

Minimum 25°C
Maximum 43°C
Sunset 06:49pm
Sunrise 05:10am
(Tomorrow)

LAHORE

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Friday, May 22, 2020



FAJAR.....	03:39 AM
JUMA.....	12:30 PM
ASR.....	04:48 PM
MAGRIB.....	06:49 PM
ISHA.....	08:20 PM

Quick Read

Railway police directed to ensure foolproof security on Eid

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Pakistan Railways Police Inspector General Arif Nawaz Khan has directed the police to ensure foolproof security in trains, at tracks and railway stations on Eid days.

He was addressing a video-link conference of SPs of all railway divisions at the Central Police Headquarters, here on Thursday. He appreciated performance of the police officers and jawans regarding restoration of train operations and promoting people-friendly policing culture by providing wheelchairs to elderly and the disabled passengers, masks and water bottles to common passengers. Such culture would improve image of the police among citizens, he added.

He ordered implemented of zero tolerance policy against thieves, land-grabbers and ticket-dodgers. He ordered to focus on welfare of the police staff and ordered for distributing gift hampers among the families of Shuhada before Eidul Fitr. Earlier, every SP presented performance report of the police of his concerned division in the conference.

Railways reservation counter opens
Railways Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmad has announced that PR reservation counters were being opened at seven big railway stations, besides online booking to facilitate the passengers.

In a video message on Thursday, he said that the decision was taken to reduce the load on the online system which was causing problems for the passengers.

In this regard, single window would be opened for ticket reservation in Rawalpindi, Lahore, Karachi, Multan, Sukkur, Peshawar and Quetta railway stations under standard operating procedures (SOPs). The minister said that the passengers would be able to purchase tickets from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. under 60 per cent occupancy policy.

He said that it was equal responsibility of passengers as well as the railway staff to opt all precautionary measures to protect themselves from coronavirus, however, all railway officers had been directed to remain available to help the passengers.

New moon not expected to be sighted on Saturday

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The new moon of Lunar month Shawal will not be easily visible tomorrow (Saturday, May 23) in any part of the country, so Eid-ul-Fitr will be expected to be on Monday, May 25 after 30 days of Ramadan.

This was informed by Khalid Ejaz Mufti, Secretary General Ruet-e-Hilal Research Council, while talking to newsmen on Thursday.

He said that new moon could not be sighted until and unless its age is approximately more than 19 hours at the time of sunset at the place of observation, whereas the difference between Sunset and Moonset (Lag Time) is more than 40 minutes. Altitude (Alt), the angle of moon's separation from the Earth's surface is required minimum 6 degrees as well as Elongation (El), the angle of moon's separation from the Sun is required minimum 10 degrees.



LAHORE: Rescue personnel conducts anti-virus spray at the Hazrat Data Ali Hajvari shrine due to coronavirus outbreak. —Online

CM orders to decrease unnecessary expenditures

— Chairs meeting about next year's budget review

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar chaired a meeting about the provincial budget and annual development programme for the financial year 2020-21.

Chairman P&D and Secretary Finance briefed the participants about the upcoming budget and ADP details.

Addressing the participants, the CM said that budget priorities are needed to be focused, in the backdrop of the prevailing situation, as the country is facing an unusual situation due to coronavirus pandemic.

While announcing that the social sector, including healthcare, will be given importance, the CM directed to further decrease unnecessary expenditures in the next financial year and stressed that provincial departments will have to follow strict financial discipline.

Austerity should be encouraged by controlling expenditures at every level, he said.

The departments should, themselves, decrease their unnecessary expenditures and solid steps be taken for a further decrease in expenditures in the next financial year.

The CM mentioned that decrease in subsidies, being given in different sectors, should be reviewed and attention be given to public-private partnership in next year's ADP.

Similarly, a comprehensive pro-

gram be devised for giving relief to the common man as the government is committed to protecting the indigent strata despite difficult circumstances. Finance Minister Hashim Jawan Bakht, Advisor Dr Salman Shah, Chief Secretary and others attended the meeting.

PTI launches largest aid programme for indigent strata
Buzdar has said that credit goes to the PTI government for launching the largest financial aid program.

He announced that an amount of Rs7.87 billion has been distributed in more than six lac and 56 thousand deserving families under CM Punjab Insaaf Imdad Package and Ehsaas Program.

A most transparent aid distribution system has been devised to help the needy, he added.

Such programs were launched in the past for personal projection and rights of the needy were usurped by an undue distribution of resources, the CM concluded.

Attends prayer ceremony for late PTI MPA Shaheen Raza
Buzdar attended the prayer meeting at his office to pay homage to late PTI MPA Shaheen Raza on Thursday.

The participants expressed a deep sense of sorrow over the death of Shaheen Raza due to coronavirus and offered Fateha for the departed soul.

The CM paid tributes to her socio-political services and announced to name an institute in Gujranwala after her. Shaheen Raza proactively represented the party at every occasion and her services will be remembered till long, he added. We all are like a family and our joys and sorrows are also common. Shaheen Raza always remained on the front during my visits to Gujranwala

and I am saddened over her death, he further said. She was a valuable asset of the party and her death is a big tragedy for all of us as the party has been deprived of a sincere lieutenant. She was also a torch-bearer of democratic value, he added. Law Minister Raja Basharat termed Shaheen Raza as a hardworking and sincere parliamentarian who took an active part in legislation. He announced to table a resolution in Punjab assembly in recognition of her services. Provincial Minister Mian Mahmood-ur-Rasheed said that Shaheen Raza was a committed worker, who also remained on the forefront in the anti-coronavirus drive. Woman assembly members paid tributes to Shaheen Raza stating that she devoted her life for the party and she was a committed parliamentarian.

PTI gov believes in service of humanity: Augustine

After visiting South Punjab, Minister for Human Rights Ijaz Alam Augustine reached Sangla Hill area of Nankana Sahib and participated in activity of ration distribution among other representatives of PTI.

Provincial Minister Ijaz Alam Augustine distributed ration bags among the poor and deserving people while addressing to public said that the Government of the PTI believes in service of humanity without any discrimination however it is fact that the problems due to the corona virus are constantly increasing and to overcome them we all have to ensure SOPs by the Government of the Punjab because corona can be defeated only combine efforts.

He further said that every step is being taken by the Punjab government to deal with the corona virus and he also appealed to the people to fully cooperate with the Government for the betterment of them-

3.9m metric tonnes of wheat procured in Punjab: Aleem

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab Senior Minister Abdul Aleem Khan said on Thursday that 87 per cent wheat procurement target had been achieved besides distribution of 98 per cent gunny bags.

According to official sources, he said that in Punjab 3.9 million metric tonnes of wheat had been procured against the set target of 4.5 million metric tonnes. Senior minister said, "One million ton more production of wheat in the province is very much encouraging."

He further said the Punjab government would review the policy for flour mills, whereas, the mills had been provided ease in wheat purchase.

He said, "We wanted to give free market to flour mills for the purchase of wheat." Aleem Khan said the Punjab would take care of the needs of other provinces. The wheat procurement drive had entered in its final phase and all possible measures would be taken so that people do not face any shortage of wheat and flour, he maintained.

Comprehensive policy made to protect Kharif crop from locust: CS

Punjab Chief Secretary Jawad Rafique Malik said on Thursday that comprehensive policy had been made to protect Kharif crop from locust in the province.

Addressing a meeting of National Locust Control Centre here, he said that surveillance of crops were being carried out with the help of mobile applications, adding that representatives of Pak Army, local administration and agriculture department work together in



combat operations against locust. The Chief Secretary said till now surveillance of 3.7 million hectares of land had been completed, whereas spray had been carried out on 133,000 hectares of area.

NHMP recovers stolen vehicle

Officers of National Highways & Motorway Police (NHMP), Central Zone recovered a stolen vehicle and caught the thief.

As per details officers of NHMP were on routine patrolling duty near Khanewal when they observed a driver of Mehran car driving the vehicle recklessly. The officers signaled the driver to stop the car but the driver tried to flee by leaving the vehicle. The officers of NHMP chased the culprit and apprehended him after covering a short distance. The culprit revealed his name as Ali Khan from Hazara and told that he had stolen the vehicle from Multan and was heading towards tribal area. The officers tried different numbers found in a document within the vehicle and final got connected with the owner of the vehicle who told that his name was Shahzad Aslam and he was resident of Multan.

Daraz partners with KSBL

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: In order to empower a growing community of 30,000 marketplace sellers, Daraz University has partnered up with Karachi School of Business and Leadership (KSBL) to curate specialized courses that will not only equip sellers with the skills they need to become successful business leaders but also provide them with certifications.

Daraz, the leading online platform in the country, focuses significantly on education to enable the community of marketplace sellers – a large majority of which are SMEs – and to help them optimize their digital ventures. Through Daraz University, sellers have immediate and easy access to free-of-cost education and training as part of a continuous learning process. Through the collaboration with KSBL, a leading graduate management school in Pakistan, Daraz' community of marketplace sellers

will have exclusive access to tailored courses which will enable them to reach their true potential. While the first course designed by KSBL is already available on DU, over the course of the next few months, several other courses will be made available to sellers.

The course offered by KSBL are carefully developed in the context of Pakistan and keeping the needs of small and medium enterprises in mind. It contains video lectures, animated illustrations, real life examples, webinars and case studies among others. At the end of each course, the seller would be tested via an online multiple choice questions test and upon successful completion, the seller would be eligible for certification. It enriches the leadership capacity, team working abilities and problem solving skills of individuals taking this course. "At Daraz, we want sellers to be ready for success and we believe that having the right skills and knowl-

edge are key to successfully set up and operate an online business. We are very proud of our collaboration with KSBL and for the opportunity to offer certifications to our sellers and we are confident that the partnership will yield enormous benefit to our community of sellers," said Syed Faraz Ali, Global Head Seller Marketplace Daraz.

"At KSBL, our purpose is to develop leaders who can make meaningful contributions to society, through consistently ethical decision-making, knowledge, and humility. We believe that people are the only enduring source of competitive advantage. We further believe that the best way to invest in people is to provide them with a framework which enables and accelerates their development into leaders. By providing such a framework, KSBL will help enhance the capabilities of Daraz' community of marketplace sellers," said Mr. Mubashar Hameed.

Security for Jummatul Wida, Chand Raat, Eid ul Fitr completed

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Inspector General of Police (IGP) Punjab Shoaib Dastgir said that all available resources should be utilized under comprehensive strategies for ensuring security of religious congregations held at sensitive mosques and Imam bargahs and citizens whereas special attention should be given to directions of the government and precautionary measures with respect to Corona virus.

He further said that on jummatul wida, senior officers should personally inspect the security arrangements of religious places by going into the field whereas security for programs of Yum ul Quds should also be considered. He further said that snipers should be deployed on roof tops of minority worship places and Imam Bargahs whereas commandos should also de-

ployed in the vicinity of important markets, businesses centers. He added that security of banks should be made more effective alongwith increasing of patrolling hours.

He added that, one wheeling and aerial firing on Chand night should be dealt with iron hand and action should be taken against the accused keeping in view zero tolerance whereas for ensuring smooth flow of traffic on roads, better arrangements should be done. He moreover said that intelligence based search sweep and combing operations by special police and other forces should be speeded up especially near hotels, inns and slums near City bus terminals and documents of residents of such areas should be regularly checked whereas patrolling in vicinity of sensitive religious places should be made more effective by patrolling forces. He

further said that, process of checking of vehicles and passengers on inter provincial and inter districts check posts should be tightened up and video recording should alps be kept on continued. He directed to strictly ensure issued SOPs with respect to security during Eid Leaves in public places so that no untoward situation may be faced. These views were expressed by him while he was directing officers regarding security arrangements on Eid. Addl IG Operations Punjab Inam Ghani briefed IG Punjab about security arrangements and said that total 90499 officers and officials will perform security duties on jumma tul wida, Chand raat and eid ul fitr among them 68208 officers and officials are from Punjab police, 19344 are police volunteers whereas 3027 officials are from Special police. Likewise.