



Positive Post



Greenwich University
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Monthly publication to create a soft and positive image of Pakistan

2012 Silver Jubilee Year

PM orders accelerating efforts to explore new oil, gas fields



Sehar Nadeem
BS41 3607

Prime Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf has said that challenges should be turned into opportunities in order to accelerate the exploration efforts for oil and gas in the country.

Raja expressed these views while presiding over a meeting on petroleum issues at the PM's House on Friday. Raja was briefed about the exploration projects of Oil and Gas Development Corporation Limited (OGDCL) in the oil and gas sector and the incentives provided to attract investment, an official statement.

Raja directed to make the oil and gas



production efficient to meet the growing energy requirements of the economy. Through joint partnerships, every effort should be put in for the enhanced exploration and drilling of oil and gas so that more energy could become part of the system to keep the wheels of the economy in motion and overcome energy

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Special students to get laptops

Sehar Nadeem
BS41 3607

Punjab Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif has decided to provide laptops and solar energy panels to the students of 32 special education institutions in Rawalpindi.

According to reports, the Punjab Education Department has issued directives to

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'PIA on path of recovery'



Maheen Farid
MS42 3785

Pakistan International Airline (PIA) is on the path of recovery

and will achieve new heights. Chairman PIA Lt General (retired) Asif Yasin Malik addressing the PIA employees said there would be no job cuts, rather salaries and pension would be increased in due course of time



depending upon the financial health of the Airline.

He especially praised the engineers and technicians of PIA for their dedication and hard work.

PIA is one of the few airlines of the world, which has the ability to make use of its own engineering and maintenance capabilities whereas most of the airlines have outsourced this function. He informed PIA employees about the induction of A320 fuel-efficient aircraft in PIA fleet with deliveries beginning in a couple of month's time. These aircraft will help improve the

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Pakistani armed forces among the best in world: Governor Punjab



Ameer Hamza Asif
VS41 3646

Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Asif Sandhila called

on Punjab Governor Makhdoom Ahmad Mahmood and discussed various national issues.

On the occasion, the governor said that the country's armed forces are considered "one of the best forces in the world", adding that they have great capabilities to protect geographical boundaries of the country.

He also stated that the present

government is completing its tenure in a "dignified manner and is determined to hold free and transparent election".



Earlier, a seven-member Indonesian media delegation met the governor. The governor told the delegation that the media is "totally independent and free in Pakistan".

"The media has played a
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EDITOR'S NOTE

Living in Karachi, we face scores of problems that range from lack of basic amenities to violence, extortion, and genocide. It is hard to see the silver lining in such dire situations, but perhaps what's needed most at this time is to stop complaining and to stand up against the injustice. With the majority of our country's population being youth, "revolution-should not be a clichéd phrase – the blood that runs in our young bodies should boil at the atrocities and our every limb should struggle to bring change and put an end to the cruelties. Positive Post aims to motivate its readers to be part of the positive developments in the country, and become a revered name in the history of this nation.

A compilation of news made by students of Mass Communication and Media Studies of Greenwich University to highlight the positive aspects of Pakistan

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Positive Post is grateful to the newspapers/agencies from which the news have been gleaned by students.

Pindi to have 4 new degree colleges



Sidra Syed
BS41 3696

The government of Punjab has decided to establish four new degree colleges in Rawalpindi in the next financial year, to meet the escalating demand of higher learning institutions in the city.

According to sources, two degree colleges for boys and two for girls would be set up. Two colleges would be established in Dhoke Ratta and two in Dharmyal.

Reportedly, the estimated cost of these colleges is Rs 140 million.

Sources also said that PC-1 of four degree colleges had been approved, while funds have also been released for Boys Degree College Dhoke Ratta and construction work on the project was expected to start within a month.

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Shahbaz Sharif for strengthening Pak-Iran trade ties

Ameer Hamza Asif
VS41 3646

Punjab Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif on Friday said that Iran is a sincere and reliable friend of Pakistan, and that there is a need for further promoting economic, trade and industrial ties between the two countries.

He expressed these views while talking to the Adviser to Supreme Leader of Iran Ali Akbar Walaiti, who met the chief minister with a 14-member delegation in Model Town.

Talking to the dignitaries, the CM said that Pakistan and Iran enjoyed a strong bond of love and affection.

He said that Nawaz Sharif had played

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60 universities in Pakistan working on robotics technology

Ameer Hamza Asif
VS41 3646

Robotics as a discipline of science and technology is being taught at the graduate and post-graduate levels by more than 60 universities of Engineering Science and Technology in Pakistan.

The research and development (R&D) in advanced fields of Robotics and Artificial Intelligence has also been undertaken by some of laboratories established in the R&D institutes and universities in Pakistan. The official in the Ministry of Science and Technology claimed that there is a technical group engaged in the development of automation of industrial processes at the National Institute of Electronics (NIE), Islamabad. The group has developed Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs), which are used in automatic industrial controls.

The Centre for Intelligent Machines and Robotics (IMR) at the COMSATS Institute

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Citibank allocates \$50,000 grant for skill development

Sehar Nadeem
BS41 3607

Citi Foundation will provide a \$50,000 grant to enhance traditional patchwork (rilli) making skills of 500 low-income women and expand their market access. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Citibank on behalf of its philanthropic arm Citi Foundation signed a partnership agreement to develop a cadre of skilled rilli making artisans and harness busi-



ness opportunities for poor women in the Khairpur and Shikarpur districts of Pakistan's Sindh province, devastated by the floods in 2010 and 2011. The project builds on a matching grant and other ongoing development activities of the Flood Emergency Reconstruction Project (FERP). Under the FERP, ADB is assisting Pakistan in reconstructing 790 kilometers (km) damaged national highways and 800 km of provincial roads, bridges, irrigation systems to safer and higher

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Anti-corruption steps yielding good results



Tayyab Ghani
BS35 3064

Punjab Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif that solid steps have been taken for the elimination of corruption from the province, adding that these measures are yielding positive results.

He was addressing a function with regard to provision of buses to government colleges.

The chief minister said the provincial government would provide buses to colleges at a cost of Rs 2 billion. He said that resources needed to equip the young generation with modern knowledge would be provided.

He claimed that provision of buses to colleges is "a welfare programme which the next government will also continue it".

Shahbaz Sharif said that 210,000 solar panels are being distributed among students on merit under the Ujala programme.

He said that this public programme would "turn the darkness of the country into light and will be helpful in the development of the country".

He said that the steps taken by the Punjab government for the promotion of education would change the fate of the nation.

He said that due to the energy crisis, educational institutions, hospitals, offices and industries are facing prob

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Telenor Pakistan ranked the most preferred employer

Maheen Farid
MS42 3785

Telenor Pakistan has been ranked as the top employer in the country amongst various sectors, as per the survey conducted by ROZEE.PK in collaboration with Yougov, a leading global opinion pollster based in UK.

Compensation and benefits, brand image, career growth, better work environment and social responsibility were the factors for selection of Telenor Pakistan as the most preferred employer.

In the industry break up category, Telenor Pakistan led from the front as the most preferred employer in the telecommunications industry with 56.79 percent votes. Vice President Human Capital Division Telenor Pakistan, Muhammad Shoaib Baig said, "This is a worthy accomplishment for Telenor Pakistan to be declared the

top employer in the country. We attribute this to our people centric culture and egalitarian values that provide a progressive and growth oriented work environment. We believe our people are our real asset and nothing is possible without their hard work, commitment and dedication." Monis Rahman CEO of ROZEE.PK said, "Telenor Pakistan has shown exemplary commitment to building an extraordinary workplace for its employees. We extend our deepest congratulations to Telenor Pakistan for being ranked as the top employer in the ROZEE.PK Top Employer Rankings 2012. The results highlight Telenor Pakistan's investment in workplace excellence has resulted in powerful employer branding which allows it to hire the best talent in the market.

Courtesy: Daily Times

Free mobile mammography screening service launched

Ameer Hamza Asif
VS41 3646

Pink Ribbon campaign has initiated the project of mobile mammogram bus to help women get regular checkups in locations where there is no easy access to the hospitals.



Pakistan's first Breast Cancer Mobile Mammogram Clinic was launched by Pink Ribbon Campaign, in collaboration with the Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Oncology (INMOL).

Talking to the news, Pink Ribbon campaign Chief Executive Officer Omar Aftab said: "Since there is lack of medical facilities and doctors in the rural areas, and people have to walk many miles to get to a hospital, it is extremely difficult

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'Medical researches can help improve healthcare'

Sehar Nadeem
BS41 3607

Post Graduate Medical Institute Board of Management Chairman General (R) Ziauddin Butt has said that medical researches can largely contribute to health sector and help resolve health issues.

Speaking at the concluding session of the third annual scientific symposium at the Lahore General Hospital, he said that research and development held great importance in the medical sector. He said that such symposiums were the best source of sharing talent and research work among young doctors.

He said the scientific symposium would leave far-reaching effects on the health sector within the country as well as abroad. "Doctors' community enjoys the status of life savers in society; therefore they should serve the ailing humanity with all possible devotion and dedication in order to raise their pride and dignity."

He hoped that research papers would be accessible all over the world through the media and would enhance more capacity building of the community.

PGMI Principal Prof Anjam Habib Vohra told



the participants of the symposium that 14 pre-workshops and four scientific sessions had been held in addition to the exhibition of 16 research-based posters in connection with the event.

He hoped that the students of the Ameeruddin Medical College would get at par with other medical colleges in the research field next year. He said that due to low fee, foreign students were also getting admissions at the college; hence brain drain was being stopped. He said that the motto of the college is 'Quality Healthcare Medical Education'. He said that the performance of teachers and the abilities of the students were being recognised by virtue of the medical college.

Vohra said that the programme of conducting training workshops and seminars in

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PCP organises seminar on 'Media Ethics and Court Reporting'

Tayyab Ghani
BS35 3064

The Press Council of Pakistan (PCP) in collaboration with the Islamabad High Court Bar organised a seminar on 'Media Ethics and Court Reporting'. PCP Chairman Raja Shafqat Abbasi said that the press and lawyers have played a great role in restoring judiciary, strengthening democracy and establishing rule of law in the country. He also said, "Court reporters are a vital part of the judicial system and need to take extra care and caution while reporting their stories."

He added that these reporters were "officers of the court" who informed the public

about court proceedings. The Chairman also said that "court reporting" is a specialised form of journalism. Raja Abbasi urged people in the media that while reporting the matter, principles of fairness, accuracy, relevancy, impartiality, right of privacy, verification and right of clarification should be maintained. He said that sensationalism, encouragement of violence or terrorism had no place in journalism.

He also said, "Credit goes to parliamentarians who restored the constitution in its full spirit and framed the Article 10-A relating to the right of access to information and fair trial." He appreciated the

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All-out efforts against polio threat pledged

Ameer Hamza Asif
VS41 3646

Friends of Rotary Club of Islamabad Sarrinah and local leaders from various districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab have pledged to make every possible effort to eradicate polio from the country.



They were addressing a one-day seminar jointly organised by Rotary Club of Islamabad Sarrinah and Rotary Club of Lahore Model Town here at a local hotel to draw attention towards need to eradicate the disease in Pakistan.

Diplomats, politicians, philanthropists, armed forces officials, bureaucrats and donor agencies attended the ceremony.

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NBP awarded for its role in community uplift

Sehar Nadeem
BS41 3607

People from different walks of life applauded National Bank of Pakistan (NBP) for its role in different sectors for community development like disaster relief, women emancipation, infrastructure development, environment, water purification and sanitation, special children, sports and culture, education and health. Sindh Provincial Minister for Women Development Tauqeer Fatma Bhutto, who was the chief guest at the 3rd Corporate Ambassador Award Ceremony organised at a local hotel.

Bhutto said that we must appreciate the good efforts of all individuals and institutions or organisations and also acknowledge their positive efforts played for the betterment of the society. She also applauded NBP's efforts in curbing cancer and also stressed the need to join hands in hands with the bank to fight cancer collectively as a nation and society. The

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Greenwich University, ILO sign pact to produce documentaries

Sehar Nadeem
BS41 3607

The students of Greenwich University will produce documentaries on child labour for International Labour Organization, ILO. The documentaries will be produced under an agreement signed between Greenwich University and ILO. For the execution of the project, an orientation by the ILO officials was held for the students, at the university campus. During the orientation, Sujeewa Fonseka, Chief Technical Advisor, ILO, Islamabad, and Zaheer Arif, Programme Officer Media, ILO, Islamabad briefed the students about the salient features of the project. They said

that under the agreement, combating abusive child labour 11-project, students would produce documentaries which would be completed within two months.

The ILO officials formed three groups of students. These three groups of students would make three different documentaries on diversified

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'Pak-France trade relations can be expanded'

Maheen Farid
MS42 3785

Pakistan's Ambassador-designate to France discussed bilateral relation between France and Pakistan with members of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI).

Before his departure to France Ghalib Iqbal Pakistan's new envoy said, that "He would ensure to pass on information to Pakistani business community regarding trade opportunities available in France so they could take benefit and enhance trade ties with France."

He said over \$1.5 billion trade volume between Pakistan and France was enough to make the point that both the sides have multifaceted and strong trade ties.

He assured his best cooperation for the business promotion and asked the President

ICCI Zafar Bakhtawari to keep forwarding him feedback and



business interest of Pakistani businessmen.

He was of the opinion a delegation from ICCI be organised in the future and he would feel privileged to make the visit of the delegation truly productive and beneficial to them in the best interest of the country.

Bakhtawari appreciated the vision and foresight of the Ambassador for his visits to various chambers of commerce before departure to France. He said the annual bilateral trade between France and Pakistan was quite encouraging which needs to be further enhanced and strengthened through joint ventures, technology transfer, and investment cooperation.

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Lahore glitters and shimmers with Genero by Damas launch

Sehar Nadeem
BS41 3607

In a glittering and sparkling launch, organised and arranged by the creative team behind J&S, leading jewellery brand Damas Investments brought Genero, Italy to Lahore. The launching ceremony attended by the “who’s who” of the fashion, corporate and the media industry, proved to be another successful event for J&S, as the much-awaited Genero by Damas, the brainchild of Ruby Zahid and Taimoor Chaudhry, opened its doors to Lahoris on Thursday.

Genero by Damas hosts a wide variety of jewellery lines under its umbrella. It is designed and crafted by some of the finest craftsmen, of which the most popular is dedicated towards teenagers and children. This is reminiscent when the our top fashion models of the industry pulled off rather chicly diamond-studded ring band, earrings, necklaces and even bracelets formed in shapes of wild animals.

Talking to Daily Times, Damas Investors



Creative Director and CEO Taimoor Chaudhry said, “It might sound clichéd, but I’m pleased to announce that since its inception, Damas has enjoyed sky-rocketing sales and large customer-selling. That’s because, we cater to a larger audience, ranging from teenagers to adults, brides to elderly. Our jewellery just

Contd. Pg. 7

Large crowd attends Lok Virsa festival on Kashmir Day

Maheen Farid
MS42 3785

A daylong cultural festival at Lok Virsa was held to mark Kashmir day, which attracted a large number of residents of the twin cities. Despite heavy rainfall, people from all walks of life attended the one-day festival to mark Kashmir Day. The event was organised by the Ministry of National Heritage and Integration in collaboration with the Ministry of Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan. The daylong activities brought together Kashmiri artisans, NGOs and government organisations to work together and express solidarity with the people of Indian-held Kashmir. The event was arranged with a cultural and social perspective highlighting the contribution of Kashmiri immigrants who had been trying to keep their identity and cultural traditions alive. National Heritage Minister Samina Khalid Ghurki visited the festival and met Kashmiri families, and artists. She expressed solidarity with them on behalf of the government and her ministry. Samina Khalid Ghurki said, “Pakistan will continue to support the cause of Kashmir. We have been celebrating Kashmir Day at the national level since 1990 and are continuously trying to highlight the Kashmir issue in front of the international community.” The federal minister also said, “Kashmiris are no doubt very brave people as they are struggling to keep their identity alive, despite the atrocities by the Indian forces. Culture is an important tool and today’s festival would certainly go a long way in projecting the cause of Kashmir.” Lok Virsa Executive Director Khalid Javaid said, “Lok Virsa has been observing Kashmir Day for the last several years. The purpose of holding this event is to highlight the sacrifices of Kashmiri people, struggling for their rights of self-determination, through a cultural perspective.” The executive director added that social and community organisations, artists, musicians and the diplomatic community had been invited to participate in the festival. The main features of the festival included ‘Kashmiri Artisans-at-Work’ with more than 20 Kashmiri craftsmen displaying their creations designed in the cultural pavilions.

Courtesy: The News

Textile industries get fire safety training



Syeda Warda Ahmed
BS41 3600

As many as 150 local textile and garment industries attended a series of fire safety workshops and training courses, which were offered by the Worldwide Responsible Accredited Production (WRAP).

This was the first time when a series of international training courses on fire safety were organised by WRAP in Pakistan. The sessions started from December 17, 2012 in collaboration with Accordia Global Compliance Group, and the last training session was held in a local hotel, which was largely attended by people from the local textile, garments, spinning and yarn manufacturing industries. Earlier training sessions were held in both Karachi and Lahore in collaboration with SITE Association Karachi, Pakistan Readymade Garments Manu-



facturers and Exporters Association (PRGMEA) and Pakistan Hosiery Manufacturers Association (PHMA). WRAP’s Bangladesh Liaison Office Director Saifullah Khawaja, was the lead trainer in the course.

Addressing the crucial industrial needs of fire safety and risk assessment within local industries, the courses covered issues related with fire safety and protection, fire spread and combustion, routine fire prevention measures, effective response during fire, risk assessment, coupled with workable models of evacuation, including fire drills and pre-planning etc.

Courtesy: Daily Times

Contd. PM orders ...

shortages, he said.

He emphasised that locals should also be employed from the areas of exploration activity and the provision of education, health, sports and sanitation facilities should be ensured in the respective areas under the concept of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) so that the localities get a boost in terms of development and amenities.

During the meeting Raja was apprised that in compliance with his directions fuel supplies to power sector have been enhanced to more than 15,000 metric tonnes.

Raja directed the Ministry of Petroleum to build up stocks of fuel by storing additional supplies in order to ensure smooth supply of electricity during the ensuing months.

He further directed that regular supply of oil to power sector be ensured and arbitrary variations in the oil supply be avoided.

The meeting was attended by Minister for Finance Dr Abdul Hafeez Shaikh, Minister for Water and Power Ch Ahmed Mukhtar, Adviser to PM on Petroleum Dr Asim Hussain and other senior officials of the concerned ministries.

Courtesy: Daily Times

Contd. PCP organizes...

initiative of the Pakistan Bar Council in signing an MoU with PCP, which stated that in case of any threat from any quarter to journalists, lawyers would provide legal assistance to them. A large number of advocates and court reporters attended the seminar.

Courtesy: Daily Times

Contd. Pakistani Armed...

pivotal role for democracy in the country, restoration of independent judiciary and strengthening of parliament."

Courtesy: Daily Times

Contd. Free mobile...

for women to get a mammogram regularly." Now, mobile mammogram bus is launched with an objective to reach out to the poorest of poor women for free screening services at their doorsteps to save thousands of precious lives with early diagnosis.

Omar Aftab said this Breast Cancer Mobile Mammogram Clinic is equipped with state-of-the-art mammogram machine, a UPS, a generator and is air-conditioned as well. It has been furnished with a washbasin, stool and couches and the interior gives the air of being inside an actual clinic. The clinic is also equipped with its own processing unit and the results of the mammogram are immediately provided to the women, he said.

Courtesy: The News

Contd.. Citibank allocated...

standards, as well as flood and drainage protection works in the worst affected areas. We are banking on Sindh's rich cultural heritage and local women's enormous talent to raise income generating opportunities for families hit-hard by the floods, while reviving the tradition of hand-woven rilli making cottage industry in the targeted districts, said Werner E Liepach ADB's Country Director for Pakistan. The small-scale ADB-Citibank joint venture titled 'Patching Dreams for Prosperity' seeks to add value by increasing the range of rilli products and by setting up local production units and supply hubs. The project will enable women entrepreneurs to introduce their crafts to a wider local and international market.

Courtesy: Daily Times

Contd. Pak-France trade relations can be expanded

Commercial Offices and Pakistani embassies abroad should send market study reports to chambers regularly which would help exporters to know market potential of their exports around the globe. He informed the Ambassador that the ICCI has completed the super structure of Export Display Centre, which would not only serve as window to the world for Pakistani products but also give a platform to foreign companies to display their products the would enhance the bilateral trade ties between Pakistan and other countries.

He assured the Ambassador to finance and assist the dub-

bing of 4 Pakistani drama serials from Urdu to French language.

He highlighted France was one of the most visited tourist state as around 80 million tourists visited France. Therefore Pakistani envoy should also focus on this area to promote tourism in Pakistan as well. He was of the view Pakistan and France were losing the warmth of their relations which were very strong before the Cold War. He expressed hope that Iqbal with his dynamic vision would bring that era back as France is the 5th largest economy of the world and 2nd best partner of Pakistan in European Union.

Courtesy: Daily Times

Contd. 60 universities in

of Information Technology has a Research Group, which is undertaking research related to robotics, computer vision and machine learning. The IMR Research Group is conducting basic and applied research in robotics technologies relevant to industrial and societal tasks; the robotics technology in Pak-

istan has the potential role in boosting the productivity and competitiveness.

The researchers at CIIT are working for projects on visual guided robotic systems for use in surgery, navigation control, mapping and geometric representation of environmental parameters.

Courtesy: Daily Times

Contd. Pindi to have 4 ...

Rawalpindi Division Colleges Director Prof Humayun Iqbal confirmed that new colleges would be established in Rawalpindi and Chakwal. He said that the new degree colleges would provide students with the opportunity to study in their hometowns.

Meanwhile, sources told Daily times that the Punjab government had approved PC-1 for establishment of six new degree colleges, including four degree colleges for boys in Rawalpindi.

A girls college would be set up at Karniala, a degree college for boys and another college for girls would be established at Dhamial, a boys college would be set up at Dhok Ratta and one degree college for girls and another college for boys would be established at Dhok Syedan.

According to sources, the Model Girls Degree College at Mangot, boys degree college at Khayaban-e-Sir Syed and girls degree college at Kotli Satian would start their academic sessions this year.

Sources also said that Rs 120 million was the estimated cost of the new colleges. Science and IT laboratories, a library and an auditorium would also be set up in the new colleges.

According to reports, the chief minister of Punjab would lay the foundation stone of the new degree colleges.

Courtesy: Daily Times

Contd. Greenwich University...

topic on child labour. The project is financed by the European Union, it is supported by Government of Pakistan and it will be executed by ILO. The ILO officials were presented shields on behalf of the Vice Chancellor, Ms Seema Mughal.

Courtesy: Daily Times

Contd. Special students ...

the Rawalpindi Education Department EDO, to make a list of students from special education institutions who have obtained at least 60 percent marks in their examinations, so that laptops and solar energy panels could be distributed among them.

Reportedly, the Rawalpindi Education EDO has started preparing the list of students from 32 special education institutions, including 11 from Rawalpindi, 8 from Attock, 6 from Jhelum and 6 from Chakwal.

According to sources, Punjab CM Shahbaz Sharif would distribute the laptops in a special ceremony before February 15.

Courtesy: Daily Times

Contd. NBP awarded...

event was attended by dignitaries, writers, journalists and showbiz industry.

During the event NBP was given an award, which was received by Executive Vice President Irtiza Kazmi on behalf of NBP President Dr Asif A Brohi. Kazmi thanked the audience and said, NBP will continue its commitment of serving the nation and will always stand with the nation shoulder to shoulder in all times to come. NBP is the largest banking institution of the country; the Bank has converted its entire branch network completely online and has the fastest growing overseas correspondent base for home remittances.

Courtesy: The News

Contd. Medical researchers...

order to promote research and students' talent had resulted in great success and it would be continued with its entire positive outcome.

The principal said that the project of establishing Punjab Institute of Neuro Sciences at the LGH would be completed very soon and it would provide peo-

Contd. All out efforts ...

Arif Ali, special representative for Rotary Club of Islamabad Sarrinah's governor, said remarkable progress had been witnessed in eliminating the crippling disease, yet tireless efforts were required to completely purge Pakistan from the threat.

He said his institution had left no stone unturned in fighting the disease, adding they would continue their efforts within available resources.

Ali said the well-to-do members of the society and corporate sector had facilitated the club in its cause by providing their financial support. He said the club is planning to set up skills development centres to make adults useful members of the society.

Later, certificates among the Rotary friends were distributed.

Courtesy: Daily Times

Contd. 'PIA on path of...

airline's flight schedule, frequencies and performance. He announced construction of three new hangers, two in Karachi and one in Lahore, which would enhance the Airline's maintenance capabilities.

He assured of new induction of engineers and technicians to overcome the shortage of skilled human resource. Later he visited the engineering facilities and was briefed by Deputy MD Engineering, AVM Qasim Masood Khan and Director Engineering Syed Samin Uddin Naqvi.

Courtesy: The News

Contd. Anti-corruption steps yielding good results

lems and there was unemployment and poverty everywhere. He said that in such a situation, Ujala programme of the Punjab government is "a ray of hope".

The chief minister said that transparency, pace and quality is the hallmark of Punjab government's development projects, adding that all programmes are being executed under this policy.

Shahbaz Sharif said that the "splendid project" of Metro Bus Service would be inaugurated on February 10 "which will bring a revolution in transport sector". He said that during the last 65 years, national resources had been utilised to provide transport facilities to the elite but the common man was ignored.

He said that the Metro Bus Service project is being completed in a record period of 11 months. He said that the project would help rid citizens of traffic jams and inconven-

ience of waiting at bus stops for hours. The Chief Minister said that Metro Bus Service was the project for the common man and its fare would also be within people's reach. He said that only those people were raising hue and cry over the project who travel in aeroplanes, helicopters and bullet-proof vehicles. He said that such people have no sympathy for the poor.

The minister said that a separate security system has been chalked out for the project. He said 45 buses would be plied on the route of metro bus project for which modern air-conditioned buses have been arranged.

Also, the Metro Bus Service would operate from six in the morning to 10:30pm without any interruption. He said that a bus would be available for people after every three minutes during peak hours while it would be available after six minutes during the remaining hours.

Courtesy: Daily Times

Contd. Lahore glitters and shimmers with Genero by Damas launch

doesn't remain to be confined only to bridal wear.

They can be adorned and flaunted in occasions taking places in one's everyday life. That makes our jewellery much-more appealing. And now with the introduction of Genero in Lahore, our diversification enhances further with a wider target audience."

The four wondrous collections, which were unveiled at a stage settee of wood, nestled inside a silken-draped surrounding, include the Jungle Collection, the Bihi Collection, the Generic Collection and lastly, the Museum Collection, have been hand-crafted to celebrate the art of jewellery designing while accentuating the poise and beauty of women today. The Jungle Collection and the Bihi Collection, especially have been focused on teenagers

and youngsters. "My favourite would be the Jungle Collection as its in-your-face kind of designing, reflecting the versatility of a woman who wears," Taimoor says further. Top fashion model, Fayeza Ansari nodded in unison. "It's a very bold, full of life and cool collection. I'm a fan already," she said.

Our country, which has over the past, successfully promoted and appreciated gold over diamonds, can now experience a fresh breath of the latter and that too beautifully designed and created at the hands of Genero by Damas. Not just the hypnotic jewellery pieces themselves, but the retail outlet's interior has been carefully built, designed and furnished to provide a larger-than-life appeal, not forgetting the posh location chosen of Y Block, DHA.

Courtesy: Daily Times

SPORTS



Pakistan says 50 foreigners signed for T20 league

Sehar Nadeem
BS41 3607

More than 50 foreign players have so far signed up for Pakistan's first major Twenty20 league, despite a warning from the international players' association not to take part.

Salman Sarwar Butt, managing director of the Pakistan Super League (PSL), gave the figure and said more overseas players were "likely to sign up shortly", in a Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) statement.

He did not revealed any players' names nor their nationalities but said the overseas interest showed the league, due to start on March 26, was "attractive both in terms of cricket and financial gains". No international cricket has been played

in Pakistan since militants attacked the Sri Lankan team bus during a Test match in Lahore in 2009 and the country is still rocked by almost daily bombings and shootings.

Adding to the difficulties for the PSL, the head of the Federation of International Cricketers' Associations warned players last week not to take part in the two-week tournament.

Cricket Australia and Cricket South Africa have also hinted they might not allow any players to feature in the PSL.

However, Pakistan last week confirmed South Africans Mike Proctor and Rudi Koertzen along with Zimbabwean Russell Tiffin had signed up as match officials. PCB chairman Zaka Ashraf has offered foreign players insurance worth \$2 million and up to \$100,000 tax free in-



come to play in the league, and Butt insisted in Thursday's statement top-level security would be provided.

"The safety of each and every participant including the audiences is a responsibility that the PSL is not taking lightly," he said.

Organisers were looking at bringing in private firms with "proven credentials" to bolster the security provided by the Pakistani state, he added.

Butt said players will have to seek leave from their home boards to participate, a pre-requisite from the International Cricket Council for Twenty20 leagues around the world.

Courtesy: Dawn.com

Munir aiming to make his mark in Asian Golf tour

Syeda Warda Ahmed
BS41 3600

The 38-year-old Munir of Islamabad Golf Club earned the right to feature on the Asian Golf Tour after a fine performance in the Asian qualifying school.

Munir played rounds of 72, 70, 66 and 75 to end with a total of 283 to confirm his place in the Asian Professional Golf Association (APGA) tour.

Munir, rated as Pakistan's number two golfer, is in the metropolis to feature in the Rs1.5 million All Pakistan Open Golf Tournament, starting at Defence Authority Golf Club from Friday.

"I paid US\$2,000 entry fee for appearing in the Asian qualifying school," he said. "Good showing at the Mena Tour in the UAE and in Saudi Arabia raised my confidence level to join the Asian Tour," he disclosed.



Munir won his maiden professional event — the Ras-ul-Khaimah Classic — and he also performed creditably in other events in the UAE and Saudi Arabia over the past few months.

He said his first assignment on the Asian Tour will be \$300,000 Myanmar Open in Yangon, being staged there from Feb 21-24 which will be followed by Sail Open in New Delhi, the Malaysian Open and other Asian golf tour events in March and April where he intends to make his appearance.

Munir said Shabbir Iqbal and Matloob Ahmed are the other two leading golfers of the country who will be posing a tough challenge for him on the national circuit

Courtesy: Dawn

Contd. Shabaz Sharief

an important role as a prime minister in strengthening relations with Iran. He said that time had come for Pakistan and Iran to move forward together in economic, trade, industrial and agricultural sectors. He said Iran was an important country of the region and had to play an active role in establishing regional peace.

The chief minister said that the role of Ali Akbar Walaiti as the Iranian foreign minister was laudable in bringing the Islamic countries closer, besides strengthening Pak-Iran relations. He said the offer of Iran to provide assistance to Pakistan to overcome the energy crisis was a good omen.

The Chief Minister also said that had the federal government seriously worked on the energy crisis, Pakistan would not have been facing load shedding. He said due to load shedding, industrial and agricultural sectors of Pakistan were going down

Courtesy: The News