



Press Release

## **7<sup>th</sup> e-Rozgaar Center at GCWU Sialkot to Open New Economic Horizons by Empowering the Youth**

Sialkot, August 22, 2017

The 7<sup>th</sup> CM e-Rozgaar Center opened at Government College Women University (GCWU) Sialkot today will open new economic horizons by empowering the educated youth to monetize their technological technical, non-technical and creative skills. The Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) and Youth Affairs, Sports, Archeology & Tourism (YASAT)'s joint project, "Chief Minister's e-Rozgaar Program" will provide free training to the selected candidates in the 36 districts of the Punjab Province by establishing 40 CM e-Rozgaar Centers at an estimated cost of Rs. 547 million in eleven universities of the province among these five Centers are exclusively dedicated for women.

On behalf of Dr. Umar Saif Advisor to the CM, Chairman PITB and founding Vice Chancellor of Information Technology University (ITU), the Director General e-Governance PITB Sajid Latif inaugurated the Center, which will train 344 candidates from Sialkot and the adjoining areas." Pakistani youth have immense potential, however, there is a need to polish their talent and to give them adequate training for freelancing, enabling them to generate jobs for themselves", said Sajid Latif.

He added that among the established Centers, the trainees at Faisalabad Center at Government College Women University were performing the best as they have also started earning. These Centers would be run by PITB for a period of three years, which would be made regular part of the curriculum, he stated.

Sajid further stated that this project would channelize the freelancing sector to contribute to the national exchequer and would prove to be a major source for additional foreign exchange. The trained persons would not only generate jobs for their livelihood but they would also be able to become job providers, he said.

60 % of Pakistan's population is below 35 years of age, there aren't enough jobs to engage them in the market. 250,000 graduates pass out every year while only 50,000 job opportunities are created in both public and private sectors. In the present world almost all tasks are being out-sourced and our youth can monetize their education on internet by working for various websites around the globe, which is now a trillion dollar economy.

Under CM e-Rozgaar Program, centers at University of Gujrat, Government College Women University Faisalabad, UET, Taxila, COMSATS, Sahiwal and University of the Punjab, Jhelum Campus, UET, Lahore have been successfully launched by PITB. These centers are active and operative.

Dr. Umar Saif who couldn't attend the event due to some important meeting, while motivating the youth said in his message 'There is nothing our youth can't do that the world can, these centers will amplify their skills further and bring them on the global freelancing radar'.

Earlier, MoU was also signed by Professor Dr. Farhat Saleemi, Vice Chancellor Government College for Women University, Sialkot Campus and on behalf of Dr. Umar Saif, VC ITU, Chairman PITB by DG e-Governance PITB.

PITB registered 33105 applications from the young graduates and on the basis of merit, selected candidates will get three months training in three phases for freelance self-employment by high profile trainers. In the first phase 10,000 candidates have been selected on merit through a transparent process.

Since the concept and awareness of earning through the internet and taking freelancing as a serious profession is very new in the smaller cities of Punjab, the Program has taken upon itself to guide and groom graduates from a variety of backgrounds. The training will enable the youth to generate income approximately from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 80,000 per month while working from home.