

IG takes notice of killing of father, son in firing at Shadbagh

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Inspector General of Police (IGP), Punjab Rao Sardar Ali Khan has taken notice of the incident in which a father and son were killed in a firing incident at Shadbagh Lahore and sought a report from CCPO Lahore.

IG Punjab directed the senior police officers to reach the spot immediately and round up accused as soon as possible with the help of Safe City cameras.

IG Punjab said that the accused would be arrested and punished. Rao Sardar Ali Khan said that provision of justice to the bereaved should be ensured on priority basis.

PU, Canadian varsity to join hands in social work

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab University and University of Calgary, Canada will jointly work in the field of social work under Transforming the Field Education Landscape: Intersections of Research and Practice in the Canadian Social Work Field Education Project.

The international collaboration has been made possible due to the special efforts of PU Department of Social Work's Chairperson Prof Dr Syeda Mehnaz Hassan and Prof Dr Julie Drolet, Professor and TFEL Project Director, Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary. Giving details of the project, Prof Dr Syeda Mehnaz Hassan has said that TFEL is a partnership project that aims at better preparing the next generation of social workers in Canada by creating training and mentoring opportunities for students, developing and mobilizing innovative and promising field education practices, and improving the integration of research and practice in field education.

She said that with funding from a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada's (SSHRC) Partnership Grant, the TFEL partnership (2019-2024) is focused on creating new training and mentorship opportunities for social work students.

PU VC Prof Niaz Ahmad has lauded Prof Dr Syeda Mehnaz Hassan on this achievement.

Roll number slips uploaded

Punjab University Examinations Department has uploaded roll number slips of LLB (3 years) & LLB (5 years) and MA/MSc Part-I & Part-II supplementary examination 2021 on PU's web.

According to details, the roll number slips of regular students of Affiliated Colleges have been sent via email on college email addresses while PU's Law College, Jehlum and Gujranwala campuses' and private students can directly access/print their roll number slips from university website www.pu.edu.pk. The exam



LAHORE: PHA workers clean green belt along the roadside. —Online

DPO Bahawalnagar distributes certificates among patrolling police officials

From Our Staff Correspondent



BAHAWALNAGAR: DPO Bahawalnagar distributed certificates of appreciation to the patrolling police personnel who caught the Robbers Gang red handed.

According to details, District Police Officer Bahawalnagar distributed certificates of appreciation to the personnel of Patrolling Post Ada Gajiani who arrested the three-member Dacoit Gang on Eid Night.

District Police Officer Bahawalnagar applauded and encouraged all the personnel.

DSP Patrolling Police Nasir Ghauri was also present on the occasion.

Haji Muhammad Afzal Chauhan, eminent political and social personality and Finance Secretary Khidmat Committee, Ada Gajiani, paid tribute to the District Police Officer and DSP Patrolling Police for this initiative and while talking to media, said that The law and order situation in the area is under control.

Due to fear of the brave soldiers of the post, the dacoits stay away from the boundaries of the post and if any dacoit gang tries to carry out an incident in this area, the brave Jawans of Ada Gajiani Patrolling post force them to lick the dust.

MMBL celebrates a decade of financially empowering millions

LAHORE: Mobilink Microfinance Bank Ltd. (MMBL), the largest digital bank in Pakistan, is celebrating 10 years of successful banking operations. With a focus on promoting financial inclusion across the country, MMBL is currently operating with over 100 branches across Pakistan and is serving over 39 million customers including 15 million+ monthly active mobile wallets.

Since its inception in 2012, MMBL has continuously introduced innovative and customized digital financial products to enhance financial inclusion, especially to uplift entrepreneurs, females, and Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) that lack access to financial savings and credit services. MMBL's underpinning strategy for all its operations remains maximizing outreach with low operational costs, ease of access, and diversification of customer base to cover all marginalized and underserved segments of society. —APP

Bilal Yasin vows to provide relief to common man

— Says role of middlemen will be limited to reduce gap between wholesale and retail prices

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Consultative process is underway to reduce the prices of essential commodities on the direction of Chief Minister Punjab.

A consultative meeting was held under the chairmanship of Bilal Yasin at chief minister office on Wednesday.

A delegation led by Chairman Pakistan Poultry Association Dr. Sajjad Arshad attended the meeting. Pakistan Poultry Association assured cooperation for reduction of chicken meat prices.

Addressing the meeting, MPA Bilal Yaseen said that all available resources will be spent to provide relief to the common man.

The role of middlemen will be limited to reduce the gap between the wholesale and retail prices, he added. Issues fac-



ing the poultry sector were also discussed during the meeting. Chairman Poultry Association informed in the

meeting that the prices of chicken meat have been declining for the last two-three days and it will come down further.

He said that poultry Association would co-operate with the government for reduction of chicken meat to provide relief to the people. Dr Sajjad Arshad said that we are committed to provide chicken meat to the people at reasonable prices. Members of Punjab Assembly Ramzan Siddique Bhatti, Sardar Owais Leghari, Chaudhry Muhammad Iqbal, Secretary Industry and Commerce Dr. Ahmed Javed Qazi, Additional Secretary Livestock and concerned officers attended the meeting. Vice Chairman Pakistan Poultry Association Dr. Abdul Karim, former Chairman Abdul Basit, Secretary Major (retd) Javed Bukhari, SM Sabir and others were also present

Hemoparasitic infections: Serious threat for captive wild ungulates

Dr Muhammad Azhar, Prof Dr Muhammad Hassan Saleem

The landscape of Pakistan is perfect habitat for 177 mammal and 660 bird species. Among the mammal species, 12 are critically endangered, 11 are endangered, 14 are vulnerable, and 10 are near to threaten according to International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Most of these species are wild mammals. Moreover, among these mammal species, 19 species make up five important families: Suidae, Cervidae, Moschidae, Bovidae, and Platanistidae.

These families include some unique and almost endemic sub-species in wild animals of Pakistan such as the Punjab Urial (Ovis vignei punjabiensis), flared horned Markhor (Capra falconeri falconeri) Sindh ibex (Capra aegagrus blythi) and Indus blind dolphin (Platanista gangetica minor). Ungulates are the most diversified and vibrant mammal group of the world and belong to families Cervidae and Bovidae.

The majority of the ungulates of Pakistan especially wild ungulates are threatened or endangered species and their living behavior i.e. remain solitary and away from other creatures have made a challenge for researchers to study. As a result, scientists and conservationists are facing difficulty in biodiversity estimation of these species.

The most important challenging factors in conservation process of wild animals especially ungulates are as squeezing of habitat due to habitat destruction, deforestation, illegal hunting/ poaching, fast urbanization and disease load. Among the diseases, Hemoparasitic infections transmitted by various ticks especially Ixodes species are the widely distributed diseases in ungulates of Pakistan. Being in subtropical region

of South Asia, for that its ecological conditions are more favorable for the development of numerous ticks. Wild species living in captivity, especially ungulates are intensely confronted with diseases transmitted by ticks. Moreover, tick borne diseases especially Babesiosis, Theileriosis and Anaplasmosis in small ruminants and captive ungulates are the major diseases that are posing heavy losses in form of mortalities.

External parasites such as tick species (Ixodes spp.) are present in almost all countries of the world. Their importance as a pathogenic agent and vector of diseases such as the transmission of pathogens has long been known. Being a generalist tick, Ixodes ricinus infest over 300 different vertebrate species and free living ruminants (ungulates). Ungulates which are not living in captivity are important feeding host for Ixodes ricinus and are playing a vital role in spread of these species.

Moreover, ungulates act as reservoirs for hemoparasites, few of them can also be a source of diseases in domestic animal and humans. Blood protozoa of the three main genera; Anaplasma, Theileria and Babesia are the major cause of infections in animals that are not limited to cattle but are also known to infect wild animals.

The clinical symptoms of Babesia and Theileria infections (Piroplasmosis) are persistent high fever, loss of weight, anemia, jaundice and sudden death may occur in young animals or in acute phase of disease. Clinically, enlarged lymph nodes are characteristic of Theileriosis while increased respiration, pulse and body temperature along with blood in urine are the characteristic of acute Babesiosis.

The infected host can also suffer from a severe onset of fever and lethargy, and the disease may lead to severe organ failure which may lead

to death. Infected animals, on the other hand, can become chronic carriers of the disease, often without showing clinical symptoms. Although Babesia species have varying degrees of virulence, some species have the potential to cause severe disease, while others cause only mild to moderate disease. In acute or severe forms of Anaplasma infection, anemia, weakness, fever, loss of appetite, jaundice, muscle spasms, tremors, difficult breathing, constipation, brown urine, and sometimes death may be observed. In wild animals, these diseases are usually asymptomatic.

But it can be pathogenic under some conditions such as stress, immunosuppression or malnutrition.

Although there is inadequate data available regarding the blood parasites and their losses posted on captive wild ungulates worldwide and particularly in our country. Most of the times these parasites remain in sub clinical form for a longer period of time until and unless any favorable environment/ factor bring it on to clinical stage.

The overall mortality due to blood parasites is considered almost 5% out of total mortality in captive wild ungulates in Pakistan.

The treatment of all three genera is done with injecting antiprotozoal medicines. Antibiotics therapy is also an effective treatment in some cases but use of combination of both antiprotozoal and antibiotics may cause more frequent recovery of animals. An improvement in clinical signs or hematological and biochemical parameters indicate the signs of recovery. The routine use of antiprotozoal drugs, ectoparasiticides and over all cleaning of enclosures can minimize the chances of disease occurrence.

The writers belong to Department of Veterinary Medicine, University

Efficient monitoring and successful cleanliness operation on Eid-ul-Fitr

Faizan Elahi Zaheer

Establishment of Lahore Waste Management Company (LWMC) was aimed at introducing a state of the art solid waste management system in the city at par with international standards which could not only keep the city clean but could also pave the way for waste-to-energy projects in future.

In order to meet international best practices, strict monitoring has always been given a special importance along with availability of machinery. That's why, the solid waste management system in Lahore has always come up to the expectations by ensuring cleanliness. Likewise the past, Lahore Waste Management Company and the officials of district administration mobilized and utilized all resources on this Eid starting from Chand Raat on the directions of CM Punjab Muhammad Hamza Shahbaz Sharif and under the leadership of CS Punjab Mr. Kamran Ali Afzal.

Led by Secretary Local Government and Community Development, Dr. Naeem Rauf, LWMC ensured strict monitoring and compliance of this special Eid Cleanliness Operation from Chand Raat.



Under the guidance of Commissioner Lahore Capt. (R) Usman and DC Lahore Umer Sher Chattha, CEO LWMC Ms Rafia Haider spearheaded the operations and ensured implementation on the cleanliness plan in letter and spirit.

The District Administration devised a comprehensive monitoring plan which helped in 100% management of the solid waste in every nook and corner of the city.

Monitoring of Zero-Waste Operation, Transfer Station and temporary collection points was done before Eid to ensure dumping of solid waste in environment-friendly manner. CEO LWMC Ms Rafia Haider visited different areas of the city during 3 days of Eid. She paid surprise visits to Outfall South, Outfall North workshops and temporary collection points in Samanabad and Saggian areas in order to check presence of vehicles and staff.

Availability of 100% operational vehicles and staff in the field was ensured in first shift while 65% of the operational vehicles remained present in the field in second shift.

12344 LWMC workers managed 19000 tons of waste during 3 days of Eid.

In this special cleanliness drive, entry/exit points of the city, graveyards, commercial markets, mosques, Eidgahs, parks & recreational spots, streets, open plots, main roads and walled city were

cleaned.

All the officers and staff of the LWMC were on duty during Eid holidays and all of them remained active in the field. A comprehensive plan was devised with the help of district administration for cleanliness drive on Eid and the cleanliness operation was conducted successfully from Chand Raat onwards. Commissioner and DC Lahore also monitored this special operation. CEO LWMC Ms. Rafia Haider, who remained active herself in the field, distributed sweets among LWMC works in different parts of the city. Mechanical washing and cleanliness of all major parks and 175 mosques and Eidgahs was completed before 0600 hours on Eid day. More than 223 graveyards were cleaned. Mechanical washing and sweeping of main arteries of the city was conducted. Monitoring officers remained present in the field to ensure presence of staff and machinery. LWMC workers kept this city clean and maintained its beauty. All workshops of LWMC remained functional 24/7 to support operational teams working in 3 shifts. 186 complaints of the citizens received at LWMC Helpline 1139 were redressed within no time. Monitoring plays a vital role in cleanliness operations and LWMC has proved its mettle once again keeping its tradition alive.

The writer is a free lance contributor

UNDP session on financing for sustainable development in Punjab

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Aligned with the commitment to support the Pakistan government in bridging the financing gap for equitable and sustainable development, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), through its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Support Unit Punjab, organised a provincial consultative session with various stakeholders on financing for development in Punjab.

The consultative session was the first of many to be conducted all over Pakistan, held under the UNDP Insurance and Risk Finance Facility here.

The participants deliberated on the status and history of natural disaster-related vulnerabilities, gaps, development needs and policy priorities for risk financing and the SDG Investments in Punjab. The role of the private sector was extremely important here, especially in the wake of multiple economic challenges and the burgeoning financing gap countries are facing. Babar Hayat Tarar, Relief Commissioner, Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA), said, "Building disaster resilience is integral to effective risk management, and adequate financing and budgetary allocations for disaster management and preparedness are critical for enabling this." He said Punjab's geographic location and climatic conditions

made it vulnerable to natural disasters, particularly river flooding, hill torrents, heatwaves, and earthquakes, adding that there was a dire need that stakeholders must synergized efforts with government and mobilised resources to ensure an effective response to climate change impacts. "I congratulate the UNDP for taking this critical initiative and leading the way in finding innovative solutions for filling the gap in climate change financing."

UNDP Pakistan Resident Representative Knut Ostby said that UNDP Pakistan was committed to supporting the Government of Pakistan to identify and prioritise investments toward the SDGs, access much-needed research and training to build the resilience of the disaster-stricken vulnerable communities and develop the capacities required to leverage private and public capital. Planning & Development Board Punjab Chairman Abdullah Khan Sumbal said that Punjab was the first province to develop its Integrated Financing Strategy that aims to bridge existing SDGs financing gaps in Punjab through innovative financing models to accelerate SDG's impact.

Scenario Planning & Strategic Forecasting Report developed by the Punjab SDGs Unit was another excellent guidance tool to support evidence-based resource allocation prioritization for SDGs in the province.

Hamdard SAFI most trusted brand name among consumers

LAHORE: Hamdard SAFI is one of the oldest and most trusted brand names in the mind of consumers.

SAFI Syrup was launched in 1948 by Hakim Mohd Said Sahab. In simple words, SAFI syrup is a blood purifier. Thousands of people are taking benefit from this product for the last many decades. Hamdard SAFI as a brand talks about women's strength, respect, and happiness. By keeping brand values Hamdard SAFI is going to different colleges of females to empower females through personality type sessions. This women empowerment movement's name is "Khud of Pehchano", which starts in Karachi under the supervision of Farhan Hussain (Brand Manager) where the team went to different colleges in Karachi and make them aware of their personality type. —PR

