” Sardar Masood Khan said.

He also appreciated the University for organizing many important events including International Science Conference, CPEC seminar, Job Fair, series of motivational walks, sports events and social activities

within and outside the campus.