

Pakistan to open Kartarpur Corridor on November 9 at any cost, says Governor

—Says Pakistanis standing shoulder-by-shoulder with Kashmiris in their freedom moment

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar on Wednesday said that India was making lame excuses but Pakistan would open Kartarpur Corridor on November 9 at any cost to facilitate the Sikh Yatrees. Talking to Provincial Ministers Syed Sumsan Ali Bukhari and Chaudhry Muhammad Akhlaq, he questioned that why India did not allow any foreign investor or human rights' organization to visit Kashmir if there was peace in occupied valley, adding that Pakistanis were standing shoulder by shoulder

with the Kashmiri brethren in their freedom moment. India could not suppress the voice of innocent Kashmiris, he maintained. The Governor said that Pakistan has exposed Indian atrocities in occupied Kashmir at every forum, adding that Pak Army has given a befitting response to Indian ceasefire violation at Line of Control. The Pak Army has also exposed the nefarious designs of India by conducting the visit of ambassadors of various countries at LoC, he asserted. Chaudhry Sarwar said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government be-

lieved that anyone could stage protest demonstration as it was his constitutional right, adding the government wanted to ensure stability and unity in the country, therefore it has given an approval to the opposition for the peaceful protest. The Governor hoped that the opposition parties after getting an approval would stage peaceful protest demonstration and would not take law into hands. The PTI government was successfully persuading its welfare oriented policy for the progress and prosperity of the country, he concluded.

Foodpanda turns Quetta pink!

By Our Special Correspondent

LAHORE: Foodpanda, the on-demand international food delivery service, has added the city of Sajji lovers, Quetta, as the latest city to offer its app-ordering food services in the already growing market in Pakistan. With this, foodpanda has opened up a world of exciting flavours to the residents of Quetta from the comfort of their homes. And this Tuesday evening, people from restaurant industry, the media, food, lifestyle bloggers and top customers of foodpanda, all overjoyed, came together to celebrate foodpanda's official launch in the city with the city adorned with its

distinctive pink colour hoardings. The residents of Quetta will now be able to order a variety of food from over 200 restaurant partners right to their homes, offices and even outdoor hotspots, increasing convenience for users and providing restaurant partners with a new avenue to reach customers. With the vision to deliver good food to people's every day, Quetta, the provincial hub of Balochistan, to enjoy the renowned service standards offered by foodpanda, following many other cities of Pakistan like Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad, Sialkot, Gujranwala etc. Aiming to deliver the best food the city has to offer to their customers no matter the craving or price range.

Ufone Tower holds awareness session about breast cancer

LAHORE: Over 10.2 million women in Pakistan are at risk of Breast Cancer with every year 40,000 women dying due to the disease. In an effort to raise awareness about Breast Cancer, Pakistani Telecom Company, Ufone collaborated with Pink Ribbon Pakistan to organise an informative session for its employees at its headquarters in Islamabad. The session addressed common problems associated with the disease along with shedding light on the importance of early detection through self-examination. Despite being a curable disease, a lot of misconceptions have been associated with the term due to which diagnosis is done at a much later stage. Experts revealed during the session that timely detection of the disease could increase survival rate up to 90 percent. After the session, Ufone tower was illuminated with pink lights to show solidarity with the patients and survivors. It has been an unrelenting tradition of Ufone to support such initiatives and play a vital part in being a socially responsible organization, highlighting issues which have a direct impact on the life of an average Pakistani citizen. Speaking about the importance of Pink Illumination and increasing awareness amongst masses, Omer Aftab, CEO Pink Ribbon Pakistan said, "We lose thousands of precious lives every year due to ignorance, late diagnosis and myths related to breast cancer. So, awareness is the only key to survival."

PU regularises 130 daily wage employees

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: As many as 130 employees of Punjab University working on daily wages basis since many years have been regularised on the instructions of Vice Chancellor Prof Niaz Ahmad Akhtar after the recommendations of selection committee. According to the notifications issued here on Wednesday, the non-teaching employees working in the capacities of Chowkidar, armed guards and sanitary workers in BS-1 and BS-2 who fulfilled the eligibility criteria for the posts have been regularized with immediate effect. The appointees will have to submit their joining reports within fifteen days. The news created wave of joy and happiness among the PU employees who thanked PU VC Prof Niaz Ahmad Akhtar, Registrar Dr Muhammad Khalid Khan and Chairman Selection Committee Prof Dr Muhammad Taqi Zahid Butt for making efforts for their regularization and resolving their long-standing issues. Turkish delegation visits PU Bahçesehir University, Turkey's International Office Director for Washington, Berlin and Cyprus campuses Ms. Nuket Tanol has visited the Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof Dr. Saleem Mazhar and signed MoU for a five year term which will facilitate student and staff exchange. Both the universities will launch joint research projects and offer post doc in various fields. Director External Linkages Dr Fouzia Hadi, Registrar, Dr. Khalid Khan, and Dr. Ahmed Muneeb Mehta, Assistant Professor at Hailey College of Banking and Finance were also present on the occasion. PU IAGS organizes int'l symposium PU Institute of Agricultural Sciences (IAGS) has organized an international symposium on "Halal accreditation: adding value to lifestyle and economic success" at Razi Hall here on Wednesday. In the inaugural session, Punjab Minister for Livestock Sardar Hussain Bahadar Dreshik was the chief guest. In his address, the Minister said that its petty that Pakistan has very less share in global halal market, though we are the agriculture based country. He insisted the developments in halal accreditation. He appreciated Pakistan National Accreditation Council (PNAC), National Alliance for Safe Foods (NAFS) and PU IAGS to address this issue.



LAHORE: Vendors prepare loading roasted corn onto their push handcarts on the Ring Road.—Online

No one to be allowed to take law in his hands

Aslam opens renovated mess of Lahore Press Club

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Provincial Information & Culture Minister Mian Aslam Iqbal has said that Maulana Fazal-ur-Rehman may hold protest but PTI government will not allow anyone to damage or cause any destruction, nor will allow any armed group to make any place hostage or to speak against institutions of the country. Pakistan has been put in grey list by FATF and government is endeavouring to get the country out of it. India is making all out efforts to put Pakistan in blacklist, he added. In the present circumstances the prank thrown by Maulana is beyond reason and understanding. Prime Minister Imran Khan has befittingly portrayed the Kashmir issue on every front across the world, he stated. The sit-in prank by Maulana gives credence to viewpoint of India and attempt to cause harm to Pakistan seems manifest out of it, he maintained. Maulana Fazal-ur-Rehman belongs to such party which opposed constitution of Pakistan and their elders remarked with thanks that they did not become part of sin in the establishment of Pakistan. That is why Maulana Fazal ur Rehman did not pay his respects at the mausoleum of Quaid-e-Azam till today.

Provincial Minister expressed these views while participating in the inaugural and renovation ceremony of Press Club canteen at Lahore Press Club while talking with the media. President Lahore Press Club Arshad Ansari and large number of journalists participated in the ceremony. Iqbal on the eve of completion of renovation ceremony of the canteen congratulated members of the press club and said that it is a highly commendable step on the part of journalists community for the provision of facilities to their brothers. While replying to media questions, he said that PTI from the very beginning holds the point of view that staging peaceful protest is allowed however, no one is allowed to take law into his hands. What message Maulana is conveying by displaying the pictures of armed groups and airing of their training programmes footage on TV, he remarked. It seems that he has different objectives. While replying to a question regarding treatment of Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, he said that we are praying for the health recovery of Nawaz Sharif. We appeal to him that no politics should be done on his sickness. He said that medicines are being given to Nawaz Sharif on the consultation of his personal physician. He was unwilling to

go to hospital for treatment and resistance was also shown from his side on the matter of giving platelets, later, his brother was contacted for this purpose. Nawaz Sharif may undergo treatment from any hospital of Pakistan and PTI government will neither object nor refuse. However, he is under the custody of NAB and NAB is completely an independent institution, concluded Mian Aslam Iqbal. Govt committed to promote trade and economic activities in country Provincial Minister for Trade & Industries Mian Aslam Iqbal presided over a meeting at Civil Secretariat here on Wednesday in which progress on development work and colonization of Faisalabad Industrial City and other industrial estates especially M-3 industrial estate were reviewed. Addressing the meeting, Mian Aslam Iqbal said that hundred percent colonization of industrial estates will be ensured by providing necessary facilities like electricity and gas along with development of infrastructure. The government is committed to promoting trade and economic activities to wriggle the country out of darkness of poverty and joblessness, he said. He regretted the country is facing challenges due to failed economic policies of the past governments.

Alhamra perfect platform for young people

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: A meeting was held on Wednesday to discuss and review various matters in Alhamra in the committee room of Alhamra at Alhamra Arts Centre, The Mall. The meeting was chaired by Executive Director Lahore Arts Council Athar Ali Khan. During the meeting he directs strict monitoring of Alhamra stage plays. Regarding the "Voice of Alhamra" he said that we are glad to see that our youth have keen interest in music and other fields of arts, and Alhamra is the perfect platform for young people to showcase their skills. He stated that Lahore Arts Council is the finest literary and cultural institution to fulfill its duties. The meeting has finalized the literary and cultural programs for the next three months and instructions were also issued to all the officers of Alhamra to do their best for the prosperity of LAC. The meeting was attended by directed arts and culture Zulfikar Ali Zulfi, and other officers of Alhamra Arts Council.



LAHORE: Resident of Bory Wala woman Neelum Anjum along with husband and her children hold placards in favour of their demands outside the Lahore Press Club.—Online

How to stop continued sexual harassments?

By Javed Iqbal

The female committee head to probe sexual harassment charges in MAO College has herself alleged the Principal of harassing her. In an application to the Secretary HED, Dr Aliyah Rehman has requested the authority to conduct an inquiry against Farhan Ibadat Yar, Principal of MAO College. It is a general perception that only women become the victim of harassment and men can never. If a woman accuses some man of harassment, then her statement is always considered as factual and true. But what's about the cases when females falsely accuse someone of harassment? The harassment cases usually happen in the public sector as employees' personal interests often match initially and mismatch later. The intimacy oftentimes leads to allegations later. The law regarding sexual harassment in government offices, factories and educational institutions was, arguably, a right move to protect rights of the vulnerable wom-

enfolk from the harassment of their male colleagues but subsequent situation showed that it is often misused to gain certain benefits. The core idea behind this avant-garde scheme was that it will ensure protection of rights of the women staff from any abuse and on the other hand, the men will not think of any exploitation. A review of this law shows that some women have accused their male colleagues of sexually harassing them in order to achieve their goals. But they have either failed to prove the allegations or have denied to provide any solid evidence in support of their claims. Let's look at a few examples in society where the lives of the accused were not only made hell but some were also forced to take the utmost task of committing suicide. When Dr Mujahid Kamran was the Vice-Chancellor of University of the Punjab, Dr Ahsan Akhtar Naz, the Director and Head of the Institute of Communication Studies, was accused of harassment by a junior teacher of his department. After the allegation proved

false, Dr Naz was removed from the post. He later became horribly ill and departed soon but nothing was proved. It is alleged that all the drama was staged to remove Dr Naz. PU former VC Dr Zafar Moeen Nasir said "I remember, a girl came to me to complain against a teacher but when our team investigated, the issue was something else and the girl wanted to blackmail that teacher for getting some academic benefits." Similarly, a senior federal government officer in Punjab was also accused of harassment when he was about to cancel contracts of some lady officials on poor performance. He was accused of harassment on a section of the media and was removed from the post but all these charges were later found to be false, while the accused succeeded in their motives. The successor renewed the contracts. In another case, a female communication department official of Punjab Education Foundation got transferred her assistant

director to another department on trumped up charges to fail the communication department's male head with whom she was at loggerheads. The PEF management didn't bother to hold any formal enquiry to eke out facts. The former TEVTA head Saeed Alvi was also accused of such allegations. Former information minister and columnist Ahmad Waqas Riaz said we all know men in almost all cases try to take advantage of women who are their subordinate, dependent or as a weak gender. Men mostly use their influence to get away. The allegations came to the forefront of newspapers when an MAO College English teacher was accused of harassing by a student. An inquiry was conducted by a senior female professor on the orders of the Principal. He was declared innocent in the inquiry as there was no proof but findings were deliberately kept secret to

tease the hapless teacher and formal letter of exoneration was never issued by the college despite repeated requests of the teacher. This led to a suicide note that late Muhammad Afzal wrote before committing suicide. The treacherous report should be forwarded to my family. Let my guilt be recorded as nothing and a false allegation. The sad part of this story is that the Higher Education Department continued to ignore the tragic matter till its projection in the media and now both the Principal and inquiry officer are holding each other responsible. The departmental inquiry is started but it can't give justice to the victim. When this correspondent talked to different scholars they were of the opinion, Inappropriate attire by both sides at workplace like skin fittings, jeans etc gives a wrong signal to the other side about the response. Without imposing strict dress code, social media limits, addressing semester system lacunas, and above all, installation of CCTV cameras and formulating regulations, it would be

hard to escape misuse of this law. The PTA should strictly ban pornography on internet and social media to avoid Kasur sex scam and Balochistan University adult videos that forced the VC to quit office. Likewise, having unnecessary Whatsapp chats with colleagues, enjoying pick and drop by a male officer and late-night dinners have become increasingly acceptable. However, if the relations get strained such women may feel that it a norm to move application against a person with whom she has had friendly relations. The need is to review Sexual Harassment at Workplace law to avoid frivolous applications. The purview of the law should be extended from workplaces to private and public places. Moreover, such provisions should be inserted to safeguard any character assassination in the media before the outcome of the case. Moreover, in harassment cases, the burden of proof should be on the complainant not accused.

Secretariat Diary