

Anti-measles, rubella campaign successfully underway in Sialkot

SIALKOT: Deputy Commissioner Tahir Farooq said on Wednesday the ongoing national anti-measles and rubella campaign was ongoing successfully in the district.

On the first day 150,135 children were vaccinated while 46,489 children under five years of age would also be vaccinated against polio in the district. He stated this while reviewing the daily progress of the ongoing MR campaign in the district.

The DC said that during the 12-day national anti-measles and rubella catch-up campaign, 1,663,636 children between the ages of 9 months and 15 years would be vaccinated in the district while 730,530 children under five years of age would be vaccinated against polio.

To make this national campaign a success, 143 fixed and 1041 outreach teams of the health department were performing their duties, he added. He said that parents should get free measles and rubella vaccinations at the nearest temporary vaccination center, school or government health centre to protect their children from deadly diseases like measles and rubella.

Punjab Talent Hunt Programme launched

SARGODHA: Chief Minister Punjab Talent Hunt Programme 2021-22 has been launched in Sargodha Division.

According to Assistant Director programme Adnan Khaliq Bhatti on Wednesday, people aged 16 to 40 from all the tehsils of Sargodha, Khushab, Mianwali and Bhakkar divisions are eligible to participate.

The programme has a total of six sections which include music, fine arts, literature, handicrafts, folk dance and theater.

Registration forms for the competition can be downloaded from www.pac.gop.pk or obtained from the Arts Council, he added. —APP

AJK PM, KA/GB Minister discuss current Kashmir affairs

MIRPUR: Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs and GB Ali Amin Gandapur Wednesday called on the Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Sardar Abdul Qayyum Niazi in the federal metropolis to discuss issues related to the Azad Jammu Kashmir Council, construction of bunkers along the LOC, party affairs besides matters of mutual interest.

Speaking on the occasion the AJK Prime Minister Sardar Abdul Qayyum Niazi said that India has intensified the reign of terror in occupied Jammu Kashmir and was also targeting the civil population at the line of control. He said the people of LOC have been offering sacrifices for the defense of the country along with the Armed Forces of Pakistan. —APP



LAHORE: A labourer cuts wood into pieces for customers at a warehouse.

Mahmood expresses dissatisfaction over cleanliness situation in City

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Provincial Minister for Local Government Mian Mahmood-ur-Rasheed has expressed dissatisfaction over the cleanliness situation in Lahore and directed the LWMC to remove 7000 ton garbage daily as no compromise would be made on the situation of cleanliness.

While chairing a meeting at LWMC head office he announced to hold LWMC board meeting every week adding that ghost staff should be identified and dismissed along with recruitment on vacant sanitary workers posts to improve cleanliness situation. Similarly, number of waste collection points should be increased and best cleanliness arrangements be ensured in the provincial metropolis, he directed.

The cleanliness situation be daily monitored and citizens' complaints be addressed at the earliest as provision of a neat and clean atmosphere to them was a responsibility of the government, concluded the minister. Secretary Local Bodies Noor-ul-Amin Mengal, CEO LWMC Rafia Haider and others attended the meeting.

PM Imran Khan is strong hope of 220m people: CM

— Advises Opposition parties to relax till 2023

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar has said the PDM leadership lacks foresight as this opportunist cabal has no interest in public welfare.

In a statement issued on Wednesday, the CM said the PDM continues to bewail from the day first as it would face defeat at every front. The CM advised the opposition parties to relax till 2023 as the politics of development and public welfare will prevail in the country.

Every conspiracy hatched against the PTI mandate has been frustrated with public support and negative tactics employed by opposition to obstruct the development process would not be tolerated by the masses, he added. The PTI and its allies were working day and night to bring prosperity and stability to the country while the opposition had faced defeat on every occasion, he maintained. Though the opposition was expert in propaganda

tactics, it cannot befall the masses as PM Imran Khan was a strong hope of 220 million people of Pakistan, concluded the CM.

CM condoles death of Lala Sheikh Rafiq

Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar has expressed a deep sense of sorrow over the death of Lala Sheikh Rafiq Qamar, an elder brother of Federal Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed.

In a condolence message, the CM extended sympathies to the bereaved family and prayed to Almighty Allah to rest the departed soul in eternal peace.

Buzdar deplors opposition's undemocratic behaviour

Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar has said the PTI-led government has made historic legislation in the joint session of the parliament on Wednesday. However, the undemocratic attitude adopted by the opposition with regard to public interest legislation was con-

demnable; he added and noted that the allies have fully supported the government over legislation.

It is unbecoming that the opposition was trying to make its one and a half inch mosque on important issues and such politics does not suit them, he remarked. It is depicting a picture of failure and disorder. Meanwhile, most of the opposition members are unhappy over the behaviour of their leadership, he concluded.

CM welcomes passing of EVM Bill

The opposition has faced defeat in the joint session of the parliament and it should better shun its negative attitude now.

In a statement, Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar said the opposition designs had been frustrated and its undemocratic and unethical attitude was deplorable.

Those making tall claims had fled away after their defeat as record legislation have been passed in the joint session of

the parliament, he added and reiterated that PTI and its allies were on the same page under the leadership of PM Imran Khan.

The CM welcomed the passing of the electronic voting machine bill and hoped that this avant-garde step would ensure transparency in elections and no one would point a finger at the results. Regrettably, the opposition does not want transparent elections and its opposition to the legislation was like pot calling the kettle black. The EVM voting system would ensure transparency, authenticity and accuracy in the election process and it was the fundamental and democratic right of the people which PTI government had given them.

He added that cent percent correct results would be achieved. The PTI government has fulfilled its promise by giving the right of vote to expatriates which are the valuable asset of the country, the CM concluded.



ISLAMABAD: Raja Zafar Ali Khan, Khushnood Ali Khan, Zafar Bakhtawari and others offer fateha at the grave of Mehmoody Ali, a leader of the Tehreek-i-Pakistan.

Punjab's Ravi City Project crucial for Pakistan's development-I

In a country where urban development is unorganized and largely unregulated, strategic planning is the need of the hour. Socio-economic upliftment increasingly needs sustainable urban planning as urban populations outgrow rural populations globally.



1. The concern that farmers who have been farming on some of the land that will become part of Ravi City is shared by Ravi Urban Development Authority (RUDA). To this end, RUDA has already outlined compensation packages for farmers whose land will be assimilated into the project.

Farmers are being compensated as per a government-approved plan and those who have cultivable land also get crops. The compensation package for 7 and 15 marla owners of non-cultivable and cultivable land, respectively, will provide them sufficient funds to buy land, a house or other property within or outside Ravi City. Furthermore, the current area earmarked for the project is already under urban sprawl. [refer to two images]

Within a period of five years, there have been multiple illegal and unplanned urbanisation in the same area. The concern is that if not regularized, water and environment issues will arise to the point that the situation will become too difficult to handle.

RUDA shall be developing land parcels in partnership with land owners. In the current 1800 acres, farmers apart from their payment, an additional land file of 7 and 15 marlas are being given to compensate them higher than existing market rate. RUDA will be Pakistan's first green and smart city and will comply with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals outlined by the United Nations.

The RUDA project was originally conceptualized

for the benefit of the environment. There is a well thought out environment program, which includes:

- River training
- Water reservoirs
- River channelization: This will add 3.7 billion litres of water in the River Ravi through barrages and recharge the aquifer. This will also act as a flood mitigation measure, handling 586,000 cusec of flood.
- Seven wastewater treatment plants: This is required to treat all the waste going into the River Ravi.
- Waste to energy treatment plant: The majority of infrastructure in this project will be based on renewable energy.
- The project will tackle Lahore's pollution, smog and help increase the green cover of landscape.
- Development of

forests that lie within RUDA. Currently there are 24,000 kanals of forest within RUDA, which have been facing issues of deforestation and the only tree planted on 10% of this area is eucalyptus. RUDA has initiated indigenous trees plantation at Rakh Jhok Forest and will be the first smart forest of the country. Moreover, all 24,000 kanals shall be utilized for increasing the green cover.

3. The "irregularities" mentioned by the Lahore high court judge are still in prosecution. Nothing has been proven yet. The government had originally planned the clean and green city to tackle the unplanned spread of illegal housing societies and developers. The main objective was to cater to all facets and classes of society and give the public an equal chance. Current cases against RUDA are from illegal housing societies and are pleaded by lawyers that are presenting negative views of the project on the behalf of the illegal housing societies that don't want to come under RUDA control or legalize their societies.

To be continued

LCWU playing significant role in women's edu

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Lahore College for Women University (LCWU) deserves congratulations and appreciation on entering its 100th year.

This university is playing a significant role in women's education. Scholarships will be increased for deserving but talented female students of the institution. These views were expressed by Syed Yawar Abbas Bukhari, Provincial Minister for Baitulmaal and Social Welfare. He was addressing as the chief guest at the closing session of a two-day conference at Lahore College for Women University (LCWU).

The conference was organized by the LCWU's Department of Secondary Education. The event was attended by Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Bushra Mirza, Head of Department Dr. Ghazala Noorin, teachers and students. An exhibition of posters on the topic of teaching methodology was also arranged at the conference. On the occasion, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Bushra Mirza said that educational conferences enhance the vision of female students and build their confidence. She urged the students to use modern research and teaching techniques to enhance their skills.

IG orders medical facilities to drivers, security men

— Visits dispensary, record room, control room and various floors of Central Police Office

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Inspector General of Police (IGP), Rao Sardar Ali Khan has said that being Provincial Police Chief, welfare and care of constables, drivers, security personnel and other employees is my top priority.

RPOs, DPOs should utilise all available resources for welfare of drivers, constables, security personnel and other staff. Rao Sardar Ali Khan inspected the dispensary at the Central Police Office and inquired from duty doctor and staff about facilities available in dispensary and problems of the incoming personnel.

He urged doctor to provide medical facilities to drivers, security personnel and other staff in all cases. He further directed to DIG welfare to ensure availability of modern medical equipment and basic facilities.

No complaint of delay or obstruction in the issuance of pension of retired employees is



acceptable and steps should be made more fast track in this regard.

He said that progress would be taken from the supervisory officers on steps being taken for welfare of subordinate staff and personnel in monthly video link meeting.

IGP said that central police office is a provincial headquarter of Punjab police and it's working standard will be further improved to make it a state of the art office.

He said that the CPO control room would be equipped with modern technology and resources in the style of Safe City so that the monitoring of law and order situation, crime control and media handling could be carried out more diligently. On

the occasion of Record Room Visit, IG Punjab directed to make digital archive of all official records of Punjab Police. He issued instructions to the officers when visiting dispensary, record room, control room and various floors in the Central Police Office today.

Directing the officers, IG Punjab further said that upgradation work should be completed as per the modern working standard of Central Police Office. Rao Sardar Ali Khan said that separate room should be allotted for convenience of drivers and other staff so that they do not face any hassle while on duty. Expressing dissatisfaction with lack of proper cleaning arrangements in record rooms and floors, IG Punjab directed to improve it within a week.

Mondelēz Pakistan bags award for gender diversity at workplace

LAHORE: At the prestigious occasion of the 18th Annual Excellence Awards by CFA Society Pakistan, Mondelēz Pakistan received the Gender Diversity at Workplace Award 2021. The award recognises leading organisations for the efforts made in different domains of their business operations and management styles in relation to enhancing their gender diversity representations within the organisation.

As a global company, our diversity is a strength that drives innovation and growth. At Mondelēz, we put huge commitment on supporting gender diversity at the workplace and support women in leadership. Our female representation at Mondelēz Pakistan equates to 50%



females in our leadership team. Mondelēz Pakistan takes lead in gender diversity initiatives. Some highlights of this year's initiatives included International Women's Day, fully flexible working from home policies, enabling highly en-

gaged culture for females to thrive in and a major milestone is the launch of our first-ever Female Sales Trainee Programme.

Narmeen Khan, Managing Director, Mondelēz Pakistan commented "Our ambition is to build a more diverse, inclusive and equitable world—socially and economically. We believe that we are stronger through our diverse, inclusive and connected community; And we chose to act by doing what's right, treat everyone with integrity and fairness, and create a culture that fosters a true sense of belonging". "We are happy with this award as it's not only proving our commitment towards diversity, equity and inclusion, but adds on our responsibility and passion to contribute more", added Narmeen. —PR