

Mushaal distributes winter kits to refugees in Kashmiri Camp

BT NEWS

ISLAMABAD—Special Assistant to Prime Minister for Human Rights and Women Empowerment Mushaal Hussein Mullick on Sunday distributed winter kits among the refugees from Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) residing in Kashmiri Refugees Camp Muzaffarabad. She is accompanied by the Focal Person to SAPM Sabien Hussein Mullick and DG Legal Aid and Justice Authority Dr. Raheem Awan on a two-day visit to AJK. SAPM is leading

an initiative to provide critical relief to refugees facing the challenges of harsh weather conditions in AJK, said a press release issued here.

The winter kits include essential items such as warm clothing, blankets, thermal socks, gloves, and other necessities to help vulnerable families in camp cope with the severe winter conditions. She personally mingled and engaged in conversations with the refugees. She said that in the face of adversity, it was our collective responsibility to extend a helping hand to those who needed it the most. She said



that the winter kits were aimed to provide some comfort and relief to the brave individuals and families forced to live away from their homeland due to Indian atrocities in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). Expressing unwavering

solidarity, she assured refugees in Azad Jammu and Kashmir that they would not be left alone in their plight. She expressed the Government of Pakistan commitment to alleviate the pain of their forced eviction from homes in Indian Illegally

Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). She said that apart from expending maximum public funds for AJK, the Government was also diverting private funding towards the region to ensure its uplift. Mushaal assured the refugees that the

recent distribution of aid was not a one-time effort but part of an ongoing commitment. She announced a Ramadan package for the refugees aimed at providing sustained relief during the holy month.

She also expressed her steadfast commitment to ensure the establishment of proper education facilities for children within the refugee camps. Mushaal expressed her belief in the liberation of Kashmir from Indian occupation, a day when refugees would be able to return to their homes and reunite with their loved ones.

Steady Environment: Peace Education as the Bedrock of Pakistan's Economic Future

DR. MUHAMMAD SHAHZAD ASHFAQ

In a world plagued by conflict and instability, ensuring a steady environment for development is essential to a country's economic growth. Pakistan, a nation with a rich cultural heritage and immense potential, has caught in the clutches of violence. The environment of aggression has hindered progress and impeded the country's path towards economic prosperity. To secure a brighter future, it is imperative to prioritize peace education as the bedrock of Pakistan's economic growth.

Peace education aims to cultivate a culture of non-violence, empathy, and respect among individuals, ultimately creating a society that is tolerant. Peace education focuses on teaching individuals the skills, values, and attitudes necessary to resolve conflicts peacefully, promote social justice, and maintain peace. Central to peace education is the idea that violence is not the answer to conflicts and disagreements. Instead, it emphasizes the need to find peaceful solutions that promote understanding and cooperation. By incorporating peace education into the national curriculum, Pakistan can lay the foundation for a steady environment that is conducive to economic progress.

Pakistan is a multi-ethnic, multi-religious, and multi-linguistic society, where different groups often find themselves at odds with one another. This lack of understanding breeds mistrust, fuelling conflict and hindering economic growth. The value of respecting diversity and appreciating in different perspectives, peace education can bridge these divides and promote inclusivity. People will be more accepting of one another, leading to stronger social cohesion and a stable environment that encourages economic engagement. These skills are not only crucial for the prevention of conflicts at the societal level but also find practical application in business and international relations. A society that is skilled in resolving conflicts peacefully is more likely to attract investment, engage in productive dialogue, and build strong partnerships with other countries. Consequently, this creates a favourable economic climate allowing businesses to flourish and promoting Pakistan's economic growth.

In today's globalized world, where economies are interconnected, peace and stability play a crucial role in attracting investment and fostering economic development of Pakistan. To begin with, a society that prioritizes peaceful conflict resolution establishes a stable environment, which is essential for businesses to thrive. Investors seek stability as it reduces risks and uncertainties associated with conflicts. When a society demonstrates its ability to resolve conflicts it signals a favourable investment to attract both foreign and domestic investors, leading to increased capital flows into the country. A society that resolves conflicts peacefully is more likely to engage in productive dialogue with both internal and external stakeholders. Productive dialogue fosters cooperation, trust, and understanding among different groups within the society. Societies that ensure equality and justice foster an environment of trust. By promoting gender equality, eliminating discrimination, and safeguarding human rights, a nation encourages the full participation of all its citizens in economic activities. This inclusiveness fosters innovation enhances productivity, and taps into the potential of previously marginalized groups that leads to better economic outcomes for all. When conflicts are resolved through dialogue, it allows for the sharing of perspectives and the finding of common ground. This open exchange of ideas enhances innovation, encourages creativity, and leads to the development of practical solutions to societal challenges. As a result, businesses operate in an atmosphere conducive to growth and progress further bolstering Pakistan's economic prospects.

It nurtures a sense of responsibility towards others and encourages individuals to contribute to the welfare of society. By fostering a caring and compassionate populace, peace education struggles social inequality and promotes equal opportunities for all. This is vital for economic development as a society that ensures the well-being of its citizens invests in their education, and protects their rights is more likely to have a prosperous economy. When individuals have access to quality healthcare, adequate nutrition, and other necessities, they are better equipped to lead productive lives.



Workers Welfare Fund Secretary Zulfiqar Ahmed, Director Waseem Waraich, Muhammad Ahmed, Bilal Ahmed, Abdul Salam and Khalid Mahmood drawing Hajj for industrial workers.

5 ICT police officers suspended for raiding Barrister Gohar's house

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD—Five officers of Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Police, including Station House Officer Margalla, on Sunday were suspended after preliminary inquiry into the raid at the residence of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan on Saturday. Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCP) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan appointed District Police Officer (DPO) City

as an inquiry officer with the directions to hold a fact-finding inquiry into the matter and submit a detailed report within 3 days, the ICT Police said on its official X account.

It said Barrister Gohar Ali Khan complained to the Supreme Court of Pakistan (on Saturday) against the said raid by the local police. The Chief Justice of Pakistan summoned the ICCPO and ordered an investigation into the matter. The court also directed



the ICCPO to personally hear the grievance of PTI chairman about the incident. The ICCPO assured the PTI chairman of departmental action if any police officer were

found guilty. "On January 13, at 2:00 pm, the local police reached F-7/2 to apprehend a proclaimed offender on the tip of an informer. When the police party came to know that the said house was the residence of Barrister Gohar Ali Khan, Chairman PTI, the raiding police party came back immediately," the ICT police post said. "An inquiry is being conducted, and strict action will be taken against the officials who violated the law."

CDA auctions 11 plots, fetches Rs13.5b

BT NEWS

ISLAMABAD—The Capital Development Authority (CDA) has auctioned 11 out of 35 commercial plots, getting Rs13.54 billion during the three days of auction, which concluded last week. The auction committee followed the auction of five plots for Rs11.41 billion by accepting the highest offers of Rs2.4 billion for six commercial plots.

The committee auctioned plot number 18 Blue Area (G-9/F-9) measuring 6111 square yards for Rs1.36 billion, while another plot of 20 kanals in Orchard Scheme was auctioned for Rs100 million. The committee received the highest offers of Rs164.6 million and Rs157.3 million for two 13333 square yard plots. Another two plots of 13333 square yards each in H-1/I and D-12/I, class three shopping centers, were auctioned for Rs114.6 million and Rs160 million, respectively. However, no encouraging bids were received for the plots meant for petrol pumps, hotels and hospitals at different locations.

Students should focus on entrepreneurship for prosperous career: Bakhtawari

BT NEWS

ISLAMABAD—Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) President Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari on Saturday urged the students to focus on entrepreneurship for a prosperous career. "Pakistan needs more entrepreneurs to create new jobs, introduce innovations and new technologies, increase productivity, enhance exports, and put the economy into fast gear to transform Pakistan into a rising country," he said while speaking at the Pakistan National Finals of the Global Student Entrepreneur Awards (GSEA).

The event was organized by the Entrepreneurs Organization Islamabad in collaboration with the ICCI, said a press release. Ahsan Bakhtawari called upon the government to make more conducive policies for promoting entrepreneurship in youth that would enhance their

self-employment and pave the way for sustainable economic growth of the country. He stressed that commercial banks should also come up with low-cost business loan schemes for youth to facilitate them in launching business start-ups. He said that the country's population was increasing rapidly and the government could provide jobs to all youngsters. "Fostering entrepreneurship in youth is the best option to enable them to achieve a prosperous career, create jobs for others, and play an effective role in the economic development of the country," he added. The ICCI president lauded the role of the Entrepreneurs Organization Islamabad for promoting student entrepreneurs, providing them with mentorship and networking opportunities, and unlocking their entrepreneurship potential for the country. Taimur Adil, President of



Entrepreneur Organization Islamabad Chapter said that the EO was committed to supporting and nurturing the entrepreneurial spirit, and the GSEA competition was a testament to its dedication to fostering the next generation of business leaders. Ahmed Jalal, GSEA Chair, said that the GSEA Pakistan National Finals showcased the incredible talent and innovation of the young entrepreneurs. Saad Siddiqui of Diversity was the winner of the competition, who will now proceed to Oman to represent Pakistan. Javeria Faraz of Dollat and Muhammad Ahmed of Insights were the runners up.

Open Market Exchange Rate

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	186	187.85
Bahrain Dinar	748.26	756.26
Canadian Dollar	207.5	209.5
China Yuan	39.45	39.85
Danish Krone	41.3	41.7
Euro	306.5	309.5
Hong Kong Dollar	35.99	36.34
Indian Rupee	3.39	3.5
Japanese Yen	194	215
Kuwaiti Dinar	914.97	923.97
Malaysian Ringgit	60.59	61.19
New Zealand \$	175.03	177.03
Norwegian Krone	27.16	27.46
Omani Riyal	730.83	738.83
Qatari Riyal	72.29	72.99
Saudi Riyal	74.45	75.2
Singapore Dollar	208.5	210.5
Swedish Korona	27.47	27.77
Swiss Franc	328.79	331.29
Thai Baht	8.02	8.17
UAE Dirham	76.5	77.3
UK Pound Sterling	357.5	360.5
US Dollar	280	282

Gold Rate

Metal	10 Gm	1 Tola
Gold 24K	184,732	215,242
Palladium	90,038	104,909
Platinum	83,275	97,028
Silver	2,091	2,436

Exporters urged to capture Kyrgyz pharmaceutical market



BUREAU REPORT

LAHORE—Kyrgyzstan Trade House (KTH) Chairman Meher Kashif Younis Sunday urged Pakistani exporters to capture Kyrgyzstan's US \$ 650 million pharmaceutical market.

Talking to a delegation of exporters led by Ms Sana Abdullah here at KTH on Sunday, he said that by strategically entering this market, Pakistan can not only boost its economic prospects but also contribute to the healthcare needs of Kyrgyzstan's seven million population. He adding that by capitalizing on its pharmaceutical prowess, fostering strategic collaborations, Pakistan can successfully capture a substantial portion of Kyrgyzstan's pharmaceutical market, contributing to the well-being of both nations.

Meher said Pakistan possesses a well-established pharmaceutical industry with a proven track record of producing high-quality medicines. Leveraging this expertise can help meet Kyrgyzstan's increasing demand for affordable and effective healthcare solutions, he observed. Building strong relationships will not only enhance the distribution network but also foster trust in Pakistani pharmaceutical products.

Meher Kashif Younis said Health Minister Kyrgyzstan Alymkadyr Beishenaliev who participated in the first-ever two days global health summit in Islamabad a couple of days ago also visited Pak pharmaceutical manufacturers to visit his country for providing affordable and quality medicines in state owned pharmacies in government run hospitals. He said Ulambek Totauev Kyrgyzstan's Ambassador to Pakistan and KTH will continue to facilitate all exporters for promotion of bilateral trade between two countries. Other members of the delegation, Ms Sadia, Hafsa, Amina and Nida, were also present.

Naval Chief attends the 19th convocation of Bahria university Karachi campus

BUREAU REPORT

KARACHI—19th Convocation of Bahria University Karachi and the Institute of Professional Psychology was held at Karachi. Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naved Ashraf and Rector Bahria University, Vice Admiral (Retd) Asif Khaliq graced the twin sessions of the convocation ceremony as chief guests respectively and awarded Medals and Merit Certificates to the students achieving outstanding performance in academics.

A total of 1632 degrees, including 11 PhDs, were awarded to students from various departments, encompassing Management Studies, Business Studies, Humanities & Social Sciences, Computer Sciences, Earth & Environmental Sciences, Electrical Engineering, Software Engineering, Computer Engineering, Media Studies and Professional Psychology. During the first session, Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naved Ashraf awarded 22 Gold Medals and 18 Silver Medals to

students who excelled in their respective degree programs. In his address he highlighted the significance of meeting challenges and reframing them as opportunities. Chief of the Naval Staff emphasized that teamwork and communications are the pivotal elements for success.

During the second session, Rector Bahria University, Vice Admiral (Retd) Asif Khaliq awarded 24 Gold Medals and 19 Silver Medals to students for their outstanding achievements in their



speech, he emphasized that responsibility is the price of greatness. He further encouraged students to

stay focused on their life goals while upholding professional ethics and maintaining integrity. The

convocation ceremony was attended by naval officers, notable civilians, Bahria University officials and parents of graduating students.