

### 16 shops sealed, 32 cases registered over sugar hoarding

**OKARA:** A meeting, chaired by Okara Deputy Commissioner Capt (retd) Muhammad Ali, was informed on Saturday that 16 shops were sealed, 32 cases were registered and Rs 163,560 fine was imposed on hoarders during the first week of November.

The DC told the participants that reasonable profit was a right of traders, but the sale of sugar as well as other essential commodities at exorbitant prices would not be tolerated at all.

He said that price control magistrates should take action against sugar hoarders and elements involved in black marketing without any discrimination.

He was chairing a review meeting of stocks of sugar and other essential commodities in the district. The meeting was informed that in the first week of the current month, the price control magistrates sealed 16 shops, got registered 32 cases against hoarders and imposed Rs 163,560 fine on hoarders.

In Okara, nine cases were registered, six shops sealed and Rs 20,000 fine was imposed on them. In Renala Khurd, 18 cases were registered, six shops were sealed and Rs 41,000 fine was imposed on hoarders.

In Depalpur, 18 cases were registered, three shops were sealed and a total fine of Rs 102,500 was imposed on them.

The DC directed the assistant commissioners (ACs) to ensure sale of sugar at Rs 90 per kg in their respective tehsils.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Revenue Saba Asghar Ali, Additional Deputy Commissioner General Hassnain Khalid Sanpal, assistant commissioners, System Network Administrator Hassan Farooq Wattoo, District Officer Industry and Mayor Khalid Javed Bhatti and other officers concerned. —APP

### 61 power pilferers nabbed in a day

**MULTAN:** Multan Electric Power Company (MEPCO) have caught 61 power pilferers during separate operations launched throughout the South Punjab, MEPCO official said on Saturday.

MEPCO teams accompanying task forces raided different places in Multan, Vehari, Sahiwal, Rahimyar Khan, Muzaffargarh, Bahawalnagar, Khanewal and Dera Ghazi Khan and detected theft of 1,00,000 electricity units.

A sum of over Rs 1.5 million fine was imposed on them while FIRs were registered nine of them over involvement in tampering with body of meters, direct supply, installing loop in meters, slowing down meters, meter dead stop and meter screen wash, spokesman added. —APP



LAHORE: Woman visitors at the German Company BGR stall at the Alhambra on the second day celebrations of the 70-year friendship of Germany and Pakistan.

# All possible steps to be taken to ensure sale of sugar at fixed prices: CM

— Presides over a high-level meeting at CM's Office

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** The Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar has presided over a high-level meeting at the CM's Office on Saturday, in which he was briefed about sugar stocks and demand in the province.

It was decided in the meeting to take all necessary steps to stabilize the sugar prices. The Chief Minister said that all possible administrative measures would be taken to ensure sale of sugar at fixed prices. He said that indiscriminate action against hoarders and profiteers will be continued and no one will be allowed to exploit the interest of the common man. He further asserted that no one will be allowed to hoard sugar. Artificial increase in sugar price will not be tolerated. People cannot be left alone at the mercy of profiteers. Usman Buzdar directed to take

all necessary steps for the immediate start of the crushing season.

The Chief Minister gave necessary instructions to Minister Industries Mian Aslam Iqbal in this regard. The government will take every decision in the best interest of the country and to safeguard the rights of the common man. He said that the administration should ensure availability of sugar in small shops in order to stabilize the market. The sugar situation should be reviewed on a daily basis. Usman Buzdar gave necessary instructions to the Advocate General regarding court orders. The Chief Minister was informed that there is an ample stock of sugar in the province including Lahore.

Sugar is available at Rs. 90/kg in 200 mega stores and 1200 small shops in Lahore. Minister for Industries Mian Aslam Iqbal, Spokesperson Punjab Government

Hasaan Khawar, Chief Secretary, Advocate General Punjab, Secretaries of relevant departments, Commissioner Lahore Division, Cane Commissioner Punjab and other senior officials were also present on this occasion.

### Takes strict notice of viral video in which a young man making fun of prayers

The Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar has taken strict notice of the viral video in which a young man is making fun of prayers and sought a report from RPO DG Khan.

Moreover, Muzaffargarh Police have apprehended the accused namely Asif.

The Chief Minister has directed to take strict legal action against the accused and said that such incident hurt the religious sentiments of every Muslim and such people do not deserve any leniency.

### Measles, rubella prevention campaign awareness seminar held in Kasur

From Our Staff Correspondent

**KASUR:** The measles and rubella prevention campaign awareness seminar organized by UNICEF and the health department Kasur was held at DHDC hall last day.

Assistant Commissioner Kasur Aurangzeb Sadhu, Chief Executive Officer Health Authority Dr. Pervaiz Iqbal, UNICEF consultant Aram Princess, District Health Officer Dr. Abdul Qadir, District Coordinator IRMNCH Dr. Samra Khurram, Director DHDC Dr. Intiaz Olkh, Deputy DHO Dr. Faisal Iqbal, President Pakistan Medical Association Dr. Muhammad Khalid, President Pakistan association of Family Physician Dr. Shafiq Ahmed, child specialist DHQ hospital Dr. Habibulla, Dr. Maaz and others attended. On the occasion, it was reported that on the directive of the Punjab government, the national campaign against measles and rubella is starting on November 15 to 27, 2021, which is a campaign to protect future generations from infectious diseases. During this campaign, 1.460 million children from 9 months to 15 years will be vaccinated in Kasur.



For the success of the campaign, 5735 workers across the district will be injected into homes and neighborhoods. All the attendees from the seminar reiterated that government and private doctors will play their part in this national campaign and all the resources will be used for the success of this campaign.

### Warehouse raided

Under the supervision of Assistant Commissioner Kasur Aurangzeb Sadhu, the officers of the revenue department, while taking action in Tara Garh chowk, raided the warehouse of Azmat Ali S/O Khadim Under the supervision of Assistant Commissioner Kasur Aurangzeb Sadhu, the officers of the revenue department, while taking action in Tara Garh chowk, raided the warehouse of Azmat Ali S/O Khadim Hussain and recovered three hundred bags of sugar and fine twenty thousand



LAHORE: Employees of WASA on their way to their offices on bicycles as an awareness drive launched to decrease the unnecessary use of vehicles in smog. —Online

### 'Distribution of Health Card to be completed till March 2022'

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid on Saturday said the distribution of Health Card would be completed in the province till March 2022 aimed at providing maximum health facilities to people.

Talking to PTV, she said that the under this entitlement the head of the family can avail medical treatment of upto Rs.1 million from more than three hundred private hospitals in the province.

She said that the government was taking solid steps to improve women's health.

Talking about the Covid-19 pandemic she said, the vaccination process has been geared up across the province to get rid from the corona, adding that 52 percent of the province population has been vaccinated of first dose.

### Provision of basic services to citizens at doorsteps top priority: Minister

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** Provincial Minister for Energy Dr. Akhtar Malik said on Saturday that providing basic services to citizens at their doorstep was top priority of the government.

He expressed these views while addressing inauguration of Water Supply Lines Replacement Project ceremony at Union Councils 46 and 56. Dr. Akhtar Malik said that the major issue of the

city was drainage and provision of water supply and added that record development funds of Rs 190 billion have been allocated during current fiscal year budget.

He directed WASA officials to speed up the work on ongoing development projects of water supply and sewerage in PP-219 constituency and ensure best quality work in all projects.

Meanwhile, Managing Director Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA),

Nasir Iqbal, giving briefing to provincial minister said that the work of laying more than 24,000 feet water supply lines in the areas of Pir Colony, Ghouseabad in Union Councils 46 and 56 was in full swing. Provincial Minister Dr Akhtar Malik ordered to expedite the pace work on all the projects further and complete them as soon as possible.

Director Engineering Abdul Salam, other officials and scores of local people were also present.

### SAPM Malik Amir Dogar visits Sports Complex to review ongoing uplift projects

**MULTAN:** Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) on Political Affairs, Malik Amir Dogar said on Saturday that athletes were most important part of the society.

He said that it was our duty to provide all sports facilities to them so that they could play their role in a healthy environment and brighten the name of country.

SAPM Malik Amir Dogar expressed these views during visit to district sports complex to review ongoing uplift projects under Sustainable Development Goals Achievement Programme (SAP-3) including reconstruction of football pavilion, construction of mosque and renovation of Malik Salahuddin Dogar Sports Hostel there. —APP

## Jammu Martyrs Day commemorated with renewed pledge

**MIRPUR:** Kashmiris on both sides of the line of control observed the Jammu Martyrs anniversary on Saturday to commemorate the supreme sacrifices of the lives given by over 2.5 lacs Muslim residents of Jammu city in 1947 while migrating to Pakistan.

The day is observed every year by the Kashmiris to remember the supreme sacrifices of lives who were mercilessly slaughtered by the armed Hindu gangsters including the Indian occupying and the dogra military troops with the connivance of the dogra hindu fanatics, under a nefarious pre-planned conspiracy while they were proceeding for migrating to Pakistan near Jammu - Sialkot working boundary.

According to the independent historians and observers, least 6 lacs muslims in Jammu region were assassinated in first week of November 1947 by the armed extremist Hindus and Sikhs with the backing of the despotic dogra ruler under a pre-planned conspiracy to exercise the genocide of innocent Muslims population of Jammu.

The day was observed by every Kashmiri with the renewed pledge to continue the successfully-going struggle for freedom of occupied Jammu Kashmir from the Indian

clutches. In Azad Jammu Kashmir special ceremonies including seminars and symposiums were held in various parts of AJK including the capital city of Muzaffarabad to pay glorious tributes to the Jammu martyrs.

Jammu Martyrs Day was marked in Azad Jammu & Kashmir with a mammoth ceremony hosted at the town hall in Mirpur Azad Jammu & Kashmir under the auspices of Jammu & Kashmir Freedom Movement and Jammu & Kashmir Milli Forum with the AJK Prime Minister Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan Niazi as Chief guest. Paying rich tributes to the martyrs of Jammu and Kashmir, speakers including the AJK Prime Minister Sardar Qayyum Niazi and others said that the best way to pay tributes to the martyrs of Jammu is to follow their foot steps with the renewal of the pledge to continue the struggle for freedom.

Lauding complete unity and solidarity among all the political parties of Azad Jammu & Kashmir on one point agenda of the freedom, speakers underlined that the Kashmiris can perform an affective and result-oriented role for the settlement of the much-delayed Kashmir issue and they should be granted an opportunity to perform the national re-

sponsibility to this direction.

Speakers called upon the international community to sincerely move for performing due global obligations to ensure the early peaceful settlement of Kashmir issue which involves the right to self determination of about 20 million people of Jammu & Kashmir.

Speakers urged upon the world community and the international organizations to take immediate notice of the continued Indian state terrorism unleashed against the innocent freedom-loving people in occupied Jammu & Kashmir for their "offense" of raising voice for liberation of the motherland from the Indian yoke and for the achievement of their birth right of self determination. The participants offered fateha for raising the status of the departed souls of the martyrs and the early success of the freedom struggle of Jammu and Kashmir for the freedom of motherland from the Indian subjugation. Earlier, the day dawned with special prayers, at Fajr, in all the prominent mosques for the early liberation of occupied Jammu Kashmir from Indian yoke through success of Kashmir freedom movement, progress, prosperity and stability of Pakistan and Azad Jammu & Kashmir. —APP

## IHRA starts crackdown on private Covid-19 test

**ISLAMABAD:** Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority (IHRA) has started a crackdown on private COVID-19 testing laboratories in the federal capital on issuing fake results of the infection tests with the support of travel agents.

"These laboratories are unlawfully giving wrong PCR test reports of Coronavirus as per the desire of the people with the involvement of some travel agents," Chief Executive Officer, IHRA, Dr. Quid Saeed Akhonzada said on Saturday in an interview. He said that it was also observed that some labs have issued such COVID-19 reports without receiving blood samples or even issued negative reports to the positive patients to make their traveling easier with having wrong dealings with travel agents.

Dr. Akhonzada said, "We will not allow anyone to run any such illegal business in the medical field. They are playing with the health of people while deceiving health authorities." He said that IHRA inspections teams had started surprise visits to all such labs and their collection points. He added the authority had suspended

the services of three laboratories while further were under observation.

"We have started collecting data to take action and seal all such labs with the support of the local administration as we are against this unlawful practice and our policy is zero-tolerance against such illegal activity."

Dr. Akhonzada said, "We are ready to perform our role of policing for legal health establishments also to protect citizens from wrongdoings of the health setups as we have been given mandate with the power to ask from these setups about any illegality with citizens."

He added, "We have field teams who conduct visits to personally monitor the standards of health facilities in the federal capital besides completing routine assessments." He said that the main objective of IHRA is to regulate healthcare services and establishments in the federal capital. He said that in order to regulate these health establishments, the authority was working on standards and after completing its documentation work on these standards, health establish-

ments will be examined to know whether these standards were being observed or not.

He added after observing these standards, the license will be issued to the eligible setups to operate in the federal capital while the authority will not allow working all substandard setups.

He said these steps aimed at ensuring that formal or informal and public or private healthcare services to the citizens of the federal capital were at par with the international standards to further internationally recognize these services also.

"We have decided to train the staff of all hospitals, institutes, centers, and laboratories phase-wise on how to raise the standard of their respective facility, and in the next step after assessing and giving them rating we would give them a one-year license." The CEO said, "Our monitoring process will be ongoing as we will monitor these healthcare setups even after giving license while the authority will also assess their standards at the time of renewal of license. There will be a regular checking mechanism to evaluate their services."