

Minimum 24°C
Maximum 36°C
Sunset 06:42pm
Sunrise 05:19am
(Tomorrow)



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|--------|----------|
| FAJAR | 03:50 AM |
| JUMA | 01:30 PM |
| ASR | 04:45 PM |
| MAGRIB | 06:42 PM |
| ISHA | 08:11 PM |

Quick Read

PFA seals two food outlets for making fake juices

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab Food Authority (PFA) safety teams raided and sealed two food points in city for manufacturing juice with expired sweeteners. The teams led by Director Operations South, Shahzad Magsi raided two food outlets and sealed for improper labeling, unidentified ingredients and violating already served notices. Mughal Food Industry located at Nag Shah Road and Malik Food Industry at Duniyapur Road were sealed on Thursday. 2,250 litre mango drink, 1950 kg mango pulp, two filing plants and 1200 used bottles were recovered from Malik Food Industry. 1,000 litre mango juice, 25 kg pomegranate flavour, and 23 kg expired sweeteners were disposed of at the spot, said a news release issued here. Meanwhile, DG PFA Irfan Memon said that usage of sucral and other sweeteners result in heart, sugar and kidney diseases adding that these sweetener can be dangerous in wake of coronavirus pandemic.

Hand sanitisers, masks distributed among Railways employees

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Railways Divisional Superintendent Lahore Amir Nisar Chaudhry Thursday distributed masks and hand-sanitiser among the Engine Shed staff. He said that anti-coronavirus spray was being carried out in the Shed on daily basis to disinfect the premises and protect the staff. He advised the Railway employees to strictly follow the standard operating procedures (SOPs), devised by the government for their protection against COVID-19 and avoid going out of their homes unnecessarily. Commenting on the restoration of train operations, he said that Railway coaches and stock was ready and train service could be restarted whenever the higher authorities allow it.

Five dead, 655 hurt in road accidents in Punjab

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: At least five persons were killed and 655 others sustained injuries in 594 road accidents in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to Punjab Emergency Service (PES), commonly known as Rescue-1122 here on Thursday. As many as 377 seriously injured people were shifted to different hospitals while 278 others with minor injuries were provided treatment on-the-spot by the Rescue medical teams. The data analysis showed that 248 drivers, 19 underage drivers, 90 pedestrians and 322 passengers were among the victims of the road accidents. The statistics showed that 100 accidents were reported in Lahore, which affected 94 persons, placing the provincial capital at top of the list, followed by 53 in Faisalabad with 66 victims, and at third Multan with 45 accidents and 47 victims.



LAHORE: Labourers busy in their work at a kiln factory as the world will mark International Labor Day on May 1st. —Online

Modi regime violating all international laws: CM

— Condemns unprovoked firing of Indian Army along LoC

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar has strongly condemned the unprovoked firing of Indian army on civilian population along LoC.

In a statement issued here on Thursday, the CM paid rich tributes to the bravery of Pak Army and extended sympathies to the heirs of martyrs. Targeting the civilian population is the most condemnable action and Modi regime is blatantly violating all international laws while the world is facing coronavirus pandemic, he lamented.

He regretted that India is promoting tension and is bent upon disturbing the regional peace through its cowardice acts. The CM reiterated that armed forces of Pakistan are ever-ready and 22 crore people are fully standing with their armed forces. India should not remain in any misunderstanding because the Pak Army has the fullest capacity to give a befitting reply to any Indian aggression, CM concluded.

Minister presents financial aid cheque to widow



of deceased labourer

On behalf of Chief Minister Usman Buzdar, Minister of State Shabbir Ali Qureshi visited the residence of Nazir Ali labourer in cattle market area of Kot Addu and condoled with the bereaved heirs over the tragic incident of the suicide of the Nazir Ahmed. He presented a financial aid cheque worth Rs3 lakh to the widow and stated that one child will be given government job on the direction of CM Usman Buzdar. The CM has directed the administration to early complete the process

for employment. The suicide of the father of six children is a tragedy and care of orphans is the responsibility of the state, he added.

We are observing Labour Day with simplicity

Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar in his message on World Labour Day said that we are celebrating World Labour Day with simplicity and by maintaining social distancing in the wake of coronavirus epidemic and our dear homeland demands from us to confine ourselves within our homes today.

Usman Buzdar commended that labourers are our heroes as they earn livelihood by adopting honest means and strengthen our economy. In 1886 at Chicago labourers laid down unprecedented and exemplary sacrifices to attain their rights and this day reminds us of the struggle of Chicago martyrs against oppression and tyranny, he added.

CM underscored that Islam as a religion teaches for keeping the labourers in high esteem along with taking care of their welfare and betterment. He emphasized that in Islam the labourer has been declared friend of

Allah Almighty and his dignity has been duly highlighted.

CM vowed that PTI government is fully determined to grant due rights to the labourers in Naya Pakistan as Naya Pakistan is of labourers and hard workers. He further apprised that PTI government is undertaking concrete measures for the welfare and betterment of labourers in true spirit while they were duped by false promises in the past. He lamented that no practical steps were being taken for ensuring the welfare and betterment of the labourers in the previous tenures. He emphasized that durable economic and social prosperity cannot be achieved without giving due place to the labour community.

CM complimented that labourers play a pivotal role in streamlining and strengthening the economy of the country on solid basis. CM further stressed that setting up quality educational institutions, social security hospitals and labour colonies for the children of labourers speaks volume of Punjab government's labour-friendly policy. May 1st provides an opportunity to revive the determination for ensuring the rights of labour-

Special children very close to my heart: Aleem

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab Senior Minister Abdul Aleem Khan has said that taking good care of the children with birth defects is a joint responsibility of the government and society.

He said that the issues of special children were very close to his heart; therefore, he had obtained special permission from Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar to bring improvement in this sector. He expressed these views while presiding over a meeting of the Special Education Department here Thursday. Provincial Minister for Special Education Chaudhry Muhammad Akhlaq and Secretary Special Education Syed Javed Iqbal gave a briefing during the meeting. Abdul Aleem said that modern gymnasiums with special facilities for special children would be set up in major cities of Punjab and in the first

phase, a state-of-the-art gymnasium would be inaugurated in Lahore by the Punjab chief minister soon.

He said that awareness should be created about education and training of children with disabilities in rural areas where people still consider them as burden and keep them locked in their homes. The senior minister expressed satisfaction over the fact that the best services were being provided for education and care of special children by the Department of Special Education.

Abdul Aleem Khan directed the officials concerned that the department should convene a joint meeting with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to set up an advisory board, so that they could benefit from each other's experiences. He said that concrete and practical steps should be taken for welfare of these children. He said that many steps needed to be taken for the access



of children with disabilities to buildings in cities. He said all buildings should be designed in a way that special children could access them and enter them easily. He directed the Special Education Department to ensure that students do not face any difficulties and develop a

long-term plan that can ensure better care of these children across the province.

Provincial Minister for Special Education Chaudhry Muhammad Akhlaq told the meeting participants that for the first time he had formulated a policy for special children, in collaboration with the British Department for International Development (DFID). He said that these children need proper facilities in society after getting education up to matriculation. He said many parents in rural areas keep the disabled children tied with ropes and consider it a shame to take them out. He said in such areas and such parents, awareness should be created.

Secretary Special Education Syed Javed Iqbal said that the Department of Special Education gives pick-and-drop to special children from home to educational institutions in addition to free education and food facilities at such

Int'l online Hamdia Mushaira held

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: International online Hamdia Mushaira organised by Pakistan Academy of Letters (PAL) is admirable and the efforts of PAL to organize online literary programmes by observing the principle of social distance are commendable on Thursday.

These views were expressed by Inamullah Khan, Federal Secretary, National Heritage and Culture Division being the Chief Guest of the first online Hamdia Mushaira, organized by the Pakistan Academy of Letters. The Mushaira presided over by Dr. Ehsan Akbar. Dr Yousuf Khushk, Chairman Pakistan Academy of Letters presented an introductory note. Prof. Rabb Tabassum moderated the Mushaira.

Poets from all over the country and around the world including Dr. Khursheed Rizvi, Saud Usmani, Abbas Tabish from Lahore, Dr. Tariq Hashmi from Faisalabad, Muhammad Mukhtar Ali from Multan, Jabbar Wasif from Rahim Yar Khan, Dr. Javed Manzoor from Karachi, Ahmad Hussain Mujahid from Abbottabad, Mohsin Shakeel, Jahan Ara Tabassum from Quetta, Ali Akbar Abbas, Hassan Abbas Raza, Ziauddin Naeem, Dr. Waheed Ahmed, Manzoor Naqvi, Dr. Farhat Abbas, Dr. Najiba Arif, Shakeel Jazeb, Akhtar Usman from Islamabad, Basit Kazmi, Sajjad Haider (UK), Noshi Gilani (Australia) and Dr. Mahmood Al-Islam (Bangladesh) recited their poetry through video link, which was listened by more than 100 listeners.

Inamullah Khan said that the Holy month of Ramadan refreshes the praise be to Allah and refreshes the enthusiasm. Along with the recitation and worship, human beings express their heartfelt feelings and spiritual connection in the form of poems. Federal Secretary said that the Hamdia Poetry is part of our religious manifestation and our cultural identity too. The PAL has infused the religious and spiritual sentiments of the people of Pakistan by conducting Hamdia Mushaira in the first decade of Ramadan. It is a matter of satisfaction that our institutions are working to minimize the effects of the social and administrative turmoil created by the epidemic these days. Dr. Ehsan Akbar said that Hamdia Kalam was written not only by Muslims but also by non-Muslims. This Mushaira of the PAL is an appreciated step in the atmosphere of this epidemic.

'Workforce real momentum behind our progress'

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Human Resources and Minorities' Affairs Ijaz Alam Augustine said that every year, the first day of May provided us the opportunity to acknowledge the sacrifices and invaluable contributions of workers to the development of their nations across the globe.

In a statement issued here on Thursday, Augustine said that Pakistan's dynamic workforce was the real momentum behind our progress.

He said that the government's goal of rapid, inclusive and sustainable growth was only being realised because of our hardworking, dedicated and committed workforce.

The minister said that under the supervision of Prime Minister Imran Khan, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government was taking all possible steps to safeguard the rights of labourers and no doubt due to coronavirus every segment of the society especially labourers were facing difficulties in the earning. The minister assured that Punjab government was fully committed to take all measures to enhance the welfare of workers and their families as well as



LAHORE: A motorcyclist passes through disinfection gate installed at on road.

Quarantine, isolation play vital role in saving from coronavirus: Chinese Professor

The Business Report

LAHORE: The Chinese nation won the fight against coronavirus by strictly following the instructions and directions given by their authorities in a disciplined manner.

Dr Xin Zhong, Professor at Renmin University Beijing, China said while speaking at a News television's programme here on Thursday.

To a question about the strategy China adopted to fight coronavirus, Dr Zhong said that quarantine and isolation played vital role in protecting citizens from coronavirus. "It was great success that China mobilised the entire nation against coronavirus and everyone real-

ized his responsibility in this war," she added.

She said that exchange of experiences regarding COVID-19 among the nations was important in the war against this deadly virus.

"Role of political leadership is very important as their in-time decisions can be very effective in fight against coronavirus," she said.

She urged Pakistani nation to follow the advice of concerned authorities as prevention is better than cure.

To a question about the after effects of the pandemic, she said that several experts were saying in China that it could take one to three years to get the life on track fully.

"Solidarity plays a vital role so we should be united to defeat this virus," she added.

Dr Zhong said that the society should be cooperative and everyone should think about friends, relatives and colleagues as well as about other citizens.

To a question about impact of COVID-19 on studies of students, she said that in China, they had started online education and organised several online methodologies to educate students.

Giving her message to Pakistani nation she said, "We can support each other in the society and everyone should follow the instructions given by the government to protect the people