

Number of out of school children significantly increasing in Pakistan

— UNICEF delegation meets Shafqat Mahmood

From Our Staff Correspondent

ISLAMABAD: A high level delegation of UNICEF led by its Deputy Executive Director, Omer Abidi here on Monday met with the Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Shafqat Mahmood.

UNICEF is working with the ministry of Education and Professional Training in many projects including Education can not wait, Digital divide, technology assistance for blended learning, Teachers Professional Development and out of school children etc.

While appraising the efforts of the ministry to continue education during the pandemic, the minister said, we had brought all the federating units, whether under PTI government or under the other parties rule, on the same page to formulate unanimous education policy which was the major achievement of us.

Shafqat Mahmood said, the number of out of school children had significantly increased and learning losses also enhanced owing to the pandemic, adding "We are fo-



Shafqat Mahmood

claiming on these two issues with the help of technology".

The minister also apprised the delegation about development and launching of Single National Curriculum and teachers training program.

Abidi commended the clear headed vision of the minister and his efforts to launch SNC and to mitigate the digital divide across the country.

The both sides reiterated their resolve for keep working together on the education issues.

1,826 POs arrested in 15-day crackdown

Police have arrested 1826 pro-

claimed offenders (POs) during a 15-day crackdown against criminals across the South Punjab, a police official disclosed on Monday.

As per directive of Additional Inspector General of Police (IGP) South Punjab Capt (retd) Zafar Iqbal Awan, the police launched a 15-day crackdown against proclaimed offenders and court absconders under a mission to decrease crime ratio in the South Punjab. The police have arrested 1826 proclaimed offenders and 965 court absconders during the crackdown.

In a statement issued here, the additional IGP South Punjab said that police department was committed to curb crime from the society by launching a comprehensive crackdown against criminals.

He said that notorious criminals have been arrested during separate operation which resulted into a remarkable decrease in crime ratio across South Punjab.

He said that all regional police officers of the South Punjab have been directed to continue crackdown against proclaimed offenders and court absconders to make area crime free.



SKARDU: An attractive and eye-catching view of reflection of mountain in Katpana Desert Lake.

Help desk set up to help NGOs for improved legal compliance

PESHAWAR: Social Welfare Department Govt of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Blue Veins, a local NGO, established a Help Desk and helpline to Facilitate NGOs to improve legal compliance and get register with KP Charity Commission and obtain NOC from Home and Tribal Affairs.

After the promulgation of the Act in 2019, every charity is bound to get itself registered with the registering authority and would not collect charitable funds or seek collection of the charitable funds unless it is registered under the law.

The Charities Act imposes criminal proceedings against the non-compliance of registration with the charity commission.

Registration could be obtained by applying through an online portal so far only 224 NPOs in KP obtained registration under category A 67, B under category B 88 while under category C 69 NPOs obtained the registration. The majority of NGOs failed to apply because they have poor documentation, little internet expertise, poor connections and ma-

majority community-based organization does not even have required equipment's such a laptop or scanner available.

To facilitate the NPOs training workshops are in progress to facilitate NPOs in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to improve compliance with KP Charity Commission Act and Increase awareness and understanding of Procedures about obtaining provincial No Objection Certificate (NOCs). Habib Khan Afridi Director Social Welfare Department said establishment of help desk, helpline and training workshops will increase knowledge and capacity of NPOs in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on NGOs' regulatory mechanisms and procedures especially at the grass-roots level and to improve the existing compliance needs. Qamar Naseem program Coordinator Blue Veins and member of the KP Govt's NGOs de-registration and reinstatement review board said Healthy State and NGOs relationship is key to sustainable development. The awareness sessions are providing an opportunity for the dialogue and ex-

plorable viable solutions and build mutual understanding between the government and non-government stakeholders on required measures for improved and friendly regulatory mechanisms and procedures.

Adopted son kills father, brother

An adopted son on Monday shot dead his father and brother in Pari Korona area of Mathra police station near Warsak Road.

Police said the accused Kamran shot dead his father named Momin (80) and brother, Farman (50) and escaped with the assistance of two of his accomplices.

Police said one of the accused named Alamgir has been arrested while Kamran and Fahim were at large. Reason behind the killing was that the accused, a drug addict was upset since his real mother committed suicide in Karachi.

The accused was also forcing the deceased and his family to make arrangements for his marriage however, due to his habit of heavy drug use his family was reluctant to get him married. —Agencies

Reference against Sardar Mehtab adjourned till 20th

ISLAMABAD: An Accountability Court (AC) on Monday adjourned hearing till October 20, in a reference filed against former advisor civil aviation and PML-N's leader Sardar Mehtab Khan Abbasi.

The defence lawyer during the hearing continued cross examination with witness Irfan Afzal. AC-I Judge Muhammad Bashir heard the reference pertaining to illegal appointment in Pakistan International Airline (PIA). The hearing of the case adjourned till October 20, after the defence counsel Tariq

Mehmood Pasha conducted cross examination with the witness.

Meanwhile, AC-III Judge Syed Asghar Ali adjourned hearing on acquittal plea of co-accused in illegal plots allotments reference connected with fake bank accounts scam till November, 2. Muhammad Hussain, Younas Qadawi and others had been named as accused in the case.

AIOU to commence final exams of BA/B Ed from 18th
Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) is commencing final examinations of programs offered in

spring 2021 semester on October 18. These examinations will be held simultaneously throughout the country and will continue till December 11, a press release on Monday said.

According to details, roll number slips have been uploaded on the university's website (www.aiou.edu.pk) for the programs including BA (Associate Degree), 1.5/2.5 and 4-year B Ed, Associate Degree in Commerce, Associate Degree in Education, BBA and BS (ODL) programs. —Agencies



First Egyptian plane under national logo lands in Israel

JERUSALEM: A plane branded with the logo of national Egyptian carrier Egyptair landed in Israel for the first time, a flight described as "historic" by the Israel Airports Authority. Egypt was the first Arab nation to establish ties with Israel in a 1979 peace deal, and direct flights between the countries followed that accord.

But the Egyptian flights to Israel had previously been operated by an Egyptair subsidiary, Air Sinai, set up exclusively for the Israel route, creating a buffer between Egyptair and the Jewish state. But Egyptair will now run four flights per week into Israel under its own banner, IAA spokesman Ofer Leffer said. He called Sunday's landing "a historic first." The move comes after a visit to Egypt last month by Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett for talks with President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi. —AFP

Afghan girls wait for Taliban plan to re-open schools

KABUL: Kabul As the weeks pass in Afghanistan, the new Taliban administration has yet to announce when it will re-open secondary schools for girls, leaving them stuck at home while their brothers return to class.

Two weeks since boys in classes above the sixth grade were told to go back to school, the government says it is working on making it possible for girls to do the same. "My request to the Islamic Emirate is that girls be allowed to go to school," said Marwa, a Kabul schoolgirl, using the term the Taliban use to describe their government. "Also [female] teachers should be allowed to go to school and teach girls. I dreamt of becoming a top doctor to serve my people, my country, and my family and work in the community, but now it's not clear what my future will be," she added. —AFP

Nine killed as cyclone lashes Oman, Iran

MUSCAT: At least nine people were killed in Oman and Iran as tropical Cyclone Shaheen pummelled parts of their coastlines, authorities said.

In Oman, two people died in a landslide and a child in flash flooding, officials said.

Rescue teams pulled the bodies of two Asian workers from their home hit by a landslide in the Rusayl industrial area of Muscat province, Oman's National Committee for Emergency Management (NCEM) said. The child died and another person was reported missing in flash floods in the capital's province, it added. Flights were cancelled or delayed, as wind speeds reached 120 kilometres an hour across Oman's north coast. Shaheen was later downgraded to a tropical storm, said the NCEM.

In the capital Muscat, vehicles were tyre-deep in water and streets left semi-deserted. Across the sea in Iran, six people were killed in Chabahar port in the southeastern province of Sistan-Baluchestan, parliament's news agency ICANA reported, citing deputy speaker Ali Nikzad. "Infrastructure, including electrical facilities and roads, was damaged," provincial governor Hossein Modarres-Khahani told Iran's official IRNA news agency. The eye of the storm was located 220 kilometres (130 miles) off the coast of the province, he said. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) also went on "high alert", emergency services



said. Some flights to and from Muscat International Airport were suspended as a precaution, while authorities urged people to avoid low-lying areas and valleys. Oman declared a two-day national holiday on Sunday and Monday and shuttered schools, the official Oman News Agency said. 'High alert in UAE' In July, northern Oman was hit by heavy rains, hail and strong winds. And in May 2018, Cyclone Mekunu hit southern Oman and the

Yemeni island of Socotra, killing at least 11 people. Oman, a country of some 4.6 million people, reopened its doors to foreign tourists last month after a Covid-imposed closure. The Gulf country — known for its rich heritage, scenic coastline and stunning terrain — has been hit hard by the fall in world crude prices since 2014 and the coronavirus pandemic. The sultanate had been counting on tourism to boost its flagging economy. The UAE also braced for the storm, with emergency authorities urging people to avoid beaches and low-

lying areas. "We would like to assure everyone that the concerned authorities are on high alert and prepared to deal with any upcoming tropical situation," its National Emergency Crisis and Disaster Management Authority said. All construction work was suspended in Al-Ain, bordering Oman, and children were told to study remotely on Monday and Tuesday. —AFP

ICU bed occupancy rises to 53pc amid 'exponential rise' in COVID-19 cases

SINGAPORE: Bed occupancy in the intensive care units (ICU) of public hospitals has risen from 26 per cent to 53 per cent over the last three months, said Senior Minister of State for Health Janil Puthuchery in Parliament.

It is one of the ways in which the recent "exponential rise" in COVID-19 cases has impacted Singapore's healthcare capacities, he said.

Singapore has seen more than 2,000 daily infections in recent days, with the daily caseload reaching a record 2,909 cases on Friday. Along with the rise in cases, more COVID-19 patients have been admitted in hospital. As of noon on Sunday, 1,337 COVID-19 cases were warded in hospital, with 250 cases requiring oxygen supplementation, and 35 in critical condition in the ICU.

Dr Puthuchery noted that overall, about 15 per cent of hospital beds in acute public hospitals are used for around 10 per cent of all COVID-19

cases. Those requiring oxygen supplementation or ICU care make up 2 per cent of total cases — most of whom are unvaccinated or elderly.

Apart from ICU occupancy rates, the occupancy of isolation beds has also increased from 58 per cent to 86 per cent in the last three months. In community care facilities (CCF), bed occupancy has more than tripled from 10 per cent to 35 per cent, he said. "Public hospital emergency departments have seen up to an eight-fold increase in the number of patients with ART (antigen rapid test) or PCR (polymerase chain reaction) positive results seeking medical attention," noted Dr Puthuchery.

He added that prior to the past two weeks, authorities took a maximum of 12 hours from the time of a positive PCR test to take COVID-19 patients aged above 70 years old to the hospital. But with the current high case load, the average time taken has

gone up to 48 to 72 hours. Since Singapore Civil Defence Force ambulances are reserved for patients with emergency conditions, the Health Ministry has set up a dedicated fleet of 95 more ambulances to take COVID-19 patients to different healthcare facilities, he said. As for ICU cases, Dr Puthuchery noted that authorities are "closely monitoring" trends. In addition, hospitals have added 74 ICU beds, increasing capacity to a total of 187 beds for COVID-19 patients with severe conditions. "More ICU beds can be opened at short notice, if needed," he said.

Dr Puthuchery added that the manpower situation in hospitals is also being closely monitored, given that close to 400 healthcare workers have been infected.

"Our hospitals will continue to dynamically cross-deploy their resources to ensure that manpower needs are met. —Reuters

COURT NOTICE

In the court of Hasnat Aslam Gondal, Family Judge, Bhalwal

Suit for dissolution of marriage
Noreen Shaukat D/O Shaukat Ali Awan R/O Chak No 7, NB, Tehsil Bhalwal, District Sargodha Plaintiff

VERSUS
Dawood Ali Asif S/O Asif Hanif, caste Awan R/O Mohallah Darzianwala, Baddo Ratta road, Noshera Virkan, District Gujranwala. Presently residing at Rua Cidade De Visu L17 1dt Fetais De Baixo Camarate, Sacavem, Sacavem, 2680-139, Portugal.

Defendant
The court has called you again and again, but the implementation seems difficult, therefore this ad is being issued for you to appear in this court on 07-10-2021 at 8:00 am. Otherwise the action would be taken against you and after that no excuse or objection would be accepted. This ad is being issued with stamp and signature of this court.

COURT NOTICE

In the court of Ambreen Tariq Awan, Judge, Family Court, Sheikhupura

Suit for recovery of maintenance allowance and dowry articles
Fatima Hanif etc VS Muhammad Abbas etc

NEWS PAPER versus:
1. Muhammad Abbas 2. Muhammad Ilyas sons of Muhammad Khushi, all Kamboh by caste, residents of Street Master Mukhtar Wali, Mohallah Meraj Pura, Jandiala Road, Sheikhupura.

The court has called you again and again, but the implementation seems difficult, therefore this ad is being issued for you to appear in this court on 06-10-2021 at 8:00 am. Otherwise the action would be taken against you and after that no excuse or objection would be accepted. This ad is being issued with stamp and signature of this court.

CORRECTION OF FATHER'S NAME



I AMMAR ALI NASIR have passed the Secondary School Annual/Supply Examination 2019 under Roll No 178813 and appear in intermediate Annual/Supply Examination 2021 under Roll No 552759 from B.I.S.E Lahore My Father's Name is NISAR AHMAD where on certificate my Father's name has been mentioned as NISAR AHMAD Which is incorrect. I want to get changed my father's name from NISAR AHMAD to NISAR AHMAD. If any person/organization/agency has any objection, then the same may be intimated in writing to the Secretary, Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, 86-Mozang Road, Lahore within 15 days.

CORRECTION OF FATHER'S NAME



I HUMAR RAFIQUE have passed the Secondary School Annual/Supply Examination 2015 under Roll No 128145 and intermediate Annual/Supply Examination 2017 under Roll No 546903 from B.I.S.E Lahore My Father's Name is MUHAMMAD RAFIQUE SHAHID where on certificate my Father's name has been mentioned as MUHAMMAD RAFIQUE Which is incorrect. I want to get changed my father's name from MUHAMMAD RAFIQUE to MUHAMMAD RAFIQUE SHAHID. If any person/organization/agency has any objection, then the same may be intimated in writing to the Secretary, Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, 86-Mozang Road, Lahore within 15 days.

COURT NOTICE

In the court of Nazia Ali, Civil Judge, Sialkot

Suit for division of property Imran Arif VS Muhammad Akram etc

Ad For: Asima Noreen D/O Muhammad Arif R/O H, No 326/6, Mohallah Awanan, Rangpura, Sialkot, presently living in Netherlands (Holland).

The court has called you again and again, but the implementation seems difficult, therefore this ad is being issued for you to appear in this court on 05-10-2021 at 8:00 am. Otherwise the action would be taken against you and after that no excuse or objection would be accepted. This ad is being issued with stamp and signature of this court.

UAE stadiums to be at 70pc capacity for T20 World Cup

DUBAI: Stadiums in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will operate at 70 per cent of their capacity for the Twenty20 World Cup, the organisers said, though conditions in Oman, where preliminary rounds are due to be played, have still to be fully assessed following a cyclone.

Tropical Cyclone Shaheen struck coastal areas of Oman, including the capital of Muscat on Sunday, two weeks before preliminary round matches of the tournament commence on October 17. Some 3,000 fans would be accommodated at Al Amerat stadium in Muscat. —AFP