

## Maiden pre-Hajj flight takes off from Sialkot airport

OUR STAFF REPORTER

LAHORE - The first ever pre-Hajj flight from Sialkot International airport carrying 468 pilgrims left for Jeddah on Friday, said spokesman of PIA on Friday.

PIA MD Captain M Aijaz Haroon saw off the intending pilgrims from Sialkot. Federal Minister for Population Welfare Dr. Firdoos Ashiq Awan, Chairman Sialkot International Airport Naeem Akhtar, Senior Officials of the airline and other govt officials were also present on the occasion.

Direct Hajj flights from Sialkot International Airport will now continue till 20, November, 2009 with a total of 08 flights carrying over 3700 intending Hajj pilgrims to the holy land while the post Hajj flights to Sialkot would start bringing back hajjis from December 24, 2009 till Dec 31.

Later talking to the media Managing Director PIA Captain M Aijaz Haroon said, that Sialkot airport is a glowing example that the private sector industrialists and businessmen's in Sialkot has a lot of resilience to have conceived and achieved independently project of such magnitude.

He further said that if we can develop projects of such magnitude in the private sector then there was no need to look toward govt to every infrastructure development in Pakistan, which can be achieved through self help and private public partnership. He further said that national flag carrier will start its flight for Dubai from Sialkot from Nov 30 and flights for Europe are being planned during the next year.

PIA is operating regular flights to and from Sialkot. The airline is currently operating three flights per week every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday for the sector Karachi - Sialkot -Karachi. One flight every Sunday for the sector Sialkot-Abu Dhabi-Sialkot and two flights per week on Mondays and Fridays for the sector Sialkot-Kuwait-Sialkot and Sialkot - Muscat-Sialkot every Wednesday and Saturday.

## ڈیلی ویجرو پائلٹوں کی مستقلی کا

فیصلہ خوش آئند ہے۔ وحید بٹ

کراچی (پ ر) آل پاکستان ڈیلی ویجرو ایسوشن بسٹی بی آئی اے کے صدر وحید بٹ نے کہا ہے کہ ڈیلی ویجرو پائلٹوں کی مستقلی کا فیصلہ خوش آئند ہے، انتظامیہ تمام شعبوں کے ڈیلی ویجرو ملازمین کو مستقل کرے۔ دو ملازمین کے ایک وفد سے بات چیت کر رہے تھے۔ اس موقع پر افضل سومرو، جے ہدیری ایسٹ، ظہیل بٹ، سومر چنار اور

محمد کامران بھی موجود تھے۔ وحید بٹ نے کہا کہ گزشتہ روز دوران ڈیوٹی ملازم اظہر اقبال ہلاک ہو گیا تھا۔ بی آئی اے انتظامیہ اظہر اقبال کی بیوہ کو خاطر خواہ مدد فراہم کرے۔