

## DC Kasur reviews performance of various departments

— Directs all departments to provide basic facilities to citizens

From Our Staff Correspondent

**KASUR:** Deputy Commissioner Kasur Manzar Javid Ali has said that in the light of the special instructions of Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar, the heads of all departments should improve their performance and use all their resources to provide basic facilities to the citizens, ensure the good faith, transparency and responsibility of the officers and employees, ensure timely attendance in the offices, providing all basic facilities to the public is the top priority of the district administration. Expressing these views, he chaired a meeting held to review the performance of various departments in the Deputy Commissioner committee room the other day.



In the meeting, Chief Executive Officer Education authority Nahid Wasif, DHO Medical Services Dr Hafeez-ur-Rehman, and other departments' officers attended the meeting.

The Deputy Commissioner said that the speed of work of different projects should be accelerated throughout the district.

## One killed, five injured in roof collapse

**LAHORE:** A 16-year-old boy was killed while five others were injured when the roof of a building collapsed at Al-hafeez Garden Manawan here on Wednesday.

The police said labourers were busy in construction when the roof collapsed and they trapped into the debris.

On information, Rescue 1122 reached the spot and started rescue operation. They pulled out the injured and shifted to the Services Hospital while Atiq, 16, died on the spot.

The injured were identified as Iran, 37, Nasir, 38, Abdul Majeed, 40, Manawar, 26 and Abdul Rasheed, 25. —APP



LAHORE: A beautiful view of clouds on sky during the pleasant weather at the Ravi River. —Online

# City of Quaid cannot be neglected at all: Governor

— Says PM Imran Khan will announce a historical package for Karachi soon

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar met with Chairman Edhi Foundation (EF), Faisal Edhi, President Women Wing PTI Fizza Zeeshan and other members of PTI.

Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar said that the city of Quaid cannot be neglected at all.

Prime Minister Imran Khan will announce a historical package for Karachi soon. He said that we are distributing over 1 lac ration bags among deserving families. Interest-free loans will also be given for repair and reconstruction of houses damaged by floods.

According to details Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar met with Khurram Sher Zaman, Aleem Adil Sheikh, Jaam Farooq Ali and other leaders from Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf and discussed various political matters with them on Wednesday. Governor Punjab was apprised about the relief efforts of Edhi Foundation for Karachi and other cities of Sindh. Commending the efforts

of Faisal Edhi, Governor Punjab said that those who serve humanity will always be remembered. He appreciated Faisal Edhi for taking forward the mission of Abdul Sattar Edhi and assured him of cooperation in welfare activities.

While talking to the party members, Governor Punjab said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Imran Khan, we are taking practical steps for solving economic issues of Pakistan.

He said unfortunately the opposition is not happy with economic progress but history is a witness to Imran Khan's success in everything that he has committed himself to.

Governor Punjab said that Imran Khan is committed to transparent accountability without any discrimination. There shall be no compromise on transparent accountability. Our priority is the progress and prosperity of Pakistan and we will fulfill all the promises very soon, he added.

Governor Punjab said that I am here in solidarity with the people of Sindh.

He said that with the collaboration of

'Friends of Pakistan' we will distribute over 1 lac ration bags worth 35 crore rupees whereas interest-free loan of one lac per family will be given for the repair of houses damaged by the floods which they can return in instalments without any interest. He said that we stand by the people of Sindh during this difficult time and we will extend every possible relief to them.

Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar said that Prime Minister Imran Khan is also devising a policy for solving the problems of Karachi and the federal government is taking practical steps for providing relief to flood affected.

He further said that during the coronavirus crisis we provided ration to 16 lac families through the platform of PDN which is a coalition of different charity organizations.

He said we have also contributed to Prime Minister's Corona Relief Fund with the help of philanthropists and spent over 600 crore rupees in providing safety equipment to healthcare staff and to inmates in different jails of Punjab.

## Coca-Cola signs MoU with PHA to provide treated waste water

**LAHORE:** Coca-Cola Beverages Pakistan Ltd. (CCI Pakistan), which is part of CCI – a leading bottler within the Coca-Cola System, signed an agreement with Parks and Horticulture Authority (PHA) Lahore to provide treated waste water. CCI Pakistan being a responsible corporate citizen will provide treated waste water to PHA for a period of five years for carrying out routine watering of green belts, parks and cleaning of roads in Lahore. This initiative will help conserve millions of litres of precious drinking water which is currently being extracted from the ground for the purpose of horticulture watering.

CCI Pakistan's Lahore plant has a capacity to provide up to 40,000 liters of treated waste water per hour to PHA which indicates the massive volume of fresh drinking water that will be conserved through this strategic partnership.

The agreement was signed during a ceremony held on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at



PHA's head office in Lahore between Basit Zafar Pirzada, Public Affairs Manager at CCI Pakistan and Muhammad Awaiz Bhatti, Director Planning and Development at PHA Lahore. Also present were senior officials including Fahad Ashraf, VP & General Manager for Pakistan and Afghanistan region at The Coca-Cola Export Corporation, Jawad Ahmed Qureshi, Director General PHA, Yasir Gillani, Chairman PHA. —PR

## Book launching ceremony at PU today

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** Punjab University will organize book launching ceremony of Prof Dr Zahid Munir Amir's "Armghan-e-Jameel" today (Thursday) at 4pm at Al Raazi Hall.

PU VC Prof Niaz Ahmad would preside over the ceremony while Federal Mohtasib (Insurance) Dr Muhammad Khawar Jameel, Pro Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Saleem Mazhar will be guests of honor. Dr Asghar Zaidi, Mujeeb ur Rehman Shami, Sohail Warraich, Qazi Afaq Hussain, Dr Khurshid Rizvi, Dr Asghar Nadeem Syed, Sohail Omer, Dr Sugra Sadaf and Shujat Hashmi would address on the occasion.



LAHORE: Workers cut the grass on railway track at the Lahore Railway Station. —Online

## Conservation of wildlife top priority: Aslam

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Climate Change, Malik Amin Aslam Wednesday said that the conservation of wildlife and protection of their habitats in the country had been given top priority by the present government under Ten Billion Tree Tsunami (TBT) programme.

He said that "Humans are responsible for the current rate of species extinction, which is at least 100-1000 times higher than nature intended, pointing towards astonishing 60% decline in the size of populations of mammals, birds, fish, reptiles & amphibians in just 40 years across the world."

"We are focusing on protecting populations of some of the world's most ecologically, economically and culturally important species," he added, said a press release issued here. The minister said that the survival of which remained threatened by poaching, illegal trade & habitat loss under Ten Billion Tree Tsunami program."

# NHMP ensures better deliverance of services

— Signs MoU with NUCES for educational training, research

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** As a department National Highway and Motorway Police will always strive hard to build capacity of its officers and ensure better deliverance of services by adopting best practices said Commandant NHMP Training College DIG Mehboob Aslam while signing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with University of Computer and Emerging Sciences (NUCES) concerning educational training and research.

As per MoU between NHMP and NUCES both departments will help each other in the field of road safety, Intelligent Transport System, E-ticketing, Surveillance, Communication Skills and research.

Motorway Police will



organize Road Safety Seminar and workshops to sensitize students of NUCES in respect of road safety rules and traffic laws.

Motorway Police will provide data relating to traffic and accidents to the students for research work and will provide full assistance in this regard. Whereas, NUCES will extend help to Motorway Police relating ITS, E-Ticketing and

road research. It was agreed that NUCES will offer concessional educational package to the children of motorway police employees. As per MoU representatives of both sides will hold periodic meetings to have overview of cooperation and find means of further extension in this regard.

At the end of the event souvenirs were exchanged from both sides.

# Ehsaas initiative reflective of PM's socio-economic relief-I

Dr Saeed Ahmed Ali

**R**enowned Greek philosopher Aristotle said, Poverty is the parent of revolution and crime. South African revolutionary leader Nelson Mandela said overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity.

It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life.

As per Asian Development Bank (ADB) statistics, a total of 24.3 percent population of Pakistan lives below the poverty line, while 3.9 percent of employed class has the purchasing capacity up to U \$ 1.90.

The World Bank in its published research findings has observed that the lockdown and restrictions amid-COVID-19 have severely affected low-income households in a country, where the persons who fall in this category earn an average, less than US \$ a day.

A new report of World Economic Situation and Prospects mid-2020, which the United Nation Department of Economic and Social Affairs on the world economic situation has released recently shows that global economic losses amid COVID-19 would likely cause an estimated 34.3 million additional people fall below the extreme poverty line in 2020.

Combating the on-going economic impact due to spread of the

coronavirus, the incumbent Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government is playing an impressive and responsible role for the well being of marginalized and destitute strata of the country.

To mitigate the pandemic socio-economic damages, the incumbent Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf government has initiated an unprecedented Ehsaas Emergency Cash programme which is the largest social-protection programme in the ruling history of the country.

Talking to mediemen, Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FPCCI) president Mian Anjum Nisar said that Ehsaas Emergency Cash programme was a people-friendly relief initiative, adding that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government under the dynamic leadership of prime minister Imran Khan would steer the country out of the economic gloom.

He said that it was for the first time that such a massive programme was providing relief to the destitute strata in Pakistan, in every walk of life. Here are some salient features of the Ehsaas Programme under which the respectable living and socio economic condition of the poor strata in the country is being improved.

Prime Minister Imran Khan on January 31, 2020 launched the innovative new Kafalat Programme, which is providing PKR 2,000

monthly cash payments to 7 million of the poorest women in the country.

Following the vast objectives of this programme, a new Ministry for Social Protection and Poverty Alleviation has been established which would work on the coordination of the Ehsaas Programme's implementation throughout Pakistan.

Similarly, under Ehsaas Tahafuz programme, the government had announced that nearly 5.7 million women would be given savings accounts and mobile phones to make them able to access their bank accounts. "This will be the most transparent way to give them their money," Ministry for Social Protection and Poverty Alleviation sources told APP, adding that the cash transfers to the women will be increased from Rs5,000 to Rs5,500.

Another document of the Programme revealed that a "movement" for children who are forced to work under bonded labour, would be started and daily wage workers would also be facilitated through the Tahafuz programme. Under this programme, Bait-ul-Maal would be funded to build homes for 10,000 orphan children in the next four years, and to address the nutrition problems of minors "multi-sectoral nutrition coordination body" has also been constituted.

(to be continued)

The writer is working with Associated Press of Pakistan (APP)

# Railways all set to reconstruct 11 bridges, repair 55 for smooth trains operation

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** Pakistan Railways is all set to reconstruct 11 bridges and repair another 55 across the country to ensure smooth operation of trains and safety of the passengers.

Giving details of the project, an official in the Ministry of Railways told mediemen that the department would reconstruct three bridges in Sukkur division, six in Multan and two in Lahore division.

About the repair of bridges in different divisions, he said Pakistan Railways had planned to repair 34 bridges in Karachi, 11 in Sukkur, two in Multan, five in Rawalpindi, two in Peshawar and one in Quetta.

Around 86 percent of bridges were more than 100 years old, but all of them were safe for train operation due to regular maintenance, re-

habilitation and strengthening of the bridges, the official added.

He said Pakistan Railways has 13,959 major and minor bridges over the system and their design life varies for different years. The standard operating procedure calls for inspection of bridges in accordance with the different schedules like monthly, quarterly, biannually and annually.

To a question, he said Pakistan Railways upgraded as many as six major railway stations across the country, giving them a new and modernize look, besides facilitating the passengers during the last two years. The upgraded railway stations including Bahawalpur, Raiwind, Narawal, Okara, Sahiwal and Gujranwala. The Central Development Working Party (CDWP) had given approval for the renovation in 2018,

he added.

The up-gradation work would be carried out in passenger waiting halls, prayer area, operation offices, water filtration plant, toilets, passenger shelter, platforms, ticket counters, parking area and external development work.

"Around Rs50 million were allocated in the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) for the current fiscal year to upgrade and renovate of nine other major railway stations," the official said.

Regarding the two major railway stations of Rawalpindi and Rohri, the official said the tenders had been floated and waiting for its final approval. He said the present government was encouraging the private partners and builders for renovation and up-gradation of the railway stations.