

Minimum 24:°C
Maximum 30:°C
Sunset 06:14pm
Sunrise 05:44am
(Tomorrow)

LAHORE

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Opposition an obstacle in the way of free and fair elections

Govt wants to make next polls totally transparent: Sarwar

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammed Sarwar said that in order to make next elections fair, government is working with sincerity.

Opposition is an obstacle in the way of free and fair elections as it is opposing electoral reforms.

He stated this while addressing the media in Lahore in an opening ceremony of the Tree Plantation Campaign. He said that the government is inviting all the political parties to sit together on the matter of electoral reforms from the day one, but the opposition is not ready to hold dialogue with the government on this important issue, adding that still there is time, the opposition should talk with the government to make the next elections transparent.

The Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammed Sarwar said that fingers have been raised on every election that has been held in Pakistan so far, but the PTI Government wants to make the next elections totally transparent so that even the losing candidate could not object to its transparency.

He reiterated that other than electronic machine there is no option for transparent

elections.

Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammed Sarwar further said that we have told the opposition time and again that the government is not scared of their Long March and threat of protest. The government is not going anywhere before 2023, he added. The elections will be held on time and people will decide with the power of their vote that which party they want to see in next government.

Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammed Sarwar said that the whole world is appreciating the Clean and Green Program of Pakistan which was started under the leadership of Imran Khan, adding that the way, government of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf work on Plantation Drive is unprecedented. Every citizen should fulfill his duty by participating in Plantation drive. Chaudhry Mohammed Sarwar urged that Public - Private partnership is very important for the progress of the country. He said that the PTI led government has saved Pakistan from economic bankruptcy. Due to Gsp plus status, Pakistan has got benefit of Twenty-Four billion dollars so far. He said the doors of Governor House are open for the business community and the government is solving them on a priority basis.



FAJAR.....04:22 AM
ZOHAR.....11:59 PM
ASR.....4:48 PM
MAGRIB.....06:14 PM
ISHA.....07:36 PM

Quick Read

No country can progress sans active participation of women: Iftikhar

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: President SAARC Chamber Iftikhar Ali Malik Friday said no country in the world can progress in any sphere of life without active participation of women in main streams of national development.

Talking to a delegation of presidents of various women of chambers of commerce and industry led by Ms Samina Afzal, President, Women Chamber, Islamabad he said women entrepreneurs have been designated as the new engine of economic growth and rising stars of the economies in developing countries to bring prosperity and welfare. He said they contribute and support the economy extensively in different ways by being employed in several sectors.

Other participants included Zulikha Mandokhel, Shabnum Zafar, Saecda Banu, Rukhsana Nadir, Izra Jamshedpur, Naema Andrabi, Farida Rashid, Farzana Burney, Farzana Khan and former Ambassador, founder General Secretary SAARC chamber and nationally acclaimed SME expert Rehmat Ullah Javed.

He said many successful businesses are run by women and some of them are highly skilled in entrepreneurial activities. He said it's fact that many of the world's largest enterprises are owned and run by women who are aware of correct application of theory in business. He said women constitute 48.54 percent of total population in Pakistan and since motherland inception this segment has been neglected outrightly what we need is to fully harness their potentials and properly utilise them in all sectors especially in SMEs on the pattern of European Union.

He said Pakistan economy consists of 3.3 million SMEs comprising services providers, manufacturing units and starts up. SMEs make up over 30 percent of Pakistan GDP, account for approximately 25 percent of export generation and provide over 70 percent industrial employment. He said while in EU, Europe's 25m SMEs are the backbone of the EU economy and provide two out of three industrial jobs in the region. - About rural women Iftikhar Ali Malik said they also play a catalytic role towards achievement of transformational economy, environmental and social changes required for sustainable development.

He said major chunk of rural women can be self employed in food, livestock, agriculture health, education sectors and SMEs by offering their interest free loans on easy instalments payable after five to ten years.

Iftikhar said short duration technical courses must also be launched across the country to impart basic knowledge to women in various trade to meet the ever increasing demands of skilled workers in industry. Group leader of the delegation Samina Afzal thanked Iftikhar Ali Malik for getting established 11 women chambers in Pakistan and assured him to contribute their share in national development.



LAHORE: Motorists on their way through flooded roads after heavy rain fall. —Online

Pak-Afghan trade sees sudden rise since Taliban take Kabul control

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: After the fall of Kabul to Taliban, despite uncertainty, Pak-Afghan bilateral trade has astronomically increased by 50 percent last week thus heralding for further boosting trade volume between two neighbouring Muslim countries.

This was stated by Mian Kashif Ashfaq, life member SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry while talking to a delegation of exporters led by Muhammad Kashif Butt. He

said bilateral trade saw a sudden rise since Taliban took control of Afghanistan which, he added, is picking up gradually day-by-day. He said significant increase was witnessed in the number of cargo vehicles and pedestrians traffic across the western borders.

Mian Kashif Ashfaq said earlier Pak-Afghan trade was in a jeopardy due to Indian influence and Pakistan was neglected without any plausible reasons but now the situation is altogether changed. He said

joint ventures in various sectors of economy will restore the confidence of local and foreign investors.

He said it's good omen that Taliban regime also abolished tax of Afghani Rs 40000 per Pak truck entering Afghanistan and also made easy clearance to boost trade between two Muslim states besides stamping out menace of corruption at all border crossing points.

Mian Kashif Ashfaq said Pak export to Afghanistan fell 5.5 percent from \$790 m to \$746m

during the last nine months of fiscal year 2021 which he added will now shoot up because trade with India is so far behind. He said Afghanistan is good market for Pak products and fair trade will also do away with smuggling which inflicted damage to Pak economy.

He said in 2012 the bilateral trade between the two countries had reached to \$3 billion but later due to security and political reasons it dropped to \$1 billion, but now it was again on the rise.

Public, private schools closed again till 15th

LAHORE: School Education Department (SED) Punjab has announced to close all schools across the province for another period from September 12th to 15th in the wake of Covid-19 breakout.

According to the notification issued here on Friday, the decision was taken following the recommendations by the National Command and Operation Centre.

It may be mentioned here that SED had closed all schools earlier on September 03 till 11.

The Provincial Minister for School Education Dr Murad Ras in a tweet announced that all private schools also will be closed along with the public sector institutions. He urged the people to stay home and strictly adhere to the standard operating procedures of the Covid-19 to protect themselves and others from infections. —APP

State land worth Rs 78m retrieved

LAHORE: The district administration retrieved three-kanal and six-marla state land worth Rs 78 million during an operation, here on Friday.

A special team, under the supervision of Assistant Commissioner Shalimar Tehniyat Bukhari, launched an operation in Harbanspura and retrieved the state land by using heavy machinery. The team retrieved one-kanal land in Journalists Colony, one-kanal and 10-marla in Harbanspura near Dayal Pull Canal Road and 16-marla in Asim Town. The team also demolished various under-construction structures with basements, boundary walls and other solid structures to retrieve the state land from illegal possession. —APP

WFAD: Help that can save someone's life

By Karamat Ali

Today, World First Aid Day (WFAD) is being observed all over the world, including Pakistan. This day is observed on second Saturday of September every year across the globe. First time in the history, this day was introduced in 2000 by the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC). This day is celebrated to raise awareness among public about the importance and how First Aid can save lives in everyday-life especially in any crisis situations. A rich tribute is also paid to the first aiders who are major instrumental in saving precious human lives by providing timely medical aid. On that day, people are informed about the importance and advantages of first aid as well as they are encouraged to get the first aid training and learn their lifesaving skills to save human life. The theme of World First Aid Day 2021 is "First aid and road safety". Its main aim is to spread awareness of how first aid can prevent injuries and save lives every day and in a crisis situation.

First Aid is an immediate treatment or medical assistance which is given to an injured or sick person with available resources

before arrival of paramedical staff or medical professionals. Wherever you are in the world, if you have got first aid training, you can save someone's life, so first aid training is an essential for all of us to learn its training and skills. It's not only a skill but also an act of humanity. Provision without any discrimination, which helps to empower the people of any society that can take care of their own survival and well-being. It has been ascertained in daily life that most of the people succumbed to their injuries in fatal traffic crashes due to non-availability of first aid? On the other end, traffic crashes around the world are a major cause of death of millions people or disability. The lives many people can be saved by providing timely first aid. If someone is injured or suddenly falls ill at work place, that there is no greater act of human kindness, than providing timely medical assistance support. If we turn the pages of history, we find that many organisations or agencies were doing their due role before establishment of the Punjab Emergency Service Department (Rescue 1122), but there was no organised body and trained emergency paramedics available at the time of emergency. The citizens were benighted from their basic right to timely emergency care in case of any emergency. In the result of road traffic crashes the most of the people disabled for life due to lack of proper medical care or delays on spot which increased risks their lives.

For establishing integrated pre-hospital emergency management system first time in Pakistan, all credit goes to Dr Rizwan Naseer (SI), DG Punjab Emergency Service Department, who provided professional training to the paramedic staff in accordance with international standard at the Emergency Services Academy. The Rescue Service provided timely medical assistance to the victims of emergency so that any possible risks to the life of emergency victims may be minimized by providing timely medical assistance. Since its inception, Rescue 1122 has provided first aid to over 9.7 million victims of emergency while responding to the emergencies with an average response time of seven minutes.

The training of individuals is a backbone of any organization to make it strong, durable and bring it to the forefront. If we take a look at the list of companies that have made a name for themselves in the world, it turns out that the secret of their achievements lies in their excellent training. Similarly, the Emergency Services Academy was established to set a high standard of training, which is considered to be the best model for providing emergency training in the South Asia. The paramedics from Punjab and other provinces are trained in Emergency Services Academy in collaboration with National Ambulance Service College for Ireland as per the international standards. A third party evaluation is carried out during training to

ensure the standards. At this stage of training, all rescuers from an officer to a driver are provided with first aid training at the same standard, so that, all rescuers can provide first aid to the victims in case of any major disaster, accident or tragedy to save human lives.

After establishing the Rescue Service in Punjab and its reapplication in other provinces, the ultimate vision of Rescue 1122 is prevention of emergencies through proactive community participation in saving lives and changing minds of the society. In this regard, to promote the trend of first aid in the country, PESH had introduced the Rescue Cadet Corps (RCC) app to provide medical aid training to students of schools, colleges and universities in accordance with the Service Act. In case of any emergency, the people of the community can play their active role in saving human life at the regional level. The process of online registration is underway and at the same time online training courses and lectures have also been provided, so that any person across the country can get free of cost first aid training at home. You can also get free first aid training at the nearest rescue station. In this regard, the Government of Punjab has approved PC-1 and Community Emergency Response Teams are being formed at the level of Union Council in all the districts of Punjab.

Now, Rescue 1122 has commenced to train

10 million the citizens as LifeSavers of Pakistan in the skill of quality Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) hemorrhage control through Pakistan Live Saver Programme (PSLP) in collaboration with Aga Khan University. The main objective of this programme is to develop a nation of empowered citizens and youth with the skills to save lives. The training to perform CPR and bleeding control is being imparted to the citizens. It will improve survival from out-of-hospital cardiac arrest and traumatic bleeding control by ensuring early life saving interventions. The death toll due to cardiac arrest and severe bleeding has become a global issue worldwide. According to a study, if timely treatment CPR is not performed in case of cardiac arrest, every one minute after cardiac arrest, without CPR, chances of survival decreased by 10 percent. Similarly, those with severe bleeding can lose their lives if steps are not taken to stop the bleeding. In the same way, providing immediate assistance to the cardiac arrest can increase of survival up to 30%. We can save millions of lives of patients suffering from cardiac arrest and traumatic injuries by providing immediate first aid. Let's pledge today on the occasion of this day, we will must get first aid training because first aid is the only thing that can save someone's life.

The writer is PR Practitioner at Punjab Emergency Service Department (Rescue