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# REGIONAL TIMES

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**Heartland**

PML-N has not consulted PPP regarding PTI ban: Nisar Khuhro

**Money**

-Zafar Moti is Sad!

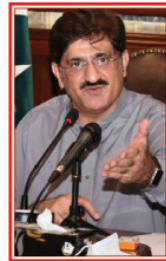
PSE 100-index down by 1721.97 points to close at 80,117.89

**NATIONAL**

Khawaja Asif warns of potential constitutional crisis, election annulment

**SPORTS**

Babar, Shaheen, Rizwan 'unlikely' to get NOC for Canadian league



Murad Directs For Review of Solar Projects for Free Electricity for Low-Income Households

## PML-N And PPP To Continue Discussions On PTI Ban

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) and the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) decided on Friday to hold further consultations regarding the ban on Imran Khan-founded PTI and actions under Article 6 against Imran Khan, Arif Alvi, and Qasim Suri, media reported, citing sources.

A meeting was held between the ruling coalition - PML-N and PPP - to discuss administrative matters in Punjab, the current political situation, and the government's proposal to ban PTI.

The PML-N delegation included National Assembly Speaker Ayaz Sadiq, Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar, Law Minister Azam Nazeer Tarar, and Rana Sanaullah.

The PPP delegation comprised of Sherry Rehman, Raja Pervaiz Ashraf, and Nadeem Afzal Chan. Meanwhile, the Attorney General of Pakistan (AGP) and other officials were also present at the meeting.

Sources told media that the PPP delegation emphasised the party's commitment to democratic processes and reviews.

During the meeting, it was decided that further consultations would be held regarding the ban on PTI. It was also agreed that the parties will reconvene after con-



sulting with their leadership to finalise their decisions.

The federal government had announced its plans to ban Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and seek Article 6 proceedings against its founder Imran Khan, ex-president Dr Arif Alvi, and former deputy NA speaker Qasim Suri.

The announcement came following the relief given to the party by the top court in the reserved seats case as well as to the party founder Imran Khan in the Iddat case.

Addressing a presser, Information Minister Attaullah Tarar said the country could not move forward with the Imran Khan-founded party's existence.

"In view of the foreign funding case, May 9 riots, and the cipher case as well as the resolution passed in the US, we believe that there is credible evidence present to have the PTI banned," he said.

## JCP Approves Appointment Of Two Ad-Hoc Judges To Supreme Court

ISLAMABAD: The Judicial Commission of Pakistan on Friday approved the appointment of Justice (ret'd) Sardar Tariq Masood and Justice (ret'd) Mazhar Miankhel as ad-hoc judges to the Supreme Court (SC), media reported.

Sources privy to the development said that the Judicial Commission meeting considered the proposals for the appointment of ad hoc judges and approved two names for the ad-hoc judges with the majority of votes.

The sources said that the apex court's Justice Munib Akhtar opposed the appointment of Justice (ret'd) Sardar Tariq Masood as an ad-hoc judge.

After Justice Munib Akhtar's disagreement, the name of Justice (ret'd) Sardar Tariq Masood was approved for the ad-hoc role with a majority of 8-1.

The sources added that three members of the Judicial Commission also opposed the appointment of Justice (ret'd) Mazhar Miankhel as he was okayed with a ratio of 6-



Both the former judges have been appointed as ad-hoc judges for a period of one year.

Besides these two former judges, the names of Justice (ret'd) Mushir Alam and Justice (ret'd) Maqbool Baqar were also being considered for the ad-hoc role before they declined the offer.

Justice Alam retired from the Supreme Court on August 21, 2021; Justice Baqar, who served as the Sindh chief minister during the last caretaker set-up, retired on April 4, 2022; Justice Miankhel retired on July 13, 2022; and

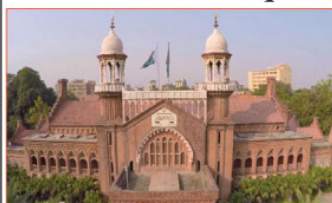
Justice Masood on March 10, 2024.

Earlier on Thursday, the Pakistan Bar Council called for the formation of more courts in the country through a constitutional amendment.

The council has also expressed support for the appointment of ad hoc judges to help expedite the decision-making process in cases.

"Currently, a significant amount of the Supreme Court's time is spent hearing political cases, and the establishment of a constitutional court would help alleviate this burden," the PBC viewed.—RT/Agency

## LHC Chief Justice Denies CEC's Tribunal Reformation Request



LAHORE: Lahore High Court (LHC) Chief Justice Aaliya Neelum rejected the request of the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) seeking the reformation of the election tribunals in the province, media reported, citing sources.

Chief Election Commissioner Sultan Akram Raja met the LHC chief justice and requested her to reconstitute the existing election tribunals, the sources said.

Justice Aaliya Neelum turned down the CEC's request, maintaining that the present election tribunals will continue to function as usual.

The LHC chief justice said that the final decision on the election tribunals will be made by the Supreme Court (SC) of Pakistan.

Earlier on June 20, the Supreme Court (SC) re-

## Bangladesh imposes curfew after deadly protests

DHAKA: Bangladesh on Friday announced the imposition of a curfew and the deployment of military forces as police failed to quell days of deadly unrest that has spread throughout the country.

This week's clashes between student demonstrators and police have killed at least 105 people, according to an AFP count of victims reported by hospitals, and pose a momentous challenge to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's autocratic government after 15 years in office.

"The government has decided to impose a curfew and deploy the military in aid of the civilian authorities," Hasina's press secretary Nayemul Islam Khan told AFP.

He added that the curfew would take immediate effect.

Police in the capital Dhaka earlier took the drastic step of banning all public gatherings for the day - a first since protests began - in an effort to forestall more violence. "We've banned all rallies, processions and public gatherings in Dhaka today," he added. "Shocking and unacceptable!" At least 52 people were killed in the capital on Friday, according to a list drawn up by the Dhaka Medical College Hospital and seen by AFP. Police fire was the cause of more than half of the deaths reported so far this week, based on descriptions given to AFP by hospital



staff.

UN human rights chief Volker Turk said the attacks on student protesters were "shocking and unacceptable."

"There must be impartial, prompt and exhaustive investigations into these attacks, and those responsible held to account," he said in a statement. The capital's police force earlier said protesters had on Thursday torched, vandalised and carried out "destructive activities" on numerous police and government offices. Among them was the Dhaka headquarters of state broadcaster Bangladesh Television, which remains offline after hundreds of incensed students stormed the premises and set fire to a building.

Dhaka Metropolitan Police spokesman Faruk Hossain told AFP that officers had arrested Ruhul Kabir Rizvi Ahmed, one of the top leaders of the main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP).—RT/Agency

## FO: Political Party Bans Are Pakistan's Internal Affairs

ISLAMABAD: The Foreign Office (FO) spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch on Friday emphasised that countries should refrain from commenting on Pakistan's domestic matters, asserting that Islamabad can handle its internal issues independently. "Banning political parties is an internal issue of Pakistan," said Mumtaz during a media briefing.

Addressing the recent attack on Bannu Cantt by the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), Mumtaz revealed that Pakistan has expressed its serious concerns to the Afghan interim government.

The FO spokesperson expressed alarm over the use of Afghan territory for terrorism against Pakistan and urged the Afghan government to take immediate and effective action against the Hafiz Gul Bahadur group.

She said that Pakistan has shared intelligence with Afghanistan regarding terrorist groups and has maintained continuous communication with Afghan authorities.



Concerning immigration, Mumtaz clarified that Pakistan's immigration laws are strict, with daily deportations of illegal Afghan residents. "Currently, 44,000 Afghan citizens are awaiting relocation," she added.

While the spokesperson was not aware of Malala Yousafzai's recent statements on this issue, she expressed hope that Yousafzai would advocate for the expedited relocation of these refugees.

The FO condemned the attack on a Shia mosque in Muscat on Muharram 9, describing it as a barbaric act of terrorism.

Pakistan expressed solidarity with the victims and highlighted the importance of collective action against terrorism.

Additionally, Pakistan condemned the Israeli attacks on Palestinian refugee camps, particularly the assault on Khan Younis camp, which resulted in the deaths of 19 Palestinians, calling it a violation of United Nations regulations.—RT/Agency

## Leaked phone call of TTP chief surfaces



ISLAMABAD: A leaked call between the leader of the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) Noor Wali and his associate revealed the plans to carry out terrorist attacks on schools, hospitals, and security forces, media reported.

The TTP leader, Noor Wali, can be heard directing his associate to target government schools and hospitals with explosives and not to claim responsibility for the attacks.

He also directed his subordinate to attack the homes of police and military personnel, and to target schools and hospitals in order to create fear and chaos.

Noor Wali can be heard saying that on the call to blow up the houses of the police and army personnel who are on duty.

Earlier on July 11, Pakistan Foreign Office (FO) on Thursday said that it has no plans to enter into any talks with the banned TTP.

At her weekly news briefing in Islamabad, Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said the terrorist entity is involved in the killing of Pakistani and foreign citizens inside the country. She said that Pakistan respects Afghanistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

"We expect the Afghan authorities to uphold their sovereignty and take action against terrorist groups which have found sanctuaries inside Afghanistan and using their territory for terrorist attacks against Pakistan," Mumtaz Zahra Baloch added.—RT/Agency

## Pakistan Pledges Counterterrorism Support To Oman

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday offered Pakistan's support to Oman in dealing with menace of terrorism while condemning the recent attack on an imam-bargah in Muscat that claimed six lives and injured over 30 people.

The offer was extended during a courtesy visit by the Ambassador of Oman Fahad Sulaiman Khalaf Al Kharusi to the premier at the Prime Minister's House, said a statement issued today.

Talking to Ambassador, PM Shehbaz appreciated Oman's swift response and cooperation with the Pakistan mission in the repatriation of the dead bodies and treatment of the injured.

The attack on imam-bargah had resulted in the death of six people, including four Pakistani nationals, and over thirty injured, nearly all of whom were Pakistani.

On Thursday, Omani police said that three suspects - all brothers and Omani nationals - adhering to "misguided ideas" were behind the attack and were killed



upon resisting security forces.

Meanwhile, the prime minister said Pakistan had itself been the victim of terrorism for the past several decades.

Prime Minister Shehbaz also conveyed his good wishes for Sultan Haitham bin Tariq while fondly recalling his telephone conversations with the Sultan on Eid ul Adha as well as Eid ul Fitr earlier in the year.

The prime minister reiterated his invitation to the Sultan of Oman to undertake an official visit to Pakistan at his earliest convenience.

On the bilateral front, the prime minister stressed that Pakistan and Oman enjoyed close, brotherly ties with a shared history, faith and culture. He expressed

## K-P Assembly Passes Resolution Opposing PTI Ban, Calls For Imran Khan's Release

KPK: The Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) Assembly passed resolutions against a possible ban on the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and in support of Imran Khan's release from jail.

The assembly session, chaired by Speaker Babar Saleem Swati, saw Law Minister Aftab Alam presenting a resolution regarding the release of PTI founder Imran Khan.

The resolution cited a report from the United Nations General Assembly's Human Rights Committee, stating that the cases against Imran Khan and his associates violate laws.

The K-P Assembly urged that Imran Khan be released in light of the UN report.

Subsequently, the resolution was passed.



Later, Provincial Law Minister Aftab Alam presented another resolution concerning the potential ban on PTI.

The resolution highlighted that the recent Supreme Court decision guarantees the freedom to form political parties. The PTI, standing with the Constitution, pledged to challenge any such ban both judicially and publicly.—RT/Agency

# THE HEARTLAND



LARKANA: Members and leaders of the Hindu Panchayat are holding a protest demonstration for the recovery of missing Piyra Kumari.-RT

## Sindh Minister Shahid Abdul Salam Thaheem visits Shahdadpur on Youm-e-Ashura

By Asif Niaz Detho

SHAHDADPUR: The Sindh Minister for Labor and Human Resources, Shahid Abdul Salam Thaheem, visited Shahdadpur on the occasion of Youm-e-Ashura, where during the mourning processions, proper security arrangements were observed. Every year, PPP Shahdadpur pays homage to Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) at "Emergency Medical Camp" and "Ali Chowk" under the leadership of Provincial Minister Shahid Abdul Salam Thaheem, President PPP Sindh, MNA Javed Nayab Laghari, PPP Shahdadpur President Zulfikar Ali Zardari, City President Chacha Mushtaq Ahmed Qureshi, Vice Chairman Rana Luqman Rajput, Councillor Rana Abdul Razaq Rajput and other political party friends.

The best arrangements for the camp were made by Dr. Muhammad Bahal Girwan, Dr. Muhammad Irfan



Girwan, and the medical staff, as well as a management committee including Liaquat Ali Kalhoro, Ziaullah Solangi, Agha Khudadad Khan, Abdul Saboor Ghori, Usman Rajput, Anwar Ali Zardari, Khalid Zahoor Baig, Ali Murad Dazkani, Man-

## CM Murad condoles over sad demise of Late Nazir Dhoki

By Naz Solangi

KUMB: Chief Minister of Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah reached Pir Jo Goth. The Chief Minister offered condolence over the sad demise of the Chief Media Coordinator of Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Nazir Dhoki. Also present with the Chief Minister of Sindh were former Chief Minister of Sindh Syed Qaim Ali Shah Jilani, senior leader Syed Khurshed Ahmed Shah, PPP central leader and Member of National Assembly Dr. Nafisa Shah, Provincial Ministers Syed Nasir Hussain Shah and Zia ul Hassan Lanjar, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's PS Javed Saleem, and other party representatives.

## Mochi community demands justice in Daulatpur land dispute

By Aijaz Jolkho

DAULATPUR: Mochi community people, who were the residents of village Mitho Marri recorded a protest demonstration outside the Daulatpur Press Club. While talking to the media, the protest leaders, who included Muhammad Latif Mochi, Muhammad Rafique Mochi, Ali Akbar Mochi, and others said that their plot has been occupied by Sadiq Mochi, Shah Mochi, Yousuf Mochi, Phottu Mochi and Haji Mochi. Those responsible for the incident have also injured Muhammad Latif Mochi, Qazi Ahmed Police have not intervened in the police investigation.

## Machhi community protests against occupation of Pithoro graveyard

By M Ismail Khilji

PITHORO: Machhi community members including Ali Muhammad Machhi, Rab Nawaz Machhi, Muhammad Yousif Machhi and others addressed a press conference against the occupation of a graveyard near village Sadhar. The protesting men said that the influential men have started constructing homes

## Youm-e-Ashura observed with utmost reverence and respect in Jhudo

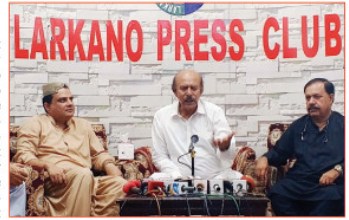
By Shahid Murad

JHUDO: In Jhudo, like across Pakistan, Youm-e-Ashura was observed with utmost reverence and respect. The annual central mourning procession and congregation were held at Shahi Bazaar Chowk under the leadership of Engineer Zulfikar Shah Rizvi, Vice President of Shia Ulema Council, Sindh. Renowned scholars including Zakir Allama Abbas Mehdî Turabi and Allama Gulam Nabi Jaffari addressed the gathering. Assistant Commissioner Jhudo, Chairman and Vice Chairman Jhudo, Town Officer Jhudo, along

## PML-N has not consulted PPP regarding PTI ban: Nisar Khuhro

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: The President of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Sindh, Nisar Khuhro stated that in his opinion, no political party should be banned. However, he emphasized that PTI should disassociate itself from its militant wing, including the Tiger Force. Khuhro made these remarks in a statement he issued. Nisar Khuhro said that if PTI considers itself a political party, it must practically prove itself to be a complete political party. He stated that no political party should have a militant wing, and therefore, Imran Khan should publicly disassociate PTI from any militant elements within the party. He further added that the federal government led by Pakistan Muslim League-N (PML-N) has never consulted PPP nor taken it into confidence regarding the potential ban on PTI. Khuhro said that when the federal government approaches PPP for consultation on banning PTI, PPP will inform them of its final opinion and decision. Khuhro highlighted that the federal government has not yet made a final decision on whether to ban PTI. When



the federal government formally initiates consultations, PPP will then communicate its final stance to PML-N. He explained that constitutionally, the final decision to ban any party lies with the Supreme Court. The federal government sends a reference to the Supreme Court regarding any ban, and the court makes the ultimate decision. Khuhro also addressed ambiguities surrounding the Supreme Court's decision on reserved seats, which he said remain unclear to the public. He pointed out that the Sumi Ittehad Council had filed the petition regarding reserved seats, and the decision was made in favor of PTI, which had not filed the petition. He questioned how PTI could be entitled to reserved seats when it did not even have a party symbol in the elections and independent candidates contested on various symbols. Khuhro further criticized the Supreme Court for allowing members of the Sumi Ittehad to join another party, effectively setting aside the anti-floor crossing clause. He questioned whether this decision has nullified the anti-floor crossing clause, stating that clarification is needed. Additionally, Nisar Khuhro visited the village of Nazir Dhoki, the media coordinator of PPP chairman, to offer condolences to his sons and other relatives on his passing. He expressed his sorrow and grief during the visit. PPP Sukkur Division President Syed Bachal Shah and other leaders were also present.

## Lady police constables become messiahs for BISP beneficiaries in Kunri

By MM Faisal

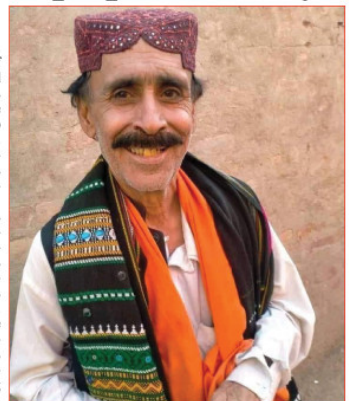
KUNRI: The ladies police constables, who have been posted at the BISP Centre in Kunri have become messiah for deserving women. Benazir Income Support Program was established at Qazi Sultan School, due to the large number of deserving women receiving stipend, women police officers on duty have started playing a very important role for distressed women. BISP District Director Hussain Bux Dahani reached Kunri Centre and announced the addition of more devices to the number of available devices at the centre. District Director Hussain Bux Dahani said that there is a shortage of devices and the number of deserving women is high. Many women fainted due to heat at BISP center and were shifted to taluka hospital Kunri.



## Renowned Sufi singer Sodhal Faqir passes away

By Akhtar Laghari

MORO: A renowned Sufi singer and literary figure of Sindh, Sodhal Faqir passed away after battling various illnesses for quite some time. He was admitted to Nawabshah's hospital where he eventually succumbed. Throughout his time there, he received ongoing medical treatment, but unfortunately, his health continued to deteriorate. The ambulance carrying Sodhal Faqir Laghari's body arrived at Laghari Bijrani, where funeral prayers were offered. The funeral was attended by a large number of admirers, including artists, actors, poets and many others from literary circles, all mourning his loss deeply. He was laid to rest in the ancestral graveyard of Laghari Bijrani, where mourners con-



tinued to offer their condolences and pay tribute to his memory.

## Thul's civil society protests for recovery of Behram Khoso

By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: In Thul, leaders of various organizations, relatives and citizens, led by Mumtaz Buriro, Asif Josh Buriro, Shama Soomro, Abid Lashari, Liaquat Sarki, Bashere Sarki, Waseem Qureshi, Arbab Ali Golo, Gulzar Khoso, Suhno Buriro and others, held a protest in front of Thul Press Club against the kidnapping of Behram Khoso. On this occasion, the leaders and relatives of the police department, town administration, WAPDA administration, and health department for their cooperation with Shia Council in organizing the event.

Behram Khan Khoso. His image in shackles stands as a question mark before the entire society and the education department. Finally, they demanded from the Chief Minister of Sindh, Syed Murad Ali Shah, the Minister of Education, Syed Sardar Shah, the IG Sindh, DIG Larkana, and SSP Jacobabad to take immediate action to rescue the honorable teacher Behram Khan Khoso from the kidnappers and alleviate the anxiety of his family, otherwise, they warned that the scope of their protest would be expanded.

## Mir Gajo Khan Mallah accuses President of PPP Dadu City of attacking his brother

HYDERABAD: Speaking to the media in Hyderabad, Mir Gajo Khan Mallah accused PPP City Dadu President Khalid Mirani of orchestrating a fatal attack on his younger brother Waheed Mallah. He claimed that his brother Waheed was shot three times and after initial treatment in Dadu, was transferred to Hyderabad and is currently in critical condition

at a Karachi hospital. Mir Gajo Khan Mallah alleged that the Dadu police and local elected representatives are supporting the attacker. He further accused the Dadu police of pressuring them to settle the matter with the attacker. Mallah mentioned that his party leadership, including Asif Ali Zardari and Fayyal Talpur have struggled for their release throughout

Sindh. He called on the Sindh Government to take notice of the incident, arrest those responsible for the attack and ensure they are severely punished. Additionally, he demanded that the SHO of the concerned police station be transferred out of the district. Mallah warned that if these demands are not met, they would call for protests.—RT

## Sindh Food Authority bans 11 packaged snack products of Korean company

By Khuda Bux Brohi

THAITTA: The Sindh Food Authority (SFA) has prohibited the sale of 11 packaged snack products following a laboratory assessment deeming them unfit for human consumption. SFA Director General Muzamil Hussain Halepoto instructed the concerned private company to promptly withdraw Slanty Vegetable, Snackers Hot Masala, Snackers Pizza, Twitch Classic, Potato Sticks, Cheese Ball Masala, Cheese Balls Cheese, Kai Korean Hot, Kai Spicy Mala, Kai Mala Wok and Kai Korean Kimchi from the market. Laboratory tests conducted

by the Food Testing Laboratory at the University of Karachi's Department of Food Science and Technology determined these products were unsafe for consumption.

The company, which submitted 24 products for registration around two and a half months ago, was notified that 11 of them failed to meet essential safety and quality standards as of the April 19 report. A letter addressed to the company on Monday highlighted the significant health risks posed by these products and cited violations of law and regulations. Consequently, the SFA invoked relevant sections of the Sindh Food Authority Act 2016 to order a full recall of the affected products, emphasizing the severity of the public health threat.

## 8-year-old Mehar boy brutally tortured after being tied up to a tree for picking a few dates

By Hanif Panhwar

MEHAR: An 8-year-old boy named Muzaffar Lahari was brutally subjected to torture after being tied up with a tree for picking a few dates from the orchard of Molvi Wahan Jatoi. The employees of the influential man after tying

up the minor boy subjected him to torture and recorded his video also which they bravely circulated on the social media to mock the Sindh Police like dacoits of Kashmir-Kandhot. The police have still not taken any step in this regard, while the minor boy has been hospitalized as the culprits left him in unconscious condition. The father of the tortured boy condemned the torture on his minor son and demanded arrest of the accused men in the incident including Molvi Wahan Jatoi, otherwise he has announced to widen his protest.



## EDITORIAL

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

Saturday, July 20, 2024

## Are Ad Hoc Judges A Quick Fix Or Judicial Quagmire?

The recent approval by the Judicial Commission of Pakistan (JCP) to appoint two retired judges, Justice Sardar Tariq Masood and Justice Mazhar Miankhel, as ad-hoc judges to the Supreme Court (SC) has reignited the longstanding debate about the practice of ad hocism within Pakistan's judiciary. This decision, met with both support and opposition within the commission, underscores the controversial nature of appointing temporary judges to the highest court in a country already grappling with a highly polarized political environment.

Ad hocism, by its very nature, is a stopgap measure. While it may provide short-term relief, it raises significant concerns about the stability and integrity of judicial processes. The appointment of ad-hoc judges often appears as a quick fix to systemic issues, rather than addressing the root causes of judicial inefficiency. In this context, one must question the optics and implications of these recent

appointments. Can temporary judges, no matter how competent, truly offer the same consistency and long-term vision as their permanently appointed counterparts?

The JCP's decision was not unanimous, highlighting the



contentious nature of these appointments. Justice Munib Akhtar's opposition to Justice Masood's appointment and the narrow approval margins for both judges reflect deep divisions within the commission itself. Such dissent signals a broader unease about the reliance on ad hoc solutions in a system that requires permanent, sustainable reforms.

Furthermore, in the current charged political climate, the optics of appointing ad-hoc judges can be particularly troubling. The perception, whether accurate or not, that such

appointments might be influenced by political considerations, undermines public confidence in the judiciary. It also raises questions about the independence of the judiciary, a cornerstone of democratic governance.

While the Pakistan Bar Council has supported the move, citing the need to expedite the decision-making process amidst a backlog of cases, the call for constitutional amendments to establish more courts seems a more prudent long-term solution. Ad hoc measures, while expedient, cannot replace the need for comprehensive judicial reforms that ensure both efficiency and impartiality.

In conclusion, the practice of ad hocism in Pakistan's judiciary remains fraught with controversy and potential pitfalls. As the nation navigates its complex political landscape, it is imperative to seek solutions that reinforce the judiciary's independence and integrity, rather than relying on temporary fixes that may exacerbate existing challenges.

## THE HEARTLAND



## Commissioner Sukkur Fayaz Hussain Abbasi chairs meeting to review Municipal Services Delivery Program

By Absar Alvi

SUKKUR: An important meeting regarding the Municipal Services Delivery Program, ongoing with the support of USAID, was held under the chairmanship of Commissioner Sukkur Fayaz Hussain Abbasi and the Project Director of the Municipal Services Delivery

Program, Shahzaman Khuro. The meeting was attended by Deputy Divisional Superintendent Railways Sukkur Syed Muallim, Director Planning SEPCO Irshad Ali Baloch, along with officers from the Municipal Services Delivery Program, SEPCO, and Railways Sukkur. The meeting discussed the new electricity

connections for 18 pumping stations of the Municipal Services Delivery Program in Jacobabad by SEPCO and the NOC for the crossing of drainage pipelines at four locations by Pakistan Railways. The Municipal Services Delivery is an important project of the Sindh government, said Commissioner Sukkur.

## Nawabshah's BISP beneficiaries decry illegal deductions from their stipends

By Samad Ayaz

NAWABSHAH: In various centers of Nawabshah city, under the Benazir Income Support Program, the monthly installment distribution has started. However, the mafia agents have also become active. On Court Road in Nawabshah, at Government Girls Higher Secondary School where the BISP Centre is located, agents of the mafia are involved in extorting illegal cuts ranging from two to five thousand rupees from help-

less and poor women under the pretext of installment payments. When affected women complained to the district administration about the Benazir Income Support Program's helpline, administrative agents turned a blind eye to the mafia's illegal activities. These affected women have been crying week after week, but their money has not been returned to them. We are not sure if the money is in our account or if all the money has been cut by the agents.

## 4 cops and a criminal injured after roof of Jamshoro Police Station's warehouse collapses

By Shaikh Sindhi

KOTRI: An incident involving a loud noise was reported at the police station warehouse and as a result its roof also collapsed in Jamshoro. The disturbance caused fear and heightened security concerns in the surrounding area. Police officers rushed to the scene and found several officials including Wireless Operator Rasool Bakhsh Barjo, who were shifted to the Aga Khan Hospital in Karachi. The incident

reportedly stemmed from motorcycles parked inside the warehouse causing a disturbance. SSP Jamshoro Tariq Nawaz and Deputy Commissioner Jamshoro Riaz Hussain Wason personally investigated the incident and confirmed it was not an act of terrorism. The police have maintained custody of the warehouse where the incident occurred and are continuing investigation.

## Measles outbreak intensifies in Sujawal

By Kamran Hidayat

SUJAWAL: In Sujawal, the measles outbreak has worsened, claiming the lives of two innocent children from the same area of the city within a week, who were named Shahid S/o Abdul Raheem Shaikh and Abu Bakar S/o Naseebullah Bhaan. The bereaved families, including Haji Abdul Sattar Shaikh, Abdul Raheem Shaikh, Jameel Shaikh and Irshad, blamed the hospital administration, stating that Tived Hospital Sujawal has turned into a slaughterhouse. They

claimed that measles patients are given a single injection and then referred to Thatta, Hyderabad or Karachi. Due to the lack of a measles ward in such a large hospital, they are forced to carry the coffins of their children.

The grieving families highlighted the double blow of losing their children and facing the indifferent attitude of the doctors and nurses at the hospital. They were even denied an ambulance to transport the bodies, compelling them to use a rickshaw to carry their beloved children's bodies. They

called on the Chief Minister of Sindh, Murad Ali Shah and the Provincial Minister of Health to take action against the hospital administration, establish a measles ward in the hospital and provide all necessary treatment facilities to prevent more deaths of innocent children. It is worth noting that in the same Shaikh Muhalla, four more children are suffering from measles and are struggling for their lives at home including Ayaan Ali, son of Abdul Raheem, Sunil and Zameer, sons of Jameel and Mahira daughter of Irshad.

## Services of district administration Tando Allahyar lauded after peaceful Youm-e-Ashura

By Afaq Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: The central figure of mourning, Agha Ghulam Shabir Hyderi, in his recent statement, expressed gratitude to Deputy Commissioner Saleemullah Odho, SSP Tando Allahyar, Abrez Ali Abbasi, DSP Usman

Laghari, SHO Mazhar Mehdi, DSP Anti-Car Lifting Cell Hameed Kashigar, Ranger officials and all journalists. He praised them for their exemplary duty during Muharram-ul-Haram, acknowledging their dedicated service rendered in the best possible manner.

## Boy killed, two injured after roof of Kotri home collapses

By Shaikh Sindhi

KOTRI: The roof of the home of a man named Sadiq Jatt collapsed near Jhatal Farm in Kotri and as a result his 12-year-old son named Amanullah Jatt died on the spot, while his par-

ents sustained critical injuries. The dead body and injured were rushed to a local area hospital. The body of the deceased son was transported to his home in a rickshaw due to having no ambulance in Kotri hospital.

## TMO Tando Jam barred from excessive use of his powers

By Irfan Ali Khushk

TANDO JAM: The Chairman of the Town Committee Tando Jam Badar Memon has issued a letter to the TMO Shahjahan Panhwar stopping him from using powers of transfer and posting in the

Municipal Committee without permission of the Town Chairman. It has been observed that the transfers and postings were being made by the TMO without informing the Chairman due to which he stopped him from such practice.

## AAWT, Rotary Club Mirpurkhas organize a free medical camp

By Narain Das

MIRPURKHAS: Al-Ashraf Welfare Trust and Rotary Club Mirpurkhas organized a free medical camp for mourners on the Yaum-e-

Ashura. The Niyaz (free food) was also distributed amongst the people. The General Secretary of Al-Ashraf Welfare Trust, Farhan Ashraf, Rauf Arain of Rotary Club, Walid

## SSP Sumair Noor Channa launches Ghotki Police's website

By Shad Mahar

GHOTKI: SSP Ghotki Dr Sumair Noor Channa has launched a website of the Ghotki Police to provide online facilities to the people.

While talking to the media, SSP Ghotki said that the website has been developed on orders of the IGP Sindh and through this facility people could get verification forms and other facilities online. The details of the police officers with their numbers has also been shared for the general public, while the names of wanted criminals have also been placed in the website.

## District Council Kashmore-Kandhkot passes budget for fiscal year 2024-25

By Aftab Bhatti

KASHMORE: The budget session of the District Council Kashmore-Kandhkot was held under the chair of Chairman of District Council Mir Gul Muhammad Khan Jakhriani. The meeting passed the budget of Rs 628,641,927

for the fiscal year 2024-25. The funds were allocated for the development works, welfare projects, scholarships and other heads. Addressing on the occasion, District Council Chairman said that the steps will be taken for the maintenance of peace in the district and in this regard he will con-

sult with the higher authorities as the district council members are condemning the deteriorating law and order situation in Kashmore-Kandhkot. He also announced to ensure the completion of all the development works and facilitate the masses without any discrimination.

## Larkana heatwave leads to 28 Gastro cases

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: A heat wave persists in Larkana city and its surrounding areas, resulting in 28 individuals contracting gastroenteritis. Their relatives brought them separately to the emergency ward of CMC Hospital, where they received

medical treatment. Among the affected patients were Qadir Bux, Mumtaz Ali, Rustam Ali, Inayat, Qurban, and Bibi Javeria. Doctors stated that the new heat wave, characterized by high temperatures and humidity, necessitates precautions. They warned that such weather often leads to an in-

crease in gastroenteritis cases, advising citizens to take measures to protect themselves from the heat. Additionally, doctors recommended that patients and their families avoid unnecessary outings and consume cool items to mitigate the effects of the heat.

## Muhammad Iqbal Kunbhar assumes charge as Director Education Mirpurkhas

By Younis Chandio

MIRPURKHAS: The Director of the Education Department Mirpurkhas,

Arshad Baig has been transferred from Mirpurkhas. Muhammad Iqbal Kunbhar has been posted as the new Director

of the Education Department Mirpurkhas. The newly posted Director has assumed the charge of his office.

## NATIONAL

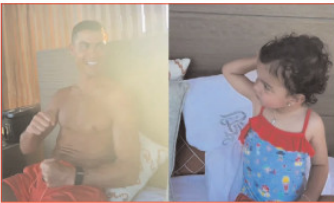
## Pakistan Urges Afghanistan to Act Against Terrorist Groups

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has once again asked the Afghan authorities to take immediate and effective action against terrorist groups including their sponsors and backers.

At her weekly news briefing in Islamabad today, Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said Pakistan will continue to defend itself against all terrorist groups and ensure the safety and security of its people. Alluding to the Indian oppressive tactics in illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir, the spokesperson said Pakistan will continue to extend moral, political and diplomatic support to the Kashmiri people for the just and peaceful settlement of Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the UN Security Council Resolutions. It is pertinent to mention here that Pakistan security forces killed 10 terrorists who attacked Bannu Cantonment in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa during the early hours of Monday. The attackers attempted to infiltrate the Bannu cant but were repelled, leading them to detonate an explosive-laden vehicle against the perimeter wall.—RT/Agency



## Cristiano Ronaldo shares playful moment with daughter by the beach



Cristiano Ronaldo is spending some much-needed time off with family following a devastating exit from the Euros 2024 after Portugal was defeated by France in the quarterfinals round.

The 39-year-old Al Nassr striker seems to be having fun with his partner Georgia Rodriguez and his children on a beachy getaway.

He even shared his playful side with fans as he posted a video on social media in which he can be seen playing with his two-year-old daughter, Bella Esmeralda.

Ronaldo posted the video on his Instagram, which he captioned: "Daddy loves you, Mommy loves you."

The five-time Ballon d'Or award winner was seen consoling teammate Pepe after Portugal's defeat.

Taking to X after the exit, the five-time Ballon d'Or award winner wrote: "We

wanted more. We deserved more. For us. For each one of you. For Portugal. We are grateful for everything you have given us and for everything we have achieved so far.

"On and off the field, I am sure that this legacy will be honored and will continue to be built."

Portugal's defeat to France was Ronaldo's 212th cap, and the attacker has scored 130 goals for his country.

The former Manchester United, Real Madrid and Juventus star has played for Portugal in six Euros and four World Cups. He helped Portugal reach the 2004 and 2016 Euros, winning the latter.

In the 2022 World Cup, he became the first and only male player to score in five consecutive editions of the tournament with eight goals.—Agency

## Babar, Shaheen, Rizwan 'unlikely' to get NOC for Canadian league



LAHORE: Pakistan skipper Babar Azam, pacer Shaheen Shah Afridi and wicket-keeper-batter Mohammad Rizwan are unlikely to get a no-objection certificate (NOC) to participate in the upcoming league Global T20 Canada, sources told Geo News on Friday.

The insiders revealed that the players will not get a NOC despite the Canadian league, which is scheduled from July 25 to August 11, not clashing with any series.

This is because all-format players will not be issued the certificate as per the policy. The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) is not in favour

of this due to busy international schedule, said the sources.

The development comes days after the cricket body decided not to grant fast bowler Naseem Shah the NOC to play The Hundred cricket league due to being an all-format player.

However, the Global T20 Canada has not yet received an approval from the International Cricket Council (ICC) due to several issues, the sources said.

"They added that the NOC of the players will be formally decided

only after the league gets an approval.

Pacer Mohammad Amir, Mohammad Nawaz, Asif Ali and Iftikhar Ahmed also have contracts in the Global T20 Canada.

Earlier this week, the PCB said that it would work out a technical process to issue NOC to the players and those who would fulfil the requirements would be granted the NOC.

"The players will be promoted on the basis of their fitness and performance. There's no place for players who do not fit the criteria. There'll also be no compromise on discipline," said PCB chief Mohsin Naqvi.—Agency

## Pakistan's chances bleak as Women's T20 Asia Cup begins today



DAMBULLA: The Pakistan women's cricket team will be back in action for the first time after their series defeats against West Indies and England, in the Women's T20 Asia Cup, which starts here on Friday.

While the opening fixture of the eight-team tournament will feature Nepal and UAE, Pakistan's first outing in the event will come against archrivals and favourites India a day later.

The Nida Dar-led team is drawn in Group 'A', along with India, UAE and Nepal. Group 'B', meanwhile, consists of Bangladesh, Malaysia, Thailand and Sri Lanka.

Given Pakistan's recent performances, their prospects to lift the trophy are bleak. In their last 14 matches, which included both One-day Internationals and T20s, Pakistan have tasted victory only once.

The disastrous run resulted in yet another change in their coaching setup, with Moham-mad Wasim taking over as the team's third head coach in the last 12 months.

Our aim is to play positive and fearless cricket. We intend to remain positive in our approach and showcase our abilities according to the requirements of the conditions here.—Agency

## Zverev outlasts Gaston to reach Hamburg quarter-finals



HAMBURG: Roared on by Hamburg fans defending champion Alexander Zverev battled through to the quarter-finals Thursday with a 4-6, 6-2, 7-5 victory over Frenchman Hugo Gaston.

Hope Hope Zverev is recovering from a knee injury he suffered at Wimbledon but still covered the court as Gaston played a string of drop shots.

Gaston took the first set after a 30-ball rally, which Zverev was convinced should have been halted for a double bounce.

Zverev bounced back to break in the next game on his way to taking the second set.

The decider included five breaks of serve but Zverev took the last to lead 6-5 before holding serve to 15 to seal victory.

He wanted to beat me, it has to be tough. I am not going to let the match go."

Fils will face second seed Holger Rune, who beat Marco Tringoliti 6-4, 6-3 in 80 minutes.

The Dane said he had tried to turn his round of 16 straight sets loss to Novak Djokovic at Wimbledon into motivation.

"It's been very intense since Wimbledon. I only had one day off, actually," said Rune on court.

"I was like, 'I don't want to rest, I want to go straight back to practice,' because I was very disappointed. I went straight back to work on the things that needed to be done, and now I have the chance to train those things in matches."—Agency

## Fresh injury concerns for Australia ahead of T20 World Cup



Australia are monitoring injuries to a pair of key players less than three months out from the start of this year's ICC Women's T20 World Cup in Bangladesh.

Spinner Sophie Molineux is the major injury concern, with the left-arm sufferer an acute rib fracture after being struck in the chest by a ball while batting last week.

Molineux is expected to be sidelined for up to eight weeks, leaving the 26-year-old with little time to return to full fitness ahead of Australia's first match at the T20 World Cup against Sri Lanka in Sylhet on October 4.

Molineux was named Player of the Series during Australia's recent T20I series in Bangladesh and is expected to lead a strong spin bowling contingent at the T20 World Cup alongside the likes of Georgia Wareham, Ash Gardner and Alana King.

Teammate Grace Harris is also battling her own injury concern, with the hard-hitting

all-rounder aggravating a calf problem recently and forced to withdraw from England's domestic T20 competition The Hundred.

Harris was part of Australia's side when they won the most recent T20 World Cup in South Africa last year, while Molineux played her role in helping the six-time champions to success at the two tournaments prior in 2018 and 2020.

Cricketer Australia confirmed the injuries via a short statement.

"Molineux suffered an acute rib fracture after being struck by a ball in the chest while batting last week," the statement read.

Harris suffered an aggravation of a calf injury sustained in the preparation for the T20 World Cup alongside the Hundred and the upcoming season. She is now working through a graduated rehabilitation and return to play program.—Agency

## Japanese gymnast sent home from Paris Olympics for smoking



PARIS: Japanese gymnast Shoko Miyata has been sent home from the Paris Olympics over allegations of smoking, local media reported Friday.

The Japan Gymnastics Association was investigating the 19-year-old captain of the women's gymnastics team to decide if she had breached their code of conduct, reports said.

Smoking is illegal under the age of 20 in Japan.

Several reports said that Miyata, who was expected to contend for a medal in Paris, had already left the team's training camp in Monaco.

The reports said she did not attend training on Wednesday, with a JGA official saying her absence was "for certain reasons".

Japanese Olympic officials were set to hold a press conference in Tokyo on Friday afternoon.

Miyata won bronze in the balance beam at the 2022 world championships in Liverpool.

She won the all-around title at Japan's national championships earlier this year.—Agency

## Double-winning Leverkusen sign French striker Terrier



PARIS: German champions Bayer Leverkusen on Thursday signed uncapped French striker Martin Terrier from Ligue 1 Rennes, the two clubs announced.

"It's been my wish to move to a big club abroad in Europe after seven years as a professional in France," Terrier told the Bayer web site.

"It's fantastic to be a part of this team."

Bayer said they had signed the 27-year-old until 2029 but did not mention a fee.

"In Martin Terrier we've gained a prolific, fast and intelligent forward," said Bayer managing director Simon Rolfes.

"Martin is a strong finisher and versatile - a good footballer who fits into our team superbly."

Terrier, who has appeared for France at under-21 level, started his career at Lille and has had stints at Strasbourg and Lyon. He played 141 matches and scored 51 goals for Rennes and has "written his name in the club's history," said the team on their web site.—Agency

# REGIONAL TIMES

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Kesha hints at relationship status with new move



Popstar Kesha is letting all the people know about her current relationship status.

The 37-year-old singer was seen carrying a cardboard sign that read: 'I'M SINGLE' as she ran errands in West Hollywood, Los Angeles.

She proudly held it up over her head for nearby photographers before getting into her parked car.

As per pictures dropped by Daily Mail, the TikTok singer donned a bubblegum pink sports wear which she styled it with a hot pink satin Western shirt and white sneakers.

Earlier this month, Kesha released her single titled, Joyride, making her musical comeback after settling her nearly decade-long legal pursuit against producer Lukasz "Dr. Luke" Gottwald.

In her exclusive conversation with Forbes earlier this month, the singer declared that she aspires to "change the world," especially for any artists who are going through situations similar to what she endured.

Giving advice to all the

## Jennifer Lopez sends message to Ben Affleck after lonely second anniversary



Jennifer Lopez does not shy away from putting her hard work on display.

Lopez, 54, seemingly sent a message to her estranged husband Ben Affleck, 51, with her chiseled abs on Thursday after spending their second wedding anniversary away from him.

The Papi songstress was exiting a Hamptons gym with her longtime manager Benny Medina to get to a vintage Mercedes-Benz convertible parked outside the gym.

The Atlas star had put her toned abs on full display in a white bralette and mauve sweats and a pair of oversized white-framed sunglasses and silver hoops. She tied her hair into a sleek bun.

Lopez ditched the wedding ring yet again after her inconsistency over the past few weeks.

She was last spotted with her wedding band on a bike ride in the Hamptons Tuesday, which she paired with her rare green engagement diamond ring as she spent her wedding anniversary away from her estranged husband.

While Lopez was out with her manager in the same Mercedes-Benz with Medina, Affleck stayed behind in Los Angeles for work on the special occasion. He was spotted arriving at his office wearing a gray suit on Tuesday.

Affleck and Lopez have been fueling split rumours for months, with some sources claiming their marriage has been over since March.

Lopez and Affleck are currently in the process of selling their Beverly Hills mansion for \$68 million.

## Face of the Day

**Name: Tajamul Butt**  
**Location: Karachi**  
**About me: It's all about modeling for me!**

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





