

Minimum 23:°C
Maximum 36:°C
Sunset 05:38pm
Sunrise 06:02am
(Tomorrow)

LAHORE

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Saturday, October 09, 2021



FAJAR.....04:41 AM
ZOHAR.....11:50 PM
ASR.....3:58 PM
MAGRIB.....05:38 PM
ISHA.....06:58 PM

Quick Read

Pakistan kick-off T20 World Cup preparations from tomorrow

LAHORE: ICC Men's T20 World Cup-bound Pakistan squad will hold a seven-day training and conditioning camp under bio-secure protocols here at the National High Performance Centre and LCCA ground from tomorrow (Sunday).

Today (Friday), the squad members, along with their family members, will join the bio-secure and undergo Covid-19 testing upon arrival. After returning negative tests, the players will be allowed to commence their preparations from Sunday with the gym sessions at NHPC. The players will hold training sessions at the LCCA ground at 1:30 pm on 11-12 October and play a scenario match under the lights on 14 October. It will start at 6pm. No training activity has been scheduled for 13 October. —APP

Commemorative coin on 70-year diplomatic relations with Germany

LAHORE: The federal government has issued a commemorative coin of Rs 70 to mark the 70-year diplomatic relations with the Federal Republic of Germany.

The Pakistan Mint, which is the only coin making facility in the country, has prepared a unique design of the commemorative coin. Its obverse has an emblem comprising Minar-e-Pakistan, Crescent & Star and the opposite side bears the image of famous Brandenburg Gate of Germany. The Pakistan Mint has completed the minting process and handed over the coin to the State Bank of Pakistan for official circulation. —APP

LDA Director General holds open court

LAHORE: Lahore Development Authority (LDA) Director General (DG) Ahmed Aziz Tarar Friday conducted an open court at the One Window Cell (OWC) and issued orders to the officers concerned for solve problems of citizens.

He told the participants that the purpose of holding an open court was to interact with citizens directly and to know the problems they were facing. He said that the officers and employees should treat citizens with respect. He said the authorities concerned should ensure implementation of the court orders. APP

REAP greets LCCI newly-elected body

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Former Senior Vice President of The Lahore Chamber and Central Chairman of Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan (REAP) Ali Hassam Asghar has congratulated the newly elected President of the LCCI Mian Noman Kabir, Senior Vice President Mian Rehman Aziz Chan and Vice President Haris Ateeq.

In a meeting with Lahore Chamber of vice-bearers, Ali Hassam Asghar said that he hopes that the newly elected body would devote all its energies for the betterment of Pakistan's business community. Issues of mutual interest were also discussed during the meeting.

Govt wants next general elections to be held transparently Opp creating hurdles in way of OPs right to vote: Sarwar

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab Governor Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar has said that opposition parties are creating hurdles in way of the overseas Pakistanis' right to vote. We advise them to refrain from their policy of "disagreement" to anything. Government is working in good faith for ensuring transparency in upcoming elections.

He stated this while talking to a delegation of overseas Pakistanis in Saudi Arabia led by Dr. Khalid Azeem Khattak on Friday. He said that giving the right to vote to overseas Pakistanis will further strengthen democracy in Pakistan and overseas Pakistanis will play their role in the development and prosperity of the country with more enthusiasm, adding that unfortunately the opposition parties are obstructing the overseas Pakistanis' right to vote from day one which is in no way a service to Overseas Pakistanis, and democracy.

Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar said that the government has been inviting all political parties to discuss the issue of electoral reforms from day one but the opposition didn't agree, adding that the opposition parties ought to talk with the government on the issue of reforms so that the next general elections in the country can be made transparent. Chaudhry Mohammad



Sarwar said that people have been pointing fingers at all the elections held in Pakistan, but the government wants the next general elections to be made so transparent that even the losing candidate cannot raise finger on its transparency. There is no other option

than electoral reform and electronic voting machine to hold transparent elections.

Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar further said that public-private partnership is very important for the development of the country. He said that the current

government has saved Pakistan from economic bankruptcy. GSP Plus status has benefited Pakistan of over 24 billion dollar. He said that the doors of the Governor House are open for the public and the government is solving their problems on priority basis.



LAHORE: Lahore College for Women's University students and teachers in a group photo during week-long celebrations to mark the Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAWW) in a befitting manner.

Police retrieve 1,033 kanal state land from land-grabbers

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Lahore Police, on Friday in continuation of its crackdown against land grabbers retrieved 1,033 kanal of state land worth billions of rupees from land-grabbers in a successful operation at Kamahan Nishtar Colony.

On the directions of Commander Lahore Police Additional IG Ghulam Mahmood Dogar, the operation was conducted under the supervision of SP Model

Town Sayed Aziz whereas officers of the district administration also participated in the crackdown. While giving details, SP Model Town Sayed Aziz said the accused land grabbers including Javed Khokhar, Irfan Bjatti and Imtiaz Mayo had illegal possession of the state for a long time and had also built illegal establishments on this area. Heavy contingent of police including lady police personnel was deputed for the protection purposes which remained highly alert to

ensure anti qabza mafia operation peaceful. Police operation proceeded smoothly and proved successful in collaboration with district government.

CCPO Lahore Ghulam Mahmood Dogar has lauded the performance of SP Model Town Sayed Aziz and his team for successful action against the illegal occupants. Ghulam Mahmood Dogar has said that crackdown against land grabbers, goons and their facilitators would continue to make Lahore free of this nuisance.

CCPO said there is no place for land-grabbers and Badmash Mafia in the city. Lahore police would deal with iron hands to those who have illegally possessed the land and property of poor citizens as well as occupied state lands. A special Anti Qabza Mafia Cell as well as a dedicated non-emergency Helpline 1242 has already been established at CCPO office for redressal of grievances of citizens affected from land grabbers, he concluded.

Anti-dengue campaign continues

LAHORE: An anti-dengue drive initiated by the district administration is in full swing under which surveillance is being carried out at various points in the provincial capital.

Assistant Commissioner (AC) City Faizan Ahmed on Friday visited Union Council UC-78, where he inspected anti-dengue arrangements. He issued warning to a house owner over presence of dengue larva in their premises. He observed the attendance and performance of the anti-dengue squad deputed on field duty in the area.

Assistant Commissioner Cant Zeeshan Ranjha visited DHA Phase-6 inspected under constructed plazas and commercial buildings and issued warnings to various property owners over dengue larva presence.

For making better arrangements to prevent dengue, it was necessary for the public to cooperate with the administration and field staff, he said and added that citizens should keep their houses clean and leave no place wet or with stagnant water.



All the departments were working in a coordinated manner to make the anti-dengue campaign a success. He directed the dengue teams deputed in the area to gear up pace of anti-dengue spray process.

Assistant Commissioner Shalimar Tehniyat Bukhari inspected anti dengue arrangements at UC-52 and directed to speed up anti-dengue spraying process in the area.

Meanwhile, Assistant Commissioner Cant along with representatives of Mobilink Pakistan and locals of the area has planted around 200 saplings at two acres of state land, under the control of district administration of Lahore, at Dhala Kalan. —APP

Several glaring gaps prevent measuring Pakistan's performance towards SDG 4: PYCA

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: There is sufficient clarity at the federal and provincial tiers of the government regarding the urgency to tackle Pakistan's education crises. However, despite this clarity the issue continues to be dealt in a manner that can at best be described as disorganized. This is illustrated by the complete disconnect between the State's identified and nationally adopted SDG 4 priority targets and its investment trajectory within education since 2015-16." These views were expressed by economist and the author of the recently published white paper, "Public Investment in Education: An Appraisal of SDG 4 in Pakistan," Asim Bashir Khan. Despite the passage of more than five years since ratifying the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, Pakistan is yet to begin making the preliminary but significant adjustments identified in its National Framework," he further added.

The white paper published by Pakistan Youth Change Advocates (PYCA) and the Education Champion Network (ECN) provides

a walk-through on the country's current status against Goal 4, takes stalk of the investment made hence far for its realization, and offers a set of recommendations that are necessary to propel the country to meet the 2030 Agenda.

"SDG 4, which focuses on equitable quality education for all was adopted as a Tier 1 priority goal by Pakistan. However, despite only nine years remaining to 2030, the federal and provincial governments have not yet been able to prioritize their education budgeting as per SDG 4," shared Areebah Shahid, Executive Director of PYCA. "For instance, despite being a high priority target, SDG 4.5 (i.e., gender parity in education) has received very little investment between 2015-2021. During the budget announcements made for the current fiscal year, the federal government and Balochistan announced no specific schemes to enhance girls' access to education at all. This is specifically troublesome in the case of Balochistan because it has the highest percentage of out-of-school girls in the entire country."

Adding to this, Hisham Khan, Program Officer at PYCA said, "Similarly, except Islamabad Capital Territory and KP where 5.2 percent and 2.47 percent were respectively pledged in budget 2021-22, no other government earmarked any funds for the maintenance and enhancement of education infrastructure. This is especially alarming in the backdrop of the pandemic when schools, more than ever before need to be furnished with such basic facilities as clean water, toilets, and hand-washing stations to keep the children safe from COVID-19." The paper recommends the need for more active coordination between the federal and provincial governments is needed to secure Pakistan's educational future. On the one hand, it will help formulate education policy documents by national consensus, and on the other hand, it will enable the simultaneous introduction of nationwide reforms in the education sector. The paper also emphasizes the need to end the perpetual state of inertia at the political level when it comes to prioritizing education so that Pakistan finally stands a chance to march its



LAHORE: A worker extracts almond oil at his workplace.