







**PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali addressing 1st Convocation of University of Technology Nowshera at chief guest**

## Kundi for ensuring all possible facilities at BISP payment centers

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): Minister of State for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Faisal Karim Kundi on Monday directed for ensuring the provision of all possible facilities to the beneficiaries at payment centers of Benazir Income Support Program (BISP).

He issued these directions during his visit to different payment centers of BISP in Dera Ismail Khan. On this occasion, the state minister was accompanied by Pakistan People's Party (PPP) District President Malik Farhan Afzal Dhap,

Tehsil General Secretary Malik Khizer Hayat, Tehsil Information Secretary Haji Sooba Khan and others.

He listened to the issues and difficulties being faced by the beneficiary women at these payment centers and directed the on-duty staff to take steps for immediate resolution of the problems being faced by the deserving people.

He warned that no negligence would be tolerated in ensuring smooth payments to the beneficiary women.

The state minister

said that on the special instructions of PPP Chairman and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, this time the aid amount has been increased from Rs 8,500 to Rs 9,000.

Similarly, he said, educational scholarships worth Rs 17 billion were being given under the Waseela-e-Taleem programme.

The stipend amount for the children of deserving women has also been increased. The female student would be given Rs 2,500 and the male student would be provided Rs 2,000 stipend amount.

## Ahmed Hassan says: PML-N to come up to people's expectations

LAHORE (APP): Prime Minister's Coordinator Khawaja Ahmed Hassan said on Monday the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) government was determined to steering the country out of prevailing crises and it would come up to people's expectations.

He was addressing a meeting, called to review the ongoing development work in the city and arrangements in connection with the Eidul Azha at the Aiwan Iqbal Complex. With sincere efforts of the government, the country would get out of the prevailing crises soon, he said adding that the leadership would mitigate the effects of the damage, caused to the economy by politics of

vandalism, and it would be compensated by working hard.

Former MNA Mehar Ishtiaq, MPA Ch Shehbaz, Rabia Farooqi, Ramzan Siddique Bhatti, Syed Tauseef Shah, MD LWMC Babar Sahibuddin, DG PHA Naem Watto, DMD WASA Abdul Karim, representatives of Walled City of Lahore Authority, Punjab Police and others were present.

Khawaja Ahmed Hassan said that despite difficult circumstances, the government was providing resources worth billions of rupees to improve the quality of life to people whereas comprehensive reforms were being introduced for rapid development of the province.

## KP registers 40 dengue cases in one week

PESHAWAR (APP): The provincial health department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Monday called for more pragmatic measures to control the spread of dengue fever in the province as at least 40 cases were reported within a week from across the province. A comparative report of dengue fever cases issued here by the department revealed that 13 cases were reported from Mardan, 11 Peshawar, five Bajaur, three Chitral, two each from DI Khan and Swabi and one each from Bannu, Lakki Marwat, Khyber and Kohat districts. It said that the health department in collaboration with the district administrations and other line departments kept the dengue cases under control this year as compare to the last year.

## CM Punjab puts line departments on alert

**Independent Report**  
LAHORE: Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi has directed all line departments including the provincial administration, Punjab Disaster Management Authority, Rescue 1122, and Water and Sanitation Agency to maintain a state of high alertness, operating round-the-clock, in response to heavy rainfall in Lahore and other cities. The chief minister directed the officers concerned to remain present in the field, ensuring prompt drainage of stagnant water. He emphasised the need for expeditious water drainage, without any compromise, utilising available machinery to implement the

planned drainage strategy within the designated timeframe. He sternly emphasised that no negligence would be tolerated in carrying out the vital task of water drainage.

Addressing the issue of traffic management, the CM emphasized the need for special arrangements to facilitate the smooth flow of vehicles, with active efforts required to resolve public grievances.

He urged administrative officers and WASA staff to oversee and complete the water drainage operations, while emphasizing the initiation of immediate emergency measures in the event of any unfortunate incident.

## GB unveils over Rs116 bln budget for fiscal year 2023-24

GILGIT (APP): The Gilgit Baltistan government on Monday announced an Rs116 billion 15 crore budget for the next fiscal year 2023-24 in the Assembly held here on Monday.

Gilgit Baltistan Finance Minister Javed Ali Manwa presented the budget in the House.

In the budget of the new financial year, 74 billion rupees have been allocated for non-developmental expenditure, while 28 billion 45 crore rupees have been allocated for developmental expenditure. 13 billion 70 crore rupees have been proposed for subsidy on

wheat. The finance minister announced a 35 per cent increase in the salaries of government employees up to 16 and 30 per cent in the salaries of employees from grades 17 to 22.

He further said that more than one billion 37 crore rupees have been allocated for the improvement of the health sector.

He said that more than 1 billion 57 crore rupees have been allocated for education, 45 crore rupees for agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries, and 4 billion 17 crore rupees have been proposed for the power sector.

## To control drug abuse Governor underlines need to evolve comprehensive mechanism in universities

**Independent Report**  
LAHORE: Governor Punjab/Chancellor Muhammad Balighur Rehman chaired a meeting of Consortium on Drug and Narcotics Control today at Governor House Lahore. In the meeting, suggestions and recommendations regarding the prevention of drug abuse in universities were discussed.

Speaking on the occasion, Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman underlined the need to evolve a comprehensive mechanism in universities to control drug abuse at the campuses of the universities. He said that the 2021

policy of the Higher Education Commission is an effective and comprehensive policy in this regard. Governor Punjab emphasized that the vice chancellors to ensure the implementation of this policy.

He said that there is a need to train the faculty in this regard as well. Governor Punjab emphasized that regular awareness campaigns should be conducted to make students aware of the ill effects of drugs. He added that there should be counseling facility for students in the campuses in this regard.

On this occasion, the members of the Consortium briefed the Governor Punjab in detail about the various recommendations.

Convener/Pro-Vice-Chancellor Bahauddin Zakaria University, Dr. Muhammad Ali, Vice-Chancellor Faisalabad Medical University Prof. Dr. Zafar Ali Chaudhry, Vice-Chancellor Nishtar Medical University Multan Prof. Dr. Rana Altaf Ahmed, Vice-Chancellor GC University Lahore Prof. Dr. Asghar Ali Zaidi, Vice-Chancellor University of Health Sciences Lahore Professor Ahsan Waheed Rathore, Vice-Chancellor Women University Multan Professor Dr. Director ANF Raja Tariq Mehmood participated in the meeting.

## 3 siblings died in a tragic traffic accident in Lahore

LAHORE (Online): 3 siblings died due to traffic accident in provincial capital Lahore.

According to rescue authorities, a tragic traffic accident took place on Soi Asal Road near Kahana where two speeding motorcycles have been collided with a tractor trolley parked on the side of the road.

Authorities have said that as a result of the accident, three siblings died while the mother and two sons were injured.

## Minister vows to arrest miscreants behind attacks on Sikh youth

PESHAWAR (APP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister of Information Barrister Feroze Jamal Shah Kakakhal on Monday said the law enforcing agencies and police were actively pursuing the two attacks on Sikh youth in the provincial capital and assured that soon the miscreants would be brought to justice.

The Minister arrived here at Gurdwara Bhai Joga Singh, Mohalla Jogan Shah and condoled with the bereaved family of 32-year old

Manmohan Singh a Sikh shopkeeper who was shot dead in Rashidgarhi Bazaar here on Saturday. The Minister conveyed his heartfelt sorrow and grief to later Manmohan Singh's father and brother and assured that soon the culprit would be arrested and given exemplary punishment. He said that no one would be allowed to disturb the peace and atmosphere of brotherhood in the province and reiterated the resolve of the KP government to ensure protection of lives.



**LAHORE: Governor Punjab/Chancellor Muhammad Balighur Rehman chairing a meeting of Consortium on Drug and Narcotics Control at Governor House**

## International News

## Russian PM urges citizens to rally behind Putin after aborted mutiny

**Monitoring Desk**  
MOSCOW: Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin said on Monday that the country had faced "a challenge to its stability" and must remain united behind President Vladimir Putin following Saturday's abortive mutiny by heavily armed mercenary fighters.

Under a deal late on Saturday that defused the crisis and averted possible bloodshed, the Kremlin said the Wagner Group mercenaries would return to base, while their leader Yevgeny

Prigozhin would move to Belarus. All criminal charges against him and his fighters would be dropped, the Kremlin said.

In what appeared to be the first public comments by a senior Russian official since then, Mishustin appealed at a televised government meeting for national unity in the face of what he said were efforts by the West to undermine Russia.

"The main thing in these conditions is to ensure the sovereignty and

independence of our country, the security and well-being of citizens," said Mishustin, a technocrat who was appointed prime minister in 2020.

"For this, the consolidation of the whole of society is especially important; we need to act together, as one team, and maintain the unity of all forces, rallying around the president," he said. Mishustin, a former head of Russia's federal tax service, also took a swipe at the West.

"As the president

noted, virtually the entire military, economic, information machine of the West is directed against us," he said.

Putin said on Saturday that the rebellion by the Wagner mercenary force had threatened Russia's very existence under threat and vowed to crush it.

However, he has not publicly commented since then on the dramatic events or on the deal brokered by Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko that defused the crisis.



**President Joe Biden arrives in the East Room with Vice President Kamala Harris and Jeff Say for an event about high speed internet infrastructure at the White House.**



**Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Rudenko and Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang in Beijing.**

## At least 3 dead, dozens of homes damaged after storms hit US Midwest, South

**Monitoring Desk**  
INDIANA: Tornadoes and thunderstorms hit the US Midwest and South a day earlier, leaving dozens of homes damaged and at least three people dead in Indiana and Arkansas, authorities said on Monday.

The National Weather Service said multiple tornadoes and severe storms were reported on Sunday in central Indiana and Arkansas.

Emergency officials from Martin County, Indiana, confirmed one death in the area. Emergency Management Director Cameron Wolf said the victim's injured partner was airlifted to hospital. They lived in a two-storey log cabin, which

was destroyed by the storms. Further details were not immediately available.

"Damage is random, it's kind of widespread," Wolf said in an interview with PBS. The damage mostly happened out in the countryside, he said, adding that towns were not hit that hard by the storms.

The Lonoke County Sheriff's Office confirmed that two people were killed after a tree fell on a home in Carlisle, Arkansas, due to severe storms on Sunday, a CBS News affiliate said.

Images and footage from local media showed fallen trees had blocked roads and homes were damaged.

## Kremlin releases first video statement by Putin since Wagner mutiny

**Monitoring Desk**  
MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday issued via the Kremlin website his first statement since an armed mutiny by the Wagner mercenary group, congratulating participants of an industrial forum.

It was not immediately clear when or where Putin's statement was recorded.

## UN ship agency chief urges decisive action at environment talks

**Monitoring Desk**  
LONDON: Countries must take decisive action at talks aimed at accelerating decarbonisation in the shipping industry, the United Nations' shipping agency chief said on Monday, as pressure for change builds.

Shipping, which transports around 90% of world trade and accounts for nearly 3% of the world's carbon dioxide emissions, is facing growing calls from environmentalists and investors to deliver more concrete action including a carbon levy.

## China expresses support for Russia after failed mercenary revolt

**Monitoring Desk**  
HONG KONG: China has expressed support for Russia's efforts to maintain national stability in the wake of a failed uprising by mercenaries that posed a brief but unprecedented challenge to Russian President Vladimir Putin's rule.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Rudenko was in Beijing on Sunday, a day after Yevgeny Prigozhin called off an advance on Moscow

by his Wagner mercenary group forces and agreed to leave for Belarus in exchange for charges being dropped.

"The Chinese side expressed support for the efforts of the leadership of the Russian Federation to stabilize the situation in the country in connection with the events of June 24, and reaffirmed its interest in strengthening the unity and further prosperity of Russia."

## Lebanon's militant Hezbollah group says it shot down an Israeli drone near the southern border

**Monitoring Desk**  
BEIRUT: Lebanon's militant Hezbollah group said its fighters shot down an Israeli drone Monday that was flying near the border and over the southern Lebanon.

The group gave no further details about the type of drone that it claimed was downed near the village of Zibqine just north of the border with Israel.

An Israeli military spokesman said in a tweet that a drone crashed in Leba-

non when an Israeli force was performing routine activities. The spokesman, Avichay Adrae, added in Arabic that there were no concerns of information being leaked. The incident comes after weeks of tensions along the Lebanon-Israel border, mainly in a disputed area known as Chebaa Farms. Earlier this month, Israeli soldiers fired tear gas to disperse scores of Lebanese protesters who pelted the troops with stones along the border.

## Blinken says Wagner insurrection shows 'cracks' emerging in Putin's rule

**Monitoring Desk**  
WASHINGTON: US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Sunday that the brief and chaotic insurrection in Russia led by the Wagner paramilitary group shows "cracks" in Russian President Vladimir Putin's role as a leader of the country.

"This is just an added chapter to a very, very bad book that Putin has written for Russia. But what's so striking about it is, it's internal," Blinken told CNN's Dana Bash on "State of the Union," describing the situation as

"extraordinary."

"The fact that you have from within someone directly questioning Putin's authority, directly questioning the premises that upon which he launched this aggression against Ukraine. That, in and of itself, is something very, very powerful. It adds cracks. Where those go, when they get there, too soon to say, but it clearly raises new questions that Putin has to deal with," he said.

The comments from the nation's top diplomat underscore the short-lived

intensity of a crisis that started when Yevgeny Prigozhin, the head of the Wagner Group, marched his fighters toward Moscow, taking control of Russian military facilities along the way. Prigozhin on Friday openly accused Russia's military of attacking a Wagner camp and killing a "huge amount" of his men. For months, he had railed against Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu and the country's top general, Valery Gerasimov, whom he blames for Moscow's faltering invasion of Ukraine.

## Airport worker dies after plane engine 'ingests' him

**Monitoring Desk**  
WASHINGTON: US regulators said on Sunday they are investigating an incident in which a Texas airport worker was killed after being sucked into a passenger plane engine.

A Delta flight had arrived in San Antonio, Texas from Los Angeles on Friday night and was taxiing to the gate with one engine on "when a worker was ingested into that engine".

## North Korea holds rallies denouncing US, warns of nuclear war

**Monitoring Desk**  
SEOUL: North Korea held mass rallies in Pyongyang where people shouted slogans vowing a "war of revenge" to destroy the United States, as it marked the 73rd anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War, state media reported on Monday. About 120,000 working people and students took part in the rallies held across the capital on Sunday, state news

agency KCNA reported.

Photos released by state media showed a stadium crowded with people holding placards reading "The whole U.S. mainland is within our shooting range" and "The imperialist U.S. is the destroyer of peace." Sunday's anniversary came amid concerns Pyongyang could soon conduct another launch of its first military spy satellite to boost monitoring of U.S. military activities.

## India's systematic torture against Kashmiris- biggest challenge to world's conscience: AJK PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Azad Jammu and Kashmir Prime Minister, Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has said that India's systematic torture against Kashmiris was the biggest challenge to the world's conscience.

In a statement issued on the occasion of International Day of Support for Victims of Violence observed on Monday, the prime minister, while referring to the use and abuse of power by the Indian occupation forces in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), said that human rights abuses in Jammu and Kashmir ranging from mass killings, enforced disappearances, torture pose a serious threat to the people of Kashmir who have been reeling under relentless oppression and barbarism over the past several decades.

He said that sexual

violence was being used by the Indian forces as a means to punish and humiliate Kashmiris.

He said that Kashmiris were subjected to the worst mental and physical violence in torture cells and interrogation centers set up in the length and breadth of the valley.

"India has been using these colonial-era tactics to strengthen and solidify its illegal control over the territory of Jammu and Kashmir", he said.

He, however, maintained that despite facing India's worst violence and nefarious tactics, Kashmiris are determined to see their freedom movement to its logical conclusion. The prime minister while condemning the brutal repression of Kashmiris at the hands of the Indian occupation forces, said that IIOJK had been turned into an open-air prison

where Kashmiris were forced to live under the shadows of guns. The Kashmiri leadership, he said, has been booked under Draconian laws and thrown behind bars.

"Kashmiri youths are being picked up from their homes and martyred in fake encounters", he said, adding that secret burials of martyred youths in faraway places have become a new normal in Kashmir.

The prime minister said that there were thousands of unknown graves in IIOJK.

He said that thousands of women whose husbands have been subjected to enforced disappearances were living a miserable life. "They don't know whether their spouses are dead or alive", he said, adding that more than eleven thousand women have been raped in IIOJK.



BERLIN: Participants of the 16th Special Olympic World Games Pakistan athletes in a group photo after the closing ceremony at Brandenburg Gate.

## Pak wins 10 golds as Special Olympics ends

KARACHI (INP): Pakistan won a total of 10 gold medals in the 16th Special Olympics World Games, which concluded on Sunday in Berlin.

The number of golds in Pakistan's kitty increased after cyclist Saifeer Abjd clinched one in the 10km time trial race during the games' cycling event. He completed the 10km distance in 23 minutes and 02.02 seconds.

This was the first time that Saifeer, who hails from Karachi, has participated in the World Games. The cyclist had been preparing for the special sporting event since the last two years, he said.

"I have the passion to win more medals for Pakistan in the upcoming international events," Saifeer said.

In the 500m time trial race, Madeeha Tahir of Pakistan won the silver medal by covering the distance in 1 minute and 14.15 seconds, while Amina Arshad won the bronze medal by covering the distance in 1 minute and 16.82 seconds.

In the final of the futsal event, Oman won the gold medal by defeating Pakistan by 6-3 goals. Pakistan finished second with the silver medal.

Pakistan stood fourth in women's doubles, men's singles and unified men's doubles of the tennis event.

In the Bocce team event, Pakistan's Mahnoor, Simran Mahesh Lal, Jamilur Rahman and Farhan Aslam won the silver medal after defeating Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Farhan Aslam won the bronze medal in men's singles, and Mahnoor won the bronze medal in women's singles.

## IHC summons SSP operations

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Monday summoned SSP Operations Islamabad police and directed him to appear in person in a case seeking the recovery of a missing bureaucrat Azam Khan.

Chief Justice Aamer Farooq heard the case regarding the matter. The officials of FIA, NAB, Interior Ministry, police officials and additional attorney general appeared before the court.

At the outset of the hearing, the police officials informed the court that the vehicle of the missing bureaucrat was not seen in the footage of Safe City Cameras.

The chief justice remarked that how it was possible as the vehicle to be driven across the city. He further said that it was a serious matter as the said bureaucrat was missing since June 15.

## Marriyum says: Big news - new policy parameters to boost music industry

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb on Monday announced finalization of the country's first-ever music policy draft, which would ultimately prove to be a big news for the industry.

The new policy incentives and initiatives would eventually boost the music industry since they would effectively redress piracy, copyrights and other pertinent issues, she said in a statement.

The minister said the music policy had been prepared in accordance with the international standards and also considering the relevant laws in vogue in the neighbouring countries.

She said the artists' public performance, production, distribution, adaptation, duration, and mechanical and communication rights were also brought into legal framework through the policy.

Through such measures, the problem of users and licensees would also be solved, which would give a boost to the music industry, she added.

The minister said the end of monopoly, the basic

legal rights of music industry workers would also be protected under the proposed policy.

All issues and demands of the music stakeholders, including copyrights, would be resolved, she reiterated.

The policy, she said, would also protect the legal rights of music producers, singers, writers and lyricists, besides resolving the long-standing issues of the industry related to sales, copying and piracy.

The minister said the policy also included special measures to preserve classic music, and initiatives for local and folk music to promote regional singers and artists.

She said under the policy, steps would be taken to not only preserve but also promote Pakistan's musical heritage, which was rich being a unique combination of Sufi poetry, with classic and modern music.

Marriyum said music could be termed "the soul and spirit" of the Pakistani society, rather it was a national and cultural identity, which was being brought forward from generation to generation.



ISLAMABAD: Fateha is being offered over the sad demise of the aunt of the Acting President, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

## PARC, BoP collaborate to promote research based agriculture

ISLAMABAD: (PR&P PARC) Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) and The Bank of Punjab (BoP) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the aim of boosting agricultural productivity and sustainability in Pakistan.

Under this agreement, BoP will provide financial support for research activities that are mutually agreed upon and driven by demand, with the goal of promoting the welfare of the farming community and ensuring sustainable food security. In an initial step, BoP will finance the specific needs of the potato-growing community, focus-

through their participation in various agriculture trades training programs under the Prime Minister's youth loan scheme.

During the event, Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Ali, Chairman of the Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC), highlighted the critical role of agricultural research in attaining economic stability and promoting rural development. Dr. Ali emphasized the paramount significance of allocating resources to expand agricultural research activities, as it drives product innovation, strengthens food security, and creates opportunities for exports.

Such investments are



ing on the production of disease-free seeds for potato growers in the Punjab region. This financial backing from BoP aligns with the broader objective of fostering growth and green sustainability throughout the country. Additionally, both PARC and BoP have expressed their commitment to engaging the youth in the agricultural sector

instrumental in ensuring the long-term prosperity of the nation and the well-being of rural communities by facilitating sustainable agricultural practices and advancements. Chairman Dr. Ali expressed his profound appreciation for the visionary approach presented by BoP and assured the bank of wholehearted cooperation in future endeavors.

## Citizens asked to adopt precautionary measures amid rainy spell

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO) asked the general public to adopt precautionary measures owing to a rainy spell as a little carelessness or negligence can lead to a fatal accident.

The spokesman advised the general public to follow precautionary measures for the sake of saving life and important belongings.

Do not touch naked wire and get repaired defective wiring, use three pin plug along with proper

earthing while using an iron, washing machine, refrigerator etc, put wooden pieces, flappers or rug under your feet and also use rubber soles shoes, further said.

Use rope while drying clothes instead of electrical wires and do not use a water pipe for it. Instruct children to avoid going near electricity installations while playing. Do not keep hold of the rope of sacrificial and other cattle heads and other cattle heads with poles or stay wire and remain at least a hundred feet away from high tension wires.

## Daraz Pakistan to donate 200 laptops to government schools

ISLAMABAD (INP): Daraz Pakistan has announced the donation of 200 refurbished laptops to government schools in Okara, a testament to the company's dedication to supporting education and ensuring that students have access to essential technology resources.

The donation aims to provide students enrolled in eight schools in Okara with refurbished laptops, enabling them to thrive in today's learning environments. Recognizing the im-

portance of assisting the most vulnerable groups in society, this donation will be benefiting 3600 students, according to a press release issued on Monday.

This donation will help create a more equal educational landscape by granting children access to computers.

The laptops will facilitate innovative online learning experiences both inside and outside the classroom, breaking down barriers and ensuring equitable solutions.

## Dust, thunder storm with rain expected in most parts of country

ISLAMABAD (Online): Isolated heavy falls with isolated hail storm is expected in Northeast Punjab, Potohar region, Upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Kashmir during the next twelve hours. However, dust and thunderstorm with rain is expected in upper and central Punjab, Islamabad, Pothohar region, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, north and east Balochistan, Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan.

## PTI chairman must be given punishment as per law: Malik

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister of State for Petroleum Dr Musadiq Malik on Monday said that Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf (PTI), Chairman must be given punishment as per law. PTI leaders and workers have found attacking security institutions on May 9, he said while talking to a private television channel. PTI had been using derogatory remarks against the heads of national institutions, he said. Appreciating the military courts' unbiased working style, he said the current decisions taken by military courts are unprecedented.

On the special instructions of Vice Chancellor

## Dar chairs meeting to oversee outsourcing of airports' operations

ISLAMABAD (Online): Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar chaired a meeting of the Steering Committee to oversee the outsourcing of airports' operations, at Finance Division, today.

Federal Minister for Aviation and Railways Khawaja Saad Rafique, Federal Minister for Commerce Syed Naveed Qamar, SAPM on Finance Mr. Tariq Bajwa, SAPM on Government Effectiveness

Dr. Muhammad Jehanzeb Khan, Secretary Aviation, DG CAA, IFC representatives and senior officers from Finance and Aviation attended the meeting.

During the meeting, IFC, transaction advisor, gave a presentation to the committee which took decisions as to the future roadmap for moving forward for outsourcing of the first airport in order to improve service delivery and match best international practices.

## AIOU to establish Swift Centers across country

ISLAMABAD (APP): Alama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) has decided to establish "AIOU SWIFT Centers" across the country for the convenience of students and to ensure they have access to essential information related to academics, admissions, and examinations. According to the AIOU, after the digitization of universities, there was a need to provide online facilities to students in remote areas of the country, where internet and computer facilities are not available to students.

Now in the second phase, AIOU SWIFT Centers are being established across the country, providing all necessary information and facilities to existing and new students. These SWIFT Centers will be duly registered with AIOU to promote the academic services and activities of the university and serve as a digital facility centre for students.

AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, the university established state-of-the-art computer labs in the regional offices of AIOU in the first phase to provide students with free internet and computer facilities.

Representatives from educational institutions proposed the organization of refresher courses and awareness campaigns, aimed at shielding young

## Law Enforcement departments unite in Islamabad to tackle drug abuse: ICCPO

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad capital police, in collaboration with the Anti Narcotics Force (ANF) and educational institutions, conducted a significant meeting at the Central Police Office on the occasion of International Day

against Narcotics. The meeting was chaired by Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, the meeting aimed to address the rising concern of drug abuse among the youth and strategize effective measures to combat this menace.

The meeting saw the participation of key stakeholders, including representatives from Islamabad Capital Police, ANF, and various educational institutions. Notable attendees

included Brigadier Ammar Ali, Regional Directorate Commander North from the Anti Narcotics Force, and high-ranking officers from Islamabad Capital Police, including the Capital Police Officer Headquarters, AIG Operations, and SSP Operations.

During the session, ICCPO Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan emphasized the critical role of social response and proper guidance in preventing youth from falling prey to drug addiction. He acknowledged the concerted efforts of law enforcement agencies, including ANF, in combating drug-related activities in Pakistan.

ICCPO Dr. Khan urged educational institutions to collaborate closely with law enforcement agencies to safeguard students



students from the dangers of drugs and promoting a comprehensive understanding of its adverse consequences. By fostering awareness among the younger generation, the aim is to break the network of drug dealers and prevent the destruction of young lives. ICCPO Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan affirmed the commitment of Islamabad capital police to bring those involved in drug trafficking to justice and prevent them from jeopardizing the future of our society.

## 12 people died due to lightning strikes in different cities

SIALKOT (Online): 12 people have died due to lightning strikes in Sialkot, Shakargarh, Sheikhupura and Pasnur.

5 people were killed due to lightning in Sialkot, 4 people were struck by lightning in Shakargarh, 2 in Sheikhupura and one in Pasnur.

Lightning strikes occurred at two different places in Sheikhupura.

A person in Mandiala Warkan in a buffalo enclosure was killed by lightning.

3 people sitting in a graveyard in Chak Shahpur were also struck by lightning.

Among them one person died while two others were injured.

Due to lightning, a fire broke out in the Sharqur Road grid station, which was brought under control by the rescue staff.

A person was killed by lightning in the neighboring village of Thatha Malkhi in Pasnur.

## MOU signed between FPCCI and CCR Relentless efforts to improve Pakistan, Russia economic ties

ISLAMABAD: The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry and the Chamber of Commerce of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Russia

Masood Ur Rehman Vice President FPCCI and Mr. Bogoslovskeya Marina President CCR have signed the MOU. Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) is the largest re-



public of Russia, located in the Russian Far East, along the Arctic Ocean, and with a population of roughly 1 million Sakha comprises half of the area of its governing Far Eastern Federal District. According to the signed MOU, both Parties will help establish direct contacts and exchanges between themselves and individuals of both Parties in the spheres identified by the Protocol of Intentions. Both Chambers will also develop cooperation for the development of joint business projects based on mutual benefit and under the laws of their states in the field of foreign economic relations.

CONDOLENCE

THE ALL PAKISTAN NEWSPAPERS SOCIETY

expresses profound grief over the sad demise of

mother of

Mr. Saeed Ahmed Khan

Accounts Officer, APNS.

May Allah the Almighty rest her

soul in eternal peace and grant

courage to the family to bear the loss.

All Pakistan Newspapers Society