

Minimum 13°C
Maximum 28°C
Sunset 06:20pm
Sunrise 05:56am
(Tomorrow)



FAJAR	04:30 AM
JUMA	01:30 PM
ASR	04:35 PM
MAGRIB	06:20 PM
ISHA	07:42 PM

Quick Read

PFA disposes of 1,300 litre tainted milk

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Punjab Food Authority (PFA) continued its crackdown against adulterated milk across the province and disposed of 1,300 litre chemically contaminated milk amid the ongoing coronavirus.

On Thursday, dairy safety teams under the supervision of PFA Director General Irfan Memon conducted raids on various milk shops in the area of Gulberg, Ferozpur and Gopal Nagar.

He said that PFA has visited 211 milk points and examined the quality of 28,000 litres milk in a daylong operation. He said that 32.5 maunds tainted milk was discarded after it was proved that milk had contamination of polluted water and harmful chemicals. Adulterated milk was being sold by Mashallah Milk Shop in Gulberg and Bulleh Shah and Hamiyon Gujjar Milk Shop in Gopal Nagar. He said that adulteration is a heinous crime and adulterators would be dealt with iron hand. The DG further said the wicked practice of adulteration in milk is being exposed in the checking of milk through lactoscan milk analyser machines. Irfan Memon said that PFA food safety officers are being sent to the field wearing full protective clothing.

PHA zone 1 completes its plantation target

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Parks and Horticulture Authority (PHA) Lahore Zone-1 achieved its plantation target in three months.

According to the PHA sources here on Thursday, Director General Muzaffar Khan had given "2020 Plantation" target to seven zones of the PHA. Zone 1 Director Javed Hamid had met the target by planting 52,424 different types of saplings, sources added. The PHA DG said that Zone-1 director had set an example for the other zones by completing its target in the very short time period. He said: "Director Javed Hamid and gardeners deserve congratulation for showing good performance." If other zones of the PHA exhibit the same performance, the authority would be able to achieve its plantation target before time, he added.

Bahawalpur-based artists get cheques

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab Food Minister Samiullah Chaudhry on behalf of the government, gave away cheques of Rs 5000 each to 53 Bahawalpur based artists. Official sources said here on Thursday, a total of Rs 265,000 were distributed among artists. The minister said that artists should create awareness among people about the preventive measures against coronavirus. Samiullah Chaudhry said that he was participating in the activities for the people



LAHORE: People offer Azan at the Ghari Shahu as Azan heard across the country at 10 PM to combat coronavirus. —Online

Govt stands with masses in this hour of trial: CM

—Inspects quarantine facilities in Gujranwala and Jhelum

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar inspected the quarantine centres set up in Sohdra area of Wazirabad tehsil in Gujranwala and Cadet College Jhelum near Dina.

He inspected both the facilities and announced to set up field hospitals for coronavirus patients at divisional level in Punjab. Abundant resources have been provided for dealing with the pandemic and funds will also be provided on a priority basis in future for this purpose, he assured.

The CM asserted that a most transparent system has been devised to facilitate the daily wagers and government is standing with the masses in this hour of trial.

He pointed out that 1000-bed field hospital has been installed at Expo Center, Lahore in a short period. Those who are doing politics over this pandemic are not loyal to the nation as it is the time to unite the people, he added. He reaffirmed that people will not be left alone adding that those who have done this, are now limited to the issuance of statements.

The CM was briefed that the quarantine centre of Muslims Hands Educational Complex

Sohdra can accommodate 500 patients and necessary facilities have been arranged according to the devised SOPs. Similarly, one thousand beds have also been arranged in Gujrat for providing treatment facility to the affected people. 11000 inhabitants have been identified in Gujranwala through track trace tests and screening of 3933 is also conducted. Different facilities are being provided to 700 people who are confined to their residences through a street lockdown. Meanwhile, the expatriate families and those in contact with them are being regularly screened, the CM was further told.

The chief minister also inspected the 120-bed quarantine centre at Cadet College Jhelum where he was told that coronavirus has been confirmed in 28 patients in Jhelum. 1327 others, who came from abroad, were again screened.

Arrangements have been made to keep 552 patients in isolation and this facility will be increased to 1022 beds.

Talking on this occasion, the CM told that screening of all the people coming from abroad has been ordered and geotagging of their residences will also be done. Timely steps have been taken by the Punjab government to secure the lives of

the citizens and this pandemic will be defeated through joint efforts, he added.

Provincial ministers Dr Yasmeen Rashid, Mian Mahmood-ur-Rashid, ACS (Urbanization and Infrastructure) and others were also present.

PPP to establish corona fund to help deserving people
Pakistan People's Party (PPP) has decided to set up a relief fund to support the deserving people in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic.

According to a press release, issued by the party on Thursday, the PPP parliamentarians and party leaders would deposit their donations in the fund.

The release said that PPP Central Secretary General Nayyar Bukhari had written a letter to the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) for a permission to set up the fund. Legally, it is a binding on the political parties to inform the ECP about establishment of any fund and provision of details of the donors.

The PPP has requested the ECP to exempt the fund from binding of provision of donors' details. The letter has referred to the corona fund, announced by Prime Minister Imran Khan, which has been exempted from provision of details of the donors.

CM visits quarantine centres in different cities

Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar visited quarantine centers in different cities today for the coronavirus infected patients. In the first leg of his visit, he reached the quarantine center established in the area of Sohdra Wazirabad Gujranwala Division and reviewed treatment facilities being provided to the corona affectees. On this occasion, the Chief Minister was briefed about the arrangements made in the Quarantine Center Sohdra. Later, the Chief Minister visited quarantine center set up in Cadet College Jhelum and reviewed the available facilities and other arrangements over there. He said that government will provide all kind of medical treatment to the affected patients. Usman Buzdar said that he personally monitoring the measures taken to deal with corona pandemic and the process of the arrangements taken for providing treatment facilities to the corona affectees. He said that this is the time to keep the nation united but unfortunately opposition parties are creating division. He said that politicizing an importation national issue by the opposition is not in the favor of country and the nation.

How to apply for Insaaf Imdad package?

By K A Mian

LAHORE: The Punjab government has launched mobile Apps (application) 'Insaaf Imdad' for distribution of financial aid worth Rs10 billion among 2.5million needy families through a foolproof mechanism.

The Chief Minister Punjab, Sardar Usman Buzdar had approved Insaaf Imdad package through which a total of Rs 4,000 would be given to 2.5 million deserving families across Punjab.

The Chief Minister Punjab assured that Punjab government had taken unprecedented steps for dealing with coronavirus and the impetuous families will not be left alone. On the special directions of Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan, the provincial financial grant under CM Punjab Insaaf Imdad Package is being allotted in addition to the relief package of the Federal Government to facilitate the daily wagers. All application would be received online and after the verification of the antecedents, the money would also be transferred online. It is pertinent to mention here, the Insaaf Imdad Apps has been made user friendly and only necessary information like names, CNICs and mobile phone numbers of the applicants are required for applying.

How to apply online for Insaaf Imdad package?

According to the details, the Insaaf Imdad Apps (application) is available on Google Play store which can be directly downloaded in android phone easily. Afterwards, the first page of this Apps will be opened in Urdu at user which will be prescribed on three main columns including Name, CNIC No, and Mobile Number, after filling the prescribed information, the user will select the icon of undertaking for its submission. When a user will submit his/her online application, a confirmation message will also be displayed on the mobile screen. It can also be applied online through the Insaaf Imdad Website.

Who cannot apply for Insaaf Imdad package?
The persons who cannot apply for Insaaf Imdad Package are following; all on-job government/semi-government servants & retired personnel, landowners, presently beneficiaries of any another welfare scheme, whose utility bills are over Rs 10,000, and owner of any kind of vehicle (excluding motorcycle, rickshaw & ching chi) are all not eligible to get any benefit from Punjab Government Insaaf Imdad

It is very simple to apply for Punjab Insaaf Imdad through SMS (message), simply open the write message and put your details in this order: Imdad, CNIC Number, Mobile Number, Name and send your details in an SMS to 8070.

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AC adjourns PU illegal appointments case till 15th

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: An accountability court On Thursday adjourned the hearing of illegal appointments case against former Punjab University (PU) vice chancellor Dr Mujahid Kamran and others till April 15.

The court directed all accused to ensure their presence on the next date of hearing. Accountability Court Judge Syed Jawadul Hassan conducted the case proceedings.

However, Dr Mujahid Kamran and other accused did not appear before the court due to coronavirus pandemic.

Dr Kamran is accused of illegal recruitment at the university and for giving away scholarships to students who were not eligible. Dr Kamran remained the PU vice chancellor from January 2008 to December 2016.

It is pertinent to mention here that the Lahore High Court had granted bail to Dr Mujahid Kamran and others in the case.

Court seeks arguments on Fawad's acquittal application in assets case
An Accountability Court on Thurs-

day sought arguments from parties on acquittal application filed by Fawad Hassan Fawad, former principal secretary to prime minister, in assets beyond means case.

The court directed counsel to appear on next date of hearing, June 18, and advance arguments on the acquittal application.

Accountability Court Judge Syed Jawadul Hassan conducted the case proceedings, wherein Fawad Hassan Fawad also appeared.

Fawad Hassan Fawad had filed the acquittal application under Section 265-K of Criminal Procedure Code, stating that the National Accountability Bureau had failed to produce any evidence against him in the case.

The bureau had alleged that the former principal secretary had accumulated assets beyond his sources of income. It was alleged that he owned assets worth Rs 5 billion besides multiple benami accounts.

It is pertinent to mention here that a Lahore High Court division bench had granted post-arrest bail to Fawad Hassan Fawad in the case.

Labour Dept provides data of all registered workers: Ansar

Provincial Minister for Labour & Human Resource Ansar Majeed Khan attended the meeting of Task Force set up on the special instructions of Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar, as Deputy Convener.

The meeting was chaired by Provincial Minister for Industry & Trade Mian Aslam Iqbal. Members of the Task Force including Secretary Labour Sara Aslam, Ali Asjad, Saqib Manan, Mujahid Sherdil and other officials were present on this occasion.

During the meeting, committee members briefed Convener and Deputy Convener about the relief package for laborers and workers lost their work due to the Coronavirus. Both the ministers reviewed the steps taken to collect the data of the registered laborers from different departments. Anser Majeed Khan said that Labor Department has provided the data of all the registered workers. Aslam Iqbal said that relief package will be given to all the labourers and daily wagers who become unemployed due to corona pandemic. Anser

Majeed Khan said that most of the data of daily wagers have been gathered. Mina Aslam Iqbal said that support of Lahore Chamber of Commerce and In-

dustry will also be obtained in this regard. As per the directives of Prime Minister Imran Khan and CM Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar, financial assis-

tance will be provided to all the workers and labour who became unemployed due to coronavirus, Anser Majeed concluded.

Anti-virus measures

Punjab to draw up list of Tableeghi Ijtamaas' participants

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Punjab government has decided to prepare lists of all those persons who participated in *Tableeghi Ijtamaas* in other provinces and foreign countries.

The decision was taken at a meeting jointly chaired by Provincial Law Minister Raja Basharat and Chief Secretary Punjab Major (r) Azam Suleman Khan to review coronavirus situation and administrative affairs in the province. The meeting was attended by Inspector General of Police Shoaib Dastgir, Commissioner Lahore Saif Anjum and officers concerned. The Chief Secretary directed all administrative officers to submit lists of participants of *Tableeghi Ijtamaas*. The meeting was briefed that screening of all members of *Tableeghi Jamaat* has almost been completed. The meeting decided to allow keeping milk shops open till 8pm, use mobile vans of departments of

Livestock and Social Welfare for screening of people and make hospitals OPDs functional for treatment of diseases other than coronavirus as well. The Chief Secretary said that the decision to allow opening of milk shops till 8pm was taken in view of facilitating people and preventing financial loss. He also issued directions to divisional commissioners to keep coordination with dealers of pulses to maintain prices of the commodity.

The IG Punjab said that policemen, wardens and other staff performing duties in connection with coronavirus must be screened for the disease. He mentioned that during shifting of prisoners from one district to other administrations should remain in contact. He asked regional police officers to ensure prompt response to 'threat alerts' issued by agencies. The senior member board of revenue (SMBR) told the meeting that as many as 97 lac applications have been received so far under Insaaf Imdad Programme.