

Facebook expands support for security keys on mobile devices

KARACHI: Facebook has announced that they are expanding support for hardware security keys to iOS and Android mobile devices globally, through which users can set up two-factor authentication. Since 2017, people on Facebook have been able to use physical security keys to log into their accounts on desktop to better protect their information from malicious hackers.

Two-factor authentication is a security feature that helps safeguard users' accounts every time they log into their Facebook account from an unknown device by requiring something only they know (their password) and something they have (typically, an SMS code sent to their mobile phone or Authenticator app). It's much harder for a bad actor to obtain both factors, which keeps their password from being their last line of defense against phishing or other malicious attempts to compromise their information.

Physical security keys — which can be small enough to fit on your keychain — notify users each time someone tries accessing their Facebook account from a browser or mobile device Facebook doesn't recognize.

"Since 2017, we've encouraged people that are at high risk of being targeted by malicious hackers: politicians, public figures, journalists and human rights defenders. We strongly recommend that everyone considers using physical security keys to increase the security of their accounts, no matter what device they use," stated Facebook in the newsroom post.

Security keys can be purchased directly from companies that make them (Facebook doesn't manufacture hardware keys). The keys can either work through Bluetooth technology or by plugging it directly into your phone.

Users can enroll their security key in two-factor authentication within the Security and Login section of their Settings. —PR

Qaiser extends support to AWKUM for scientific research

ISLAMABAD: National Assembly (NA) Speaker Asad Qaiser on Friday extended his all out support to Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan (AWKUM) for strengthening of research facilities for promotion of research on socioeconomic and scientific and technology issues facing the country.

Talking to AWKUM Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Zahoor-ul-Haq and his team, he said analysis of economic and other policies would help government to forge their future strategies, felicitated vice chancellor and faculty members of the AWKUM on that achievement. The industrialisation was the key to economic prosperity and success of any nation. Advent of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor would lead Pakistan especially Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to progress thus AWKUM had a pivotal role to



LAHORE: Members of SSEs and AEOs Regularisation Movement shout slogans during protest in favour of their demands at the Lahore Press Club.

Parliamentarians call on Buzdar
Rs18b released to 136 tehsil councils for municipal services: CM

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: On the direction of Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar, secretary local government has issued Rs.18 billion to 136 tehsil councils for the provision of municipal services to the people.

In a statement, issued here on Friday, the CM said the annual development programme 2020-21 aims at benefitting the people at the grassroots through a network of 306 local governments. Initially, 7352 schemes of about Rs.20 billion were identified in ADP. However, the CM continued that 6688 schemes of Rs.18 billion were approved and tenders of 4460 schemes have been issued to timely start development work. Work is being started on 2657 projects of Rs.7 billion in rural areas while another Rs.3.70 billion is earmarked for work on 1640 schemes in various urban metropolitan, municipal corporations, municipal and town committees on a priority basis, he said. The CM further disclosed

that work was being started on 1025 roads construction, 967 schemes of the modern drainage system, 131 schemes of clean drinking water and 33 solid waste management schemes in different areas of the province. Along with it, 10 schemes are planned for master planning, zoning and healthcare facilities with an amount of Rs.5 billion, he added. This will start a new era of development by providing necessary facilities at the grassroots, concluded the CM.

Another reporter added: Provincial Minister Syed Yawar Bukhari, MNAs Javaria Zafar Aheer, Nawab Sher Waseer and Shoukat Bhatti called on Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar at his office and apprised him about the problems of their constituencies.

Talking on the occasion, the CM assured to resolve the problems on a priority basis and repeated that no one will be allowed to create hurdles in the resolution of genuine issues. Public service is the main agenda of the PTI government, he accentuated and added that the elements trying to create dif-

ficulties in the journey of development are riven. The CM advised the PDM to abjure negative politics as there is no room for opportunists in the new Pakistan. Propaganda-based politics is the favourite modus operandi of the opposition but propagandists will remain frustrated as before. Meanwhile, the government will respond to the tactics of negative politics with public service, the CM concluded.

Deputy Chairman Senate calls on Buzdar

Deputy Chairman Senate Mirza Muhammad Afridi called on Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar at his office to discuss matters of mutual interest.

The CM felicitated him on becoming Deputy Chairman Senate while Mirza Muhammad Afridi thanked the chief minister for his effective role in the Senate elections. Usman Buzdar has taken solid steps to give relief to the masses as wonderful work has been done to facilitate the general public, he said. He also appreciated governance-related reforms in the province.

NRSP agri processing co issues first electronic warehouse receipt

LAHORE: NRSP Agri Processing Company (NRSP-APCL) and Naymat Collateral Management Company Limited (NCMCL) have collaborated to issue the first Electronic Warehouse Receipt (EWR) against rice and paddy stocks stored at the recently accredited NRSP-APCL facility located at Hafizabad (Punjab).

The NCMCL is the first collateral management company incorporated under the Collateral Management Company Regulations issued by SECP in 2019 after an extensive consultative process involving stakeholders. The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has already done necessary amendment in the prudential regulations, making EWR an acceptable collateral.

Electronic Warehouse Receipt (EWR), the first-of-its-kind in Pakistan, is a digital instrument which gives financial institutions real time information and access to farmers who have placed their produce in an accredited warehouse, significantly reducing transaction costs and operational risks for the banks.

The technology platform of EWR is also integrated with the Pakistan Mercantile Exchange (PMEX), offering access to farmers to a structured secondary market. The EWR regime currently focusses on Paddy, Rice and Maize, whereas the scope will be broadened and scaled further in the near future.

NRSP Agriculture Processing Company Limited is an unlisted Public Limited Company established in 2016 to invest and promote warehousing and agriculture value chain projects with small holding farmers. It is a subsidiary of NRSP with joint investment of Karandaaz Pakistan. The warehousing facility was established under partial funding by Financial Innovation Challenge Fund, managed and run by UK's Department for International Development & administered by State Bank of Pakistan.

On the issuance of the first electronic warehouse receipt, Dr. Rashid Bajwa, Chairman NRSP APCL and Abrar Hassan, Chairman Naymat Collateral congratulated the management of both the companies and acknowledged the support and contribution of SECP and SBP for developing regulatory framework.

The leadership of both the companies clearly shows that the EWR regime will not only contribute towards financial inclusion of small holder farmers by securitizing commodities, but will also help to eliminate price anomalies that exist in the agricultural value chain and save the small holding farmers from distress sale of commodities.

With the EWR regime, the farmers will have another avenue of formal financing available to them, eliminating the hassle of conventional pass book lending. —DNA



LAHORE: Customers wait for camel milk from gypsy people along the roadside at Baghbanpura.

US role as a peace promoter in South Asia need of the hour: Malik

LAHORE: Founder President Pak-US Business Council and President SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry Iftikhar Ali Malik on Friday said the United States role in South Asia has increasingly become more significant with respect to Pakistan, India, Afghanistan and the changing geopolitical landscape for the prosperity of South Asian region.

Talking to a delegation of traders led by Raja Muhammad Anwar VP FPCCI, he said US President Joe Biden's commitment for the betterment of South Asian countries especially developing harmony is appreciable and Pakistan is ready to play a constructive role in developing deep-rooted linkages to help deal with all the emerging challenges in the region apart from demonstrating an utmost commitment towards maintaining peace and stability besides strengthening of economy in South Asia.

He further said Pakistan believed in regional development through the platform of SAARC as it was the way forward for peace and economic prosperity in the region.

The region had abundant human and natural resources, with one-fifth of the humanity and untapped plenty of indigenous and natural resources for regional uplift, he said. "The social charter of the organisation was

the real way forward and his country would support all initiatives by SAARC in this regard."

He said not surprisingly, we are among the least integrated regions in the world with cross-border trade and movement of people hindered by restrictive laws and extremely poor connectivity. Trade among ourselves is not more than 5% of our total trade volume which is negligible and that must be boosted up manifold for the welfare of people of the region.

Iftikhar Malik said our combined demographic might constitutes a talented and industrious population that accounts for a quarter of the world's human capital and emerging global market. No less is our contribution to science, technology, art, culture and trade. And we are well endowed with bounties of nature. Indeed, any contemplation of our future gives cause for optimism and conjures the vision of enormous prosperity - not just for south Asians but for the rest of the world.

He emphasized the need for building people-to-people contacts through relaxed visa policy. "The visa liberalization policy is ideal as it could benefit South Asian countries in a multitude of ways, which also includes instilling of peace sentiments coupled with promotion of durable economic harmony. —APP

Peri-Urban Housing Scheme to be launched in 26 tehsils of Punjab

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Political Communication Dr. Shahbaz Gill on Friday said that the government would initiate "Peri-urban housing scheme" in 26 Tehsils of Punjab province in the first week of April.

Addressing a press conference here at PID, he said that in the first phase, this scheme will be executed on 3,000 kanal land.

He said under this project, houses will be provided to the low income groups on easy installments. "The total cost of a house in this housing scheme will be 1.4 million rupees", he said adding that the project would be expanded to all Tehsils of Punjab.

He said that Pakistan Tehreek Insaf (PTI) government has created an enabling environment for the promotion of housing sector in the country. He said the mortgage financing facility introduced by the government will enable the people to build and own affordable houses, adding that present government has refined and evolved the mortgage system in the country. SAPM Dr. Shahbaz Gill said that work on another housing project will also be started in Farash Town, Islamabad next month. He said that 4,000 apartments will be built in it and each apartment will cost 2.7 million rupees. —APP

Vaccination drive on corona commendable, says Alfreed

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Principal Post-Graduate Medical Institute and Lahore General Hospital Prof. Dr. Sardar Muhammad Al-freed Zafar has said that the corona epidemic has spread in its new form in Pakistan as well as all over the world. He added that the Government has taken a very commendable step by launching a vaccination campaign against Corona well in time which will improve the situation in the days to come.

Talking to media persons, Prof. Al-freed Zafar said that it is the responsibility of all of us individually and collectively to convey the slogan of "Corona is an epidemic and precaution is a cure". There is a responsibility for which the media and health professionals should play their positive role in this regard, Principal said. He further said that conscious nations are not afraid of challenges but with their positive behavior they are able to change difficult situations very quickly. Responding to a question, Principal PGMI said that the people should take full advantage of the vaccination campaign launched by the Government as well as ensure existing SOPs in homes and public places.

Buzdar chairs LDA governing body meeting
Decision to restrict LDA's jurisdiction to Lahore

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Usman Buzdar chaired the third meeting of the LDA governing meeting to review the deputation policy.

The meeting was attended by Housing Minister Mian Mahmood-ur-Rashid, Vice Chairman WASA Sheikh Imtiaz Mahmood, Sadia Sohail Rana MPA, administrative secretaries and others. DG LDA

briefed about important aspects of the Lahore Development Authority.

The CM directed to devise a pragmatic and fair deputation policy for officers and further directed to constitute a sub-committee for submitting a detailed report within seven days after thorough deliberations with stakeholders. The meeting also approved to allot a residential plot in Jubilee Town to Panah Gah Authority for setting up a shelter home. The participants decided in-prin-

ple to restrict the LDA's jurisdiction to Lahore. The CM directed to submit a summary in this regard as necessary amendments will be made in Lahore Development Authority Act, 1975 for this purpose.

The CM observed the apartments' project is very important to provide a roof to the low-income families adding that LDA has been made a public-friendly institution as the government is committed to providing facilities at the doorsteps of the citizens.

Vehari DBA welcomes judicial and executive officers

From Our Staff Correspondent

VEHARI: The District Bar Association Vehari on Friday arranged a function in the District Bar Room to welcome the appointments of Judicial and Executive Officers in Vehari.

Commissioner Multan Division Malik Javed Akhtar, Deputy Commissioner Vehari Mobeen Elahi, District Police Officer Vehari Zahid Nawaz Marwat, Member Punjab Bar Council Rao Shiraz Raza Advocate, President Bar Vehari Nadeem Akram Pervez Advocate, General Secretary Bar Vehari Musawar Abbas Baloch Advocate with the Judicial Officers, Additional Sessions Judges include: Arshad Mahmood Jasra, Ghulam Shabir Gul, Masroor Anwar, Syed Jahangir Ali Shah, Syed Zahid Hussain Shah, Nadeem Hassan and Senior Civil



Judges. Senior Civil Judge Civil Division Shehzad Anwar, Senior Civil Judge Criminal Division Qazafi Bin Zahir, Senior Civil Judge Family Division Hadayatullah Shah and Civil Judge First Class Raja Zahid, Imran Sadiq, Shazia Kausar, Tahir Mehmood and Civil Judge Second Class Muzammil Hussain while Executive Officers Additional Deputy Commissioner Revenue Vehari Ashfaq-ur-Rehman, Additional Deputy, Commissioner Vehari Khalid Mehmood Gilani, Assistant Commissioner Vehari Jaffer Chaudhry and a large number of lawyers from the community attended the

Fifteen-day performance report released
PHP continues active actions for public service, protection on highways

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: On the direction of Inspector General of Police Punjab Inam Ghani and Additional IG Punjab Highway Patrol Shahid Hanif, the PHP is taking swift actions to protect the lives and property of the people on the highways and against criminal elements. In this regard, PHP Headquarters has released a 15-day performance report.

According to details, Punjab Highway Patrol (PHP) has maintained its tradition and during the last fortnight, its commitment to "safe highways, safe people" has been fulfilled. PHP

personnel helped people in every way on the highways. Various branches of Punjab Highway Patrol undertook projects under different heads to enhance the capacity of the department, the details of which is given below. PHP registered 474 cases on violation of traffic laws, took action against 228 people for using illegal number plates, prosecuted 17 people for violating the Sound Act and registered cases against 223 people for installing illegal gas cylinders. It Seized 72 cartridges, 20 magazines, 07 Kalashnikovs, 11 rifles, 34 guns, 129 pistols and 801 bullets by registering

cases against 175 persons for illegal possession and display of weapons and confiscated 5025 liters of liquor and 37 kg 251 grams of hashish while registering 227 cases of drug and alcohol offenses. Meanwhile, Punjab Highway Patrol arrested 144 proclaimed offenders and 15 court absconders while providing assistance to 5811 commuters during the journey. PHP also recovered 400 kites. 14 missing children were reunited with their parents. In addition, 248 temporary encroachments were removed. Additional IG PHP Shahid Hanif has said that even during the deadly epidemic like Corona.