

PU observes 'black day' for solidarity with Kashmiris

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab University Academic Staff Association on Friday observed black day on campus and boycotted classes and other academic activities. In a press statement, PUASA President Prof Dr Mumtaz Anwar Chaudhry, Secretary Javed Sami and others said that teachers boycotted classes to express solidarity with the people of Held Kashmir and condemn Indian forces for their brutalities on innocent people. Speaking on the occasion, the teachers said that India was committing serious violations of human rights in the occupied area. They said that Pakistan had strongly condemned India for its brutalities over innocent people.

They said that India had imposed curfew in the occupied area since 180 days and United Nations must take serious action on this.

They said the sacrifices of Kashmiri people would bring fruit and Kashmir would be free of India's oppressive occupation and become part of Pakistan soon. They said that the nation stood shoulder to shoulder with the people of Held Kashmir, Pak Army and the government. They said that international community must take notice of India's state-terrorism.

KU, KUI ink MoU to improve Karachi's food security

KARACHI: The Department of Agriculture and Agribusiness Management University of Karachi and Karachi Urban Agriculture Initiative signed Memorandum of Understanding which aimed to improve Karachi's food security and alleviating malnutrition and under-nourishment in Karachi's urban masses via self-sustaining urban agriculture initiatives.

The KU and KUI are jointly committed to establish a research facility that develops solutions for conventional and non-conventional urban agriculture development of Pakistan by utilizing local talent and resources, the solution may include technologies such as hydroponics, aquaponic, aeroponic and vertical farming. As per the MoU, both parties would work jointly to build smart sustainable advanced growing systems, focus yield and quality food production for masses at affordable cost and minimize the cost of production by building efficient growing systems.

Under the MoU, they have also agreed to jointly conduct research and execute projects for sustainable food farming in barren lands and arid regions. The Department of Agriculture and Agribusiness Management will provide its expertise-based recommendations and input in research and development of new growing techniques for urban, rural and barren lands that include hydroponic (in the first phase) and further extended to aero, aquaponics and vertical farming.

The Department of Agriculture and Agribusiness Management will also extend its support to provide generic and specialized formulas (recipes) that pertain to the growth and maximum yield production using specialized equipment and facilities. The departmental students will be available to execute the assigned project(s) and get maximum exposure and provide their individual inputs that are mutually useful for both parties. Students will report their piece of research in written/video format which will be archived and shared with both parties for future references. —DNA

SP asks DSPs, SHOs to take strict action against criminals

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Lahore Police (Model Town Division) in its crackdown against the criminals arrested as many as 170 criminals and recovered 20 pistols, 01 rifle, bullets, more than 6.5kg charas and 74 liters of liquor. SP Model Town Division Imran Ahmad Malik had directed concerned DSPs and SHOs to take strict action against criminal gangs.

Accordingly Model Town Division Police busted 04 gangs and arrested its 14 members along with recoveries worth more than 6.80 lakh of rupees from them. Police also recovered thousands of rupees from 11 criminals in its successful action against gamblers.

Moreover 47 proclaimed and court offenders of A&B categories in cases of theft, cheque dishonor Fraud and other crimes were arrested. Model Town Division Police also arrested 58 criminals for violating one wheeling, kite flying, aerial firing, price control, loud-speaker and tennant acts.



LAHORE: Young gypsy children go down to their temporary shelters in a dangerous way which may cause any incident any time as World observed International Street Children Day, on January 31.

CM hosts function in honour of political, administrative team

Buzdar asks ministers, officers to spend energies on public welfare

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar hosted a ceremony in honour of political and administration at 90-SQA. Provincial ministers, Chief Secretary, IG Police, additional chief secretaries and provincial secretaries attended the function.

Talking to the participants, the chief minister directed that ministers and officers should spend their energies on public welfare.

He added that ministers are empowered and they should decide themselves and deliver to the people. The team will have to show the best performance and I am convinced that the team will produce the best results, he added. He said that ministers are political heads of their departments while secretaries are the administrative heads and both are independent in their decisions. The political and administrative team is on one page for solving the problems of the people, he added. The chief minister said that Punjab is far ahead in good governance and will continue to maintain its lead in future as well. However, the effects of good governance should also be seen at

provincial and tehsil levels because best officers have been posted at every level in the province. He emphasized that public service is the core mission of all of us and the public dealing departments should work for public welfare by deviating from their routine. He added that citizens should not visit offices again and again and their genuine demands should be accommodated without any recommendation. It is sanguine that there is no scandal against the provincial team and it is a sign of transparency that no scandal has surfaced during the last 16 months. The Law Minister Raja Basharat said that Chief Minister Usman Buzdar has promoted worth-following parliamentary traditions adding that we will work as his team with commitment and this meeting will show positive results.

CS wants concrete steps to fight dengue

On the direction of Chief Minister Punjab, Chief Secretary Major (r) Azam Suleman Khan on Friday presided over an important meeting to review strategy for adopting preventive measures against corona virus and steps to eradicate dengue in the province. The meeting was attended by

Provincial Minister for Higher Education Raja Yasir Hamayun, Minister Auqaf Syed Saeed-ul-Hassan, Additional Chief Secretary, Additional Chief Secretary (Home), administrative secretaries of all departments whereas all divisional commissioners and deputy commissioners joined the meeting through video conferencing.

Speaking at the meeting held at Civil Secretariat, the Chief Secretary said that health as well as all relevant departments and field officers would have to work hard as per SOPs to control dengue. He directed all the departments to ensure implementation of the SOPs issued in connection with dengue control as no negligence would be tolerated in this regard. He asked the officer to enhance awareness among people about this deadly virus by launching an effective province-wide campaign. Secretary Primary Health Capt (r) Muhammad Usman briefed the meeting that control rooms would be set up for monitoring of hotspots, surveillance and timely issuance of alerts. He mentioned that the health department has started training on dengue at divisional headquarters and so far sessions have been or-

ganized in Rawalpindi and Faisalabad whereas this process would be completed in other divisions — Sargodha, DG Khan, Bahawalpur, Multan, Sahiwal, Gujranwala and Lahore — by 10th March. Commissioners and deputy commissioners are also among participants of the training, he added.

The Chief Secretary directed that cleanliness, larvaciding and other anti-dengue activities be expedited in the province, besides ensuring correct reporting of data as situation can take turn for the worse in case of concealment of facts. The meeting also reviewed the strategy to adopt preventive measures against corona virus and allay concerns and fears of people in this regard. The Chief Secretary ordered that proper screening of Chinese and other people be conducted as per the SOPs issued by the federal government and relevant provincial departments should keep close liaison with federal authorities.

Secretary Specialized Healthcare Nabeel Awan told the meeting that at present there is no corona virus patient in the country, adding that at divisional level high dependency units have been established in one hospital.

RAIL launches affordable hatchback Prince Pearl

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: With an aim to reshape Pakistan's automobile industry, Regal Automobiles Industries Limited (RAIL), launched Pakistan's most affordable hatchback, the Prince Pearl, on Friday.

The car was launched in an exclusive event at a local hotel. Governor Punjab, high profile dignitaries and elite of the city attended the event.

Prince Pearl is launched in the country with an 800cc, EFI engine which produces 40 HP and is equipped with modern features such as power windows, power steering, and multimedia system. RAIL will be providing a warranty for 60,000 KMs or three years whichever comes first.

Available in six different colours and at 16 3S dealerships (Sales-Service-Spare Parts) across Pakistan, Prince Pearl will be available in the market from today (Saturday).

While talking to the media, Governor Punjab Chaudhry Sarwar said, "It is heartening to see a local company take the initiative to provide such an automobile to the masses. I look forward to seeing what Regal Automobiles holds for the future."

Addressing at the ceremony, Muhammad Adeel Usman, Managing Director, Regal Automobiles Industries Limited (RAIL), said "This is the first time that a local company has taken a step at such a huge level to add to the economy of the country while providing a high-quality product at an affordable price. The car is a blessing in disguise for the people of Pakistan where the economy is a burning issue for the government," he said.

Complaints resolved with the efforts of DOPC

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: On the direction of Commissioner Overseas Pakistanis Commission Passand Khan Buledi, Director General Overseas Pakistanis Commission Ms. Naila Baqir presided over a meeting to discuss the pendency of complaints lying in Lahore Division in OPC on Friday. Chairman District Overseas Pakistani Committee Lahore Jahangir Bara, Additional Deputy Commissioner Lahore Mr. Asghar Joya, Director (Administration) Tayyab Farid, Director (Legal) Raja Muhammad Zubair and Director (Revenue) Zahid Awan of OPC were also present in the meeting.

DG OPC while chairing the meeting said that the number of complaints have been resolved by the efforts of DOPC Lahore and OPC and Chairman DOPC Lahore and Additional Deputy Commissioner Lahore has assured that 400 pending complaints shall be resolved in next 7 working days. I urge all of you to try your best to get the pending complaints resolved as giving relief to Pakistani expatriates is among the top most priority of the present government. The meeting ended with the note of thanks by Director General Overseas Pakistanis Commission Punjab Ms. Naila Baqir.

Improvement in EDB ranking reason of fresh investment in Pakistan

\$2 billion investment made in Faisalabad Industrial Estates: Aslam

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Provincial Minister for Industries and Trade Mian Aslam Iqbal has said that Punjab has become the hub of local and foreign investment due to conducive atmosphere for investment. Investment of two billion dollars has been made in Faisalabad Industrial Estates. He expressed these views while talking to the delegations of industrialists and traders at his office, here today.

Provincial Minister said that seven special economic zones have been established in the public and private sector. Owing to improving the ranking of ease and doing business new investment is coming in Pakistan. He said that 18 applications have been received in the industry department for the establishment of new cement plants in the province.

The investment of more than one billion dollars is expected through the installation of new cement plants. The Minister said that the indus-

try department will complete its process within 10 days on these applications and then will forward to other concerned departments for further action. These departments will also complete their process within the timeline. He said that one window operation facilitation has been launched in industrial estates and one window facilitation centre in the Chinese language is also established in Faisalabad Industrial Estate. All resources are being utilized for accelerating industrialization, he concluded.

CDA Chairman reviews progress on development projects

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to Prime Minister of Pakistan on CDA Affairs, Ali Nawaz Awan and Chairman, Capital Development Authority (CDA), Aamir Ali Ahmed inspected development works on different ongoing projects in the city on Friday.

On this occasion Member Engineering and officers of other concerned formations were also present during the visits. While inspecting construction work on underpass G-7/G-8 at Faisal Avenue concerned formations were directed to further accelerate the pace of work to ensure timely completion of this project. Instructions were also issued that it must be ensured that the general public may not face difficulties due to construction activities on the project.

Instructions were also issued that option of completing one side of the bridge be analyzed so that traffic flow in the area could be maintained and work on the other side of the bridge could be car-

ried out. In this connection, instructions were also issued that in coordination with Islamabad Traffic Police implementation on traffic diversion plan be ensured while sign boards in this regard would be also installed so that the traffic could be guided effectively.

On this occasion, SAPM and Chairman, CDA was apprised that a latest tree transplanter was utilized for transplantation of grown trees. Now after completion of transplantation process, construction work has now gained momentum. It was also informed that with the assistance of the Islamabad Traffic Police and concerned formations of the CDA alternative traffic plan has been devised and being accordingly implemented to ensure smooth traffic flow in the vicinity. Moreover, proper sign boards and warning boards have also been installed in the vicinity.

Instructions were also issued that the soil dug out as result of excavation work

on the project be utilized for leveling of the areas along the Kashmir Highway so that landscaping and tree plantation could be carried out in the areas as well.

Later on SAPM and Chairman, CDA also inspected ongoing construction work on additional block of the Capital Hospital. While showing satisfaction over the pace of work instructions were issued that project should be completed within given time frame.

It was informed that after completing excavation work for the basement a gray structure measuring 150 x 50 has been constructed while roof would be placed within next week. In order to address the issue of shortage of medical and paramedical staff at the capital hospital CDA had requested for issuance of NOC for recruitment of staff which was sent to the concerned Ministry of Interior. It was decided that the matter would be taken up with Ministry of Interior for early issuance of NOC. —



LAHORE: Activists of civil society hold placards against sexual harassment of children, jointly organised by Khayal-Nu and Scary Ammi organisations. —Online