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CIRCULATION CERTIFIED BY ABC

Government Mandates Drone Registration, Imposes License Requirement For Select UAVs

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has imposed a mandatory requirement for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), commonly known as drones, to be registered under the new "Civil Unmanned Aircraft Rules, 2024".

As per the new rules issued on the Ministry of Aviation's website, all drones will have to be registered with the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Individuals already possessing UAVs will have to apply for registration of their drones within four months after the new rules come into effect. Whereas those who will acquire the drones after the new regulations are in place will get 15 days to apply for the registration of their property.

With registration applications required to mention the intended use, registered unmanned aircraft shall be given a unique number consisting of alphabets and numerals.

Also, a person will not be allowed to register more than three unmanned aircraft of a category during one calendar year.

Furthermore, drones have been divided into four categories on the basis of their



maximum take-off weight namely category-I (maximum take-off weight less than or equal to 250 grammes), category-II (more than 250g but less than or equal to 10 kilograms), category-III (more than 10kg but less than or equal to 25kg) and category-IV (more than 25kg but less than or equal to 100kg).

Once the new rules come into effect, people will need CAA's "Remote Pilot Licence" to operate drones which fall within categories II, III and IV.

The minimum requirement for the aforesaid licence is that the applicant needs to be at least 18 years of age, has a qualified secondary school certificate or equivalent examination, has received training from an approved organisation in relation to the type of licence

applied and has passed a test prescribed by the authority to determine his knowledge and skills in the operation of an unmanned aircraft.

With regards to the import and export of UAVs, a person will be required to first get themselves registered. Also, those intending to import category-III and IV drones will need clearance from the Ministry of Defence.

Moreover, violators of the new rules might face action, which also includes imprisonment of a fine up to Rs100,000 with the possibility of additional monetary penalty which may extend to Rs10,000 for every day during which such contravention continues. Meanwhile, a coordination committee has been made responsible for overseeing effective implementation of the new rules.—RT/Agency

Islamabad Guarantees Beijing Top-Notch Security For Chinese Citizens

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad has assured Beijing of providing foolproof security to Chinese citizens working on different projects in Pakistan, reiterating that no one can create rifts between the two countries.

The assurance came during Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi's meeting with Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zedong on Sunday at the Chinese Embassy in the federal capital.

Both sides discussed the recent visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China and a detailed discussion was also held on the promotion of Pakistan-China relations and measures taken for the security of Chinese citizens in Pakistan.

The interior minister said the recent visit of the prime minister has strengthened the



friendship with China and added that Chinese top leadership have always supported Pakistan.

He informed the Chinese envoy about the measures to protect Chinese citizens across the country including Islamabad.

Naqvi also briefed him on the security plan of Chinese engineers and staff working on CPEC and other projects. He said that comprehen-

sive and effective SOPs have been made for the security of Chinese citizens and a separate force "SPU" is being created in Islamabad for foreign nationals.

The protection of the Chinese brothers who are working for the construction and development of Pakistan is the first priority of the government of Pakistan, the interior minister added.

He said that no one can

create a rift in the eternal friendship between Pakistan and China and any conspiracy against the bilateral ties will never be allowed to succeed.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chinese envoy said Pakistan and China are friends and iron brothers with Beijing "attaches great importance to relations with Pakistan".

The Chinese ambassador expressed satisfaction with the security arrangements made for the protection of Chinese citizens.

Earlier this month, PM Shehbaz paid an official visit to China from June 4 to June 8 at the invitation of Premier Li Qiang.

During the visit, Premier Shehbaz met President Xi Jinping Premier Li and other top officials, according to a

joint statement issued by the Foreign Office.

The Chinese side reiterated its steadfast support for Pakistan in safeguarding its sovereignty, national independence and territorial integrity, in pursuing a development path suited to its national conditions and in its efforts to safeguard national security, stability, development and prosperity, in firmly combating terrorism, and in playing a bigger role in regional and international affairs.

The two sides also reiterated their commitment to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations with a "zero tolerance" attitude and agreed to further strengthen cooperation in counter-terrorism and security through a comprehensive approach.—RT/Agency

Punjab Governor Holds High-Stakes Meeting With PM Shehbaz

LAHORE: Punjab Governor Sardar Saleem Haider Khan called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Lahore on Sunday.

On this occasion, they exchanged Eidul Azha greetings and best wishes.

The matters related to the Punjab province were also discussed during the



meeting.

Earlier, Punjab governor in his message on the occasion of Eidul Azha congratulated the entire nation and the Muslim Ummah.

He said that the essence of Eidul Azha is love and brotherhood. The Punjab governor said that the sac-

rifices of Hazrat Ibrahim teaches us to sacrifice everything in the way of Allah. He said that we should especially share the joy of Eid with the poor and needy people. The governor said that we should not forget our Palestinian and Kashmiri brothers on this Eid.—RT/Agency

SSWMB

commitment on the occasion of Eid

A Pleasant and Healthy Environment for the Public

The Sindh Solid Waste Management Board (SSWMB) has prepared a special waste management plan for timely cleanliness in **Karachi, Hyderabad, Sukkur, and Larkana** on the occasion of Eid al-Adha.

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THE HEARTLAND



LARKANA: Members and leaders of Sindh Sabha are holding a protest demonstration at Jinnah Bagh for the acceptance of their demands in Larkana.-RT

Pir Sahab Pagara to Celebrate Eid-ul-Azha in Pir Jo Goth

By Abdul Qudoos Khilji

PIR JO GOTH: Pir Sahab Pagara, the spiritual leader of the Hur Jamaat and PML-F and GDA Chief, has arrived in Pir Jo Goth to celebrate Eid-ul-Azha. He has been in the town for the past two days and has instructed his devotees to celebrate Eid-ul-Azha in their homes due to the ongoing heat wave. Despite this directive, numerous devotees have already gathered in Pir Jo Goth to listen to Pir Sahab Pagara on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha.

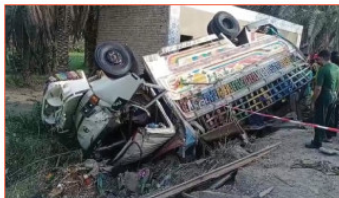


Eid prayers will be held at the Khankah Peeran Pagaran, led by the Pir of Pirkot, Pir Syed Mehboob Nabi Gilani. The Municipal Committee of Pir Jo Goth, under the leadership of Abdul Ghaffar Memon, has ensured the cleanliness of the city and made all necessary arrangements for the celebration of Eid-ul-Azha.

The preparations and the arrival of Pir Sahab Pagara have brought a sense of anticipation and devotion among the followers, as they look forward to the spiritual guidance and blessings of their leader during the holy festival.

At Least Four Killed, 14 Wounded as Truck Overtakes in Khairpur

KHAIRPUR: At least four people, including the driver, were killed and 14 others injured when a truck overturned on the national highway near Khairpur on Sunday.



According to the police, the truck overturned due to overspeeding and attempting to overtake another vehicle. Rescue officials promptly shifted the bodies and the injured to Civil Hospital, Khairpur. The condition of three of the wounded is reported to be critical.

In response to the emergency, the hospital administration declared a state of emergency and called in off-duty doctors and paramedical staff to handle the influx of patients. The deceased have been identified as Amjad Matilo, Zeeshan Soomer, Abdul Ghaffar Matilo, and the truck driver, Muhammad Sohail. Police reported that the truck was traveling from Karachi to Sukkur.

The victims of the accident were from a village near Rohri and were involved in the cattle trade. They were returning home after selling animals in Karachi ahead of Eid ul Adha.—RT

Shocking State of Tando Jam Girls' College Forces Students to Seek Transfer

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: A dire shortage of equipment, drinking water, and basic facilities, along with piles of garbage, at the Government Girls' Degree College Tando Jam in Hyderabad District has driven students to seek admissions in other areas, according to a survey conducted by the media on Friday.

The survey revealed that Principal Aliya Memon has been reluctant to address the issues plaguing the college, which include unsanitary washrooms, a lack of sports activities, and a dangerous environment for female students. Despite a substantial grant, there have been no sports events, and a fake tent was sent to the Sindh Games held in Hyderabad five months ago.

Sources said that the college was totally unsafe, with frequent visits by male guests, including relatives of the principal. Stray dogs also entered the premises due to the garbage piles lying in the college.

Students complained about the lack of focus on arts and compulsory subjects such as English, Urdu, Pakistan Studies, Economics, and Muslim History. "Not a single Urdu class has been conducted all year," said first-year students requesting anonymity. They also alleged that the principal refused to hire an Urdu teacher due to ethnic bias. They further alleged that the principal facilitated cheating during exams, providing answers for multiple-choice questions in the first and second-year examinations. When the issue regarding providing answers for exams taken by the Board of Intermediate & Secondary Education (BISE) Hyderabad was highlighted, the board authorities took notice. The principal, however, cleverly got a video made in which her favored students recorded statements claiming that everything in the college was well. "This is a way for the principal to protect herself from the possible probe of the board administration," the students said.

Parents expressed their frustration, stating that the college, established two years ago, still lacked laboratory equipment, drinking water, and essential facilities. They have been forced to transfer their daughters to other institutions due to the deplorable conditions. Parents Naveed Hussain, Ahmed Nizamani, Gulam Rasool Lochi, Shahid Bhangar, Abdullah Mirani, and others alleged that Principal Aliya Memon had misappropriated the funds allocated for the college. They demanded a thorough investigation into the alleged embezzlement and the unavailability of lab equipment and drinking water.

When contacted, Principal Aliya Memon, instead of explaining her position regarding the allegations leveled by students and their parents, termed the lack of financial resources as the root cause of the problems. She criticized higher authorities for not posting teachers of various subjects and providing funds to the college. She denied the posting of an Urdu teacher and insisted that she was doing her best to maintain the college despite these challenges. The current situation has resulted in an abnormally high dropout of students and highlights a critical need for inter-agency collaboration to ensure the provision of quality education and facilities for the students of Tando Jam College.

-Another bonehead's animal cruelty exposed!

Man Chops Off Donkey's Leg in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD: In a shocking incident of animal cruelty, a man in Hyderabad chopped off a donkey's leg, media reported on Sunday. This brutal act follows closely on the heels of another incident where a camel's leg was severed in Sanghar.

The latest incident occurred in Seri village, Hyderabad, the second-largest city of Sindh. According to police, the accused, Mir Kind, who drives a donkey cart, mutilated the donkey following a dispute with another donkey cart driver.

The police promptly arrested Mir Kind and he was sent to jail on a court order.

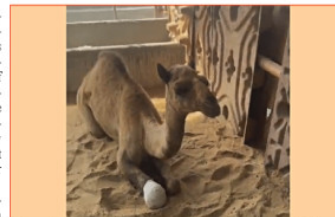
This incident comes just a day after a camel's leg was cut off by influential persons in Sanghar. Despite the clear involvement of influential individuals, the police initially registered a case against unidentified persons. The incident gained significant attention on social media, prompting Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah to take notice. Subsequently, the police registered a case and detained five individuals allegedly involved in the camel mutilation.

The repeated acts of cruelty have sparked outrage and calls for stricter enforcement of animal protection laws in the region.—RT

-Can you believe these boneheads would do something so cruel?

Six Suspects Remanded in Police Custody for Mutilating a Camel in Sanghar

SHAHADADPUR: On Sunday, a magistrate in Shahdadpur remanded six suspects into police custody in connection with the mutilation of a camel in Mund Jamrao village, Sanghar district. The camel's right leg was reportedly chopped off on Friday by a landlord as punishment for foraging in his field for fodder.



Sanghar police took notice of the incident, which gained widespread attention on social media, and contacted Soomar Behan, the camel's owner and a poor peasant. Police officials reported that Behan refused to identify the culprit or press charges, leading the police to file an FIR on behalf of the state against six unknown individuals under sections 429 (Mischievous by killing or maiming cattle) and 34 (common intention) of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC).

When police attempted to arrest the six suspects on Saturday, they allegedly resisted and attacked the officers. This led to a second FIR being filed against them under sections 353 (Assault or criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of his duty), 147 (Punishment for rioting), 149 (Every member of unlawful assembly guilty of offence committed in prosecution of common object) of the PPC.

The suspects, identified as Jaffar Jatt, Abdul Shakoor Shar, Gul Baig Lashari, and Darya Khan Shar, were apprehended near Rantoo Bridge in Sanghar. Sub-Inspector Atta Hussain Jutt stated that the suspects were presented before duty magistrate Asif Sial on Sunday. The police registered a 14-day remand for further investigation, citing the need to locate the weapon used in the heinous crime. However, the magistrate granted a four-day remand.—RT

Hingorja Notable Dr. Abdul Rehman Wassan Passes Away



By Sajjad Chang

HINGORJA: Dr. Abdul Rehman Wassan, a senior surgeon from Hingorja, has passed away. He died at Aga Khan Hospital in Karachi. His body was laid to rest at his family's ancestral graveyard after funeral prayers were performed in his native village, Aliabad Wassan. The funeral was attended by area notables, civil society leaders, and a large number of people from various walks of life, all of whom came to offer their condolences and pay their respects to the late Dr. Abdul Rehman Wassan. His loss is deeply felt by the community, which remembers him for his contributions to the field of surgery and his service to the people of Hingorja.

Transformer Theft Strikes Kunri Again, Perpetrators Remain At Large

By Mian Muhammad Faisal

KUNRI: In yet another brazen act of theft, unidentified individuals targeted a transformer in the late hours at Connerly, depriving residents of essential services and escaping with valuable components.



The incident occurred in the jurisdiction of the Boderfarm Police Station, specifically in Asafia Farm village. Overnight, the perpetrators dismantled a 25 KV transformer and absconded with its wiring, leaving behind a community in darkness. This marks the second transformer theft in recent days, following a similar incident in Mir Ali Nawaz Talpar village.

Transformer theft has unfortunately become a recurring issue in the Umerkot district, highlighting serious security and surveillance challenges in rural areas. Local authorities are under mounting pressure to enforce measures against such criminal activities, which disrupt daily life and jeopardize public utilities.

Residents affected by the latest incident express frustration and concern over the repeated thefts, urging prompt action from law enforcement agencies to apprehend the culprits and prevent future occurrences. The community awaits assurances of heightened security measures to safeguard vital infrastructure and restore normalcy in the affected areas.

Passerby Killed in Tando Allahyar Hit and Run

By Afaque Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: In a tragic incident on the Hyderabad-Mirpurkhas Road, a speeding car struck and killed a passerby, 35-year-old Maqsood S/o Harchand, on Sunday. The accident occurred within the jurisdiction of the Sultanabad Police Station.

Maqsood died instantly from the impact. The body was subsequently handed over to his family after the completion of necessary medico-legal formalities at a local hospital.

The driver of the car fled the scene immediately after the incident. Police are currently investigating the matter and efforts are underway to identify and apprehend the driver. Authorities have urged any witnesses or individuals with information about the incident to come forward to assist in the investigation.

Fatal Clash Erupts Over Buledi Community's Property Dispute In Osta Muhammad

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: Tragedy struck in Osta Muhammad on Sunday when a violent clash broke out between two factions of the Buledi community over a property dispute. The altercation escalated into gunfire, resulting in the death of a youth identified as Hoat Khan Buledi at the scene. Additionally, three others—Zubair Buledi, Muhammad Ayoub, and Muhammad Asif Buledi—sustained injuries and were promptly rushed to Civil Hospital Larkana for treatment. According to reports, Hakim Buledi and his three sons allegedly opened fire indiscriminately on their adversaries during the confrontation. The incident has sparked outrage among the affected families, who are demanding swift action from the authorities to ensure justice for the victims. Local law enforcement agencies have initiated an investigation into the incident to apprehend those responsible for the deadly violence. The community remains tense following the tragic event, with calls for peace and reconciliation echoing amidst the grief and anger. Updates on the developments of the case and the condition of the injured will be provided as more information becomes available as this is a developing story.

Jami Chandio and Distinguished Guests Inaugurate Sufi Library in Umerkot

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: The ceremonial opening of the Sufi Library took place on Samaro Road in Umerkot this Sunday. The event was graced by esteemed personalities including renowned civil society leader Jami Chandio, CIA In-charge Khalil Kumbhar, Hamad Sarhandi, Khatai Thebo, Dr. Rasool Bux, Shahida Aziz, Chetan Kumar, Naz Faqir Shahani, Nareesh Malhi, Hareesh Malhi, Mahesh Malhi, Madan Meeshwar, and several others.



The inauguration ceremony highlighted the significance of libraries as crucial centers for knowledge dissemination. Speakers at the event underscored the role of libraries in promoting cultural heritage and fostering a spirit of inquiry among communities. The Sufi Library aims to become a hub for literature enthusiasts and researchers alike, offering a rich collection that reflects the diverse cultural tapestry of the region. Its opening marks a milestone in promoting education and preserving the wisdom of Sufi traditions in Umerkot.

The event concluded with a commitment to uphold the library's mission of fostering intellectual curiosity and celebrating the enduring legacy of Sufi thought in the community.

Tragic Incident: Youth Drowns in Rice Canal Near Larkana

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: A heartbreaking incident occurred on Sunday as an 18-year-old boy, Oshaq Ali Abro, tragically drowned in the Rice Canal near the old bus stop. Despite the valiant efforts of local divers, the youth's body remains unaccounted for as of the time of reporting.

The incident has cast a pall over the community, with friends and family of Oshaq Ali Abro gathered anxiously near the canal, hoping for a miracle. Authorities continue their search and rescue efforts to recover the young man's body from the murky waters. The tragic event serves as a stark reminder of the dangers associated with the heartland's water bodies, especially during this season. Local authorities have urged caution among residents, emphasizing safety measures when near canals and rivers. Further updates on the search operation will be provided as the situation develops.

NATIONAL

Survey: Majority In Punjab Satisfied With Maryam Government's Performance

LAHORE: A majority of Punjab's population has expressed satisfaction with the performance of Punjab government led by Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, a survey conducted by the Institute for Public Opinion Research (IPOR) revealed on Sunday.

It has been observed the dissatisfaction level is higher in rural areas 42% compared to urban areas with 28%, as per the survey.

The IPOR conducted a quantitative survey in Punjab targeting the adult population of age 18 and above to gather public opinion on the 100-day performance of CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif, who made history by becoming the first female to be elected as provincial chief executive.

Out of 35%, who were not satisfied at all with the last 3-month performance of CM, 51% of respondents believe that the government will not be able to improve the situation, regardless of the time given.

And 19% of respondents are willing to give the gov-



ernment as much time as needed to improve the situation. The survey further revealed that 60% of respondents believe CM Maryam's popularity has increased over the last three months, while 53% of respondents believe the government's steps have been effective in reducing prices of various commodities. A decrease in the price of roti (bread) is the most favored project, with 44% of respondents considering it the best initiative. Following this project are the Solar Panel Program (11%) and the 200 Clinic on Wheels initiative (11%). The findings concluded that CM Maryam's leadership in Punjab is highly regarded, with strong public approval of her performance and initiatives. "While there is significant support for her efforts in reducing commodity prices and specific projects like the bread price relief, as compared to other initiatives. However, her approval ratings in rural areas (48%) are not as good as in urban areas (62%)," it added.—RT/Agency

Sikh Pilgrims Attend Death Anniversary Of Guru Arjan Dev At Gurdwara Dera Sahib



LAHORE: Sikh pilgrims attended the death anniversary of Guru Arjan Dev Ji at Gurdwara Dera Sahib in Lahore on Sunday.

Punjab Minister for Minorities Affairs and Chairman of the Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Prandhak Committee Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora was also present.

Speaking on the occasion, Arora said that followers of all the religions enjoy complete freedom in Pakistan.

He said that Indian Yatries are returning to their country with a message of love and peace.

The minister said that during their stay in Pakistan, Indian Yatries were facilitated in best possible way. He thanked Punjab and Federal Government for all necessary arrangements in this regards. As many as 846 Sikh pilgrims from India participated in the Jor Mela in commemoration of martyrdom of the fifth Guru, Arjan Dev Ji.—RT/Agency

Eidul Adha 2024: NOC Required For Collecting Hides Of Sacrificial Animals

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi district administration would not allow anyone to collect the hides of sacrificial animals without permission, media reported.

According to a district administration spokesman, the Punjab government had made prior approval for the collection of sacrificial animal hides mandatory for welfare organisations and others.

He informed me that the district administration had been directed to strictly implement the plan regarding the collection of sacrificial animals' hides during Eid ul Azha.

The administration warned that anyone found violating government orders would be dealt with in accordance with the law.



It has been decided that no one will be allowed to collect hides without the permission of the administration. Likewise, monitoring of the banned organizations and their affiliated elements would be conducted, he informed.—RT/Agency

Key TTP Commander Killed In Lakki Marwat Intelligence-Based Operation

BANNU: The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) of Bannu killed on Sunday a key terrorist commander of the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) in an intelligence-based operation (IBO) carried out in Lakki Marwat.

The operation was conducted in Tajuri Road near Malang Adda following which the armed terrorists hidden there opened fire on the police.

The key TTP commander Waliullah was gunned down by the CTD in retaliatory firing, while others managed to escape the scene.

The slain terrorist was a resident of Bachkan Ahmedzai District Lakki Marwat. The CTD recovered arms and two hand grenades from his possession.

Wali was a local commander of the banned TTP Tipu Gul group and was the son-in-law of Commander Atiqur Rahman alias Tipu Gul Marwat.

He was wanted in many



cases of bomb blasts on CTD Bannu, DI Khan and local police, and attacks on police and security forces.

On June 12, eleven terrorists were killed and their multiple hideouts were also busted during an IBO in Lakki Marwat district of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P), the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said in a statement.

The IBO was carried out in response to a recent improvised explosive device (IED) explosion in the same district that claimed the lives of seven brave soldiers, including Captain Muhammad Faraz Ilyas and Subedar Major Muhammad Nazir. "A sanitization operation is being carried out to eliminate any other terrorist in the area," the media wing of the military said. The ISPR reaffirmed the determination to wipe out the menace of terrorism from the country.—RT/Agency

Ban On Disposal Of Animal Waste And Offal In Canals And Drains Across Punjab During Eid

LAHORE: A ban has been imposed on the disposal of animal waste and offal in canals and drains throughout Punjab, including Lahore, on the occasion of Eidul Azha.

A special meeting was chaired by Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, with Senator Pervez Rasheed and the Punjab chief secretary among others in attendance. During the meeting, preparations and security arrangements for Eidul Azha were reviewed.

In light of this, Section 144 was imposed to prohibit the unlawful dumping of animal waste in canals and drains, as well as the roasting of animal heads and feet during the Eid days.

The chief minister directed the activation of control rooms at the provincial, divisional, district and tehsil levels.

It was briefed that in Lahore, staff will visit households to collect animal waste in biodegradable bags, and after the sacrifices, city streets will be washed, treated with lime, and sprayed.

The briefing also high-



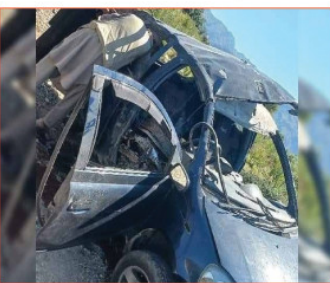
lighted the establishment of 294 animal sale points across Punjab and measures to ensure drains and manholes are protected from littering.

A comprehensive report on security arrangements at 2,600 mosques and 900 Eid venues, including Lahore, was presented. The meeting decided that CCTV cameras and walkthrough gates will be installed to monitor gatherings across the province.

The chief minister emphasised strict adherence to security SOPs and instructed the installation of mist fans, as well as regular inspection of children's swings and slides in parks due to the ongoing heatwave.

Maryam stressed the importance of regular inspection and safety standards for park swings, enhanced security in sensitive areas, and vowed to protect life and property, warning against vigilantism. Maryam directed the enforcement of bans on the illegal use of loudspeakers and the display of weapons, ensuring foolproof security at cattle markets, bazaars and markets, along with sanitation, sheds provision of clean drinking water and disinfection sprays.—RT/Agency

Kurram Blast Claims At Least Two Lives, Leaves Five Injured



DI KHAN: At least two fatalities were reported and five sustained injuries in an explosion in Kurram Road in Kurram district of the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) province on Sunday, media reported.

The rescue 1122 teams reached the scene. They confirmed two deaths, adding the injured were shifted to a local hospital for medical assistance.

The condition of four is critical, the rescue officials added.

Earlier, at least nine people, including seven army personnel, were injured in two separate terrorist attacks in Kurram and Dera Ismail Khan (DI Khan) districts of K-P on June 9.

Unidentified terrorists attacked a security forces check post in the Kurram tribal district last night leaving seven personnel injured. The attack was repulsed after a heavy exchange of fire, forcing the attackers to flee province on Sunday, media reported.

A contingent of the army was sent to the area as reinforcement which shifted the injured to a nearby hospital.

"A major and captain are also among the injured. All of them were shifted to hospital where the condition of one of the injured is stated to be critical," said a police official while talking to media.

He said a search operation had been launched in the area and that several people had been arrested.—RT/Agency

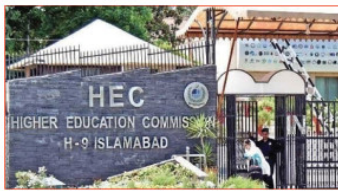
HEC Warns Students Against Admission In These Degree Programmes

ISLAMABAD: The Higher Education Commission (HEC) on Sunday issued an alert warning students against getting admissions in two-year programmes that have been phased out since the academic year 2019.

The alert, which was shared on HEC's official Instagram account, highlighted that it had phased out "two-year BA/Sc and MA/MSc programmes with extended deadlines of the academic year 2019 and June 30 2022".

The notification revealed that some higher education institutions admitted students in these phased-out programmes after the specified deadlines despite HEC's directions.

It also urged students, parents and stakeholders to avoid getting admission in these programmes as "degrees obtained from such



programmes do not qualify for recognition and attestation by HEC."

As per the HEC's official statement, the decision of abolishing the two-year degree programmes was taken in 2004 with the aim of enhancing the quality of degree programmes as per international standards.

The commission, however, had granted a transition period until 2016 to the varsities for phasing out the said programmes.

KP Education Minister Denies Allegations Of 'Cheating' In University Exams



PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Education Minister Meena Khan Afridi has refuted allegations that he was accused of "cheating" in the Bachelor of Laws examination.

His clarification comes after a summons issued, by the Controller of Examination University of Peshawar to Afridi earlier this year, went viral on social media.

The notice directed the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader to appear before the Examination Discipline Committee (EDC) of the

PM Extends Greetings To Nation And Muslim Ummah On Eid-ul-Azha

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has extended warm greetings to the Pakistani nation and Muslims around the world on the auspicious occasion of Eid-ul-Azha.

In a message, he said Eid-ul-Azha commemorates the unwavering commitment and readiness of Prophet Ibrahim to sacrifice his beloved son Prophet Ismail without hesitation, as commanded by Almighty Allah. "The day reminds us of the importance of sacrificing what is most dear to us in the way of Allah. It teaches us the value of selflessness and devotion to Allah."

The prime minister said the day also serves as an occasion to unite the people and foster the bonds of brotherhood and fraternity as well as to look after the less fortunate amongst us and make them part of our collective celebration.

"Whilst our wish is for peace, prosperity and love to prevail all over the world during Eid ul-Adha, we are also watching with sadness and concern other ongoing conflicts and violence in many countries worldwide. We should not forget the sacrifices and sufferings of

the people of Palestine and Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir" he added.

"On this Eid day, he said "we pray for our Palestinian and Kashmiri brothers and sisters who are bravely facing brutal foreign occupation but remain steadfast in their struggle to achieve their right of self-determination."

"May the spirit of Eid-ul-Adha, with its message of solidarity and unity, brings prosperity, success and happiness to the entire Muslim ummah," he prayed.—RT/Agency

PTI-P MPA arrested for assaulting ANP leader in Peshawar

PESHAWAR: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf-Parliamentarians (PTI-P) MPA Iqbal Wazir has been booked for allegedly assaulting ANP leader Alif Khan in Peshawar, media reported.

An FIR has been registered against PTI-P MPA Iqbal Wazir for allegedly assaulting ANP leader Alif Khan in Peshawar. The case was filed at the Sharqi Police Station.

According to the FIR, the MPA and his accomplices hit Alif Khan's vehicle, injuring him and two passersby. The attackers also damaged Alif Khan's vehicle.

An Awami National Party (ANP) leader, Alif Khan, was attacked and injured near the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly in Peshawar on Saturday night.

The assailants included Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf-Parliamentarians (PTI-P) MPA Iqbal Wazir and his accomplices. Following the incident, Peshawar Police registered a case against PTI-P MPA Iqbal Wazir. Alif Khan sustained minor injuries and received prompt medical attention at a hospital.—RT/Agency

Concerns Raised By Pakistan's Telecom Sector Over Heavy Taxes

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Telecom Operators Association has expressed concerns over the heavy taxes slapped in budget 2024, media reported.

In a letter written to the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance, Salim Mandviwala, the Telecom Operators expressed concerns over the heavy taxes introduced in the budget.

The telecom sector has warned that foreign investment might withdraw from Pakistan if tax issues are not resolved. According to the telecom operators, unresolved tax issues could lead to legal complications for the government.

The letter highlights that two major market players have already decided to leave

Pakistan. The telecom sector contributed PKR 340 billion in tax revenue last year, and has attracted direct investment of USD 15 billion in revenue loss for both the telecom sector and the government. Additionally, telecom companies have expressed concerns over a 75% advance tax on non-filer telecom users is impractical.

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The implementation of budget proposals will severely impact the dream of a Digital Pakistan, the letter's content reveals. The letter further mentions that collect-

ing 75% advance tax on non-filer telecom users is impractical.

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EDITORIAL

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

Monday, June 17, 2024



Animal cruelty and the moral decay of our society

The recent incidents of animal cruelty in Sanghar and Hyderabad are horrifying reminders of a disturbing trend in our society. The mutilation of a camel in Sanghar by a landlord, followed by the brutal chopping off of a donkey's leg in Hyderabad, reveals a deep-seated dehumanization that is taking root. These acts of barbarity are not isolated incidents but are reflective of a broader societal malaise where the frustration and anger of individuals are being heinously vented on helpless animals.

In Sanghar, six suspects have been remanded for their involvement in chopping off a camel's leg as punishment for foraging. The initial reluctance of the camel's owner, a poor peasant, to identify the culprits underscores the power dy-

namics and fear that inhibit justice. Similarly, in Hyderabad, a donkey cart driver mutilated his animal following a petty dispute. Both incidents



highlight a disturbing pattern of cruelty that is gaining attention only due to the outcry on social media and intervention from higher authorities. These acts of violence against animals are symptomatic of a society grappling with deep frustrations and a sick sense of empowerment derived from abusing the defenseless. Such cruelty is not only an affront to our humanity but also a

dangerous indicator of how societal frustrations are being misdirected. The ease with which these individuals resort to such brutal acts against animals raises alarming questions about the safety of other vulnerable groups, including children. It is imperative that we address the root causes of this frustration and enforce stringent laws to protect animals. These cruel acts should not be seen as isolated incidents but as a call to action to safeguard our society from further moral decay. We must cultivate compassion and empathy, ensuring that our frustrations are not misdirected towards the innocent. Only through collective outrage and systemic change can we hope to prevent such dehumanizing behavior from becoming a norm.

GLOBAL WATCH

Elon Musk Asked X Employees To Justify Their Jobs. Then Fired 6,000

Tech billionaire Elon Musk made a lot of noise when he bought Twitter (now X) for \$44 billion in 2022. The social media platform has seen quite a few changes since then.

Now, as per a report by The Telegraph, Elon Musk has fired 6,000 (80 per cent) of the staff.

The report added that half of the workers were fired within months of the acquisition. It also revealed that Mr Musk had sent his cousin James Musk, and Steve Davis to talk to the employees and justify their roles in the company. People were also asked to share their thoughts on the other employees in the team.

Reportedly, the major lay-offs happened in the diversity and inclusion teams and product development and design.

The report added, "It was clearly pretty bloated. You had to right-size the



organisation. However, Musk went further than anyone predicted. When he cuts a team, he cuts the whole team, and that creates significant chaos." A source told The Telegraph, "Musk had been hoping to rebuild the business with a challenger mindset and a clean slate. But lopping off whole divisions without a clear strategy left too many gaps to plug, and talent had plenty of opportunities at fast-growing start-

Israel Military's Daily Pauses For Gaza Aid Delivery Pitch Irks War Criminal Netanyahu



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu criticized plans announced by the military on Sunday to hold daily tactical pauses in fighting along one of the main roads into Gaza to facilitate aid delivery into the Palestinian enclave.

The military had announced the daily pauses from 0500 GMT until 1600 GMT in the area from the Kerem Shalom Crossing to the Salah al-Din Road and then northwards.

"When the prime minister heard the reports of an 11-hour humanitarian pause in the morning, he turned to his military secretary and made it clear that this was unacceptable to him," an Israeli official said.

The military clarified that normal operations would continue in Rafah, the main focus of its operation in southern Gaza, where eight soldiers were killed on Saturday.

The reaction from Netanyahu underlined political tensions over the issue of aid coming into Gaza, where international organisations have warned of a growing humanitarian crisis.

National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, who leads one of the nationalist religious parties in Netanyahu's ruling coalition, denounced the idea of a tactical pause, saying whoever decided it was a "fool" who should lose their job.

Divisions Between Coalition, Army The spat was the latest in a series of clashes between members of the

THE HEARTLAND

Healthcare Crisis In Badin Exposes Massive Systemic Failures

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: Public hospitals in Badin, including the Indus District Headquarters Hospital (DHQ), are facing severe criticism for their alleged mismanagement and corruption, depriving poor patients of essential medical services. Despite receiving substantial government grants amounting to billions annually, these hospitals are failing to meet the basic healthcare needs of the local population.

A recent survey highlighted an agreement between Indus Hospital Badin and the Sindh government, under which significant funds have been allocated over the past eight years. However, the hospital has reportedly fulfilled less than

30% of its commitments, resulting in a dire shortage of expert medical staff and essential facilities. Patients, especially those involved in accidents, are frequently referred to distant hospitals in Karachi and Hyderabad due to the inadequate capabilities of local facilities.

The absence of intensive care units (ICUs) and proper ward facilities has tragically led to a large number of patient deaths and the postponement of critical surgeries. Furthermore, the inefficiency extends to the health department staff, who allegedly evade responsibilities while occupying political positions. The 1122 ambulance service, intended to assist in medical emergencies, is restricted to Badin and

Violent Clash Among Meghwar Community in Kunri Leads to Injuries and Arrests

By Mian Muhammad Faisal

KUNRI: A disturbing incident unfolded in Harijan Colony near Kunri where a dispute between two factions of the local Meghwar community escalated into violence, leaving several individuals injured. The altercation reportedly stemmed from a longstanding property dispute.

During the confrontation, Meghwar community individuals named Dayalu, Santosh, and Hero Meghwar, who were allegedly involved in the altercation, were also reported injured. However, there appears to be discrepancy in the police account

and Hero Meghwar, who were allegedly involved in the altercation, prompting calls for fair treatment and justice from the affected community members. The incident underscores the need for a thorough investigation and impartial legal proceedings to resolve the underlying grievances and prevent further escalation of tensions within the Meghwar community in Kunri. Authorities are expected to conduct a transparent inquiry into the matter to ensure accountability and address the concerns raised by both injured parties and their supporters.

"There's No Joy": Gazans Celebrate Eid Under The Shadow Of Israeli Atrocities

In tents in the stifling heat and in bombed-out mosques, Gazans marked Sunday the start of the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha, devoid of the usual cheer as the Israel-Hamas war raged on.

"There is no joy. We have been robbed of it," said Malakiya Saliman, a 57-year-old displaced woman, now living in a tent in Khan Yunis city in the southern Gaza Strip.

Gazans, like Muslims the world over, would usually slaughter sheep for the holiday -- whose Arabic name means "feast of the sacrifice" -- and share the meat with the needy.

Parents would also gift children new clothes and money in celebration. But this year, after more than eight months of a devastating Israeli campaign that has flattened much of Gaza, displaced most of the besieged territory's 2.4 million people and sparked repeated warnings of famine, the Eid is a day of misery for many.

"I hope the world will put pressure to end the war on us, because we are truly dying," and our children are broken," said Saliman. Her family was displaced from the far-southern city of Rafah, a recent focus of the fighting which began after Hamas's October 7 attack on southern Israel.

The military on Sunday morning announced a "tactical" pause of military activity "around a Rafah-area route to facilitate the delivery of desperately needed humanitarian aid to Gazans.



AFP correspondents said there were no reports of strikes or shelling since dawn, though the Israeli military stressed there was "no cessation of hostilities in the southern Gaza Strip". The brief respite in fighting allowed worshippers a rare moment of calm on the holiday, which honours the prophet Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son before God offered a sheep instead.

"Strange" silence - Many gathered for the Eid al-Adha morning prayer in the courtyard of Gaza City's historic Omari Mosque, which was heavily damaged in Israeli bombardment, placing down their frayed prayer mats next to mounds of rubble.

The sound of prayers travelled down some of the city's destroyed and abandoned streets. "Since this morning, we've felt a sudden calm with no gunfire or bombings. It's strange," said 30-year-old Haitham al-Ghura from Gaza City. He said he hoped that the pause meant a permanent ceasefire was near, though

Three Injured in Tando Allahyar's Solangi-Jatt Clash

By Afaq Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: A clash erupted between two rival groups from the local Jatt and Solangi communities in Tando Allahyar's Mughal Colony on Sunday. Both groups attacked each other with sticks and metal rods, resulting in injuries to three men from the Solangi community. The injured individuals were rushed to a local hospital for treatment. Following the incident, members of the Solangi community staged a protest, demanding that higher authorities take notice of the matter and provide justice.

Awami Democratic Party Leaders Condemn Budget As Anti-People In Badin

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: Khadim Talpar, the central president of the Awami Democratic Party, along with Syed Lal Shah, Noornabi Rahujo, Nazeer Qureshi, and Dr. Aslam Parvez Umrani, have vehemently rejected the recently presented budget, labeling it as detrimental to the interests of the common people and advantageous to the affluent.

In a joint statement, they criticized the budget for exacerbating the hardships faced by the poor and working-class citizens. They emphasized that the budget fails to provide any relief to farmers, laborers, and workers in Sindh, leading to widespread discontent among the populace. They further lamented the persistent issues of poverty, stagnation, corruption, and the deteriorating state of education and healthcare in the region.

The leaders highlighted that while countries around the world are confronting challenges and progressing, Pakistan, and particularly Sindh, seem to be regressing due to the irresponsible governance and policies of the ruling authorities. They expressed concern that the lack of foresight and accountability among leaders is leading the country towards further decay and decline. The statement concluded with a call for immediate reforms and a more equitable budget that addresses the genuine needs of the people, rather than favoring the interests of the privileged few. The leaders pledged to continue advocating for the rights and welfare of the marginalized communities in Sindh.

SPORTS



-Hope it's not another Form 47 Captain like Babar Azam! Andy Flower names his top pick for Pakistan cricket team captaincy



KARACHI: Former Zimbabwe cricketer Andy Flower, currently the head coach of Multan Sultans in the Pakistan Super League (PSL), shared his views on the Pakistani national team's captaincy in an interview.

Andy suggested that leg-spinner Shadab Khan is no longer in contention for the captaincy, proposing that wicket-keeper batter Mohammad Rizwan might be the best choice.

He mentioned the recent turmoil in captaincy and coaching changes impacting the team's performance adversely.

Andy noted that despite bringing back players like Imad Wasim and Mohammad Amir, the changes did not yield positive results.

He also highlighted Gary Kirsten's brief tenure as head coach coinciding with the team's early exit in a major tournament, emphasizing the team's nervous body language during matches.

"Kirsten didn't have time to mould the side into a unit," said Andy Flower.

The captaincy saga saw Babar Azam resign after the ICC World Cup, followed by Shaheen Shah Afridi's brief stint and subsequent return of captaincy to Babar amid reported team discord.

The team's recent results, including a series tie against a weakened New Zealand side, narrow wins over Ireland, and a shocking defeat to the USA, underscored the team's challenges under evolving leadership.—Agency

PAK vs IRE: Embarrassing Pakistan end T20 World Cup campaign with meaningless victory against the Irish

LAUDERHILL: Pakistan ended their T20 World Cup campaign with victory against Ireland in their last match of T20 World Cup 2024, played Sunday at the Central Broward Regional Park Stadium in Lauderhill, Florida.

The Irish struggled during Green Shirts' run-chase but made inroads by picking up quick wickets later in the innings.

However, Babar Azam and Co chased down the small 107-run target against the opponents, who remained winless at the mega-tournament.

The low-scoring encounter was decided in the second last over with Shaheen Afridi taking Pakistan



over the line and helping them end their disappointing T20 World Cup campaign with a six.

Chasing the target, Pakistan, despite a decent start, made things difficult for them as they kept on losing wickets. Saim Ayub (17 off 17), and Mohammad Rizwan (17 off 16) lost their

his 17-run innings which helped Babar Azam's side come close to the target.

Skipper Babar Azam top-scored for the winning side with 32 runs.

Earlier in the first innings, a dominating display by the Pakistani bowlers ran over the Irish side as Shaheen, Mohammad Amir, and Wasim all starred with the ball.

Shaheen started the innings for Pakistan brilliantly as he removed Andrew Balbirnie and Lorcan Tucker in the first over, leaving Ireland 2-2.

Amir continued what Shaheen started and sent Irish skipper Paul Stirling back to the pavilion for just one run.—Agency

Bajrami scores fastest ever Euros goal after 23 seconds



DORTMUND: Albania's Nedim Bajrami put his side ahead after just 23 seconds in their opening Euro 2024 game against Italy on Saturday for the fastest goal ever scored at a European Championship.

Bajrami pulverised the previous Euro record for the quickest goal of 67 seconds by Dmitri Kirichenko of Russia against Greece in 2020 at Wembley three years ago.

Shaw netted after just one minute and 56 seconds for what remains the sixth-fastest ever at the competition.—Agency

Chahat Fateh Ali Khan wants to replace Mohsin Naqvi as PCB chief to win matches

LONDON: Pakistan's viral internet celebrity and singer Chahat Fateh Ali Khan wants to replace Mohsin Naqvi, who is also the Interior Minister, as the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman, in order to make the national team win matches.

The Babar Azam-led Men in Green are under severe criticism following their exit from the ICC T20 World Cup, and there is a lot of talk about the country's cricket authorities as well.

In an interview with media, Chahat, who is a former first-class cricketer, said that he is ready to become the PCB chief as he has "the experience" and "the plan".

In his first interview with media after returning to the United Kingdom from Pakistan where he went viral for



his song Bado Badi, Chahat shared his views on the national team's disappointing performance and asked the PCB chief Mohsin Naqvi to consider stepping aside to make way for him.

He addressed a press conference here with director and producer Faraz Ahmed to promote the social media film 'Sabaq', which is his acting debut as a lead. The film was released on Chahat's YouTube channel on Eid ul Adha.

The singer suggested that the PCB requires an experienced cricketer as its chairman and expressed his interest in taking on the role if given the opportunity.

Not many people are aware that Chahat has actu-

ally helped in launching the careers of cricket greats such as Waqar Younus, Mushtaq Ahmed, Saeed Anwar and Agib Javed. The former cricketer "accommodated" Younus at his flat in East London for nearly three months around three decades ago and inducted Javed into his team in Sheikhupura, where Chahat was the team head. The singer, whose real name is Kashif Rana, played two first-class matches, before moving to the UK, where he played club cricket for 12 years. He came to the UK on a cricket sports visa in the early 90s. "I am ready to get the PCB and the cricket team on the right track. If appointed chairman, I would personally oversee player performances and coaching four days a week.—Agency

Cristiano Ronaldo sends wishes to fans on Eid ul Adha



Cristiano Ronaldo, Al Nassr's legendary striker, on Sunday sent greetings to all his Muslim fans on the occasion of Eid ul Adha 2024.

Ronaldo, 39, shared a social media post by his Riyadh-based football club in which the club wished their fans a "happy Eid".

The greeting comes as Muslims in various parts of the world celebrate Eid ul Adha, also known as the festival of sacrifice.

The post featured a poster showing the Portuguese football legend standing between his Al Nassr teammates Sadio Mane and Ali Lajami. The poster also featured an Eid greeting written in Arabic.

The post that was shared on the club's official Instagram page, featured the caption: "We wish a happy Eid to all Muslims across the world".

The five-time Ballon d'Or award winner shared the post on his Instagram Story to extend his Eid greetings to his Muslim fans.

Previously, Ronaldo and teammates were seen in a video wearing traditional Saudi dress and wielding swords to celebrate Saudi National Day on September 23 last year.—Agency

T20 World Cup: Australia beat Scotland, send England into Super Eight

GROS ISLET: Australia secured a five-wicket victory over Scotland in St Lucia on Saturday that sent the Scots home from the T20 World Cup and defending champions England through to the Super Eight stage.

After England's rain-disrupted victory over Namibia in Antigua earlier in the day, Scotland needed a draw, a washout or a first ever win over Australia to progress from Group B at the expense of their southern neighbours.

Clear skies at Gros Islet meant the Scots would be reliant on their cricketing skills and they made a good start of it with 180-5 from their 20 overs highlighted by a quickfire 60 from Brandon McMullen and 42



not out from skipper Richie Berrington.

Australia, who had already booked their spot in the second round, will have been disappointed with their fielding and the start of their innings but Travis Head (68) and Marcus Stoinis (59) accelerated in the last 10 overs to help get them across the line.

Scotland are a really good outfit, they took it down to the wire and it was a good chase in the end," said Australia captain Mitchell Marsh.

"The World Cup kind of starts again now, we're excited about what's to come," Berrington, whose team depart because they had a lower net run rate than England, said the Scots were disappointed that they had not driven home their advantage.

"I thought we were in a pretty good position," he said.

"Unfortunately, we didn't execute for long enough. I think the guys can hold their heads high in regards to how they've played their cricket throughout the tournament."

Australia won the toss and elected to field first but after Ashton Agar had bowled opener Michael Jones in the first over, George Munsey and McMullen put together a partnership of 89 for the second wicket to lay a solid platform for Scotland.—Agency

Pakistan's Yasir Ali wins silver medal in Asian Throwing Championship



Emerging Pakistani javelin thrower Yasir Ali has clinched a silver medal in the 2nd Asian Throwing Championship held in South Korea.

Yasir threw javelin at an impressive 78.10 metres distance. He finished second behind Sri Lanka's Ramesh Tharanga, who topped the event by achieving a throw of 85.45 metres.

Tharanga bagged a gold medal for his achievement in the event, which was participated by 19 athletes.

Pakistan Athletics Federation congratulated Yasir over winning the silver medal.

The star javelin thrower won silver medal in the 2023 championship. Over this achievement Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had announced a cash prize of Rs2.5 million for him on March 19.—Agency

Face of the Day



Name: Hamza Arab
Location: Karachi
About me: I hate the Pakistan Cricket Team!

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

ENTERTAINMENT



Emilia Clarke admits 'distance' from 'Game of Thrones' confirms 'rarity'

Emilia Clarke is touching upon her attachment to Game of Thrones.

Speaking to PEOPLE in a recent interview, while the actress discusses her new coalition with Pegasus Distillerie, Emilia speaks about her time at the hit TV series.

"The more distance I have from Game of Thrones, the more I can quantify it," she explains.

"When I started, you don't know what you're doing, you don't know what you're surrounded by and you don't know what you're taking part in."

"Now, as more and more time goes between it and me doing it, the more I'm like, that was incredibly special and that was incredibly rare," Clarke adds.

The actress then reveals that it "means the world" that fans have such an attachment and appreciation for Game of Thrones.

Game of Thrones, derived from the fantasy novels by George R. R. Martin, lasted for eight seasons from 2011 to 2019.

American's Sweetheart Taylor Swift declares herself 'lucky' to play for Liverpool: 'Most generous'



Taylor Swift is winning hearts with her message to the crowds at Liverpool.

The songstress, who is currently on her Eras Tour, has dubbed her fans in the UK most 'generous' in a heartfelt confession.

"I just want to say, on an individual basis, this is one of the most expressive, genuine, generous, beautiful crowds I've ever gotten to play for," Swift began. "I've made so many best friends out here tonight, you have no idea."

"I'm so lucky to get to play a show with people like you wanting to come to it. Thank you so, so, so much for that. I love you Liverpool. Thank you," she continued.

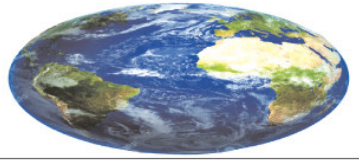
A fan has shared clip of the star on X as she performs for her fans.

"Every single time I have an acoustic set, I'm always trying to think of things you might want to hear - maybe things that might be a little bit unexpected."

She added, "Let's see how we did tonight."

Elsewhere during the concert, the singer also spoke about her 100th show.

"A lot of you are like, 'How are you going to celebrate the 100th show?'" Swift said in footage. "The celebration of the 100th show for me means this is the very first time I've acknowledged to myself and admitted that this tour is going to end in December."



GLOBAL WATCH

Ukraine Summit Sees Hard Road To Peace As Way Forward Uncertain

Western powers and their allies at a summit in Switzerland denounced Russia's invasion of Ukraine on Sunday, but they failed to persuade major non-aligned states to join their final statement, and no country came forward to host a sequel.

Over 90 countries attended the two-day talks at a Swiss Alpine resort at the behest of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy, billed as a "peace summit" even though Moscow was not invited.



Russia ridiculed the event from afar. A decision by China to stay away all but assured that the summit would fail to achieve Ukraine's goal of persuading major countries from the "global South" to join in isolating Russia.

Brazil attended only as an "observer". And in the end, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Saudi Arabia and South Africa all withheld their signatures from the summit communiqué, even though some contentious issues were omitted in the hope of drawing wider support.

Still, the conference provided Kyiv with a chance to showcase the support from Western allies that it says it needs to keep fighting against a far bigger enemy.

"We are responding to Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine not only with a full-scale defense of human life, but also with full-scale

US Passenger, Who Was Duct-Taped For Violent Behavior, Faces Record Fine



A 34-year-old US woman has been sued for failing to pay \$81,950 fine for assaulting co-passengers on an American Airlines flight in 2021, a report said.

Heather Wells was accused of kicking and spitting at the passengers on a Charlotte-bound flight that she had boarded from Texas on July 7, 2021. Heather Wells was gagged and bound with duct tape to her seat after she tried to open the aircraft door mid-air.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) had imposed \$81,950 fine on her, the highest-ever imposed by the authority for violent behavior by a passenger, the New York Times said.



FAA has now sued her for failing to pay the fine. She ordered an alcoholic beverage and became "increasingly agitated and wanted to get out of the plane," the complaint said.

The 34-year-old then tried to open the cabin front door while "screaming and yelling profanities."

Heather Wells was restrained to her seat with duct tape and flex cuffs but "continued to kick and spit and attempted to bite and head-butt a flight attendant and passengers," it said.

She continued the violent behaviour before she was sedated and removed from the plane once it landed at the Charlotte airport—Agency

Shunned By The West, Russian Army Deserters Live In Constant Fear

Astana: Russian officer Farkhad Ziganshin had prepared himself for a life of military service since a young age. He could never have imagined that one day he would become a deserter and flee the country.



Russia's invasion of Ukraine changed everything. "I don't support what's happening in Ukraine, I don't support the government we've had for so many years," Ziganshin, 24, told AFP in Kazakhstan, where he fled in September 2022 after Vladimir Putin ordered Russia's first military mobilisation since World War II.

Faced with a choice between taking part in a war of aggression or going to prison for refusing to fight in Ukraine, hundreds of deserters and draft dodgers have fled to neighbouring ex-Soviet countries where they are now stuck in limbo.



Russian authorities have opened a criminal case against Ziganshin for abandoning his unit. He does not feel safe in Kazakhstan and fears he might be deported to Russia.

But it is hard for men like him to seek refuge in the West because many Russian servicemen do not have the documents that allow them to reach neighbours such as Kazakhstan or Armenia.

Anti-war activists urge European and US policymakers to do more to help men like Ziganshin, who are hunted at home and viewed

with suspicion in the West. While in Kazakhstan, Ziganshin was briefly arrested twice, most giving up. He is not giving up, however. He openly speaks of his opposition to Putin and the war in Ukraine with foreign journalists.

Together with other opponents of the war he has recorded videos to encourage Russians to flee the battlefield as part of an initiative dubbed "Farewell to arms".

In one such video, a serviceman sets fire to a uniform bearing the letter "Z", a symbol of Moscow's invasion of Ukraine, before heading for the nearest forest.

"No one attacked your homeland," says a message at the end of the clip. "We have already refused to take part in a criminal war. You should too."

"Live with dignity" Ziganshin went to a military boarding school at the age of 10 and graduated from a military academy that prepares Russian tank commanders.

He describes the Russian armed forces as a "great school of life". But when Russia invaded Ukraine, he

realised this was not the army he wanted to dedicate his life to.

He managed to resign, only to learn the next day that a military mobilisation had been declared and that he would be deployed to Ukraine, along with around 300,000 other men.

Ziganshin packed up in a hurry and fled to neighbouring Kazakhstan. Afraid of being sent back to Moscow, where he will be criminally prosecuted, he has been trying to acquire a visa to travel to France.

Kazakh rights campaigner Artur Alkhasov said Russian deserters stand virtually no chance of receiving refugee status in the Central Asian country.

"We've got really strong diplomatic ties with Russia," said Alkhasov.

Campaigners have also accused local authorities of facilitating the arrests of Russians who have sought refuge in Kazakhstan. Mikhail Zhilin of the Russian Federal Guard Service fled to Kazakhstan to avoid the draft, illegally crossing the border—Agency

Ahead Of Polls, Gaza A Test Of Loyalty For UK Muslims Towards Labour Party

London: Gaza is a long way from the picturesque foothills of the Yorkshire Dales but the issue could swing UK general election races in northern England, with many local Muslims angry at Labour's stance.

While Labour is expected to win a thumping national majority on July 4, leader Keir Starmer's refusal to back an unconditional ceasefire in Gaza has caused a split with once-loyal Muslim supporters.

That rift could influence the result in marginal seats that have a sizeable Muslim population, such as Keighley and Ilkley in Yorkshire.

Around four in five UK Muslims voted Labour in 2019, reinforcing the historic links that were forged after the mass migration of workers from Pakistan in the 1950s and 1960s.

But recent polling suggested around one in five of those voters are set to defect, further weakening the country's traditional voting blocs.

"It's definitely an issue... but I'm quite hopeful as the election campaign goes on that I will retain a large part of the Muslim vote where it's a particular concern," said Labour candidate John Grogan at his Keighley campaign office, surrounded by boxes of "Vote Labour" posters and flyers.



"Here in Keighley, the mosques are taking a neutral position. In some towns across the north of England, the mosques are saying, 'don't vote for either of the main parties'," he told AFP.

A robust doorstep debate on the campaign trail revealed the depth of feeling, with Grogan stressing to a local resident that Labour in power would "respect the power of the international court" and recognise a Palestinian state.

He also highlighted his vote against the Iraq war while an MP in 2003.

"Keir Starmer is going to be your leader though. Whatever Keir Starmer says is what you follow," the sceptical voter, who wished to remain anonymous, said from his front door.

"The only one who is speaking at the moment is George Galloway," he added, referring to the veteran firebrand politician who recently became an MP in a similar seat by running on the issue.

"Well, he's not going to get things done mate," replied Grogan. "I want to be in parliament the day that Britain, France and Germany recognise a Palestinian state. We're committed to doing it."

While losing support among some in the Muslim community, others pledged their support for Grogan as he walked the streets campaigning, aided by a Bangladeshi cricket team.

"Very, very angry" The Conservatives could theoretically hold the seat if enough voters desert Labour for other candidates, such as independent Vasim Shabir, who has made Gaza the focal point of his campaign. "Gaza has galvanised a lot of people who were either politically apathetic or politically asleep," Shabir told AFP outside a town centre kebab shop that was flying his campaign flag—Agency

Russian Prison Siege By ISIS Inmates Ends, Hostages Safe



Moscow: Two prison day. "During a special operation... the criminals were liquidated and the employees taken by Islamic State inmates, hostage were freed and with the assailants "liquidated", the country's prison service said Sunday.

Russian Military Aircraft Violates Swedish Airspace



Stockholm: A Russian military aircraft briefly violated Swedish airspace east of the Baltic island of Gotland on Friday and was met by Swedish fighter jets, the Nordic country's armed forces said on Saturday.

The Swedish armed forces said in a statement that the Russian military aircraft, a SU-24, had been hailed with a warning but failed to respond after which two Swedish Gripen fighters

Shoes Melted Due To Heat, 52-Year-Old Woman Runs 1,000 Km In 12 Days

A 52-year-old ultramarathoner named Natalie Dau recently achieved a remarkable feat by running 1,000 kilometres across Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore in just 12 days. Despite facing extreme heat and a serious hip injury, Ms Dau persevered, running the equivalent of two marathons each day. Her journey concluded in Singapore on June 5.



This extraordinary accomplishment earned Ms Dau the Singapore record for the "Fastest 1,000km Thailand-Singapore Ultramarathon." Additionally, she awaits certification from Guinness World Records for the "Fastest Crossing of Peninsular Malaysia on Foot."

"Today is the first time in four days I have questioned if I would actually finish this thing. I love the challenge of the sport, love the rawness of it all, but hate these low points. And they come often," she told BBC.

Ms Dau's run raised over \$50,000 for the global charity GRLS, which supports women and girls through

sports, aiming to develop their leadership skills.

"Whether you come in first or last, it doesn't matter. You've done something almost superhuman, something that 0.05% of the world's population will never do," she said.

The Race Ms Dau's journey was far from easy. Running in temperatures as high as 35 degrees Celsius, her shoes melted, and she battled a hip injury from the very first day, reports The Straits Times. By Day 3, she developed a urinary tract infection. However, Dau's saw through these challenges. Each day, she covered at least 84 kilometres.

Throughout the run, Ms Dau kept her supporters updated through nightly voice messages, sharing both her triumphs and her struggles. Her team, instrumental in the success, provided essential support, ensuring safety and logistics were meticulously planned.

Dau's accomplishment extends beyond personal achievement. She hopes her journey will inspire others, particularly women and older individuals, to challenge their own limits. "Whether you come in first or last, it doesn't matter. You've done something almost superhuman, something that 0.05% of the world's population will never do," she said—Agency

19 Pilgrims From Jordan, Iran Died In Saudi During Hajj Amid Extreme Heat

Amman, Jordan: At least 19 Jordanian and Iranian pilgrims have died while on the hajj pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia, authorities from their countries said on Sunday, as temperatures soar in the kingdom.

"14 Jordanian pilgrims died and 17 others were missing" during the performance of hajj rituals, Jordan's foreign ministry said in a statement, not specifying their cause of death.

Iranian Red Crescent chief Pirhossein Koolivand said "five Iranian pilgrims have lost their lives so far in Mecca and Medina during the hajj this year," also not saying how they died.

The hajj, one of the world's biggest religious gatherings, is one of the five pillars of Islam and all Muslims with the means must perform it at least once.

Temperatures have pushed past 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit) during the annual pil-



grimage that are around 1.8 million Muslims are taking part in this year.

Many of the rituals are performed outdoors and on foot, creating challenges especially among the elderly.

Saudi Arabia has not provided any information on fatalities.

But the kingdom has implemented heat mitigation measures, including climate-controlled areas, distributes water, and offers advice to pilgrims on protecting themselves from the sun.

During last year's hajj at least 240 people -- many

US Man Opens Fire At Children's Water Park, 8-Year-Old Among Injured

Two children, one of them 8 years old, were among several injured after a gunman opened fire at a children's water park in US Michigan on Saturday evening. The shooter, who had been hiding inside a nearby home was found dead, Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard said.

Police said the "nine, maybe 10" victims were injured in the shooting at Brooklands Plaza Splash Pad in Rochester Hills and rushed to hospital.

"We had an active shooter at the splash pad on Auburn in Rochester Hills. That is still an active crime scene and we potentially have the suspect contained nearby, but we asked for the moment people stay away from the area. We have numerous

wounded victims. More to follow," the police department said in a post on X.

The Oakland County Sheriff said that the suspect reached the splash pad around 5 pm on Saturday and opened fire after he got down from his vehicle. The suspect reloaded his gun several times as he fired as many as 28 times, the sheriff said.

While the motive behind the shooting is not known yet, police believe that the attack appears to be random. Rochester Hills Mayor Bryan K. Barnett said that the police have secured the site of the attack. "Rochester Hills Fire Department is on the scene and the scene is secure. We appreciate everyone's patience as we work through this. Prayers are with all those involved.—Agency

Dog-Eating Crocodile That Terrorized Australian Village Killed And Cooked For Feast

A giant saltwater crocodile that terrorised a village in northern Australia was killed and eaten by locals during a traditional festival. The 3.63-metre crocodile moved into Baines River, 250m from residences, following floods earlier this year and had been stalking and lunging out of the water at children and adults. The crocodile had also reportedly taken multiple community dogs.

After talking to elders and traditional landowners in the Aboriginal community, police shot and killed the scaly predator on Tuesday.

In consultation with Traditional Owners, Elders, community members and Parks and Wildlife, the crocodile was shot to ensure that it did not continue to pose a significant risk to the community. An opportunistic crocodile safety session was conducted by Parks and Wildlife with the children giving them an up-close look at the dangers within our waters," Northern Territory police said in a statement.



Commander Kylie Anderson said, "Crocodiles can pose a significant risk to community safety. Thanks to the seamless collaboration between Parks and Wildlife, our remote police staff and residents we were able to safely remove the large saltie and maintain the safety of the community. There's never a dull moment in remote policing."

Speaking to public broadcaster ABC, Northern Territory Police Sergeant Andrew McBride said the animal was "cooked up into crocodile tail soup, he was on the barbecue, a few of the pieces were wrapped up in banana leaves and cooked underground."

"It was a rather large traditional feast and there were a few full bellies," Sergeant McBride added.

Commander Kylie Anderson said, "Crocodiles can pose a significant risk to community safety. Thanks to the seamless collaboration between Parks and Wildlife, our remote police staff and residents we were able to safely remove the large saltie and maintain the safety of the community. There's never a dull moment in remote policing."

The Northern Territory has seen an increased presence of crocodiles, especially in its western regions, following the recent flooding. The flooding had displaced many crocodiles, causing them to appear in unusual locations.—Agency

METRO KARACHI



Karachi Outraged As Cops Allegedly Rob Another Paan Shop

KARACHI: In another blow to professional integrity, suspected police officers in Karachi have allegedly looted yet another paan shop, according to a complaint filed at Preezy Police Station by a local resident.

Yaqoob reported that his brother Akram was in the shop when plainclothes officers arrived on a police mobile. One officer stood guard outside while another entered the shop, he said.

The plainclothes officers allegedly seized cash from the counter as well as foreign cigarettes, amounting to approximately Rs115,000 in cash and goods, Yaqoob alleged.

The complainant further claimed that the officers cov-



ered his brother Akram with a cloth and took him away in the police mobile, later releasing him a short distance away. They also reportedly issued severe threats.

Police officials have confirmed that a case has been registered and an investigation is underway.

clothes officers robbing the shop, which led to an inquiry ordered by the city police chief. Police sources stated that Fahad committed the robberies under his father's direction.

During the investigation, the complainant, Shah Zeb, identified DSP Zafar Javed, and his son Fahad for looting a paan shop in Gulshan-e-Iqbal.

The arrests followed the circulation of CCTV footage showing plain-

remaining policemen involved in the robbery.

Last month, a sessions court acquitted for lack of evidence former South SSP Imran Qureshi, DSP Umair Tariq Bajari and others in a case about a robbery that was committed in the guise of a police raid at the house of a trader in Orangi Town.

Another stark example is that of the extrajudicial murder of Naequebullah Mehsud. In January 2023, a special anti-terrorism court (ATC) acquitted 18 suspects, including former Malir SSP Rao Anwar Ahmed Khan and DSP Qamar Ahmed in the high-profile Naequebullah murder case.—RT/Agency



KARACHI: Police officials are inspecting and showing seized illegal liquor bottles that were recovered in intelligence based raid in the Korangi Bhattai Colony area to media persons during a press conference at Excise Narcotics Control office in District Korangi.—RT

Eid-Ul-Adha 2024: Karachi Police Ramp Up Security Measures

KARACHI: Sindh police has prepared a plan to ensure the secure environment for the citizens of Karachi ahead of Eidul Adha 2024, media reported on Sunday.

As per the police spokesperson, more than 12,000 officers and const-

bles will be deployed on security across the city. According to the spokesperson, a total of 5,600 officers will be on duty in the East Zone and 3,656 in the South Zone, while 3,525 officers and personnel will be deployed in the West Zone.

Additionally, 2,170 officers will be stationed at collection points of sacrificial hides.

Meanwhile, the traffic police officials will also be on duty around the busy markets and on the roads to ensure smooth flow of traffic in the city.—RT/Agency



KARACHI: A law enforcement convoy is patrolling in the city during a flag march ahead of the Eid-ul-Azha holidays.—RT

Miracle In Sanghar: Camel To Get Artificial Leg

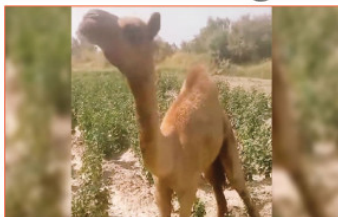
KARACHI: After authorities took notice of the gruesome incident wherein a camel's leg was allegedly amputated by a landlord, an official said that the wounded animal would get an artificial leg.

"The camel was shifted to Karachi yesterday and will be fitted with an artificial leg," Sanghar Deputy Commissioner Imran ul Hassan Khawaja said, while addressing a press conference on Sunday.

The development comes after the police apprehended five people for allegedly cutting the poor animal's leg.

The suspects were presented before a district and sessions court which then approved their four-day remand.

The incident occurred in Sanghar's Mundh Jamrao area on Friday after the camel had entered an agricultural land. In response, the



landlord resorted to physical violence. The landlord, along with his employees, physically tortured the camel as a punishment for entering the land for fodder and even amputated the animal's leg. The incident's video went viral on social media with thousands of people condemning the brutal action. Despite the uproar, the police only registered a first information report (FIR) against unknown

people, Geo News reported, and not the landlord who was involved in the incident.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Ijaz later said that the law enforcers have arrested five people in connection with the animal abuse of which two people have confessed to the crime.

Meanwhile, Sindh Governor Kamran Tessori has announced to give two camels to the person whose animal was hurt.—RT/Agency

Tessori Announces Free Solar Panels For Consumers Using 300 Electricity Units



KARACHI: Sindh Governor Kamran Tessori has announced free solar panel system for citizens using 300 electricity units.

Tessori said while speaking to media present for camel's foot cut tragedy coverage where it was announced handover of two camels as compensation to the owner and bring the responsible to the books immediately.

The governor said philanthropists should help people in the testing times.

"We have criticised each other a lot and now we should go to people's doorsteps to solve their problem," Governor Job Portal will be established after Eid and language learning course will also be initiated," he concluded.—RT/Agency

Hafiz Naeem: Feudals Enjoy Tax Exemption While Salaried Class Bears The Burden

KARACHI: Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Emir Hafiz Naeemur Rehman on Sunday criticised the budget 2024-25, stating that it targetted the salaried class while feudals have once again been let off.

Addressing a press conference here, he highlighted that feudals have been sucking the country's blood for the past 75 years.

He pointed out that inflation was rampant across the country, lamenting Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's statement that inflation has shrunk from 38% to 12%, questioning where the relief was.

He insisted that the private sector has not been given any relief, resulting in millions of people leaving the country.

He also questioned the



state of government hospitals and criticised the lack of new projects in Sindh's development budget, calling for more developmental projects for Karachi.

JI emir expressed dismay that the current budget was IMF-dictated document and questioned the effectiveness of imposing taxes to reduce inflation, saying "where does imposing high taxes reduce inflation in the world?" He criticised Shehbaz Sharif's claims of that this IMF programme was the last and said the people no longer trust his words.—RT/Agency

Police Smash Karachi Gang Preying On Bank Visitors



KARACHI: Sindh police have busted a three-member Karachi gang that was robbing citizens coming out of banks with cash in the city, media reported on Sunday.

According to details, in an operation by Garden police, three 'outlaws' were arrested. It has been reported that gang used to rob citizens who were leaving banks with cash in Karachi.

The arrested were identified as Mir Kamran Samdani, Muhammad Nawaz and Azhar Iqbal, while three pistols and rounds were also confiscated from them, the SSP city said.

The arrested outlaws were wanted to police for their crimes in Nagan, Chowring, Golimar, Malir and other areas.

A few months ago, the suspect was also arrested by the CTD on charges of robbing a courier van, and he was recently released on bail from jail. Upon his release, he formed a new gang and started committing crimes again.

The CTD stated that further investigation is ongoing regarding Asad Sajjad's other accomplices. It was also mentioned that his arrest was made possible with the help of CCTV footage.—RT/Agency

Karachi Police Chief Warns Officers Against Making TikTok Videos

KARACHI: AIG Karachi has taken notice of increasing trend of TikTok making in police officers' including ladies police constables, media reported on Sunday.

Karachi police chief has said that the uniform given for performing official duty and not

for the personal publicity. "During duty hours making TikTok in uniform has been inappropriate," AIG Police Imran Yaqoob Minhas has said.

"A constable has been sent to CPEC duty over making TikTok," police chief said. "A woman constable was

issued warning and censure over the practice," AIG Karachi said.

He said a DSP has also been issued warning over the practice. AIG Police warned of departmental action against officials over their involvement in making TikTok while in uniform.—RT/Agency



KARACHI: Barbecue grills, charcoal trays, knives and wooden logs are on sale ahead of Eid-ul-Azha in the Bohrapur area of the city.—RT

Home Minister Demands Tight Security In Sindh For Eid Eve

KARACHI: The Sindh Home Minister Ziaul Hasan Lanjar on Sunday ordered to make effective, strict and comprehensive security on Eid ul Azha, media reported.

He said that the security on Eid should be made properly. Lanjar said that the code of conduct should be strictly implemented.

Stakeholders should be taken on board on security measures, he said adding that the implementation of Eidul-Azha 2024 Contingency Plan be ensured in letter and spirit.

The minister said that all registered welfare and social organisations, religious madrasas and other stakeholders should be made bound as per the code of conduct.

He said that security should be made extraordinary at all mosques, Imam Bargahs, Eid prayer places, and other open places. He also directed SSPs, SDPOs and SHOs to perform well.

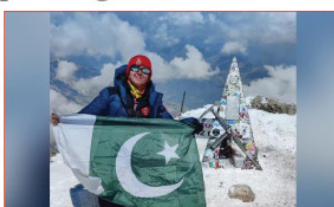
Samar Khan Makes History As First Pakistani Woman To Snowboard On Europe's Highest Peak

ISLAMABAD: Adventure athlete Samar Khan ascended Mount Elbrus, the highest peak in Europe and descended the 5,642-metre peak by snowboarding, becoming the first Pakistani woman ever to achieve the milestone.

Hailing from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Dir district, Samar reached the top at 10am local time and hoisted Pakistan's flag. She is the first Pakistani woman to snowboard down Mount Elbrus.

"I'm pleased to announce that I have successfully climbed Europe's highest peak, Mt. Elbrus, and snowboarded down, becoming the first Pakistani to pioneer this feat in the world of action sports," she wrote on Instagram.

"I set out for the summit push around 3am and reached the top by 10am with a green flag, followed by an exhilarating snowboarding descent from Elbrus," she added by thanking everyone for the support.



It must be noted that Samar is the first woman in the world to have cycled on the third-largest non-polar glacier system, Biafo Glacier and Godwin Austen peak, Mt. Elbrus, and snowboarded down, becoming the first Pakistani to pioneer this feat in the world of action sports, she wrote on Instagram.

When her sports endeavours were not recognised in her own country, the ESPNW Global Sports Mentoring Program selected her to be mentored by top sports executives in the United States. After being mentored by Burton Snowboards in Vermont, she not only excelled as a snowboarder but also founded her initiative, "Samar's Camp", through which she offers sports camps like mountain biking, backpacking, and snowboarding for girls and women in Pakistan. Samar won a silver medal in the Sadia Khan Championship in 2022 and emerged as the winner of the Red Bull Homerun snowboarding category in 2021. She also submitted an unclimbed peak of 5610m in Shimshal, Gilgit Baltistan, with a snowboarding descent. The mountain was later named after her as 'Ghar e Samar' (Pashto)—RT/Agency

Public Urged To Safely Dispose Of Offal To Mitigate Bird-Aircraft Collision Risk

ISLAMABAD: The government on Sunday urged masses to ensure safe disposal of offal and remains of sacrificial animals at designated places that would help in mitigating bird-aircraft collision risk and avoid any untoward situation in the residential areas in the vicinity of airports.

According to the awareness message issued on cellu-

lar phones, "The public is requested to avoid throwing offal in the areas around the airports because it leads to the gathering of scavengers and birds preying on the animal's leftover that may collide with the airplane and lead to a serious tragedy."

It urged the nation to celebrate Eid-ul-Azha amid cleanliness and responsibility through proper disposal of sacrificial animals. "These birds can crash into planes and destroy planes, increasing the risk of irreparable damage to precious lives and property," it said. The message appealed to the public to dump the remains of the sacrificed animals in designated places or bury them in the ground and ensure the cleanliness of the environment around them.—RT/Agency

By trying we can easily learn to endure adversity -- another man's I mean.

—Mark Twain

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MONDAY JUNE 17 2024

Government Issues Strong Warning To PTI Over Alleged 'Anti-State' Social Media Campaign

ISLAMABAD: In an apparent reference to the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), Barrister Aqeel Malik, the federal government's spokesperson on legal affairs, has warned that the state would clamp on those involved in running anti-state campaign on social media in a bid to damage Pakistan's ties with friendly countries.



He urged the PTI to quit its "anti-state activities and propaganda," and hold dialogue with the government on political issues to mull over solutions instead of damaging the nation's interest at global forums.

The spokesperson stated this while addressing a press conference to brief the media on the political party's anti-state activities abroad.

Barrister Malik said that there was no precedent to PTI's "enmity as it was perpetrating anti-Pakistan legislation in foreign countries."

ent country and does not take dictation from any nation. We want friendly relations with all nations.

"However, a concentrated smear campaign against Pakistan in foreign countries that started after the 2022 vote of no confidence which mounted the anti-Pakistan propaganda," he said, adding that the PTI had hired lobbyists and PR firms to promote anti-Pakistan campaign abroad.

Resolution number 901 tabled in November 2023 in US Congress by Congress-

men McCormick had all its links to PTI, he claimed while adding, "all anti-Pakistan legislation is done on the behest of PTI and overseas Pakistani diaspora who have strong affiliation with this party are being misused for this clandestine motive of PTI."

He said that 65 congressmen wrote a letter to the US Secretary of Defence to prioritise the promotion of protection of human rights and democracy in Pakistan, in May 2023.

"11 congressmen wrote a

letter to US Secretary of State in November 2023 to suspend US assistance to Pakistan. 31 congressmen wrote to the US Secretary of State and President to not recognise the government of Pakistan formed after February 2024," the spokesperson noted.

He underscored that all these tactics were done by PTI and it was hiring lobbying and PR firms to strongly promote anti-Pakistan propaganda.

"PTI is running a malicious concentrated campaign against Pakistan. The amendments being moved by the PTI-influenced House of Representatives are all linked to anti-state and country enemy elements as India also has a major role in it and they are joining PTI to work on anti-Pakistan narrative," Barrister Malik said.

He reiterated that the state and government of Pakistan were fully aware of the cam-

paign and its perpetrators.

"You (PTI) cannot do opposition against the state as by doing so you are undermining it and there is no acceptability and tolerance for it," he added.

Malik said that no political party was above Pakistan; let's make it crystal clear and no anti-state agenda and narrative will be allowed by the state," he added.

He urged the PTI to think about the country and motherland as it had joined hands with country enemies and set out on an anti-country agenda for its political motives.

"PTI is becoming a source of humiliation for the country at international forums. You are Pakistani and we all are Pakistanis. We have to work for the country. Nobody is stopping you from the politics but this negative and inimical political would not be allowed," he added.—RT/Agency

ISPR: 5 Terrorists Eliminated In Intense Operation In KP's Khyber District

RAWALPINDI: Five terrorists were killed after the security forces conducted an intelligence-based operation (IBO) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Khyber district on Sunday, the military's media affairs wing said.



According to a press release issued by the Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR), the operation was conducted on the reported presence of terrorists in the area.

It said that security forces effectively engaged with the terrorists and five terrorists were killed as a result.

Weapons, ammunition and explosives were also recovered from the terrorists, who remained actively involved in numerous terrorist activities against the security forces as well as innocent civilians, it said.

Sanitisation operation is being carried out to eliminate any other terrorist found in the area, it added.

an uptick in terror activities in the past year, especially in KP and Balochistan after the banned militant Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan ended its ceasefire with the government in November 2022.

According to an annual security report issued by the Centre for Research and Security Studies, Pakistan witnessed 1,524 violence-related fatalities and 1,463 injuries from 789 terror attacks and counter-terror operations in 2023 — marking a record six-year high.

KP and Balochistan were the primary centres of violence, accounting for over 90 per cent of all fatalities

and 84pc of attacks, including incidents of terrorism and security forces operations.

On Tuesday, the security forces "neutralised" 11 terrorists who were involved in the attack on seven security officials in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Lakki Marwat. Last month, an army officer was martyred and three terrorists were killed during an IBO in Balochistan's Zibo district. In a separate incident, 17 terrorists were killed and another two were injured on May 27 in two separate operations conducted by security forces in KP.—RT/Agency

PM and President Aliyev Extend Eid Greetings, Call For Unity, Peace, And Prosperity Of Ummah

LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday had a telephone conversation with President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha.

"The two dignitaries exchanged Eid greetings and expressed their best wishes for the people of both countries on this auspicious occasion. They also prayed for unity, peace and prosperity of the Muslim Ummah," PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

During the telephone conversation, the two leaders reviewed recent developments in bilateral relations, especially in the domain of trade, defence and energy.

They expressed satisfaction on the positive trajectory of relations and agreed to continue working closely to further strengthen bilateral ties to match the political goodwill that existed between both countries.

In addition, they also discussed ways to deal with common challenges, especially climate change.

The prime minister congratulated Azerbaijan for hosting the COP29 in Baku later this year and thanked



President Aliyev for extending a personal invitation to him to participate in the event.

Both leaders reaffirmed that Pakistan and Azerbaijan would continue to support each other at multilateral forums including at the United Nations, OIC and ECO.

They particularly appreciated the firm and consistent support that both countries extended to each other on their respective core issues.

Prime Minister Sharif also reiterated his warm and cordial invitation to President Aliyev to undertake an official visit to Pakistan soon. President Aliyev confirmed that he would visit Pakistan at an early date.

Hamas Leader Asserts Gaza Ceasefire Proposal Aligns With US Plan Principles



CAIRO: The Hamas resistance group's response to the latest Gaza ceasefire proposal is consistent with the principles put forward in US President Joe Biden's plan, the group's Qatar-based leader Ismail Haniyeh said in a televised speech on the occasion of the Islamic Eid al-Adha on Sunday.

"Hamas and the (Palestinian) groups are ready for a comprehensive deal which entails a ceasefire, withdrawal from the strip, the reconstruction of what was destroyed and a comprehensive swap deal," Haniyeh said, referring to the exchange of Israeli hostages for Palestinian prisoners.

On May 31, Biden laid out what he called a "three-

phase" Israeli proposal that would include negotiations for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza as well as phased exchanges of Israeli hostages for Palestinian prisoners held in Israel.

Egypt and Qatar — which along with the United States have been mediating between Hamas and Israel — said on June 11 that they had received a response from the Palestinian groups to the US plan, without giving further details.

While Israel said Hamas freedom fighters rejected key elements of the US plan, a senior Hamas leader told Reuters that the changes the group requested were "not significant".—RT/Agency

Afghan Taliban Government Set To Join Crucial UN Talks In Doha

KABUL: Taliban authorities will attend the third round of United Nations-hosted talks on Afghanistan in the Qatari capital, a government spokesperson said on Sunday, after snubbing an invitation to the previous round.



The Taliban government's participation in the conference of foreign special envoys to Afghanistan had been in doubt after it was not included in the first set of talks and then refused an invitation to the second round in February.

"A delegation of the Islamic Emirate will participate in the coming Doha conference. They will represent Afghanistan there and express Afghanistan's position," Zabiullah Mujahid told AFP.

The talks in Doha are scheduled for June 30 and July 1, and have already been criticised by women's groups.

Mujahid told Afghan media on Sunday that a delegation — yet to be announced — would attend because the talks' agenda appeared "beneficial to Afghanistan".

The agenda includes "topics such as aid for Afghanistan and creating

opportunities for investors in Afghanistan, which are important," he said.

However, foreign ministry spokesperson Abdul Qahar Balkhi warned in a later on social media site X that the Taliban government's participation in the conference of foreign special envoys to Afghanistan had been in doubt after it was not included in the first set of talks and then refused an invitation to the second round in February.

He also requested to meet Guterres, who at the time said the set of conditions to participate "were not acceptable".

In recent weeks, multiple UN representatives and international envoys have held meetings with the Taliban government on the next Doha talks, which Guterres will not attend.

Diplomatic sources told AFP there were plans to consult with Afghan civil society groups before and after the next talks, but that they would not take part in meetings that include the Taliban authorities.

The Taliban authorities the sources said the official meetings were due to cover financial and economic issues, as well as counter-narcotics efforts.—RT/Agency

PM and King Of Bahrain Praise Robust Relations Between Two Nations

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and King of Bahrain Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa on Sunday held a cordial telephone conversation to exchange warm greetings on the occasion of Eid ul Adha and expressed their mutual respect and admiration for the strong historical ties between Pakistan and Bahrain, built on shared values and cultural affinities.



The prime minister acknowledged and appreciated Bahrain's support and cooperation in various fields over the years. In particular, he thanked King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa for his respect and affection towards Pakistan. PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

"The two leaders reaffirmed the commitment of both nations to further strengthen bilateral relations, enhance economic cooperation, and work closely to promote regional peace and security," the press statement added.

While fondly recalling King Hamad's historic visit to Pakistan in 2014, the prime minister reiterated his

warm and cordial invitation to the Bahraini King to undertake an official visit to Pakistan at his earliest convenience.

The telephone call reflected the warm and friendly relations between Pakistan and Bahrain, with a shared desire to further deepen their fraternal ties.—RT/Agency

Eid Greetings: Pakistan And Turkey Forge Stronger Bilateral Alliance



LAHORE: Pakistan and Turkey have agreed to continue working together to address common challenges and to support each other's core national interests. The understanding to this effect reached during a warm and cordial telephone conversation between Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey on Sunday.

The two leaders exchanged greetings and best wishes on the occasion of Eidul Adha. They also celebrated the strong bonds of friendship and brotherhood between Pakistan and Turkey that were rooted in shared values, history, and cultural affinities. The prime minister and Turkish president also discussed ways to promote peace, stability, and prosperity in the region and beyond.

They expressed serious concern about the current situation in Palestine while urging the international community to redouble peace efforts to end the misery and suffering of the innocent Palestinians. The warm conversation between the two leaders was a testament to the strong and enduring relationship between Pakistan and Turkey, and their commitment to continuing their close cooperation in the days ahead.

The prime minister reiterated his cordial invitation to President Erdogan to undertake an official visit to Pakistan at his earliest convenience so as to convene the 7th session of the High Level Strategic Consultative Council.—RT/Agency

President Sends Heartfelt Eid Greetings To The Nation And Muslim World

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari has extended his warm felicitations to the nation and the Muslim Ummah on the blessed occasion of Eid ul-Adha.



In a message, he prayed to Allah Almighty to grant His blessings and happiness to the Muslim world and Pakistan on this auspicious day.

The president highlighted the significance of Eid ul-Adha, which commemorates the willingness of two chosen Prophets of Allah-Hazrat Ibrahim (AS) and Hazrat Ismail (AS) to sacrifice their dearest possessions for the pleasure of Allah.

When Allah Almighty put these great personalities through trials, both of them bowed their heads to obtain the pleasure of Allah, he said adding that this act of

sacrifice became so popular in the presence of Allah Almighty that He made this worship of sacrifice obligatory on the Ummah of Muhammad (PBUH).

"It is a lesson for us that the key to success is to remain firm in the situation of trials and tests and to obey Allah Almighty."

President Zardari urged the nation to reaffirm their commitment to the values of

brotherhood, sacrifice, and selflessness on this occasion. He encouraged everyone to share the joy of Eid with those around them, especially those who are unable to celebrate due to financial constraints.

"I prayed to Allah Almighty to shower His blessings and mercy upon the entire Muslim ummah, particularly Pakistan," he added.—RT/Agency

Petition Sparks Controversy: LHC CJ Faces Allegations Of Misconduct

ISLAMABAD: A petition has been filed against Lahore High Court (LHC) Chief Justice Malik Shahzad Ahmad Khan in the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC), seeking his dismissal over allegations of misconduct.



The petitioner, Rafiqat Ali Tanoli, accused the Chief Justice of obstructing justice in the murder case of his son, alleging misuse of office and influence. Tanoli's complaint, filed via mail on May 29 ref-

(IHC), adding to the judicial scrutiny faced by the LHC Chief Justice. The Judicial Commission of Pakistan has approved the nomination of LHC CJ Malik Shahzad Ahmad Khan as an SC judge by a majority of five to four. The Parliamentary Committee on Judges Appointment has also approved his nomination. The notification for his appointment is likely to be issued soon after Eidul Adha.—RT/Agency

Ji's Baloch Criticizes PM's 'IMF Programme' Speech As Scathing Mockery

LAHORE: Jamaat-e-Islami leader Liaquat Baloch criticised Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's recent address to the nation on Sunday, calling it a mockery.

hardships faced by the people, underscoring the disconnect between the rulers and the struggles of the impoverished middle class.

During his address on Saturday, PM Shehbaz pledged that the current IMF programme would be the last in Pakistan's history. He outlined a strategy aimed at maximising the benefits of investments from friendly nations and emphasised the government's commitment to dismantling corrupt institutions.—RT/Agency