

Thank you for your thoughtful input and for elaborating on some of the points I hinted at in my previous post in which I also extended my heartfelt congratulations to the research team.

We are all very proud of and happy for Haseena and Zeba and they they fully deserve all the praise and accolades. But at the end of this we need to reflect on how this wonderful opportunity can be best utilised for developing advanced biosciences research capacity.

This particular case was an extraordinary one with the fortunate advent of Maqsd and the courageous intervention of a visionary Minister. Academics and researchers in our country need such an enabling atmosphere at all times so we need to build permanent institutions (expertise and facilities) that are immune to regime change. The road map for biosciences research capacity development is explicitly detailed in the Position Paper and the set of recommendations that were prepared in response to the government's National Biotechnology Policy and had the support of the entire biotechnology community. These documents were officially submitted to the government in April 2007.

Inspite of continous setbacks and indifference some of us have persisted in persuing our common aspirations and I gratefully acknowledge the support of some colleagues including Zeba, Haseena and yourself. However, we need a greater and continuing unity to be successful. I hope all biochemists and bioscientists will join with us in pressuring the government during this opportune time to act on our recommendations and desist from reinventing the wheel.

Kind regards  
Ahmed Azad