



RAWALPINDI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

E-BUSINESS VISION

MAY 01-15 2021



عید مبارک

Eid Mubarak

ON THE PRECIOUS OCCASION OF EID-UL-FITR
WE WISH YOU A VERY HAPPY EID MUBARAK
TO YOU, YOUR HONORABLE FAMILIES AND LOVED ONES!!
MAY ALLAH BLESS YOU ALL!

راولپنڈی چیمبر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری

کے زیر اہتمام

افطار دسترخوان

راولپنڈی چیمبر آف کامرس نے ہر سال کی طرح اس سال بھی چیمبر احاطے میں روزانہ کی بنیاد پر افطار دسترخوان کا انتظام کیا جس کا مقصد مسافروں، غرباء، ضرورت مندوں اور معاشرے کے محروم طبقے کو باعزت انداز میں افطاری کرانا تھا۔ کورونا کی وجہ سے افطاری کے لیے افطار باکس تقسیم کیے گئے۔ تقریباً 55 ہزار افراد کو افطاری کرائی گئی۔



معزز ممبران
کورونا سے بچاؤ کے
لیے فوری طور پر ویکسین لگوائیں۔

رجسٹریشن کے لیے

اپنا شناختی کارڈ نمبر 1166 پر میسج کریں
یا

نادرا کی ویب سائٹ وزٹ کریں۔

COVID-19 –CHALLENGES, VACCINATION AND MYTHS

Currently, Pakistan ranked among top three countries in Asia with high risk of COVID cases/patients and on the other hand it has one of the lowest numbers of people who were vaccinated. According to Our World In Data's dataset, Pakistan had administered only 1.8 vaccine per 100 people as of May 15. The Government policy of lock downs, especially on EID has helped bring down in the interim period positivity pan Pakistan barring few regions where the positivity is still high. The present super spreader events such as rallies and religious gatherings might further reignite the positivity rates. As the rate of the vaccination is still not fast enough for the overall coverage to go up in higher percentage this is the foremost important strategy. Till Pakistan gains high vaccination rates of COVID19 we will be vulnerable to more rise intermittently with chances of increase in death rates especially with the Indian variant of covid19 now being at global level a variant of concern and spread to many countries. Also, government has decided to open schools and universities which might gradually inch upwards the positive spread. One effective strategy could be to make it mandatory for teachers to be vaccinated prior to opening up fully and also students above 18 years of age as a priority. The common concern and its very surprising even educated peoples are showing some reservations for vaccination. So a comprehensive and a vigorous awareness drive shall be run across Pakistan to have maximum people vaccinated. There are certain

myths attached to COVID -19 Vaccines, and unfortunately it is spreading very fast and countries like Pakistan can face a big challenge in near future. Secondly, there are certain incidents or misreporting in different countries that resulted in some kind of confusion among people for the choice of vaccine. Some prefer Russian over UK and some prefer Chinese. It is recommended that everyone should go for vaccine (any vaccine). Except few patients who went through a surgery or on medical treatment. They are requested to consult their Doctor. Also, it's better to know if your body has responded to Vaccination against COVID19 vs expecting all is good! So I would recommend Spike protein antibody tests. Many people don't get protection and might be misled. The only solution to the given situation is Mass vaccination and we all need to join hands to meet the target of 4 crore people by the end of this year. With current pace of vaccination, this is very difficult but not an impossible task. However, only Strict SOPS Masks Social Distance and smart lock down policy be adopted, this will lower the spread. Pakistan has less congestion in cities as compare to India.



Dr. Shimail Daud
Former President

RCCI and TDC ink MOU to Bring Awareness for Prevention, Control of Diabetes



A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI) and The Diabetes Centre (TDC).

RCCI President Mohammad Nasir Mirza and CEO TDC Mr. Tahir M. Abbasi signed the MoU and exchanged the documents. Senior Vice President Osman Ashraf, Vice President Shahraiz A Malik, Secretary General Irfan Manan Khan, Manager Marketing TDC, Imran Ali Ghouri and other were present at the ceremony. Under the agreement, RCCI and TDC will develop a liaison and close cooperation aiming to bring awareness for prevention, control of diabetes and provide service to the business community associated with the Rawalpindi chamber.

TDC offered special discounts for RCCI members

including consultation fee, lab tests, diabetes education and other medical facilities.

On the occasion, Nasir Mirza said that Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce has also signed MoUs with various hospitals for the convenience of its members so that they can get quality health care and treatment facilities at affordable rates.

CEO TDC Tahir Abbasi said that the number of diabetics in Pakistan is increasing rapidly. Medical camps will also be conducted in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce to raise awareness about diabetes.

TDC is Pakistan's first specialized diabetes hospital that provides medical care for diabetes and its all complications under one roof.-

RCCI urges for extended business hour to lower Covid threat

The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) President Mohammad Nasir Mirza has said that lockdown policy should be formulated in collaboration with stakeholders. The proposed lockdown from May 8 to May 16 is not feasible. The business community has been the hardest hit by the corona, he said in a statement. We have to make policy based on the ground realities. The working hours of banks and post offices should also be increased to provide convenience to customers and pensioners.

We recommend that shop hours be made to 24 hours during Ramadan so that customers can shop comfortably. Weekly off for Businesses should also be called off, he

suggested. Exporters will face more difficulty and demurrage charges added as the port will be closed for eight days. Reduced working hours will increase the rush in the markets and banks.

Former president and Group leader Sohail Altaf said that our Corona policy is not clear. It is based on trial and error. Every year there is more business on Eid. He said that like the rest of the world, we also have to run business along with Covid-19. The risk of Corona cases has increased due to the increase in rush. Vaccination should be increased along with strict implementation of SOPs, masks and social distance. The traders mainly from SMEs are in deep trouble due to lock-down.

RCCI welcomes inquiry report on Ring Road and urges for early completion of project

The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) has welcomed the completion of the inquiry report of the Rawalpindi Ring Road project and alleged cost increase and changes in the plan. In a statement, President RCCI Nasir Mirza said, "We demand that immediate action be taken against the elements for whom these alleged changes have been made and that those involved be brought to justice and that the project not be further delayed."

Referring to the press conference of SAPM to CM Punjab, Ms Firdous Ashiq Awan, he said, "We are happy that the Prime Minister has taken a personal interest in this matter and we hope that the project will be completed during his tenure." He said that if the Chamber of Commerce and the business community had already been kept on board and involved in the process, the project

would not have faced this situation.

He said that the business community believes that the Ring Road project will be a game changer for Rawalpindi. It is an important project for the development of Rawalpindi and it should be completed as soon as possible.

He suggested that a committee be formed on the platform of Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce to liaise with the Rawalpindi Development Authority (RDA) and the Commissioner's Office and implement the suggestions of the stakeholders to remove the obstacles in the completion of the project. He said that the main objective of the project is to create new industry, relocation of markets, solve traffic problems and promote cottage industry.



RCCI Inks MOU

With

LADIES LOUNGE to Create Opportunities for Women Entrepreneurs



A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI) and the Ladies Lounge aiming to create opportunities for women entrepreneurs. Under the agreement, RCCI and Ladies Lounge will engage in close cooperation to facilitate and empower women members of RCCI for the platform to connect in Business-to-Business (B2B) and Business-to-Consumer (B2C) meetings.

The MOU document was signed by Chamber President Mohammad Nasir Mirza and CEO Ms Saba Haider on the behalf of Ladies Lounge.

The signing ceremony was held at Chamber House while Senior Vice President Osman Ashraf, Vice President Shahraiz A Malik, members of the executive committee, women convener Noreen Ghaffar and others were also present on the occasion.

RCCI President Nasir Mirza said that creating opportunities and providing a platform to empower women in entrepreneurship had always been the Chamber's priority.

"The main purpose of this MOU was to provide women a platform to improve their networking and excel in the field of entrepreneurship," he said.

CEO Saba Haider in her remarks added that the main purpose of Ladies Lounge is to create an empowering community for women by building a platform to connect. The lounge provides a dedicated space for the display corners for women entrepreneurs and also offers get together, events & indoor & outdoor activities.

Under the agreement, all women entrepreneurs associated with RCCI will get special discounts on any training activity, displays, meetup, retreats or events.





RCCI URGES FINANCE MINISTER FOR BUDGET CONSULTATIONS

Rawalpindi: The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI)

President Mohammad Nasir Mirza has said that Finance Minister Shaukat Tareen should consult with the business community for budgeting and increase contacts with the chamber of commerce.

In a statement, he said that the business community has high hopes for Shaukat Tareen. A comprehensive budget proposal was prepared on the occasion of the International Chambers Summit organized by the Rawalpindi Chamber. These suggestions should be included in the budget.

Group leader Sohail Altaf said that all the former finance ministers have not been able to get good results due to lack of contact with the business community. There was a disconnect between the business community and the finance ministry. This is the right time to intensify consultation with the business community for the upcoming budget. Don't try new things.

The statements made by Shaukat Tareen before and after he became the Finance Minister are welcome. They must be acted upon. Find new taxpayers, don't burden existing taxpayers.





Punjab Employees Social Security Institution

(Head Office)

3-A, Gulberg-V, Lahore

No.SS.C&B/Chamber/2021/ 6427

Dated 19 May, 2021

Subject: **INTRODUCTION OF AMNESTY SCHEME**

Dear Mirza Sb,

I hope that this letter finds you in the best of your health and spirit.

2. In order to facilitate the business community as a part of Ease of Doing Business, the Government of Punjab has initiated numerous steps including the introduction of Amnesty Scheme in payment of arrears of Social Security Contribution for the defaulter establishments by making amendments in Provincial Employees' Social Security Ordinance, 1965.

3. According to said amendment considerable relief has been given to the employers by addition of 3rd proviso to Section 23 (1). Owing to this proviso, if employer pays his unpaid contribution (Principal Amount) till 30.06.2021, statutory increase @ 50% of the principal amount under section 23(1) of the Ordinance booked against the unpaid contribution shall stand waived off. However, if such amnesty is not availed by the employer till 30.06.2021, the employer will be liable to pay principal amount as well as 50% increase booked on such unpaid contribution.

4. It is, therefore, requested to induce all your members to get benefit from the Amnesty Scheme before the time runs out and clear their dues (principal amount) at the earliest. The relevant material/ pamphlets have already been provided by this office.

5. Co-operation in the matter would be highly appreciated, please.


(MS. ANBREEN SAJID)
Commissioner PESSI

Mr. Mohammad Nasir Mirza

President,
Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry,
Chamber House, 39-Mayo Road,
(Civil Lines) Rawalpindi.

40,000 Deaths from Breast Cancer Every Year in Pakistan

پاکستان کے پہلے بریسٹ کینسر ہسپتال کی تعمیر میں پینک ربن کا ساتھ دیں
تا کہ مستحق مریضوں کا مفت اور بروقت علاج کیا جاسکے۔

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Important

The Chamber does not accept any
responsibility with regard to financial or
business integrity of the firms/ companies
mentioned in this publication

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