

May, 2022



STEM OLYMPIAD 2022

Last month we hosted over 800 students from 29 Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) schools at the Jinnah Convention Center in Islamabad for the STEM Olympiad 2022. Teach For Pakistan organized the STEM Olympiad in partnership with the U.S. Department of State's Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund to promote interest in STEM subjects among children, especially young girls.



The Olympiad was a Fellow-led initiative and preparations began months before the event. The winning spirit of the students from the participating FDE schools had us all excited.



Participating students' winning spirit in action before the Olympiad!



"The math problems these kids were solving in fractions of seconds, I would be hard-pressed to figure out even without a time limit."

Khadija Bakhtiar, CEO of Teach For Pakistan.

Teach For Pakistan is a nonprofit organization working to reduce educational inequity by developing leadership skills among young people. We hire young professionals and recent graduates from top universities; train them in pedagogy, and coach them in terms of communication, leadership and community outreach before placing them in public schools where they teach and work for two years as Fellows. The Fellows then become Alumni and continue with their mission of eliminating educational inequity in Pakistan. By August this year, 150 Fellows will be teaching over 11,000 students, helping them participate in an education that enables them to become loving, thinking, and engaged citizens.



Students cheering the Olympiad participants



Yumna Majeed sharing her 'space' journey with future scientists and astronauts at the Olympiad.

The STEM Olympiad wore a festive look as students, siblings, peers, parents, teachers, development partners, senior officials, and members of the civil society applauded students tackling the STEM concepts and competing with each other.

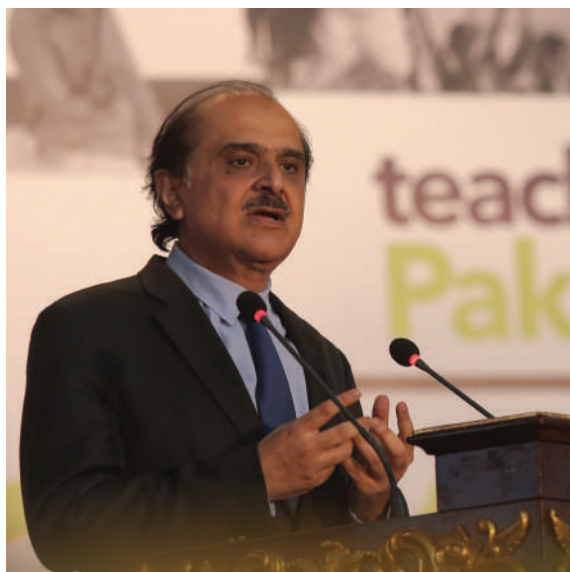


After a full day of intense competition, grade 4 to 5 students from IMCG Margalla won the title of Junior STEM Olympians, and grade 6 to 7 students from IMCG Tarnol claimed the Senior title.

In the runup to the STEM Olympiad, Teach For Pakistan also equipped students with learning resources such as dictionaries, geometry boxes, and science kits. About 4,000 such kits are now in the hands of students of partner schools in the underserved areas of Tarnol, Sihala, Bhara Kahu, and Nilore around Islamabad.

Among the 150 contestants of the STEM Olympiad, 115 were girls.

Events like these help boost the confidence of girls and allow them to break gender stereotypes attached to STEM competence and enable them to envision an alternate future for themselves.



*“Students need to use STEM as a tool of critical thinking to move Pakistan forward”, said **Mohyuddin Wani**, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training in his concluding remarks at the Olympiad.*

Mr. Wani reiterated the government’s commitment to expanding STEM programs and acknowledged the importance of encouraging young women in both curricular and extracurricular activities.

Teach For Pakistan's team of Fellows and staff worked tirelessly for months to make the STEM Olympiad happen and make it a memorable experience for our participating students.



Organizing Team for the STEM Olympiad 2022!

We hope to continue initiatives like these for our students and look forward to sharing our milestones with you.

Warmly,

Team Teach For Pakistan