

Newborn baby kidnapped from General Hospital

LAHORE: An unidentified woman kidnapped a newborn baby from the labour room of the Lahore General Hospital on Sunday.

The CCTV footage of the hospital showed the woman taking the baby in her arms and disappearing.

The incident highlights the need to further increase the safety of the neonates, and develop guidelines to keep an eye on the mysterious activities of the visitors.

The Lahore General Hospital houses the largest set up of gynaecology wards where hundreds of delivery cases are done weekly.

The police have launched investigation. Kasur Resident Irfan told the police that his wife Nazim Bibi delivered a baby boy in a major operation at the emergency ward. He said he received the baby following the hospital's procedure. Meanwhile, Irfan said, the woman came to him and he handed over his newborn son to her when she offered him help.

On inquiring, he said, she told him that his close relative was under treatment in another ward of the same hospital.

A few minutes later, Irfan raised alarm when he could not see the woman around.

A police official said some CCTV footage showed the woman travelling on an auto-rickshaw and the three-wheeler was lastly seen at the Chungi Alwar Sindh.

The police teams were trying to get more footage and obtain the record of the rickshaw from the Excise and Taxation Department.

Medical Superintendent Dr Khalid Ben Aslam said that the newborn boy was abducted from the hospital due to the negligence of the family. — Staff Reporter

WASAs of Lahore, Rawalpindi working without MDs

By Khalid Hashmi

LAHORE: As the monsoon is approaching, two major Water and Sanitation Agencies (WASAs) of Punjab — Lahore and Rawalpindi — are working without managing directors (MDs) for quite some time.

The Housing, Urban Development and Public Health Engineering Department (HUDHEED) — the parent department of all development and parks & horticulture authorities and five WASAs (Lahore, Rawalpindi, Faisalabad, Gujranwala and Multan) — has issued a summary to the provincial government for appointment on the vacant posts.

A summary seeking appointment of Muhammad Ghaffar and Tanveer Ahmad was moved over a week ago to the government for their appointment as Lahore and Rawalpindi WASAs MDs, but the decision is yet to be made.

Due to vacant posts, important decisions on arrangements to deal with possible urban flooding, timely drainage of rainwater, setting up of camps, desilting of drains etc are pending, an official source said while talking to Dawn on Sunday.

"Both Mr Ghaffar and Mr Tanveer are presently working as the deputy managing directors, Operations and Director, Engineering of WASA, Lahore, respectively. Mr Tanveer has also worked as Rawalpindi WASA MD and he was transferred to Lahore to head WASA for a period of three months after the retirement of Syed Zahid Anis in March this year. The three months duration ended around

20 days ago."

The official said the Rawalpindi WASA MD was removed from the office by the Punjab government after the commitment to improve sanitation with his performance in the wake of desilting of Nullah Lai and other drains ahead of the monsoon and other administrative and functional issues.

The metropolitan city of Lahore is also very critical in terms of at least 21 major sewer points having huge accumulation of rainwater during the monsoon every year. These points include Lakshmi Chowk, Kachhor Road, Cooper Road, GPO, Lytton Road, Nishka Road, Qurtuba Chowk, Empress Road, Ek Moria Pul, De Moria Mol, Suban Ahmad Road, Ichhra Chowk, Nakhaba, Bhaiji Gate, Alisha Chowk, Quinchi Stop, Tikka Chowk, Firdaus Market, Shah Jamal and Jinnah Hospital.

"Lahore WASA sets up 20 field camps in various parts of the city for the timely drainage of the rainwater from 21 sewer points. But not a single camp has been set up in the city yet. Moreover, the monsoon plan is yet to be finalised as there is no MD to approve and allocate sufficient resources in this regard."

"The teams may start setting up camps from June 15," he added.

It may be mentioned that the all five Punjab WASAs have been passing through severe financial crunch, particularly for the last few years due to absence of annual subsidies and her on increase in the water tariff (proposed pending since 2004) from the government.

The Lahore Electric Supply Company

(Lahore), Gujranwala Electric Power Company (Gujranwala) and Multan Electric Power Company (Multan) disconnected power supply to WASAs for defaulting on bills, including Rs20m owed by the Lahore WASA alone to Lesco. The HUDHEED, facing financial hard ships, sought Rs1.5bn for WASAs, including Rs1.2bn for Lahore, Rs1bn for Faisalabad, Rs1.2bn for Gujranwala, Rs1.5bn for Multan and Rs1.4bn for WASA of Rawalpindi.

However, the government, keeping in view the media reports and sensitivity of the issue, partially released Rs1.5bn in the wake of the Rs1.7bn package, including Rs1.5bn for Lahore, Rs1.2bn for Faisalabad, Rs1.5bn for Gujranwala, Rs1.5bn for Multan and Rs1.5bn for Rawalpindi WASA for the payment of bills.

DENGUE: The Lahore Water Management Commission (LWMC) has launched an operation for the surveillance of dengue and its prevention in various parts of the city.

According to LWMC MD Raza Haider, the field teams have started monitoring 11 hotspots.

"So far, 1,882 complaints of dengue hotspots have been received, out of which, more than 1,500 were responded by clearing of dengue larvae in association with the departments concerned while 255 complaints were disposed of for being irrelevant."

"The 31 dengue hotspots across the city are being monitored in three shifts. All the town managers are uploading the daily inventory report of the hot open areas of their area on the LWMC portal," the said while visiting the sites in city on Sunday.

Another weekend marred by worst power outages

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: As the city continues to face loadshedding for hours on a daily basis, Lahore Electric Supply Company (Lesco) says that the situation would improve in the next couple of days, as the plans related to increasing power generation in a bid to bring down loadshedding to two hours per duration of the prime minister to end consideration these days.

"Friday and Saturday were very hard days for us, as the electricity demand surged to 5,500MW while our electricity supply is 4,500MW, creating a gap of 1,000MW between demand and supply," Lesco Chief Executive Officer Chaudhry Muhammad Ahsan told Dawn on Sunday.

"However, the situation on Sunday improved, as the maximum demand surged to 4,500MW once in the evening hours and later decreased to 4,000MW. But we faced a shortfall of around 800MW."

On the other hand, the people continue to suffer from loadshedding reportedly for six to eight hours from loadshedding hours caused by the overloading of the system from time to time. "For the last many days, we have not slept well, even for two consecutive hours due to the worst ever power disruption," Hays, of Township, said.

Meanwhile, the prices of UPS and batteries have gone up by Rs5,000 more than the last month's rates due to an increase in their demand caused by loadshedding. "Last month, the price of a battery, I wanted to purchase, was Rs17,000. But I couldn't purchase it due to financial issues. But, a couple of days, when I went to the market to buy it, its price was Rs21,000. Similarly, the price of a UPS also increased by Rs5,000 or so per unit," Rameen, a resident of Johar Town, said.

"So I request the government to check the manufacturers of batteries and UPS, fleeing the customers who are already under great financial stress due to unprecedented price hikes, hike in petroleum products prices and other issues," he said.



Appeal From Overseas Pakistani Against SRO 598(1)2022

His Excellency Prime Minister of Pakistan,

Overseas residents are an indispensable part of Pakistan's Economy and their patriotism is incomparable & beyond question. Overseas Pakistanis are a principal source of Forex reserves in Pakistan. Last year 32B USD were remitted by overseas Pakistani diaspora with out any incentives & benefits which otherwise is not justifiable as they deserve to be incentivized.

Respected Prime Minister, the only incentive entitled to an overseas residents is importing a used vehicles once in 2years after paying 100% to 391% in terms of duties & taxes in the of form Forex that too to be arranged by overseas (these import taxes are highest in the region). Last year 450M USD were remitted (76B PKR) by overseas on account of duties & taxes to motherland.

Respected Prime Minister, it is also noteworthy that import of used cars under (PB/GIFT/TR) has no negative - (Deficit) impact on Economy but positive, acting as a surplus.

- Customs duty & cost of vehicle is arranged by overseas Pakistanis from their country of residence through official banking channels to their account or that of their blood relative's under rigid & rigorous import regulations. In other words, no negative impact on country's Forex Reserves. Last year, an additional 450 M USD were remitted on account of duties & taxes.
- It is also important to mention that only Green fuel pollution Free / Hybrid / Semi Hybrid & electric vehicles built on UN standards for safety, quality & standability helps to reduce the oil import bill and pollution by 2B USD every year.
- Trade Surplus for example the cost of vehicle 8,000,000 ¥ (Land Cruiser 2017 Model) duty in PKR 21,000,000 @ 1.55 = 13,548,300 ¥ Cost in 8,000,000 - 13,540,000 (Duty of month be remit) ¥ 5,540,000 @ 1.55 = PKR 8,587,000 will be surplus.

Presently the newly elected Govt, in Confrontation with unprecedented Oil Prices resulting to record inflation & Unemployment . Import of used Car (Hybrid / semi hybrid/ electric) can play vital role In Govt. efforts to provide relief to its nation in the era effected by post covid scenario and make their life economical and livable.

Respected Prime Minister, Overseas Pakistanis have been victimized by all previous Governments. Under your regime we have high hopes to get due honor & respect after fortnight implementation of SRO 598(1)2022 Overseas Billion Of Rupees are at high risk they cannot ship already Purchased vehicles from their earning & saving abroad and as per law they have also transferred duty taxes amount to Pakistan in the Form of Forex.

We request the Honorable Prime Minister Of Pakistan to immediately remove used cars from banned item list SRO 598(1) 2022 dated 19 may 2022.

Pakistan Zindabad!

Thanking you
Truly yours



AWAN ARSHAD MEHMOOD
CHAIRMAN CEAFF
chairman@ceaff.jp
TOYAMA KEN JAPAN.
CEAFF MAIN MARGALLA ROAD
E11 ISLAMABAD.



CC.

Ministry OF Finance, Ministry OF Commerce, Chairman FBR, Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party, Chairman Pakistan Muslim league, Commercial Councilor Pakistan Embassy Tokyo