

PROGRESS

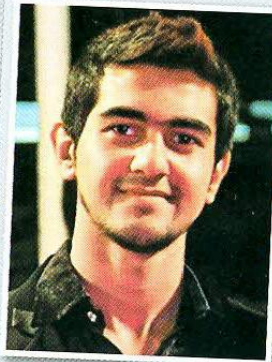


59th year of publication

Reaching for the stars

Awais Gul, a Pakistan Petroleum Limited's (PPL) scholar of the National Talent Hunt Programme (NTHP) 2012 and completing his Bachelors from the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Karachi has qualified for the Global Undergraduate Exchange Programme, Pakistan (Global UGRAD-Pakistan) launched by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the United States Department of State.

Gul will join a university in the US in the spring session of 2016. The Global UGRAD-Pakistan programme offers cultural/ academic exchange through a non-degree programme for a semester at a university in the US. Around 8000 candidates applied for the Global UGRAD-



Pakistan, with only 200 selected. For Gul, aged 23, hailing from Khyber Pukhtunkhwa, studying at the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Karachi was a dream come true. The son of Mubarak Gul, a businessman, Gul excelled in his school and college and scored top grades. However, financial constraint forced him to discontinue studies and take up

odd jobs to support his family, until he heard of the NTHP. "I always had the realization that only a good education can lead to a career wherein I can truly aid my family", stated Gul.

Sharing his experience at IBA he said, "I am grateful to PPL that has initiated NTHP for underprivileged students. At IBA, I was competing against students with A-level background besides the challenges of being away from home, but being a NTHP scholar gave me confidence to achieve my goals." ■