

August 21, 2020

Subject: Promoting Industry and University Linkages

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Engineering Development Board (EDB) is techno-economic arm of Ministry of Industries and Production, mandated to strengthen engineering sector of Pakistan and to integrate local engineering industry with global supply chain. EDB is dealing with issues related to the development, efficiency improvement, policy formulation and export enhancement of engineering goods manufacturing industry and promotion of engineering services to create import substitution and export competition.

We understand that for sustainable industrial growth of any economy, role of academia is of utmost importance as the universities, besides imparting education also possesses expertise, skill, services and facilities for research & development, testing, etc. which are also equally useful for the development and growth of Industrial sector. EDB, in this context, has been working on the principle of academic linkages of universities with industries for benefiting the industrial sector to utilize these expertise, skill, services and facilities available with universities. EDB, also launched a comprehensive Industrial Research Program (IRP) with the collaboration of Academia to promote R&D activities in the industry by engaging R&D potential existing with the local universities. The Program supported to address Industry's technical issues pertaining to product research & design/ development, production processes and to foster much-needed innovation in the industry to enhance competitiveness of the industrial sector.

Under IRP, Industry entrepreneurs, across the country, on individual or collective basis indicate their technical problems/areas where research is required. Subsequently, the problems are shared with researchers/scholars of various universities for designing /developing indigenous solution. In this regard, Professors, Scientists, Technologists, Researchers (Ph.D and M. Phil) from several engineering universities in various fields are taken on board to address product and production problems.

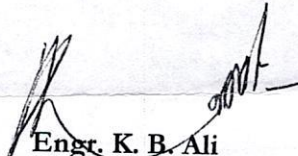
Realizing the fact that Pakistan's engineering sector has a potential to grow and contribute towards GDP and exports, support from academia can further helps in improving productivity and growth by minimizing the problems in production and product through effective collaboration between Industry and University linkages. This would enable the path for technological transformation among universities and industries, productivity improvement and job opportunities for fresh graduates. Moreover, it will attract international organizations to fund and arrange industry oriented training programs.

In view of above the universities are **requested** to:

- i) Identify and provide the list of testing, certification and inspection facilities available in university helping out the manufacturing of engineering goods.
- ii) Enlist the services to be provided to industry.
- iii) Identify and provide the details of technologies / sectors for which the universities possess expertise. This would enable to match the university with the requirement of relevant industry.
- iv) Mention the activities, scheme, R&D programs or projects related to industries.
- v) Any other suggestion/ proposals which strengthens the Industry- University linkages.

The above information please may be provided on priority basis.

Warm Regards,


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