

KP govt to launch 'Gandhara Strip' after Eid-ul-Azha

From Our Staff Correspondent

ISLAMABAD: Tourists from across the globe will soon experience the historical heritage of one of the world's oldest civilization in one-go as Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has decided to launch 'Gandhara Strip' in the province after Eid-ul-Azha.

The initiative is meant to offer a seven-day trip to travelers for visiting some 22 heritage and archaeological sites, located in various cities of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab, including Bhamala, Gor Khatri, Hund Museum, Jinnah Wali Dheri, Julian, Peshawar Museum, Rani Ghat and Takht Bahi.

Apart from heritage tourism, the strip will also serve as a catalyst for religious tourism promotion since it entails a number of sacred sites for the followers of

Buddhism, who are scattered across the world in whooping number. Nevertheless, 'Buddhist Trail' is yet another feather in the cap of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf government, which boasted religious harmony with establishment of the Kartarpur Corridor and took several initiatives to promote pluralistic image of the country.

"All is set for the launching of 'Gandhara Strip' and it is expected that Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mahmood Khan will formally launch the trail after Eid-ul-Azha," Director Archaeology and Museums Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Dr Abdul Samad told APP on Tuesday.

He said the reopening of tourism sector with strict SOPs on the anvil so all the arrangements were being finalized to launch the 'Gandhara Strip'. After the launching of trail, he said the department would offer a seven day trip to the tourists

to 22 archaeological sites. It would start from Taxila Museum and end at Swat after covering Peshawar Museum, Takht Bahi, Julian and other sites, he added.

The Director said the department was focusing on international and heritage tourism so that maximum foreign tourists thronged the country. "Our target audience is not only the followers of Buddhism but also international tourists." In a first, he said the 'Gandhara strip' would be promoted in the South East Asian States such as China, South Korea and Thailand to attract Buddhist monks and pilgrims.

He said the department was also intending to hold 'Gandhara Festival' by next month end to sensitize the Buddhist countries about their centuries-old heritage scattered across the province.

Dr Samad said the initiative was ought

to be taken in April but it could not be materialized due to the Coronavirus pandemic. He said the province was home to some 2,000 heritage sites and possessed some 30,000 relics of Gandhara civilization. A plan which involved multiple strategies would be put in place to exhibit the true potential of the province in heritage and religious tourism.

DIG directs for ensure security during Eidul Azha: The Sukkur police have been directed to ensure comprehensive security arrangements in the region on eve of Eidul Azha and ensure implementation on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to contain the spread of coronavirus.

These directions were made by Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIGP) Sukkur, Fida Hussain Mastoi while chairing a meeting held to finalize security arrangements for Eidul Azha at his office

SU organises webinar on 'Economic growth and challenges'

From Our Staff Correspondent

SARGODHA: International and national economists Tuesday called for investing in human capital, creating employment through small and medium enterprises, promoting local tourism, enhancing e-commerce and increasing innovations leading to productivity to deal with the economic fallout of COVID-19 pandemic.

The deliberations were made by the economic experts at a webinar, titled 'Can We Build it Back, Better? Assessing Pandemic Driven Economic Challenges'. The event was held in connection with the UN Sustainable Development Goal 8: 'Decent work and economic growth' by the Sargodha University to discuss economic impact of COVID-19 in the country. The webinar was attended by Dr Sun Huaping, a professor of School of Finance and Economics, Jiangsu University, China, Majd Aziz, former president Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dr Faisal Abbas, an associate professor of National University of Science and Technology Islamabad, and Dr Muhammad Nasir Senior Research Economist of Pakistan Institute of Development Economics Islamabad. Addressing the webinar, Dr Sun Huaping said: "The firms should be encouraged to bring back labor on work amid the standard operating procedures (SOPs) and assuring all other safety measures. The state-owned enterprises and public investments should play their active role for smooth run of the business activities and to reduce the damage caused by the pandemic."

Majd Aziz said: "The worst-hit segment of society by the lockdown was composed of daily-wage earners and small and medium-sized business owners."

"Together, around two-thirds of businesses and means of communications and transportation are still closed and the smart lockdown will only have a marginal impact on resuming normal production and revenue generation." He asked all political parties to sign a 'charter of economy' in these testing times as the coronavirus had hit Pakistan's economy hard. He also suggested the government to take pandemic driven decisions, to invest in human capital, and to focus on value-added textiles for exports. "COVID-19 has disrupted the whole scenario. The economy was not in any immediate damage of collapse but this pandemic surely damaged our economy, blaming merely the pandemic for economic instability is not true; there's need of restructuring the economic foundations for sustainable development." Sharing some facts, Dr Faisal Abbas said that the government had expected 3.3-3.4% GDP growth before the crisis, but now the estimate "has been cut to 2-2.8%. He mentioned that the government was targeting to restrict the deficit to 7.4-7.5%. However, it is now expected to be around 9% due to increasing expenditure demand and fall in tax and non-tax revenues.

ICT bans sacrificial animal sale, purchase in residential areas

From Our Staff Correspondent

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration has imposed ban for setting up illegal sacrificial animals markets in the residential areas of the city, owing to the expected mass influx of sacrificial animals ahead of Eid-ul-Azha.

According to a notification received here by ICT office on Tuesday, the influx of animals on roads, green belts and empty plots in various sectors of the federal capital pose not only a health hazard but threat to human life by creating traffic congestion. It was directed to take strict action against the sellers who violate the law by moving their sacrificial animals in bulk within the sectoral areas of the city with the objective of higher profit, reads the notification.

The Metropolitan Corporation Islamabad (MCI) had decided to establish four cattle markets at different locations across the city including Barakahu, Taramri Chowk, Rawat and Tarnol with the implementation of the standard operating procedures (SOPs) issued by the district administration in wake of COVID-19 and Congo spread. "It is the responsibility of MCI to provide opportunity to citizens of Islamabad to perform their religious duties along with safety measures. Citizens are requested not to bring elders and children there," a senior official in MCI told APP.



ISLAMABAD: A beautiful view of dark clouds on sky before the heavy rainy weather.

Wave of promising study results in high hopes for COVID-19 vaccines

CHICAGO: Early data from trials of three potential COVID-19 vaccines released on Monday (Jul 20), including a closely watched candidate from Oxford University, increased confidence that a vaccine can train the immune system to recognise and fight the novel coronavirus without serious side effects.

Whether any of these efforts will result in a vaccine capable of protecting billions of people and ending the global pandemic that has claimed more than 600,000 lives is still far from clear. All will require much larger studies to prove they can safely prevent infection or serious disease.

The vaccine being developed by British drugmaker AstraZeneca along with the Oxford University, induced an immune response in all study participants who received two

doses without any worrisome side effects. A coronavirus vaccine under development by CanSinoBiologics and China's military research unit, likewise showed that it appears to be safe and induced an immune response in most of the 508 healthy volunteers who got one dose of the vaccine, researchers reported.

Some 77 per cent of study volunteers experienced side effects like fever or injection site pain, but none considered to be serious. Both the AstraZeneca and CanSino vaccines use a harmless cold virus known as an adenovirus to carry genetic material from the novel coronavirus into the body. Studies on both vaccines were published in the journal The Lancet. "Overall, the results of both trials are broadly similar and promising," Naor Bar-Zeev and William

Moss, two vaccine experts from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, wrote in a commentary in The Lancet.

However, the CanSino candidate again showed signs that people who had previously been exposed to the particular adenovirus in its vaccine had a reduced immune response. The study authors called that "the biggest obstacle" for the vaccine to overcome. COVID-19: Singapore publishes new research findings that could help with development of vaccines, more accurate testing German biotech BioNTech and US drugmaker Pfizer released details from a small study in Germany of a different type of vaccine that uses ribonucleic acid (RNA) - a chemical messenger that contains instructions for making proteins. —Reuters

3 arrested, drugs worth more than \$66,000 seized including ketamine hidden in coconut

SINGAPORE: Three men were arrested on Tuesday in an operation that took place in multiple locations and involved the seizure of more than \$66,000 worth of drugs. Among the drugs confiscated were about 273g of Ice, 144 Ecstasy tablets, two Erimin-5 tablets and 317g of ketamine, which was hidden in a coconut, said the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) in a news release.

Cash amounting to \$6,000 was also recovered during the operation.

On Tuesday morning, CNB officers were deployed near Upper Serangoon Road to observe a meet-up involving a 50-year-old Singaporean man and 37-year-old Malaysian man. The 37-year-old was suspected to have handed over some drugs to the 50-year-old before leaving on a motorcycle. Packets of Ice seized from a unit near Upper Serangoon Road. Officers tailed the man to the Geylang Road area before arresting him. A packet containing about 1g of Ice was found in his possession.

A separate team of CNB officers raided a hideout located in a residential unit near Upper Serangoon Road and arrested the 50-year-old, along with another 60-year-old Singaporean man.

The officers seized 36g of Ice, 1g of ketamine, 22 Ecstasy tablets and \$6,000 in cash from the 50-year-old.

A search was also conducted in the unit and a coconut, which was used to hide about 317g of ketamine, was found. Drug paraphernalia, 236g of Ice, 122 Ecstasy tablets and two Erimin-5 tablets were also recovered from the unit. Investigations into the drug activities of all the suspects are ongoing. The total amount of Ice seized in these operations is sufficient to feed the addiction of about 156 abusers for a week, said CNB. —CNA



PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to herby informed that Zeeshan Azam Randhawa S/O Muhammad Azam etc on behalf of M/S City Housing Scheme has applied to Tehsil Council Toba Tek Singh for approval of Housing Scheme namely "City Housing Scheme" (residential scheme) having total area 181k—07M-206sf bearing Khewat No's. 142/139, 143/140, 144/141, 145/142 Khatoni No's 218,219,220,221 SQ No. 32 Killa No's. 1,2,3/1,8/9 to 12,13, 13/1, SQ No 33 Killa No's 1/1, 1/2, 1/3, 2/1, 2/2,2/3,3/1, 3/2, 3/3, 4/1, 4/2, 4/3,5/1, 3/2, 5,3, 5 to 10, 11/1, 12,13,14,15/1, 15/2 Chak No. 295/GB Tehsil & District Toba Tek Singh. If any has any objection, he or she should reach undersigned within 15 days. Any objection filed after the prescribed date shall not be entertained. This notice shall not be taken as commitment of Tehsil Council Toba Tek Singh for the sanction of this proposed Hosing Scheme (City Housing Scheme). Chief Officer Tehsil Council Toba Tek Singh

Pompeo to meet UK PM in heat of China standoff

LONDON: US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo will meet British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Tuesday following London's diplomatically fraught severing of ties with China's Huawei and retaliation for Beijing's treatment of Hong Kong.

The top US diplomat's last visit to London in January came just days after Johnson ignored warnings from Washington and allowed the private Chinese tech giant to help roll out Britain's 5G network. It was a frosty affair that saw Pompeo accuse Britain of endangering Western intelligence-sharing by putting China at the heart of its next-generation data system.

Britain's relationship with China was then blooming as Johnson sought lucrative partners that could fill the void left by the UK's exit in January from the European Union.

But the months that followed have seen Britain edge ever closer to US President Donald Trump's administration in its geopolitical tug-of-war with China. Johnson's most dramatic policy reversal saw him order UK mobile providers to stop buying 5G equipment from Huawei starting next year and remove existing gear by 2027.

"We were happy about it," Pompeo told reporters last week. "Prime Minister Johnson got the complete right end of the stick on this one." The Chinese foreign ministry responded by accusing Britain of becoming "America's dupe".

The range of steps taken by Johnson in the past month threaten to bring an early end to a "golden decade" in co-

operation that former British finance minister George Osborne promised on a visit to Beijing in 2015. London has also outraged Beijing by offering nearly three million residents of Hong Kong a pathway to UK citizenship in response to a highly controversial security law that China imposed on the former British colony last month. Britain followed that up on Monday by suspending its extradition treaty with Hong Kong and extending an arms embargo of "potentially lethal weapons" that had previously applied only to mainland China.

UNPOPULAR PRESIDENT: Pompeo's visit will include talks with Britain's last Hong Kong governor Chris Patten is aimed at further stressing the seeming new understanding about Beijing. Steps taken by Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson in the past month threaten to bring an Yet some tensions between London and Washington remain. Johnson is keen to avoid being too closely associated with Trump - whose approval in Britain is languishing at around 20 per cent - despite the "special relationship" between the two historical allies.

The UK government stresses that it only ditched Huawei after new US sanctions imposed in May threatened the safety of future 5G equipment produced in China. —Agencies

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas m/s Muhammad Khalid Muhammad zubair aziz shahid mehmoos sons mst anwar saeeda mst naseem akhtar mst zahida raof d/o ch abdul aziz allottee of residential plot no 18/B block A area development scheme no II Haifzabad appointed mr Muhammad arif aziz son of ch abdul aziz nice no 382010670648-5 as his /her general attorney registered vide sub registrar Hafizabad deed no 158 dated 12-10-19 and authorized him / her to perform all acts including transfer of the said plot / building in favor of mr Hassan taha waseer son of inam ul haq waseer nice no 34301-0567556-9 opportunity is provided to all concerned that written objections against the proposed transfer of plot through general attorney appointing of this general attorney if any be presented before the undersigned within fifteen days from the publication of this notice after expiry of this time limit this department shall not accept any responsibility Deputy director(phata) secretary district housing committee hafizabad ph 0547640269

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas m/s Muhammad Khalid Muhammad zubair aziz shahid mehmoos sons mst anwar saeeda mst naseem akhtar mst zahida raof d/o ch abdul aziz allottee of residential plot no 23/C block A area development scheme no II haifzabad appointed mr Muhammad arif aziz son of ch abdul aziz nice no 382010670648-5 as his /her general attorney registered vide sub registrar hafizabad deed no 158 dated 12-10-19 and authorized him / her to perform all acts including transfer of the said plot / building in favor of mr Hassan taha waseer son of inam ul haq waseer nice no 34301-0567556-9 opportunity is provided to all concerned that written objections against the proposed transfer of plot through general attorney appointing of this general attorney if any be presented before the undersigned within fifteen days from the publication of this notice after expiry of this time limit this department shall not accept any responsibility Deputy director(phata) secretary district housing committee hafizabad ph 0547640269

CORRECTION OF FATHER'S NAME

My name is Nauman Ejaz, I passed my Secandory School Examination 2018 under roll No 142863 from BISE Sahiwal. My father's real name is Mohammad Mukhtiar, whereas it was mistakenly published as Mohammad Mukhtar on my Matric certificate, which is not correct. Kindly correct it on my certificate. If anybody has any objection, he should inform Under Secretary BISE Sahiwal in writing. Nauman Ejaz S/O Mohammad Mukhtiar, resident of 71 D, Tehsil and Dist Pakpattan

Visitors bypass Berlin museums despite star attractions

BERLIN: Berlin museums might host the iconic Nefertiti bust, the Ishtar gate of ancient Babylon or Rembrandt masterpieces, but they still trail global counterparts in popularity - and COVID-19 is making things worse. Millions of euros have been poured into the institutions, yet the 19 museums managed by the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation (SPK) attracted just 4.2 million visitors last year, while the Louvre alone drew 9.6 million. Alarmed by lacklustre public interest, Germany is planning a major shake-up after a report commissioned by Chancellor Angela Merkel's government slammed the foundation as dysfunctional, outdated and out of touch. —AFP

Documents lost

File along with the intimation, letter of file No 1461, measuring 5-marla issued by 'P&D Fort' in the name of Mrs Rehana Tariq W/O Muhammad Tariq Yamin R/O 215 -E PIA Housing Society, Lahore. Finder may return the same to P&D Fort Lahore. Otherwise within 7 days, Intimation/ Allotment Transfer letter shall be treated as cancelled. Azshiana Shopping Centre, office No 333,7th Floor, Main Boulevard Gulberg, Lahore. Contact No.042-35782731-34