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The REGIONAL TIMES Of Sindh

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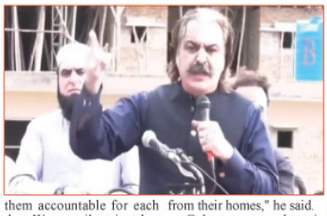
Gandapur Pledges To Enforce Constitution With Stringent Measures



PESHAWAR: Toning up his rhetoric against the Centre, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's firebrand Chief Minister (CM) Ali Amin Gandapur pledged on Saturday to "hang" those who have violated the country's Constitution.

"[I] swear to God, you will not be able to live in Pakistan, let alone Islamabad," he said while addressing a public gathering in Swat.

"The constitution of Pakistan was violated. Those who break the constitution will be hanged," the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)-backed chief minister roared.

He asked those, who lodged "fake cases" against jailed PTI founder Imran Khan, to identify themselves.

Naming Punjab CM Maryam Nawaz, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and President Asif Zardari, the KP CM asked the crowd to name those responsible for the alleged victimisation of the embattled party.

"We will have to hold them accountable for each day. We are silent just because of the PTI founder," he added.

He alleged that Pakistan was dismantled to "give power" to late prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. "Today, plots are being hatched again to break Pakistan."

Addressing the rally, PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan concurred with Gandapur, saying the country couldn't be governed without the Constitution and law.

"What type of law it is that people are picked up from their homes," he said.

Gohar expressed optimism that the jailed PTI founder will soon be among his supporters.

Speaking at the rally, PTI leader Asad Qaiser said that the party founder would be out of jail if his trial in the cases held on merit.

"We did a clean sweep despite the PTI founder being jailed," Qaiser said while referring to the party's performance in the February 8 general elections.The politician then called for providing rights to the people of the former federally administered areas.—RT/Agency

CJP Isa Proposes Providing Bicycles To Judges At Climate Conference

ISLAMABAD: Addressing a climate change conference hosted by the Supreme Court, Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa called for adopting eco-friendly measures and a healthy lifestyle to cope with the prevailing climate-related challenges.

The top court organised the conference titled: "Navigating Climate Governance: Executive Action and Judicial Oversight" on Saturday which was addressed by honourable top jurists, environmental experts, government high-ups and other notable speakers.

"Whenever we consult doctors, they advise us to leave smoking and do walk. A rise in the human body's temperature indicates our illness but today, earth is also facing ailment like a fever as it is absorbing a lot of smoke into it," said the top judge.

CJP Isa pointed out that plastic products were being manufactured across the world but we lacked a solid mechanism to dispose of them.

He also urged returning to a healthy lifestyle which is closer to nature. "Every physician is now advising to eat vegetables instead of meat."

"[Justice] Mansoor Ali Shah talked about hybrid vehicles here but we need to walk. Bicycles can be provided to all judges if they want," suggested CJP Isa.

He added that human beings were facing severe consequences for neglecting the common practices today like conserving electricity and food which led to a shortage of natural resources.

"We failed to know nature and we need to rebuild the values for environmental protection from our homes. The natural environment can be saved from further destruction by avoiding wastage of resources," said CJP Isa.

Pakistan has been facing severe impacts of climate change like devastating floods, flash droughts, scarcity of water resources and excessive heat despite the country's total contribution to the global emissions being less than 1%.

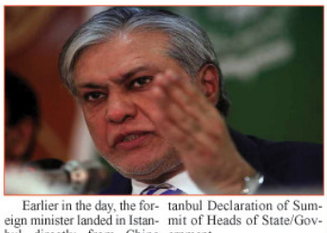
Earlier this month, the National Drought Monitoring Centre (NDMC) of the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) said in an advisory that a flash drought-like situation is predicted in the heatwave-impacted regions across the country.

The NDMC said that flash drought, triggered by heatwaves, may result in rainfall shortage in the country this year.

"Keeping in view the climatology and current forecast for June, drought conditions may exacerbate and affect the agriculture, water resources and live stocks, before the arrival of the summer monsoon," the advisory mentioned.

It added that flash droughts can have a significant impact on agriculture, water resources, and ecosystems, and can also lead to crop failure, wildfires, and water shortages.The NDMC advised all stakeholders to take pre-emptive measures for disaster-prone districts.—RT/Agency

Dar Urges Ceasefire In Gaza, Condemns Israeli Actions Against Palestinians



ISTANBUL: Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Saturday described the situation in Gaza as worrying and said Palestinian civilians in the enclave were facing barbarism.

In his address to an extraordinary meeting of D-8 foreign ministers, he said even aid workers were being targeted in Gaza, adding that the whole state of affairs was a tragedy.

Demanding an immediate ceasefire, Dar, who is also the country's deputy prime minister, noted that over 40,000 had so far been martyred since October – when Israel started using brute force against more than two million civilians living in the narrow Gaza Strip which is located along the Mediterranean Sea.

Bordered by Israel in the east and north, Egypt is located in its south. That's why it is often described as the world largest open air prison.

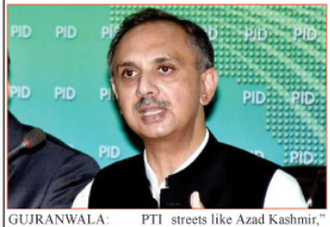
Earlier in the day, the foreign minister landed in Istanbul directly from China where he was accompanying Prime Minister Shehbaz during a five-day visit.

The D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation, also known as Developing-8, is an organisation for development co-operation among Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Turkiye.

Headquartered in Istanbul, the group was formed on July 15, 1997 through the Istanbul Declaration of Summit of Heads of State/Government.

The idea of cooperation among major Muslim developing countries was mooted by the then Turkish Prime Minister, Prof Dr Necmettin Erbakan, during a Seminar on "Cooperation in Development" which was held in Istanbul in October 1996. The group envisioned cooperation among countries stretching from South East Asia to Africa.—RT/Agency

Omar Ayub Criticizes Government's Performance, Hints At Early Elections



GUJRANWALA: PTI leader Omar Ayub has said, we want to hold talks, but to whom and on what basis, if they have authority to talk, media reported on Saturday.

Leader of Opposition in the National Assembly was talking here with the media in the sessions court premises.

He questioned, what they will present in the upcoming budget. He said that the government has failed, "I am seeing elections to take place".

"People will come to streets like Azad Kashmir," Omar Ayub said.

He said that the electricity shortfall is because, fuel is not being purchased. "Per unit electricity was 17 rupees in our tenure, now it has been Rs 85 per unit," Omar Ayub said. "Per unit electricity will reach to 100 rupees," he claimed.

"The gas price has been increased by 400 percent and it will further hike," PTI leader said.

He said the bandits of Pakka area are more toxic that the dacoits of katcha area.—RT/Agency

Controversial Defamation Bill Signed Into Law By Acting Punjab Governor

LAHORE: The controversial Punjab Defamation Bill, 2024, has become law after acting Governor Punjab Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan signed it, media reported citing sources on Saturday.

The bill that garnered immense criticism, particularly from journalists and digital rights activists, received the final nod from Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan, who currently holds the position of acting governor in the absence of Punjab Governor Sardar Salim Khan, as per the sources.

The sources added that Governor Sardar Salim has gone on leave.

The Punjab Assembly, on May 20, passed the Punjab Defamation Bill, 2024 amid a strong and noisy protest by the opposition as well as immense backlash from journalists and rights bodies including those based internationally.

Reacting to the development, Lahore Press Club President Arshad Ansari slammed the Pakistan Peoples Party's (PPP) deceptive attitude, saying that the party deceived journalists.

"The bill was signed by the acting governor by sending the Punjab governor on leave under a plan," said Ansari.

The senior journalist added that the PPP was apparently with the journalists and was conniving with the provincial government from within.

"A meeting of the action committee will be called soon and future strategy will be announced," said the journalist.

Meanwhile, soon after its approval today, the law was challenged in the Lahore High Court.

The petitions challenging the law have been filed by journalist Jaffar Ahmad Yar and a citizen Raja Riaz. In the pleas filed by the two individuals, Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, the governor, and the provincial government have been nominated.

The petition stated that the defamation law is against the constitution and law. It added that a new law cannot be made in the presence of the Defamation Act.

The plea lamented that journalists were not consulted before the passing and approval of the defamation law.

"Defamation law was hastily introduced to control the media," the petition maintained, requesting the court to invalidate the "draconian" law.

The Punjab Assembly, on May 20, passed the Punjab Defamation Bill, 2024 amid a strong and noisy protest by the opposition as well as immense backlash from journalists and rights bodies including those based internationally.—RT/Agency

Bushra Bibi Appeals To IHC To Suspend Sentence In Iddat Case

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan's wife Bushra Bibi Saturday moved the Islamabad High Court (IHC) seeking suspension of her sentence in the iddat case also known as the "un-Islamic nikah" case.

Bushra filed the petition through her lawyer Barrister Salman Safdar which claims that the hearing of her appeal against the conviction remains pending.

Lamenting the former first lady's "prolonged incarceration", the petition underscored her right to the suspension of sentence.

"It is imperative to decide the suspension of sentence of the petitioner [Bushra] as early as possible in the interest of justice," the plea reads.

Khan and Bushra were each sentenced to seven years in prison in February earlier this year after a trial court found their nikah to be fraudulent after Khawar Maneka, Bushra's ex-husband, had moved the court against their nikah, stressing that it was solemnised during her iddat period.

In its 51-page detailed verdict, the court maintained that their marriage reflected dishonesty and also imposed a fine of Rs500,000 each — for which the failure to pay provisions additional four months of incarceration.

The couple had then filed appeals against their conviction in a district and sessions court — a case which has been transferred to additional District and Sessions Judge Muhammad Afzal Majuka after Maneka expressed no confidence in Judge Shahrukh Arjumand.

The development irked the former ruling party which has alleged a "deliberate delay in the provision of justice".

In a statement, the party's core committee stated that Khan and Bushra Bibi deserved to be immediately released from jail. It alleged that the pace of trials against the duo was being "deliberately delayed" via deferring the hearings with delayed dates — an argument also cited in the former first lady's petition in the IHC.

In her plea, Bushra has complained of "miserable conditions", while being incarcerated in Adiala jail, and "political victimisation" aimed at her and Khan.The petition further underscores contradictory evidence, coupled with unsustainable pieces of evidence, stressing that it cannot be a basis for a conviction."The petitioner is previously non-convict and is ready to furnish surety bonds to the entire satisfaction of this honourable court for her release," said the petition. It is to be noted that Bushra had previously moved a district and sessions court in the federal capital, seeking an early hearing of her appeals filed against her conviction in the iddat case.During yesterday's hearing conducted by Judge Majuka the court issued to all parties and adjourned the case till June 11.—RT/Agency

Pakistan Plans To Boost Participation In UN Peacekeeping Missions

NEW YORK: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi called on United Nations Secretary General António Guterres at the UN headquarters in New York and discussed matters related to the engagement of Pakistan police personnel with the UN peacekeeping operations.

The UN Secretary General expressed his best wishes to the people and the government of Pakistan on the occasion.

It was agreed to increase the number of Pakistani personnel in the UN peacekeeping missions.

Due to the personal efforts of the interior minister, the stalled process of deployment of Pakistani police officers in UN peace missions will be revived after many years. As many as 128 Pakistani police officers will soon be able to go to the UN and get deployment.

The UN Secretary General and the interior minister also discussed the establishment of a unit of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Force.

Referring to the sacrifices retendered by Pakistan in the war on terrorism, Mohsin Naqvi offered Pakistan's support for the unit.—RT/Agency

PTI And JUI-F Move Closer To Forming Opposition Alliance

ISLAMABAD: PTI founding chairman Imran Khan and JUI chief Maulana Fazlur Rahman, once political rivals are now coming together for a joint effort against the incumbent PML-N led government.

A committee has been formed to address common issues and have begun to mend their past differences.

Imran assured Maulana to address his concerns, and this message has been conveyed to the JUI chief.

The former premier has proposed the formation of a three-member committee, chaired by senior PTI leader Asad Qaiser, to resolve the issues between the two parties.

This committee will determine the agreed strategy for their collaboration.

It's reported that before finalizing any plans, both parties will agree on other points, including any possible protest movement.

Once settled, Imran and Maulana will sign off on the agreement, signaling their united front against the government.

On April 2, in a bid to give tough time to the government, the PTI formed a "grand opposition alliance", which reportedly, will be led by Pashtoonkhwa Milli Awami Party (PkMAP) chief Mahmood Khan Achakzai.

A meeting of five opposition parties was held in this regard.

PTI Chairman Gohar Khan, Jamaat-e-Islami acting amir Liaquat Baloch, Balochistan National Party-Mengal (BNP-M) President Akhtar Mengal, Opposition Leader in the National Assembly Omar Ayub, Majlis Wahdat-e-Muslimeen (MWM) chief Allama Nasir Abbas, PTI leader Asad Qaiser and Achakzai attended the huddle.

Fazl had already issued a call for opposition against the government.

It was reported that after the JUI-F joins the grand opposition alliance, the PTI along with the party would announce protest demonstrations under the leadership of Achakzai, and will move forward in unison.—RT/Agency

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HYDERABAD: Kazi Ashhad Abbasi, PPP's Opposition Leader in the Cantonment Board Hyderabad, and Advocate Abbas Ali Abbasi, Principal of Mirpurkhas Law College, met with Kashif Shoro, Mayor of Hyderabad.-RT

Regional Director Ombudsman Office Larkana Ali Akbar Jagirani Honors Public Grievances

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: Under the directives of Sindh Ombudsman Muhammad Sohail Rajput, the Regional Director Larkana Ali Akbar Jagirani has taken significant steps through the Larkana Regional Office. Addressing public complaints, open forums and seminars were conducted, and various site visits were undertaken. The Regional Director Ombudsman's office provides administrative justice to citizens swiftly and cost-effectively, empowered to act on complaints without adhering to strict formalities. The number of resolved cases has significantly increased, with Regional Director Ali Akbar Jagirani successfully resolving over 96 cases. He also visited schools in several remote villages to ensure broader community involvement.

Active NGOs in Larkana were encouraged to promote girls' education and help reduce dropout rates through community awareness. The Regional Director, along with committee members including the Director of Health Services Larkana and the Assistant Director of Social Welfare Larkana, visited the Central Jail/District Jail and the Juvenile Male Ward in Larkana. This visit aimed to monitor and implement the monitoring and evaluation framework, ensuring service delivery in all prisons.

Horrific Dust Storm Destroys Shaheed Benazirabad

By Farooq Junejo

SHAHEED BENAZIRABAD: A powerful dust storm wreaked havoc, toppling signboards, solar plates, and roofs of houses and shops like straw in the wind. The storm caused widespread damage, knocking down light poles, trees, and walls, resulting in the deaths of two individuals and injuring many others. Darkness engulfed the area, disrupting telecommunications and leaving mobile towers inoperative due to power outages, which led to a loss of signals and caused significant inconvenience to the public. Even 24 hours after the storm, power had not been restored in many cities. According to details, around 6 to 7 PM yesterday, the dust storm hit various cities and towns in the Shaheed Benazirabad division, including Nawabshah, Sakrand, Qazi Ahmed, Jam Sahib, Daur, Bandhi, Daulatpur, Khipro, Shahpur Chakar, Tando Adam, Shahdadpur, Nauabad, Jan Nawaz Ali, Berani, Sarhari and other areas. The storm caused extensive damage and plunged these areas into darkness. Strong winds uprooted signboards, solar plates, roofs of houses, and shop canopies, sending them flying away like feathers. The storm also caused light poles, trees, and walls to fall, resulting in two fatalities and numerous injuries. The injured were taken to PMC Hospital in Nawabshah for treatment, where they are currently receiving medical care. Chaudhry Mubashir Arain, the Deputy Mayor, took immediate action following the severe dust storm that wreaked havoc in Nawabshah. He swiftly toured the city and visited People's Medical Hospital to check on the injured. On this occasion, Mayor Muhammad Rashid Bhatti and Deputy Mayor Chaudhry Mubashir Arain directed the hospital administration to ensure no negligence in the treatment and care of the injured. The Mayor of the Municipal Corporation issued a declaration imposing an emergency in the city and alerted all relevant departments. In case of any damage, citizens are urged to report immediately for prompt rescue operations. An appeal has been made to the public to fully support the administration and institutions during this difficult time and assist those in need. The severe storm and rain have caused significant damage, resulting in the collapse of six towers of the 132 kV high transmission line. Consequently, power has been cut off for users of 70 feeders connected to seven grid stations.

HYDERABAD: Residents of Jamshoro are holding a protest demonstration at the Hyderabad press club against their area's land grabbers.-RT

Father and Son Demand Justice in Ghanghro

By Usama Ayaz Abbasi

KANDIARO: Residents of Andal Ghanghro village near Kandiaro, including Badal Ghhanghro and his son Wajid Ghanghro, protested at the Kandiaro Press Club against the injustices inflicted by influential community members. They alleged that Sarang Ghanghro, Javed Ghanghro, Shahbaz Ghanghro, Khalid Ghanghro, an elderly man named Khalid, Sadoro Ghanghro, and others attacked them violently. During the assault, both men and women from their families were severely injured. The victims reported that after obtaining a letter from Kandiaro police, they took the injured to the hospital. In their absence, the attackers set their homes on fire. Now, armed individuals are firing shots and preventing them from returning to their homes. They mentioned that their livestock, which was inside their homes, is unaccounted for, and they don't know if the animals are dead or alive. The attackers have become life-threatening enemies, taking control of their homes and livestock. Despite informing the Kandiaro police station, no arrests have been made, and the perpetrators continue to fire openly. The victims have appealed to the IG Sindh, DIG Shaheed Benazirabad and SSP Naushehro Feroze to take notice of their plight, ensure justice, and take action against those who committed the violence.

NWM Calls for Arrest of Shoukat Mallah's Murderers

By Yousif Rind

NAWAB WALI MUHAMMAD: In the jurisdiction of Nawab Wali Muhammad police station, in the village of Laung Khan Soomro, the relatives of Shoukat Mallah, a young man murdered by his uncles, protested in front of the Nawab Wali Muhammad Press Club. The protesters, including his widow Fozia Mallah, Zahra Mallah, Ayaz Mallah, Anwar Mallah, Wazir Mallah, Ghulam Haider Mallah, and others, spoke to journalists about the main culprits involved in the murder. They expressed their frustration that despite three weeks passing, Nawab Wali Muhammad police have not arrested the primary suspects, including retired police officer Shaman Mallah, Zohaib Mallah, Mujeeb Mallah, Younis Mallah, and Kashif Mallah.

The absconding suspects, Shaman Mallah and others, have been issuing deadly threats to force the withdrawal of the case. The protesters demanded that the IG Sindh, DIG Shaheed Benazirabad, and SSP Nawabshah arrest those involved in Shoukat Mallah's murder and deliver justice for his death.

Growers in Sehwan Rally Against Water Shortage

By Qaimuddin Memon

SEHWAN SHARIF: Farmers from various regions of the Sehwan Taluka continued their protest against the closure of the Shahbaz Pumping Scheme. They held a symbolic hunger strike in front of the Sehwan Press Club, chanting slogans against irrigation officials. One farmer fainted due to the heat. Acording to the details, the farmers from five Union Councils (UCs) of Sehwan Taluka, including Bobak, Arazi, Jaffarabad, Channa and UC Dal, are deprived of agricultural water. The protest, led by landowners Daim Talpur, Roshan Ali Burdi, Qurban Ali Talpur, Liaquat Ali Talpur, Gul Hassan Rind and Abdul Khaliq Sarki, criticized the inefficiency of the irrigation department. The affected farmers stated that the Shahbaz Pumping Scheme was restored with 15 motors through efforts by the Chief Minister of Sindh, but only 3 motors were operational for two days before the scheme was shut down due to burnt transformers and motors. Despite collecting and paying PKR 50,000 as demanded by the officials, the money was misappropriated, preventing them from planting crops. Consequently, their agricultural lands remain barren, and their children and livestock suffer from thirst. The farmers, loyal voters from the Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah's constituency, expressed their frustration, stating that while they do not demand jobs from the Sindh Government, they need water for their lands. They warned the Chief Minister to replace the incompetent irrigation officials and repair the burnt transformer to restart the Shahbaz Pumping Scheme. If their demands are not met, they threatened to escalate their protest by blocking the Indus Highway.

HYDERABAD: Members and leaders of HDA Labour Union are holding a protest demonstration against the non-payment of their dues and pensions, at the Hyderabad press club.-RT

TDAP Hyderabad Organizes 2nd Edition Of Handicrafts And Bangles Expo 2024

HYDERABAD: The "2nd Edition of Handicrafts and Bangles Expo 2024," organized by TDAP Hyderabad, was inaugurated on June 8th at Dolmen Banquet in Hyderabad, Sindh. The event was officiated by the Station Commander Hyderabad, Commissioner Hyderabad, Vice Chancellor of SABS University Jamshoro, and the Honorable DG Sindh and Balochistan (TDAP).

The exhibition aims to support and uplift artisan entrepreneurs from Tharparker, Nasarpur, Hala, Bhit Shah, Tando Mohammad Khan, Hyderabad, and Upper Sindh. It provides a platform for these artisans to showcase their products and explore international production opportunities with fifty stalls displaying their items.

TDAP has also extended the opportunity to students from the Department of Textile & Fashion Designing at Shaheed Allah Bux Soomro University of Arts, Design and Heritage Jamshoro, and the Department of Fine Arts at the University of Sindh. These students were invited to participate and apply their knowledge in practical work by collaborating with artisans. They provided training in color selection, dress designing, and insights on the latest trends in foreign markets.

The expo offers students an authentic platform to display their talent and quality work to buyers from major Pakistani brands and connect with foreign missions. This exposure aims to help them understand export supply chain management and potentially start their own medium enterprises.

Rich Tribute Paid to Rasool Bux Palijo on His 6th Death Anniversary

By Khuda Bux Brohi

THATTA: A grand public assembly was held to observe the 6th anniversary of the passing of the great intellectual of Asia, founder of the Awami Tehreek, and revolutionary thinker, Late Rasool Bux Palijo. The event took place at his final resting place near the village of Manger Khan Palijo in Jangshahi. Thousands of participants, including women, men, children, poets, writers, intellectuals, farmers, journalists, lawyers, and admirers, attended the assembly. Rasool Bux Palijo was honored with revolutionary songs and poems. The Sindhi Girls Student Movement paid tribute to him with a parade. The venue resonated with revolutionary anthems. The Awami Tehreek pledged to continue the struggle against any aggression on Sindh. A resolution was passed demanding the abolition of the Special Investment Facilitation Council. The amendment to the IRSA Act was declared an attack on Sindh's existence. There was a call to govern the country according to the 1940 Lahore Resolution. The assembly was attended by Awami Tehreek's central president Lal Jarwar, central general secretary Noor Ahmed Katiar, central vice president Hoorunisa Palijo, Senator Syed Mushahid Hussain, Awami Workers Party federal secretary Bakhshal Thalho, Seraikistan National Alliance chairman Ghulam Farid Koreja, Haqooq-e-Khalq Party president Farooq Tariq, Awami Democratic Party central general secretary Syed Lal Shah, National Party Sindh president Taj Mari, renowned intellectual and writer Jami Chandio, Khuda Dino Shah, Mir Hassan Arisar, artist Sheema Kermani, senior journalist Nazir Leghari, Dastagir Bhatti, Naimat Khoro, Badar Channa, Faheem Noonari, Awami Tehreek central leader Advocate Sajid Hussain Mahesar, Dr. Rasool Bux Khaskheli, Abdul Qadir Ranto, Noor Nabi Palijo, Sindhiani Tehreek central president Umra Samo, Sindhi Hari Tehreek central president Ghulam Mustafa Chandio, Sindhi Labor Movement central president Haji Khan Samoon, Sindhi Girls Students Movement central president Sajida Pariyar, and Sindhi Students Movement central president Naveed Abbas Kalhoro, among other leaders.

The assembly condemned the Sindh Public Service Commission for turning job opportunities into a marketplace for selling positions. It demanded an end to this practice and called for action against those responsible. The killers of journalists Jan Muhammad Mahar and Nasrullah Gadani, teacher Allah Rakhio Nandwani, and Professor Ajmal Sawand, among others, who were murdered by bandits and terrorists, must be apprehended and severely punished.

HYDERABAD: Residents of Tando Fazl are holding a press conference at the Hyderabad press club for the acceptance of their demands.-RT

METRO KARACHI

KARACHI: Senior Sindh Minister for Excise and Taxation, Transport, and Mass Transit, Sharjeel Inam Memon is presiding over a meeting regarding the revenue department.—RT

Italian National Day Celebrated At Avari Towers Karachi

KARACHI: The Consulate of Italy in Karachi celebrated the National Day of Italy at Avari Towers Hotel, attended by notable figures including Governor Sindh Muhammad Kamran Khan Tessori, Chief Minister Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah, and other prominent dignitaries.

The venue showcased Italian excellence with displays from Natuzzi Italia, Nova Color Pakistan, S. Abdullah Homes, and Versace by Eleganz Luxury, curated by M/S Axis Design.

Consul General Danilo Giurdanella expressed gratitude to the guests and highlighted the strong economic, cultural, and social ties between Italy and Pakistan. He noted Italy's role as the second-largest export market for Pakistan in the EU and its significant Pakistani community. He also emphasized Italy's efforts to promote interfaith harmony and inter-religious dialogue.

Giurdanella congratulated Pakistan on its election to the UN Security Council and mentioned the growing educational cooperation, with around 700 students from Sindh and Balochistan studying in Italy. Partnerships with universities in Sindh, including the University of Karachi and NED University, are fostering increased student exchanges.

The event also featured the Bella Italia - Italian Food Festival from June 4-9, celebrating Italian culinary heritage. Chef Vincenzo de Liso, from Naples, hosted the festival and conducted a masterclass showcasing traditional Italian recipes and culinary creativity.—RT

Sarim Burney Remanded To Judicial Custody In Human Trafficking Case

KARACHI: A local court Saturday sent social worker Sarim Burney to jail on judicial remand, rejecting the Federal Investigation Agency's (FIA) request seeking an extension in his physical remand.

Judicial Magistrate (East) Khaliq ul Zaman also fixed Burney's bail petition for hearing on June 10 (Monday).

Burney was produced today before the court after completion of two-day physical remand.

In conversation with journalists at the court, the social worker said he was not at mistake with regards to the case.

"I do not believe there is any mistake in the papers. I am running the system and suffering as a punishment," Burney said.

The social worker added that the FIA itself does not know what all is being said about the matter. "The FIA is not giving its position."

Burney - who runs the Sarim Burney Welfare Trust International, a non-profitable entity - was taken into custody on June 5 after he landed at the Jinnah International Airport in Karachi following his US visit.

The social worker's arrest and subsequent remand by the FIA came in the wake of charges on him which include human trafficking, smuggling and illegally sending children to the US after American authorities filed a complaint against him.

The social worker is accused of smuggling a newborn girl named Haya to the US, FIA said. The officials added that Burney bought the baby from her parents for Rs1 million and sent her to the US.

"More than one person assisted Sarim Burney in the purchase of the girl,' they added. The FIA officials also recorded the statement of the baby's parents who, it added, are extremely poor.—RT/Agency

Chief Customs Collector Conducts Inspection Of Karachi Airport Operations

KARACHI: Chief Collector Customs Irfan-ur-Rehman paid a visit to Jinnah International Airport to assess and review various operations and issues at the airport.

During the visit, the Deputy Collector Airport, Hammad Ahmed, provided a detailed briefing on several matters concerning the airport's customs operations.

Irfan-ur-Rehman inspected the departure joint search counter and interacted with customs officers and officials stationed at both departure and arrival sections.

During his visit, the Chief Collector also gathered information about the baggage scanning machines and evaluated their performance.

Additionally, Irfan-ur-Rehman inspected the currency declaration counter, finding the process satisfactory.

He engaged with passengers present at the airport, inquiring about any issues they might be facing, and gathered feedback. Overall, Irfan-ur-Rehman expressed satisfaction with the performance of the Airport Customs Service.—RT/Agency

SITE Association Hosts Reception Honoring Younus Dagha

KARACHI: The SITE Association of Industry hosted a reception in honor of former Caretaker Minister for Revenue, Industries & Commerce, Sindh, Muhammad Younus Dagha, recognizing his dedicated service to industrialization in the province.

Key attendees included Patron-in-Chief Zubair Motiwala, Chief Coordinator Saleem Parekh, Former President Jawed Bilwani, President Muhammad Kamran Arbi, SVP Muhammad Hanif Tawakkal, VP Muhammad Farhan Ashrafi, and other executive committee members.

During his address, Younus Dagha highlighted the caretaker government's efforts to improve departmental performance and establish benchmarks. He emphasized the importance of continuing the e-services system and addressing Karachi's exclusion from policy-making despite its significant revenue contribution. Dagha also discussed the high freight charges and identified political uncertainty and high energy costs as major challenges, suggesting that resolving these issues could lead to national progress.

SAI President Muhammad Kamran Arbi commended Dagha's achievements, particularly his initiatives on e-services and the digitalization of industrial land records. Patron-in-Chief Zubair Motiwala praised Dagha's work and urged the government to leverage his expertise in an advisory capacity, calling him an asset to the nation.

Chief Coordinator Saleem Parekh and Former President Jawed Bilwani echoed these sentiments, stressing the importance of recognizing effective leadership and utilizing Dagha's insights to improve industrial performance and policy.—RT

IG Sindh Raises Concern Over Higher Number Of Security Guards Than Police Personnel In Karachi

KARACHI: The Inspector General (IG) of Sindh in a statement revealed that the number of security guards recruited in private companies is more than the Police personnels' appointed for Karachi, media reported.

IG Sindh, Ghulam Nabi Memon, disclosed that the number of security guards in Karachi is more than the police appointed for the metropolis,

"The number of police personnel is 44,436 while the number of security guards is more than 50,000 in Karachi," IG Sindh revealed.

Following the loss of lives of citizens due to the negligence of security guards in Karachi, IG Sindh stressed that the uncertified security companies should be shut down by the authorities.

"The number of registered security companies are closer to 200, which came under purview of the Home Department," Memon said.

IG Sindh stated that the police can only take action if the law is violated, adding that earlier, anyone with unclear background can join a security company, but now these companies have access to police software, which has helped arrest many criminals.

He mentioned a recent meeting with a delegation of security agencies, where they were advised to develop a plan of action for the recruitment of private security guards.

This plan should include security clearance, training, and the implementation of SOPs, with the Sindh Police contributing to the training of security guards.

Ghulam Nabi Memon emphasized that private security companies must enforce a ban on the display of security weapons, as incidents often occur due to lack of training and fitness.

"Untrained individuals should not be armed," IG Sindh asserted.

He added that the Sindh Home Department will be urged to take action against such companies.—RT/Agency

MPA Jameel Ahmed Soomro Calls On Sindh CM

By Saleem Soomro

KARACHI: In a significant move to address local issues, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah met with MPA Jameel Ahmed Soomro from Larkana at the Chief Minister's House on Friday. The meeting, confirmed by the spokesperson of the Sindh Chief Minister, focused on the pressing concerns affecting Soomro's constituency.

MPA Jameel Ahmed Soomro presented a detailed account of the challenges faced by the residents of Larkana. These included infrastructural deficiencies, healthcare shortages, and educational needs. Soomro emphasized the urgency of resolving these issues to improve the quality of life for his constituents.

Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah listened attentively to Soomro's concerns and assured him of prompt action. He expressed his commitment to ensuring that the necessary resources and measures would be allocated to address the problems highlighted. Shah reiterated the government's dedication to the development and well-being of all regions within Sindh, with particular attention to underserved areas.

This meeting underscores the ongoing efforts by the Sindh government to engage with local representatives and directly address the issues faced by various constituencies. It also highlights the proactive approach of MPA Jameel Ahmed Soomro in advocating for his community's needs. Further updates on the measures taken will be communicated as they develop.

Town Chairman Haji Nawaz Ali Brohi Vows To Enhance Support For Manghopir Residents

By Asif Qureshi

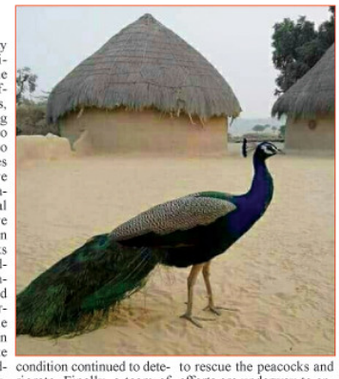
KARACHI: Chairman of the Manghopir Town Municipal Corporation, Haji Nawaz Ali Brohi, stated that their aim has always been to ensure that every project is completed in the best possible manner. Therefore, they continuously monitor each scheme from inception to completion. Council members identify issues in their respective union councils (UCs), after which the relevant staff visits the site and compiles a report, leading to the commencement of work. This meticulous approach, although rare, results in high-quality work wherever it is implemented. Brohi expressed hope that the upcoming budget would bring happiness to the local populace. He mentioned that he is in constant contact with the Sindh government, which has previously provided exemplary schemes within their jurisdiction. Brohi is hopeful that the resources will be augmented to meet their needs, an endeavor they are vigorously pursuing. With the continued support of the local community, council members, and his team, he is optimistic about transforming their town into a model town in Pakistan. These remarks were made during the inauguration of a sewerage line scheme in Hassan Goth, UC 12. Municipal Commissioner Agha Khaliq, AC Hassan Shaikh, Vice Chairman Rana Arif, Abdul Sattar Brohi, Mian Mehmood Hussain, Saqib Mengal, Qari Muhammad Ashraf, Nasser Mengal, Imran Shah, Ataullah Brohi, Shera Brohi, Arshad Mayo, Aslam Brohi, Asad Siddiqui, and others were also present at the event.

REGIONAL TIMES

THE HEARTLAND

10 Peacocks Die in Mysterious Tharparkar Outbreak

By Ashraf Kunbhar



MITHI: The natural beauty of the Thar desert captivated the onlookers as the peacocks have been affected by a serious illness, appeared to be nearing death. With no access to veterinary care, efforts to save the peacocks' lives were hindered which have resulted in death of ten peacocks in a week. Local community members have been actively engaged in trying to save the peacocks by providing essential medical treatment. The peacocks' illness, exacerbated by the scorching heat during the daytime and the cold nights, has left it in critical condition. Despite undergoing intensive medical treatment aimed at saving their life, the peacocks' condition continued to deteriorate. Finally, a team of experts has been assigned to rescue the peacocks and efforts are underway to ensure their survival.

Ghouri Community Protests Against Negligent Doctors in Jhudo

By Shahid Majeed

JHUDO: Members of the Ghouri community staged a protest against the doctors of the PPHI-managed hospital in Jhudo. Protesters, including Muhammad Shafi, Huzaifa, Talha, and others, alleged that they had taken a pregnant woman to the hospital, but unfortunately, the child died before birth due to the doctors' negligence. They claimed that the doctors administered incorrect medication to the pregnant woman. The protest leaders urged higher authorities to intervene in the matter, warning that they would escalate their protest if no action was taken.

Pithoro Woman Begs for Justice

By M Ismail Khilji

PITHORO: An elderly woman named Rukhsana Rajput, resident of Dhoronaro, was subjected to a brutal attack, with perpetrators tearing her clothes, inflicting severe injuries. Despite our pleas for justice, the police have not taken any action, said that injured woman. Te protesting woman demanded of the concerned authorities to take notice of the matter and ensure the arrest of the accused men in attacking her.

Dahri Community Clash Claims Lives of Two

By Samad Ayaz

NAWABSHAH: In a dispute over land boundaries in the village of Muhammad Yaqoob Dahri, a clash erupted between two groups of the Dahri community. As a result of the altercation, one person, identified as Ilyas and Sahib Dahri, sustained injuries. They were rushed to PMU Hospital in Nawabshah for treatment. The family members of the injured men while talking to the media demanded of the concerned authorities to provide justice to them.

REGIONAL DIRECTORATE OF FOOD MIRPURKHAS REGION

CANCELLATION OF TENDER NOTICE

The Tender for Transportation of Wheat for Year 2024-25 invited vide NIT No. A/C-Tender (Gen:/MPS/2024/315 Dated: 26-04-2024 and PPMS Serial No. T00893-23-0002 was published in Daily Dawn, dated 01.05.2024 & Daily Express on 02-05-2024 to be opened on 06-06-2024 is hereby cancelled / withdrawn due to non participation of any Firm / Bidder.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOOD MIRPURKHAS REGION

INF / KRY No: 1878/24

The REGIONAL TIMES
Uniting People Every Day

EDITORIAL

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

Sunday, June 09, 2024

A license to abuse

The recent decision by the Punjab government to implement the Defamation Bill 2024 is not just disappointing but deeply concerning. This bill, signed into law by Acting Governor Malik Ahmad Khan, represents a severe blow to freedom of expression and press freedom in the province. Its passage, despite objections from journalists, media bodies, and human rights organizations, demonstrates a disregard for democratic principles and the voices of those it purportedly serves.

The bill's broad scope and potential for abuse are alarming. By criminalizing the spread of 'fake news' across various media platforms, including social media, it provides authorities with excessive power to silence dissent and stifle legitimate criticism. The threat of hefty fines and expedited judicial proceedings further compounds the risk of arbitrary enforcement and intimidation of journalists and citizens alike.

Governor Saleem Haider Khan's initial reluctance to assent to the bill highlights the lack of consensus and proper deliberation surrounding its passage. All stakeholders, particularly the journalist community, deserved to be consulted and heard before such far-reaching legislation was enacted. Instead, their concerns were disregarded, and the bill was pushed through the assembly amid protests and boycotts.

The reaction from the journalist community and human rights organizations underscores the gravity of the situation. Rejecting the bill as undemocratic, they rightly point out its potential to curtail freedom of expression and undermine constitutional rights. The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, in particular, highlights the troubling implications of establishing parallel judicial structures, which threaten fundamental rights and the integrity of the judiciary.

In light of these developments, it is imperative for the Punjab government to reconsider its stance and engage in meaningful dialogue with all stakeholders. The preservation of democracy and the protection of fundamental freedoms require nothing less. Failure to do so risks further erosion of trust in the government and the erosion of democratic values in Punjab.

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THE HEARTLAND

Fayaz Hussain Abbasi Chairs Meeting of Divisional Officials

By Absar Alvi

SUKKUR: Under the chairmanship of Commissioner Sukkur Fayaz Hussain Abbasi, an important meeting was held in the conference hall of the Commissioner Office regarding the directives from the Chief Secretary of Sindh. The meeting focused on the campaign against electricity theft, the crackdown on illegal LPG gas sellers, and the progress of the Ghotki-Kandhkot bridge project. Attendees included DIG Sukkur, SSPs of Sukkur and Khairpur, DCs of Sukkur, Khairpur, and Ghotki, CEO SEPCO Sukkur, SE Sukkur, Khairpur and Ghotki and RT Transport Department officials. During the meeting, Divisional Enforcement Committee Chairman for Anti-Theft Electricity Campaign Sukkur, Fayaz Hussain Abbasi, was briefed on electricity theft, recovery, and load shedding by the CEO SEPCO Sukkur. The meeting expressed sorrow over the loss of lives in the LPG gas incident in Hyderabad. Reports were presented by the DCs of Sukkur, Khairpur and Ghotki regarding actions against illegal LPG gas sellers and unauthorized cylinders in vehicles and motorbikes. DC Ghotki presented a report on the Ghotki-Kandhkot bridge project, stating that the Revenue Department is swiftly completing land acquisition, road work has been ongoing for one and a half months on the Ghotki side, and 70% of the road work on the Kashmore side is complete. Commissioner Sukkur emphasized the implementation of the Chief Secretary's directives to completely control electricity theft and accelerate recovery efforts to end load shedding. Regarding the LPG issue, Commissioner Sukkur instructed DCs and police to coordinate with OGRA officials to ensure full compliance with LPG laws and SOPs to prevent future incidents.

Tando Bago Police Catch Three Gutka Suppliers

By Sher Ali Khawaja

TANDO BAGO: In a swift action, Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Aijaz Bihan conducted a raid in the vicinity of Tando Bago, leading to the arrest of several individuals involved in illegal activities. The raid took place on Tando Bago-Tando Allahyar Road, where a suspicious-looking vehicle was intercepted. Upon inspection, the vehicle was found to be carrying Gutka with the registration number LC-6556. The case has been registered against the arrested individuals, including Mir Muhammad Mallah, Akhtiar Mallah and Shad Machhi. The accused are charged with involvement in smuggling activities. The DSP also mentioned that during the operation, there was an exchange of fire between the police and the suspects. DSP Tando Bago addressed the journalists, stating that efforts are underway to apprehend other suspects involved in smuggling. He emphasized that no political pressure will deter them from taking legal action against the culprits, and they are committed to bringing them to justice. Furthermore, he mentioned that arrest warrants have been issued for various individuals, who are currently absconding and will be apprehended soon.

QAT Shikarpur Observes 6th Death Anniversary of Rasool Bux Palijo

By Adeel Alvi

SHIKARPUR: Qaumi Awami Tehreek Shikarpur chapter observed the 6th death anniversary of the esteemed thinker and leader of the Sindhi community, Rasool Bux Palijo. The District President of the Qaumi Awami Tehreek, Advocate Agha Fahad Khan, central leader Zahid Ghalu, District General Secretary Imdad Soomro, and resistance writer Hameer Chandio in attendance. In his address, Rasool Bux Palijo was hailed not only as a great thinker, scholar, legal expert, politician, writer, intellectual, and poet of Sindh and Pakistan but also as a beacon of light in the darkness of this era. His efforts have left an indelible mark on the socio-political landscape of the country.

Mr. Palijo raised his voice for women's rights and provided leadership opportunities for women in politics. His practical efforts have enlightened the people of Sindh and contributed significantly to political, intellectual, social, literary, poetic, biographical, scientific, historical, and critical literature. He has authored numerous books covering various subjects, including Sindhi identity, the struggle for independence, political literature, and the history of colonialism, which have been widely acclaimed. On the occasion, Nasim Bukhari, Dr. Wazir Ghanio, Maqsood Mirani, Nadir Baloch, Shahnawaz Abro, Khan Mohammad, Amer Bablani, Riaz Mangi, Abdullah Jani Soomro, Dr. Muhammad Ismail Shaikh, Wasim Mangi, Shafiq Mangi, and Ajaz Ali Mangi, among others, from various regions.

Sindh Laghari Organization Demands Recovery of Abducted PC Ali Raza Laghari and Priya Kumari

By Abdul Sattar

TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: Members of the Sindh Laghari Organization held a protest demonstration in front of the press club against the kidnapping of police constable Ali Raza Laghari. The demonstrators raised slogans and demanded the immediate release of the abducted police officer as well as Priya Kumari. The protest, joined by Sindh Laghari Organization, political and social leaders, and members of the legal community, was in response to the kidnapping of young police officer Ali Raza Laghari by bandits in Kashmore. Leaders GM Laghari, Aajiz Laghari, Dur Muhammad Laghari, Najmuddin Laghari, and others addressed the gathering, condemning the abduction. They stated that Ali Raza Laghari from Sanghar was sent on duty as part of the ongoing operation against bandits, during which he was kidnapped and is currently being humiliated by his captors. The leaders criticized the police department for its silence on the matter, deeming it a condemnable act.

The family of the kidnapped officer is deeply distressed. The protesters demanded that higher authorities take immediate action to secure the release of the abducted police officer Ali Raza Laghari and Priya Kumari.

CIA Police Rescue Abducted Traders During Shootout

By Khuda Bux Brohi

THATTA: In a high-stakes operation, CIA Thatta's Inspector Mumtaz Ali Brohi and his team successfully rescued Ghulam Abbas Nandwani, a well-known businessman, and his driver, Jabbar Keerio, who were kidnapped from Karachi. The rescue mission took place near Jhirk and followed a confrontation with the kidnappers, resulting in the arrest of four suspects while two others managed to escape.

The kidnapping occurred in Karachi's Sachal area, where Nandwani and Keerio were forcibly taken and transported towards Keenjhar. Acting on intelligence, the Thatta police, led by SSP Dr. Imran Khan, quickly mobilized a special task force in collaboration with the Karachi police. This joint effort traced the captives to a secluded hideout near Jhirk. During the dramatic raid, a firefight broke out between the police and the kidnappers. Despite the danger, the police successfully rescued Nandwani and Keerio unharmed. The raid resulted in the capture of four suspects including Manzoor Machhi and Nazir Solangi from Kashmore, and local residents Usman and Juman Gandro. However, the main orchestrators of the kidnapping, Ghafoor Palijo and Najeeb Sanjrani, evaded capture and are currently on the run. In a surprising twist, CIA In-charge Mumtaz Brohi revealed that driver Jabbar Keerio was complicit in the abduction plot. Further investigations are underway to apprehend the escaped kidnappers and uncover more details of the crime. The swift and decisive actions of the Thatta Police have been widely praised by the local community, showcasing their commitment to maintaining law and order.

1st Mango and Handicrafts Expo Begins in Bhitshah

By Sajjad Ali Abbasi

MATIARI: The historic Mango and Handicrafts Expo was inaugurated in Bhitshah, District Matiari, marking a significant occasion. The event took place at HT Soeley Hall, with Sindh Rehabilitation Minister Makhdoom Mehboob Zaman as the chief guest. The two-day expo aims to showcase the district's rich cultural heritage and agricultural produce. Accompanied by Chairman District Council Makhdoom Ahmed Zaman, Deputy Commissioner Matiari Muhammad Yousif Shaikh, and other officials, Minister Makhdoom Mehboob Zaman inspected stalls featuring mangoes, handicrafts, science models, and livestock. The event commenced with the recitation of the Holy Quran and the national anthem, followed by a captivating performance by Faqir Anwar and his colleagues, paying tribute to Hazrat Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai (RA) through "Vaee." Expressing his delight at the successful launch of the expo, Minister Makhdoom Mehboob Zaman announced that it will become an annual event to promote the region's masterpieces, mangoes, and agricultural crops. He also revealed plans to invite ambassadors of different countries to next year's expo, providing a platform for local artisans and farmers to gain global recognition. The expo features 40 varieties of indigenous mangoes, including Sindhari, Langro, Anwar Ratul, and Chonsa, courtesy of the Department of Agriculture. The Social Welfare Department supported the setup of 12 handicraft stalls, showcasing ajrak, jandi, kashi, and other local crafts. A small South African horse "Pony" stole the show in the livestock exhibition, captivating children and adults alike. Goats of famous breeds including Tapuri, Kamori, Bagee Toori, and others were visible in the exhibition. This milestone event underscores the district administration's commitment to promoting Matiari's rich cultural heritage and agricultural produce.

Youth Dead and Wounded in Hit and Run

By Afaque Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: A collision between a Land Cruiser and a motorcycle resulted in the tragic death of a young man, with another severely injured. According to details, the accident occurred in thick fog on the Tando Adam Road at the Haji Alo Bus Stop. The incident happened due to the high speed of the Land Cruiser, resulting in the death of 20-year-old Zeeshan on the spot, while 16-year-old Muhammad Kamran sustained severe injuries. Kamran was rushed to the hospital in critical condition. Police sources reported that the driver of the Land Cruiser fled the scene after the collision. After necessary procedures, the body was handed over to the heirs. Upon reaching the deceased's house, there was a stir, and the atmosphere in the area became mournful.

Joint Action Committee Protests for Arrest of Shaheed Jan Muhammad Mahar's Killers

By Samad Ayaz

NAWABSHAH: The Joint Action Committee's protest against the non-arrest of the killers of journalist Jan Muhammad Mahar and their facilitators intensified in Nawabshah, with journalists from the Nawabshah Press Club leading the demonstration.

Journalists Akram Chandio, Zulfiqar Khaskheli, Ismail Domki, Lala Taj Rind, Sarwar Khaskheli, and others participated in the protest, despite enduring harsh conditions for more than 10 months. Despite this, the main culprit remains at large, which we strongly condemned in harsh words.

The Chief Justice of Pakistan, the Chief Justice of the Sindh High Court, and the Sindh Government were urged to immediately arrest the killers of the slain journalist Jan Muhammad Mahar and their facilitators, and to swiftly administer exemplary punishment. In any case, the protest series continues.

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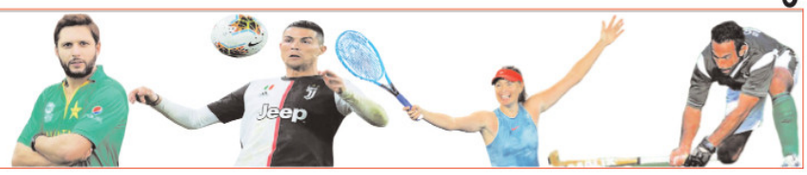
SPORTS



Kylian Mbappe to occupy ex-Real Madrid legend's room at training base

Kylian Mbappe recently joined the legendary Real Madrid and is slowly getting to experience all the glory of his favourite club.

Since the 25-year-old French footballer joined the La Liga club, fans have been eager to know the details of his transfer, including his new jersey number and salary.

Earlier, it was reported that Mbappe will be temporarily sporting the number nine jersey which was previously worn by former Real Madrid legend Karim Benzema.

According to the latest updates, Bein Sports reported about a video circulating on social media which has revealed that Mbappe has finally been assigned a room at the club's training base in Valdebebas in Madrid and it also belonged to a former Real Madrid legend.

Based on the video circulating on social media, Mbappe has been assigned the room that was previously occupied legendary german footballer Toni Kroos.

The room has been emptied quite recently as Kroos, 34, exited the club last week, after announcing his retirement from football.

Mbappe brought his legendary career at Paris Saint-Germain to a remarkable end as he raised the French Cup trophy weeks ago with his former teammates before announcing his move to the former club of his favourite player, Cristiano Ronaldo.

He has expressed his excitement on joining the club on social media and has even received words of support by his idol, Ronaldo himself.

Mbappe is currently focused on joining his national team for this year's European Chmpionship later this month in Germany.—Agency

Afghanistan stun New Zealand in one-sided T20 World Cup match

GUYANA: In a major upset, Afghanistan thumped New Zealand on Saturday in the ongoing T20 World Cup 2024 at the Providence Stadium in Georgetown, Guyana.

Chasing the target of 160 runs, New Zealand fell far short of it and were bowled out for 75 in 15.2 overs. Only two New Zealand batters could reach double figures. Glenn Phillips could score 18 off 18 balls and Matt Henry hit 12 off 17 deliveries.

Pacer Fazalhaq Farooqi set the tone for the New Zealand innings when he bowled out Finn Allen on the first ball of the match. He took four wickets. Captain Rashid Khan was another destroyer with the ball for Afghanistan as he also claimed four wickets.

Earlier, New Zealand invited Afghanistan to bat first. Rahmanullah Gurbaz, playing a brilliant innings, lifted his team's total to 159 at the loss of six wickets

Rahmanullah Gurbaz was the highlight of the game as he scored 80 off 56 balls with the help of five boundaries and as many maximums. Gurbaz was followed by Ibrahim Zadran who hit two maximums and three fours to score 44 runs off 41 balls.

Meantime, Azmatullah Omarzai played 13 balls to score 22 runs. Captain Rashid Khan returned to the pavilion after hitting 6 runs.

Trent Boult and Matt Henry claimed two wickets each.

This was the 14th game in the ongoing premier cricket tournament. New Zealand hit the ground for the first time in the event. Meanwhile, Afghanistan beat Uganda in their tournament opener.

"One of the greatest performances from us in T20I cricket against a big team. It is a great team effort. The way Ibrahim and Gurbaz started again…the wicket was not easy. They did not throw away their wickets in overs 7-10. Great win for Afghanistan and it is a privilege to be leading this side and winning against NZ," Rashid said after the match.

"Anything around 160-170, with the bowling unit we have, we will give tough competition to the opposition, as long as we hit the right areas consistently. The spinners and especially the seamers, the way Nabi bowled the second over - that gave us a sign the ball was turning. The skill we have as a bowling unit, if we use that, it will be hard for the opposition to score 160," he added.—Agency

T20 World Cup 2024: South Africa beat Netherlands by four wickets

NEW YORK: South Africa defeated Netherlands by four wickets in the 16th match of the T20 World Cup 2024 played at Nassau County International Cricket Stadium, New York on Saturday.

David Miller once again stood for the Proteas and cruised them to victory as they were once near to losing to the Netherlands for the third time in ICC events.

Chasing the 104-run target, South Africa had a terrible start as their top order was shaken by the Dutch bowlers and they were 12-4 in just 2.3 overs.

Reeza Hendricks (3 off 10), Quinton de Kock (0), Aiden Markram (0) and Heinrich Klaasen (4 off 7) walked back to the pavilion which put the Proteas in an uncomfortable position.

However, Tristan Stubbs and Miller combined for 65 runs which brought the Proteas back in the game.

Stubbs was removed by Bas de Leede in the 17th over and soon, Marco Jansen too departed for the pavilion. The wickets kept falling but Miller continued the charge against the Dutch and eventually led his side to victory with an innings of 59 not out.

Earlier in the first innings, the Proteas bowlers dominated the match and put the Dutch batters on the back foot from the very first over as their opener Michael Levitt was removed by Marco Jensen on the third ball of the innings.

South African bowlers continued with their attack against the Dutch and kept on sending their batters back to the pavilion without scoring big runs.

The Netherlands were soon 48-6 in 11.5 overs and it looked like another early collapse in New York but Sybrand Engelbrecht and Logan van Beek formed a crucial 54-run partnership that helped them cross the 100-run mark.

The partnership was broken by the Proteas' Ottniel Baartman in the last over as the Netherlands concluded their innings at 103-9 in 20 overs.

Jensen and Anrich Nortje picked two wickets each while Baartman managed to remove four Dutch batters.

South Africa had won the toss and opted to bowl first in New York.—Agency

Zverev sets up French Open final with Alcaraz

PARIS: Alexander Zverev exacted revenge on Casper Ruud at the French Open on Friday to reach his second Grand Slam final and first since 2020, with Carlos Alcaraz standing between him and the title.

Fourth seed Zverev, who had lost in the semi-finals at Roland Garros in each of the past three years, fought back to beat Ruud 2-6, 6-2, 6-4, 6-2 in a repeat of their last-four clash 12 months ago.

Zverev won just seven games when the pair met in the 2023 semis and a similar story was on the cards after Ruud cruised through the opening set.

But the German raised his game, reaching his first French Open final and keeping his hopes of a maiden Grand Slam title alive.

Zverev holds a career 5-4 winning record against Alcaraz, including a victory in their only previous Roland Garros meeting in the 2022 quarter-finals. Alcaraz earlier battled past incoming world number one Jannik Sinner in five sets.

"If you're in the final of Roland Garros, you deserve to be there. That goes for him, as well," said Zverev. "He played a fantastic match today. Played a fantastic tournament in general, I think. I'm expecting a very difficult match."

There will be two first-time finalists for the first year since Rafael Nadal defeated Mariano Puerta for the first of his 14 titles in 2005. The 27-year-old Zverev's only previous major final appearance saw him blow a two-set lead to lose to Dominic Thiem at the 2020 US Open.

"I was not ready then to win my first Grand Slam final," said Zverev, the first German man to make the final since Michael Stich in 1996. "I'm definitely not a kid any more, I'm a little older. If not now, then when?"

A German court dropped a case against Zverev over allegations he assaulted an ex-girlfriend earlier on Friday, after a settlement was agreed.

Ruud was targeting a fourth Grand Slam final, but the two-time Roland Garros runner-up was well below his best and struggling with illness.

"I wasn't able to play with the kind of tennis I like to play with intensity because I was kind of limited with my stomach," said Ruud. "I don't want to make an excuse or excuses, but it's frustrating and disappointing."—Agency

T20 World Cup 2024: Bangladesh beat Sri Lanka by 2 wickets after thrilling contest

DALLAS: Bangladesh on Saturday defeated Sri Lanka by two wickets in the 15th match of the ongoing T20 World Cup 2024 played at Grand Prairie Stadium, Dallas.

Chasing a target of 125 runs, Bangladesh reached home in the 19th over for the loss of eight wickets.

At one stage it seemed that Bangladesh will chase down the target comfortably but Sri Lanka made a comeback by reducing the batting side from 91-3 to 113-8.

However, Mahmudullah held his nerves to take Bangladesh over the line by scoring 16 runs in 13 balls.

Towhid Hridoy top-scored with 40 runs in 20 balls with the help of four maximums and a four. Litton Das also contributed 36 runs.

Nuwan Thushara was the pick of the bowlers for Sri Lanka, claiming figures of 4-18 in four overs.

After winning the toss and deciding to bowl first, Bangladesh restricted Sri Lanka to 124 for the loss of 9 wickets.

The Islanders appeared on course for a strong total at 100-3 in 14 overs. However, successive breakthroughs by Bangladesh's bowlers limited them to a modest score.

Leg-spinner Rishad Hossain and pacer Mustafizur Rahman stood out, each taking three wickets.

For Sri Lanka, opener Pathum Nissanka was the top scorer with 47 runs off 28 balls, featuring seven fours and a six.—Agency

Babar Azam has not improved as captain in four years: Shoaib Malik

LAHORE: Former Pakistan captain Shoaib Malik has criticized the national team's white-ball captain Babar Azam for his performance as captain after a shocking loss against the United States (USA) in the ongoing ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024.

Pakistan endured a five-run defeat against the co-hosts in the Super Over as they failed to chase down the 19-run target.

Senior pacer Mohammad Amir bowled the Super Over for Pakistan and conceded 18 runs. In response, the Green Shirts only managed 13/1.

After the match, Malik, who also played under Azam, stated that the right-handed batter has not evolved as a captain and makes predecided decisions on the field rather than improvising according to the situation.

"This captaincy talk, I would like to go into its depth. You [Babar Azam] have set a blockage in your mind, that is the problem. If you have decided that Shadab [Khan] has to bat at a certain number, and Azam [Khan] and Iftikhar [Ahmed] have to bat in the last overs, and you do that exactly, these are the blockages," said Malik while talking on a local channel.

"The most important thing which needs to be fixed is Babar's captaincy from four years ago and now, I cannot see any difference.

If someone is improving then you give them time because the results will be seen in the long run but in Babar's case, as a leader, he is still where he was four years ago.—Agency

Paul Stirling believes Ireland can beat Pakistan and USA

DALLAS: Ireland captain Paul Stirling, asserted that his team can beat Pakistan and the United States of America (USA) in the upcoming ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 fixtures.

Ireland are on the verge of an early exit from the 20-team tournament after losing back-to-back matches against India and Canada.

Meanwhile, the Irish captain Stirling, while speaking at the post-match press conference after his side's 12-run defeat against Canada, claimed that his side can win its remaining group-stage fixtures.

"We've got two huge games," he said. "Still massive every time you put on the shirt you want to go and win, but no reason why we can't go and beat USA and Pakistan. We need to play a hell of a lot better if we're going to want to do that. But different conditions, we know them slightly better and will certainly be given it as best a crack as we can.

Stirling also acknowledged that Ireland did not play to their full potential in their first two matches of the T20 World Cup, stating if they do not play their best, they are bound to lose.

"I think we just want to play as good cricket as we possibly can. I've sort of hammered for at least the last year that if we don't play our best cricket, we will not win games of cricket. So, we need to get back to our best for next week," said Stirling.

Paul Stirling then went on to laud the inexperienced Canada for playing better while commenting on his side's shock loss.—Agency

Face of the Day

Name: Ahsaan Abbas
Location: Karachi
About me: I love taking selfies!

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

REGIONAL TIMES
Uniting People Every Day

ENTERTAINMENT

Britney Spears refuses to get 'tricked again' by her family

Britney Spears' family members, including her mother Lynne and sister Jamie Lynn, had planned to confront the singer and persuade her to move back to Louisiana with them.

However, Spears, 42, refused to comply, becoming paranoid that they were plotting to manipulate her.

"She may have seemed receptive to meeting with Lynne and Jamie Lynn at first," a source exclusively told In Touch Weekly.

"Then she changed her mind and got paranoid they were trying to trick her."

The Toxic crooner has good reason to be concerned.

Insiders have told the outlet that attempts are being made to put her back under conservatorship, even though it has only been three years since she reclaimed her financial and personal freedom after a protracted and widely reported legal battle to overthrow her father Jamie.

"She was kept a 'prisoner' for 13 years, the way she tells it," said an insider.

"She's afraid if she gives them an inch, they'll take a mile. She misses her mom and sister, but she doesn't trust anyone in her family."

Taylor Swift branded as 'powerhouse' because of 'resilience,' 'drive'

Taylor Swift recently received praise from many fellow musicians including Lana Del Rey.

Lana Del Rey, who has also featured in Taylor's track Snow on the Beach, recently had a confessional with BBC News in which she gushed over the girlfriend of Travis Kelce.

"She is just one of those rare timeless artists who gets it right every time," the Summertime Sadness crooner began.

Heaping praise for the innate passion of the Eras Tour hitmaker, Lana called Taylor Swift "an absolute powerhouse."

During the same chat, KT Tunstall, who is a Scottish songstress, also spoked highly of the Cruel Summer hitmaker and claimed that she has the " chutzpah to be the boss of an enormous machine."

"She's such a fantastic role model," the 48-year-old continued and added, "She's got the resilience and the chutzpah to be the boss of an enormous machine, employing thousands of people."

"To be able to handle that and handle what's coming at her publicly, you've just got to be a one-off," KT remarked before moving on to another topic.

For those unversed, in her career, Taylor has been conferred with four Grammy Awards, four MTV Video Music Awards, thirty-nine Billboard Music Awards and forty American Music Awards, per Wikipedia.

REGIONAL TIMES

THE HEARTLAND

Martyrdom Day of Hazrat Imam Muhammad Taqi (AS) Observed in Tando Allahyar

By Afaque Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: In commemoration of the martyrdom of Hazrat Imam Muhammad Taqi (AS), the annual procession was organized from Al-Mehdi House in Rahib Fakir Muhalla. The procession was led by Mudabbir Mehdi Haideri and Agha Shabbir Haideri. The event included the display of the Imam's coffin and the symbolic Zuljinah from Al-Mehdi House. A large number of Sunni and Shia participants from the city joined the procession. The procession followed its traditional route, while various associations including Anjuman Sakhi Moj Darya (RA), Anjuman Qaim Aal-e-Muhammad, Anjuman Karwan Sakhi Abbas, Anjuman Khair-ul-Amal, Anjuman Safeena Haideri, Anjuman Safeena Haideri Sani, and Anjuman Khair-ul-Amal Ustad Aziz Ahmed Qambrani participated in reciting Noha and performing Azadari. The procession was closely monitored by a significant presence of police and traffic police officers under the supervision of SSP Abrez Abbasi to ensure security.

Condolence Reference Held for Shaheed Iqbal Ahmed Larik in Tando Jam

By Irfan Khushk

TANDO JAM: A condolence reference was held in the Naseer Division Tando Allahyar's Dumbalo Sub-Division by labor leaders and officials in honor of Shaheed Iqbal Ahmed Larik, leader of the All Sindh Irrigation Trade Unions Federation Sindh. The event also celebrated the election of his young son, Yasir Iqbal Larik, as the federation's General Secretary. The President of the Darogha Association and Rohri Canal Circle, Rasool Bux Tahirani, hosted the guests, who were honored with Sindhi Topis and Ajraks, symbols of Sindhi culture. During the event, Federation General Secretary Iqbal Larik expressed his gratitude to the laborers and friends of Nasir Division for organizing the gathering in Dumbalo, bringing everyone together. He highlighted that in some divisions, there is a delay in providing benefits such as GP funds, group insurance, financial assistance, and gratuity to the heirs and children of retired or deceased employees of the irrigation department. Additionally, irrigation employees are being threatened and harassed by landlords and office bearers, sometimes facing violent attacks. Such acts were strongly condemned. At the gathering, several provincial and local leaders were present, including Yasir Iqbal Larik, Provincial Chairman Laiq Dino Burfat, Muhammad Yousif Marri, Muhammad Anwar Marriand others.

Daulatpur Students Rally for Recovery of Habibullah Palli

By Aijaz Jokhio

DAULATPUR: In Daulatpur, students of Government Boys Degree College staged a protest for the release of student Habibullah Palli. The protesters, including Sharjeel Ahmed Jokhio, Abdul Sattar, Junaid Ali Khan, Muhammad Kashif, Noman Ahmed, Mitha Khan and others, rallied outside the Daulatpur Press Club from the Daulatpur College. The rally was attended by a large number of college students and various political and social figures. The demonstrators demanded the government and authorities to end their incompetence, which despite being humiliating, has not yet resulted in the recovery of student Habibullah Palli. They appealed to the Chief Justice of Pakistan, Justice of Sindh High Court Shaheed Benazirabad, for the recovery of student Habibullah Palli and his safe return.

TMK Man Protests for Recovery of Abducted Daughter

By Abdul Sattar

TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: In Tando Muhammad Khan's UC Nazarpur, a laborer named Sikandar Ali Unar reached the press club and complained to the journalists that a week ago, individuals named Asghar Unar, Akbar Unar, Wali Muhammad Unar, Ali Ahmed Unar, and their accomplices forcibly entered his house, assaulted him, and kidnapped his fifteen-year-old daughter at gunpoint. He reported the incident to the local police station, but no action has been taken so far. He expressed fear for his daughter's safety, worrying that the armed men might harm or sell her. He stated that he has become exhausted from repeatedly visiting the police station. He appealed to the SSP Tando Muhammad Khan, DIG Hyderabad, the session court, the criminal court, and other law enforcement agencies to rescue his innocent daughter from the captors. He threatened to self-immolate in front of the SSP office if his daughter is not freed.

Youth's Corpse Discovered in Tando Jam, Sending Shockwaves Through the Community

By Irfan Khushk

TANDO JAM: The dead body of a young man named Jamil Ahmed Mangwano was found in a garden in village Radhan Mangwano in the jurisdiction of the Pabun Police Station on Saturday.

The police were informed of the incident and the corpse was shifted to the hospital for postmortem.

The actual cause of the incident is not yet known. It is speculated that the young man may have been murdered with a sharp object.

The body has been transferred to the hospital for a post-mortem examination, after which the cause of death will be determined. Police investigations into the incident are ongoing.

Demand Intensifies for Swift Recovery of Missing Student Abdul Nabi Marri

By Sajjad Chang

HINGORJA: A university student named Abdul Nabi Marri has gone missing from Khairpur since past nine days. In response, the heirs of the missing youth protested against the authorities. The protestors included Asadullah Marri, Barkat Ali Marri, Imamuddin Marri and others. The protesters said that the young man was arrested by the police in plain clothes outside the SALU. Despite being unrelated to any political group, the student of SALU has gone missing. On the occasion, the protesters demanded of the higher authorities to take notice of the matter and ensure the recovery of the missing youth, otherwise they have announced to widen their protest.

Delegation of God Gifted Special Persons Organization Calls on Dr Barkat Ali Laghari

By Shaikh Sindhi

KOTRI: The team from the God Gifted Special Persons Organization met with the Medical Superintendent of DHQ, Dr. Barkat Ali Laghari. During the meeting, they discussed the challenges faced by special persons (disabled individuals) in obtaining their certificates and the difficulties they encounter with the medical board. On this occasion, the MS assured them that efforts would be made to alleviate the difficulties faced by the disabled.

Corpse of Youth Uncovered in Tando Adam Sends Chilling Shockwaves

By Mumtaz Ali

TANDO ADAM: A young man's body was found near the limit of B-Section Police Station, from where he was taken to the Tando Adam Hospital. Identified as Naeem Masih, aged 25, from Karachi, it appears he had come to Tando Adam to visit his relatives. The police have initiated an investigation into the incident, and after necessary procedures at the hospital, the body was handed over to his heirs.

Nabisar Citizens Demand Action Against Power Suspension

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: The residents of village Senhoi near Nabisar recorded a protest demonstration against the HESCO authorities for disconnecting their power supply. The protest leaders said that the power supply to their village has been suspended by the concerned authorities since past three days due to which they are facing many hardships. On the occasion, the protesters demanded of the higher authorities to take steps for the provision of relief to them by restoring power supply to their village, otherwise they have announced to widen their protest circle.

Hindu Community Protests Fiercely Against Desecration of Ram Mandir, Demands Accountability

By Hakim Baloch

JAM NAWAZ ALI: In Ujala Town Colony, there has been a reprehensible act of burglary and desecration at the Ram Mandir temple. In response, the local community has staged protests, condemning the criminal acts. The incident involved breaking into the temple at night and desecrating religious scriptures and idols. This has deeply hurt the sentiments of the residents. We suspect involvement from individuals with malicious intent. Following the incident at the Ram Mandir temple, efforts have been made to apprehend the perpetrators. However, if justice is not swiftly served, there may be widespread protests across Sindh demanding action against those responsible.

Watan Dost Mazdoor Federation Holds Condolence Reference for Late Muhammad Moosa Marri

By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: Watan Dost Mazdoor Federation organized a condolence reference for Late Muhammad Moosa Marheto on his Chehclum which was attended by workers, relatives, and well-wishers. The event included paying respects at the gravesite, laying floral wreaths, and offering condolences to the family. The condolence reference was attended by various leaders, including the central secretary of the Qaumi Awami Tehreek, Advocate Roshan Kanrani, and others. Muhammad Moosa Marheto was actively involved in the struggles of the workers and the poor. His efforts for the rights of the poor were praised, and his mission was pledged to be continued. The leaders of the Rice Mills Labor Union and the Watan Dost Mazdoor Federation pledged to support Muhammad Moosa Marheto's family financially and provide them with higher education. The ceremony was attended by many, including Azad Khan Kanrani, Mir Hazaar Khan Kanrani, Sabir Kanrani, Farooq Kanrani, Ali Hassan, and Wali Raja.

Jamshoro Citizen's Bold Stand Against Corruption and Mismanagement in SDA Sparks Media Frenzy

By Munawar Chandio

JAMSHORO: The involvement of corruption and fraudulent practices in the Sehwan Development Authority's land schemes and the illegal promotion a esteemed citizen Nisar Ahmed Bhutto has submitted a complaint to the NAB, FIA an Anti-Corruption. According to media reports, Nisar Ahmed Bhutto has highlighted the corruption prevailing in the Sehwan Development Authority, where the illegal occupation of land by the builder mafia is causing havoc. He alleged that the officer in charge of Sindh's anti-corruption agency, Muhammad Sajjan Kehar, who holds four important positions in the department, including Director Planning and Development Control, Deputy Director Audit Accounts and Deputy Director Administration, is deeply involved in such practices. He has been appointed on a temporary basis for the past few years, and during this time, there have been allegations of receiving bribes from the elite class for illegally acquiring land and conspiring with the builder mafia. Accounts branch is also involved in financial irregularities through fraudulent means. We appeal to NAB and the Sindh Government, including Sindh Minister Saeed Ghani, to take notice of these issues and issue a notice regarding these matters. We demand action against corrupt officers to ensure justice for the citizens.

Tando Adam Road Tragedy Leaves 10 Injured in Devastating Mishap

By Mumtaz Ali

TANDO ADAM: Due to a collision on the road near Sheesh Mahal Stop, 10 passengers, including Asad Ali, Ghulam Mustafa, Abdul Rehman, Arsalan and Abu Bakar, were severely injured as the driver lost control of the vehicle traveling from Hyderabad to Tando Adam. They have been taken to various private hospitals, including the local hospital, for medical treatment.

Chang Community Demands Justice in Tando Ghulam Hyder

TALHAR: In Tando Ghulam Hyder, the Union Council Yousif Khan Chang's village, Ali Hassan Chang's residence, protesters gathered to express their grievances against the recent increase in injustices. On this occasion, Ali Asghar Chang, Ali Hyder, Ameer Bux, Ghulam Qadir, Ghulam Nabi Chang and others asserted that we have been residents of this ancient settlement. The influential Dadan Khan Nizamani wants to harm us as he intends to seize our agricultural land and has falsely accused our community leader. We have been pressured and threatened, living in constant fear for our lives. We appeal to the Chief Minister of Sindh, the Sindh Chief Justice in Hyderabad, and the senior leadership of the Pakistan People's Party to ensure justice for us, the oppressed.—RT

Services of Poet Asghar Sitai Lauded

By Shaikh Sindhi

KOTRI: A memorial event for Sindh's revolutionary poet Asghar Sitai was held in collaboration with Bazm-e-Ghalib Malkani, Iman Arts Council, and Sindh Graduate Association (SAGA) Kotri. The event was presided over by poet and writer Mehboob Sindhi and attended by guests including Ghazanfar Solangi, Abdul Sattar Bhutto, Ali Gul Chandio, and Fatah Saleh Kakepota, Zulfiqar Halar Soomro among others. In his presidential address, Mehboob Sindhi remarked that Asghar Sitai's poetry celebrated Sindh, advocating national unity and solidarity. He highlighted that Sitai contributed four poetry collections to Sindhi literature and was a passionate advocate for Sindh. The memorial was attended by poets, writers, and literati including Asghar Gadhi, Misri Jamali, Mudasir Sitai, Iqrar Madhosh Soomro and others.

Tando Adam Police Launch Ruthless Crackdown on Drug Lords and Moonshiners, Vow to Cleanse Streets

By Mumtaz Ali

TANDO ADAM: A recent crackdown by the police against drug dealers and bootleggers is underway, with new operations targeting Tando Adam. In the latest operation, a significant amount of illegal alcohol was seized from a popular location in the vicinity, known as Chandio's liquor point. Approximately 20 liters of ready-to-sell alcohol were confiscated, along with another five liters still in the process of being prepared. The seized alcohol was destroyed on the spot, and various tools used in the preparation of alcohol were also confiscated. Additionally, in another operation, a district-level militia leader, accused of providing shelter to fugitives, was apprehended by the city police. The individual, identified as Noor Din, alias Nadim Karo, was arrested in connection with a case under the relevant sections of the law.

METRO KARACHI

Murad Orders For Measures Against Private Security Firms

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Murad Ali Shah on Saturday ordered action against private security companies that handed over arms to "under-training or newly-recruited guards", media reported.

The chief minister issued the directives while taking notice of death of a scavenger boy, who was gunned down by a private security guard in North Karachi.

Sindh CM has ordered the authorities to arrest the culprit immediately and submit a report to him in this regard. He had also expressed his sorrow and showed sympathy to the family members over the death of the boy.

Murad Ali Shah also directed the Home Department to inspect private security companies.

He said that the companies should also work on mental health and development of security guards during and after recruiting process. He said that arms should not be given to a person, who was recruited as a new security guard.

The chief minister said that the criminal record of the guard should also be checked during the recruitment and his deployment.

The Sir Syed police said that Samad, 17, a ragpicker, was shot at and wounded by guard Ramazan after a quarrel.

The teenager suffered a bullet wound in the abdomen and was taken to the Abbasi Shaheed Hospital where he died. The police said that the security guard managed to escape.

This is the second such incident in which a private security guard has killed a young man over a petty issue.

Earlier, a TikToker was gunned down by a guard at Sarina Mobile Market when he was making a video.—RT

Opportunities For Bilateral Trade Between Pakistan And The Philippines Highlighted At Business Council Meeting

KARACHI: The inaugural meeting of the Pak-Philippines Business Council was held at the FPCCI conference room, co-chaired by Chairman Atif Iqbal and FPCCI Vice President Asif Inam. Dr. Imran Yusuf, Honorary Consul General of the Philippines in Sindh, served as the chief guest. Fahad Sheikh, Honorary Consul General, Punjab, and Fariha Khan, Trade and Investment Officer at the Pakistan Embassy, joined via Zoom.

Asif Inam highlighted the substantial opportunities for bilateral trade between Pakistan and the Philippines, noting the significant benefits for businessmen from both countries. Atif Iqbal stressed the importance of exchanging trade delegations to enhance business activities and assured full support from the Pak-Philippines Business Council under FPCCI.

The meeting reinforced the commitment to strengthening bilateral trade relations and exploring new business opportunities for mutual benefit.—RT

Arrests Made In Case Of Karachi Gold Medalist Itteqa Moin's Murder

KARACHI: The suspects in the murder of gold medallist mechanical engineer Itteqa Moin, who was shot dead during a robbery in Karachi, have been arrested, sources affiliated with police's crime investigation wing said on Saturday.

Armed robbers gunned down Moin, 27, in Gulshan-e-Iqbal block 7 earlier this month and fled with his motorcycle, mobile phone and some cash.

Police had registered a case against unidentified suspects in connection with the killing of the youngster during street crime.

The sources linked to Crime Investigation Agency (CIA) confirmed that the "murderers" of Moin had been arrested. They said that the suspects had fled to Balochistan after the killing.

Their criminal record was being fetched, the sources added.

Meanwhile, Special Security Unit's (SSU) Senior Superintendent of Police Adeel Chandio said that police teams were in Balochistan and had traced the robbers' ring.

As Karachi continues to deal with the menace of street crime, the death toll from killings for showing resistance during robberies in the city reached 71 this year with Moin's death.

The deceased was a gold medallist from the Hamdard University and worked as a mechanical engineer at a private company.

Taking notice of the matter, Sindh Home Minister Ziaul Hassan Lanjar had suspended the Gulshan-e-Iqbal Police Station House Officer (SHO) and ordered a departmental inquiry against him.

Moin's death also drew reactions from politicians, who lamented the lawlessness and failure of police in maintaining law and order in the metropolis. —RT/Agency

World Food Safety Day Celebration Hosted At NED University

KARACHI: The World Food Safety Day event was held at NED University of Engineering and Technology in collaboration with the Institute of Engineers, Pakistan, and the Sindh Food Authority. Agha Fakhur Hussain Durrani, Director General of the Sindh Food Authority, addressed the ceremony as the chief guest, emphasizing the Authority's commitment to maintaining high food safety standards and proactive efforts in building resilient food systems. He highlighted the mission to ensure accurate labeling, training and awareness programs, regulatory compliance, and innovation while safeguarding public health.

During the panel discussion, Dr. Seema Ashraf stressed the importance of harmonizing provincial food standards with international and federal criteria. Technical panelists Adnan Sultan, Dr. Habiba Shah, and Dr. Zubala Yasir Lutfi recommended enhanced collaboration among academia, industry, and the Sindh Food Authority to improve standards for unpacked foods and increase awareness among household food handlers.

Engr. Munsarim Saif, the Guest of Honour, spoke about the food industry's role and the importance of partnerships with the Sindh Food Authority. Prof. Dr. Sarosh Hasmat Lodhi, Vice Chancellor of NED University, concluded the event with closing remarks and distributed souvenirs and certificates.—RT

Chitra Pritam Painting Exhibition Inaugurated At Art Citi

KARACHI: Art Citi is hosting an exhibition of Chitra Pritam's paintings titled "Magical Lines of Endless Mosaic." The event was inaugurated by Mohammad Ahmed Shah, President of the Arts Council of Pakistan, with Dr. Saad Khalid Niaz, former Caretaker Provincial Health Minister Sindh, as the guest of honor.

Eminent personalities and senior artists attended the event. Mohammad Ahmed Shah praised Pritam's work, calling the paintings masterpieces and noting Pritam's legacy as a student of the renowned artist Jameel Naqsh. Shah emphasized the importance of art in society and commended the exhibition's cultural contribution.

Dr. Saad Khalid Niaz also lauded Pritam's calligraphy paintings and appreciated the support for new artists. He highlighted the role of art galleries in promoting artists' work.

The exhibition will continue until June 10, offering art enthusiasts the chance to view Pritam's extraordinary collection.—RT

KARACHI: Syed Murad Ali Shah, Chief Minister of Sindh is presenting the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Honoris Causa) to Fazal Karim Dadabhoy at the recently held DHA Suffa University Convocation.—RT

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICER (ES&HS) DISTRICT SOUTH, KARACHI

NO.DEO/ES&HS/Distt/South/(**2479-51**/2024 Dated: 04/6/2024 Karachi.

FINAL NOTICE FOR APPEARANCE BEFORE THE DSC FOR SCRUTINY OF THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS

It is inform to all concerned Absentees Candidates both Towns Saddar & Lyari (Male & Female) whose still yet absent from the process of scrutiny for the recruitment the post of PST in District South, Karachi to submit their files within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. After the closing date no any claim will be accepted in this regard.

(ATTACHED HEREWITH LIST OF ABSENTEES)

PST

S#	Seat No.	Name in full	Father's Name/Husband's Name
01	21860857	Muznah Siddiqui	Mian Muzaffar Ahmed
02	21830001	Tammana Rasheed	Gohar Rasheed
03	21860621	Saima Kashif	Muhammad Kashif
04	21860210	Shazia Gul	Muhammad Zeeshan
05	21860171	SANA HASAN	ALI HASSAN
06	21860516	Saman Yousuf Ali	Talha Hussain
07	21860695	Kinza Sharif	Muhammad Sharif
08	21860124	Mehwish Ahmed	Ahmed Ali Kazi
09	21860079	Bushra Sami	Muhammad Sami
10	21850031	Zoya	Dilber Khan
11	21840039	Tehreem Malik	Taj Rasool Awan
12	21860086	Mariam khan	Wahaj khan
13	21860229	Naziya Khan	Toorbaz Khan
14	21860567	Mukhtar Mumtaz Ali	Mumtaz Ali
15	21860649	Yumna	Abdul Rehman
16	21860046	Bushra	Jamil Ahmed
17	21840017	Naila	Khursheed Ahmed
18	21860377	Beena Faraz	Faraz Khan
19	21840036	Asma Hussain	Sabir Hussain
20	21860931	SABA ADNAN	ADNAN AHMED
21	21860721	Quratulain Saifuddin	Aftab
22	21860132	Anum	Hafiz Allah Diwaya
23	21860351	Jaweria	Syed Attaullah
24	21860365	Noreen Akhter Lobo	Victor Lobo
25	21860871	Urooj	Aslam
26	21850021	Farhana Kanwal	Muhammad Faizan
27	21850035	Amber Ghazanfar	Ghazanfar Ali
28	21860812	Wajeeha	Shoukat Rajput
29	21860608	IQRA ABDUL RAUF	ABDUL RAUF
30	21840034	Mehak Faruqui	Azmush Shuja Faruqui
31	21860384	Somia Zia	Sagheer Ahmed
32	21860029	Faigah Abdul Rahman	Abdul Rahman
33	21860923	Shazia Parveen	Muhammad Rafique
34	21860502	Sundas Hira	Muhammad Haroon
35	21860902	Safia Rafiq	Muhammad Rafiq
36	21860615	Iqra Mehfooz	Mehfooz Ali Khan
37	21860128	Rumana Chandni	Meraj ul Islam
38	21860926	Aasma Dilawar	Dilawar Khan
39	21860618	Sadia Urooj	Muhammad Ahmed
40	21860831	Zeenat Nabi Mahar	Ghulam Nabi Mahar
41	21860374	Sanadia Fareed	Hamid Fareed
42	21860179	Nadia Rehman	Abdul Rehman
43	21840042	Saira Bano	Mehboob Khan
44	21860252	KOMAL SARWAR	Muhammad kaleem
45	21860757	Afshan	Muhammad Hussain
46	21860221	Iqra Younus	Muhammad Younus
47	21860196	Sana Yasir	Shahid
48	21860328	Nimra Zubair	Zubair Ahmed
49	21860354	Rabia Fayyaz	Muhammad Fayyaz
50	21860579	Rabia Mumtaz	Junaid sardar Ali jarwar
51	21860842	Maria	Wali Muhammad
52	21860827	Sadia Adnan	Adnan Saeed
53	21860441	Faiza Feroze	Feroze Ahmed
54	21860771	Fiza Shakrani	Ahmed Raza
55	21860773	Laila Mangi	Nisar Ahmed
56	21840038	Maham Faruqui	Azmush Shuja Farugui
57	21860178	Hina Sadiq	Muhammad Sadiq
58	21860134	SEHRISH GULZAIB	Gulzaib Chohan
59	21860679	Muzammil Muhammad Shareef	Muhammad Shareef
60	21830005	Hadiga Abid	Hammad Ghauri
61	21860393	Nida Abdul Majeed	Abdul Majeed
62	21860917	Nadia Bano	Muhammad Nazir Abbasi
63		Noor Bano	Zawara Baig
64	21860513	Tahir Iqbal	Yousuf haroon
65	21860808	Sharjeel Ahmed	Shakeel Ahmed
66	21850077	Nabeel Ahmed	ABDUL KHALIQ
67	21860468	Owais Sardar Muhammad	Sardar Muhammad
68	21860617	Sameer Ahmed	Muhammad Younus
69	21840016	Khurram Adil	Azhar Ali
70	21860816	Zuhaib Nabi Khan Mahar	Ghulam Nabi Mahar
71	21850084	Adil	Abdul Rehman Lakho
72	21850004	MUHAMMAD ASIM	MUHAMMAD ASLAM
73	21840010	Jawad Hussain	Sahib Dino
74	21860322	Shehroz Ahmed	Fareed Ahmed
75	21860421	Ali Gohar	Abdul Shakoor
76	21860644	Shehzad Amjad	Amjad Irshad
77	21860904	Ahmer Abbas	Asghar Abbas
78	21860747	Asim	Anwer
79	21860068	Wajahat Munir Ahmed	Munir Ahmed
80	21840051	ZAHEER MUHAMMAD KHAN	Nazeer Muhammad Khan
81	21860599	muhammad fawad ali	Abdul Ghaffar
82	21850066	Saqib Bhutto	Ghulam Haider
83	21860865	Muhammad Tahir Hanif	Muhmmad Hanif Sahito

PST

S#	Seat No.	Name in full	Father's Name/Husband's Name
84	21860032	Mustafa Nisar Ali	Nisar Ali
85	21860376	Ghulam Mustafa	Mohammad Nasir
86	21840045	Shoaib	Ismail
87	21860753	Muhammad Faheem	Muhammad Saleem
88	21860445	Syed Yousof Ali	Syed Mehmood Ali
89	21860710	Kamran khan	Muhammad Amin Abro
90	21860940	Raja Bilawal	Akber Ali
91	21840058	Muhammad Arif	Muhammad Raftaj
92	21860049	Farhan Ali	Shamshad Ali
93	21860639	Javed Ahmed	Rafique Ahmed
94	21860040	Muhammad Waqas	Muhammad Tariq
95	21860444	MUHAMMAD SAQIB	Saleemul janan
96	21860804	IKRAM ULLAH	LAL SYED
97	21870116	Muhammad Munir Khan	Dilawar Khan
98	21870328	Abid Ali	Muhammad Haroon Turk
99	21870645	Touseef Ahmed	Khizer Hayat
100	21870730	Muhammad Zeeshan	Muhammad Miskeen
101	21870740	Ibrahim Khan	Mir Dawar Khan
102	21870136	Zeeshan Ahmed	Ahmed Hingoro
103	21870580	Ali Baloch	Ghulam Habib
104	21870089	Syed Ahmed Raza	Syed Shabbir Hussain Qadri
105	21870030	Muhammad Assad	Shaheen Shah
106	21870490	Muhammad Sajid Qazi	Jan Muhammad Qazi
107	21870194	Muhammad Ali	Iftikhar Ahmed
108	21870460	Hafiz Hammad ur rehman	Abdul Rehman
109	21870200	Inzamam Khalique	Abdul Khalique Awan
110	21870346	Muhammad Tahir	Suleman
111	21870727	Hamid Mehmood	Irshad Mehmood
112	21870607	Ahsan Igbal	Muhammad Iqbal
113	21870371	Muhammad Farhan	Muhammad Arshad
114	21870755	Muhammad Ehsan Qureshi	Gul Muhammad Qureshi
115	21870641	Hassaan Ahmed	Fakhr e Alam
116	21870757	Amir Hussain	Faqeer Muhammad
117	21870746	Abdullah Baloch	Abdul Hameed Baloch
118	21870229	Abdul Haseeb	Muhammad Aslam
119	21870762	Muhammad Shahzad	Muhammad siddiq
120	21870350	Hasnain	Haroon Rashid
121	21870430	Samina Naz	Jannat Hussain
122	21870751	Asia	Shahzad mahfooz
123	21870262	Saima	Zahid Hussain
124	21870447	Nida muhammad anwer	Muhammad anwer
125	21870058	Ambreen	Abdul Aziz
126	21870565	Sana Qasim Khan	Ghulam Hussain
127	21870198	Sehar Malik	Malik Rashid
128	21870534	Sana Tarique Memon	Muhammad Tarique Memon
129	21870507	Nasima	Shams Ud Din
130	21870587	Shumaila	Muhammad Sohail
131	21870131	Ghosia Noor Muhammad	Noor Muhammad
132	21870124	Nabeela Parveen	Jan Muhammad
133	21870603	Maryam Hassan	Muhammad Hassan Saleem
134	21870617	Noor ul ain	Baber Ilyas
135	21870244	Samina	Abdul sattar
136	21870562	Ambreen	Muhammad usman
137	21870559	Neha Zahid	Muhammad Zahid
138	21870590	Marium	Muhammad Siddiq
139	21870428	Mahrookh javed	Javed khokhar
140	21870257	Ruqaiya Muhammad Irshad	Muhammad Irshad
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152	21870776	Quratulain	Mansoor Ali Memon
153	21870662	Sumaira Bano	Khursheed Alam
154	21870519	Zoya	Jamsher
155	21870558	Sufia	Muhammad shafi
156	21870709	Rabia khalid	Khalid saleem
157	21870628	Mehreen Rizwan	Rizwan
158	21870019	Sonia	Abdul Rahim
159	21870365	Hina Ghazal	Muhammad Siddique Balouch
160	21870142	Rabiya	Aslam
161	21860752	Nayab Imtiaz	Sheraz Khan
162	21830012	Uzma Kashif	Kashif
163	21860111	Nida Moin	Moinuddin
164	21900371	Sara Ifthikhar	Ifthikhar ud din
165	21860769	Muniba Inam	Muhammad Inam
166	21860853	Nimra	Muhammad Asif
167	21860457	Razia	Yousuf Hashim
168	21850019	Asma zia	zia javed
169	21860276	Mariyam	Imdad Ali
170	21850024	Mahmooda Naz	Muhammad Rizwan
171	21860324	Ambreen Ahsan Ali	Muhammad Siddiq
172	21870718	muhammad dilshad	Muhammad ishaque
173	21870798	Ali Muhammad	Abdul Ghafoor
174	21870253	Syed Naeem Ur Rehman Shah	Riaz Ahmed Shah
175	21870416	AYAZ ALI	ALI MUHAMMAD
176	21870481	Muhammad Wagar Hussain	Tasaduq Hussain
177	21870356	Nighat	Muhammad Ishaque
178	21870479	Shahida Qasim	Ghulam Hussain
179	21870597	SADIA FLAZ	FIAZ HUSSAIN
180	21870647	Atiya	Muhammad Bakhsh

DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICER (ES&HS) DISTRICT SOUTH, KARACHI

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"In order to succeed, your desire for success should be greater than your fear of failure."

—Bill Cosby

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SUNDAY JUNE 09 2024

-How convenient is that?

Teflon Nawaz Claims Absence Of Malice Or Enmity Towards Others

MURREE: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) President Muhammad Nawaz Sharif on Saturday said he was the kind of person who did not harbour malice, enmity or revenge against others.

Without taking Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan's name, Nawaz said he always behaved like an angry man.

"He once said in a public rally 'Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif I will drag you here'," he said lambasting the PTI founder over his disrespectful remarks against the then-serving PM.

The former prime minister said this while addressing a meeting of the PML-N parliamentary members in Murree today.

On the contrary, he said he had working relationship with the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and his party signed the Charter of Democracy with former prime minister Benazir Bhutto as well.

The PML-N president said that during Khan's tenure, he was threatened to get his prison cell's AC removed. However, he said he did not believe in political vengeance.

In fact, the three-time prime minister said that he did not even think about it as Khan is serving his jail sentence now.

It should be noted that the government has time and again extended Khan an olive branch but the offer was disdained from the other side that wished to hold talks with the "real stakeholders" only.

However, sources recently told media that Khan has decided to "step back" from his rigid stance, ordering his party leaders to establish contacts both inside and outside the Parliament to ease the ongoing political tension.

According to the sources, the party's leadership would hold talks with various political parties outside the Parliament, while its lawmakers would also enhance its relations with parties in the ruling coalition government.

The PTI founder's decision came after his interaction with Chief Justice of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa when he appeared for a hearing before the Supreme Court on June 6.

During the hearing pertaining to the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) law amendments, CJP Isa suggested that Khan go to the Parliament to help resolve Pakistan's problems "as the country needs to move forward".

On the other hand, Nawaz expressed satisfaction over role of the federal and Punjab governments in reducing prices of essential commodities.

He particularly appreciated the efforts of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif in this regard. He was confident that Pakistan would soon come out of crises.

The PML-N president said such policies should be framed that brought down the prices of electricity and gas. "Maryam Nawaz played a key role in bringing down inflation by not letting wheat price increase," he said.

He said overall inflation was dipping and stock market was "unprecedentedly" skyrocketing.—RT/Agency

Pakistan's Envoy To US Urges India To Be A Peaceful Neighbour

WASHINGTON: Pakistan Ambassador to the US Masood Khan has said that India's progress would become much more respectable if they have good relations with their neighbours.

"India's preference should be neighbourhood first and it should be peaceful neighbourhood," said the ambassador, and advised the neighbouring nation to invest in economic connectivity.

Ambassador Khan made these remarks while talking to Tim Horgan of World Affairs Council of New Hampshire during the 'Global in the Granite State' podcast.

The comments from the top Pakistani diplomat in the US came as India gears up for government formation after the announcement of election results in which Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) fell short of required majority needed in the Lok Sabha.

However, Narendra Modi was nominated as the prime minister for the third consecutive term by the National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

Meanwhile, Masood Khan has stressed that the US should maintain a strategic balance in relationships with South Asian countries.

Noting that the US was overly aligned with India which was negation of traditional policy of maintaining strategic balance in the relationship with South Asian countries, he said that restoration of equilibrium would contribute to peace and security of the region.

He, however, noted that Pakistan had its own independent space vis-à-vis United States and "we want to use up that space in the economic and defence realms."

Commenting on US-China relations, the ambassador observed that the "United States leadership has been managing the relationship with great care and wisdom."

He also noted that the recent visits had set the ground for collaborative model, not a confrontational model.

"The shared goal for Pakistan, United States and all leading nations of the world is to have peace and security in the region," said the envoy.

He also emphasised on reducing poverty to zero saying that the world must pursue the goal of eradicating impoverishment.

"When we talk about Global South, the priority number one should be elimination of poverty, eradication of poverty," he said.

Khan said a responsible international financial system should be established enabling countries to set themselves free from the debt.

"We should also have a responsible and responsive international financial system" to enable countries walk out of the debt trap and to make the economies more resilient and self-sufficient, he added.—RT/Agency

Shehbaz Explores Historical Chinese Terracotta Warriors Museum In Xi'an

XI'AN: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, accompanied by the Pakistani delegation visited the historical site of China, Terracotta Warriors Museum in Xi'an, on Saturday.

The visit was part of an invitation extended by Chinese President Xi Jinping to the prime minister to visit the museum in his hometown, Xi'an.

During the visit the prime minister and the delegation were briefed on the preservation and restoration of historical heritage and the promotion of tourism.

PM Shehbaz, who is on a five-day official visit to China, visited various sections of the museum and commended the beauty of ancient Chinese heritage and the skill of Chinese artisans.

"Great nations protect and take care of their historical assets like the Chinese do", he said adding that the skill of the Chinese craftsmen of 200 BC was admirable.

The prime minister also appreciated the Chinese government's efforts in preserving and restoring the historical site saying that Pakistan was also rich in historical and cultural heritage.

He said the government would also restore and promote its own historical sites as tourist destinations. He also thanked President Xi for inviting him to visit the museum.

Federal ministers Khawaja Asif, Ahsan Iqbal, Muhammad Aurangzeb, Ataullah Tarar, Dr Musadik Malik, Sardar Awais Khan Leghari, and Rana Tanveer Hussain also accompanied the prime minister during the visit.

Yesterday, PM Shehbaz met President Xi at the iconic Great Hall of People in Beijing where they expressed the resolve to further deepen cooperation across diverse domains ranging from political and security to economic, trade, and people-to-people exchanges.

The premier wrote on X, "Had the honour of meeting President Xi Jinping at the iconic Great Hall of People in Beijing. We discussed various dimensions of the multi-faceted Pakistan-China relationship and reaffirmed our longstanding and steadfast friendship, All-Weather Strategic cooperation, economic and trade ties, and CPEC."

"Mutually decided to enhance our economic cooperation through timely completion of ongoing CPEC initiatives as it enters into the next phase with five new corridors. I congratulated him on the success of the 3rd Belt and Road Forum and 10 years of BRI."

"I underscored that Pakistan would continue to work with China to promote regional connectivity and economic development and to make Gwadar a connectivity hub for the socio-economic development of Pakistan," added PM Shehbaz.

The premier said President Xi reassured that China would continue supporting Pakistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity and development, and would continue supporting the country in harnessing our geo-economic potential as a hub of regional trade and economics.

"I also extended an invitation to President Xi to visit Pakistan at his earliest convenience," he concluded.—RT/Agency

Shehbaz Announces Initiative To Send 1,000 Students To China For Agricultural Training

BEIJING: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has decided to send 1,000 students from Pakistan to China's Yangling Agricultural Demonstration Base for advanced agricultural training at the government's expense.

According to media, Prime Minister Sharif, who is currently on an official visit to China, made this decision on Saturday while touring the Yangling Agricultural Demonstration Base in Xi'an. He instructed the Pakistani ambassador and relevant officials to finalise the project with their Chinese counterparts.

During the visit, the prime minister invited the Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University to open a campus in Pakistan, expressing the government's willingness to provide full support in this endeavour.

Prime Minister Sharif was also shown around various sections of the base, including the Pakistani Pavilion, where local products were on display. He was briefed on the collaborative agricultural research conducted at the Yangling Agricultural Demonstration Base, which involves 26 countries. Notably, Pakistan was the first country to initiate collaboration with the base.

The briefing included information about Pakistani scientists and universities participating in the research efforts.

"Pakistan is an agricultural country," said Prime Minister Sharif. "The government is striving for innovation in agriculture to increase per-acre yield. Enhancing the processing of Pakistani agricultural products can boost our exports, which is a top priority for the government."

The prime minister also visited a modern plant production factory, where he observed practical demonstrations of various stages of vertical farming techniques.

Federal Ministers Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Ahsan Iqbal, Muhammad Aurangzeb, Attaullah Tarar, Dr Musadik Malik, and Rana Tanveer Hussain accompanied the prime minister on this visit.—RT/Agency

Key Suspect In Journalist Nasrullah Gadani's Murder Apprehended In Ghotki

GHOTKI: Sindh police claimed to have arrested a "prime suspect" in senior journalist Nasrullah Gadani's murder case during a raid at a house in Ghotki district.

The "prime suspect" involved in the killing of senior journalist was arrested by police from a house in Ghotki's Yaro Lund area, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Sumair Noor said.

He added that two more suspects — Abdullah and a facilitator Barkat — were wanted in the murder case and they be arrested soon.

SSP Noor told the media that the motives behind Nasrullah's murder were not yet known and the arrested suspect was being interrogated.

He added that the police also recovered a motorcycle used in the crime besides seizing cash and a mobile phone from the suspect's possession.

Sindh Home Minister Zia ul Hassan Lanjar commended the SSP Ghotki and his team for arresting one of Nasrullah's murder suspects from Mirpur Mathelo area of the district. In a statement, he said that raids were being conducted to arrest other culprits involved in the heinous crime.

Lanjar said that the police department used modern technology to trace and arrest the culprit. The home minister said that more facilities were being provided to the police as establishment of law and order was among the provincial government's top priorities.

The journalist, who was associated with a Sindhi newspaper, had suffered serious injuries when unidentified motorcycle-riding gunmen opened fire at him near Korai Goth, 12 kilometres from Mirpur Mathelo, on May 21.

Gadani was, at the time of the unfortunate incident, riding his motorcycle. Following the attack, police shifted him to Civil Hospital Mirpur Mathelo, where he received emergency medical aid and was then sent to Rahim Yar Khan for surgery.

Later, he was shifted to Karachi via an air ambulance for better treatment, with the Sindh government announcing to bear all of his medical costs.

However, even shifting him to a better hospital could not bear fruit as he succumbed to his wounds around three days later and breathed his last.—RT/Agency

PM Emphasizes Utilizing Sister-City Relationships Between Xi'an, Lahore And Multan

XI'AN: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday underlined the need to leverage sister-city relationships of Xi'an with Lahore and Multan through practical cooperation at city-to-city level to promote bilateral cooperation in trade, technology, agriculture, and tourism.

The prime minister, along with his delegation met Party Secretary of Shaanxi province in Xi'an, China Zhao Yide.

In the meeting, Prime Minister Shehbaz and Party Secretary Zhao discussed ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in various sectors, including trade, technology, agricultural and cultural exchanges.

They reaffirmed commitment to further deepen Pakistan-China strategic cooperation, including through promotion of B2B linkages and cultural exchanges. They agreed to strengthen local and provincial level cooperative partnerships between Pakistan and China for mutual prosperity.

Underscoring Xi'an's historical significance as a center of cultural and economic exchanges between the East and the West in the Ancient Silk Road, the prime minister emphasized continued collaboration between Pakistan and Shaanxi province in people-to-people exchanges particularly in the culture, tourism and education domains.

The prime minister said that China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was growing from strength to strength with a focus on high quality development in the second phase.

The two sides agreed to strengthen economic cooperation through joint ventures in agriculture, bio-pharmaceuticals, automobile manufacturing, mining, chemicals and textiles sectors.

Secretary Zhao briefed the prime minister on the historical significance of Shaanxi province and provided an overview of Shaanxi's economic and social development highlighting its status as one of the fastest growing regions of China.

The prime minister said that China's phenomenal development and support to the developing countries was an inspiration for Pakistan.

He invited the state owned and private enterprises from Shaanxi province to benefit from the investor friendly policy framework and regulatory measures in Pakistan.

He thanked the leadership of the Shaanxi province and the Xi'an city for facilitating Pakistani citizens during the Covid-19 pandemic.—RT/Agency

Dar And Bagheri Hold Talks On Gaza And Rafah Situation

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar and Acting Foreign Minister of Iran Ali Bagheri on Saturday discussed the situation arising out of ongoing Israeli bombardment and targeting of refugee camps in Rafah in the Gaza Strip.

They called for urgent measures to bring an immediate end to Israeli aggression, its incessant crimes against humanity and violation of international humanitarian law.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister met Iranian acting foreign minister the on the margins of the Extraordinary Meeting of the D-8 Council of Foreign Ministers held in Istanbul, Turkiye, Foreign Office Spokesperson said in a press release.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister reaffirmed Pakistan's strong commitment to the people of Palestine and their right to self-determination.

The two ministers expressed satisfaction over the trajectory of bilateral relations marked by increased high-level exchanges in political, economic, defence and security and intelligence spheres.

They reaffirmed commitment and resolve to continue strengthening of mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation and dialogue between the Pakistan and Iran.—RT/Agency

Media Bodies Declare Boycott Of Assembly Proceedings Over Punjab Defamation Law

LAHORE: After the controversial Punjab Defamation Bill, 2024, became law, the central Joint Action Committee (JAC) of the media bodies has announced boycotting the coverage of government affairs including official events, such as National Assembly and provincial assembly sessions and upcoming federal and provincial budgets to protest the approval of the legislation.

Acting Punjab Governor Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan signed the controversial bill into law on Saturday.

The Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors (CPNE), All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS), Pakistan Broadcasters Association (PBA), Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ) and Association of Electronic Media Editors and News Directors (AEMEND), held an emergency meeting to discuss the development and decided to record their protest against the law.

Terming the Punjab Defamation Bill, 2024, against the human values, the meeting announced to lead a joint struggle against the "black law" and to take effective legal action against it.

The media bodies decided to hold consultation with political parties and bar councils, and approach the United Nations and other national and international human rights organisations against the controversial law.

They said that demonstrations would be staged outside the relevant government offices in protest against the defamation law.

Reacting to the signing of the bill, Lahore Press Club President Arshad Ansari slammed the Pakistan Peoples Party's (PPP) deceptive attitude, saying that the party deceived journalists.

"The bill was signed by the acting governor by sending the Punjab governor on leave under a plan," said Ansari.

The senior journalist added that the PPP was apparently with the journalists and was conniving with the provincial government from within.

"A meeting of the action committee will be called soon and future strategy will be announced," said the journalist.—RT/Agency

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