

ADC General visits Drug Advisory Training Hub

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Addiction Deputy Commissioner General Lahore Safdar Hussain Virk visited Drug Advisory Training Hub (DATH) a project of YOFCAN regarding working system of DATH with homeless drug addicts who are using hard and soft drugs on roads, footpaths, gardens and parks in the city of Lahore, distribution food and water to homeless drug addicts, awareness campaign in educational institutions, smoke and drug free campus programs, treatment and rehab program for drug addicts.

ADC (G) Safdar Hussain Virk said that Drug Advisory Training Hub(DATH) & YOFCAN providing services to drug addicts people in the city of Lahore for the last so many years with competent staff on self-help basis. Private sectors and NGOs can play vital role to curb the menace of addiction among youth. District Administration Lahore already supported to Drug Advisory Training Hub and YOFCAN because DATH and YOFCAN done a lot in drug demand reduction fields. He assured that DC Office would provide continue support in future.

Syed Zulfiqar Hussain welcomed and briefed all programs especially for substance use disorders (SUDs) under the banner of Drug Advisory Training Hub (DATH) & YOFCAN in collaboration with different government and non-governmental departments. Mr. Hussain said that research work on drug addiction is very important and DATH also started research work for homeless and unknown drug addicts, improvement treatment and rehab program according to international standards, coordination with all government departments and students health profile system etc.

GCU awards PhD degree in Physics

LAHORE: Ms Sidra Shafiq has completed her doctorate of philosophy (PhD) from the GC University Lahore in the field of Physics.

According to GCU spokesperson here on Friday, Ms Sidra Shafiq completed her research on "Hydrogen-like

ions in super-intense laser field" under the supervision of Dr Atif Shahbaz. Later, she successfully defended her Ph.D thesis in an online defense conducted an American professor and attended by a large number of students and faculty members.

Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Asghar Zaidi also graced the event and congratulated the candidate on her successful completion of the PhD degree.

The candidate was also honored by the foreign evaluator who gifted his evaluation fee to Ms Sidra Shafiq for her excellent research in the field. —APP



LAHORE: Members of Punjab Education Foundation hold a protest in favour of their demands in front of the Lahore Press Club. —Online

Our policies aimed at providing relief to public

We are not afraid of Opp's threats of protests: Sarwar

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar has said that we are not afraid of opposition's threats of protests and general elections will take place on their time. Prime Minister Imran Khan is working for the progress and prosperity of the country rather than pursuing his own personal benefits.

He was talking with a PTI delegation that comes from different districts during a meeting at the Governor House on Friday.

On this occasion, the Governor said that instead of giving threats of protests, the opposition should wait patiently for the general elections of 2023. Those who are trying to disrupt accountability will face failure. Pakistan cannot make progress without eliminating corruption. Corrupt people will have to face accountability at

any cost. Government is making tough decisions to ensure the prosperity of the country.

We are introducing reforms and ensuring merit in institutes. Our priority is the welfare of the public. Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar further added that construction of Diamer Bhasha dam will fulfill water needs of the country. Our policies are aimed at providing relief to the public.

More than 153 billion rupees have been distributed among deserving families without any political discrimination through Ehsas Programme. Everyone including the businessmen should follow government SOPs to contain the spread of Coronavirus on EidulAzha. He said that Pakistan is going through a difficult time due to corona but Inshaallah together we will face all challenges.

Policy of one attendant for a patient should be observed

Executive Director, Punjab Institute of Neuro Sciences Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood has announced to introduce the best management system in the Institute so that patients from provinces other than Punjab can also get the best possible environment, information and high quality medical facilities.

This was stated by ED PINS Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood while talking to the administrative doctors in a special meeting here on Friday. He said that in the light of the orders of the provincial Government, the policy of one patient one caregiver in the hospital should be implemented in letter and spirit so that nurses and other staff may be able to take care of patients with full attention and care. However, in addition to the intensive care ICU, in other

wards will also be allowed to meet patients within the stipulated time.

Executive Director PINS Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood further said that the doctors, nurses and other employees who provided the best treatment to the patients without caring for their own lives during the Corona epidemic would be awarded with certificates of appreciation and a function will be organized at the Punjab Institute of Neuro Sciences in this regard very soon in which the professionalism of the medical staff will be appreciated.

Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood appealed to the people coming to the hospital to take precautionary measures in view of the Corona epidemic and not to lose patience. He said that the first priority of the medical staff is to save the life of the patient for which all steps would be taken. Often due to overcrowding of the family, the employees also face severe



LAHORE: A labourer carries a loaded cart at Muslim League House Chowk. —Online

Protestors disperse peacefully LWMC amicably resolves all union issues

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Lahore Waste Management Company (LWMC) management on Friday amicably settled all issues with its union. In this connection, an important meeting was held at LWMC head office which was chaired by Managing Director LWMC Muhammad Aslam Rao regarding negotiations with Clean City Labour Union. The meeting was attended by General Manager Operations Sohail Malik, General Manager HR & Admin Farrukh Butt, President Clean City Labour Union Malik Ijaz, General Secretary Shahidur Rehman and others.

Speaking on this occasion, General Manager LWMC stated that it is our mutual and collective responsibility for the welfare of staff and also our top priority. In this regard the department is working tirelessly. The General Manager LWMC said that the role of union is positive and the department stands with them through thick and thin. All relevant issues raised like corona incentive, health coverage will be presented to the board of directors on priority without any delay.



He also said that workers are the asset of the organization and without their core support and dedication LWMC cannot work properly. LWMC workers have been working tirelessly even during Covid 19 and being the front line warriors their efforts are highly commendable. General Manager LWMC assured the union representatives that all their legal issues will be addressed.

Concluding the meeting the General Manager LWMC submitted that prior to Eidul Azha we will be giving our best performance by providing exceptional cleanliness services to the citizens of Lahore and with the help of all departments, political leadership this year cleanliness operation of Eidul Azha will stand-out.

Decision about Kalabagh Dam only with consensus: Ali

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Ali Muhammad Khan Thursday said decision about construction of Kalabagh dam will be taken with the consensus of all provinces as Pakistan was a federation.

Responding to points of orders of lawmakers in the National Assembly, he said after a gap of five decades, the government of Pakistan had started work on Diamer Bhasha and Mohmand dams.

He assured legislator Jamshed Thomas that the accused involved in the killing of a member of the Christian community in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa would be arrested and brought to justice.

He said letters will be sent to Inspector General and concerned district police officer in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to arrest the accused and pursue the case against him. To a point of order of Maulana Abdul Akbar Chitrali about adoption of Urdu as official language, he said English was used as a language for communication because of its importance at the international level.

When the time will come, Urdu will be used more in the official and state affairs, he added.

Parliamentary Secretary for Commerce Aliya Hamza said the government would give billions of rupees of subsidy to farmers of sugarcane and wheat. The government was focused on the building of dams and on implementation of water policy. —APP

Condolence reference held for Dr. Mughees at University of Okara

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The University of Okara's Department of Communication Studies organised an online condolence reference to pay tribute to the legendary media academician Prof Dr Mughees Uddin Sheikh here the other day. The reference was presided over by Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr Zakria Zakar while the In-charge Communication Studies Dr Zahid Bilal moderated the event.

The former Chairman Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) Prof Dr Muhammad Niza-

muddin, Prof Dr Bushra Rehman from PU's Institute of Communication Studies, the anchor person Muhammad Junaid, senior columnist Salman Abid and other academicians and journalists including Dr Awais Saleem, Ahammad Khaliq, Abid Hussain Sialvi, Dr AR Sajid, Dr. Hamid Mukhtar, Mr. Abdul Rasheed, Dr. Sobia Abid and Ahmed Raza attended the reference.

Dr Zakar remembered Dr Mughees as one of the finest communication professionals. "Dr Mughees possessed very proactive personality and the skill to handle

disagreement with ease. He brilliantly represented Pakistan at various international forums", said the VC.

Dr Nizamuddin said that Dr Mughees always believed on innovation and he played an active role in development of various educational institutions.

Dr. Mughees, who served as Director at Institute of Communication Studies of the University of the Punjab and brought significant innovations to the fields of journalism and media, succumbed to COVID-19 infection on June 25, 2020.

Declining politics and civil society

Malik Muhammad Aslam Awan

Politics in Pakistan is a most cursed and maligned subject with the underlying reason of dilapidated norms of politicians. Being virtuous, upright and sincere is the cardinal feature of every arena of life and same is the core principle of politics. But unfortunately after the creation of Pakistan, those who posed themselves as politicians were devoid of human traits and their selfishness staved off the ship of state and it went rudderless, without goals and destination. Selfishness has a destroying effect on the whole civil society. Politicians had drawing room meetings with each other and in these behind the curtain meetings they plan and devise ways and means to maneuver illegally snatch power from the then existing clique in the power corridor.

Societies based on principles of equitable norms, justice and forbearance honesty had formidable

foundation to stay for long and move rapidly to achieve goals of accelerated prosperity, peace and tranquility. Honest politicians are a guarantee of any civilised society, justice and peacefulness. Crooked politicians have overturned the whole strata of civil society. It is a dilemma with Pakistan that dacoits have worn mantle of leaders but in reality they are enemies of civil society as well as of the country. When we recall the democratic system, we always refer to UK and USA. Politicians of these two countries come forward to hold the reins of state, only to serve, not to fulfil their vested interests. Pakistan is a country where politicians spend Rs 50 to 100 million in their elections and after having won the seat, they leave no stone unturned to benefit out of shabby resources of the country.

Analysing the politics of Pakistan one would have to face disappointment, since the independence of Pakistan, we cannot refer to a single politician, who proved his mettle and earned the title of complete honest

politician. After Quaid-e-Azam and Liaquat Ali Khan, Pakistan had not the honour of having a single honest leader. Fearlessness is the outstanding trait of an honest leader but selfishness makes leader, compromising and bowing before pressures of disgruntled elements. Fearless and honest leaders make nations move forward with undaunted zeal and fervour and achieve national goals even at the cost of their life. Life has no other meanings, motives but to earn the Will and Blessings of Allah Almighty. Those who lost their life in the way to earn the pleasure, blessings of Allah Almighty have a great reward, one can dream, and called martyrs.

Unfortunately condemnable practices and norms have developed in politics and civil society of Pakistan. People don't have the strong realisation of the fact that their vote is going to make change or bring total annihilation to the country, as a whole. Civil society in Pakistan is fragmented and don't

have the sense of their collective responsibility to vote for the honest and sincere person. A large chunk of civil society is involved in different criminal activities, i.e. a shopkeeper is overcharging and selling substandard commodities, which are harmful to public health. In the same way milk sellers are involved in preparing chemical milk, fatal to the human health. Vendors are also following the same practice. A large number of government servants is involved in embezzlement of national exchequer. Almost all departments make tendering and promoting the practice of fraud and foul play in awarding contracts. In the same way, the government contractors execute sub-standard work, having life less than one year which is a dilemma with the civil society. It has been observed and experienced that 1/10 is spent on construction work and 9/10 is distributed between the supervisory officers, engineers, SDOs – XEN's and a large

portion goes to the vault of MNA, MPA, in whose name funds are released to build roads, buildings and other infrastructure.

Even the police department, which has been established by Hazrat Umar (RA) for maintaining law and order amongst citizens has been made a tool in the hands of politicians to liquidate their political opponents, to make the writ of law null and void and establish the writ of their own hegemony while implementing the whims and wishes, the police officers, cross the limits of law and commit embezzlement in the police funds. To curtail the lawlessness and observe the law and order situation, safe city projects were initiated but the cunning police officers commit fraud of billions and third class cameras were installed, whose vision is either blurred or totally inefficient to give clear image, in the search of criminals after any sad incident and occurrence of serious crime. Billions are allocated to the police department to maintain law and order but a big

bite goes to the stomach of big wigs of the department. None has the guts to unearth, rake out and highlight the police scams. If a journalist or patriotic citizen will exhibit the mettle, his existence will be at high risk because the police gang may make assassination attempt on his life or implicate him in numerous false, baseless and vexatious cases to make his life a bed of thorns. To sum up, the system is so rotten and fatigued that it will take long cumbersome struggle to bring reforms in the system in order to give any relief to the common citizen.

Synopsis of the above malpractices of politicians and civil society reveal that politicians as well as a large part of civil society is responsible for this decline of politics and civil society. We will have to make hectic efforts to execute a change in civil society and for achieving this goal, a sacred mission, justice and police system is required for any radical change in the country.

The writer is a freelance columnist