

### PR Police to pay salaries of Christian staff before Christmas

LAHORE: The Pakistan Railways Police will pay salaries to all its Christian staff before December 25 so that they can celebrate their special festival of Christmas.

PR police sources said here on Sunday that DIG Operations Railways Police Azhar Rasheed Khan had directed all SPs to ensure payment of salaries to the Christian staff before Christmas. The police officers have also been directed to join the Christmas celebrations with the Christian families and felicitate them with gifts. The Railways police have been directed to tighten the security of churches and other religious places on Christmas.

### PU awards five PhD degrees

LAHORE: The Punjab University has awarded five PhD degrees to the scholars after approval of their thesis in different subjects by the Board of Studies. According to the information here on Sunday, Iram Gull d/o Amjad Ali was awarded PhD in the subject of Biochemistry after approval of her thesis on 'Interferon Fusion Protein as Molecular Therapeutics for the Treatment of HCV'; Shabbir Hussain S/o Saeed Ahmed in the subject of Urdu after approval of his thesis entitled 'Urdu Nazm

K Nazri Mubahis'; Ayesha Maqsood D/o Maqsood Elahi in the subject of Urdu after approval of her thesis entitled 'Reflection of Civilization in The Arabian Nights'; Rabia Babar D/o Babar Askari in the subject of Chemistry after approval of her thesis entitled 'Synthesis and Optical Studies of Imidazole Derivatives' and Muhammad Azeem s/o

Muhammad Yaseen in the subject of History after approval of his thesis entitled 'Reimagining the Political Leadership of Benazir Bhutto: Her Role as Prime Minister 1988-90 and 1993-96'.

### Zero Waste Operation continue in city

LAHORE: The Zero Waste Operation of Lahore Waste Management Company (LWMC) is continuing in the city to maintain neat and clean environment.

The LWMC sources said here on Sunday that under the zero waste operation, 6000 ton garbage had been so far removed from different parts of the city. LWMC Managing Director Rao Imtiaz Ahmad said the backlog had been cleared by using additional machinery and the operation would continue till its completion. It is pertinent to mention here that the operation was being carried out under the supervision of LWMC Chairman and Managing Director.

### Huge quantity of firecrackers recovered

By Our staff Correspondent

RAWALPINDI: City Police have recovered a huge quantity of firecrackers worth millions of rupees, informed the police spokesman. As per details, Police Station Ganjmandi raided a godown located in Nankari Bazaar and recovered huge quantity of firecrackers. Police arrested seven persons identified as Imran, Tayyab, Jameel, Zeesahn, Asif, Muzmail, and Haris from the spot.

Separate cases have been registered against the accused while the recovered material has been confiscated.

The operation has been carried out on the directives of City Police Officer (CPO) Muhammad Ahsan Younas who said that no one would be allowed to play with the lives of the innocent people and the firecrackers business would be crushed with full force.

### CDA stops unauthorized construction of Plaza in G-6

By Our staff Correspondent

ISLAMABAD: Capital Development Authority (CDA) has stopped the unauthorized construction work on a Plaza being built on plot number 26, G-6 Markaz.

The subject building was earlier sealed as its basement was being used as Save Mart Store instead of parking which came under non-conforming use, a press release received here said on Sunday.

Moreover, unauthorized construction was also stopped earlier, however, the authority observed that the owner had again started construction work, upon which prompt action was taken.



LAHORE: Members of Minority Coverage Foundation hold a protest in favour of Pakistan Army and General (retired) Pervez Musharraf outside the Lahore Press Club. —Online

## Modi govt mounting tension on Line of Control: Governor

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar participated in mass wedding ceremony of 25 couples and presented life necessities worth Rs 200,000 as dowry to each of the bride. Family members of the brides and grooms also attended the ceremony. Talking to media on this occasion, Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar said that disputed law has ignited flames in India and Narendra Modi government is mounting tension on Line of Control just to divert attention from it. If India wanted to wage war then we are also ready to give a matching response.

According to details, the mass wedding ceremony was arranged by Haji Muhammad Yousnis Virk Trust here at Rana Town, while Chaudhry Muhammad Arshad Virk and others were also present. The brides and grooms were very happy however some of them were grieved in memory of their parents. The organizers of the mass wedding ceremony also served tasty meal to the participants. Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar while presenting gifts and Salami (cash) to



the newly-wed couples also congratulated them and pray for their happy marital life. He told media that it was highly commendable step of mass-wedding arranged by Haji Muhammad Yousnis Virk Trust and Chaudhry Muhammad Arshad with a cost of millions of rupees. He observed that world will not remember the wealthy people, the big investors or those with higher status/posts but only those serving the humanity. We will also arrange mass wedding ceremony soon at Governor House. To a question, Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar said, it is fact that after the passage of dis-

puted law in India, the situation has now gone completely beyond control of Narendra Modi and his government. Since Narendra Modi is also faced with tough questions by the opposition and the public, he was once again mounting pressure on Pakistan and Indian army is resorting to unprovoked firing on Line of Control in which our army jawan and other people are being targeted. However India wanted to wage a war then Pakistan's defense is also in strong hands and we will give such a lesson to India to be remembered by its coming generations. He said that Pakistan has always talked of peace but

India must not assume our peace desire as our weakness adding that any sort of aggression will be reciprocated in befitting manner.

No hurry to lift ban on student unions: Governor Punjab

Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar said on Sunday the government was mulling over allowing student union activities in educational institutions but it did not want to take a decision in haste. While talking to the mediemen, he hinted at the need of debate involving all stakeholders including public and the media, adding that the issue was currently being discussed within the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) folds while the recommendations would be submitted to the party leadership.

To a question, the Governor said the government would devise a mechanism in which no political interference in the working of student unions would be ensured. He said the students unions would be bound to work under their given mandate of student welfare as per international practices.

"I am determined to purge all uni-

versities of all kind of political interference in all matters relating to teachers and

students; raise academic standards and ensure discipline", Sarwar expressed his resolve as Chancellor of universities in the province.

To a query, he said the PTI government was committed to strengthen institutions in the country, adding that the doctors-lawyers fiasco was regrettable and it had brought a bad name to the professions and the country. However, he said the culprits of the Punjab Institute of Cardiology (PIC) attack would be brought to book by all means.

About his Europe visit to pave the way for extension in GSP Plus status to Pakistan, the Punjab Governor said he had met 36 members of European Parliament, including Vice President European Parliament Fabio Massimo, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Affairs David Macallister, Chairperson Committee on Human Right besides other members to press for the grant of extension in GSP Plus status to Pakistan.

"I informed the Members European Parliament on Pakistan's progress on various fronts including strengthening democracy, improved internal security, economic reforms, minority and human right protection and efforts for regional peace", he added.

About the good of GSP Plus status to Pakistan, he said the GSP Plus status had helped in strengthening democracy, creation of jobs for women in the textile sector and partial implantation

### Folk festival 'Virsa' concludes at Alhamra

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: A three-day-long vibrant folk Mailla titled "Virsa" organized by the Lahore Art Council, concluded on the note of peace, love and harmony among the provinces. The festival was attended by a large number of artists, students and the general public here on Sunday Alhamra Arts Centre, the Mall.

The event was an enormous success in Lahore. Performers from across Punjab presented folk songs, handicrafts, dance, puppet show and other colorful performances which much admired by the public; people also praised the Lahore Arts Council to hold this festival and said the local artists would be encouraged through such events.

On the closing ceremony of the festival, Executive Director Lahore Arts Council Ather Ali Khan said that the purpose of this festival is to create a spark in social beauty and to provide people with an opportunity to come closer to each other, which will promote the attitudes of love and tolerance in the society Alhamra will continue to hold such festivals in future as well.

On his concluding remarks, Ather Ali



Khan thanked and congratulated all the performers, participants and attendees for their extraordinary participation and hard work at the festival. "It was important to provide similar positive opportunities and gatherings for youth to get knowledge about our lively culture, he added. LAC organized this folk festival for the development and pro-

motion of the Punjabi culture.

To entertain the children during the festival, famous shows like 'Ainak Wala Jin' 'Alla Din Jadu Ka Chiragh' and 'Puppet Show' was also presented for the children, which made the children very happy. People from all walks of life participated in the event and made it memorable.

### Govt endeavoring to make KP model province: CM

By Our Staff Correspondent

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister, Mahmood Khan Sunday said that incumbent government is endeavoring to make KP a role model province and to utilize available resources for the development and welfare of its people. He expressed this view while talking to MPAs from different constituencies at Chief Minister House Peshawar. He said that Pakistan Tehrik-e-Insaf is the only political party that has taken serious and sincere steps to streamline institutions and economy that suffered a setback during previous governments. He said that provincial government initiated several steps for the improvement of institutions and to introduce reforms aiming development of the province. He said that our sincere efforts would put the country and the province on the path of development and prosperity. The Chief Minister said that PTI would fulfill all its pledges made to public during election and adding provincial government has ensured initiatives to empower institutions. He said our policies would eradicate corruption and nepotism in institutions. He said that PTI government has made a long term plan for the overall development of the province and the present government is tirelessly working to facilitate people irrespective of their political affiliation.

## Pneumonia accounts for 15pc of children deaths: WHO

The Business Report

ISLAMABAD: World Health Organization (WH) has claimed that pneumonia accounts for 15% of all deaths of children under five years old, killing 808,694 only in year 2017 across the globe.

According to WHO report, pneumonia is the single largest infectious cause of death in children worldwide affecting children and families everywhere, but is most prevalent in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

It said that addressing environmental factors such as indoor air pollution and encouraging good hygiene in crowded homes also reduces the number of children who fall ill with pneumonia.

It said that adequate nutrition is key to improving children's natural defences, starting with exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of life. In addition to being effective in preventing pneumonia, it also helps to reduce the length of the illness if a child does

become ill. The WHO said that preventing pneumonia in children is an essential component of a strategy to reduce child mortality. It added immunization against hib, pneumococcus, measles and whooping cough or pertussis is the most effective way to prevent pneumonia.

It added that Pneumonia should be treated with antibiotics. Most cases of pneumonia require oral antibiotics, which are often prescribed at a health centre.

These cases can also be diagnosed and treated with inexpensive oral antibiotics at the community level by trained community health workers. Hospitalization is recommended only for severe cases of pneumonia, it added. Dr Wasim Khawaja from Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) said that pneumonia can be caused by viruses, bacteria, or fungi while it can be prevented by immunization, adequate nutrition, and by addressing environmental factors.

He said pneumonia caused by bacteria can

be treated with antibiotics, but only one third of children with pneumonia receive the antibiotics they need.

He said pneumonia is a form of acute respiratory infection that affects the lungs. The lungs are made up of small sacs called alveoli, which fill with air when a healthy person breathes. When an individual has pneumonia, the alveoli are filled with pus and fluid, which makes breathing painful and limits oxygen intake.

Dr Sharif Astori from Federal Government Polyclinic (FGPC) hospital said pneumonia can spread in a number of ways. The viruses and bacteria that are commonly found in a child's nose or throat, can infect the lungs if they are inhaled. They may also spread via air-borne droplets from a cough or sneeze. In addition, pneumonia may spread through blood, especially during and shortly after birth, he added.

He said more research needs to be done on the different pathogens causing pneumonia

and the ways they are transmitted, as this is of critical importance for treatment and prevention. He said children can also get this disease due to indoor air pollution caused by cooking and heating with biomass fuels like wood or dung, living in crowded homes and parental smoking. He said features of viral and bacterial pneumonia are similar however, the symptoms of viral pneumonia may be more numerous than the symptoms of bacterial pneumonia.

He said symptoms of disease in children including cough or difficult breathing, with or without fever. He added that pneumonia is diagnosed by the presence of either fast breathing or lower chest wall indrawing where their chest moves in or retracts during inhalation while wheezing is more common in viral infections.

He added that very severely ill infants may be unable to feed or drink and may also experience unconsciousness, hypothermia and convulsions.



LAHORE: Participants of a Khawateen Punjabi Mushaira held the Open Air Theater, Bagh-e-Jinnah.



LAHORE: Bishop of Lahore Irfan Jameel, President Christian Lawyers Association, Kahif Alexander Rajput and others at a ceremony held in connection with Christmas celebrations at the Cathedral Church, The Mall. —Online