

M.D Journalists Housing Foundation Punjab visits Media Town, Pindi

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: M.D. Journalists Housing Foundation Punjab Shahid Farid accompanied by Director Coordination DGPR Punjab Hamid Javaid Awan visited Media Town, Rawalpindi. On this occasion General Secretary Rana Qaisar, Vice President Tariq Malik, Finance Secretary Irfan Malik briefed about the housing problems of the residents and development and welfare projects. Shahid Farid said that as per the vision of Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Bazardar and instructions of Provincial Secretary Information and Culture Raja Jahangir Anwar, best facilities will be provided to media persons. He said that full attention was being paid to the provision of basic necessities of life in the media towns as well as supply of clean drinking water, solid waste management and renovation projects would also be completed. He said that a beautiful new public park would be developed in Media Town and a detailed survey would be carried out for the supply of drinking water. MD Punjab Journalists Housing Foundation praised the efforts made for management and said that these efforts will be further supplemented.

Jahangir Piracha elected as Chairman PCMA

By Our Special Correspondent

LAHORE: Jahangir Piracha, Chief Executive Officer for Engro Polymer & Chemicals Limited has been elected as Chairman Pakistan Chemical Manufacturers Association (PCMA), whereas Haroon Ali Khan of CHT and Abdul Hai Usman Ghani of Ittehad Chemical Has been elected as Senior Vice President and Vice President respectively.

Piracha, while taking over the charge as the President PCMA has expressed determination to launch a sustainable move for bringing the Naphtha Cracker Complex dream into reality. He said that the heavy investment required for the project cannot be born neither by the government alone nor by the private sector. Foreign investment from Saudi Arabia, China and other friendly countries would be helpful in establishing the Naphtha Cracker Complex in Pakistan, he said, adding that he would reopen the negotiations with the prospective investors of China and Saudi Arabia. Zafar Mehmood, outgoing President PCMA, while handing over the charge to the newly elected president, all possible relief and facilities were obtained from government during last year for survival of the Chemical industry to fight against the Covid-19 catastrophe.

He hoped that the newly elected office bearers would be in a better position to do advocacy for the longstanding need of the Naphtha Cracker Complex for the country to produce a wide range of chemicals, which are currently being imported from abroad by spending heavy amount the foreign exchange.



LAHORE: A view of weird condition of the western wall of the historical Shalimar Bagh, poses a threat of being fallen any time, which needs attention of the concerned authorities. —Online

CM inaugurates new Lahore Metro buses fleet

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar inaugurated a fleet of 64 new environment-friendly buses for the Lahore metro bus service at a ceremony held at metro bus depot Ferozpur road on Monday.

He formally handed over buses to Punjab Masstrait Authority and inspected the facilities after unveiling the plaque.

Addressing the ceremony, the CM repeated that the provincial capital and Lahoreites have significant importance while the government was striving hard to resolve their problems on a priority basis. Meanwhile, underpasses and overhead bridges were being constructed to overcome traffic problems besides improving the transport system, he continued. This 18-meter long bus will prove the best transport facility and the Lahore Masstrait Authority will provide the best travelling facility to 1.25 lakh passengers daily, he stated.

The PTI-led government has saved resources worth more than 2 billion rupees

in contract with VEDA. The earlier deal was signed with a foreign company while the current contract is signed with a Pakistani company to save foreign reserves while encouraging local businesses, he appended.

The incumbent government completed and functionalized the orange line metro train project in the best national interest, he said and added that this project is limited to Rs.40. Around 6.3 billion rupees subsidy was also being given to this project despite financial crunch, he maintained.

The CM disclosed that an electric buses project will be started in Lahore to overcome environmental pollution and new environmentally friendly buses will also be introduced in major cities of the province.

There was a shortage of passengers in feeder buses but the introduction of the cash fare system has resulted in a hundred per cent and 26 per cent increase in the number of commuters in Lahore and Multan feeder buses, respectively.

Meanwhile, the enforcement of the Punjab Vehicle Inspection and Certifica-

tion System in 27 districts is important in overcoming road accidents and environmental degradation, the CM said and added that the scope of such centres will be expanded to the whole of the province. The government has also extended the duration of VICS fitness certificates for six months, he continued. Similarly, an excel load management system will be introduced in nine districts to save roads, he disclosed. Meanwhile, it is decided to expand the scope of Lahore Transport Company by renaming it as Punjab Transport Company to provide modern transport facilities in Faisalabad, Bahawalpur, Mianwali and DG Khan, he said. A modern bus terminal will be constructed at Thokar Niaz Beg with Rs. 3 billion, he stated. The government was committed to introducing a modern mass transit system in major cities to provide the best transport facilities to the general public. Public service is a priority agenda and the government will continue to serve the masses with commitment and zeal, the CM concluded. Transport Minister Jahazeb Khichi and MD PMA also address the function.

World Space Week celebrations kick off

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: World Space Week celebrations started in Pakistan from Monday featuring a number of events including space related competitions, awareness sessions, workshops and demonstrations.

World Space Week is the annual week of celebrating achievements and contributions of Space Science, technology, and its applications.

The United Nations General Assembly has declared October 4-10 as World Space Week to educate young students and the general masses about the bounties of space technology and its applications.

The dates signify the UN General Assembly's launch of the first human-made earth satellite, Sputnik 1 on 4th October, 1957, and the signing of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, on 10th October 1967.

World Space Week celebration includes space education and outreach events held by space agencies, educational institutions, planetaria, museums and astronomy clubs around the world in a common timeframe under the ambit of the United Nations to enhance awareness about space and related technologies and to highlight its role towards national development.

SUPARCO being the National Space Agency of Pakistan annually organizes World Space Week (WSW) as WSW national coordinator since the year 2005. Pakistan has managed to make its mark each year with the most number of events conducted globally and stood second in 2019 and 2020.

Ombudsman meets Punjab Ombudsman

By Our Special Correspondent

LAHORE: A five-member delegation of the office of Federal Ombudsman led by Syed Tahir Shahbaz visited the office of Punjab Ombudsman on Monday and held a detailed meeting with Provincial Ombudsman Maj (R) Azam Suleman Khan.

Ombudsman Punjab Maj (R) Azam Suleman Khan apprised the delegation about the performance and departmental reforms adding that public complaints were being addressed in a period of 30 days. This has improved departmental efficiency while increasing public trust over government institutions, he added. Similarly, the district heads have been instructed to visit two Tehsils in a week to resolve public issues at the grassroots, he said and maintained that this has also saved the complainants from the hassle of visiting district offices.

The office of Ombudsman Punjab has been fully automated to streamline the application process along with timely disposal of the complaints, he said.



LAHORE: A vendor carries peacock feather to attract the customers.

China always stood by Pakistan: Qamar Bobi

By Our Special Correspondent

LAHORE: A function was held at the Chinese Consulate on the occasion of the 72nd National Day of China.

"It is a neighboring country but also a long time friend and China has always stood by Pakistan," said QAMAR Bobi, a renowned businessman who played his role in bringing Chinese investment in Pakistan.

He said that millions of dollars of Chinese investment in Pakistan under C-Pack is improving Pakistan's economy and providing jobs to Pakistani youth.

He said that Pak-China friendship is everlasting and will never be broken. Karen Chen, Managing Director of Challenge, a leading Chinese textile company in Pakistan, thanked the Pakistani authorities and said that "Pakistan is our second home. And we cannot forget the love that Pakistanis have given us".



Dubai Expo to open new avenues for investment, says Aslam Iqbal

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The 5th meeting of the Steering Committee on Dubai Expo was held under the chairmanship of Provincial Minister for Industries and Commerce Mian Aslam Iqbal at Civil Secretariat in which arrangements for the participation of Punjab Government in Dubai Expo were finalized.

The steering committee also approved administrative and financial measures for participation in the Dubai Expo. The meeting also approved the formation of a cultural sub-committee comprising members of Information and Culture, Planning and Development and Punjab Investment Board. An international business conference will be held on November 21 at the Dubai

Expo and Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar will be chief guest. Provincial Ministers, Members of Assembly, Administrative Secretaries and investors from Pakistan and other countries will attend the business conference. Addressing the meeting, Provincial Minister for Industries and Commerce Mian Aslam Iqbal said that Dubai Expo would open new avenues for investment. He said that investment opportunities in various sectors of Punjab province would be highlighted through Dubai Expo. Dr. Erfan Iqbal, CEO, Punjab Board of Investment and Trade gave a briefing on the preparations for the participation of various departments in the Dubai Expo. Additional Secretary Industry and Commerce, Directors of Punjab Board of Invest-

ment and officers of relevant departments attended the meeting.

12 dead, 1,177 hurt in 1,079 traffic crashes

The Punjab Emergency Service (Rescue1122) responded to 1079 Road Traffic Crashes (RTCs) in all 37 districts of Punjab during last 24 hours. In these RTCs, 12 people died, whereas 1177 were injured. Out of this, 691 people were seriously injured who were shifted to different hospitals. Whereas, 486 minor injured victims were treated at the incident site by Rescue Medical Teams thus reducing the burden of Hospitals. The majority (67%) Motorbikes were involved, therefore effective enforcement of traffic laws and lane discipline are essential to reduce this increasing number.

Economy and Pakistan

In the International market, every country is recognized by its own economy. Theoretically, in the modern world, the economy is a system of well managed and registered finance that enables the possibility of global trade.

However, in the practical world, an economy encompasses all activity related to production, consumption, and trade of goods and services in an area.

Governments make effective decisions for economies made via some combination of market transactions and collective or hierarchical decision making. Everyone from individuals to entities such as families, corporations, and governments participate in this process.

The economy of a particular region or country is governed by its culture, laws, history, and geography, among other factors, and it evolves due to the choices and actions of the participants. For this reason, no two economies are identical. Notably though, Pure market economies rarely exist since there's usually some government intervention or central planning involved in the development of economies.

Even the United States could be considered a mixed economy. Regulations, public education, social security benefits are provided by the government to fill in the gaps from a market economy and help to create balance. As a result, the term market economy refers to an economy that is more market-oriented in general. After several experiments in eco-

nomics restructuring, Pakistan currently operates a mixed economy in which state-owned enterprises account for a large portion of gross domestic product (GDP).

The country has experimented with several economic models during its existence.

At first, Pakistan's economy was largely based on private enterprise, but significant sectors of it were nationalized beginning in the early 1970s, including financial services, manufacturing, and transportation.

Further changes were made in the 1980s, under the military government of Zia ul-Haq. Specifically, an "Islamic" economy was introduced, which outlawed practices forbidden by Shariah (Muslim law) e.g., charging interest on loans and mandated such traditional religious practices as the payment of Zakat and Ushr (land tax). Though portions of the Islamic economy have remained in place, the state began in the 1990s to privatize in whole or in part large sectors of the nationalized economy.

The economy, which was primarily agricultural at the time of independence, has become considerably diversified. Agriculture, now no longer the largest sector, contributes roughly one-fifth of GDP, while manufacturing provides about one-sixth.

Trade and services, which combined constitute the largest component of the economy, have grown considerably. In terms of the structure of its economy, Pakistan resembles the middle-income countries of East and Southeast Asia more than the poorer countries of the Indian sub-

continent. Economic performance compares favourably with that of many other developing countries; Pakistan has maintained a sustained and fairly steady annual growth rate since independence. As part of the IMF agreement and to control inflation, the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) had been steadily raising interest rates.

From 6.5 percent at the time when the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) government demitted office in May 2018, the SBP's benchmark interest rate increased to 13.25 percent in July 2019. The high interest rate was also meant to attract 'hot money' into Pakistan. Around 3 billion US dollars flowed into Pakistan in the form of purchases of short-term treasury bonds, but it started to flow back as soon as the Covid-19 crisis started to unfold in the west.

At the same time, there has been a relentless increase in population, so, despite real growth in the economy, output per capita has risen only slowly. This slow growth in per capita income has not coincided with a high incidence of absolute poverty, however, which has been considerably smaller in Pakistan than in other South Asian countries. Nonetheless, a significant proportion of the population lives below the poverty line, and the relative prosperity of the industrialized regions around Karachi and Lahore contrasts sharply with the poverty of the Punjab's barani areas, the semiarid Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas.



LAHORE: Masood Ahmad Khan, CEO SIGMA Photographic Society of Pakistan and Ch Aurangzeb, Director SIGMA give away gifts to Rana Sajid Hussain, Chief Photographer of Daily Jinnah and Online News Agency for achieving first position in Ramazan Photo Contest 2021.

Dist admin enforcing corona SOPs

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The district administration inspection teams visited various areas to ensure implementation of corona related SOPs. District officers visited private and public sector educational institutions and inspected corona SOPs.

The real Quality King realme C21 Now at an affordable price

LAHORE: The world's fastest growing smartphone company realme knows exactly how to entice its users with its real quality products. Therefore, realme has come up with two exciting announcements – both of whom are going to excite realme fans across the country. First up, realme has made its realme C21 – the true quality king more affordable at PKR 17,999/-. This 3GB + 32GB powerhouse smartphone shall now be available to more and more people.

On the other hand, realme will be one of the first brands to provide Android 12 stable update to its devices,



timed perfectly with Google's official release of Android 12. realme fans the world over can log onto the realme Community to apply for the update very soon. At the same time, realme UI 3.0 based on Android 12 will also be released globally on October 13. At present, realme UI has exceeded 100 million users world-

wide, and in the past two years, realme UI has grown with young users worldwide, providing them with a smooth and fun system experience. realme UI 3.0 will still adhere to the product inspiration of seamless fun and will continue to improve on functionality, fluency, customizability, security and privacy that young users are concerned about. Both these announcements by realme are fan-centric, both on the product-end and take the realme user experience to newer heights. realme C21 was the world's first smartphone to receive TÜV Rheinland's High Reliability Certification. —PR