

Minimum 05:°C  
Maximum 18:°C  
Sunset 05:04pm  
Sunrise 06:58am  
(Tomorrow)



FAJAR	05:31 AM
ZOHAR	12:01 PM
ASR	03:26 PM
MAGRIB	05:04 PM
ISHA	06:31 PM

## Quick Read

## Master plan made to retrieve Auqaf dept land: Minister

**LAHORE:** Provincial Minister for Auqaf Saeed-ul-Hassan Shah said on Saturday that on the direction of Punjab chief minister, a master plan has been chalked out to retrieve Auqaf department's land from land grabbers.

He said this during a meeting of Zonal Nazims of Auqaf while Secretary Auqaf Gulzar Hussain Shah, directors and zonal nazims of Auqaf attended the meeting.

The Auqaf minister said that 695 acres, 10 kanals and 12 marlas of the Auqaf department land had been retrieved from illegal possession. During the last two weeks, six acres, four kanals and 12 marlas, worth Rs 33.2 million have also been retrieved. He said that committees have been constituted at tehsil level. Under the new strategy, the Revenue department and the Anti-Corruption Establishment, land would be retrieved at any cost. —APP

## 'Gustakhi Maaf' staged at Alhamra

**LAHORE:** The Lahore Arts Council (LAC) presented a comedy play "Gustakhi Maaf" here on Saturday with the message of revival and promotion of theater. The play was directed by Usman Khan and produced by Abdullah Mian Afzal. The drama highlights humanity through education as well as human history and evolution.

Usman and Abdullah said that such plays provide inspiration to people, especially to our younger generation with a platform to exhibit their theatre skills in front of public. LAC Executive Director Ather Ali Khan said it was a wonderful effort by the Council for promotion and revival of the golden period of theatre, adding that "Alhamra arranges such activities and events on a regular basis to provide a quality entertainment to the people of Lahore." —APP

## Lunch for Christian employees at UO

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** The Vice Chancellor University of Okara (UO), Prof. Dr. Muhammad Zakria Zakar arranged a lunch for the Christian employees and cut the Christmas cake as well. The Resident Officer Dr. Shahzad Ahmad and Director Institute of Social & Cultural Studies, Punjab University Prof. Dr. Rubena Zakar were also present at the event. Dr. Zakar wished Merry Christmas to the Christian community and vowed to safeguard their rights.

He told that Christians are an important part of our country and they played a key role in the Pakistan movement.

"For me, every employee of the university is of equal importance and respect and we shall create a culture of respect for every individual in our institution", told the VC. Dr. Zakar pledged to provide educational facilities for the children of the Christian employees.

"We have to uplift the minorities and marginalized sections of our society and the best way to do this is education. I shall try my best to educate the sons and daughters of my Christian employees so that they can excel", added the Vice Chancellor.



LAHORE: A metro bus on its way during the cold heavy foggy weather at Azadi Chowk Interchange Metro Bus Track in provincial capital. —Online

## Govt including backward areas in journey of development: CM

—Lays foundation stone of 13 projects worth Rs 2.94 billion

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar on Saturday inaugurated and laid foundation stone of 13 projects worth Rs 2.94 billion. Chief Minister laid the foundation stone of Govt. Technical Training Institute in Taunsa which will be constructed on 100 kanals at a cost of Rs30 crore.

The chief minister also laid a foundation stone of project of beautification of Taunsa which will complete at a sum of Rs62.74 crore. Chief Minister inaugurated 23-kilometer long road from Kharar Buzdar to Hangloon constructed at a cost Rs26 crore. Chief Minister also inaugurated 5 internal roads of Taunsa which have been constructed at a sum of Rs11.62 crore. Chief Minister laid foundation stones of up-gradation projects of Govt. Girls Higher Secondary School Taunsa and

Govt. Boys High School Taunsa. More than Rs9 crore and Rs4.37 crore will be spent on the up-gradation respectively. The Chief Minister also inaugurated projects of three roads of tribal area which have been completed at a sum of Rs8.26 crore. He laid foundation stone of the project of constructing 65-kilometer long three roads for the tribal area.

These three projects of constructing roads in tribal area will cost more than Rs1 billion. He said that Rs33.75 crore will be spent in the construction of 25-kilometer long road from Baharti to Fazla Kach via Phagla. Similarly, Rs42.40 crore will be spent for constructing 32-kilometer long road from Baharti to Hangloon Kach via Soradaat and Rs.26.80 crore will be spent in constructing 18-kilometer long road from Agha Masjid to Bailbar.

The chief minister also laid foundation stone of the project of providing

missing facilities in Govt. Degree College for Boys Taunsa at a cost of Rs11.5 crore.

He also inaugurated passport office for Taunsa. Chief Minister also laid foundation stone of the project Tameer Payal Foundation Bridge nullah Sanghar Baharti which will cost Rs27.88 crore. He said that present government is including backward areas in its journey of development. Funds of Southern Punjab were spent on different projects and cities during previous tenures.

He said that we have imposed ban of transferring Southern Punjab's funds to another project or city.

Those backward areas which are not developed yet will be brought in the mainstream, he added. He said that effects of development will be reached at grass root level. Usman Buzdar while addressing in Saraiki language said that

from Kashmir to DG Khan Indus Highway will be made dual carriage.

He said that he will go every district and tehsil for solving the problems. Public service is his duty and it gives immense pleasure to him. Agenda of public service will remain continue. Scope of motorbike ambulance service will be expanded gradually. Chief Minister while announcing for setting up Institute of Taunsa at cost of Rs2 billion said that classes of engineering, IT and social sciences will be held in this institute.

Technical training institutes and technical universities will be set up for eradication of unemployment. Work in Mir Chakar Khan Rind University will soon be started. Three special economic zones were set up in Punjab so far since inception of Pakistan but PTI government has started working on establishing ten special economic zones

within one year.

Country's largest industrial estate FIEDMC is being set up on 7.5 thousand acre of land. One hundred billion rupees have so far been invested in FIEDMC. He said that overall investment of five hundred billion will be made on FIEDMC and the same will provide job opportunities to six lac people. Prime Minister Imran Khan will inaugurate industrial estate in Faisalabad same month.

Two industrial estates in Muzaffargarh and one will be established in Layyah Chobara. 141 projects of Rs60 billion in DG Khan is a record.

Usman Buzdar said that work is being carried out on those development projects which he announced during his first visit to Dera Ghazi Khan. Now, we have launched new projects.

Usman Buzdar further maintained that he is representing all the backward

## Passing out ceremony of 326 KP Rescuers

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** The Passing Out ceremony of 326 Rescuers of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was held at the Emergency Services Academy on Saturday on 21st December, 2019. Mr Shoukat Yousafi Minister Information KPK was the chief guest of the ceremony.

Mr Abid Majeed Secretary Relief KPK, Founder Emergency Services Academy and Rescue Services in Pakistan Dr Rizwan Naseer, Mr Khateer Ahmad Director General Rescue Service KPK, senior officers from Rescue Punjab and KPK, Emergency Services Academy and a large number of rescuers, their parents and family friends attended the ceremony. In his welcoming address, Founder Emergency Services, Dr Rizwan Naseer took oath from 326 rescuers including 321 male and five female passed out rescuers and congratulated them on their successful completion of professional training and becoming part of the Rescue family. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Rizwan Naseer said that Rescue Service has rescued over 7.7 million victims of emergencies since its inception in October 2004.



The Government of Punjab through Rescue 1122 is providing technical assistance to other provinces for the establishment of this lifesaving service in their respective provinces. "Now, emergency services are being provided to the citizens of other provinces." Furthermore, Emer-

gency Services Academy has trained around 18000 Rescuers for Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit Baltistan, Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Baluchistan and Aman Foundation from Karachi since 2004. Emergency Services Academy has become a platform for providing profes-

sional training to rescuers of all provinces of Pakistan and even SAARC countries can get benefit from this training facility.

Mr Shoukat Yousafzai Information Minister KPK appreciated the rescue services rendered by all rescuers of Punjab and KPK congratulated the passed out rescuers and their parents, and hoped that these rescuers would perform their duties with full zeal and zest to serve humanity. He especially thanked to Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar Khan for providing training and technical assistance through Emergency Services Academy Rescue 1122 to Rescue Service KPK. He said Punjab being big brother playing an effective role through Rescue Service which ultimately helps in saving many precious lives so cooperation of Government of Punjab, the Management of Rescue Punjab all trainers of Rescue Academy will always be remembered. While sharing his experience about the Service, he said, "Rescue 1122 is remembered as a symbol of complete success among public and people narrate it as a symbol of a high standard to serve humanity". He added that he had witnessed various training institutions but the dedication, devotion of the



LAHORE: Christian Community busy in decorating Church ahead of Christmas celebrations. —Online

## Yasmeen opens girls hostel at KEMU

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Shafqat Mehmood here on Saturday inaugurated newly-constructed girls hostel at King Edward Medical University (KEMU).

Addressing the ceremony as the chief guest, the minister emphasized the need for specialized education particularly in the field of medical for extending better treatment to people.

He said that the government was paying attention to tackling various challenges in education sector and different proposals were being examined for bringing an overall improvement in the professional education.

Access to higher education to maximum people was among priorities of the government and for this purpose, the government is establishing more education imparting in-

## PFA issues warning notices for improvement to 40 sugar mills

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** The Punjab Food Authority (PFA) has issued warning notices for improvement to 40 sugar mills while carrying out a province-wide inspection operation of mills before start of the crushing season. The purpose of the operation was ensuring the food safety measures and standards along with the provision of safe food in the market as per the food act. According to the vision of Punjab government, the grand operation of PFA is being continued against adulterators and counterfeiters to make Punjab adulteration-free food province. PFA Director General Irfan Memon said that the food safety teams of the authority visited 41 sugar mills in Punjab amongst one was found closed. According to the statistics of inspection drive, the food safety teams have examined 19 mills in Lahore Zone, nine in Rawalpindi Zone and 13 sugar mills in South Punjab. The director general said that PFA warned 40 food outlets, asking them to improve the hygienic condition and remove the minor issues. The purpose of the checking was to ensure the sugar manufacturing process as per the hygiene principles.

stitutions was vital. Shafqat Mehmood said that along with quantity, ensuring quality of education was equally important so that standard could not be compromised.

He said that there were many in-

stitutions in private sector as well, however these institutions should also focus on quality of education. Formulation of a mechanism to judge standard of education of the students from different public and private in-

stitutions was needed, he expressed.

He said many PhD degree-holders were unemployed in the country, that was why, relevant education should be given more focus and the government would play its part for provid-