

The REGIONAL TIMES

Uniting People Every Day



Britney Spears' family plans BIG change to help singer 'heal'

Heartland

MNA Dr Nafisa Shah takes steps to beautify Kotdiji Fort, Mehrano Safari Park



Money

-Zafar Moti is Sad! PSE 100-index down by 303.22 points to close at 75,575.25



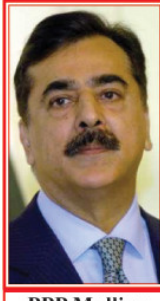
NATIONAL

Gandapur Announces Free Solar Panels For KP Families



SPORTS

South Africa crush Sri Lanka to kick off triumph T20 World Cup campaign



PPP Mulling Over Joining Federal Cabinet: Gilani

11 Colliers Succumb To Suffocation In Balochistan's Sanjdi

QUETTA: At least 11 coal miners died of suffocation in Balochistan's Sanjdi area, Chief Mine Inspector Abdul Ghani said on Monday.

He said the colliers, hailing from Swat Valley in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, died after the leakage of poisonous gas in the coal mine.

The official said the bodies of the miners have been retrieved and are being dispatched to their respective native areas.

The affected coal mine has been sealed, he added. Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi expressed sorrow over the death of 11 miners and offered his condolences to the families of the deceased.

"We are deeply saddened by the loss of precious human lives in the tragic incident," an official quoted the interior



minister as saying. Coal deposits are found in the western areas of Pakistan that sit near the Afghan border and mine accidents are common, mainly due to gas build-ups. Mine workers have complained that a lack of safety gear and poor working conditions are the key causes of frequent accidents, labour union officials have said in the past.—RT/Agency

IHC Acquits Imran And Shah Mahmood In Cipher Case



In a major relief to the embattled Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), the Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Monday annulled jailed founder Imran Khan and party's Vice-Chairman Shah Mahmood Qureshi's conviction in the infamous cipher case containing charges of misusing and misplacing the classified diplomatic document.

IHC Chief Justice Aamir Farooq and Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb announced the short verdict on pleas challenging the conviction in the cipher case after reserving it earlier today.

The PTI founder and party's vice-chairman were sentenced to 10 years each in prison in the cipher case in January this year.

The case pertains to allegations that the former prime minister had made public contents of a secret cable sent by the country's ambassador in Washington to the government in Islamabad.

The latest relief for the PTI founder came days after IHC approved his bail petition in the £190 million National Crime Agency (NCA) settlement reference on May 15.

A two-member bench, comprising the IHC chief justice, Justice Tariq Mahmood Jahangiri, had approved the PTI's founder bail plea in the reference filed by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB).

Khan, the deposed premier who was ousted from power via the opposition's no-confidence motion in April 2022, has been facing a slew of charges ranging from corruption to terrorism since his removal as the premier.

He has been behind bars since August last year after he was sentenced in the Toshakhana case and subsequently convicted in other cases as well including cipher and illegal marriage cases.

Due to his conviction in other cases, the ousted premier remains behind bars despite securing relief in several cases.

Despite securing relief in the cipher case, Khan and Qureshi are unlikely to be released from prison as both are incarcerated in iddat and May 9 cases, respectively.

"PTI founder to walk free very soon" Commenting on the IHC's verdict, PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan said that a "baseless and unfounded" case came to its conclusion today.

He did not reveal the contents of the letter nor did he mention the name of the nation it came from. But a few days later, he accused the United States of conspiring against him and alleged that Assistant Secretary of

State for South and Central Asia Affairs Donald Lu had sought his removal.

The cipher was about former Pakistan ambassador to the US, Majed's meeting with Lu.

The former prime minister, claiming that he was reading contents from the cipher, said that "all will be forgiven for Pakistan if Imran Khan is removed from power". Then on March 31, the National Security Committee (NSC) took up the matter and decided to issue a "strong demarche" to the US for its "blatant interference in the internal affairs of Pakistan". Later, after his removal, then-prime minister Shehbaz Sharif convened a meeting of the NSC, which came to the conclusion that it had found no evidence of a foreign conspiracy in the cable.

In the two audio leaks that took the internet by storm and shocked the public after these events, the former prime minister, then-federal minister Asad Umar, and then-principle secretary Azam could allegedly be heard discussing the US cipher and how to use it to their advantage.—RT/Agency

US Indifferent Over Imran's Acquittal In Cipher Case

The United States has responded to the acquittal of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan in the cipher case.

Addressing a press briefing, US State Department spokesman Matthew Miller responded to a question about cipher case stating "The allegations against Imran Khan will be decided by the courts of Pakistan under their own laws."

His comments came in light of the Islamabad High Court's (IHC) recent decision to acquit Khan and former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi in a case that has garnered significant international attention.

The IHC's acquittal of Khan and Qureshi marked a significant legal victory for PTI. The court, comprising Chief Justice Aamer Farooq and Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb, accepted the appeals against their convictions in the cipher case, over-



turning the ten-year prison sentences handed down by a special court under the Official Secrets Act in January.

The cipher case centered on a diplomatic document that the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) alleged was not returned by Khan while he was Prime Minister.

Khan has consistently argued that the document contained a threat from the United States to destabilize his government. Despite the acquittal, both Khan and Qureshi remain in custody due to other pending legal matters.

In the same briefing, Miller addressed various issues, including the ongoing situation in Gaza. He noted that the ceasefire offer came from the Israeli government and highlighted internal disagreements within Israel regarding the offer.

"Even within Israel, there are differences over this offer," Miller said. He also mentioned that Hamas's influence has waned since the events of October 7, and stressed that the Gaza issue cannot be resolved solely through military operations.—RT/Agency

Imran Is Adopting A Firm Stance: Aitzaz



LAHORE: People's Party leader Aitzaz Ahsan has said the PTI's founder has taken a rigid position, media reported on Monday.

Talking to media outside the Lahore High Court (LHC) former senator and veteran lawyer said that the PTI's founder don't seem to get out of the jail soon.

Aitzaz Ahsan said that the PTI's leader has himself created obstacles for him by saying that he will not talk to anyone.

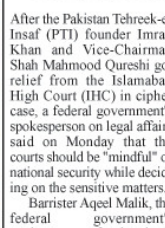
"If he meets President Asif Ali Zardari, several doors will open for him", he said.

"If the government has no other business to do except the PTI's founder," Aitzaz questioned. "The PM and Nawaz Sharif only consume their speeches over the PTI's founder," he said.

"The People's Party is also the PTI's opponent but it is doing its politics politely," former law minister said.

"If the PTI's founder has urged for reading the Hamood ur Rehman Commission report, what is bad in it," Aitzaz questioned. He also argued that whether it is cipher or any other case, supreme court proceedings must be shown with live telecast.—RT/Agency

Government Reacts To IHC's Cipher Ruling: Emphasizes Courts' Consideration Of National Security



After the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan and Vice-Chairman Shah Mahmood Qureshi got relief from the Islamabad High Court (IHC) in cipher case, a federal government's spokesperson on legal affairs said on Monday that the courts should be "mindful" of national security while deciding on the sensitive matters.

Barrister Aqeel Malik, the federal government's spokesperson for legal affairs, stated this while addressing a press conference in Islamabad shortly after the IHC acquitted the top PTI leaders in the cipher case.

In a major relief to the embattled former ruling party, the IHC annulled Imran and Qureshi's conviction in the infamous cipher case containing charges of misusing and misplacing the classified diplomatic document.

"Detailed verdict of the case is due to arrive," Barrister Malik said, insisting that the cipher case was a "reality" which cannot be denied.

He said that the former prime minister waved a classified document at a public gathering, whereas, then-principal secretary Azam Khan also confessed about a "missing copy of the cipher".



"Nothing is more important than our national security. The prosecution will decide on challenging the IHC's ruling after the issuance of a detailed verdict," the lawyer-cum-politician said.

He urged that the courts to never ignore the national security's aspect in any case and the cipher case should be sent for retrial. Malik further clarified that both the accused were not sentenced "at the best of any individual".

He vowed that the federal government and the armed forces would never compromise on the national security affairs.

The politico, however, clarified that the federal government accepted the verdicts of the courts and never criticised the judiciary unlike a certain political party which continued to "malin

the honourable judges". IHC Chief Justice Aamir Farooq and Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb announced the short verdict on the pleas challenging the conviction in the cipher case after reserving it earlier today.

The PTI founder and party's vice-chairman were sentenced to 10 years each in prison in the cipher case in January this year.

The case pertains to allegations that the former prime minister had made public contents of a secret cable sent by the country's ambassador in Washington to the government in Islamabad.

The latest relief for the PTI founder came days after IHC approved his bail petition in the £190 million National Crime Agency (NCA) settlement reference on May 15.—RT/Agency

Top Lawyers' Body Condemns PTI's 'Unwarranted' Demand From CJP Isa

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Bar Council (PBC) on Monday condemned the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)'s "uncalled for" demand seeking release of Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa from all the cases involving the party.

PBC Vice Chairman Riazat Ali Sahar and Chairman of Executive Committee Farooq Hamid Naek have condemned the PTI's demand that the chief justice should not sit on the benches hearing the PTI-related cases and recuse himself from all such cases, alleging that the party isn't getting justice since the top judge took over.

According to The News, PTI spokesperson Raouf Hasan made these comments during an interview with a private TV channel, wherein he complained that earlier, his party was not getting justice, but now, even its petitions were not being taken up.

"The PTI core committee wants that CJP Isa should not sit on benches in our cases," he added.



"Unfortunately, the kind of decisions that are being delivered are seen to be biased, the element of favouritism in case verdicts strengthens our demand," he alleged.

Meanwhile, the PBC said under Supreme Court Practice and Procedure Act, 2023, "it is authority of the committee of three members, comprising the chief justice of Pakistan and two next most senior judges, to constitute a bench, therefore, wish of a political party is uncalled for."

Sahar and Naek said the PTI was putting pressure on the CJ by employing such tactics, which was extremely deplorable and not acceptable to the legal fraternity. They said CJP Isa was a very competent, upright, and independent judge and his integrity was above any doubt. They reiterated their unwavering commitment to uphold the independence of judiciary and rejected any tactic to malign the institution of judiciary.—RT/Agency

-Can you believe this? Female Diplomat Runs Over A Police Constable In Islamabad



ISLAMABAD: An official from a foreign embassy allegedly ran over a police constable at Shahra-e-Dastoor, Islamabad, media reported on Monday, citing sources.

Sources claimed that a female official from a foreign embassy allegedly broke a traffic signal and ran over a police constable, Amir Kakar, in Islamabad.

The constable was critically injured and immediately rushed to the hospital for emergency treatment.

Last month, a tragic collision between a truck and a passenger van was reported at Multan-Mianwali road, claiming the lives of 11 people while 15 others sustained serious injuries.

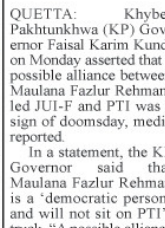
The rescue officials reported that the 11 deceased included a total of five men, three women, two children, and one girl. More than 15 individuals sustained serious injuries in

the collision between a truck and a passenger van traveling from the opposite direction.

The injured and the bodies of the deceased were promptly shifted to Tehsil Headquarters Hospital for medical attention.

The passengers in the van, who belonged to Multan's Laar area, were traveling to meet relatives when the accident occurred. Rescue officials confirmed that all the deceased and injured were members of the same family. However, the rescue officials disclosed that the unfortunate incident had been attributed to the poor condition of the road and construction materials that had been left on the roadway for an extended period.—RT/Agency

Possible PTI-JUI Alliance Portends Doomsday: Kundi



QUETTA: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Governor Faisal Karim Kundi on Monday asserted that a possible alliance between Maulana Fazlur Rehman-led JUI-F and PTI was a sign of doomsday, media reported.

In a statement, the KP Governor said that Maulana Fazlur Rehman is a "democratic party" and will not sit on PTI's truck. "A possible alliance between JUI-F and PTI will be a sign of doomsday."

Earlier, PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan said that his party was in talks with Maulana Fazlur Rehman-led JUI-F, but an alliance has not been formed yet.

Speaking to journalists, the PTI chairman said that

ties of political parties on national issues should be the same.

Today, Kundi alleged that the PTI was backing off from its tweets — a controversial post regarding Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. He emphasised that talks can only be held with those who accept the Constitution of Pakistan.

Referring to law-and-order situation in KP, Faisal Karim accused the PTI government of setting some people in the province who have picked up arms. The governor expressed his reluctance to engage in film-like dialogue with the PTI government, saying that social media and ground realities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are different.—RT/Agency

THE HEARTLAND



HYDERABAD: All Pakistan Wapda Hydro Electric Workers Union President, Abdul Latif Nizamani is addressing a workers session at the Labour Hall.-Photo by Nazim Photographer

AC Sanjay Kumar visits water supply scheme in Pithoro



By M Ismail Khilji

PITHORO: The Assistant Commissioner Pithoro, Sanjay Kumar, conducted an inspection of water supply following complaints from residents. He stated that there is a shortage of water in the pipelines due to incomplete filling of the gauge from the source and a lack of water supply. He mentioned that he has contacted the SDO and the authorities, and within 24 hours, the gauge will be filled, and the water shortage will be addressed. Furthermore, he assured that all four water supply lines will be fully operational to ensure adequate water supply to the residents. On another note, he informed about the closure of the existing water plant in Pithoro, and discussions have been held with the SDO to repair it within three days, bringing it back to operational status. He reiterated his commitment to providing all possible facilities to the residents of Pithoro.



HYDERABAD: Nursing students are holding a protest demonstration for the recovery of missing Mohabbat Khan Khushki, at the Hyderabad press club.-Photo by Nazim Photographer

MNA Dr Nafisa Shah takes steps to beautify Kotdiji Fort, Mehrano Safari Park

By Naz Solangi

KUMB: After transforming the historic Kotdiji Fort into a beautiful landmark, Dr. Nafisa Shah has taken another revolutionary step. The Mehrano Road, a focal point for tourists, is now under development to enhance its beauty. The entrance gate is a significant attraction for tourists from abroad who visit the safari park in Mehrano. To further enhance Kotdiji's appeal, Dr. Nafisa Shah Jilani, a central leader of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), has launched a project to improve the roads in the surrounding villages, selecting Mehrano as a priority. The work is progressing rapidly under Dr. Nafisa Shah Jilani's leadership, with her team diligently working



day and night. As a result, its popularity of this PPP leader is increasing day by day.

Two homes gutted in Dhoronaro fire



By M Ismail Khilji

PITHORO: In the village Sabu near Dhoronaro, a dire situation has been observed where the families of Jamal Chanio and Kamal Chanio are facing significant challenges. Due to a recent incident, their homes have been gutted, and their belongings have been reduced to ashes. The Fire Brigade of Dhoronaro Town Committee promptly responded to the situation and managed to control the fire. However, the families of Jamal Chanio and Kamal Chanio are now left with their homes and belongings destroyed. It is evident that these families are in urgent need of assistance, as they belong to the impoverished segment of society. It's heartbreaking to witness their plight, and it's imperative that we extend our support to help them rebuild their lives in the wake of this devastating incident in Dhoronaro village.

Sindh Journalists' Alliance demands justice for martyred journalists and missing Priya Kumari

By Shad Mahar

GHOTKI: The arrest of the killers of journalist Nasrullah Gadani and journalist Jan Muhammad Mahar, as well as the recovery of the innocent girl Priya Kumari, sparked protests by the Sindh Journalists' Alliance. Journalists, citizens, civil society, political activists, and others gathered under the banner of the Sindh Journalists' Alliance and staged a massive rally from Panj Gali Chowk to the press club after marching through various parts of the city. There have been intense protests against the Ghotki police for their failure to apprehend the killers of Shaheed Jan Muhammad Mehr and Shaheed Nasrullah Gadani. Admirable efforts have been made to



recover Priya Kumari, who has been missing since past several years but the Sukkur police have failed to locate her. Many prominent figures, including Azeem Sival, Sayel Qazi, Mehar Mahar, Dodo Mahar, Sooraj Kumar, Abdul Qayoom Mahar and others, have participated in these protests. It is regrettable and condemnable that journalists in Sindh are currently unsafe. It is high

Government clerks continue their protest for their demands in Sakrand



By Zeeshan Soomro

SAKRAND: The All Pakistan Clerks' Association (APCA) Sakrand Taluka held a protest at Qazi Sarfraz Memon Chowk in response to a central call to demand the acceptance of their demands. On this occasion, District President Arz Muhammad Chandio, General Secretary Allah Bachayo Qureshi, Abdul Hafeez Jamali, Ali Akbar Zardari, Dhani Bakhsh Mallah, and others spoke separately, stating that due to low salaries, they are unable to cope with the skyrocketing inflation. Therefore, they demanded an increase in salaries. They also called for the reinstatement of the deceased employee quota to provide employment to the employees' children, payment of group insurance to retired employees, and the increase of medical and conveyance allowances along with the acceptance of other legitimate demands to alleviate the distress among employees. They warned that if their demands are not met, a historic sit-in will be held in front of Karachi Press Club on June 10. The protest saw participation from Murad Ali Mallah, Ali Akbar Khanzada, Arsalan Memon, and other staff members, who raised slogans demanding the acceptance of their demands.

Badin Mayor Pir Muhammad Saleh Qureshi announces big development plans for city

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: Chairman of the Municipal Committee Badin, Pir Muhammad Saleh Qureshi, announced that apart from addressing the problems and challenges faced by the citizens, a special package for the construction and development of the city is in the final approval stage and will soon be implemented. Speaking to delegations from the Badin Press Club, alongside former Special Assistant to the Sindh Chief Minister Pir Noorullah Qureshi at Lauari Sharif Palace, Chairman Qureshi highlighted that a special grant package of two billion rupees is set to be approved, with funds allocated in the current financial year's budget. This initiative has been directed by President Asif Ali Zardari, Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, and Adi Faryal Talpur, with significant support from the Chief Minister of Sindh, Syed Murad Ali Shah. The



package aims to address a variety of civic issues, including clean drinking water, drainage, road and street construction, street light maintenance, and the enhancement of public parks such as Shaheed Benazir Bhutto and Bilawal Bhutto Public Park. Additionally, it includes the beautification and construction of tracks along both sides of the Qazi Wah Canal, which runs through the city center. Chairman Qureshi emphasized the need for collective effort and cooperation among elected councilors, citizens, entrepreneurs, business organizations, and other stakeholders to address illegal encroachments and restore the drainage system fully. Before taking action to remove goods stored outside shops and on roadsides, authorities will seek the support and confidence of the community to improve and restore the city's traffic system. Pir Muhammad Saleh Qureshi stressed the importance of everyone playing their part in improving the city's condition, highlighting that the success of any plan or action relies on the cooperation of all involved.

56th Mango Festival concludes in Mirpurkhas



By Narain Das

MIRPURKHAS: The concluding ceremony of the 56th Mango Festival was held at the Gamma Stadium by the Mirpurkhas district administration. On this occasion, the Provincial Minister for Culture, Syed Zulfiqar Ali Shah, stated that efforts are being made to revive the ancient culture of Sindh to enlighten the youth about their heritage. To make the youth aware of their culture, a talent hunt program called "Talent Hunt Program" will be initiated with Mirpurkhas. Faisal Ahmed Uqaili, SSP Jawed Sunharo, Chairman of the Mango Festival Management Com-

mittee Arif Khan Bhurgari, Mayor Abdul Rauf Ghori, Deputy Commissioner Mirpurkhas Dr. Rasheed Masood Khan, Deputy Mayor Samera Baloch, and a large number of men, women, youth, and children participated in the event. Renowned Sindh artists Sohrab Soomro, Ali Gul Mallah, comedians, and other cultural performers including Shaman Ali Mirali, Mumtaz Loulai, Rajib Faqir, Ali Asghar Khoso, Barkat Faqir, Sanam Marvi, Lal Bakhsh Lanjwani, and others presented cultural full vigor, aiming to involve them in the promotion of their culture. The public was compelled to applaud.

Man killed, another injured in Larkana road accident

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: A tragic accident occurred on Kanga Road involving a speeding tractor and motorcycle colliding head-on. As a result, the

motorcyclist, a 70-year-old man named Muhammad Panah Laghari, and Muhammad Ali Laghari sustained severe injuries. They were rushed to the trauma center where doctors confirmed the unfortunate demise of Muhammad Panah Laghari. The body of the deceased was handed over to his heirs after completing necessary medical formalities.



HYDERABAD: Relatives of Muhammad Hashim Chandio are holding a protest demonstration at the Hyderabad Press Club for the provision of justice for him.-RT



HYDERABAD: Residents of Kot Ghulam Muhammad are holding a protest demonstration at the Hyderabad Press Club for the provision of justice in a family dispute.-RT

NATIONAL



Gandapur Announces Free Solar Panels For KP Families

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Chief Minister (CM) Ali Amin Gandapur on Monday announced to provide free solar panels to the people of the province, media reported.

Addressing the provincial assembly, the chief minister said that the government would go with solar power and all official buildings and offices would be shifted to solar power in the first phase.

He said that the provincial government would provide free solar panels to the people. "People pay taxes so that they get benefits. The rulers should stop lavishing money on public money. We will cut 20 percent fuel allowance (for the elite) very soon," the chief minister said.

CM Gandapur also accused the centre of 'not' providing due share to the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government.

He said that the federal government has not provided the remaining Rs 100 billion



for Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), adding that if the dues are not released immediately, the provincial government will take action.

CM Gandapur said that the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa have been making sacrifices since the creation of Pakistan, but their promises have 'not' been fulfilled. He said that the federal government did not respond to his letters and demands.

"If the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa do not get their due rights, they will be com-

pelled to take to the streets," he added. The chief minister said that peace and security cannot be established in the province if the federal government does not provide the necessary funds. It is pertinent to mention here that Punjab and Sindh governments had already announced to give solar panels to the people of their respective provinces. The Sindh government on May 29 announced to provide affordable electricity to over 200,000 households in the province.—RT/Agency

Power Outage Disrupts Supreme Court Hearing

ISLAMABAD: During hearing of the case lodged by the Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC) pertaining to the reserved seats, a power outage hit the Supreme Court building on Monday. When the lights went out, SIC lawyer Faisal Siddiqui engaged with Chief Justice of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa on the electricity issue. "The power supply has also been cut off here," the SIC lawyer said. The chief justice asked, "Why didn't electricity come from the generator?" The television and lights were on, CJ Isa said adding, "I believe, only the air conditioners of the court room are not working." While scorching hot weather continues to bake various cities, the electricity distribution companies also add to the citizen's woes by suspending power supply as long as to even 18-hours a day in some areas. Frustrated citizens across various cities in Pakistan have repeatedly spilled their anger onto streets by protesting the lack



of electricity. Protests have broken out in big cities, including Karachi and Peshawar, for several days as the citizens are having a hard time due to the prolonged loadshedding. In light of the conditions, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had directed the authorities concerned to minimize the ongoing loadshedding in different areas through better load management, considering public relief in sizzling weather. For Karachi, the sole power supplier Karachi-Electric has said that if the citizens do not pay their bills, it cannot ensure constant provision of electricity.—RT/Agency

Lahore High Court To Hear Plea Challenging Amendments To NAB Laws

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court (LHC) fixed a plea, challenging an Ordinance to amend the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) law, for hearing, media reported.

LHC Senior Puisne Judge Justice Shujaat Ali Khan will take up the plea, filed by one Munir Ahmed, on Tuesday. The petitioner challenged the ordinance passed by Acting President Yousuf Raza Gilani that empowered the NAB to keep an accused on physical remand for up to 40 days.

The petitioner pleaded the court to declare the ordinance promulgated by the then Acting President Yousuf Raza Gilani as null and void.

It is pertinent to mention here that the NAB was empowered to keep an accused



on physical remand for up to 40 days through an ordinance passed on May 27.

Before the ordinance, a person arrested by the NAB could be remanded into the bureau's custody for 14 days. However, under the amended law, the duration of physical remand has been increased to 40 days.

Furthermore, the punish-

ment for NAB officials for making false cases has been reduced from 5 years to 2 years.

The ordinance was passed amidst a hearing of the NAB amendments case by the Supreme Court (SC) of Pakistan, challenged by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan.—RT/Agency

PTI To Hold Public Rally In Swat

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leadership has decided to relocate its upcoming June 8 rally to Swat after the federal capital's administration refused to permit the party to stage its rally in Islamabad. The top leadership of the party rejected the Islamabad administration's offer that it should hold a public meeting on June 8 at Rawat. According to a party spokesperson, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur also attended the meeting.

The meeting was attended by party Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan, Secretary General Omar Ayub Khan, who is also the Leader of Opposition in the National Assembly, Asad Qaiser and other prominent leaders.

The Islamabad district administration last Friday al-



lowed Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) to hold a public rally in the federal capital. Islamabad admin representative informed the court during the hearing on contempt of court plea filed by the PTI in the Islamabad High Court (IHC).

The Islamabad district administration had refused the PTI permission to hold a rally despite the IHC order.

The IHC was informed that the Deputy Commissioner's Office has granted the PTI permission to hold a rally on the Rawat-GT Road.—RT/Agency

THE HEARTLAND

Badin Police continue their actions against criminals and drug dealers

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: SHO Matli Police Station Inspector Ghulam Mustafa Aqlani, along with his staff, conducted a police check. At the Shaheed police constable Malook check post in Chalgri, they recovered counterfeit cigarettes worth one crore rupees from truck TLD289. During the operation, the police arrested the truck driver, Muhammad Saleem Arain, a resident of Multan, while an unknown accomplice escaped. A case

has been registered against the accused at Matli Police Station. Additionally, grams of hashish have been recovered. In further operations, SHO Pangrio Police Station arrested Totu Meghwar, a Gutka seller, and recovered 210 Safina sachets from his possession. The patrol team also arrested Gutka sellers Muhammad Juman Parhriar, Sajjad Ali Memon, Abdul Qadir Junejo, and Naimatullah Junejo. However, the accused Sikandar alias Siku Abbasi and others escaped

from the scene. Safina sachets were recovered during these arrests.

SHO Tando Ghulam Ali Sub-Inspector Asif Mehmoed Kayani and his staff arrested Shahid Hassan Chandio during patrols, recovering 550 Safina sachets from his possession. Additionally, SHO Talhar Police Station Sub-Inspector Mo-hammad Yaqoob Jakhro and his team arrested Allah Baksh Junejo, a Gutka vendor, during a patrol operation.

Youth killed, another injured in Daulatpur's Dahri community clash

By Aijaz Johkio

DAULATPUR: In the village Sobho Dahri area of Daulatpur, a clash erupted between two rival groups of Dahri community over the land dispute. In the clash two brothers including Rashid Dahri sustained fatal injuries and

passed away at the age of 25 due to the gunshot wounds, while Zaid Dahri also sustained severe injuries and was transferred to the Navabshah Hospital in critical condition. It is reported that there has been a long-standing land dispute involving 14 acres of land in the

property of the Dahri brothers' suite, which led to a confrontation.

Rashid Dahri and his brother Zaid Dahri, along with Shahmir Dahri, went to settle the land dispute when firing broke out between the two parties resulting in death of Rashid Hussain Dahri.

DC Fahim Ahmed Chachar launches anti-polio campaign in Dadu

By Javed Laghari

DADU: The Deputy Commissioner Dadu, Fahim Ahmed Chachar, DHO Dr. Syed Imdad Ali Shah, PPHI DM Dr. Muhammad Tahir Lashari, Dr. Ashfaq Ahmed Memon, Dr. Zahid Khuroo, Dr. Jabbar Babar, Dr. Tariq Bahuto, and Dr. Javed Soomro were present at the launching ceremony of the

anti-polio campaign at the MCH Health Center on Masan Road. The officials emphasized that it is our duty to ensure the vaccination of children aged 5 to 10 years during the five-day polio campaign. Efforts were made to vaccinate children against polio and ensure that no child is left unvaccinated. It was emphasized that team management would be strict, and

efforts would be made to cooperate with every household anti-polio team to ensure the success of the important polio eradication campaign. Moreover, Focal Person Dr. Ahmed Bux Chandio of the respective hospital, along with MS KN Shah Taluka Hospital and AC KN Shah and other officials were also present during the inauguration ceremony.

Water flow in Jamrao Canal posing a serious threat to several villages in Jam Nawaz Ali

By Hakim Baloch

JAM NAWAZ ALI: Due to the dangers posed by the erosion in the Jamrao Canal from RD-62 to village Haji Foto Khaskheli, where the watercourse has veered dangerously towards the top, risking inundation, despite alerts issued to the authorities about the risk of inundation in the

area due to erosion, watercourse alignment, and fear of floods, no action has been taken by the authorities. Residents, despite their protests, have not been able to divert the watercourse away from their lands. Consequently, Abdul Rahman Khaskheli, Hyas Mughal, Mihal Katiyar, Ali Nawaz Khaskheli, and several protesters have staged

demonstrations. However, despite the alerts, no significant action has been taken by the relevant authorities to address the risks of erosion and flooding.

The local people have demanded of the concerned authorities to take notice of the matter, otherwise they will be compelled to widen their protest.

Youth killed, two injured in fatal TMK road accident

By Abdul Sattar

TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: In a tragic incident on the Badin Road near Tando Muhammad Khan, a speeding tanker collided with two motorcycles, resulting in a powerful collision. As a result, one of the motorcycle riders suf-

fered severe injuries, while the other tragically lost his life. The injured individual was immediately provided with medical assistance at the Tando Muhammad Khan government hospital, and then shifted to Hyderabad for further treatment. The body of the deceased identified as Rashid Ra-

jput was handed over to his family after necessary formalities. Additionally, two injured youths from Tando Muhammad Khan's Talpur Colony, identified as Nadir Ali Brohi and Taj Ali Brohi, were in critical condition and were subsequently transferred to the hospital in Hyderabad for further medical care.

8-year-old Tando Ghulam Haider boy drowns in water pond

TALHAR: In the vicinity of Talhar, within the boundaries of Tando Ghulam Haider, in the village of Muhammad Ali Chang, near Link Road, an 8-year-old in-

nocent child named Shankar Lal drowned and died in a water pond. The body of the child was retrieved and handed over to the heirs. It should be noted that

due to the incompetence of the authorities, soil is often removed from the sides of roads, leading to the formation of ponds, which become the cause of such accidents.—RT

GDA's Dr. Safdar Abbasi, Moazam Abbasi felicitate new office-bearers of Larkana Press Club

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: The Central General Secretary of GDA, Dr. Safdar Ali Abbasi, former MPA Moazam Khan Abbasi and Barrister Kazim Ali Abbasi visited the Larkana Press Club and felicitated the newly elected President Ghulam Murtaza Kalhoro, who

has been elected for the second term along with his panel. On the occasion, Vice President Abdul Khaliq Mugheri, General Secretary Naved Larik, Treasurer Abdul Qadir Jagirani, and Joint Secretary Mansoor Abbas Abro, among others were also present. Congratulations were also extended to the gov-

erning body members, including Muhammad Ashiq Pathan, Mashooq Odhano, Dr. Badar Shaikh, Muhammad Younis Detho, Nadeem Akhtar Soomro, and Ghulam Yasin Abro, acknowledging their crucial role in representing the voice of the oppressed masses in the highest forums.

METRO KARACHI

Rizvia Society Police arrest notorious criminal in an injured state



By Asif Qureshi

KARACHI: Rizvia Society Police led by SHO Zubair Nawaz have managed to arrest a notorious criminal named Kamran Mehsood alias

Kami S/o Ghulam Mustafa Mehsood in injured condition after he was identified in the incident of injuring the online taxi driver by opening fire on him. The arrested criminal was identified

by the police in CCTV footage. The police have recovered a pistol and bullets from possession of the arrested man, who was booked in a case.

Orientation Held To Empower Sindh's New Legislators For Enhanced Governance



KARACHI: The Mustehkam Parlaimaan (MuP) Project, funded by the European Union and implemented by GIZ and the Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS), organized a New Members Orientation Programme in collaboration with the Provincial Assembly of Sindh. The initiative aimed to equip newly elected members with knowledge and tools for effective governance.

Mr. Nisar Ahmed Khuroo shared his insights.

Hon'ble Syed Awaiz Qadir Shah, Speaker Provincial Assembly of Sindh, thanked the organizers and stressed the assembly's responsibility in upholding democracy. Attended by over 90 members, the programme provided a platform for collaborative learning.

The Mustehkam Parlaimaan project aims to support parliamentary democracy in Pakistan by enhancing legislative processes and governance outcomes in Sindh. Through technical assistance and capacity building, it seeks to foster transparency and accountability in the parliamentary system.—RT/Agency

Large-Scale Raid Conducted At Jinnah International

KARACHI: The FIA Immigration arrested five accused in three different operations at Jinnah International Airport, Karachi.

The FIA arrested accused Muhammad Hasan, a resident of Hyderabad after he arrived in Karachi from Kuala Lumpur with a fake visa from China and fake stamps of Pakistan and Oman immigration.

The dates on the immigration stamps on the Pakistani passport of the accused were not verified by the IBM system. According to the accused, the fake Chinese visa and stamps were installed by an agent in Malaysia for Rs134,000.

In the second operation, the visas of Abdullah, Amir Qarqbal, and Abdul Sufyan who were going to Turkey through a foreign airline were checked and they turned out to be fake.

PPP Mulling Over Joining Federal Cabinet: Gilani

KARACHI: Senate Chairman Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani said on Monday that it was up to the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) to decide whether to join the Federal Cabinet.

The party already had constitutional posts in the federation and provinces, he said while responding to media persons' queries after a ceremony.

The Senate chairman said that the PPP was known for taking mature decisions. It was the PPP which had restored the 1973 Constitution, besides abolishing the 58-2B clause, he added.

Replying to a question, Yousuf Raza Gilani said that the future of political parties was linked to the people's liking and disliking.

To another question, he said that all the institutions should work within their con-



stitutional limits. It is pertinent to mention here that the PML-N was pressing the PPP to join the coalition government in Centre and Punjab.

A day earlier, it was reported that PML-N and PPP were at odds over the power-sharing formula in Punjab.

According to sources, despite four meetings of the provincial coordination committees of both

parties, no progress has been made.

The PPP alleges that PML-N is not showing seriousness regarding the power-sharing formula in Punjab, sources added. Sources said that PPP is also concerned that its members in the Punjab Assembly are being ignored in the budget and have not received funds so far.—RT

EDITORIAL



Founders: Late Kazi Saeed Akbar, Late Kazi Jawad Akbar, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher: Kazi Sajjad Akbar

Tuesday, June 04, 2024

The relentless pursuit of vendetta-driven politics has to end now

The recent verdict by the Islamabad High Court (IHC) acquitting former Prime Minister Imran Khan and former Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi in the cipher case must be respected by the government and all stakeholders. The decision underscores the importance of judicial independence and the need for all political actors to honor the rule of law. As the PTI celebrates this victory, it is imperative for the nation to reflect on the events of the past 26 months, marked by deep political polarization and economic turmoil following Khan's controversial ousting in a vote of no confidence.

Since then, Pakistan has been embroiled in political strife, with governance taking a backseat to vendetta-driven politics. The relentless pursuit of

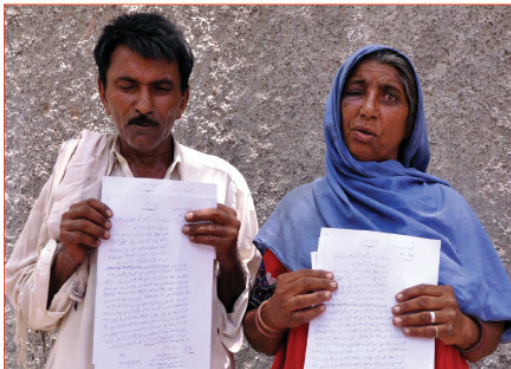
Imran Khan has not only diverted attention from pressing national issues but has also exacerbated the country's economic woes. It is high time that this



cycle of retribution ends, allowing the nation to heal and focus on its recovery. The judiciary's decision to overturn the cipher case conviction provides an opportunity for the country to move forward. Political stability and respect for democratic principles are essential for economic revitalization and national progress. It is crucial that the government shifts its focus from political vendettas to address-

ing the economic challenges that have crippled the country. Pakistan's potential can only be realized through unity and a collective effort to rebuild the economy. The obsession with eliminating political opponents must cease, and the emphasis should be on fostering a stable political environment where the will of the people prevails. The government's priority should be the implementation of policies that will revive the economy, create jobs, and improve the living standards of its citizens. The acquittal of Khan and Qureshi should be a turning point, signaling an end to political bickering and the beginning of a new chapter focused on national prosperity. It is time to let go of past grievances, respect the verdict of the court, and work together towards a brighter future for Pakistan.

THE HEARTLAND



HYDERABAD: Residents of Naukot are holding a protest demonstration at the Hyderabad Press Club against the influential people of their area.-RT

ADC-I Nawab Sameer Laghari visits health facilities in Sakrand



By Zeeshan Soomro Deputy Commissioner instructed Mukhtiar Khan Shaikat Bujero to prioritize and resolve the issues of the people coming to the office for work on a merit basis, and to maintain the revenue records properly. Assistant Commissioner Sakrand Rameez Raja and other officials accompanied him during the visit. The Additional Deputy Commissioner also made surprise visits to the Rural Health Center Qazi Ahmed, Rural Health Center Daur, and the Mukhtiar Office Nawab Wali Muhammad on this occasion, the Additional

visit to Taluka Hospital Sakrand, the Additional Deputy Commissioner inspected the Heatstroke ward. He later visited the Mukhtiar Office Sakrand and reviewed the record room. On this occasion, the Additional Deputy Commissioner instructed Mukhtiar Khan Shaikat Bujero to prioritize and resolve the issues of the people coming to the office for work on a merit basis, and to maintain the revenue records properly. Assistant Commissioner Sakrand Rameez Raja and other officials accompanied him during the visit. The Additional Deputy Commissioner also made surprise visits to the Rural Health Center Qazi Ahmed, Rural Health Center Daur, and the Mukhtiar Office Nawab Wali Muhammad on this occasion, the Additional



HYDERABAD: Activists and leaders of PTI Hyderabad are holding a protest demonstration at the Hyderabad Press Club for the release of former Prime Minister Imran Khan.-RT

Providing quality health facilities is top priority of Sindh Govt: Muhammad Ali Malkani

By Kamran Hidayat

SUJAWAL: Sindh Minister for the Universities and Boards, Muhammad Ali Malkani has stated that providing essential facilities is the top priority of the Sindh Government. In this regard, the Sindh government is actively collaborating with various social organizations to ensure the provision of basic amenities to the people. Malkani mentioned that the establishment of dispensaries is a step towards providing healthcare services to remote areas of Sindh, where people often face difficulties in accessing medical facilities. He further stated that these dispensaries will provide free services to the residents of coastal and rural areas, especially benefiting pregnant women who previ-



ously had to travel long distances and incur substantial expenses for medical treatment. The minister emphasized that the Sindh government is fully committed to providing essential facilities to marginalized communities and ensuring their access to healthcare services. Additionally, he highlighted the role of UNICEF and other organizations in supporting these initiatives aimed at improving healthcare access in Sindh. The inauguration ceremony of a dispensary was attended by Project Manager Dr. Zeenat Burro, Regional Program Manager Adam Malik, Coordinator Aijaz Jakhro, Surgeon Yameen Shah and others.

Tando Adam's civil society rallies against growing lawlessness and kidnappings in Sindh



By Mumtaz Ali

TANDO ADAM: In these protests. They demanded an end to lawlessness in Sindh and criticized the Sindh government for failing to provide security and freedom of expression, especially in the wake of the recent killings of journalists. They also demanded immediate arrest and strict punishment for those involved in the abduction and murder of innocent people. They demanded the immediate arrest of the killers of martyrs Ajmal Sawand, journalist Jan Muhammad Mahar, and journalist Nasrullah Gadami, including the recovery of missing innocent people Abdul Sattar Ansari, and the imposition of strict punishment on those responsible. In Tando Adam, various political and social organizations including PPP, PML-F, Awami Tehreek, PTI, SAS, Jamaat-e-Islami, and other parties have staged protests against lawlessness, terrorism, the killing of journalists and other issues. Muhammad Khan Panhwar, Baghi Majeed Thaheem, Dr. Qambar Marri, Gul Hassan Lakho, senior journalist Manzoor Yousofzai, Ghulam Rasool Bajuro, Zahir Makorai, Abdul Ghafoor Ansari, Mushtaq Adil, and the imposition of strict punishment on those responsible.

Jamaat-e-Islami rallies against growing lawlessness and kidnappings in Thul

By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: In response to the growing lawlessness and incidents of kidnapping in Thul, Jamaat-e-Islami organized a protest demonstration and a sit-in, demanding the restoration of law and order. According to reports, various political parties participated in a protest rally initiated by Jamaat-e-Islami, which marched through the town. The rally, led by district leader Deedar Lashari, local leader Imdadullah Bijarani, Jiddujahd Action Committee president Jamal Josh Burro, Sarwan Lashari, Dr. Shankar Lal, and others, started from Joangal Mor and passed through various routes before culminating at Rabhar Chowk, where they blocked the Thul-Jacobabad road and



chanted slogans. The protesters claimed that the local feudal lords and tribal chiefs are responsible for the kidnappings, robberies, and mass murders in Sindh. They asserted that without the backing of these influential figures, no criminal would dare commit such crimes. According to them, criminals based in the Katcha area, on the orders of the feudal lords, kidnap people and incite tribal conflicts, leading to the massacre of innocent individuals. They expressed that citizens do not feel safe even in their homes, as there is no guarantee of returning home safely once they step outside. The protesters emphasized that the feudal lords and tribal chiefs are involved in the unrest, kidnappings, and murders in Sindh. They called for unity and collective action against these influential figures to prevent further victimization.

Cotton crop reaches market in Jhol

By Mehtab Shar

JHOL: Around the surrounding areas of Jhol, the cotton crop for the year 2024 has started appearing

in the market. On June 3rd, during the cotton market's weekly trade, two landllords from the area, Ashraf Magasi and Parvez Arain, sold 9 maunds of cotton for the rate of 8500 rupees per maund. On this occasion, prayers were offered and sweets were distributed for a profitable season.



LARKANA: Members and leaders of the All Pakistan Clerks Association (APCA) are holding a protest demonstration at Jinnah Bagh for the acceptance of their demands.-RT

10-year-old girl killed in Larkana hit and run

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: A speeding car hit a 10-year-old girl named Ayesha D/o Muhammad

Mooza Chehwan near Otha Chowk and as a result she sustained critical injuries on Monday. The injured girl was rushed to the Trauma Centre where she succumbed to her injuries. The body of the deceased was handed over to her heirs after completing necessary medical formalities.

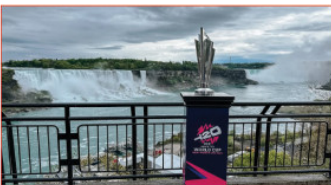


LARKANA: IBA test passed candidates for the post of Primary School Teachers (PST) are holding a protest demonstration for their appointment letters, outside the District Education Office in Larkana.-RT

SPORTS



ICC reveals highest-ever prize money for men's T20 World Cup winners



As the Twenty 20 Men's Cricket World Cup is underway, the International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the highest-ever prize money for the teams—a whopping \$11.25 million—with the winner to take the lion's share of \$2.45 million.

The latest announcement of the prize money has never been such high in the tournament's history with its ninth edition.

This time, the T20 tournament is providing the field to 20 teams that will be in action against each other for 28 days in nine different venues in the US and West Indies.

Chief Executive of the ICC Geoff Allardice said: "This event is historic in so many ways, so it is fitting that the prize money for players reflects that. Hundreds of millions of fans around the world will be entertained by the players in what we're hoping to be an Out of This World event."

It is also for the first time that such a large number of teams would be playing. The runners-up will receive at least \$1.28 million, while the losing semi-finalists will take home \$787,500 each.

Teams that do not advance past the second round will receive \$382,500 each, and those finishing between ninth and twelfth place will get \$247,500 each.

Teams ranking from 13th to 20th place will each get \$225,000. Additionally, every team will receive an extra \$31,154 for each match won, excluding the semi-finals and finals.

The tournament will start with 40 matches in the first round, leading to the Super 8s, followed by the semi-finals in Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana. The final match will take place at the Kensington Oval in Barbados, where the 2024 men's champions will be crowned.—Agency

T20 World Cup: David Wiese shines as Namibia beat Oman in thrilling super over



Namibia won their clash with Oman after the match entered a super over, in which David Wiese shined for the victorious side as he successfully defended the 22-run target.

In the T20 World Cup 2024 match, held at the Kensington Oval in Barbados capital Bridgetown, Namibia ended up scoring 109-6 in 20 overs while chasing 110 against Oman.

The winning team required two runs on the final ball but Wiese failed to get bat on ball. However, the wicketkeeper wasn't able to grab the ball cleanly either as Wiese and Malan Kruger ran across and completed the run.

Jan Frylinck scored 45 runs in 48 balls with the help of six fours and was his team's highest run scorer.

Mehran Khan, who also bowled the final over of the innings, registered superb figures of 3-7 in four overs for Oman.

South Africa crush Sri Lanka to kick off triumphant T20 World Cup campaign



NEW YORK: Anrich Nortje's ruthless bowling figures of 4/7, followed by a combined batting effort led South Africa to a six-wicket victory over Sri Lanka in the fourth match of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024.

Sri Lankan captain Wanindu Hasaranga de Silva's decision to bat first against South Africa at a tricky Nassau County International Stadium's surface did not bear fruits as they were bowled out for a meagre total in 19.1 overs.

The Asian side had a dismal start to their innings as Pathum Nissanka (3) perished cheaply with just 13 runs on the board in 3.1 overs. Following the early

blow, Kamindu Mendis joined Kusal Mendis and the pair looked to anchor the innings with a cautious partnership.

The duo, however, could not pull Sri Lanka out of trouble as Kamindu fell victim to Nortje in the eighth over after scoring a scratchy 11 off 15 deliveries.

Kamindu's dismissal sparked a middle-order collapse as Sri Lanka lost four more wickets in quick succession including their mainstay Kusal Mendis to eventually slip to 45/6 in 11.2 overs.

All-rounders Dasun Shanaka and Angelo Mathews then offered brief retaliation with a gutsy partnership for the seventh wicket.

They added 23 runs at a brisk rate until Shanaka was cleaned up by Kagiso Rabada in the 15th over.

Mathews followed in his footsteps an over later as he fell victim to ruthless Anrich Nortje after scoring a run-a-ball 16.

Sri Lanka's batting tail then crumbled against a disciplined South Africa bowling attack and thus the Proteas booked them for a paltry total.

Anrich Nortje led the bowling charge for South Africa with four wickets, followed by Keshav Mahharaj and Kagiso Rabada, who bagged two wickets each.—Agency

Saudi Ambassador makes big offer to Pakistan Cricket Team



Nawaf bin Said Al-Malki, Saudi Arabia's Ambassador, royal guest on Hajj next year.

The Green Shirts will start their ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 campaign against the USA on June 6 before taking on arch-rivals India in a blockbuster clash on June 9 at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in New York.

The 2009 champions will then take on Canada on June 11 before locking horns with Ireland in their last group-stage fixture on June 16.

Pakistan Squad for T20 World Cup 2024: Babar Azam (c), Saim Ayub, Mohammad Rizwan, Fakhar Zaman, Azam Khan, Usman Khan, Ifthikhar Ahmed, Imad Wasim, Shadab Khan, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Mohammad Amir, Abbas Afridi, Naseem Shah, Haris Rauf, Abrar Ahmed.—Agency

Pakistan beat Canada 8-1 in FIH Nations Cup



Pakistani side excelled in hockey match in Gniezno, Poland, crushing Canada by 8-1 during the FIH Nations Cup Monday after Rana Waheed Ashraf netted four times taking the greens to the victory.

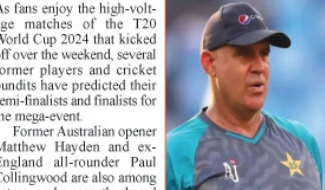
Ghazanfar Ali of Pakistan also braced with one each by Abdul Rehman and Hannan Shahid, which also ensured the victory.

Sean Davis from Canada started with scoring in the second minute of the clash but Pakistan retaliated in less than five minutes after Waheed Ashraf brought the game to even with a brilliant strike.

goals in the last quarter was that all of them came in the last 10 minutes. This was Pakistan's first win in the tournament and they have now gone to the top of Pool B with four points. In the first match against Malaysia, Pakistan made an excellent comeback and secured a draw with a last-minute goal. Malaysia had a three-goal lead in the first quarter but Pakistan, known for their resilience, didn't give up and levelled the match.

Pakistan will now face France in their final pool match of the tournament on June 5. Top two teams from each pool will qualify for the semi-finals of the event.—Agency

Matthew Hayden, Paul Collingwood predict T20 World Cup 2024 finalists



As fans enjoy the high-voltage matches of the T20 World Cup 2024 that kicked off over the weekend, several former players and cricket pundits have predicted their semi-finalists and finalists for the mega-event.

Former Australian opener Matthew Hayden and ex-England all-rounder Paul Collingwood are also among veterans who recently shared their thoughts on who they believe could reach the final of the tournament being played in the United States and West Indies.

Speaking to Indian media, Hayden said he believes India and Australia will reach the final, while Collingwood backed England and the co-hosts West Indies to battle it out for the trophy.

Earlier, former Indian batter Yuvraj Singh also predicted the finalists for the T20 World Cup 2024 which is being played in the United States and West Indies.

Yuvraj, who was part of India's T20 World Cup 2007-winning squad, believes either two of the sides from India, West Indies or Pakistan will make it to the final. He further hoped not to see Australia.

"I'm hoping India, probably West Indies. Pakistan three, and no Australians (laughs)," Yuvraj said during an event in the US.

Yuvraj was named the ambassador of the T20 World Cup earlier and the former Indian batter is backing his side to claim the tournament but only if they believe themselves.

"I believe we have the self-belief of winning big tournaments. I think if India believes and backs themselves and plays to their own strengths, I'm sure they'll go all the way. And that's what I believe in," Yuvraj said as quoted by the Indian media.

"I think that's the reason why we won. We focused on where, and how we are good and the things that we need to do rather than thinking of where the opposition was going to harm us. We have the match winners."

It must be noted that 55 games will be played across nine different venues in the West Indies and the USA during the T20 World Cup 2024.

The venues in West Indies are Kensington Oval, Barbados; Brian Lara Cricket Academy, Trinidad; Providence Stadium, Guyana; Sir Vivian Richards Stadium, Antigua; Darren Sammy Cricket Ground, St Lucia; Amos Vale Stadium, St Vincent.—Agency

Pakistan rowing team grabs second prize in Grand Moscow Regatta



Pakistani rowing team has clinched second prize in the 63rd Grand Moscow Regatta, which took place from May 30 to June 2 on Moscow Rowing Canal, in the Russian capital.

Over 1,300 athletes from Russia, Cuba, Serbia, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and the Republic of Belarus participated in the Moscow regatta.

Pakistani Ambassador to Russia Muhammad Khalid Jamali congratulated Pakistani sportsmen Manahil Hussain, Aaleen Hussain, Mariam Yousaf Ali and Nehan Asad, as well as their coach Imran Khan and manager Danish Ifthikhar on their brilliant efforts.

"Karachi Boat Club's participation in the rowing competition will have a positive impact on the relations between the two countries," said Ambassador Jamali.

Jamali expressed satisfaction over the positive relations between Pakistan and Russia in various fields, including sports.

The Pakistani team expressed their gratitude to the organisers for their hospitality and top-notch organization of the event. Additionally, they extended gratitude to the ambassador for his encouragement.—Agency

Face of the Day



Name: Huzafa
Location: Karachi
About me: I love Pakistan!

Please email us your photo for our Model Watch and Kids' Corner section at regionaltimes10@gmail.com

ENTERTAINMENT

Kate Middleton's top priority amid cancer battle revealed



Princess of Wales Kate Middleton is being fully supported by Prince William, who has been devoted to her recuperation amid her cancer battle.

However, the future queen's top priority remains her children Prince George, Princess Charlotte and Prince Louis during her cancer treatment.

An insider recently told the OK Magazine, "Princess Kate is still focusing on her recovery but she has been spotted running errands with her family."

Her priority remains on her young children—Prince George, Princess Charlotte and Prince Louis. She is being fully supported by Prince William.

Earlier, a source close to the royals told the Life and Style "William is constantly propping up cushions and offering her back rubs—so much so that Kate has had to scold him to leave her in peace."

Britney Spears' family plans BIG change to help singer 'heal'



Britney Spears' family is reportedly planning an intervention for the pop icon to convince her to move to Louisiana from Los Angeles.

Spears recently admitted that she misses her family even after they allegedly mistreated her during her conservatorship.

"They're not wasting any time putting a plan into action," a source told The Globe.

"They've long believed Hollywood is the worst place possible for Britney. It's where all her problems were created—and what she needs now, more than ever, is to get back to her roots," they added.

The tipster also said that the singer's mom Lynne is set to fly out to L.A. to ask the singer to move to their native Louisiana.

"As far as Lynne, Jamie Lynn and others are concerned, this was a divine intervention. They're not going to let the opportunity slide by," the mole said. The Gimme More singer's mom is also planning to help her find "a very secure place to live" where she'll have "round-the-clock care to decompress and heal."

THE HEARTLAND



Release of UC Vice Chairman Farman Ali Rajput demanded

By Irfan Khushk

TANDO JAM: The residents of UC-65 recorded a protest demonstration against the arrest of the UC Vice Chairman Farman Ali Rajput. While talking to the media, the protest leaders said that the police have arrested Farman Ali Rajput from Khatyan Chowk but the officials have not shown his arrested because he has been shifted to an undisclosed place. The protest leaders demanded of the higher authorities to take steps for the release of arrested UC Vice Chairman, otherwise they have announced to widen their protest.

New office-bearers of WAPDA Hydro Workers' Union Subdivision Setharja elected

By Azhar Kubar

SETHARJA: The election of the WAPDA hydro Workers' Union Setharja were held for Setharja Subdivision during which Agha Talib Hussain Lund was elected as Chairman sixth time and Abdul Qadir Soomro as Vice Chairman, Munawar Ali Lund as Secretary and Sarfaraz Ali Solangi as Joint Secretary. On this occasion, Agha Talib Hussain Lund and Secretary Munawar Hussain Lund were elected as chairman and secretary respectively. Now, efforts are being made to maintain the confidence and



trust of the workers and ensure the protection of their legitimate rights. There is ongoing effort to resolve any legitimate issues they may have.

JUI-F's Maulana Taj Muhammad meets SSP Hyderabad

By Irfan Khushk

TANDO JAM: District Ameer of JUI-F, Maulana Taj Muhammad, held a meeting with SSP Hyderabad, where he demanded the immediate arrest of Shah Nawaz Nizamani, the responsible individual for blasphemy against the honor of the Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (SAWW). The order for his immediate arrest was issued. The delegation included Hafiz Khalid Hassan Dhamrah and Hafiz Muhammad Azam Jahangir. Salutations to the members of JUI-F, apart from seeking punishment for the offender, no compromise was accepted.



members of JUI-F, apart from seeking punishment for the offender, no compromise was accepted.

Missing Nawabshah youth's mother appeals for his recovery

By Samad Ayaz

NAWABSHAH: The disappearance of 27-year-old Naveed Ali, son of the Late Nawab Khan Samo, from Labor Colony near the airport for the past four months, has left his family distressed. In this regard, Naveed Ali's mother has approached Nawabshah Press Club seeking help in finding Naveed Ali, who has been missing for four months and whose whereabouts remain unknown. Despite lodging a complaint with the police, no action has been taken so far.



The family is deeply troubled by the situation. Therefore, I request assistance in finding my son, Naveed Ali, as demanded by citizens, political parties, and various other sources.

DC Naveed Rehman Larik launches anti-polio campaign in Umerkot

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: Deputy Commissioner Umerkot Naveed Rehman Larik, along with DHO Dr. Nand Lal, Dr. Farid Ahmed Hingorjo, MS Civil Hospital Umerkot and Polio Focal Person Dr. Vijay Kumar, visited the Civil Hospital in Umerkot to launch the anti-polio campaign, focusing on vaccinating children against poliovirus. They emphasized the necessity of vaccinating all children to protect them from lifelong disabilities caused by polio, which can be eradicated in any case. They also highlighted the importance of parents ensuring that their children receive the polio vaccine during this crucial period, as well as the importance of not missing any polio vaccination sessions. They assured full cooperation from district administration teams and polio teams to support the polio campaign. Additionally, Deputy Commissioner Umerkot Naveed Rehman Larik inspected various departments, wards, and emergency sections of the hospital, where the solar system installed in the hospital during this time.



tal for uninterrupted power supply was found to be fully functional. They ensured that the solar system inside the hospital was fully operational and that patients were provided with necessary facilities. Medical staff and paramedics were also present at the hospital during this time.

SAU Tando Jam takes part in 3rd Sindh Research and Technology Showcase 2024

By Irfan Khushk

TANDO JAM: At the 3rd Sindh Research and Technology Showcase 2024, held at Expo Center Karachi and organized by Sindh HEC, Sindh Agriculture University (SAU), Tando Jam, exhibited various start-ups and research products developed by its students at its faculty. The Vice Chancellor of Sindh Agriculture University, Dr. Fateh Marri, visited the Expo Center and reviewed the stalls, including the start-up stalls set up by SAU faculty and students. He was briefed

on the projects and ideas by the students themselves. Under the supervision of the Business Incubation Center, talented students from Sindh Agriculture University presented their impressive business ideas. Dr. Marri praised the students for their innovative contributions. At the event, under the leadership of Dr. Zahoor Ahmed Soomro, the Seed Production and Development Center set up a stall. Additionally, the Veterinary Faculty experts, including Dr. Imdad Laghari, Waseem Laghari, and other specialists, showcased various start-ups at their respective stalls. The activity was led by Dr. Jam Ghulam Murtaza Sehto, Director of the Business Incubation Center (BIC), SAU Tando Jam. The event saw attendance from representatives of Sindh HEC, Vice Chancellors of various universities, members from the private sector and industry, heads and representatives from different organizations, students, and a large number of citizens who showed great interest in the stalls.

Allama Zahoor Hussain Rohani chairs meeting of Shia Ulema Council Khairpur



By M Iqbal Soomro

THARI MIRWAH: An important meeting of the Shia Ulema Council, Khairpur Mir's District, was held under the chairmanship of District President Allama Zahoor Hussain Rohani at Wadi-e-Zahra (SA) in Ranipur. The meeting was attended by the Vice President of Shia Ulema Council Sindh Province, Dur Muhammad Kolachi. The proceedings of the meeting were conducted by General Secretary Sajjad Hussain Brohi. Scholars and all Taluka Presidents and secretaries, along with JSO officials, participated actively. During the meeting, significant decisions were made to further improve the organizational activities for Muharram-ul-Haram. A resolution was passed against those who disrespect scholars or organizational members on social media or any other platform. This resolution, agreed upon unanimously, will be presented to the leader of the Shia community in Pakistan, Allama Syed Sajid Ali Naqvi. The meeting concluded with prayers for the health and safety of Allama Syed Sajid Ali Naqvi and a recitation of Fataha for the martyrs of the Shia community.

Daulatpur's civil society rallies for recovery of Habibullah Palli and Priya Kumari

By Aijaz Jokhio

DAULATPUR: The civil society leaders and journalists took out a protest rally for the recovery of missing student Habibullah Palli on Monday. Among the notable personalities present were Darya Khan Jokhio, Kashif Ali Khan, Muhammad Shahryar Ali, Abdul Sattar Jokhio, Mir Murtaza Jokhio, Sharjeel Ahmed and several media representatives, who addressed the crowd. They emphasized that innocent girl Priya Kumari and Habibullah Palli have been abducted, whose whereabouts remain unknown. On the occasion, the protesters demanded recovery of Habibullah Palli and Priya Kumari, otherwise they have announced to widen their protest.

Water shortage in Rohri Canal's Maldesi Mines irks Shahdadpur's growers

By Sajjan Jani Detho

SHAHDADPUR: In Rohri Canal, the closure and illegal diversion of agricultural watercourses of Maldesi Mines have led to protests by landowners and growers on Monday. Demonstrators, including Ameer Hyder, Zahid Bagrani, Atta Muhammad Kalo, Maashooq Detho, Kareem Kalo, Ibrahim Bagrani, Hassan Khosro, Altaf Rind, Shahid Baladi, Ameer Rind, and Arbab Hingoro led a protest rally. They demanded the removal of the blockade in the watercourse, which has caused shortage of water and led to the destruction of their agricultural lands. In Shahdadpur, in one dozen watercourses comprising 14 watercourses, the illegal diversion of water has been continued by depriving the tail-end growers of water which has resulted in several problems to them. The only source of livelihood, agriculture, has been affected by the shortage of water, leading to economic losses due to which the growers have demanded of the higher authorities to take notice of the matter, otherwise they have announced to widen their protest.

Sindhi Adabi Sangat Makli organizes a Mushaira

By Khuda Bux Brohi

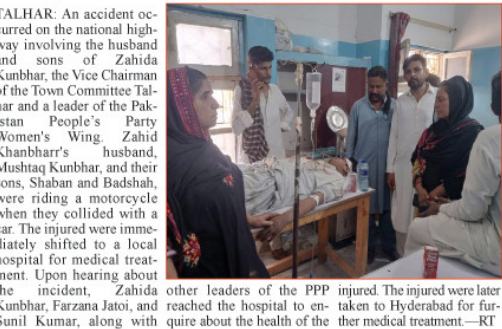
THATTA: Sindhi Adabi Sangat branch in Makli organized a Mushaira on Monday. It was graced by the presence of esteemed poets and intellectuals, including Iqbal Shaheen, who shed light on the diverse forms and enduring traditions of Sindhi poetry. Shaheen's lecture not only celebrated the literary wealth of Sindhi but also emphasized the innovative spirit of contemporary Sindhi poets who continue to enrich the poetic canon with fresh perspectives. The event also saw contributions from renowned journalist Ismail Memon and a lineup of talented poets and writers who captivated the audience with their recitations and literary works. Overall, the session in Thatta was a testament to the enduring legacy of Sindhi poetry and its significance in contemporary literary discourse. It served as a reminder of the profound cultural heritage of Sindhi and the ongoing contributions of its poets and intellectuals to the literary landscape.

Sindh Journalists' Alliance demands justice for Shaheed Jan Muhammad Mahar, Shaheed Nasrullah Gadani and Priya Kumari

By Shaikh Sindh

KOTRI: The central protest of the Sindh Journalists' Alliance, led by Muhammad Sharif Abro, took place at the press club in Jamshoro, demanding the immediate arrest of the killers of martyred journalists Nasrullah Gadani and Jan Muhammad Mahar, along with the recovery of innocent girl Paria Kumari. In the protest, journalists including Irfan Burfat, Hakim Chandio, Sadar Junjo Rahim Buledi, Ahmed Abro, Ali Muhammad Magso, Sohail Joyo, Syed Gambal Shah, STP's Sagar Almani, Raja Dahani, JST's Anwar Burdi, SUP leader Hafiz Kumari, Bux Shah, Peer Bux Saharan, JUI-F's Hafiz Jamil Laghari, PPP leader Haq Nawaz Birmhana and others participated. The protesters demanded the immediate arrest and prosecution of the killers of the martyred journalists and the swift recovery of innocent girl Priya Kumari.

Husband and sons of PPP Talhar's Zahida Kunbhar injured in a road accident



TALHAR: An accident occurred on the national highway involving the husband and sons of Zahida Kunbhar, the Vice Chairman of the Town Committee Talhar and a leader of the Pakistan People's Party Women's Wing, Zahid Khanbhar's husband, Mushtaq Kunbhar, and their sons, Shaban and Badshah, were riding a motorcycle when they collided with a car. The injured were immediately shifted to a local hospital for medical treatment. Upon hearing about the incident, Zahida Kunbhar, Farzana Jatwi, and Sunil Kumar, along with other leaders of the PPP injured. The injured were later reached to Hyderabad for further medical treatment.—RT

Growers decry shortage of water in Naukot Subdivision



NAUKOT: A protest demonstration was recorded by the growers against the shortage of water in Naukot Subdivision's Rin Branch and other branches on Monday. The protest leaders, who included Arbab Fahad Razaqi, Usman Halo, Alhah Nawaz Nohrio, Diplo Mines and Serhi Razaqi Dars, and others said that around 50,000 acres of agricultural land have been severely affected, leading to the destruction of crops due to shortage of water in Rin Branch, Dhoro Mines, Diplo Mines and Serhi Razaqi Dars, and others. It has been demanded that the officers responsible for water shortage should be immediately replaced with honest officers to prevent further economic losses to the growers.

Gabol community to unite on one platform: Muhammad Arshad Gabol



By Yousif Rind

NAWAB WALI MUHAMMAD: The Gabol community has united on a single platform. Muhammad Arshad Gabol, a prominent figure of the Gabol community, has held discussions with journalists in Nawab Wali Muhammad, expressing that it was high time for the Gabol community to come together for the betterment and development. It's noteworthy that in Karachi, meetings have taken place with MNAs Sardar Nabil Ahmed Khan Gabol, Sardar Qadir Bux Gabol, and Sardar Dady wood Khan Gabol, where the true Gabol community of Pakistan has united on a single platform.

Father killed, his son injured in Kashmore shooting

By Aftab Bhatti

KASHMORE: At Farooqi Bagh, a few unknown armed individuals opened fire on a father and son. As a result of the shooting, the father was killed and the son was severely injured. The deceased was identified as 55-year-old Meeran Bakhsheer. So far, no assailants fled after the shooting. So far, no report has been received regarding the incident.

METRO KARACHI



KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Local Government, Housing, Town Planning, Public Health Engineering and Rural Development, Saeed Ghani is being briefed by officials during his inspection visit of the construction work of Nehru-Khayyam.—RT



KARACHI: PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari is seen with Sindh Minister for Anti-Corruption, Sardar Muhammad Bux Khan Mahar after their meeting regarding the Anti-Corruption Establishment.—Photo by Fahim Soomro



KARACHI: Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Chief, Hafiz Naem-ur-Rehman along with other party leaders is addressing a press conference at the Idara-e-Noor-ul-Haq.—RT

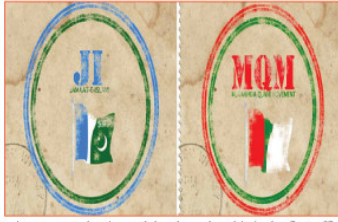
MQM-P And JI To Join Hands Against Sindh Government

KARACHI: The Muttahida Quami Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P) and Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) started talks to join hands against the Pakistan People's Party's (PPP) Sindh government, media reported.

The opposition leader in the Sindh Assembly belonging to the MQM-P Ali Khurshidi and JI's Parliamentary Leader MPA Muhammad Farooq held a meeting ahead of the provincial budget.

Sources privy to the development said that both the leader discussed strategy for the upcoming budget session. Both parties 'agreed' to form a working relationship to ensure the welfare of the people of Sindh and to pressurise the Sindh government to prioritise their needs.

The opposition leader said that the Sindh government has failed to protect the youth of Karachi as street crimes are on the rise and the people are being gunned down for offering resistance to robbers.



"The Sindh government has to be pressurised to complete the Safe City project which is essential for the establishment of peace and security in the province particularly Karachi," the sources said while quoting the MQM-P and JI leaders. It is pertinent to mention here that this is the first official meeting between the two parties after a while as they remained arch-rivals in Karachi, criticising each other in the past.



KARACHI: PPP's Member of Punjab Assembly from Rahim Yar Khan, Mumtaz Chang is presenting a lovely floral bouquet to PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari before their meeting.—Photo by Fahim Soomro



KARACHI: PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari was called on by Senior Vice President of PPP South Punjab, Rana Farooq Saeed at Bilawal House.—Photo by Fahim Soomro



KARACHI: PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari is chairing a meeting of the Sindh Irrigation Department with Sindh Irrigation Minister Jam Khan Shoro and Department officials to review the progress of mega projects.—Photo by Fahim Soomro

4th death anniversary of former Sindh Minister Shaheed Ghulam Murtaza Baloch observed



By Asif Qureshi

KARACHI: The 4th death anniversary ceremony of the former provincial minister and President of the Pakistan People's Party in District Malir, Shaheed Ghulam Murtaza Baloch, was observed in Malir President Hanif Faqir Muhammad Goth Gadap. In attendance were provincial ministers Saeed Ghani and Shahina Sher Ali, Sindh PPP General Secretary Waqar Mehdi, Deputy Mayor Karachi Salman Abdullah Murad, Senator Zamir Ahmed Ghumro, MNA Sardar Jamal Abdul Karim Jokhio, Abdul Qadir Patel, Syed Agha Raftullah, MPA Muhammad Sajid Jokhio, Muhammad Saleem Baloch, Raja Abdul Razaq Baloch, Yousif Murtaza Baloch, Amir Khatak from Awami Azzam Media Group, Dr. Jabbar Khattak, Amir Khattak, Farooq Awan, MPA Barrister Halar Wassan, PPP leader Javaid Ahmed Nagori, town chairmen Nazeer Ahmed Bhatti, Tariq Aziz Baloch, Lala Rahim, Jan Muhammad Baloch, Vice Chairman Ali Muhammad Gabol, Chair-

Earthquake Shakes Parts Of Karachi

An earthquake of 3.2 magnitude on Monday jolted parts of Karachi including the Clifton neighbourhood. The epicentre of the quake was 15 kilometres northeast of Karachi at a depth of 22km, according to the seismic monitoring centre.

However, no loss of life or property was reported due to the earthquake. This is the third time in the last few weeks that a minor earthquake hit Karachi.

On May 2, a 2.3 magnitude earthquake jolted parts of the metropolis including Gadap Town, Katchora and adjoining areas of Malir district. The epicentre of the quake was 38 kilometres from the northeast of Malir at a depth of 84km, according to the seismic monitoring centre.

Similarly, a 3.2 magnitude earthquake jolted Karachi's Malir district on April 24.

Natural disasters such as earthquakes are not uncommon in Pakistan, as the country is situated on the boundary of the Indian and Eurasian tectonic plates.

Large parts of South Asia are seismically active because a tectonic plate known as the Indian plate is pushing north into the Eurasian plate.—RT/Agency



KARACHI: PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari met with PPP MNAs Syed Khurshed Ahmed Shah and Aijaz Jakhani during which they discussed important issues regarding party matters and development.—Photo by Fahim Soomro

Unannounced Load Shedding Sparks Protest In Karachi

KARACHI: The unannounced power outage during the scorching heat wave in the region sparked protests in several areas of Karachi, media reported on Monday.

A large number of Mohajir Quami Movement Pakistan (MQM-P) members along with party leader Afaq Ahmed and businessman Sharjeel Gopiani joined the protest at the Numaish roundabout against K-Electric.

Highlighting the crucial role of electricity in sustaining businesses, Gopiani stressed that Traders and industrialists are given importance everywhere in the world.

He further revealed that a case was registered against him for speaking out against K-Electric's inefficiencies.

Gopiani recalled previous protests against the privatization of Karachi Electric Supply Company (KESC), indicating a longstanding dissatisfaction with utility services in the city.



Rs 1.49 billion. The economic crisis resulted in less consumption of K-Electric units as 5.8 percent electricity demand, which fewer units were consumed in the current fiscal year as compared to the last fiscal year. The K-Electric has also seen a decline in bill payments amid the current inflation. The power distribution company may not provide electricity to the high-loss areas of the metropolis, K-Electric sources say.

Karachiites Living Under The Shadow Of Fear: Hafiz Naem



KARACHI: Hafiz Naem JI chief said that "criminal elements have been installed pre-planned".

"They could not provide education and jobs". The doors of government departments have already been closed, when parents educate their children with their own expenses, they are murdered only for a mobile phone," Hafiz Naem said.

JI Ameer said that mafias have been imposed at every place, the government stepping aside from its responsibilities.—RT/Agency



KARACHI: Leaders and activists of the PTI are distributing sweets at Insaf House after the Islamabad High Court (IHC) acquitted former Prime Minister Imran Khan and former Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi in the cipher case.—RT

MALIR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

MDA/MPD/SLT-378/2023/147

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF LAYOUT PLAN IN RESPECT OF OPEN COMMERCIAL LAND MEASURING 01-00 ACRE ON SURVEY NO. 146/2 DEH KHANTO TALUKA IBRAHIM HYDRI DISTRICT MALIR KARACHI.

It is hereby informed to the General Public that the Additional Deputy Commissioner-I, for Deputy Commissioner, District Malir, Karachi has confirmed and forwarded the ownership title of Commercial Plot land measuring 01-00 Acre on Survey No. 146/2, Deh Khanto, Taluka Ibrahim Hydari, District Malir, Karachi to the Director General MDA, in favour of Mr. Usman Ali S/o Muhammad Ali holding CNIC 42301-4957109-9, R/o. House No. 68/216, Darakhshah Society Kala Board, Karachi, vide his letter No. DC/Malir/K/Rev.Br/2558/2022 dated: 10-05-2022 along with the Mukhtiar, Taluka Ibrahim Hydari, District Malir, Karachi, letter No. Mukhl/H/Malir/299/2022 dated: 29-04-2022 duly endorsed by the Assistant Commissioner, Sub-Division Ibrahim Hydari, District Malir, Karachi. Letter No. AC/I/H/Malir/238/2022 dated: 29-04-2022 for approval of proposed layout plan from planning point of view only.

In this regard, Public Notice Published in the light of Malir Development Authority (MDA) Act 1993-94 & (Revival & Amending) Act-2013 & KBTPR-2002 (Amended up to date) and Malir Development Authority Town Planning Regulations-2015 of Clause No. 15.5-2 that any concerned person(s) / organization(s) having any objection(s) may submit their objection(s) directly to the Director General, MDA, Director (Estate & Enforcement) or Director, Town Planning Department, MDA having office at G-4/B, Block-17, Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Karachi Phone # 021-99239120, 021-99244762 respectively within 07 working days from the date of publication of this Notice.

Any objection(s) received after expiry date shall not be entertained.

LOCATION PLAN:

MALIR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

G-4/B, Block-17, Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Karachi Phone: 021-99239120, 021-99244762

SAV NO TO DRUGS

Always forgive your enemies; nothing annoys them so much.

—Oscar Wilde

If you are having difficulty in getting your copy of REGIONAL TIMES please contact our Karachi newsagent, Syed Rashid Masood Karachi Newsagent Agency at (0300-2714034) For the rest of Sindh please contact Tahir Shah of Sakhi Shah News Agency at (0333-2714034), (0332-2647713), (0302-3028990)

TUESDAY JUNE 04 2024

PML-N, PPP, JUI-F Oppose SIC Plea On Reserved Seats Conundrum

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam Fazi (JUI-F) on Monday opposed Sunni Itehad Council's (SIC) petition against the Peshawar High Court's (PHC) verdict that denied it reserved seats for women and minorities.

The development came as the 13-member full court bench of the Supreme Court took up the plea of SIC, a major ally of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), challenging the PHC's judgment regarding the reserved seats.

The bench, headed by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa, comprised Justices Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Munib Akhtar, Yahya Afridi, Amintuddin Khan, Jamal Khan Mandokhail, Muhammad Ali Mazhar, Ayesha Malik, Athar Minallah, Syed Hasan Azhar Rizvi, Shahid Waheed, Irfan Saadat Khan and Naeem Akhtar Afghan.

On May 6, a three-member SC bench headed by Justice Mansoor Ali Shah, and including Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar and Justice Athar Minallah, suspended the PHC verdict and referred the matter to the judges' committee for the formation of a larger bench since the matter



Advocate Faisal Siddiqui appeared on behalf of the PTI-backed SIC, while the advocate general represented Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Today's hearing. At the outset of the hearing, Advocate Siddiqui said that there are two different petitions before the court. Meanwhile, the advocate general said that a petition for contempt of court has been filed against his government in the PHC for not following the court's order.

The SIC's lawyer then read out the verdict by the three-member bench in the previous hearing. CJP Isa asked the opposing parties in the case and the beneficiaries who were made parties.

Advocate Siddiqui replied that those who have been given additional seats are the beneficiaries, adding that there are a total of 77 disputed seats.

He added that 22 National Assembly and 55 provincial assembly seats are disputed. At this point, the CJP asked which parties got the eight seats from KP. To this, Siddiqui said PML-N received four seats while JUI-F and PPP got two seats each.

He also told the court that Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P)

also bagged an additional seat for women from Sindh. The counsel gave a breakdown of the seats to the CJP. At this point, CJP Isa asked if any of the beneficiary party supports the SIC in court. To this, PPP, PML-N and JUI-F opposed the SIC plea.

Justice Akhtar then said that SIC did not win any seats as per the notification. "There is no logic in ECP's orders. On one hand it says the SIC did not contest the election and on the other it accepts it as a parliamentary party."

Justice Shah then said that the ECP accepted the inclusion of candidates in the SIC, however, three days after the electoral body said that the party will not get reserved seats.

Advocate Siddiqui said that it is not necessary for a party to contest elections for reserved seats as per the law.

"If independent candidates join a party then they are given reserved seats."

The CJP asked: "The SIC did not contest elections. Is this the real position?" To this, Siddiqui replied in the positive, saying this is the entire dispute. The court then adjourned the hearing till 11:30am on Tuesday.—RT/Agency

Justice Shah then said that the ECP accepted the inclusion of candidates in the SIC, however, three days after the electoral body said that the party will not get reserved seats.

Advocate Siddiqui said that it is not necessary for a party to contest elections for reserved seats as per the law.

"If independent candidates join a party then they are given reserved seats."

The CJP asked: "The SIC did not contest elections. Is this the real position?" To this, Siddiqui replied in the positive, saying this is the entire dispute. The court then adjourned the hearing till 11:30am on Tuesday.—RT/Agency

Justice Akhtar then said that SIC did not win any seats as per the notification. "There is no logic in ECP's orders. On one hand it says the SIC did not contest the election and on the other it accepts it as a parliamentary party."

IHC Transfers Imran And Bushra Bibbi's Iddat Case To Another Court Upon Judge's Request

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad High Court (IHC) Monday accepted District and Sessions Judge Shahrukh Arjumand's request seeking transfer of the iddat case related to the marriage of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi.

The case has now been transferred to the court of Additional District and Sessions Judge Muhammad Afzal Majuka who will hear the case from now on.

The IHC decision comes days after the judge wrote a letter to IHC registrar, stating that the court has already dismissed a no-confidence motion filed by Maneka wherein he had expressed no confidence in the judge and requested that the case be transferred to another court.

The same day, Maneka was also beaten by PTI lawyer in the premises of the court as he appeared for the hearing of the case.

During the hearing of appeals filed by Bushra and Khan against conviction in the iddat case, Judge Arjumand went into his chamber without announcing the verdict.

Following the development, PTI lawyers hurled bottles in the courtroom which prompted Maneka's lawyers to escort him out. However, while being escorted out, a PTI lawyer then attacked Maneka within the court premises after which he fell to the ground.

The court, on May 23, had reserved the verdict on the appeals which was to be



Some judge will decide the case eventually," Judge Arjumand said while highlighting that the court has already dismissed a no-confidence motion filed by Maneka wherein he had expressed no confidence in the judge and requested that the case be transferred to another court.

The trial court then handed down a seven-year sentence to the couple in February and imposed a fine of Rs50,000 each on the duo. In its 51-page detailed verdict, the court maintained that the record proves that both of the accused, Khan and Bushra, were in relation before the 2018 "fraudulent" nikah. Commenting on the likelihood of the case's verdict being issued in favour of Khan and Bushra Bibi, PTI Information Secretary Raouf Hasan earlier said: "We know what the decision of iddat case was to be announced on merit. In principle, the court should not be used for political matters, and the court should also not allow itself to be used."

Maneka had, in January, moved the court challenging Khan and Bushra Bibi's marriage and terminating their nikah as fraudulent, stressing that the marriage was solemnised during her iddat (the time a woman goes into isolation after a divorce or her husband's death).

The trial court then handed down a seven-year sentence to the couple in February and imposed a fine of Rs50,000 each on the duo. In its 51-page detailed verdict, the court maintained that the record proves that both of the accused, Khan and Bushra, were in relation before the 2018 "fraudulent" nikah. Commenting on the likelihood of the case's verdict being issued in favour of Khan and Bushra Bibi, PTI Information Secretary Raouf Hasan earlier said: "We know what the decision of iddat case was to be announced on merit. In principle, the court should not be used for political matters, and the court should also not allow itself to be used."

Maneka had, in January, moved the court challenging Khan and Bushra Bibi's marriage and terminating their nikah as fraudulent, stressing that the marriage was solemnised during her iddat (the time a woman goes into isolation after a divorce or her husband's death).

The trial court then handed down a seven-year sentence to the couple in February and imposed a fine of Rs50,000 each on the duo. In its 51-page detailed verdict, the court maintained that the record proves that both of the accused, Khan and Bushra, were in relation before the 2018 "fraudulent" nikah. Commenting on the likelihood of the case's verdict being issued in favour of Khan and Bushra Bibi, PTI Information Secretary Raouf Hasan earlier said: "We know what the decision of iddat case was to be announced on merit. In principle, the court should not be used for political matters, and the court should also not allow itself to be used."

Maneka had, in January, moved the court challenging Khan and Bushra Bibi's marriage and terminating their nikah as fraudulent, stressing that the marriage was solemnised during her iddat (the time a woman goes into isolation after a divorce or her husband's death).

PTI Celebrates IHC Verdict Vindicating Imran And Shah Mahmood In Cipher Case

ISLAMABAD: After the Islamabad High Court (IHC) acquitted the top Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leaders in the cipher case, the former ruling party on Monday celebrated the victory in the legal battle which seemed to pave the way for Imran Khan and Shah Mahmood Qureshi's release.

Commenting on the IHC's verdict, PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan said that a "baseless and unfounded" case came to its conclusion today. He added that the PTI founder spent 10 months in jail due to the cipher case the controversy first emerged on March 27, 2022.

He claimed that the former prime minister would come out of jail very soon and pinned hopes on the judiciary to provide justice to the embattled party.

The politico added that all "politically-motivated cases based on vengeance" against the PTI leadership would also be nullified.

Similarly, the PTI-backed lawmakers in the



Punjab Assembly also chanted slogans after the IHC verdict and the party's vice-chairman were sentenced to 10 years each in prison in the cipher case in January this year.

The case pertains to allegations that the former prime minister had made public contents of a secret cable sent by the country's ambassador in Washington to the government in Islamabad. The latest relief for the PTI founder came days after IHC approved his bail petition in the £190 million National Crime Agency (NCA) settlement reference on May 15.—RT/Agency

challenging the conviction in the cipher case after reserving it earlier today. The PTI founder and party's vice-chairman were sentenced to 10 years each in prison in the cipher case in January this year.

The case pertains to allegations that the former prime minister had made public contents of a secret cable sent by the country's ambassador in Washington to the government in Islamabad. The latest relief for the PTI founder came days after IHC approved his bail petition in the £190 million National Crime Agency (NCA) settlement reference on May 15.—RT/Agency

challenging the conviction in the cipher case after reserving it earlier today. The PTI founder and party's vice-chairman were sentenced to 10 years each in prison in the cipher case in January this year.

PML-N MPA Threatened By Rawalpindi Commissioner



LAHORE: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) member Punjab Assembly Bilal Yamin accused Commissioner Rawalpindi of "threatening" him of dire consequences, media reported.

According to the details, the PML-N MPA presented a privilege motion against Commissioner Rawalpindi for threatening him over a phone call.

Bilal Yamin said that he had asked a question about Rawalpindi's PHA, adding that in response, the commissioner "threatened" him. The PML-N said that he,

along with two other treasury members, received threatening calls. "In my entire parliamentary career, I had never been threatened for asking questions," he added. Speaker Punjab Assembly Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan deemed the behavior unacceptable and ordered an inquiry into the matter.

Speaker Punjab Assembly referred the matter of alleged threats to the privilege committee of the provincial assembly and sought a report by June 7.—RT/Agency

Bilawal Calls Meeting Of PPP Sindh's Parliamentary Party

KARACHI: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) chairman has called a meeting of the provincial parliamentary party for Wednesday at the Chief Minister's House, media reported on Monday.

The PPP chairman, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, called a meeting of the provincial parliamentary party to address internal party affairs and strategize for the Sindh Assembly.

Bilawal Bhutto will address party members, discussing critical internal matters and guiding the party's legislative agenda.

The gathering underscores the PPP's efforts to strengthen its provincial presence and ensure cohesive party operations.

Earlier in the day, the PPP



leadership expressed serious reservations about the government of Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) in Punjab.

Ali Haider Gilani, a leader of the PPP, emphasized that the people of South Punjab should not be treated as subjects. He criticized the current government for dismantling the South Punjab Secretariat, which had been established by the previous administration.

He noted that all the secretaries of the South Punjab Secretariat have been removed by the present government.

PPP leader Ali Haider Gilani asserted that Punjab should not be "run like a vicerey," and declared that this approach is unacceptable.—RT/Agency

Alvi Urges 'Urgent' Dialogue Among All Stakeholders

LAHORE: Former president Dr Arif Alvi on Monday called for urgent dialogue among Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan and all other stakeholders to help the country navigate out of its current political turmoil.

Addressing a gathering of PTI office-bearers and various wings in Lahore, Dr Alvi congratulated PTI workers, supporters, and the people of Pakistan on the acquittal of Imran Khan, along with former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi, in the cypher case.

The meeting was chaired by PTI Central Punjab President Ejaz Manhas, with notable PTI senior leaders such as Azam Khan Swati, Brigadier (ret) Ejaz Shah, Dr Azeemuddin Lakhro, Sardar Azeemullah Advocate, and Zubair Kisan in attendance.

The former president reiterated the importance of dialogue to resolve the political crisis, stressing that all stakeholders must participate as it is the sole path to improvement in Pakistan.

In his address, Dr Alvi criticized the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) government, accusing it of rampant corruption and mismanagement.

He claimed that the PML-N leadership has fostered numerous new 'Gullu Butts' over the past two years, with corruption escalating since



the regime change.

Praising the PTI government's social welfare initiatives, the PTI leader stated that Imran Khan had earnestly worked towards transforming Pakistan into a welfare state modelled after the state of Madinah. "Imran Khan aimed to create a society where everyone is equal and has access to basic necessities," he remarked, accusing the PML-N of plotting to overthrow Imran Khan's administration.

Dr Alvi maintained that although the PTI government was removed through a conspiracy, they will not rest until they regain power to continue serving the people of Pakistan. The meeting also discussed organising workers' conventions in various cities across Punjab.

Speaking to the media, Dr Alvi condemned the baseless cases filed against PTI workers, commending the judiciary for upholding the law. He stressed that justice should be sought for all and urged that the nation must overcome its

current predicament. He called on the army, civilians, and politicians to learn from the Hamoodur Rahman Commission report and step back from inappropriate actions. He insisted that all institutions must extricate themselves from their current deadlocks to progress. He emphasised the need for construction and growth, asserting that progress cannot be achieved without dialogue. He questioned the practicality of communication through newspapers and criticised the notion of demanding apologies from those in jail.

The former president also defended PTI's right to request a judge to recuse themselves and asserted that the prime minister has a duty to disclose matters of national interest.

He questioned whether a section officer should dictate what the prime minister can reveal and warned that the courts' reputation would suffer for all and urged that the nation must overcome its

Six Companies Pre-Qualified For PIA's Privatization Bid

ISLAMABAD: A consortium of six companies has been pre-qualified for privatizing Pakistan International Airlines (PIA), media reported on Monday.

According to the details, the companies lie in the pre-qualified consortium will now be eligible to participate in the bidding process for the PIA.

The decision was made during the Privatisation Commission Board meeting, chaired by Federal Privatization Minister Aleem Khan.

During the meeting, Aleem Khan emphasized the government's commitment to ensuring a transparent and efficient privatisation process for all loss-making state-owned companies.

To maintain transparency and foster confidence, Khan proposed broadcasting the privatization proceedings live on media platforms to assure all stakeholders about the integrity of the process.



Last month, the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) approved the restructuring of Pakistan International Airlines Corporation Limited (PIACL).

According to a press release issued by the Privatisation Commission on Sunday, the legal segregation of PIACL, one of the most complex restructuring exercise undertaken, has attained finality, with the SECP giving its approval of the Scheme of Arrangement on May 3 for the transfer of non-core assets and liabilities of PIACL to PIA Holding

Company Limited. This order marks a significant milestone in the collaborative efforts of the Privatisation Commission, Finance Division, Aviation Ministry, and PIA to restructure the airline. The press release added that the scheme has been made effective from April 30, 2024. The SECP has directed the PSX, Central Depository Company, and National Clearing Company of Pakistan to ensure a smooth listing of PIA Holding Company Limited as per the applicable rules and regulations.—RT/Agency

PM Urges Immediate Abolishment Of Pakistan Public Works Department



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Monday directed for the immediate dissolution of the Pakistan Public Works Department (Pak PWD) due to years-long poor performance and corruption.

The prime minister issued a directive during a high-level meeting held on reducing the government expenditures and the size of its infrastructure, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said in a press release.

During the meeting, the prime minister observed that Pak PWD as a department had failed to achieve its objectives and asked for alternative mechanisms for the development projects which were tasked to the department. The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar, Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal, Minister for Finance and Revenue Muhammad Aurangzeb, Minister for Economic Affairs Ahmad Khan Cheema, PM's Adviser on Political Affairs Rana Sanaulah, Minister of State for Finance and Revenue, Deputy Chairman Planning Commission Jehanzeb Khan and other relevant senior officials.—RT/Agency