



Minimum 19:°C
Maximum 34:°C
Sunset 05:15pm
Sunrise 06:15am
(Today)



LAHORE: A student donates blood for Thalassemia patients at a blood donation camp at the National College of Arts organised by the Red Crescent. —Online

Many cities in neighbouring countries are more polluted than Lahore: Basharat

Opens smog control room; says smog monitoring system installed with support of the World Bank

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Punjab government Wednesday set up a smog control room in the provincial capital to monitor activities of field teams.

Provincial Minister for Environment Protection (EPD), Cooperatives and Parliamentary Affairs Muhammad Basharat Raja inaugurated the control room set up in the EPD. Chief Minister's Coordinator for Environment Rana Sohail Ahmed and Secretary Environment Protection Usman Ali Khan were also present.

The provincial minister inspected the control room and issued instructions to

the staff deputed there.

Talking to the media, Basharat Raja said the impression that Lahore was the most polluted city in the world was not correct. "Currently, many cities in neighboring countries are more polluted than Lahore", pointed out the minister.

He said even in October, the air quality index (AQI) of the most polluted area of Lahore had not gone above 180. "Smog monitoring system has been installed with the support of the World Bank", he said.

The minister said effects of burning crop residues in Indian Punjab affected the border areas of Pakistan.

The issue of crop burning in India had



been raised at international forums, including the World Bank, he said.

The minister said that the field teams would be monitored with the help of a control room established in the environment protection department and a special app developed for the purpose.

"This year preventive measures have been started from May, much ahead of the

smog season. Currently, anti-smog squads and all relevant departments are fully active on the instructions of the chief minister" said Basharat Raja.

The minister said that remote areas were being monitored with the help of Sparco's satellites.

He said that action was taken against 719 industrial units in one month for spreading air pollution.

Closing such a large number of factories did not mean that the factories would remain closed forever, they would open after fines and installation of air pollution reducing devices, he responded to a question.

He said that the main cause of smog spread was smoky vehicles, adding that anti-smog squads were keeping an eye on smoke-emitting vehicles at the entrances of the city.

NAMAZ TIMING



FAJAR	05:30 AM
ZOHAR	12:10 PM
ASR	4:15 PM
MAGRIB	05:30 PM
ISHA	7:00 PM

Quick Read

RUDA, US company to collaborate for wastewater treatment plant

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: To address the Lahore perennial problem of contaminated water pouring in River Ravi through 12 drains, RUDA has taken an initiative to treat daily 1100 cusecs of contaminated water, thereby eventually making Ravi an enlivened river thriving with marine life again.

To this effect according to the details, CEO RUDA Imran Amin has met the CEO of American company (Bio Cleaner) Eros Kaw at the RUDA headquarters to discuss the procedures for the wastewater treatment plant.

During the meeting, the CEO of the company, gave Imran Amin an overview of the project's numerous benefits and described how the impure water will be made clean and drinkable.

The statement briefed about water plant, which will be situated beside the river in the RUDA area, will incorporate world-class technology.

"More than 1100 cusecs of contaminated water will be pumped out into the river each day from this waste water treatment plant, which will be located at several locations along the Ravi River in Mahmud Booti, Shadbagh, and Shahdarah," stated the statement.

The statement also added that these projects will cost a total of 80 billion. This eco-friendly project of the American company will promote tourism, boating and fishing business in the Ravi city.

Executive Director Commercial Kashif Qureshi, ED Engineering Abdul Waheed Khan, ED Smart Cities Usman Ahmed, and Director PR Abid Latif were also present in the meeting.

313 cases of dengue virus reported in Punjab

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: About 313 cases of Dengue virus were reported on Wednesday, however no death was observed due to the virus during the last 24 hours.

According to the Health department, a total of 11808 cases of Dengue virus were reported so far during the current year, while 13 people died of the virus and 1038 patients were under treatment in different hospitals of the province.

The Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department reported 157 cases of dengue in Lahore with highest number in the province while 65 cases were reported in Rawalpindi, 36 in Gujranwala, 6 in Multan, 5 in Chakwal, 5 in Kasur, 8 in Faisalabad, 3 in Sheikhupura, 3 in Hafizabad, 4 in Okara, 03 in Sialkot, 03 in Gujrat, 2 in Nankana Sahib, 2 in Khushab, 2 in Vehari, 2 in Narowal, 1 in Khanewal, 1 in Muzaffargarh, 1 in Rajanpur, 1 in Mandi Bahaudin, 1 in Mianwali, 1 in Layyah and a case of dengue was reported in Lodhran during the last 24 hours till filling this news.

Statistics related to Sehat Sahulat Card released

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: On the direction of Provincial Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid, the Department of Specialized Healthcare and Medical Education released the statistics related to the Sehat Sahulat card. 54 billion 63 crores of free treatment have been provided to the public. Provincial Health Secretary Imran Sikandar Baloch said that 794 government and private hospitals have been empaneled to provide free treatment facilities to the people of Punjab through Sehat Sahulat Card.

The people of the province are getting free treatment facilities from 187 government and 607 private hospitals through Sehat Sahulat Card. In Punjab, more than 526,000 people have received free dialysis through Sehat Sahulat card. So far, more than 54,900 people in Punjab have received free coronary angiography through Sehat Sahulat card. More than 29,000 women have had normal delivery while more than 2,900,000 women have received free cesarean operation facility. So far, more than 35,800 people in Punjab have undergone free hernia surgery through Sehat Sahulat Card. He said that so far more than 27 thousand people in Punjab have got free facility of angioplasty through Sehat Sahulat card. More than 164,000 people have undergone free eye surgery. Provincial Health Minister Imran Sikandar Baloch said that we are trying to provide maximum free treatment facilities to the people of Punjab through Health Facilitation Card.

LWMC new CEO takes charge of his office

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Lahore Waste Management Company (LWMC) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Ali Anan Qamar took charge of his office on Wednesday.

According to a spokesperson here, the new CEO met the LWMC officers after taking over charge. Deputy CEO Fahad Mehmood and Munir Hussain Chopra briefed him about all operational and management related affairs. Previously, Ali Anan Qamar, a BS-19 officer, performed his services as Deputy Commissioner Attock and Deputy Commissioner Narowal. While chairing a meeting, the CEO issued orders for ensuring 100 per cent attendance of workers in the field.

Commissioner Lahore reviews cleanliness operation in City

— Visits Scheme Mor to Multan Chungi, Bhekewal Mor and Iqbal Town Main Boulevard under 'Shining and Green Lahore' campaign

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Commissioner Lahore Muhammad Amir Jan visited Scheme Mor to Multan Chungi, Bhekewal Mor and

Iqbal Town Main Boulevard on Wednesday under the 'Shining and Green Lahore' campaign and reviewed greenbelts, green waste collection, cleanliness, etc. He was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Lahore Muhammad Ali, Lahore Waste Management Company (LWMC) Chief Executive Officer Ali Anan Qamar, Metropolitan Corporation Lahore (MCL) Chief Syed Ali Abbas Bukhari, Parks and Horticulture Authority (PHA) Director Ali Shah Nawaz. The commissioner said that workers of PHA, WASA, MCL, LWMC had started their work simultaneously. He said that the district administration had planned to keep the historical and cultural buildings safe and clean. He said that assistant commissioner city and assistant commissioner

IGP takes notice of two deaths in firing

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Inspector General of Police (IGP) Punjab Faisal Shahkar on Wednesday took notice of an incident of two persons' death in firing in Faisalabad.

He directed Faisalabad regional police officer (RPO) to submit a report on the incident.

He ordered the city police officer Faisalabad to form special teams to visit the crime scene and arrest the accused as soon as possible.



LAHORE: Parks and Horticulture Authority (PHA) worker washes a fighter plane placed at the China Chowk. —Online

Dream of mother and child block in 1977 now coming true: Dr Yasmin

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab Health Minister Dr. Yasmin Rashid attended the opening ceremony of the annual Sports Day organized by Fatima Jinnah Medical University as a special guest. Retired principals of Fatima Jinnah Medical College Dr. Akbar Chaudhry, Dr. Majeed Ch, faculty members and a large number of female students were present. Vice-Chancellor Fatima Jinnah Medical University Professor Dr. Khalid Masood Gondal and faculty members welcomed Provincial Health Minister Dr. Yasmin Rashid by presenting a bouquet of flowers.

Fatima Jinnah Medical University and faculty members also presented an honorary shield to Provincial Health Minister Dr. Yasmin Rashid.

Provincial Health Minister Dr. Yasmin Rashid in her address to the participants of the annual sports day of Fatima Jinnah Medical University said that PCI has been prepared to prepare a swimming pool for girls

in the girls' hostel of Fatima Jinnah Medical University. The dream of mother and child block in 1977 is now coming true. Currently, the world's largest thalassemia program is also running in Gangaram Hospital. Dr. Yasmin Rashid said that there is no other university like Fatima Jinnah Medical University in this region.

The students under Fatima Jinnah Medical University are receiving very good training. The students of Fatima Jinnah Medical College have always brightened the name of Pakistan. Provincial Health Minister Dr. Yasmin Rashid said that doctoring is a prophetic profession. The good behavior of a doctor only makes the patient healthy. If a person sets his mind to it, he can achieve everything in this world. She said that Allah Almighty gives a person the spirit of serving humanity. Our life is a test.

Allah Almighty loves only a working person. The teachers of Fatima Jinnah Medical University are very capable and

hardworking. I am extremely happy to see the retired principals of Fatima Jinnah Medical College, Dr. Majid Chaudhry and Dr. Akbar Chaudhry. The provincial health minister congratulated Vice Chancellor Fatima Jinnah Medical University Professor Dr. Khalid Masood Gondal for organizing a beautiful and excellent annual sports day. On this occasion, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Masood Gondal in his address to the participants of the ceremony said that the graduates of Fatima Jinnah Medical University are the best in the world. They are enlightening the name of FJMU in the whole world. According to the vision of Provincial Health Minister Dr. Yasmin Rashid, Fatima Jinnah Medical University will continue to perform its services in the teaching world. Prof. Dr. Khalid Masood Gondal thanked the teacher of the teachers Prof. Yasmin Rashid for his participation as a special guest in the annual Sports Day celebrations.