



NATIONAL CATHOLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION

NEWSLETTER

CHARIMAN: HIS GRACE ARCHBISHOP BENNY MARIO TRAVAS

FROM THE DESK OF CEO

Dear Readers,

As we have entered the peaceful season of summer, I want to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude for the dedication, faith, and partnership that have shaped another blessed year across our Catholic schools in Pakistan.

This school year has been filled with meaningful learning, spiritual growth, and countless moments that reflect the light of Christ in our students and staff. From academic achievements to acts of kindness and service, our schools continue to be a testament to the power of faith-based education.

Summer is a time of renewal, a gift from God to rest, reflect, and rejoice in the beauty of His creation. I encourage our students and families to take this time to reconnect with loved ones, nourish your spirits through prayer, and find joy in both stillness and adventure. May you find God's presence not only in churches and classrooms, but also in nature, in service to others, and in quiet moments of grace.

As we look ahead to the new academic year, please know that our school staff and teams of NCEC and CBEs/DBE are working diligently to prepare our schools to welcome students back with open arms and open hearts. We remain committed to our mission of forming compassionate, thoughtful, and faith-filled learners who will make a difference in the world.

On behalf of our entire NCEC and CBEs/DBE teams, thank you for being part of this vibrant and faithful community. May your summer be filled with God's peace, protection, and abundant blessings.

Asher Javaid

Celebrating NCEC's 9th Anniversary with Gratitude and Faith

On 1st June 2025 NCEC Team joyfully celebrated a significant milestone of its 9th Anniversary in Lahore. It was a time to look back with gratitude, reflect on our journey, and give thanks for the blessings God has poured out over the years.

To mark this special occasion, His Grace Archbishop Benny Mario Travas celebrated Thanksgiving Mass held on 2nd June 2025

As we celebrate 9 years of faith, learning, and community, we also honor all those who have been part of our story, whose contributions have shaped our mission and values.

We look forward with hope and purpose to the years ahead, continuing to grow in wisdom, faith, and service.



FROM THE ACADEMIC DESK

NCEC Academic Visit to Catholic Board of Education – Quetta



From April 7th & 8th, 2025, an academic visit was conducted to the Catholic Board of Education, Quetta by Mr. Saimon Robin, Education Officer, NCEC. On April 7, a series of school visits were carried out, beginning with St. Francis Grammar School and continuing through six more institutions including St. Francis Grammar Nursery, St. Gabriel Primary School, St. Joseph Convent Nursery, St. Joseph Convent Girls High school and College, and Sacred Heart Girls High School. Each visit included classroom observations, student-teacher interactions, and meetings with school leadership. Discussions covered academic progress, key challenges, and localized solutions.

The schools demonstrated dedicated efforts toward holistic education. Later that day, the In-Service Office CBE-Q was visited, the executive secretary Mrs, Noami Willson, teacher educators Mrs. Tina Imran, Mrs Sunaina Nayab, updated about the Phase VIII activities, strategic plan and their implementation. Further more they informed about the NCEC's standardized procedures, highlighting initiatives taken by CBE-Q and identified gaps and strategic plan to improve the schools.



Scottish Scholarship at CBE-Quetta

On April 8, the Education Officer attended the Scottish Scholarship Distribution Ceremony 2025, organized by the CBE-Q In-Service Department and hosted at Sacred Heart Girls High School. The event was chaired by His Excellency, Bishop. Khalid Rehmat OFM Cap.



FROM THE ACADEMIC DESK



A capacity-building workshop entitled “Designing Paper-Pencil Test” was conducted by Mr. Saimon Robin at St. Joseph Convent Girls School. The session was attended by Spark Teachers, school heads, and principals, aimed at strengthening assessment literacy across the region, encouraging data-driven practices in student evaluation and test design. Participants' engagement and feedback reflected a strong willingness to refine assessment tools for better student outcomes.

In the later part of the day, the Education Officer visited two Non-Formal Education (NFE) Centers established under Caritas Quetta’s initiative, namely the Basti Punchayat NFE Center (with 12 students) and the newly launched Jaffarabad NFE Center (with 25 students). These Church-based, multi-grade centers are focused on promoting literacy, especially among girls in underserved areas, and providing pathways to formal education. The visit was accompanied by Executive Secretary Mrs. Noami Wilson and Teacher Educator Mrs. Sunaina Naz. The centers were commended for their grassroots efforts in bridging educational gaps. Constructive observations and suggestions were shared with Program Manager Fr. Khuran Shahzad and NFE Coordinator Rev. Fr. Samson Shakir, with emphasis on structured teaching approaches, learner tracking, and community engagement.



The NCEC Academic Desk highly appreciated the commitment of the CBE-Quetta team and Caritas to uplift marginalized communities through education. A key recommendation was to initiate collaboration with JICA, which has developed a condensed, integrated curriculum tailored to the Quetta Textbook Board for multi-grade teaching. Such collaboration could significantly enhance the academic effectiveness and outreach of the NFE Centers. Overall, the visit reaffirmed the steady progress and promising practices underway in Quetta. The dedication of school leaders, educators, and stakeholders is a testament to the mission-driven spirit of Catholic education in the region.

FROM THE ACADEMIC DESK**NCEC Academic Visits to Hyderabad – April 2025**

During the three-day academic visit, Mr. Saimon Robin, Education Officer, National Catholic Education Commission, paid a visit to the Catholic Board of Education in Hyderabad.

On 10th April 2025, he visited two schools: St. John's Elementary School, Kalimorie, and St. Bonaventure's High School, Essa Nagri - Hyderabad. The purpose was to assess academic practices, planning, and implementation of procedures, infrastructure, classroom learning environment, professional development efforts, student enrolment, and academic results. Suggestions and recommendations were shared with the respective school principals in the presence of the Teacher Educators.



In the afternoon, an evaluative visit was conducted at the Catholic Board of Education (CBE) Hyderabad Office from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Teacher Educators Mrs. Teresa Canice and Mr. Sheraz Mark presented updates related to CBE-H's academic, strategic goals, and ongoing plans. The session included a review of institutional documentation, analysis of academic progress, and a discussion of the implementation of NCEC-aligned practices across CBE-Hyderabad schools.

On 11th April 2025, the Education Officer visited Fr. Cyprian High School, Khipro, along with its nearest branch, Mother Teresa Primary School, Kolkata – Khipro. The visit, conducted from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., included a JICA-supported training workshop focusing on strategies for multi-grade teaching under the Accelerated Learning Course. A productive session was also held with Spark Teachers to discuss implementation challenges, placement test evaluations, and result compilation.



FROM THE ACADEMIC DESK

Footprints of Faith and Service Tribute to Mr. William Patras

On behalf of the NCEC, Mr. Saimon Robin presented a Letter of Appreciation to the daughter of Mr. William Patras (late), in recognition of his over 30 years of dedicated service as an accountant. His long-standing commitment and integrity were acknowledged and deeply valued by the organization. During the evaluation visit by Misereor, his work was notably recognized and highly praised by Mr. Wim Piels (Consultant of Misereor), further affirming his professional excellence and contribution to the mission of the Catholic Board of Education.



Scottish Scholarship Ceremony at Catholic Board of Education Hyderabad

On 12th April 2025, the Scottish Scholarship Distribution Ceremony 2025 was held with great reverence and formality. The event took place in the esteemed presence of His Excellency, Rev. Samson Shukardin, Diocesan Vicar General Fr. James, the Executive Secretary, Teacher Educators, and several school principals.



The ceremony was presided over by Mr. Canice D'Souza, who welcomed the guests and facilitated the proceedings. Scholarship cheques were distributed to school principals by His Excellency Rev. Samson Shukardin, who, in his address, commended the British Council for their generous support in providing these scholarships and acknowledged the National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) for its key role as a facilitator to CBE-Hyderabad.

His Excellency further recommended that future scholarship programs also include provisions for boys, ensuring equitable support for all deserving students across the diocese.

FROM THE ACADEMIC DESK

Core Committee and Leaders Assembly

The National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) successfully convened its Core Committee and Leaders Assembly on May 10, 2025, in Lahore. Chaired by CEO Mr. Asher Javaid, the assembly focused on crucial strategic discussions aimed at strengthening leadership programs and enhancing teacher professional development for the upcoming year.

Key initiatives include establishing clear standards and benchmarks for leadership programs, in alignment with the National Professional Standards for Teachers in Pakistan (NPSTP). Furthermore, a comprehensive framework for Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for educators is being developed.



An action plan for the 2025-26 leadership programs was unanimously approved, setting a clear path forward. Our collective commitment is vital to empowering educators and elevating educational standards across our institutions. A follow-up online meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2025, to discuss further structural changes.

STEM EDUCATION – Phase II Science Tamasha Trainings

Science Fuse partnered with NCEC for "Science Tamasha Trainings," a teacher capacity-building program held from April to July 2025. This initiative aimed to make quality science education accessible, empower teachers, and spark curiosity in children across Pakistan.

The program kicked off in mid-April with an orientation and pre-assessment. On April 25, 14 Master Trainers from CBEs/DBE attended in-person training in Karachi and Lahore, where they observed a live "Science Tamasha" performance and received a comprehensive toolkit. A follow-up on April 29 addressed implementation plans.

Master Trainers submitted their first homework by May 7, received feedback by May 15, and participated in an online training on May 9. They also submitted reflections on equity and inclusion by May 10. From April 26 to May 30, Master Trainers trained 5-10 teachers each, who then replicated the sessions with their students in CBE and diocesan schools. Master Trainers documented this in Portfolio Section 1 by May 31st. Science Fuse provided ongoing mentorship throughout.



FROM THE FINANCE DESK

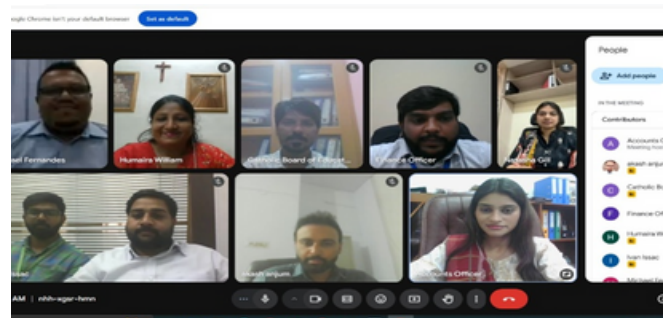
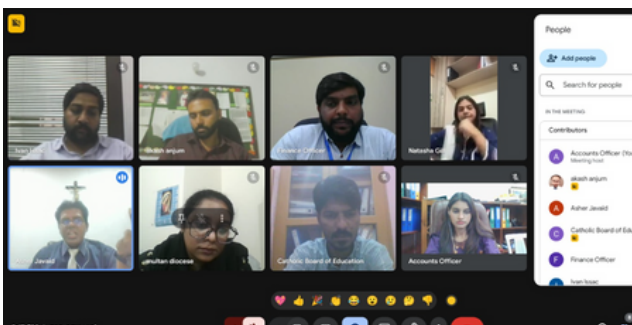
Key Updates and Strategic Initiatives

The finance department recently conducted two significant online meetings, addressing crucial aspects of audit preparation and professional development.

On April 15, CEO Mr. Asher Javaid presided over a meeting primarily focused on the upcoming audit and the mandatory recording of gross salaries, effective April 2025.

Subsequently, on May 7, the NCEC Finance Desk convened an online meeting with CBE/DBE accountants. During this session, Ms. Romeen Aneel announced the "Accounting Insight: Refresh, Revise, and Recharge" workshop, a professional development series scheduled to take place in Lahore from June 16th to 21st, 2025. All participants confirmed their commitment to attend.

These meetings underscore the finance department's dedication to ensuring compliance, fostering continuous improvement, and recognizing professional growth within its teams.



One-day Workshop for CBE Lahore Accountants "Brush up on the Basics & Beyond"

On June 4th, 2025, a one-day workshop titled "Brush up on the Basics & Beyond" was held for CBE Lahore Accountants. The event took place at 73- FCC, Canal Bank Road, Gulberg IV, Lahore, from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The workshop was organized by the National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) Pakistan.

The session aimed to reinforce foundational accounting principles while also addressing advanced topics relevant to school-based financial management. Renowned facilitators, including Mr. Rizwan, Ms. Romeen, Mr. Ivan, and Mr. Nabeel, led the sessions. Each facilitator provided clear and practical guidance, ensuring that participants gained valuable insights into core accounting functions.



FROM THE FINANCE DESK

Key topics covered included:

Fundamentals of Accounting: A comprehensive refresher on the essential principles.

Budget Management: A detailed discussion on budget preparation and analysis.

Inventory Management: Techniques and strategies for effective inventory tracking and control.

Participants appreciated the interactive format and practical relevance of the sessions. The workshop provided an excellent platform for peer learning, clarification of accounting challenges, and collaborative dialogue among CBE accountants.

The NCEC extends its gratitude to all facilitators and participants for contributing to the success of the workshop. Events like these reaffirm the NCEC's commitment to strengthening financial practices across Catholic educational institutions.



"The joy of learning is that it never ends; it evolves with us throughout our lives." -Anonymous

