

HIGHLIGHTS

March 2010

A Monthly Newsletter for projects of Habib University Foundation

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and iLEAD Partner Colleges



INSPYRE and iLEAD are public-private partnership projects of the Youth Affairs Department, Government of Sindh and Habib University Foundation (H.U.F.) with technical support being provided by the British Council.



Inspiring Leadership, Empowerment and Development in Youth

- iLEAD focuses on promoting a healthy life style, leadership & personal development in youth through sports education and community service
- iLEAD will build partnerships with 5 colleges and 25 schools in Karachi and Hyderabad
- iLEAD aims to develop a sports education curriculum, organize sports weeks, summer camps, sports festivals, coaching camps etc. for youth



Inspiring Pakistani Youth to Reach Excellence

- INSPYRE aims at providing youth with a platform for their personal growth, career enhancement and social development
- INSPYRE provides free of cost career education to youth for their career building in Information Technology, Retail Management, Digital Media, Call Center Industry, Fashion and Textile Designing
- Internships are an essential component of the INSPYRE learning experience



Youth Affairs Department
Government of Sindh



Habib University Foundation

Technical Partner



Foreword

The first quarter of 2010 is about to come to an end. The initial two months of the year were an important period in the lives of iLEAD and INSPYRE, and proved to be very exciting, energetic and replete with activities. Apart from the initiation and implementation of several new activities, both projects were comfortably able to reach the benchmarks that had been set for them vis-à-vis planned activities. The most exciting part of this period was welcoming new INSPYRE students to iACT, signing a formal agreement with iLEAD partner colleges and formalizing relationships with iLEAD partner schools. The INSPYRE and iLEAD families are growing day by day, enhancing

each project's diversity and adding more excitement to them. We are sure that these learning partnerships will bring a positive change in the lives of youth.

We open-heartedly welcome your opinions and suggestions vis-à-vis both projects. Please share all of your thoughts at yasmeenbano@huf.org.pk

Hope you will enjoy reading this bimonthly issue of 'HIGHLIGHTS'!

Yasmeen Bano

Head Research and Projects

Facts and Figures

INSPYRE

- Graduation Ceremony held for 63 INSPYRE Cohort I students
- Personal and Career Development Module launched for INSPYRE Cohort II
- Sports program initiated at iACT under the banner of iLEAD
- Active Citizens Program launched at iACT, which is being implemented by British Council Pakistan

iLEAD

- Agreement signed by Habib University Foundation and iLEAD partner colleges
- First iLEAD Volleyball Tournament held at iACT in which 8 institutes and 96 athletes participated
- First iLEAD Table Tennis Tournament held at Government Degree Girls College, Green Belt in which 5 institutes and 25 athletes participated
- iLEAD website launched

INSPYRE Highlights

Minister Social Welfare Department Visits iACT

Ms. Nargis D. Khan and Mr. Shahid Gulzar Shaikh (Minister and Secretary Social Welfare Department, Government of Sindh) visited iACT by surprise in January. The guests were briefed about iACT and the programs implemented there including INSPYRE, iLEAD and Active Citizens Program. The team toured the Institute and also interacted with iACT students.

They commended the efforts of iACT and H.U.F. for promoting youth development, and appreciated iACT's learning facilities and its plans for future expansion.

"I am pleased to see such a great facility and I will come back soon."
Ms. Nargis D. Khan



Ms. Nargis D. Khan, Minister Social Welfare Department toured the premises of iACT

INSPYRE Highlights

Graduation Ceremony of INSPYRE Cohort I

INSPYRE Cohort I students enrolled in August 2009, and completed their courses in November 2009. In this regard, a Graduation Ceremony was held where graduates were awarded with their certificates.

63 Students of INSPYRE Cohort I successfully completed their courses and were awarded with certificates

Mr. Syed Faisal Ali Subzwari, Minister for Youth Affairs Government of Sindh, was the chief guest of the ceremony, and he acknowledged Habib University Foundation's significant contribution in the field of youth development. He appreciated the quality of the INSPYRE program and congratulated the graduating students.

"We could not have taken such a step without the help of Wasif Rizvi and his team. I thank the H.U.F. team for its efforts."
Mr. Faisal Subzwari

Mr. Khurshid Ali Sheikh and Mr. Ali Nawaz Talpur, (Director and Consultant Youth Affairs Department) were also present at the ceremony. The ceremony was also attended by key members of the House of Habib and its companies.

انسپائرمنٹری آف یوتھ فیڈرک ایک انقلابی قدم ہے، ہم سب امید کرتے ہیں کہ وہ اپنے اس مشن کو اسی جوش اور ولولے کے ساتھ جاری رکھیں گے۔
شمشاد علی۔ انسپائر کوہورٹ I۔

Mr. Sohaib Ahmed Siddiqui and Ms. Ambreen Tabassum were masters of the ceremony. Ms. Zahina and Mr. Shamshad Ali presented valedictorian speeches on behalf of INSPYRE Cohort I. Both graduates praised the INSPYRE learning experience, citing the Personal and Career Development components as key learning areas of the program.

"A key feature of the INSPYRE program was its diversity: students belonging to different cultures interacted with one another and learned about each other's customs."
Zahina – INSPYRE Alum

iACT properly acknowledged the contribution that several organizations extended to the students by presenting a token of appreciation to them. These partners helped iACT in organizing various seminars and arranging internships and jobs for the students.

INSPYRE Learning and Teaching

With a new cohort enrolled at iACT, INSPYRE learning and teaching activities are currently at a peak. The following activities have taken place since the enrolment of INSPYRE Cohort II:

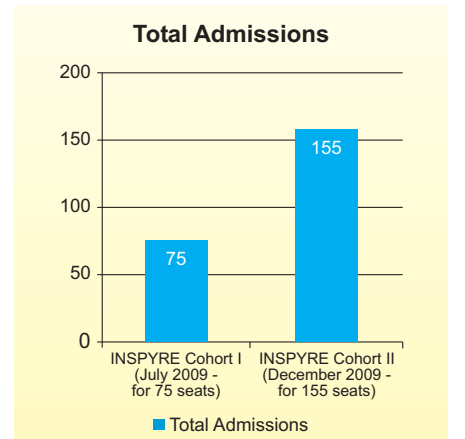
Welcoming INSPYRE Cohort II Students

The orientation session for INSPYRE Cohort II students was held on 4 January 2010. The session was initiated by Mr. Naveed Khan, Center Head iACT. During the session, students were given a detailed overview of INSPYRE and its courses by the iACT faculty. Students introduced themselves and mingled with one another. They were urged to be prepared for self learning, teamwork, making presentations and participating in classroom debates.

Commencement of Regular Classes for INSPYRE Cohort II

Following the orientation session, regular INSPYRE classes started. Six different courses are being offered to the students, which include Graphic Designing, Web Designing, Call Center Agent Training, Textile Designing, Basic Fashion Designing and Retail Management.

As compared to INSPYRE Cohort I, Cohort II has expanded considerably in every aspect. For Cohort I, less than 500 students applied for two courses, in which 75 students were enrolled. In contrast, nearly 2000 students applied for six courses for Cohort II, with 155 students receiving admission. This is indicative of the popularity such training has amongst youth, and it also highlights the sustained need for such courses.



INSPYRE Highlights

iACT Faculty Take a Lead Role in the Personal and Career Development Module

The Personal and Career Development Module is an important component of the INSPYRE program. It facilitates students in becoming self aware and proactive individuals whilst instilling in them a deep sense of care for society.

"As a facilitator of this module, leading these sessions has been an exciting experience. It is heart-warming to see that our trainings have positively affected our students."

Faheem Bukhari, iACT Faculty Member

Trained by the School of Leadership (SoL) last fall, the iACT faculty has taken a lead role in implementing the program. Seven sessions have been conducted so far. The module allows students to go beyond routine class subjects and are provided with a platform to discuss issues like self and society.



INSPYRE students, Waqas and Haider, brainstorm during a session on Personal and Career Development

Sports Program Initiated at iACT



An iACT student practices table tennis

iACT aims to provide a holistic learning experience to its students. Therefore, a sports program has been introduced to iACT under the umbrella of iLEAD. This sports program will enrich students' lives, helping them to acquire a healthy lifestyle.

Sports equipment for several games has been provided to the Institute for students, who are being encouraged to spend a few hours per week on such activities. The overall student response has been positive, but some are finding it hard to give extra time to sports due to educational and career activities. Also, some female students are reluctant to participate.

Youth Development Activities

Engaging iACT Alumni



Mr. Naveed Khan, Center Head iACT leading the career session

In January, a special session was organized for those alumni who need extra support in finding good jobs. During the session, alumni shared their resumes and covering letters written by them with iACT faculty. The latter provided several tips for improving their work. Alumni were also taught how to search for jobs online, and mock interviews were also conducted during the session.

Immediately after the session, the alumni were sent to the IT Lab, where they practiced how to search for jobs on the internet. Alumni were encouraged to apply to maximum jobs to secure employment.

Launch of Active Citizens Program



An Active Citizens Program training session underway at iACT

Active Citizens Program (ACP) aims at promoting a sense of responsibility among youth towards their society, which is in harmony with iACT's philosophy. The program helps youth understand the concept of 'active citizenship'. ACP is being implemented across Pakistan by British Council Pakistan. iACT is one of its collaborative partners, and trainings are being held at the premises.

To date, five trainings have been held, in which iACT's current students and its alumni have participated. iACT will form a group of facilitators that will work with the program's alumni, and will also help students plan and execute community development projects.

iLEAD Highlights

iLEAD Activities

In order to launch iLEAD activities at their institutes, partner colleges have been engaged in the following sports-related activities:

Establishing Partnerships with Schools



Students from an iACT partner school are engaged in physical exercises and game skills

All iLEAD partner institutes are actively pursuing partnerships with schools in their vicinity in order to provide guidance vis-à-vis sports activities. Two partner institutes, iACT and Government Degree Girls College Green Belt (GDGC), have already finalized their partner schools.

iACT's partner schools are Oxford English Public School, Crescent Public School, Government Boys Lower Secondary School, Government Girls Secondary, School Number 1 and Government Secondary School Saudabad Number 3.

GDGC's partner schools are Noor-ul-Islam Government Secondary School, Noor-ul-Islam Government Higher Secondary School, New Generations School, Paragon Girls School and Defense Foundation School.

Empowering Youth: Formation of Sports Youth Councils (SYCs)

Appointment of Sports Faculty at Partner Institutes

iLEAD Tournaments



Government Degree Girls College, Green Belt Sports Youth Council



iLEAD Sports Coach, Habib Haider Ali, advising iACT Volleyball team



Mr. Shoaib Siddiqui addresses the Opening Ceremony of iLEAD Volleyball Tournament

An important component of iLEAD is to engage youth in leadership activities, in order to boost their confidence and develop their skills in teamwork, problem solving and community service. In this regard, each partner college has formed a Sports Youth Council (SYC) comprising of ten students. These Councils will play a key role in organizing iLEAD activities and in mentoring school students.

All partner institutes have completed the process of appointing iLEAD sports faculty, who have already begun working on iLEAD deliverables. These newly appointed sports faculty will work closely with existing faculty in order to organize iLEAD activities.

iLEAD partner colleges have begun organizing tournaments to engage youth in healthy competitions, and the first iLEAD tournament series is currently underway at partner institutes. No entry fee is being charged so that equal opportunities may be afforded to all institutes irrespective of their financial status.

February was marked by two exciting tournaments organized by iACT and Government Degree Girls College, Green Belt Karachi.

iLEAD Highlights

iLEAD Volleyball Tournament for Boys

iACT organized an exciting volleyball tournament in February 2010. The tournament was league based wherein eight teams participated. Each team played three matches before the semifinals. A total of 96 energetic athletes participated.

Mr. Shoaib Ahmed Siddiqui, Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Department Government of Sindh, inaugurated the volleyball tournament. He led the oath-taking for the players, and kicked off the tournament. He addressed the youth and emphasized their active participation in sports activities.

"I am sure that this tournament will provide great opportunity to students to open up their vista, develop their minds and their role will not end in volleyball court. They have to realize that they must take the message around. Those who are sitting here have to become the messengers and agents of change. You have to influence idle youth to bring them to sports courts and fields."

Mr. Shoaib Ahmed Siddiqui



Mr. Gulfaraz Ahmed Khan, President Sindh Hockey Association presents the trophy to the winning captain

Also present at the occasion was Mr. Mashhood Rizvi, Provincial Director Sindh and Baluchistan British Council. Mr. Gulfaraz Ahmed Khan, President Sindh Hockey Association and Chairman Colony Sports Welfare Association consented to be the chief guest at the closing ceremony.

For most iACT students, participating in the volleyball tournament was a novel and enriching experience. The tournament enhanced their decision-making skills while teaching them emotional control. They also realized the importance of coordination and communication for building an effective team.

کھیلا اور خوب کھیلا مگر صرف جیتنے کے لیے نہیں بلکہ اپنی شخصیت کی تعمیر اور اپنی صلاحیتوں کو بہتر بنانے کے لیے۔
کپتان - آئی ایکٹ والی بال ٹیم

Winners:

Government College for Physical Education, Karachi

Runners Up:

Hamdard Science and Commerce College, Karachi

iLEAD Table Tennis Tournament for Girls

Government Degree Girls College, Green Belt (GDGC) participated in its first ever sports activity under the banner of iLEAD by hosting an iLEAD Girls Table Tennis Tournament in February 2010. Prior to its partnership with iLEAD, the college had no experience in sports. However, iLEAD has provided the support necessary for the college to fulfill its dreams of sports education.

Ms. Nazia Shakoor, Former Table Tennis champion inaugurated the event. Mr. S. M. Sibtain, Advisor to the President Pakistan Table Tennis Federation was the chief guest at the closing ceremony. Also present was Mr. Riaz, a representative of Pakistan Netball Federation, who presented netball equipment to the college for further promotion of sports activities among girls.

Participating in this event was exhilarating, and enabled the host college to form its first sports team. The college is now aspiring to participate in competitions organized by the Board of Education and other universities.



Ms. Nazia Shakoor, former National Table Tennis Champion poses with iACT team

Winners:

Government Degree Girls College, Green Belt

Runners Up:

KMA Degree Girls College, Kharadar

ہم نے ٹورنامنٹ میں حصہ لے کر مل جل کر کھیلا سیکھا۔ اس ٹورنامنٹ نے ہمیں یہ بھی سکھایا کہ دباؤ کو کیسے برداشت کرنا ہے۔
گورنٹ ڈگری گرلز کالج گرین بیلٹ۔
کپتان - ٹیبل ٹینس ٹیم

iLEAD Highlights

Agreement Signed by Habib University Foundation and iLEAD Partner Colleges

The iLEAD team began identifying and interacting with potential partner colleges from Karachi and Hyderabad in August 2009. After a thorough assessment, four colleges were singled out in October 2009. To formalize these partnerships, the team embarked upon a lengthy process of negotiating and obtaining approvals from colleges and various stakeholders in the Education Department, after which a formal agreement was signed in January 2010.

Upon signing the agreement, colleges have begun working for various iLEAD deliverables including partnering with schools, organizing sports weeks, and improving the sports infrastructure at the colleges.



Agreement signing with Government Degree Girls College, Green Belt and Government City College, Karachi



Agreement signing with Government College, Hyderabad and Government Shah Latif Girls College, Latifabad

Networking and Partnerships

Developing partnerships is a crucial component of iLEAD. The following meetings were held during this period:

Second Meeting of iLEAD Resource Persons Group

A second meeting of ILEAD Resource Persons Group was held in January 2010 to update the Group on recent activities. The iLEAD team made a presentation on the sports education curriculum framework. The Group made the following observations:

- Mr. Rehmani acknowledged that the development of mental skills and emotional management play a key role in the performance of an athlete.
- Mr. Bakht demonstrated through relevant examples that emotional and social issues can have a negative impact on a player's performance.
- Certain standards should be proposed to create a non-threatening and supportive environment which is conducive to sports education.

Meeting with the Team of Kids Athletics Karachi

Kids Athletics is a part of International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF). The "IAAF Kids Athletics" Program aims to introduce children to Athletics at a basic level. The significant part of the program is its reliance on low cost resources whilst utilizing minimal space for organizing activities.

The iLEAD team met with Ms. Amna Mukhtar, who is an IAAF qualified level I coach in Pakistan. Ms Amna made a detailed presentation to the team about the program. Several possibilities of working in collaboration Kids International were explored, including the following:

- The possibility of engaging iLEAD partner schools with the organization
- Training opportunities for sports faculty of iLEAD partner institutes

iLEAD Highlights

Launch of iLEAD Website

A dynamic and multi-purpose iLEAD website was launched in January. The objectives of the website are as follows:

- To help iLEAD in disseminating information vis-à-vis the project to a wider audience
- To establish sustainable partnerships with relevant stakeholders (e.g. youth, coaches and sports organizations) by capturing their interest

Visit <http://cerp.edu.pk/ilead/> to learn more about iLEAD and its activities

iLEAD
Empowering Youth

Inspiring Leadership, Empowerment and Development in Youth

- ABOUT ILEAD
- ILEAD ACTIVITIES
- SPORTS CURRICULUM
- PARTNER COLLEGES
- YOUTH CORNER
- SUPPORT ILEAD
- IMPACT
- NEWS & EVENTS

iLEAD Girls Table Tennis Tournament
Government Degree Girls College, Green Belt (GDGC) Karachi, a partner institute of iLEAD hosted a Table Tennis Tournament in which 5 colleges participated. The tournament was inaugurated by Ms. Nazli Shakoor who has the honor of being the National Table Tennis Champion of Pakistan several times. 25 talented athletes from 5 institutes participated in the event enthusiastically.

RESOURCE PERSONS GROUP
iLEAD's Resource Persons Group is now on board, and will be providing valuable input in designing a national sports curriculum.

iLEAD SPORTS CURRICULUM
iLEAD is developing a national sports curriculum.

PARTNER COLLEGES
iLEAD has identified 5 partner institutes across Karachi and Hyderabad. The partnerships will be formalized once the MOU is signed in December 2009.

UPCOMING EVENTS
A series of exciting sports tournaments have been scheduled at iLEAD's partner institutes throughout March 2010.

SPORTS VIDEO
Watch an inspiring video about sports.

GET INVOLVED
Are you interested in volunteering for iLEAD?

Home | Careers | Site Map | Contact Us

iLEAD is a public-private partnership project between the Youth Affairs Department, Government of Sindh and Habib University Foundation with technical support provided by the British Council

Exciting features of the website include:

- Details on the program philosophy and those who visualized the program
- Details regarding the sports curriculum that is currently being drafted
- Updates on sports activities and ongoing tournaments
- Photo galleries of previous tournaments
- Information on how to support or become a part of iLEAD
- Details regarding iLEAD's current partners

Upcoming Events & Activities

- Training for Active Citizens Program for youth at iACT
- Internship and job placements for INSPYRE Cohort II
- Completion of four courses of INSPYRE Cohort II
- iLEAD Cricket, Badminton and Table Tennis Tournament for Boys to be held at Government College Hyderabad
- iLEAD Netball Tournament for Girls to be held at Government Shah Latif Girls College Latifabad
- Meeting with Mr. Haroon Rashid, Head of Pakistan Cricket Academy

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