

## PM Shehbaz Sharif to Meet Chinese Premier, Attend Investment Conference in Beijing

Beijing (News Desk): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is scheduled to meet Chinese Premier Li Qiang today to discuss bilateral cooperation and exchange views on regional and international matters of importance. The Prime Minister, who is in China on a six-day visit to attend SCO meetings and the Victory Day parade, will also hold a meeting with Chinese Minister for Information Technology and Industry Li Lecheng. Later, he will preside over the second edition of the Pakistan-China Business-to-Business Investment Conference in Beijing, which will review the outcomes of the first edition chaired by Shehbaz Sharif in Shenzhen in June 2024 and outline future plans for enhancing trade and investment cooperation.

## UN Chief Expresses Grief Over Pakistan Floods, Extends Support for Relief Efforts

United Nations (News Desk): UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has expressed profound grief over the devastating floods in Pakistan that have killed more than 400 people and displaced over a million. In a statement issued by his spokesperson Stephane Dujarric, the Secretary-General said he was deeply saddened by the disaster, which was triggered by a severe monsoon exacerbated by climate change and has affected some 1.5 million people, leaving hundreds of thousands in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. The floods have damaged over 3,000 homes, 400 schools, and around 40 health facilities. Commending Pakistan's response efforts, Guterres praised the relocation of more than one million people in Punjab and expressed solidarity with the Government and people of Pakistan, extending condolences to the bereaved families and wishing a swift recovery for the injured. The UN and its partners are working closely with Pakistani authorities to assess the humanitarian impact, identify needs, and address gaps in the response. The Emergency Relief Coordinator, Tom Fletcher, has already released \$600,000 from the Regional Humanitarian Pooled Fund to support relief and recovery efforts, with further discussions underway with the Government on a comprehensive response plan.

## Sindh to Launch HPV Vaccine Campaign Targeting 4.1 Million Girls to Prevent Cervical Cancer

Karachi (News Desk): Health experts have revealed that cervical cancer is the fourth leading cause of cancer-related deaths among women worldwide, with the Human Papillomavirus (HPV), particularly types 16 and 18, responsible for nearly 70% of cases. To address this urgent health concern, the Sindh Government will formally launch the "Human Papillomavirus" (HPV) vaccine campaign from September 15 to 27, aiming to vaccinate 4.1 million girls aged 9 to 14 years across the province. The campaign, organized by the Sindh Health Department in collaboration with the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI), Jhpiego, WHO, UNICEF, Gavi, and other partners, marks a milestone for Pakistan's immunization program under the theme "Protecting Girls, Preventing Cancer" and "Sehat Mand Beti, Sehat Mand Gharana" (Healthy Daughter, Healthy Family). The campaign, by the Sindh Health Department in collaboration

## Education Minister, UNESCO Chief Discuss Strengthening Pakistan's Education Sector

Islamabad (News Desk): Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training, Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui, held a meeting with Mr. Fuad Pashayev, Chief of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), which was also attended by Secretary of Education Mr. Nadeem Mehabub and the Joint Secretary of the Ministry. Mr. Pashayev extended condolences over the devastation caused by recent floods in Pakistan and assured full cooperation and support from UNESCO. The meeting focused on reviewing UNESCO's ongoing initiatives in Pakistan, particularly in the areas of education, culture, and social development, while also addressing pressing challenges such as the issue of out-of-school children, especially girls, along with concerns in agriculture and social sciences. Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui expressed gratitude to UNESCO for its close collaboration with the Ministry, particularly on girls' education, reaffirming the government's commitment to enhancing the quality of education and strengthening teacher training. He emphasized that millions of children remain out of school and addressing their future is a national priority. UNESCO Chief Fuad Pashayev assured that Pakistan will continue to work in close partnership with UNESCO and other friendly nations to strengthen the education sector. Secretary of Education Mr. Nadeem Mehabub described the partnership with UNESCO as "fruitful and productive," adding that a draft plan has already been prepared to tackle the out-of-school children crisis, while the Ministry has also finalized the Zero Out-of-School Children Plan 2030. The meeting concluded with Pakistan announcing its active participation in the upcoming UNESCO General Council session to be held in Uzbekistan.



## Minister Rana Tanveer Hussain Reaffirms Zero Tolerance for SPS Violations in Agro-Exports



Islamabad (News Desk): Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research, Rana Tanveer Hussain, reiterated that compliance with Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) regulations is a cardinal principle of international trade in agro-products, stressing that these rules safeguard food safety, public health, and the biosecurity of ecosystems. Acting on his directions, the Department of Plant Protection (DPP) has introduced reforms across rice, maize, citrus, and mango sectors to strengthen SPS compliance, including deployment of staff at exit points, engagement of reputed PSI firms, installation of CCTV cameras, back-end monitoring, mandatory punching of vehicle numbers on phytosanitary certificates, photographic proof of staff with consignments, and reshuffling of staff to eliminate

malpractice. Under the Minister's direct instructions, DPP intercepted a major violation on 25th May 2025 at Jinnah International Airport, Karachi, where in collaboration with Pakistan Customs, three mango consignments totaling 6.2 metric tons valued at USD 25,649, destined for Norway, were stopped due to blatant non-compliance with EU phytosanitary protocols. The exporters — M/s Pak Punjab International, M/s Sajjad & Co., and M/s Kamran Enterprises — attempted to bypass critical requirements including Hot Water Treatment, sourcing from registered orchards, pesticide residue analysis, and correct HS code declaration. Condemning this act, the Minister warned that such irresponsible attempts risk shutting down Pakistan's entire export window to Europe and affirmed strictest penalties with zero tolerance. Customs confiscated the consignments, imposed penalties, and DPP restrained the violators from future exports for a specified period. Owing to these timely measures, Pakistan has successfully exported around 120,000 metric tons of mangoes so far in the 2025 season without a single rejection or interception. Reaffirming the government's resolve, Minister Rana Tanveer Hussain said Pakistan will not allow the reckless actions of a few to jeopardize farmers' livelihoods, the credibility of the certification system, and the country's reputation in global markets.

## Over 500mm Rainfall Submerges Gujrat; Rescue Operations Underway

Gujrat (News Desk): More than 500 millimeters of rainfall was recorded in Gujrat after heavy downpours continued for 20 hours, submerging several low-lying areas of the district. According to the district administration spokesperson, Jalalpur Jattan was the worst-hit locality, where hundreds of residents were trapped due to rising water levels. Rescue 1122, Civil Defense, revenue staff, and other departments jointly shifted over 250 people, including 150 from Jalalpur Jattan, to safer places. Rescue operations were conducted in Jalalpur Jattan, Mehawal, Ramkay Bahalpur, Chak Ghazi, Kotli Kohala, Lakhanwal, Tanda, Masuam, Daulat Nagar, Chandni Chowk, Mohallah Shahbaz, New Abadi Mahmoodabad, Jinnah Road, Jail Road, Madina Syedan, Beuwali, Bhimber Road, and other affected areas. Authorities said Safe City cameras and drone surveillance were used to monitor the situation, and with the help of aerial monitoring, four children stranded on the roof of a house in Jalalpur Jattan were rescued.

## Rawalpindi Court Sentences Man to Triple Death Penalty for Kidnapping, Rape, and Murder

Rawalpindi (News Desk): An Additional Sessions Court in Rawalpindi has awarded three death sentences to Irfan Azeem, convicted of kidnapping, rape, and murder, in a detailed trial presided over by Additional Sessions Judge Afshan Ijaz Sufi on Thursday. According to case details, the verdict pertains to FIR No. 522, registered on March 15, 2023, at Dhamial Police Station, under which Azeem was found guilty under Sections 302, 367-A, and 376(2)(i) of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) for the kidnapping, rape, and murder of a 13-year-old boy. The court order directed that "the execution be carried out by hanging until death." The Superintendent of Central Prison Adyala, Rawalpindi, has been instructed to enforce the sentence in accordance with law.

## DRR Center Inaugurated in Thari Mirwah to Strengthen Community Resilience

Sukkur (News Desk): A Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Center was inaugurated at UC Pir Budhro, Thari Mirwah, on Thursday in a ceremony led by Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Muhammad Dittal Kalhoro, attended by Regional General Manager Aamir Abbas, District Manager Khairpur, Malteser International Focal Person, and SPHF Team Leader. CEO Kalhoro reviewed the DRR Center's facilities and interacted with members of the Local Support Organization (LSO), appreciating their dedication, while the LSO President was presented with an Appreciation Award for outstanding efforts. He emphasized the significance of DRR initiatives in strengthening community resilience and promoting sustainable development. The event concluded with a joint commitment from all partners to continue working for community empowerment and disaster preparedness in Thari Mirwah. The newly established DRR Center aims to enhance the community's capacity to respond to disasters and build resilience at the grassroots level.

## AJK to Commemorate Defense Day with Ceremonies and Tributes to Armed Forces

Mirpur (AJK) (News Desk): Like across Pakistan, all arrangements have been finalized to commemorate Defense Day in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) on Saturday with a renewed pledge to remain vigilant, standing shoulder to shoulder with the armed forces to safeguard the ideological and geographical frontiers of the motherland. On this day in 1965, Indian forces attempted to cross the border under the cover of darkness, but Pakistan's valiant armed forces, supported by the nation, foiled the attack with full strength. The day will begin with special prayers for the stability, defense, progress, and prosperity of Pakistan, the success of the Kashmir freedom movement, and the economic development of AJK. Fateha and Quran Khawani will be held for the martyrs who sacrificed their lives alongside the armed forces during the 17-day war of September 1965, inflicting a decisive defeat on India. Special ceremonies will take place at all ten district headquarters, including Mirpur, Havaili, Muzaffarabad, Bagh, Rawalakot, Palandri, Kotli, Bhimber, Hattian, and Neelam Valley, observed with simplicity due to recent flood devastation. In Mirpur .