

LGH sets to establish corona, ICU wards in two private hospitals

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Lahore General Hospital (LGH) has completed arrangements for setting up Corona Wards and ICUs (Intensive Care Units) in two private hospitals and released the duty roster of doctors and paramedics for the purpose, says a press release.

Principal Post-graduate Medical Institute (PGMI) Prof Dr Sardar Muhammad Al-freid Zafar visited the hospitals and issued necessary instructions to the administration. He said that in the light of the Punjab Health Department orders, staff would be given 15-day leave after completing one-week duty at Corona Isolation Ward at Lahore General Hospital, and new staff would replace them. He said that initially 50 beds in each hospital had been allocated to the private hospitals and that the number could be increased if need arises.

He said that doctors and nurses, who would perform duty in private hospitals, would be provided with the security kits, pick-and-drop facility and food by the LGH administration.

The LGH has opened the new facilities at Central Park Teaching Hospital and Sinai Hospital where arrangements have been completed.

'Govt to conduct screening of all persons at tableegi markaz'

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Commissioner Saif Anjum and Capital City Police Officer (CCPO) Lahore Zulfiqar Hameed Monday visited the quarantine centre of *Tableegi Markaz* in Raiwind.

The CCPO said that 328 persons had been admitted to the centre currently. He advised to use face masks, gloves and sanitizers to keep themselves and other safe from the coronavirus. He said the government had decided to conduct screening of all persons at the tableegi markaz. He said all religious congregations had been banned to control the spread of coronavirus. DIG Operations Babar Saeed, Deputy Commissioner Danish Afzal, SP Sadar Ghazanfar Shah and other police officers were also present.

Seven inspectors promoted as DSP

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Seven inspectors of Lahore Police have been promoted as deputy superintendent of police (DSP).

Capital City Police Officer (CCPO) Lahore Zulfiqar Hameed fastened badges of DSP rank on the promoted officers here on Monday. The names of promoted officers are: Mian Qadeer, Javed Siddique, Waheed Ishaq, Sohail Kazmi, Rehan Jamal, Ashfaq Ahmad and Khalid Malik. SSP Admin Malik Liaquat and SSP Discipline Abadat Nisar were also present.



LAHORE: People stand in queue to receive rations on Davis Road during lockdown amid corona virus outbreak. —Online

Coronavirus goes out of control: Governor

—Says philanthropists will have to come forward to provide ration to the needy and the poor in this time of trial

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab Governor Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar has said that coronavirus has gone out of control as it has no boundary so this is not the politics time but to fight against this dreadful pandemic. Coronavirus has not become a danger for Pakistan only but for the entire world. Philanthropists will have to come forward to provide ration to the needy and poor in this time of trial.

We are thankful to China for its active support to Pakistan in the war against corona. People should stay homes otherwise they would be vulnerable to be infected by this virus. He was talking to PTI Central Punjab Deputy Secretary Information Rana Akhtar Hussain during a meeting here at Governor House on Monday. Punjab Governor Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar mentioned that number of corona-infected patients is increasing across the globe but the situation in China is far better than other countries be-

cause Chinese people strictly adhered to advisories of their government. Therefore, Pakistani people also have the best possible option to protect themselves from coronavirus by adopting precautionary and safety measures that is why we are time and again appealing to the people to stay homes and save themselves and others from this pandemic.

He said that no doubt, the government alone cannot defeat corona rather 220 million Pakistanis will also have to fulfill their responsibility as Pakistan cannot afford any laxity in this regard therefore every Pakistani must follow government's anti-corona advisories strictly.

Getting control over corona is impossible but it can be prevented by staying at home. Punjab Governor said that provision of free ration to every poor family is top most priority of the government for which Prime Minister Imran Khan has also given a roadmap and In Sha Allah we will ensure free ration supply to the poor families at all costs. "I am

happy that China is standing by Pakistan in this difficult time and it is the best example of Pak-China friendship," he remarked.

Governor appeals people to stay indoors till complete control

Punjab Governor Chaudhry Sarwar Monday requested the philanthropists to come forward and help needy citizens with ration in the time of crisis being faced due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Talking to a private news channel, he urged welfare organisations and philanthropists to come forward and help the daily wagers and the poor, as they have lost their livelihood due to the closure of trade and business activities because of the coronavirus in the country. "The Punjab government is using all available resources to mitigate difficulties and problems of needy and daily wagers", he added. He said that the coronavirus was not just Pakistan's problem, its a global pandemic and almost all the countries were fighting with the virus. Ch Sar-

war said that this is time, "We should unitedly fight the menace". He appealed the people of the country to stay indoors till the complete control on the virus is achieved.

PRWA condoles death of father of Arshad Dogar

The Public Relations Welfare Association (PRWA) expressed a deep sense of sorrow over the death of father of senior Journalist Arshad Dogar.

At this occasion, President PRWA Syed Nadeem-ul-Hassan, Senior Vice President Kamran Malik, Vice President Syed Ali Bukhari, Secretary-General Haroon Akram besides Executive Members including Chaudhry Zulfiqar Ali, Mehar Abdul Rauf, Karamat Ali, Faisal Zia, Khurram Shahzad, Dr Abid Saleemi, Ehsan Ghani, Athar Awan, Farooq Ahmed and Ahmed Mian extended their sympathies to the bereaved family and prayed to Almighty Allah to rest the departed soul in eternal peace and give courage to the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss.

PU establishes indigenous COVID-19 diagnostic lab

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: An indigenous COVID-19 (coronavirus) diagnostic laboratory was launched at the Centre for Applied Molecular Biology (CAMB), Punjab University (PU), on Monday. Vice Chancellor Prof Niaz Ahmad inaugurated the lab.

Initially 100 tests per day would be conducted of the coronavirus suspects at the laboratory while a test would cost Rs 800 only. Samples will be tested on real-time PCR [polymerase chain reaction] in the beginning, but the lab would shift to automation in future and it would enhance its per day test capacity.

Eminent virologist, Dr Muhammad Idrees Khan, of the PU has already developed an indigenous COVID-19 diagnostic kit, which would be used for testing samples of the patients, referred by the Punjab government. Special Secretary Health Nadir Chattha, Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Saleem Mazhar, CEMB Director Prof Dr Ahmad Ali, Virologist Dr Muhammad Idrees, CEMB In-charge Dr Aleena, COVID-19 diagnostic lab in-charge Dr Nazim Hussain and other researchers were present. The PU vice chancellor hailed researchers at the CEMB and CEMB, who had worked on war footing to set up the laboratory. He said the university had state-of-the-art laboratories and it would serve the country at this critical time. The special secretary health promised to extend full support to the Punjab University's scientists for preparation of diagnostic kit and said that the government would provide any other necessary equipment to the laboratory to speed up the pace of work.

Sanitary workers of MWMC at quarantine to get additional salary

From Our Staff Correspondent

MULTAN: Sanitary workers of Multan Waste Management Company (MWMC) working in city's quarantine centre will be given an additional salary.

Managing Director Nasir Shehzad Dogar in a statement maintained that the sanitary workers were performing duties at quarantine with complete dedication and devotion. Their services are remarkable.

He added that the workers were given kits and other material needed for safety at quarantine centre. Similarly, Rashan was also given at houses of the all workers.

Rain expected in City

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Cloudy weather in most parts of the province and rain in some regions including the provincial capital is expected during the next 24 hours.

Maximum and minimum temperature was recorded as 28 and 17 Celsius, respectively on Monday. According to meteorological office, rain with thunderstorm was also expected in Rawalpindi, Gujranwala, Sialkot, Lahore, Sargodha, Jhelum, Attock, Mianwali, Layyah and Bhakkar on Tuesday. According to synoptic situation, a shallow westerly wave is affecting western parts of the country and likely to persist in upper parts till Wednesday.



LAHORE: Volunteers distribute juice among the people during the Seventh day of lockdown. —Online

Police continue to ensure strict implementation on Section-144

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Lahore Police continued to ensure measures including strict implementation on section 144 to contain the movement of the public in the city of the partial lockdown by Punjab Government in wake of impending Coronavirus.

Lahore Police Operations Wing staged special pickets in different areas of the city to contain people from unnecessary movement. As many as 54629 citizens have been checked at these pickets and more than 51443 persons were asked to contain their unnecessary movement and go back to their homes since impose of section 144 as a part of impartial lock down in the city.

DIG Operations Rai Babar Saeed further informed that as many as 520 FIRs were registered against persons in violations of sections 144. The accused persons nominated in FIRs for violation of section 144 were release afterwards taking warranty bonds as not to move again in city unnecessarily.

As many as 43432 motorcycles, cars, rickshaws and bigger vehicles were contained from move-

ment in the city. DIG Operations Lahore Rai Babar Saeed visited these pickets to review the arrangements made such as checking mechanism of citizens and precautionary measures taken by deputed Police personnel. DIG Operations has made appeal with the citizens to cooperate with police and other Law Enforcement Agencies, refraining themselves from unnecessary movement in the city. All stakeholders in society needed to play their pivotal role in fight against corona virus, besides strictly adhering to the advisory on precautionary measures so that every citizen could be saved from the disease, Rai Babar Saeed concluded.

983 held on shops closure violation

Police on Monday arrested 983 people on shops closure violation and pillion ridding ban in the wake of pandemic coronavirus. According to the police spokesman, police would take action against the violators as per direction of City Police Officer (CPO) Muhammad Ahsan Younas and advised the people to take preemptive measures to fight against coronavirus. It was the prime duty of police to protect the lives and properties of the people, he added.

Tests, quarantine centres solution to coronavirus: Shehbaz

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly and Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) President Shehbaz Sharif has said tests at large scale and quarantine centers, separate from hospitals are solution to the coronavirus epidemic.

According to media reports, Shehbaz Sharif said notice should be taken of rising cases in Punjab and God forbid a big disaster will occur if immediate action is not taken.

The government is risking the lives of people by not conducting tests, he remarked. "There is lack of kits, medicines and other relevant medical facilities at all district and tehsil hospitals. Imran Niazi's attitude is synonymous with surrendering before the pandemic.

"Protective gear for doctors, nurses and other medical staff should be ensured. Patients at hospitals should immediately be separated from the coronavirus victims. "Government schools, colleges, hotels, marriage halls and mosques should be turned into quarantine centers."

'Govt taking steps to ensure availability of daily use items'

Punjab Chief Minister's Special Political

Assistant Syed Rafaqat Ali Gillani said that all possible steps were being taken for ensuring the availability of daily use items including flour at fixed rates to the people.

Official sources said here on Monday that special political assistant said this while addressing the meeting of civil administration. He said that interest of common man would be safeguarded. He directed crackdown against hoarders and profiteers.

Syed Rafaqat Ali Gillani said that indiscriminate action should be carried out against hoarders and illegal profiteers, whereas, Deputy Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner should send report to CM office on daily basis after taking action in this regard.

He said that Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar was also monitoring steps being taken for controlling price hike. He further said that the government economic package would definitely provide relief to the labour class, adding that exemption of Rs 18 billion taxes would also help in providing relief to the people. Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government always give priority to the welfare of common man, he added. He said the government was taking steps to cope with the challenge of Coronavirus under the leadership of Prime Minister Imran Khan.

Farmers urged to adopt precautionary measures during wheat harvesting

The Punjab Agriculture Department has advised farmers to keep proper distance among themselves and avoid hand-shake while harvesting the wheat crop.

A spokesman for the department said here on Monday that farmers should harvest wheat crop when it is fully ripe. Farmers were suggested to cover their faces with mask and make proper arrangements to wash their hands with soap with short intervals. The spokesman said that only one person should sit on tractor and trolley. He said that in case of flu or cough, farmers should stay at home and keep proper distance with their family members. In case of severe health condition, they must visit doctor, he added.

Four stolen motorcycles recovered

Police have arrested a man and recovered four stolen motorcycles from his possession, informed police spokesman here on Monday.

New Tow police team arrested a man identified as Saif Ullah and recovered four motorcycles from his custody. Police have registered a case against him and started investigation. The City Police Officer (CPO) appreciated the performance of the officials and said there was a dire need to take stringent ac-

tion to curb the cases of vehicle theft.

Two COVID-19 suspects admitted, families quarantined

Two coronavirus suspects were admitted at isolation ward of Govt Allama Iqbal Memorial Teaching Hospital Sialkot here on Monday, while their families were quarantined.

Senior officials of the Sialkot Health Department told that Rizwan Malik and Asim Inayatwre recently came from abroad.

Officials said that the Coronavirus tests of these suspects were conducted at this hospital and the results were awaited. Meanwhile, the both suspects were admitted in the hospital while their families were quarantined for fifteen days at their houses converting into quarantine centers.

Capital police distribute over 10,000 masks, gloves among citizens

Deputy Inspector General (Operations) Waqar Uddin Syed Monday said over 10,000 masks and gloves had been distributed among the citizens during an awareness campaign launched in the federal capital to sensitize people against Coronavirus.

The DIG shared this information during a meeting held here to review the progress on an awareness campaign launched to combat the COVID-19 chaired by Inspector General

of Police (IGP) Islamabad Muhammad Aamir Zulfikar.

The meeting was attended by all the DIGs, Senior Superintendents Police, Additional Inspectors General, Zonal SPs and Sub-Divisional Police Officers, said a press release issued here.

Waqar informed the meeting that the police officials were playing a frontline role in containing the spread of virus. Their role in such critical time was praiseworthy, he added.

The IG Islamabad also appreciated the efforts made by the police to protect the lives of people by implementing the directives of the district administration. The police stood with citizens shoulder to shoulder in such difficult times, he remarked. "There is no need to be afraid of the COVID-19, but fight it by adopting precautionary measures," said the DIG while underlining the need for ensuring uninterrupted supply of masks, gloves and sanitizers to the operational force performing duties at various police station, pickets and with mobile units.

He said duties of policemen should not be exceeded from eight hours. Meanwhile, Aamir Zulfikar visited the Emergency Hospital set up for policemen and directed the staff including doctors to wear complete kits.