

Indoor, outdoor dengue surveillance be improved further: says DC

Rizwan Asghar



KASUR: Under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Kasur Fayaz Ahmed Mohal, a meeting was held yesterday in the DC Committee Room to review the performance of the departments regarding dengue prevention and control.

Chief Executive Officer Health Authority Dr. Azhar Abbas Naqvi, District Entomologist Muhammad Khuram Ibrahim, District Health Officer Preventive Services Dr. Abdul Qadir, Secretary DART A Hafiz Muhammad Usman, Deputy Director Local Government Muhammad Umar, District Zakat Officer and officers of other departments participated in the meeting. In the meeting, the officials of the health department gave a detailed briefing regarding the dengue surveillance activities and the performance of the departments. They said that cases were registered against 11 people after finding dengue larvae last week, 2 places were sealed while notices were issued to 158 people.

'Anjum Nisar a popular leader of commercial circles'

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Chairman Faraya Khalid Mehmood and Senior Vice Chairman Shahbaz Aslam have said in a joint statement that Mian Anjum Nisar is a popular and beloved leader of the economic and commercial circles of Lahore.

In representing the business and industrial community of Lahore, truth and integrity have always been their motto.

Mian Anjum Nisar's voice has been loud and clear in every difficulty and every crisis in commercial and industrial circles. PIAF leadership has always had this distinction. They expressed the sentiments of the business community and industrial circles with honesty and integrity.

The choice of the leadership of Chairman PIAF Fahimur Rahman Sehgal, Senior Vice Chairman Nasrullah Mughal, Vice Chairman Tahir Manzoor is an expression of the heart and concern of the commercial and industrial circles. We heartily congratulate the newly elected leadership of PIAF and we sincerely pray that this campaign of service and determination and courage will continue to be successful with the



LAHORE: Members of Civil Society hold a protest in favour of their demands outside the Lahore Press Club. —Online

Imran agenda is to establish rule of justice, accountability: Basharat

Says PTI wants early general elections; Imran Khan's popularity increasing

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: A British diplomatic delegation led by Mr Richard Lindsay, in-charge of the Pakistan Desk of the British Foreign Office in London called on Provincial Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Environment Protection and Cooperatives Muhammad Basharat Raja in his Punjab Assembly Chamber, here on Thursday. Deputy Political Counsellor, British High Commission, Islamabad Ewan Harris, Political Advisor High Commission Talal Raza, British Representative to Punjab Miss Clara Strandhoj and PTI leader

Behrooz Kamal Raja were also present on this occasion.

Bilateral issues and the overall situation of Pakistan were discussed in the meeting. Mr. Richard Lindsay while inquiring about the well-being of Tehreek-e-Insaf Chairman Imran Khan said that the British government and people were deeply shocked by the attack on Imran Khan.

He said that Britain wants the development and stability of Pakistan and is also cooperating in various projects in this regard. Muhammad Basharat Raja while welcoming the delegation said that the

focus of Punjab Chief Minister Ch. Pervaiz Elahi is only the development of the province. "Chief Minister considers public welfare as the first priority.

Record legislation was enacted during the PTI government in Punjab" he told. Referring to the long march, he said that PTI wants early general elections in Pakistan and Imran Khan's agenda is to establish the rule of justice and accountability.

The provincial minister said that people have been on the streets for 15 days on Imran Khan's call, but their enthusiasm has not decreased. "Despite the propaganda of the opponents, the popularity of

Imran Khan is increasing day by day. The popularity of Nawaz Sharif and Imran Khan cannot be compared. Imran Khan alone is leading the people's struggle for supremacy", he said. Raja Basharat said that Imran Khan is a supporter of sovereignty and against foreign dictation. "The fact is that the economic situation of Pakistan was much better during Imran Khan's rule. I think that Imran Khan can deal with the international community in a better way", he said. Emphasizing on transparency prior the general elections, he said that the neutrality of the current Election Commission has been questioned.



LAHORE: LESCO staffers install new electric wires at a pole.

Modern curriculum indispensable for higher education, says PU VC

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab University Vice Chancellor Punjab University Prof Dr Asghar Zaidi has said that modern curriculum and teaching methods must be adopted to increase the quality of education in the country.

He was addressing the closing ceremony of the three-day international conference on research in education (ICORE-22) with the theme of 'Transforming Teaching for 21st Century Needs' organized by the PU Institute of Education and Research at Waheed Shaheed Hall on Thursday. On this occasion, Chairman Punjab Higher Education Commission Prof Dr Shahid Munir, Chairman Task Force Mian Imran Masood, Director IER Prof Dr Rafaqat Ali Akbar, Conference Sec-

retary Prof Dr Muhammad Shahid Farooq, vice chancellors from various universities, researchers, experts from all over the world, educationist, social scientists, faculty members and students were present.

In his address, Dr Zaidi said that during the teaching process, students should have the freedom to ask questions so that their skills could improve. He said that the universities should take vigorous steps to promote the creation of new knowledge, modern trends, science and technology.

He appreciated the efforts of the organizers for the conference. Dr Shahid Munir said that computer literacy should be a part of every curriculum. He said that the universities should arrange such a curriculum that was in accordance with the needs of the market and the society.

He said that instead of theoretical research, practical research should be promoted. He said that it was the responsibility of universities to create new knowledge, which was not possible without promoting research culture. He said that teachers can improve teaching methods by using modern technology.

Dr Rafaqat said that education was a source of personality development and the formation of a civilized society.

He said that there was a need to connect the curriculum with everyday life so that poverty, unemployment, corruption and injustice could be eradicated from the country. He said that the teachers should give a pleasant environment to the students in the classrooms and it was necessary to get rid of the rote learning system to move forward.

Mehfil-e-Milad held at Excise Office

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Mehfil-e-Milad celebration was held at the Excise Office Farid Kot House on Thursday. Mehfil-e-Milad was organized by APCA Excise. Excise officials and officers participated in the Mehfil-e-Milad and prayed for the development and prosperity of the department along with the country of Pakistan. On this occasion, President of APCA Excise Ch Abu Huraira, Secretary Information Malik Jameel, Director Region(C) Iftikhar Bhalli and Director Region(A) Nauman Khalid was also present.

53 flour mills served show-cause notices

MULTAN: The district food authority served show-cause notices to the owners of 53 mills during an inspection of the 70 flour mills in fortnight, Deputy Director Food Asif Raza said.

A total amount of Rs. 936,015 was recovered in the wake of fine from the said flour mills with wheat quota of the eight ones suspended in first fifteen days of the current month, it was claimed. As many as two FIRs were registered for embezzlement in flour quota with Rs. 915,000 fine imposed as well.

Asif Raza said there was no shortage of flour while its abundant stock was present in the division. —APP

Govt urged to simplify procedure of clearing imported goods

By Our Special Correspondent

LAHORE: Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) Lahore chapter has called upon the government to simplify the procedure of clearing the imported goods at the national ports as cumbersome existing procedure is resulting in unwanted delays and non-availability of containers for export items.

The Forum Referred to a recent statement of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) Chairman Asim Ahmad in the Senate Standing Committee on Fi-

nance in which he claimed that 3000 containers are stuck at Port Qasim amid clearance issues.

PBF Lahore Chapter President Muhammad Ejaz Tanveer in a statement issued here Thursday also claimed that 640 containers carrying food and cosmetics have already expired.

The rest of the containers have mobile phones, vehicles, home appliances and furniture. These containers are stuck because of container import policy orders; misdeclaration and the letters of credit (LCs) weren't open, while some

were struck due to the import ban. Ejaz said that containers carrying imported items and made available for export items after clearance so delay in import clearance means non-availability of containers for exports. He said that delay not only increases the input cost of the importers but also make things costlier for the consumers.

He said that it is an injustice with the industrialists, importers and other businessmen as delay in clearance of the containers have stopped the whole trading circle in the coun-

UoS awards degrees to 59,797 students

SARGODHA: The University of Sargodha (UoS) awarded degrees to 59,797 students during its 9th convocation held at main campus here on Thursday.

The ceremony was significant as it marked the graduation of 62 per cent girl students out of the total students.

Chinese Consul General in Lahore HE Zhao Shiren was the guest of honor while Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Qaisar Abbas presided over the ceremony. As many as 151 PhD degrees, 1656 MS/ MPhil/ MSc (Hons)/ LLM, 22,774 MA/MSc, 13,692 BS/ BSc (Hons)/ BBA and 21,524 BA/ BSc/ ADP degrees were awarded to the students of various faculties while 415 students with distinctions were honored with medals.

Addressing the ceremony, Zhao Shiren appreciated the university administration for building academic and research linkages with esteemed Chinese institutions. Mr Shiren vowed to strengthen cooperation with the university in various fields of mutual interest and announced extending support in developing the already established Pakistan Institute of China Studies at the University of Sargodha. In his speech, Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Qaisar Abbas congratulated the students, their parents and teachers on their achievement. He said: "A liaison between industry and academia is a prerequisite for transforming the higher education sector into industry and enabling it to compete at a global level". —APP

'Substandard material being used in dozens of Local Govt projects'

From Our Staff Correspondent

MINCHINABAD: The corruption mafia is looting the national treasury with both hands. Substandard materials are being used in dozens of local government projects. The anti-corruption department made a plaintiff for these projects. These views were expressed by Saeed Ahmad Ghori, a social worker, in a special conversation with Business Reporter. He said that the corruption mafia has become strong in the country.

Expressing regret, he said that the state employees are silent after receiving their share. Saeed Ahmad Ghori said that requests have been sent to the Anti-Corruption Department, identifying dozens of projects. Giving details of the poor material, he said that the soil used in the road is also taken from nearby places and fields. As per the tender, it is important to use good and firm soil while making the road bed. In the same way, the thickness of the gravel is reduced and the strength of the gravel is not maintained due to the decrease in the amount of tar. Saeed Ahmad Ghori alleged that the supervisor of these projects kept the records in his house. He said that he asked for the details of the records many times but they were not provided. He alleged that the concerned offices also issue advance payment to reward the contractor. The contractor regularly delivers each office portion to them. Corrupt Overseer and SDO receive their share and declare the project made of poor material perfectly fit. He demanded from Chief Minister Punjab, Chief Secretary, Local Government Secretary and DG Anti-Corruption to conduct an impartial inquiry into these projects.

MMBL, U Microfinance Bank sign MoU

LAHORE: Mobilink Microfinance Bank Limited (MMBL), Pakistan's largest digital bank, and U Microfinance Bank Ltd. (U Bank), Pakistan's fastest-growing microfinance bank, have entered into a strategic partnership for providing housing finance facility for their employees.

The MoU was signed between Ghazanfar Azzam, President & CEO - MMBL, and Kabeer Naqvi, President & CEO - U Microfinance Bank, at a ceremony held in Islamabad, in the presence of senior officials from both organizations. Under this partnership, U Bank and MMBL employees can seek housing finance from each other. Eligible employees would have the opportunity to access affordable housing finance of up to PKR 3 Million to purchase a new house, flat, apartment, or plot for construction, as well as to construct a house on a pre-owned plot or add an extension to an existing housing unit. The loan application process has been simplified to facilitate fast-track processing and efficient disbursement



of the loaned amount. "Financial inclusion is not merely a customer-facing ambition but rather encompasses any and all people who wish to upgrade their quality of living through economic empowerment", said Ghazanfar Azzam, President & CEO, MMBL. "As an employer of choice, we are vigilant of opportunities to holistically support our greatest asset-people, as much as possible. This partnership with U Bank will help enable our valued human resources with financial security during the uncertain economic conditions of the modern era," remarked Azzam. —PR