



**Sindh CM Orders Plan For Renovating KMC Buses**



**Jennifer Lopez drops another hint at Ben Affleck split with THIS change**

## Heartland

**Mayor Barrister Arslan Islam Shaikh inaugurates water filter plant in Sukkur**



## Money

**Gold Prices Continue To Fall Nationwide**



## NATIONAL

**Maryam Considers Expansion Of Punjab Cabinet**



## SPORTS

**Mohammed Shami opens up about marriage rumors with Sania Mirza**



## KP Government To Form Commission To Investigate Bannu Incident

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government on Saturday announced to form a commission to conduct a transparent investigation into the Bannu incident in which at least four people were killed while several others sustained injuries.

The development comes a day after the civilians were killed in a firing incident during a protest rally in Bannu district against the worsening law and order.

The protest was staged on the call of the trader community, where a complete shutter-down strike was observed. They were demanding action against the armed groups operating in the city and its adjoining areas.

Many people were also injured due to the stampede. KP Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur has taken notice of the ongoing situation in Bannu and an-



nounced the formation of a commission for transparent investigation of the incident," said Adviser on Information Barrister Muhammad Ali Saif.

The adviser said that the commission will conduct a transparent and impartial investigation and submit its report which will be made public and legal action will be taken against those responsible.

He also said that the commission's report would

identify those who were involved in the incident, stressing that rumours and unverified allegations should be avoided before the report.

Barrister Saif said that the security is usually on high alert in sensitive places. He highlighted that the sensitive nature of the area was also the reason behind the incident. He advised the people to remain careful amid the ongoing wave of terrorism.—RT/Agency

## Teflon Nawaz Admits Power Bills Are Unaffordable For Many, Laments Current State Of Affairs

LAHORE: Criticising the decisions of the previous rulers, ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) President Nawaz Sharif said Saturday that the country "is not being treated well which was achieving development goals and got rid of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)."

"Justice is offered to a man roaming in the street," said Nawaz who stepped down as prime minister in 2017 after the Supreme Court disqualified him for not declaring a receivable salary.

"What is the need [of such decisions] which increased sufferings of this country," the former premier questioned, lamenting that the country was suc-



cessfully achieving the milestones of development and prosperity before his ouster from power.

He made the statement while chairing a high-level session alongside Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz to review matters related to the CM Solar Panel Scheme 2024 in Lahore today.

"Electricity bills be-

come a trouble for everyone [...] not only for poor people but for everyone," he added. The PML-N president claimed that his government "eliminated loadshedding and controlled electricity rates."

He also took credit for maintaining a low inflation rate and a stable currency, as well as "getting rid of the IMF" programme but

to the nation, pledged that the new bailout package with the global lender will be the last in the country's history.

"The new programme, which needs to be validated by the IMF's Executive Board, should enable Pakistan to cement macroeconomic stability and create conditions for stronger, more inclusive and resilient growth," according to a statement issued by the global lender. Subsequently, tough measures in line with the IMF conditions such as raising tax on agricultural incomes and lifting electricity prices have prompted concerns about poor and middle-class Pakistanis grappling with rising inflation and the prospect of higher taxes.—RT/Agency

## Pakistani Students In Bangladesh Moved To Safety Amid Deadly Protests: FO

ISLAMABAD: As the ongoing deadly protests in Bangladesh widened, Pakistani students present in the South Asian country have been moved to safety to keep them from harm, a Foreign Office spokesperson said on Saturday.

Student-led protests against the job quota have killed at least 110 people this week, with the government deploying army to quell the deadly events.

For five days police bullets have fired tear gas, rubber pellets and hurled sound grenades to scatter protesters throwing bricks and setting fire to vehicles.

Assuring the safety of the Pakistani students present in Dhaka and other cities of Bangladesh, the FO said that they had been shifted to secure locations.

The spokesperson said that Pakistan's mission in Dhaka is in contact with all the Pakistani students and the deputy head of the mission has met some of them present in Chitagon.

"All students are safe," the FO spokesperson said, adding that the Pakistani



High Commission has accommodated them at safe sites.

"These include the high commission building, the Pakistani ambassador's residence, and some other safe places," the statement added.

The demonstrations — the biggest since Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was re-elected for a fourth successive term this year — have also been fuelled by high unemployment among young people, who make up nearly a fifth of the population.

With the death toll climbing and police and other security forces unable to contain the protests, Hasina's government imposed a national curfew and deployed

the military, who were given orders to shoot on sight if needed.

Soldiers patrolled the deserted streets of the Bangladesh capital Dhaka on Saturday, setting up roadblocks during a curfew imposed in response to the protests.

Internet and text message services have remained suspended since Thursday, cutting the nation off as police cracked down on protesters who defied a ban on public gatherings. Overseas telephone calls mostly failed to connect while websites of Bangladesh-based media organisations did not update and their social media accounts remained inactive.—RT/Agency

## IPPs Received Rs 450 Billion In First Three Months Of The Year: Gohar Ejaz



ISLAMABAD: The independent power producers (IPPs) have been made heavy payments of Rs 450 billion in first three months of the current year.

Former caretaker commerce minister Gohar Ejaz has shared the data of the capacity payments to IPPs. "Various IPPs were paid monthly 150 billion rupees from January to March," Gohar Ejaz has said.

He said that among the independent power producers' 50 per cent operating with below 10% of their generation capacity. "Four power plants getting 10 billion rupees monthly without generating electricity," former minister said.

"Our hard-earned money being paid to 40 families in capacity payments," he said. "These power plants should be made payments when they generate electricity," he said.

Gohar Ejaz also de-

mandated representation to all stakeholders in the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA).

"The government should not run its business with the public money and avoid excesses with power consumers," he added.

Gohar Ejaz had earlier demanded record of the payments made to the independent power producers.

He demanded that the nation should be informed about how much electricity generated by each power plant according to their capacity.

He had also demanded the record of capacity payments made to the IPPs should be made public and the data of their generation costs should also be disclosed. He also demanded that the agreements with the IPPs should be converted into "take and pay" mode.—RT/Agency

## PM Orders For Swift Implementation Of Deals To Boost Foreign Investment From China

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday directed the authorities concerned to expedite process of implementing the agreements and memorandum of understandings (MoUs) made with the Chinese government and companies, saying that delay in implementation of the agreements would not be tolerated.

China is a time tested friend of Pakistan who helped Pakistan in every hour of need, the prime minister said while chairing a review meeting regarding P-China cooperation at the PM House.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, federal ministers including Jam Kamal Khan, Abdul Aleem Khan, Ahd Khan Cheema, and other officials including PM's aides.

During the meeting, PM Shehbaz said the Chinese leadership was determined to further expand investment in Pakistan.

He pointed out that the transfer of the Chinese industry to Pakistan would help improving the country's overall economy, increasing Pakistan's exports, and creating new employment opportunities.

During the meeting, the premier was briefed on



progress of different projects that were launched with the Chinese cooperation.

He was told that Sukkur-Hyderabad Motorway would be completed through Public-Private Partnership.

Moreover, the authorities informed the PM that the plan to send 1,000 students for modern agricultural vocational training at government expense had been completed.

The first batch of students was being sent to China at the beginning of this academic year while the next batch would be sent to the Chinese modern agricultural universities after completing Chinese language course in Pakistan.

Furthermore, the meeting was informed that the plan to transfer the power plants running on imported coal to local coal was also in the final stages.

In regard with the business and investment opportunities in Pakistan, a road

show was being organised in Beijing with the cooperation of China. A comprehensive road map was presented to the meeting regarding the transfer of Chinese industries in Pakistan.

It was informed in the meeting that the Chinese textile, medical and surgical equipment, plastic and leather industries will move to Pakistan.

"78 Pakistani companies have initially expressed interest in cooperation for the transfer of Chinese industries to Pakistan," the meeting was informed.

In this regard, the Board of Investment (BoI) presented a comprehensive report on the progress and action plan. PM Shehbaz appreciated the steps and recommendations of BoI and directed the relevant departments and officers to provide all kinds of facilities to Pakistani companies in collaborating with Chinese companies.—RT/Agency

## Imran Rules Out Talks With PPP On No-Confidence Motion

ISLAMABAD: Former prime minister and PTI founder Imran Khan firmly ruled out any possibility of discussions with the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) regarding a no-confidence motion.

During an informal conversation with journalists at Adiala Jail on Saturday, Khan expressed his unwavering stance, asserting that PPP and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) were indistinguishable and both were products of "manipulated" electoral processes.

Khan criticised the current political climate, describing it as detrimental to democracy.

He highlighted the restrictions placed on his party, stating that key leaders, including the chairman and vice chairman, were already imprisoned, yet the government still threatened further bans on the party.

He condemned this as an attack on democratic principles. Addressing the conditions in Adiala Jail, Khan detailed the harsh treatment he faced,



including unsanitary conditions and inadequate food. He called for an investigation into the alleged poisoning and mistreatment during his imprisonment.

Khan also voiced his strong condemnation of the Bannu incident, where he claimed the military fired on unarmed civilians during a peace march.

He demanded a judicial inquiry to ensure accountability.

On the economic front, Khan criticised the government's fiscal policies, questioning the increase in the presidential budget and accusing the ruling elite of burdening the public while avoiding personal sacrifices.

He emphasised that

transparent elections and economic reforms were essential for Pakistan's recovery from its current crisis.

Khan dismissed allegations related to his involvement in dissolving assemblies, stating that actions were taken in response to foreign interference, specifically referencing Donald Trump's statement.

He called for an investigation into the events of May 9, questioning why CCTV footage had not been released and why a judicial commission had not been established.

Despite facing potential lifelong imprisonment, Khan declared his readiness to stand by his principles.—RT/Agency

## Assigning Political Cases To Retired Judges Is Inappropriate: Fawad



LAHORE: Former federal minister Fawad Chaudhry raises objection to the appointment of retired judges for the adjudication of political cases.

Speaking to media outside the anti-terrorism court, Lahore, where the ex-minister was due to attend the hearing of the arson case, he said it's a good gesture that the Election Commission of Pakistan was not going to file a review petition against the Supreme Court's ruling on reserved seats.

He urged the ECP to follow the Lahore High Court chief justice's decision regarding tribunals. He claimed that Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz would be in a hot seat if Form 45 is opened.

He emphasised that only serving judges, not those who retired, should be at the helm of political cases. Meanwhile, the anti-terrorism court extended the interim bails of Fawad Chaudhry and others in the arson case until Aug 7.—RT/Agency

## UK Court Orders MQM-P To Pay £65,000 To Altaf Hussain

LONDON: Three Lord Justices of the UK Court of Appeal have ordered the Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P) to pay £65,000, which amounts to around Rs23,333,855 or Rs23.3 million, to the MQM founder Altaf Hussain before July 30, 2024, in legal costs.

Hussain won at the Court of Appeal against his former devotees at MQM-P, who defected from him in August 2016.

According to the order released by the court following a unanimous decision by three judges accepting Hussain's appeal and overturning an earlier decision favouring MQM-P, the Court of Appeal's Civil Division has ordered the MQM-P to pay £65,000 towards the costs of the appeal.

Generally, the courts order the losing party to make such payments to the claimants or winning side when such applications or petitions are opposed, to begin with, by the defendants. The court has also per-



mitted Hussain for the release of £77,760 into his lawyer's account — the amount he was asked to deposit earlier after the single bench judge gave a decision against him.

MQM spokesperson Mustafa Azizabadi told media that Hussain will soon be launching a claim of over £100,000 at the court against MQM-P for the legal costs incurred during the first part of the trial before the Insolvency and Companies Judge Jones. MQM-P leader and the claimant in the case Syed Aminul Haque told media over the phone from Karachi that he will instruct his lawyer in London to comply

with the court orders. The former federal law minister said: "We are a rule of law party. We will comply with all court orders. We won unequivocally before the Insolvency and Companies Judge Jones and we will win again. MQM-London is making it as if the case is over. It's not." The UK Court of Appeal has sent the case back to the lower court to look at a few unresolved issues. We are confident we will win there, again.

The UK properties belong to MQM-P and we will get these properties for the benefit of the families or our workers and our martyrs.—RT/Agency

# METRO KARACHI



## Sindh CM Orders Plan For Renovating KMC Buses

By Rahib Gho

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah directed Mayor Karachi to propose adding 28 air-conditioned CNG buses from the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC) to the Peoples Bus Service fleet. These buses could be used on existing or new routes in the city.

The meeting included Local Government Minister Saeed Ghani, Mayor Karachi Muratza Wahab, PSCM Agha Wasif, Secretary Local Government Khalid Hyder Shah, Secretary Finance Fayaz Jatoi, and KMC Municipal Commissioner Afzal Zaidi.

Mayor Muratza Wahab informed the CM that the defunct city district government of Karachi had procured 75 CNG buses, with 14 donated to various organizations and 10 to Karachi University. The re-



maining buses operated until 2017 but were discontinued due to the non-availability of CNG and poor maintenance. Currently, 51 buses are in different stages of decay, with 28 potentially operable if repaired. One bus has already been reconditioned and converted to diesel for Rs 8 million.

Local Government Minister Saeed Ghani suggested first estimating the cost of renovating the 28 buses be-

## Fire Devastates Shop In Murad Memon Goth, Owner Appeals For Aid



By Asif Qureshi

KARACHI: A sudden fire erupted at Babu Ismail Memon's shop in the main market of Murad Memon Goth, a bustling business area in Malir. The blaze resulted in the destruction of goods worth over 3.5 million rupees.

Shop owner Babu Ismail Memon expressed his despair, stating that the lack of nearby fire brigade facilities led to the total loss of

his shop's contents. He explained that the shop was his family's sole source of income and that he is now facing immense hardship. Memon has appealed to social organizations, the Chief Minister of Sindh, and the Deputy Commissioner of Malir for immediate assistance and financial support.

SHO Memon Goth, Sarfaraz Jatoi, reported that the fire was caused by an electrical short circuit.

## Advisor Ehsan Mazari Distributes Posting Orders To New Assistant Registrars And Special Auditor



By Rahib Gho

KARACHI: Ehsan Rehman Mazari, the Advisor to the Chief Minister Sindh for IPC & Cooperative Department, distributed posting orders to successful candidates for the positions of Assistant Registrars and Special Auditor (BS-17) in a ceremony held at his office yesterday.

These appointments, recommended by the Sindh Public Service Commission, have been approved by the competent authority under the terms and conditions of service by the Cooperative Department.

Ehsan Rehman Mazari congratulated the newly appointed officers—Mr. Javed Ahmed, Mr. Ahmed Kamal

Jamshed, Mr. Saddam Hussain, Mr. Saddam Solangi, Mr. Asad Naseem, and Mr. Ghulam Muhammad—on their new roles and extended his best wishes for their future endeavors.

The Cooperative Department Sindh issued the following appointments: Mr. Javed Ahmed: Assistant Registrar BS-17, Cooperative Societies Research & Development, Hyderabad.

Mr. Saddam Hussain: Special Auditor BS-17, Cooperative Society, Hyderabad.

Mr. Ahmed Kamal Jamshed: Assistant Registrar BS-17, Cooperative Societies 3, Karachi.

Mr. Saddam Solangi: Assistant Registrar BS-17, Cooperative Societies (General), Hyderabad.

Mr. Ghulam Muhammad: Assistant Registrar BS-17, Cooperative Societies Five, Karachi.

Mr. Saddam Solangi: Assistant Registrar BS-17, Cooperative Societies, Umar Kot. The newly appointed officers expressed their gratitude to the Chief Minister's Advisor and assured him of their dedication to performing their duties with integrity and diligence. The ceremony was also attended by the Secretary of the Cooperative Societies Sindh, Mr. Athar Hussain Mirani, along with other relevant officers.

## Karachi Customs Seizes Major Tech Haul From Dubai Flight

KARACHI: Pakistan Customs officials have seized a significant quantity of iPhones, laptops, and other items from two passengers arriving from Dubai at Jinnah International Airport on Saturday.

During a routine inspection at the terminal, customs officials discovered the contraband with two passengers who had flown in from Dubai.

The operation, led by Deputy Collector Customs Faisal Khan, took place at the arrival terminal. The passengers were attempting to pass through the green channel, which is designated for those with no dutiable goods, however, their suspicious behaviour prompted officials to redirect them to the red channel for scanning.

The passengers, identified as Shahroz and Sohail Amin, arrived on Fly Dubai flight 329.

Upon inspection, officials found 28 high-value iPhones concealed within their luggage and on their persons.



Additionally, the suspects were carrying 50 embroidered suits, 40 bottles of Prime drinks, and two expensive laptops.

Customs authorities have registered a case against the two passengers, seized the goods, and initiated further legal proceedings.

Earlier this year in March, it was reported that the Directorate Customs Intelligence Karachi, during its campaign against smuggling recovered smuggled goods worth millions of rupees in a period from July 2023 to February 2024.

Deputy Director Customs Intelligence Karachi Wasif Malik told The Express Tribune that in light of the instructions of DG Customs Intelligence Faiz Ahmed Chaudhary, smuggled items worth Rs100 million were seized in operations during February 2024 alone.—RT/Agency

## Business Community Condemns Excessive Power Tariffs



KARACHI: Pakistan's business community leaders on Saturday unanimously demanded of the government for decreasing power rates, media reported.

"We have to pay 2,100 billion rupees for capacity charges this year," the chambers of commerce of Karachi, Lahore, Multan and Faisalabad have said. "Either the government save 240 million people of the country or 42 IPPs," the chambers of officials said while commenting over the inflated power tariffs in the country.

Senior Vice President of Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FCCI) Sajjad Arshad said that the traders are not rioters, but the water has now gone above the head. "If the problem not resolved

promptly, it could go beyond the control," he warned.

"There are 130 independent power producers (IPPs) operating in the country," he said.

LCCI's Vice President Zafar Mehmood Chaudhry while calling agreements with the IPPs as 'cruel', said that 25% industries have been shut down in two years. The electricity price in the country has been 25 to 30 rupees per unit, he said.

"It is surprising that this big secret that we have to pay 2,100 billion rupees for capacity charges this year, had remained under the carpet till now," another chamber official Johar Ali said.—RT/Agency

## Advisor Syed Najmi Alam Launches Livestock Vaccination Campaign



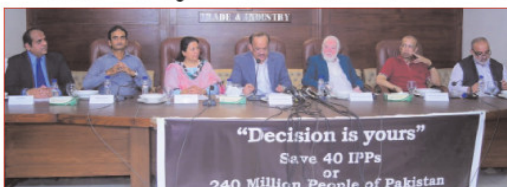
By Asif Qureshi

KARACHI: Syed Najmi Alam, Advisor to the Chief Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, inaugurated the Sindh government's campaign aimed at protecting livestock from diseases at Cattle Colony Secretary Kazim Jatoi was also present at the event. The Sindh government has launched a vaccination campaign to safeguard livestock from diseases through the administration of vaccines across the province. The decision was made to upgrade the livestock hospital at Cattle Colony to operate 24/7 to ensure that livestock owners can receive emergency medical assistance. Syed Najmi Alam stated that the goal is to make the Cattle Colony veterinary

hospital the largest center of its kind. During the ceremony, Syed Najmi Alam announced that the staff involved in the vaccination campaign would have tracker systems installed on their motorcycles to monitor livestock from diseases at the event. He also emphasized the need for further improvements to hospitals for animals to ensure effective treatment. He mentioned that five major veterinary hospitals are being established in Sindh. Although the department has not yet succeeded in vaccine production, work continues on vaccines for dog and snake bites. Alam highlighted the ongoing spread of foot-and-mouth disease among animals and stressed the importance of its prevention. Additionally,

Najmi Alam announced that the department would provide chickens to impoverished women in Sindh, with the sale of eggs benefiting them financially. Goats will also be provided to poor people in rural areas. Furthermore, the department will allocate funds for the establishment of small fish farms in the province. The inauguration ceremony was attended by a large number of participants, including PPP Malir General Secretary Imdad Jikhio, Town Chairman Ibrahim Haidari, Nazir Ahmed Bhutto, PPP District Information Secretary Shahjahan, Khan Dairy Farm Association leader Shabbir Dar, cattle ward members, milk suppliers, and union leaders.

## KATI President Calls For Forensic Audit Of IPPs And Electricity Market Reforms



KARACHI: Johar Qandhari, President of the Korangi Association of Trade and Industry (KATI), has called for significant economic reforms during an emergency press conference. He demanded that electricity prices be set at 9 cents per unit, criticizing the high payments to Independent Power Producers (IPPs).

Qandhari highlighted that IPPs receive more money than Pakistan's defense budget, arguing that the interests of the 240 million Pakistani citizens should come before the 40 families running the IPPs. He called for the cancellation of unnecessary private company contracts and a forensic audit of the IPPs.

Joined by Senator Abdul Haseeb Khan, Senior Vice President Nighat Awan, Standing Committee Chairman Danish Khan, and other notable figures, Qandhari

pointed out that while Pakistan has an installed electricity capacity of 45,000 megawatts, only 22,000 megawatts are utilized. The cost of electricity for consumers is Rs. 35 per unit before tax and Rs. 60 after tax, with Rs. 18 per unit going to capacity charges for unused electricity.

Qandhari proposed several measures to alleviate economic pressure: Changing capacity conditions for government-owned IPPs to reduce management costs. Shifting from LIBOR to KIBOR for payments. Renegotiating privately-owned IPP contracts from "Take or Pay" to "Take and Pay" agreements.

Persuading China to negotiate debt restructuring and extend repayment periods for IPPs under CPEC.

Expanding transmission lines to fully utilize surplus electricity.

Establishing an electricity market in Pakistan to foster competition and allow consumers to choose their electricity providers. He urged the government to halt new IPP projects, improve capacity through negotiations with existing IPPs, and lower electricity prices from 16.5 cents to 9 cents. This reduction would lower production costs, reduce inflation, boost exports, decrease circular debt, and reduce import dependence, ultimately driving Pakistan's economic growth.

Senator Abdul Haseeb Khan, Standing Committee Chairman Danish Khan, and Rehman Javed echoed Qandhari's sentiments, calling for Federal Minister for Energy Sardar Owais Laghari to examine IPP contracts under government supervision and ensure they are audited by international companies.—RT

-Can you believe these bloodsuckers?

## KE Wants Another Rs 5.45 Per Unit Increase In Power Tariff



KARACHI: The K-Electric (KE) sought an increase of Rs 5.45 per unit for the consumers of the city, dealing a blow to already burdened households, media reported.

The power utility requested the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) for the hike under the monthly fuel adjustment.

The increase in electricity prices for the KE consumers is expected to add an additional burden of over Rs 10 billion on Karachiites.

The KE asked the NEPRA to approve Rs 2.53 per unit for May's monthly fuel adjustment and Rs 2.92 per unit for the month of June.

The NEPRA will hold a hearing on July 30 on the KE's plea.

Earlier in the day, Pakistan's business community leaders on Saturday unanimously demanded of the

government for decreasing power rates. "We have to pay 2,100 billion rupees for capacity charges this year," the chambers of commerce of Karachi, Lahore, Multan and Faisalabad have said. "Either the government save 240 million people of the country or 42 IPPs," the chambers of officials said while commenting over the inflated power tariffs in the country.

Senior Vice President of Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FCCI) Sajjad Arshad said that the traders are not rioters, but the water has now gone above the head. "If the problem not resolved promptly, it could go beyond the control," he warned.

"There are 130 independent power producers (IPPs) operating in the country," he said.—RT/Agency

## Six-Year-Old Karachi Girl Found Alive In Body Bag

KARACHI: In a shocking incident, a six-year-old girl was reportedly found alive in a closed sack near the graveyard located at Sherpao colony area of Karachi's Landhi, media reported on Saturday.

The police spokesperson disclosed that the minor girl - identified as Sadaf - was subjected to torture while the suspect(s) also made an attempt to rape her.

The spokesperson added that the girl has been shifted to Jinnah Hospital for immediate medical assistance. Meanwhile, the police - after registering a case on the complaint of the girl's family - has arrested a suspect on the identification of the victim girl for his alleged involvement in the case.—RT/Agency

## Sindh CM Urges For Urban Flood Control System In Karachi

By Rahib Gho

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah stressed the need for an urban flooding control system in Karachi. He called for identifying low-lying areas prone to flooding and designing sewer tunnels to channel water to the main interceptor tunnels at Lyari and Malir Rivers.

In a meeting at CM House on Saturday, attended by Local Government Minister Saeed Ghani, Mayor Karachi Muratza Wahab, Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, PSCM Agha Wasif, Secretary LG Khalid Hyder Shah, CEO Salahuddin, and KMC Municipal Commissioner Afzal Zaidi, the CM highlighted the main causes of urban flooding: clogged drains, lack of outfall infrastructure, and growing encroachments.

Efforts to address these issues by removing unauthorized settlements and cleaning drains have been ineffective long-term. The CM



proposed constructing new sewage tunnels in flood-prone areas to carry sewage to treatment plants. These plants, being built based on city wastewater output, could use by-products for agriculture and horticulture.

Murad Shah suggested a modern tunneling system using earth pressure balance machines that prevent surface settlement issues. This system, along with pipe jacking, would collect floodwaters and restore natural streams of Lyari and Malir Rivers.

The CM instructed the Karachi Water & Sewerage Corporation (KW&SC) to propose a combined sewer-

age system for Karachi. Industrial effluent discharge should be treated alongside domestic wastewater.

Murad Shah called for a master plan study to control urban flooding, including a tunneling option, to be completed in six months. A financial model would be developed based on the study's findings.

The KW&SC proposed a pilot study for wastewater management until 2047, aligning with their Master Plan. Mayor Muratza Wahab suggested using old city areas as pilot projects for the urban flooding control system.



KARACHI: Sardar Manzoor Ahmed Khan Kakar is offering his condolences to BNP leader Sardar Akhtar Mengal over the sad demise of his mother-in-law and wife of Shaheed Aslam Gachki. Sardar Amin Mengal is also seen in the photo.—RT

# THE HEARTLAND



LARKANA: Students of Chandka Medical College are holding a protest demonstration for better basic facilities.—RT

## Mayor Barrister Arslan Islam Shaikh inaugurates water filter plant in Sukkur

By Absar Alvi

SUKKUR: Sindh Government Spokesperson and Mayor of Sukkur, Barrister Arslan Islam Shaikh, inaugurated a new water filter plant outside the Town Municipal Corporation Jeeyah Shah. The plant was installed in collaboration with Rotary Club Sukkur. The inauguration was attended by Rotary Club Sukkur President Shahid Hameed, former President Khawaja Kashif, club member Raja Saeed, Vice Chairman of Town Municipal Corporation Jeeyah Shah Farhan Shah, and other dignitaries. Following the ceremony, Barrister Arslan Islam Shaikh toured various parts of the filter plant. Rotary Club President Shahid Hameed informed him that the plant has a daily capacity of 3,000 liters and will operate from 9 am to 9 pm. An



application for a new water connection with the metropolitan corporation has been submitted, which, upon approval, will increase the plant's capacity to 7,000 liters per day. During the event, Barrister Arslan Islam Shaikh announced that the new water connection will be approved on a priority basis, and the connection for the filter plant will be provided free of charge. He commended the Rotary Club for their humanitarian efforts and consistent support in health, education, and disaster relief. The Mayor assured the Rotary Club of his full cooperation and support. Later, Barrister Arslan Islam Shaikh visited the Town Municipal Corporation Jeeyah Shah office, where Vice Chairman Farhan Shah briefed him on the corporation's various departments.

## Soyem of Karbala Martyrs observed in Tando Adam



By Dildar Samo

TANDO ADAM: The city of Tando Adam observed a solemn mourning procession for Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) and the martyrs of Karbala on the eve of Soyem of the Martyrs of Karbala. The event was organized under the guidance of Zawar Syed Ghulam Mehdi Shah Kazmi, drawing a large number of participants from the community.

The procession began at Azakhana Zahra and traversed through several key locations, including Sati Pir, Juman Shah Pir, Panjgani Imam Bargah, Ali Shah Pir, Chanhia Pir, Manghar Pir, and Memon Pir, before returning to its starting point. Each stop was marked with recitations of elegies and prayers in honor of the martyrs.

A grand Majlis-e-Aza was held as part of the observance, featuring poignant addresses by Allama Wali Muhammad Chandio and

Moulana Allah Bux Mashhadi. Allama Wali Muhammad Chandio spoke about the enduring legacy and sacrifice of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) and his companions, emphasizing their stand for justice and righteousness. During the procession, mourners expressed their grief and solidarity through traditional rituals and prayers. Cold drinks and Niaz (a special food offering) were distributed to participants as a gesture of hospitality and community support.

The Payam e Wilayat Scouts and dedicated volunteers ensured the safety and security of the event, managing the large crowds and maintaining order throughout the procession. The observance in Tando Adam reflected the deep reverence and commitment of the local community to the principles upheld by Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) and his followers, reinforcing the significance of this commemorative event in the hearts of believers.

## Sindh government to construct new houses for Badin's flood victims: DC Yasir Bhatti

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: Under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Badin, Yasir Bhatti, an important meeting was held in his office to discuss the construction of houses for the flood victims. During the meeting, Deputy Commissioner Yasir Bhatti stated that under the PHF scheme, the Sindh government is building new houses for the flood victims of Badin district. The funds for the construction will be disbursed in four installments, and the scheme is expected to be completed within three years. He instructed the NRSHP and other concerned officers to ensure the timely completion of the housing construction under this scheme. District Man-



ager of NRSHP, Abdul Ghaffar Khokhar, provided details on the construction progress, mentioning that 110,338 houses are being constructed for the flood victims in Badin district under the SPHF scheme by the Sindh government. This includes 23,030 houses in Taluka Badin, and other relevant officers were also present at the meeting. District Man-

ager of NRSHP, Abdul Ghaffar Khokhar, provided details on the construction progress, mentioning that 110,338 houses are being constructed for the flood victims in Badin district under the SPHF scheme by the Sindh government. This includes 23,030 houses in Taluka Badin, and other relevant officers were also present at the meeting. District Man-

## 14-year-old NWM boy reunited with his family by Faqir Ali Nawaz Hashmi

By Yousef Rind

NAWAB WALI MUHAMMAD: A heartwarming reunion took place as 14-year-old Asif Pathan was returned to his family after being found at the shrine of Faiz Hashmi. The boy had been missing for seven days, prompting a widespread search by his concerned family and local authorities.

Asif Pathan was discovered at the shrine by dedicated individuals who quickly took steps to locate his family. The search led to his father, Nizakat Pathan, a laborer from Karachi, who had reported his son missing. The emotional reunion was made possible thanks to the efforts of a distinguished delegation led by Sajjad Hashmi Faqir Ali Nawaz Hashmi.

The delegation, which played a crucial role in reuniting the boy with his family, included Sahibzada Abdul Sattar Hashmi, Vice



President of the National Press Club Nawabshah, senior journalist Yousef Rind, journalist Javed Rind, Advocate Dr. Ali Bakhsh Khaskheli, Faqir Kamran Chandio, Additional Director of DHA, and Faqir Masood Arain. Their combined efforts ensured that Asif was safely handed over to his father, bringing an end to the family's distress.

The successful reunion highlights the importance of community collaboration and the role of local leaders in addressing such urgent matters. The Pathan family expressed profound gratitude to everyone involved in the search and recovery of their son, reflecting the collective relief and joy felt by the reunited family.

## Hearing in murder case of Umme Rubab Chandio's family members held in Dadu

By Javed Laghari

DADU: The hearing of the murder case of Umme Rubab Chandio's three family members took place at the Model Criminal Trial Court of Dadu. Umme Rubab Chandio, along with her lawyer Salahuddin Panhwar, arrived at the Dadu court. In the case, named suspects PPP MPA SARDAR Chandio and the then SHO Karim Bux Chandio were present in court. All arrested suspects in the case were brought to Dadu court from Hyderabad Jail under tight police security. After questioning the witnesses, Judge Hassan Ali Kalwar of the Dadu Model Criminal Court adjourned the case hearing until July 31. Outside the court, Umme Rubab Chandio told reporters that the Chandio community is not a nation but a tribe. She criticized the ignorant leaders, stat-



ing that they do not understand what a nation or a tribe is. She expressed pride in being Sindhi and noted that Sindhis have become more aware now. She emphasized that there is no concept of tribal leadership in the Sindhi community. Umme Rubab Chandio mentioned that significant progress has been made in the case of her family members' murder, with important testimonies being recorded. She expressed hope for

justice from the courts and assured that they will obtain it. She also condemned the violence against journalists in Karachi, stating that Sindhi people are now rising in rebellion. She urged the rulers to refrain from such actions. She announced full support for the planned sit-in in Dadu District on July 22 and said she would participate in it. During the court proceedings, strict security measures were implemented.

## Wadho community demands justice in land dispute



By Nooral Khamisani

MATLI: On Saturday, residents of Village Ahmed Wadho, within the jurisdiction of PS Dai, took to the streets to protest a contentious land dispute. The demonstration was led by prominent figures including Ghulam Mustafa Wadho, Farman Gul Wadho, Pir Bux Wadho, Arab Wadho, Zulekhan, Naseema, Muskan, and others.

The protesters voiced serious concerns about the alleged actions of an influential individual, Mir Zeeshan, who, along with his armed associates and police offi-

cers, is reportedly attempting to forcibly occupy their agricultural lands. The community members claim that they have been subjected to severe threats and intimidation by Zeeshan and his entourage. In their appeal, the protest leaders urged the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Badin and other higher authorities to intervene in the matter. They are seeking protection from further threats and immediate justice to resolve the land dispute. The protest highlights the escalating tensions and the community's desperate call for intervention to safeguard their property and rights.

## Residents of Nawabshah's Jamshed Colony protest against B-Section Police

By Samad Ayaz

NAWABSHAH: A significant protest unfolded outside the Nawabshah Press Club as residents of Jamshed Colony expressed their outrage over what they claim are wrongful arrests made by the B-Section police. The demonstration, which included both men and women such as Mrs. Maqbool Bibi, Mrs. Komal, Sumbal, Ahsan, and others, was sparked by a police raid that occurred the previous night.

According to the protesters, the B-Section police raided their homes and arrested Amir, son of Anif Gul, on alleged but unfounded charges of drug possession. They also reported that Su-fyan, a guest at the time, was detained during the raid. The residents assert that Amir is innocent and was taken into custody based solely on suspicion, without any concrete



evidence linking him to the alleged crime.

In addition to the arrests, the protesters claimed that the police seized household items and gold jewelry during the raid, further exacerbating their distress. They are demanding immediate action against the police officers involved in what they describe as an unjust and unlawful operation. They also called for the release of Amir and Su-fyan.

The protesters have is-

sued a warning that if their demands are not met, they will escalate their protest. They have appealed to the Deputy Inspector General (DIG), SSP Shaheed Nazirabadi, and other relevant authorities to intervene and address the situation promptly. The protest underscores the community's frustration with what they perceive as misuse of police authority and the urgent need for accountability and justice.

## Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Sciences at Bilawal Medical College Gains Prominence

By Munawar Chandio

JAMSHORO: The Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Sciences at Bilawal Medical College, LUMHS, has emerged as a leading center for rehabilitation in interior Sindh. Since its inception in January 2023, the institute has rapidly established itself as a cornerstone for advanced rehabilitation and health services in the region.

Operating under the distinguished leadership of Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Ikramuddin Ujjan, Prof. Madam Salma Shaikh, and Prof. Abdul Rehman Siyal, the institute is dedicated to providing exceptional care and support to patients with diverse needs. In a recent interview with a

representative from The Regional Times, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Ujjan emphasized the institute's commitment to excellence in rehabilitation services.

The institute offers a comprehensive range of therapies, including specialized speech therapy for children with speech and hearing difficulties. It also provides occupational therapy aimed at helping children with autism and other special needs achieve greater independence. Additionally, the institute is equipped to offer a variety of other health services, catering to a broad spectrum of conditions.

The team at the institute comprises highly qualified and experienced professionals who are making significant

advancements in the field of rehabilitation. To date, over 2,000 patients with conditions such as speech disorders and autism have received treatment at the institute. Notably, more than 1,400 patients have successfully regained normalcy and independence through the institute's interventions.

Patients from distant districts, including Sukkur, Larkana, Dadu, and Naushero Feroz, have traveled to benefit from the institute's services, reflecting its growing reputation and reach. The leadership of the institute remains optimistic about the future, confident in their ability to achieve their goals and continue serving as a crucial resource for the community.

## 25-year-old Shahdadkot youth attempts suicide

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: A 25-year-old resident of Shahdadkot, Arbaz son of Deedar Shaikh, made a distressing attempt to take his own life on Saturday. The attempt was reportedly driven by a domestic dispute. Arbaz ingested poison in an act of desperation. Emergency responders quickly transported him to CMC Hospital in Larkana, where medical staff acted promptly to administer life-saving

treatment. Thanks to their swift intervention, Arbaz's life was preserved. As of the latest update, his condition is reported to be stable, though he remains under observation at the hospital. The incident highlights the urgent need for support and counseling services to address domestic issues and mental health challenges. Authorities and community leaders are encouraged to enhance resources to help individuals facing similar crises.

## PTI, DBA Mirpurkhas condemn posting of ad-hoc Supreme Court judges

By Younis Chandio

MIRPURKHAS: President of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Mirpurkhas Division, Aftab Qureshi, visited the District High Court Bar. During his visit, he met with President of Mirpurkhas High Court District Bar, Advocate Ali Hassan Chandio, Advocate Ghaffar Narejo, Advocate Mumtaz Jarwar, Advocate Qalandar Bux Laghari. Senior and junior lawyers. A protest was held at the High Court District Bar over the appointment of ad-hoc judges. Addressing the protesters, President of the High Court District Bar, Ali Hassan Chandio, stated that

attempts were being made to appoint ad-hoc judges, which they unanimously reject. The appointment of ad-hoc judges is seen as a systematic conspiracy to establish a new practice in the country, posing a dangerous threat to the judiciary and the nation.

The conspiracy is aimed at undermining the integrity of the judiciary, including judges of the High Court, Supreme Court, and lawyers. He urged that Chief Justices and senior judges from the Sindh High Court, Punjab High Court and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa High Court be appointed to the Supreme present.

Court. In this context, the High Court District Bar unanimously passed a resolution strongly condemning and rejecting the unconstitutional action. On the occasion, General Secretary of Lawyers Wing, Advocate Malik Waqar, District President, Advocate Moin Qureshi, General Secretary, Advocate Kashif Pahore, District Information Secretary, Advocate Faizan Qureshi, Additional General Secretary of the Division Monitoring, Advocate Ijaz Ahmed Randhawa, Advocate Zeba Khan, Division Information Secretary, Inayat Marri and others were also

# NATIONAL



# SOUTHERN PUNJAB

## Makhdoom Syed Shayan Shah Bukhari Commends Government Measures For Youm-e-Ashura

By M Siddique

BAHAWALPUR: In Uch Sharif and its surrounding areas including Uch Moghla, Khwajgan, Kotla Rehmat Shah, Zeinda Lal, Tahir Wali, Chinni Goth Nabipur, Bhuake Wali Mori, and across the Tehsil the security plan implemented by DPO Bahawalpur and RPO Bahawalpur was commendable. The Tehsil administration ensured effective management of the procession routes, while members of the peace committee actively supported the processions and mourning activities. Religious scholars and respected speakers from all sects engaged in peaceful and constructive discussions. The procession organizers also demonstrated excellent performance. The Chief of Sadat and Member of District Peace Committee, Makhdoom Syed Shayan Shah Bukhari praised the government's measures. Special thanks were extended to the administration and various agencies involved, including AC Ahmadpur Sharqia, SDO WAPDA, SHO Uch Sharif, Special Branch, security forces, Rescue 1122, CTD Police, patrolling police, Highway Police, and the entire administrative staff. The coverage by journalists was also appreciated.

## Officials Of Forest Division Faisalabad Accused Of Financial Irregularities In Gojra Range

By Abid Mehmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: Allegations have surfaced against officials in the Gojra Range of the Forest Division Faisalabad regarding financial misconduct. It is reported that the Range Officer has embezzled millions of rupees in salaries meant for lower staff members. According to Forest Guard Shahid Mehmood, who is stationed in the Khairwala Beat of the Nawar Lahore Block, he arranged plantation activities through laborers. The bills for these services were processed and passed by Range Officer Muhammad Siddique, amounting to a total of approximately 925,000 rupees. However, it is alleged that only 300,000 rupees were paid to Shahid Mehmood and other laborers, while the remaining amount was misappropriated by the Range Officer. Shahid Mehmood has stated that the laborers have not yet been paid, leading to severe hardship for them. Despite repeated demands for payment, the Range Officer has reportedly refused to return the embezzled funds. He has allegedly transferred the blame for the shortfall onto the Forest Guard and the Block Officer. Further complicating the situation, telephone conversations between Range Officer Muhammad Siddique and a Muhammad Siddique and Shahid Mehmood have been leaked, showing mutual accusations of wrongdoing. Shahid Mehmood has also alleged that the Range Officer is involved in widespread corruption and the distribution of commissions for departmental irregularities. Shahid Mehmood has urged higher authorities to conduct a transparent and impartial investigation into the corruption related to the plantation and other bills and to take strict action against those responsible. He claims that a thorough inquiry will reveal additional evidence of the Range Officer's corruption. Notably, Range Officer Muhammad Siddique had previously been suspended for departmental irregularities and alleged corruption.

## DPO Orders Transfers Of Police Officers In Toba Tek Singh

By Abid Mehmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: District Police Officer Toba Tek Singh, Ibadat Nisar, has issued orders for the transfer of police officers across the district. The transferred and posted officials include Inspector Mazhar-ul-Haq has been transferred from SHO of City Gojra to SHO of City Kamalia. Inspector Ghazi Rizuddin has been transferred from Police Lines to SHO of Nawar Lahore. Inspector Abid Jatt, who was suspended in connection with a case of alleged police brutality leading to a civilian's death, has been moved from SHO of Nawar Lahore to Police Lines. All newly appointed officers have been instructed to report to their respective new postings immediately.

## DC Muhammad Naeem Sindhu Visits Basic Health Center In Dalm

By Abid Mehmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Naeem Sindhu conducted an unexpected visit to the Basic Health Center Dalm. During the visit, he assessed the medical facilities provided to patients and inquired about the services from patients and their relatives. He reviewed the staff attendance, medication stock, patient data and duty rosters. The Deputy Commissioner meticulously inspected various departments of the hospital and also evaluated the cleanliness standards. Addressing the medical staff, he emphasized that providing timely medical facilities to patients is both a fundamental and professional responsibility, and any negligence or delay would not be tolerated. He instructed that all available medications should be provided to patients free of charge. Following the inspection, the Deputy Commissioner participated in a tree-planting campaign in the BHU's lawn. CEO Health Dr. Kashif Mahmood Kamboh informed that 20,000 tree saplings will be planted across all district hospitals.

## Man Kills Wife After Learning She Was Expecting A Girl

JARANWALA: In a tragic incident, a husband has reportedly murdered his pregnant wife after an ultrasound revealed the gender of the unborn child in Jaranwala. Punjab, media reported on Saturday. The victim, a mother of two other daughters, was reportedly killed by her husband, Nadeem, who had previously assaulted her along with his brother-in-law. The police have registered a case against the accused and initiated the further investigation into the case.—RT/Agency

## FIA Offloads Eight Passengers At Multan Airport

MULTAN: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Immigration offloaded eight passengers at Multan Airport, media reported. As per details, the passengers, who were traveling to Saudi Arabia on Umrah visas, were found with 900 packets of cigarettes and other items. According to the FIA, the passengers had less than 500 riyals (approximately Rs 37,000) each, which is below the required amount for travel. Earlier, the FIA offloaded eight women passengers from a Saudi Arabia for begging," a spokesperson of the Federal Investigation Agency's (FIA) immigration wing said.—RT/Agency

## Maryam Considers Expansion Of Punjab Cabinet



LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz is considering to expand her cabinet as four to five senior MPs are likely to become ministers. According to sources, Rana Iqbal, Manshaullah Butt and Sultan Haider Ali are likely to be inducted in the cabinet. South Punjab will get two ministers in the cabinet expansion, said the sources. CM Maryam Nawaz will make the final decision after consulting the party president Nawaz Sharif.

Meanwhile, the Punjab government is also planning to appoint 23 parliamentary secretaries to appease its MPs. The list of parliamentary secretaries has been prepared and it is already submitted to the minister. The sources said that disgruntled MPs are likely to be accommodated as parliamentary secretaries to end the rift within the party.—RT/Agency

## LHC to Hear Imran's Petition Against ATC's 10-Day Physical Remand In May 9 Cases



LAHORE: The Lahore High Court on Saturday fixed for hearing petitions filed against an anti-terrorist court's (ATC) order to grant PTI founder Imran Khan's 10-day physical remand for investigation over his alleged involvement in violence on May 9.

The hearing scheduled for Monday will be presided over by a bench comprising Justice Tariq Saleem Sheikh and Justice Anwarul Haq. Countrywide protests erupted on May 9 last year after the paramilitary Rangers whisked away Imran from the Islamabad High Court in a corruption case. While the protests were underway, social media was flooded with footage of rioting and vandalism at various spots, including the Lahore Corps Commander's residence and General Headquarters, the army's head office in Rawalpindi. A 13-member team of the Lahore police's investigation wing visited Adiala Jail last week to quiz the former prime minister regarding the violence and arrested him in 12 out of the total 16 cases registered by the Lahore police over the May 9 attacks. On Monday, a Lahore ATC granted police Imran's 10-day physical remand in the 12 cases against a request for a 30-day remand. The former premier had petitioned the LHC on Thursday against the ATC's decision. He filed the writ petition through his counsel, Barrister Salman Safdar, arguing that on July 15, the ATC had granted his custody to police in a hearing which he attended on a WhatsApp video call from Adiala jail. He argued that the order issued by the court was tantamount to "misreading" established principles on the law of remand and urged the court to set it aside for being "unlawful".—RT/Agency

## Police Officers Assault Hotel Staff For Not Giving Them Free Food

KARACHI: The police officers have been accused of abusing their authority against hotel employees over a breakfast bill dispute in Karachi's Korangi area, media reported on Saturday. According to the details, the police officers allegedly subjected the employees to torture and registered a case against them for possessing a gas cylinder. An affected hotel employee, Ali Muhammad, in a statement, claimed that the police officers frequently visited the hotel for breakfast and left with paying. He added that a total of five police officers arrived at the hotel for breakfast on Friday morning, worried about the rising inflation, when policemen were asked for the breakfast bill, they started torturing him. The hotel employee asserted that the police arrested three other hotel employees after registering a case against them, accusing them of keeping cylinders unlawfully. Additionally, the officers are alleged to have stolen 18 chairs and Rs 30,000 from the hotel's counter. According to Ali Muhammad, the head-muhamarrir of Korangi police station allegedly accepted money to the release of the detained employees on a personal guarantee. In response to the allegations, SSP Korangi Tauheed Rehman has suspended the three officers — Shakir, Muhammad Waqas and Waqas — involved in the incident, pending further investigation. The case has been assigned to SP Shah Faisal for a thorough inquiry into the incident. The suspended officers have been placed on administrative leave until further orders.—RT/Agency

## Gandapur Issues Defamation Notice To Kundi

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Chief Minister (CM) Ali Amin Gandapur has sent a defamation notice to Governor Faisal Karim Kundi, media reported.

As per details, the notice demanded the Governor to retract his statement and apologize for claiming that the chief minister had signed the draft of Operation Istehkam Pakistan in the Apex Committee meeting. The notice stated that the Governor had made this statement on TV and if the Governor does not apologize, he will have to pay a fine of Rs 1000 million. Earlier, Ali Amin Gandapur called to convene an All Parties Conference (APC) to discuss Operation Istehkam Pakistan, address the current situation and foster peace in the region. It is pertinent to mention here that the war of words intensified between Ali Amin Gandapur and newly-appointed Governor Faisal Karim Kundi, with the former threatening to block latter's grant. The altercation appeared to have started after CM Ali Amin Gandapur, while addressing a public gathering, threatened to occupy the governor's house if the governor's rule was imposed in the province. The chief minister said he was not afraid of the governor's rule in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. However, if it was imposed, the people would occupy both the Governor's House and CM House as only people's rule is permissible in the province. Responding to the Gandapur's statement, Faisal Karim Kundi said he knew how to protect the Governor's House if Gandapur attacked it. "If you try to occupy the Governor House, come and try it, but you will be dragged through the streets," he claimed that he has experience in handling the political hooligans.—RT/Agency

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# METRO KARACHI

## Dua Zehra Case: Parents Granted Custody Of Karachi Girl

KARACHI: A latest development has emerged in Dua Zehra case in which the family court has directed to hand over the custody of the girl to her parents, media reported on Saturday. A hearing was held in the family court in Karachi regarding the father's request to hand over his daughter to her permanent parents. The court ordered that the girl's custody be given to her parents, who are required to deposit a bond of Rs 200,000. The court ruled that the girl will stay with her parents until she reaches adulthood, emphasizing the importance of the child's welfare. The parents are responsible for her needs, including education and food, and must present her in court whenever required. The court noted that the girl willingly agreed to go with her parents and that Zaheer Ahmed failed to prove any mistreatment. Records showed that the parents made significant efforts to ensure the girl's safety. Earlier to this, the Sindh High Court had previously decided to grant temporary custody to the parents. The court then disposed of the father's request for permanent custody.—RT/Agency



## 8-Year-Old Boy Drowns In Stagnant Rainwater

KARACHI: Following the rainfall in Karachi's North Nazimabad area, an 8-year-old child drowned in water relay at Katti Pahari, media reported on Saturday. The rescue officials disclosed that the eight-year-old boy, identified as Salim, drowned in a water relay at Katti Pahari in North Nazimabad. After the incident, the rescue teams responded promptly to the situation and transported the body of the deceased to Abbasi Shaheed Hospital. The Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) has forecast more rain-wind/thundershowers in various parts of the country with occasional gaps during the next week. The PMD has advised all the concerned authorities to remain vigilant and take necessary measures to avoid any untoward situation. Strong monsoon currents were likely to penetrate from Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal in upper parts from July 22. Under the influence of this weather system, rain-wind/thundershower with few heavyfalls are expected in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Murree, Galliyat, Attock, Chakwal, Tala Gang, Jhelum, Mandi Bahaud-din, Gujrat, Gujranwala, Hafizabad, Wazirabad, Lahore, Sheikhupura, Stalkot, Narowal, Sahiwal, Jhang, Toba Tek Singh, Nankana Sahib, Chiniot, Faisalabad, Okara, Pakpattan, Kasur, Khushab, Sargodha, Bhakkar and Mianwali from July 22-25 with occasional gaps. Rain wind/thundershower is also expected in Bahawalpur, Bahawalnagar, Dera Ghazi Khan, Multan, Khanewal, Lodhran, Muzaffargarh, Kot Addu, Rajanpur, Rahimyar Khan and Layyah on July 23 and July 24.—RT/Agency



## Sindh Transport Department Announces Three New Peoples Bus Service Routes For Karachi

KARACHI: The Sindh Transport Department has announced the launch of three new routes for the Peoples Bus Service and the extension of one route to improve public transport in Karachi. These new routes will be operational from Monday, July 22, 2024. According to information from the department on Saturday, Route 13, running from Hawkes Bay to the Tower, will commence on July 22, 2024. A new electric bus route, EV4, from Bahria Town to Numaish Chowrang, will start on July 24, while Route 8, from Yousaf Goth to the Tower, will begin on July 25, 2024. Additionally, the transport department has announced the extension of Route No 12, which will now start from Memon Goth instead of Khokhrapar to the Tower, effective from July 23. Sindh Transport Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon stated that these new routes are part of the Sindh government's efforts to enhance public transport in Karachi, providing affordable, convenient, and comfortable travel options for citizens. He mentioned that more buses would be introduced for the convenience of the public and additional new routes would be launched, reaffirming the Sindh government's commitment to serving the people without discrimination.—RT



# EDITORIAL

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

Sunday, July 21, 2024



## Bangladesh should be a wake-up call for our indifferent stakeholders in Pakistan

The current crisis in Bangladesh should serve as a significant wake-up call for the rulers and stakeholders in Pakistan, highlighting the potential volatility and dangers present within our own country. In Bangladesh, widespread unrest has gripped the nation, with anti-government protests leading to violent confrontations and numerous casualties. This upheaval stems from deep-seated issues of economic stagnation, political disenfranchisement, and controversial policies, such as the reinstatement of job quotas for the descendants of freedom fighters.

The situation in Pakistan shares unsettling similarities. We, too, face economic challenges, political polarization, and a youth population increas-

ingly frustrated with limited opportunities. The



events unfolding in Bangladesh underscore the precarious nature of relying on heavy-handed tactics and ignoring legitimate grievances. In Pakistan, ignoring these warning signs could lead to similar unrest, with dire consequences for national stability.

Our leadership must take proactive steps to address economic disparities, ensure political inclusiveness, and foster transparent governance. The discontent brewing among Pakistan's youth, much

like their counterparts in Bangladesh, needs to be channeled constructively through meaningful engagement and opportunities. Economic reforms must be prioritized to create jobs and spur growth, while political reforms should aim to strengthen democratic institutions and protect civil liberties.

The tragic events in Bangladesh highlight the urgent need for Pakistan to reassess its approach to governance. By addressing the root causes of discontent and promoting a more inclusive and transparent political environment, we can avert a similar crisis and ensure a more stable and prosperous future for our nation. It is imperative for our rulers and stakeholders to heed this wake-up call and act decisively to safeguard Pakistan's stability.

# THE HEARTLAND



## One-day training workshop organized by Jamaat-e-Islami Tando Allahyar

By Afaque Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: A one-day training workshop was organized in connection with the Soem of the Martyrs of Karbala by Jamaat-e-Islami Tando Allahyar at Masjid Amin on Saturday. The event was attended by central and provincial leaders of Jamaat-e-Islami, as well as a large number of workers and religious scholars. Central leader and former MNA Muhammad Hussain Mehtani, Provincial Naib Ameer Abdul Qudoos Ahmedani, and renowned religious scholar Shahid Rafiq were among the prominent participants.

Former MNA Muhammad Hussain Mehtani stated that Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) revitalized Islam by defeating falsehood on the battlefield of Karbala. He emphasized that the character and conduct of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) will continue to inspire the Muslim Ummah until the Day of Judgment. The incident of Karbala teaches us to uphold the

truth in the face of falsehood and to stand firm with patience and resilience. He urged the new generation to follow the mission of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS), striving to illuminate the nation with knowledge and secure the rights of the people. Imam Hussain (RA) taught humanity how to overcome oppression and stay on the straight path. Provincial Naib Ameer Abdul Qudoos Ahmedani said that to eliminate falsehood and rid the country of extremism and terrorism, one must be inspired by the spirit of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS). He emphasized the need to raise the banner of jihad against outdated governance systems, feudalism, and despotism. To achieve freedom from extremism and terrorism, all sections of society must unite.

He also stressed the importance of avoiding religious tensions during Muharram-ul-Haram and standing united. He noted that the grandson of the Prophet (PBUH), Imam Hussain, elevated the banner of Islam by

## Banker Muhammad Ali Jaffari passes away in Talhar

TALHAR: Muhammad Ali Jaffari, a distinguished banker and esteemed Shia community leader, has passed away at the age of 75. His death occurred on Saturday, marking the end of a life dedicated to both his professional and community responsibilities.

Jaffari's funeral prayers were conducted with reverence and were attended by a substantial gathering of individuals from various walks of life, reflecting his widespread respect and influence. Following the prayers, his body was laid to rest at the family's ancestral graveyard.

Jaffari's contributions to the banking sector were well-regarded, and he was known for his commitment to community service and leadership within the Shia community. His passing is a significant loss, and his legacy will be remembered by those who knew and re-



spected him. The community and colleagues mourn the loss of a venerable figure whose impact extended beyond his professional achievements to his dedication to social and community causes. -RT

## PTI's Shamsuddin Sarohi concerned over country's state of affairs

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: Shamsuddin Sarohi, General Secretary of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, has criticized both provincial and federal governments for their failure to provide relief to the common people, stating that the poor are extremely distressed. In a statement, he mentioned that due to the worsening national conditions, many people are leaving the country to relocate abroad. He urged media representatives to visit

to witness how many people are leaving Pakistan daily, including prominent businessmen, doctors, lawyers, intellectuals, media representatives, and others. Sarohi expressed confusion about the direction in which the country's situation is heading and the reasons behind it. He lamented that the rulers seem oblivious to the national conditions, focusing solely on preserving their luxurious life while subjecting ordinary people to hardships. He condemned this behavior in strong terms. Shamsuddin Sarohi further stated that all political parties are engaged in trying to undermine each other to become part of the government, showing no concern for the impoverished public. With numerous issues like electricity, gas, and inflation, no one is ready to raise their voice against these problems. The rulers are only preoccupied with their luxuries. In this situation, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf will continue to speak out for the public at every turn.

## Weekly meeting of Sindhi Adabi Sangat TMK held

By Abdul Sattar

TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: The weekly meeting of Sindhi Adabi Sangat, Tando Muhammad Khan branch, was held under the chairmanship of Haji Samiullah Memon. During the meeting, various literary works were presented. Abdul Sattar Aakash recited Ghazal. Mian Mukhtiar Ali Nizamani presented an Article. Ghulam Nabi read poetry. Gul Khaskheli read Ghazal.



Muhammad Ramzan Laghari shared poetic prose. Vimal Khemchand Sharma presented a song. District Coordinator Secretary Azam Bhatti, Branch Secretary Aijaz Ali Jiskani, and other members including Gul Khaskheli, Ashiq Ali Gaho, Agha Jan Agha, Rafiq Aas Laghari, Dr. Jamal Nasir Solangi, Gul Muhammad Soomro, Muhammad Ashraf Ganjalani, Qadeer Laghari, Fazal Laghari, Ayaz Laghari, Pir Ghulam Allah Shah, Bilawal Mallah, Hafiz Farooq Rehmani, Jani Sheedi and Basit Magi provided critical and constructive feedback on the presented works. In his presidential remarks, Haji Samiullah Memon appreciated the remarkable participation and creativity at the meeting despite the intense heat. The proceedings of the weekly meeting were conducted by Branch Secretary Aijaz Ali Jiskani. After the traditional recitation of Shah Latifi's verses by Rafiq Aas Laghari, the meeting concluded.

## People of Shahdadpur being cheated by illegal housing societies

By Sajjan Jani

SHAHDADPUR: In Shahdadpur, the Town Planning Department has initiated investigations following revelations of the illegal sale of welfare plots designated for schools, dispensaries, parks, and community halls in residential schemes. The sale of these amenity plots is illegal, and those involved in buying and selling such plots in our scheme will be held responsible, stated Ali Muhammad Keerio, the owner of Kazim Bungalows, while speaking to the media. It has been found that in Shahdadpur and surrounding areas, many housing schemes are causing distress to the public instead of providing them with facilities. Promises of clean drinking water, electricity, gas, hospitals, schools, drainage systems, roads, and boundaries are made, but the public is deceived as these facilities are not provided. The illegal housing schemes are selling plots under false pretenses, exploiting the poor and underprivileged, shattering their dreams of a better life. Many people, who

## Helping Hands Young Lohana Group organizes Mithi cricket league

By Ashraf Kunbhar

MITHI: The Helping Hands Young Lohana Group kicked off their highly anticipated cricket league at Marvi Ground in Mithi. The evening event, which began at 7 PM, was inaugurated by prominent members of the Lohana community, adding a touch of distinction to the occasion. The opening ceremony featured a rendition of the national anthem and was attended by a substantial crowd, reflecting the community's enthusiasm for the event. The league, which is a three-day night tournament, has drawn

considerable attention with its competitive spirit and well-organized setup. On the first day of the tournament, which featured four matches, the excitement was palpable. The teams in action were Lohana Warriors, Amar Sheedi and Basit Magi Lohana Eleven, and Lohana Game Swingers, among others. Lohana Game Swingers stood out by winning both of their matches, showcasing their prowess on the field. Lohana Warriors and Amar Sheedi and Basit Magi Lohana Eleven each secured one victory. Individual performances were also notable, with Dileep Narwani earning the Man of the Match title for both of his games, demonstrating exceptional skill and sportsmanship. Vinod Harwani and Krishna Narwani were recognized as Man of the Match in their respective games, further highlighting the high level of competition. The tournament has already set a high standard with its excellent competition and enthusiastic participation. The Helping Hands Young Lohana Group has managed to create a vibrant and engaging event that not only entertains but also strengthens community bonds through the love of cricket.

## Tando Allahyar Police arrest 45 drug dealers, criminals within three weeks

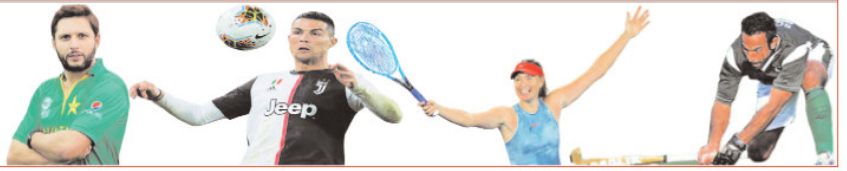
By Afaque Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: Tando Allahyar Police have intensified their crackdown against drug dealers, making significant seizures and filing separate cases. According to reports, within the past three weeks, police have released details of their operations across various police stations in Tando Allahyar, including Payaro Lund, Sulatanabad, Bukera Sharif, Mashaikh Hote, Daso Dahri, Umar Sand, Chamber and both A and B Section police stations. During these operations, the police have recovered 7 stolen motorcycles, 50 maunds of raw material used in Gutka manufacturing, 1.5 kilograms of hashish, 365 liters of alcohol, 3,090 maunds of illegal substances, 1,790 maunds of mawa (condensed milk used in drug preparation), 170 packets of Safina (a type of Gutka), illegal weapons, bhong, whiskey, among other drugs. In total, 45 suspects, including fugitives and absconders,



have been arrested and 36 separate cases have been registered at the respective police stations. SSP Abrez Abbasi stated that the IG Sindh and DIG Hyderabad have issued strict instructions not to spare any drug dealers or criminals. He emphasized that there is increased control within the district and warned that those involved in the illicit drug trade will face severe action and be brought to justice if they do not cease their activities.

# SPORTS



## Mohammed Shami opens up about marriage rumors with Sania Mirza



Right-arm India pacer Mohammed Shami broke silence on the rumours regarding his alleged marriage with national Tennis star Sania Mirza.

Shami appeared at a local YouTube podcast and addressed the speculation about his alleged marriage to tennis star Sania Mirza, labelling the rumours as "unfounded" and "harmful."

Shami's response came after manipulated images and social media posts fueled speculation about the alleged union.

"It's weird and done purposely for some lame fun. But what can be done?" Mohammed Shami said. "If I open my phone, I see those memes. But I would only like to say that I think memes are made for fun, but if they are related to someone's life, then you must think about it and then share such things."

## PCB confirms denying NOCs to Babar, Rizwan, Shaheen to play Global T20

LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has confirmed rejecting skipper Babar Azam, pacer Shaheen Shah Afridi and wicket-keeper-batter Mohammad Rizwan's request for a no-objection certificate (NOC) to feature in the upcoming league Global T20.

"The PCB had received NOC requests from Babar, Rizwan and Shaheen for the Global T20 event. Following consultations with the three players as well as the national selection committee, it has been decided to decline their requests," the PCB said in a press release on Friday.



The board's confirmation comes after sources have told Geo News that the trio were unlikely to get the PCB's nod to participate in the said tournament which is scheduled from July 25 to August 11 in Canada.

The sources had said that the PCB wasn't in favour of issuing NOCs to all-format players due to the busy international schedule.

This has now been confirmed by the board which has said that the decision to reject the players' request for the NOCs has been made in light of the team's "packed cricket calendar in the period from August 2024 to March 2025, which includes nine ICC World Test Championship matches and next year's ICC Champions Trophy 2025".

The upcoming eight months during which Pakistan will play nine Tests, 14 ODIs, and nine T20Is," read the PCB's statement.

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

However, the board has approved NOCs for Asif Ali, Iftikhar Ahmed, Mohammad Amir, and Mohammad Nawaz as they are "predominantly white-ball cricketers", while Iftikhar and Nawaz are centrally contracted players.

It is to be noted that PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi, earlier this week, had 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.—Agency

## Alcaraz declares Djokovic 'greatest of all time'



Carlos Alcaraz recently clinched his second Wimbledon title and his fourth Grand Slam title after beating Novak Djokovic in straight sets at the Centre Court.

The Spaniard claimed his first Wimbledon title in 2023 where he also beat Djokovic in five sets but his battle with the Serb in 2024 was not very tough as Alcaraz managed to cruise to victory in just three sets.

Despite defeating Djokovic in two Grand Slam finals, Alcaraz still believes that the Serb is the Greatest of All Time (GOAT) because of his unmatched numbers.

In a Q&A interview with the ATP Tour released after Wimbledon, Alcaraz was asked which tennis player is the GOAT (Greatest of All Time).

"As far as numbers go, it's Novak Djokovic without a doubt," Alcaraz said. "The other two: Federer and Rafa. For me, they're tops."

After the Wimbledon final, Alcaraz expressed his desire to "sit at the same table as the big guys", but ruled out specifying a specific Grand Slam target.

## Harbhajan Singh fumes over Rizwan-Dhoni comparison

Former cricketer Harbhajan Singh slammed a Pakistani sports commentator for drawing a comparison between Mohammad Rizwan with former India captain MS Dhoni.

In a post on X, Farid Khan, asked his followers to draw a comparison of Rizwan with Dhoni to decide who is better.



"DHONI no 1 even today in world cricket. None better than him behind stumps," wrote Harbhajan Singh in reply.

It is pertinent to mention that Dhoni led India to victory in the inaugural edition of the T20 World Cup 2007 in South Africa. He also led the team that won the ODI World Cup trophy in 2011 in India.

In 2013, he became the first-ever captain to have won all ICC trophies after guiding India to a Champions Trophy 2013 victory in England.

Sharing a collage of the two cricketers, he wrote, "MS Dhoni or Mohammad Rizwan? Who is better? Tell me honestly."

However, Harbhajan Singh who played under the captaincy of Dhoni, was irked by the post and blasted Farid Khan for attempting to compare the two cricketers.

"What r u smoking nowadays ??? What a silly question to ask. Bhaiyo isko batiao. DHONI bhut age hai RIZWAN se (Tell him that Dhoni is far ahead of Rizwan, saying that the Pakistani wicketkeeping batter Rizwan he will give u an honest answer for this," Singh wrote in a reply to the X post.

While the former Indian spin bowler appreciated the talent of Mohammad Rizwan, saying that the Pakistani wicketkeeping batter always plays with intent, Singh was against a comparison between the two players.

Pakistan's wicketkeeping batter Mohammad Rizwan has over 5,000 runs in international cricket, averaging above 40 across all formats.—Agency

## Chelsea, Napoli in talks to finalize permanent deal for Lukaku



Chelsea and Napoli are in discussions regarding the permanent transfer of Romelu Lukaku. Sky Sports reported on Saturday.

The 31-year-old rejoined Chelsea in the summer of 2021 for a then club-record fee of €97.5 million but soon fell out of favour after a challenging first year back at Stamford Bridge.

Lukaku signed a five-year contract upon his return to Chelsea, having played a key role in Inter's Serie A title win in the 2020/21 season. His substantial wages have hindered a permanent move, despite it being evident that he has no future at Stamford Bridge.

Inter took Lukaku on loan during the 2022/23 season, and Roma did the same last season—stints that produced 23 goals in 57 Serie A appearances. However, Chelsea are not prepared to consider another temporary departure.

It has been reported that a long-rumoured move to Napoli, which would reunite Lukaku with his former manager Antonio Conte, is now firmly on the cards, with the two sides discussing the details of a permanent transfer.

The Belgian has already agreed personal terms with Napoli and is eager to work with Conte once more, having played arguably the best football of his career under the Italian's management.

A deal could finally enable Victor Osimhen to leave Napoli - a player Chelsea have long targeted and who is also a primary focus for Ligue 1 giants Paris Saint-Germain. Lukaku will need to accept a substantial wage reduction for Napoli to afford the deal, but it's said he is prepared to do whatever it takes to bring his time at Chelsea to a close.—Agency

## Huraira's double ton keeps Pakistan Shaheens on top against Bangladesh A

ARWIN: Bangladesh A put up a fighting display with the bat but Pakistan Shaheens remained in a dominant position, leading by 264 runs when the stumps were drawn on day two of the first arena day match at the DXC Arena in Darwin.



his account, will resume the batting for Bangladesh A on day three.

Shadman Islam (88, 167b, 15x4s) and Aich Mollah (70, 113b, 11x4s) resisted with a 153-run third-wicket partnership after Pakistan Shaheens had reduced Bangladesh A to 23-2 in 12.1 overs.

Mohammad Ali dismissed Parvez Hossain Emon for a paltry three while Khurram Shazhad got rid of Amite Hasan for eight.

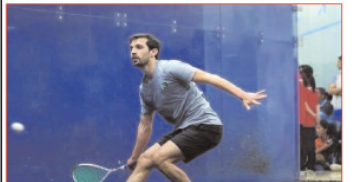
Shadman and Mollah batted for around 38 overs before the latter was run out by Sahibzada Farhan.

Two overs later Shah-nawaz Dahani dismissed Shadman caught by Umar Amin. Ariful Islam retired hurt as he left the ground at the end of the 59th over.

Shahadat Hossain (15 not out, 32b, 2x4s) and Hasan Murad, yet to open

Earlier, Pakistan added 92 runs in 17.1 overs to their overnight score of 375-2 before declaring the innings at 467-3 after facing 96.1 overs. Mohammad Huraira (218, 247b, 26x4s, 1-6) added 57 more runs to his unbeaten overnight total of 161 while also bringing up the second double ton of his first-class career.—Agency

## Nasir Iqbal reaches final of Tasmanian Open Squash Championship



SYDNEY: Pakistan's Nasir Iqbal has advanced to the final of the Tasmanian Open Squash Championship, currently taking place in Australia.

This marks his third final in four tournaments on Australian soil. Iqbal demonstrated impressive form in the semi-final, where he defeated France's Melville Ciampi-Menko with a decisive score of 4-11, 5-11, and 5-11.

The \$9,000 Tasmanian Open has been a significant event for Iqbal, who has consistently performed well throughout the Australian circuit. This year, he previously claimed titles at the Bendigo International and Shepparton Open, and reached the semi-final of the Victoria Open.

His strong performance in these events has culminated in his current success at the Tasmanian Open.

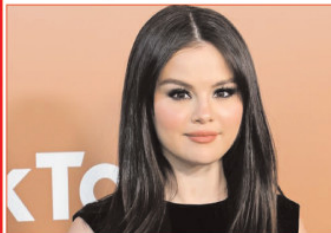
In the upcoming final, Iqbal will face Switzerland's David Barnett, aiming to secure another prestigious title.

This achievement follows his notable appearance in the final of the event for Iqbal, who has consistently performed well throughout the Australian circuit. —Agency

# ENTERTAINMENT



## Selena Gomez 'grateful' for first Emmy nomination



Selena Gomez received her first-ever acting Emmy nomination for her work on Hulu's Only Murders In The Building.

As her 32nd birthday is approaching, the Disney Channel alum took to Instagram on Friday to express how 'grateful' she is for this 'era' of her life.

It is pertinent to mention that she also gave her co-stars Steve Martin and Martin Short a shout-out by sharing a selfie from set.

In regards to the carousel post, there were pictures of Gomez flashing a big beaming smile as Short snuggled up to her right side while Martin stood behind the pair.

As far as the caption is concerned, Selena began at length by admitting, "Upon reflection I realize with my birthday coming up, 32, I am so grateful that I have been surrounded by human beings that make me better, challenge me, remind me, day after day that every moment is a gift."

As per Daily Mail, Selena added, "That's my pure joy. I thank god for the era I'm in. It's been the best yet."

Furthermore, the cast and crew are already taking part in the promotional push for the new fourth season of the show that's set to drop later this summer.

## Jennifer Lopez drops another hint at Ben Affleck split with THIS change



Jennifer Lopez chooses herself over husband Ben Affleck amid ongoing divorce rumours.

According to DailyMail report, Lopez was spotted leaving her upscale gym in The Hamptons on Friday morning.

The Atlas actress wore a black tank top and white slacks, showcasing her impressive abs.

Notably, Lopez replaced her gold Ben necklace with a new diamond-studded necklace bearing her own name.

This notable change amid ongoing marital issues rumours sparked concern about their relationship status.

Lopez and Affleck, who married in August 2022, have not been seen together for almost 50 days, fueling speculation about their relationship status.

However, despite ditching Affleck's named necklace, Lopez was still wearing her wedding ring.

Lopez was reportedly in the Hamptons with her twins Max and Emme, 16. She was seen at the gym with her manager, Benny Medina.

On the other hand, the Hypnotic actor, who shares 3 kids, Violet, 18, Fin, 15, and Samuel, 12, to ex-wife Jennifer Garner, has been spending time in Los Angeles working on new projects.

## Face of the Day



Name: Hainan Gujjar  
Location: Karachi  
About me: Strike a pose if you love modeling like me!  
Please email us your photo for our Model Watch and Kids' Corner section at regionaltimes10@gmail.com

REGIONAL TIMES

# THE HEARTLAND



## SSP Badin Sheeraz Nazir distributes appreciation certificates amongst police officers

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: SSP Badin Sheeraz Nazir awarded certificates of appreciation, cash prizes and commendations to police officers and jawans for maintaining law and order throughout the district and performing their duties exceptionally well during Muharram. During the days of Ashura, from the 1st to the 10th of Muharram, all processions and gatherings in Badin district concluded successfully. Under the su-

pervision of SSP Badin Sheeraz Nazir, ASP UT Muhammad Ali, all DSPs, SHOs, outpost in-charges, head recorders, office staff, wireless telecommunication staff, and especially In-charge DIB Inspector Ayaz Ali Memon and his team performed their duties diligently during Ashura. Their efforts ensured that the law and order situation was controlled throughout the district, preventing any unpleasant incidents. A simple function was organized today at the SSP office in Badin, where all the officers, head editors, and other staff were invited. During the function, SSP Badin Sheeraz Nazir expressed pride in his team for maintaining law and order during Ashura and expressed hope that the Badin police would continue to work with even more dedication in the future. Certificates of appreciation, cash prizes, and compliments were given to all the officers and other staff during the ceremony.

## Badin's Samo community demands registration of case against cops in woman's death

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: The Samo community people protested outside the Badin Press Club against the death of Saran Samo, who was killed by police firing in Karachi. They demanded that a case be filed against the SHO responsible for the shooting and murder. The protest rally, organized by Samo Itehad Sindh, was held to seek justice for Saran Samo, a woman who was fatally shot by Steel Town Police near Sassui Toll Plaza fifteen days ago. Leaders and activists from various political and social organizations also joined the protest. Dur-

ing the event, leaders including Shahnawaz Zargar Samo, Azad Samo, Muhammad Umar Samo, Ali Nawaz Samo and Abdul Rasool Samo, along with Advocate Ameer Azad Panhwar, the Central Vice President of the Sindh United Party, addressed a press conference at the Badin Press Club. They explained that on July 4, Saran Samo, who was receiving treatment at a Karachi hospital, was returning home after her recovery when SHO Agha Rasheed and his team opened fire on the car she was in. Saran Samo, the sister of Yaqoob Samo, was seriously injured along with Ghinwa Samo, and Saran succumbed to her injuries. The Samo community and other political and social leaders criticized the Sindh government for its lack of interest and negligence, and condemned the hostility of the Sindh police towards the people, which resulted in the death of an innocent woman and the injury of another. Despite appeals and complaints, an FIR has not been filed against SHO and his police party. The protesters called for justice and demanded that a case be registered against SHO Agha Rasheed and the police officers involved in the shooting.

## PTI Jamshoro protests against Adeel Ahmed's arrest

By Shaikh Sindh

KOTRI: The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Jamshoro chapter organized a significant protest in Kotri against the arrest of former Member of Provincial Assembly (MPA) and Provincial President of the Insaf Students Federation, Adeel Ahmed. The demonstrators gathered in front of the press club, passionately raising slogans to express their discontent. The protest was spear-

headed by local PTI leaders, including Deepak Kumar, Fahad Charan, Tariq Bachho, and Waleed Shaikh. They voiced strong opposition to Adeel Ahmed's arrest, claiming that he was detained solely for exercising his right to protest. Addressing the crowd, the leaders emphasized their unwavering loyalty to PTI Chairman Imran Khan, asserting that the party's supporters would never abandon their leader. They also called on the Chief Justice of Pakistan to take immediate notice of what they described as an unjust and politically motivated arrest. The demonstration highlighted the ongoing tensions between PTI supporters and law enforcement, underscoring the broader political climate in Pakistan. The protesters vowed to continue their struggle until Adeel Ahmed is released, indicating that this incident could further escalate political unrest in the region.

## Nawabshah man protests against release of suspects in motorcycle theft case

By Samad Ayaz

NAWABSHAH: Ali Mardan Zardari, a resident of Allah Ditto Zardari village in Asgharabad, Nawabshah, has taken a stand by staging a protest outside the Nawabshah Press Club. His demonstration comes in response to the alleged mishandling of a case involving the theft of his motorcycle. Zardari claims that his motorcycle was stolen, with suspects including Ali Gohar Zardari, Ditto Zardari,

Ameen, Sarwar, Latif Bahar, and Behlool Zardari identified as those involved in both the theft and subsequent alterations. Despite clear instructions from the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Zardari asserts that the Jamal Shah police initially arrested the suspects but then released them under dubious circumstances. The release of these suspects has reportedly led to threats against Zardari and his family, exacerbating their distress. In light of the situa-

## Arrested MPK youth hangs himself in lockup

By Younic Chandio

MIRPURKHAS: Tragedy struck at the City Police Station in Mirpurkhas when an accused named Dharshi Lokhi was found dead in an apparent suicide. The incident occurred when Lokhi, who had been in custody following a complaint from his family over a domestic dispute, hanged himself using a drawing from his shalwar in the station's restroom. The police are currently re-

viewing security protocols and the conditions within the lockup to determine how the tragic event occurred. This incident has raised concerns about the mental health support and monitoring of detainees in police custody. The local community and activists are calling for a thorough inquiry into the matter and improvements in the handling of individuals in detention to prevent such occurrences in the future.

## Khidmat Khalq Committee distributes Niyaz at Sheikh Zayed Women's Hospital

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: The Khidmat Khalq Committee of Faizan Tahria, led by Haq Nawaz Tahiri, Rabnawaz Tahiri, Ihsan Ali Shaikh, and other prominent members, carried out a compassionate gesture on the occasion of Soym of the Martyrs of Karbala. They organized a Niyaz (free food) distribution at the Dastarkhawan Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) set up at Sheikh Zayed Women's Hospital. The leaders and volunteers of the committee served food to patients, hospital staff, and visitors, embodying the spirit of community service and solidarity. The distribution aimed to provide comfort and support to those in need during this significant commemorative period.

## Open sale of drugs irks Tando Jam residents

By Irfan Ali Khushk

TANDO JAM: Under the patronage of the Tando Jam police, the taluka's rural and urban areas have become hubs for drugs, ice, gambling and betting slips. The younger generation is being destroyed, while the police are reportedly busy extorting millions of rupees weekly. According to reports, the drug trade, particularly the sale of ice and hashish, has reached unprecedented levels in Tando Jam city and its surrounding areas. At every intersection, ice and hashish are being sold openly, but the Tando Jam police are seen having an indifferent approach in this regard. At the

## Punjab Government Appeals Sanam Javed's Case Dismissal In Supreme Court

By Irfan Ali Khushk

LAHORE: The Punjab government has challenged the Lahore High Court's decision to discharge Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Sanam Javed from a Gujranwala case in the Supreme Court. This appeal, led by Maryam Nawaz, seeks to overturn the ruling made by a two-member bench headed by Justice Asjad Ghural. The Lahore High Court had previously ordered the release of Sanam Javed, citing insufficient evidence to proceed with the charges related to the events of May 9.



Following her release, Javed was re-arrested in connection with other cases filed across multiple cities. Sanam Javed had been detained in Lahore and faced numerous allegations stemming from various incidents on May 9. After the high court's decision, the Islamabad High Court also intervened, preventing her transfer to Quetta police custody and ordering her release. The Punjab government argues that the High Court's decision to discharge Javed was premature and seeks a review by the Supreme Court to ensure a thorough examination of the charges against her. This appeal underscores the ongoing legal challenges faced by PTI leaders amidst the current political climate. The Supreme Court's forthcoming decision will determine whether the High Court's ruling will be upheld or overturned, potentially impacting the broader legal landscape for political cases in Pakistan.—RT/Agency

## 55th death anniversary of Molvi Haji Ahmed Mallah observed in Thatta

By Khuda Bux Brohi

THATTA: The 55th death anniversary of the esteemed scholar and poet, Molvi Haji Ahmed Mallah, was commemorated with deep respect, celebrating his lasting legacy. Known for his groundbreaking translation of the Holy Quran from Arabic to Sindhi, Molvi Haji Ahmed Mallah was honored in a ceremony organized by the Sindh Cultural Forum in Buri Mori. The event also paid tribute to other distinguished figures, including senior writer and social reformer Ghulam Nabi Zohor, Sahib Khan Samo, Muhammad Sharif Jakkro and Khan Samo. Prominent attendees like Rahmatullah Samo and Shahbaz Ali Jakkro, along with others, expressed their admiration for Molvi Haji Ahmed Mallah, praising his significant contributions to poetry, religious thought, literature, and scholarship. He was acclaimed as the greatest poet with particular emphasis on the fluency of his idioms, the excellence of his metaphors, and his masterful use of language, all of which reinforce his status as a leading poet. Molvi Haji Ahmed Mallah's works are highly revered in the Islamic world, and there is a growing call from admirers and literary circles for the authorities to publish his unpublished poetry at government expense. This move is seen as essential for ensuring that his legacy continues to inspire and enrich future generations.

## Government Committed To Providing Equal Opportunities For All Talented Women: PM

By Irfan Ali Khushk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday, appreciating the Pakistani women for rendering valuable services in every field, said that the government was determined to provide equal opportunities to all talented women across the country. He was talking to the globally acclaimed Pakistani mountaineer Naila Kiyani who called on him at the PM House. The prime minister said providing facilities to the women in various sectors including information technology, education, professional training, sports and other sectors was part of the government's top priorities. The prime minister congratulated Naila on becoming the first Pakistani woman to conquer 11 peaks, above 8,000 meters, calling it a proud moment for Pakistan. He also congratulated Naila Kiyani for recently scaling 8,485 meters high



five-highest peak Mount Makalu. PM Shehbaz Sharif also commended her work as an honorary ambassador for education and her efforts to promote professional training in the field of mountaineering. Naila Kiyani thanked the prime minister for his focus on women's development and presented proposals for specialized training and vocational education in the mountaineering sector. The prime minister directed relevant authorities to develop a comprehensive plan to implement these suggestions. The meeting was attended by Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar, Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Climate Change Romina Khurshid Alam, Chairman PM's Youth Program Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan, and other relevant high-ranking officials.—RT/Agency

## Education Ministry Plans To Convert 100 Primary Schools To Solar Energy

ISLAMABAD: In a bid to reduce electricity costs and promote sustainability, the Ministry of Federal Education has announced plans to convert 100 primary schools to solar energy in next two months. The initiative is part of a larger effort to harness renewable energy sources and reduce the country's carbon footprint. "This project will not only reduce electricity costs but also provide a clean and sustainable source of energy for our schools," said a spokesperson for the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training. In a statement, the spokesperson said the project, which is expected to be completed by the end of the year, will involve



the installation of solar panels on the rooftops of the selected schools. The solar energy system will be designed to meet the energy needs of each school. The initiative is expected to save the ministry millions of rupees in electricity costs annually, which will be used to improve educational facilities.—RT/Agency

## FIA Arrests Notorious Human Trafficker From Gujarat

By Irfan Ali Khushk

GUJRAT: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Gujarat Circle has arrested a notorious human trafficker involved in affixing fake visas on passports of citizens, media reports on Saturday. According to the FIA spokesperson, the accused, identified as Ijaz Ali, was apprehended at GTS Chowk, Gujarat. The accused is running an organized gang that created fake travel documents and visas, deceiving citizens with promises of overseas jobs in exchange for large sums of money. The operation led to the recovery of numerous fake visa stickers and passport covers for countries including Spain, India, Belgium, Greece, Ireland, Portugal, Italy, and Pakistan. During the arrest, the FIA team seized lamination devices for passports and a fake UAE visa from the possession of the accused. The FIA has initiated an investigation and is conducting raids to capture Ali's accomplices.—RT/Agency



## Deadlock Between Government And SIC Continues Over PAC Chairman

### Public Accounts Committee



ISLAMABAD: Among many deadlocks between the government and the PTI-backed Sunni Itehad Council (SIC), one on the appointment of the chairmanship of the coveted Public Accounts Committee (PAC) doesn't seem to end anytime soon. According to sources, the SIC hasn't sent names of a four-member panel to the government despite latter's demand. Now the government has again asked the SIC to give names for the panel of the PAC chairmanship. PM-LN chief whip Dr. Tariq Fazal Chaudhry has again contacted PTI chief whip Aamir Dogar to submit names of the candidates for the panel. Dr. Chaudhry intends to write a letter to the PTI chief in this regard. It must be noted that the SIC is bent on making Sheikh Waqar Akram chairman of the PAC whereas the government wants the SIC to come up with other names.—RT/Agency

REGIONAL TIMES

# MONEY

## Gold Prices Continue To Fall Nationwide

By Irfan Ali Khushk

ISLAMABAD: The rate of per tola of 24 karat gold decreased by Rs 1,000 and was sold at Rs. 250,000 on Saturday against its sale at Rs. 251,000 on last trading day. The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also decreased by Rs. 857 to Rs. 214,335 from Rs. 215,192 whereas that of 10 gram 22 karat gold went down to Rs. 196,473 from Rs. 197,259, the All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported. The price of per tola silver increased by Rs. 70 to



created by \$15 to \$2,400 whereas that of ten gram silver went up by Rs. 60.01 to Rs. 2,503.42 from price of per tola of 24 karat gold decreased by Rs 3,000 and was sold at international market de- Rs.251,000.—RT/Agency

Courage is being scared to death, but saddling up anyway."

—Unknown

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SUNDAY JULY 21 2024

## Fazl Claims PTI Is Prepared To Step Down From Assemblies And Dissolve KP Legislature

ISLAMABAD: After forming a committee to hold dialogue with the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) chief Maulana Fazlur Rahman on Saturday claimed that the embattled party agreed to step down from the assemblies and dissolve the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) legislature to force the government into elections.



The religio-political party constituted a committee headed by Kamran Murtaza whose members include Maulana Fuzur Rahman, Mufti Fazal Ghafoor, Aslam Ghauri and Maulana Amjad to hold talks with the Imran Khan-founded party.

ter Gohar Ali Khan rejected the JUI-F supremo's claims that his party had agreed to resign from assemblies. "We have neither held any consultations with Maulana Fazl regarding resignations or dissolution of the assemblies nor had any decision in this regard," the PTI chief added.

In today's interaction, Maulana Fazl also admitted that his party had difference of opinion with political parties and had "bitterness" with the PTI with relations being normalised.

However, speaking to media, PTI Chairman Barris-

ter Gohar Ali Khan rejected the JUI-F supremo's claims that his party had agreed to resign from assemblies. "We have neither held any consultations with Maulana Fazl regarding resignations or dissolution of the assemblies nor had any decision in this regard," the PTI chief added.

multiple meetings since the February 8 polls due to their mutual concerns over the alleged interference and manipulation during the general elections.

He also slammed "powerless" ruling parties in the Centre — the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) and the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) — and said that both the parties did not deserve to be in power.

After the 2024 nationwide polls, the religious party had developed differences with the PML-N and the PPP after they formed a coalition government as the former levelled serious allegations of election rigging, interference and manipulation of poll results and demanded fresh elections.

The PTI, which ruled the country from 2018 to 2022, had also formed a negotiation team comprising top party leaders including Barrister Gohar Ali Khan, Asad Qaiser, Shibli Faraz, and others for holding talks with the Fazl-led party earlier this month, sources told Geo News.

Both parties had also held

multiple meetings since the February 8 polls due to their mutual concerns over the alleged interference and manipulation during the general elections.

He also slammed "powerless" ruling parties in the Centre — the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) and the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) — and said that both the parties did not deserve to be in power.

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## Islamabad To Pursue Legal Action Against TTP Chief After Leaked Call Exposes Terror Plot

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has decided to carry out a forensic analysis of the leaked phone call featuring Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) Chief Noor Wali Mehsud and pursue strict legal action against him and terrorist Ghat Haji after their leaked call exposed the terror plots being planned by the banned organisation, sources told Geo News on Saturday.



Sources say that the government will not only seek the extradition of terrorists from Afghanistan but will also lodge a strong protest with the Afghan Taliban-led interim administration over the TTP head's presence in the country and his direct involvement in terrorist attacks inside Pakistan.

A day earlier a disturbing phone call featuring Noor came to the surface wherein he could be heard giving instructions to his henchmen for attacks in Pakistan.

The other voices in the audio call were identified as local commanders Ahmad Hussain Mehsud alias Ghat Haji, and Saqib Gandapur.

The conversation revolves around the TTP chief's orders on how to inflame the security situation

in the country. In that conversation, he can be heard outlining two main methods for disrupting peace and order in Pakistan.

Suggesting that one method is to target government schools or hospitals with bombings, the TTP leader orders his men to carry out attacks on one or two schools or hospitals without claiming responsibility for them.

Noor could also be heard hashing out a second method, which he says involves destroying the homes of police officers and soldiers.

He instructs his lieutenants to keep the conversation confidential and ensure that no one else is aware of the plan and stresses that if questioned, he should not be

linked to the operations and nothing should be traced back to TTP.

Ahmad Hussain, while affirming the TTP chief's deadly plans, can be heard telling Gandapur to target the homes of high-ranking police, army, and FC officers with bombs and to either close down or blow up schools secretly — without taking credit for the attacks.

The leaked phone call effectively reaffirmed Islamabad's stance wherein it had time again called on Kabul to prevent its land from being used by TTP and other terrorist organisations against Pakistan. The legal action against the terrorists, the sources added, will be taken in light of the report of the phone call's forensic analysis. —RT/Agency

## Opposition Alliance To Hold Nationwide Protest On July 26

ISLAMABAD: Opposition alliance of Tehreek Tahafuz Aeen-e-Pakistan (TTAP) announced on Saturday that it will hold a countrywide protest on July 26 (Friday) for the release of all political prisoners, including PTI founding chairman Imran Khan and reclaiming the "stolen mandate".



While passing a unanimous resolution seeking immediate release of political prisoners, the TTAP leadership also demanded an empowered judicial commission to probe firing on peaceful marchers in Bannu. The opposition alliance also sought resignation from the ruling party and demanded fresh elections. It lauded the recent Supreme Court's decision on reserved seats as well.

The meeting of the opposition alliance was presided over by senior politician and head of the movement Mahmood Khan Achakzai, which was attended by PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan, PTI secretary general and Leader of Opposition National Assembly Omar Ayub Khan, Leader of Opposition in Senate Senator Shibli Faraz and PTI Central Information Secretary Raouf Hasan. Chairman Sunni Ittehad Council Sahibzada Hamid Raza, Chairman Majlis Wahdat Muslimeen Allama Nasir Abbas and JUI Shirani Group leader Syed Qasim Agha also participated in the meeting. In the meeting, the partici-

pants held a detailed discussion over the prevailing political and economic situation of the country along with the future course of action. They also passed a unanimous resolution demanding an immediate release of Imran Khan, his wife Bushra Bibi and all other PTI's leaders and workers, stating the cases framed against Imran Khan and other party leaders and workers were a violation of laws and the principles of justice. They also demanded that an independent judicial commission should be constituted immediately to probe into the deaths and injuries caused by the firings on Bannu Aman March. The participants stressed the need that a judicial commission should be headed by a serving judge,

## Law Minister Tarar Calls PTI's Letter To Judicial Commission A 'Political Stunt'



ISLAMABAD: Federal Law Minister Azam Nazeer Tarar described the letter of PTI leaders Omar Ayub and Shibli Faraz to judicial commission as "political stunt".

"It is against the parliamentary traditions to use the constitutional forums for political benefits," said the law minister.

He added that ad hoc judges were appointed on the demand of bar councils to resolve the pending cases in Supreme Court.

"It is sheer politics to write a letter to the head of Judicial Commission," said Tarar.

According to the law minister, the appointment of ad hoc judges was made ac-

ording to the constitution. Earlier, PTI leaders Omar Ayub and Shibli Faraz wrote a letter to the members and chairman of Judicial Commission to express their reservations over the appointment of ad hoc judges.

Leader of Opposition in Senate Shibli Faraz had urged Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa, who also heads the Judicial Commission of Pakistan, to reject appointment of ad hoc judges in the Supreme Court. In a letter addressed to the chief justice, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) senator said the "appointment of ad hoc judges gives the impression that all this is being done for a party". —RT/Agency

## CJP Stresses Importance Of Timely Hearing For PTI's Reserved Seats Review Petition

ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa stressed the importance of promptly scheduling review petitions regarding reserved seats, highlighting the constitutional right to a timely hearing.



During the 17th meeting of the Supreme Court Practice and Procedures Committee, chaired by Justice Isa, a consensus emerged about the urgency of these cases.

Justice Isa argued that judges should prioritise constitutional duties over personal convenience, stating that delaying the hearing would be unjust.

He emphasised that the right to review is enshrined in the Constitution and should not be hindered by judges' vacations.

Justice Mansoor Ali Shah and Justice Muneeb Akhtar, however, contended that only the 13 judges who originally heard the case could conduct the review, noting that many judges are currently on summer break or abroad.

They suggested that the review petitions be scheduled after the holidays.

Justice Isa opposed this majority decision, insisting that the hearings should proceed immediately, even if it meant cancelling the summer break.

He cited the urgency stipulated in the Practice and Procedure Act, which requires review petitions to be scheduled within 15 days.

Justice Muneeb Akhtar pointed out that judicial rules allow for vacation periods, and once announced, they cannot be easily revoked.

He added that the new judicial year starts in the second week of September, making it challenging to accommodate the review petitions immediately.

Chief Justice Isa warned that delaying the review petitions would render the cases ineffective and violate constitutional principles.

He argued that awaiting a detailed decision while postponing the review hearings would strip individuals of their rights and undermine the law.

The committee ultimately decided, by a 2-1 majority, to schedule the review petitions post-holidays, despite Justice Isa's dissent.

He maintained that the delay would lead to a miscarriage of justice, stressing the need for immediate action to uphold constitutional integrity. —RT/Agency

## PM Welcomes ICJ Ruling On Israeli Occupation Of Palestine



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday welcomed the Historic International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruling on Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories.

"The ICJ ruling that Israel must end its occupation and illegal settlements is vindication of the legitimate struggle of the brave Palestinian people," the prime minister wrote on his official X handle.

He urged the international community and United Nations to implement the ruling, ensuring Palestinian self-determination through a two state solution in line with relevant UN resolutions. "Proud that Pakistan contributed to the case, demonstrating our unwavering commitment to the Palestinian cause," he added.

The United Nation's top court said in its opinion that Israel's decades-long Occupation of Palestinian territory was illegal and

needed to end as soon as possible.

The advisory opinion by The Hague-based International Court of Justice (ICJ) was welcomed by the Palestinian presidency calling it "historic".

The ICJ's statement, called an advisory opinion, is not binding, but it comes amid mounting concerns over the death toll and destruction in Israel's war on Gaza.

The court's opinion likely to increase diplomatic pressure on Israel, whose lawmakers voted on Thursday to oppose a Palestinian state, calling it an "existential threat".

In The Hague, ICJ presiding judge Nawaf Salam said: "The court has found that Israel's continued presence in the Palestinian Territories is illegal." Israel is "under the obligation to bring to an end its unlawful presence as rapidly as possible," the judge said at the seat of the ICJ. —RT/Agency

## First National IT Park To Create Economic Opportunities For Youth: PM

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif asserted that the whole country would benefit with the first state-of-the-art IT park in Islamabad.



PM Shehbaz Sharif, addressing on his visit to the under-construction IT park, said that youth would get the best skill development opportunities with the latest technology in the IT park.

The cost of IT park construction would be around 25 billion and 70 pc of the construction cost would be paid by South Korea. South Korea never compromises on quality, asserted the PM.

The IT park would have 15 start-ups in the incubation centre and 120 offices. The Islamabad Technology Park

would be the first level-3 park.

The IT park project will be completed by June 2025. Around one thousand e-rozgar centres will be established across the country which will create new economic opportunities, the PM announced. —RT/Agency

## Kundi Opposes Government's Decision To Ban PTI

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Governor Faisal Karim Kundi has opposed the federal government's decision to ban Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), emphasising that no one can impose ban on a political party, media reported on Saturday. In a statement, the KP Governor noted that the federal government did not take

the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) into confidence regarding the ban on PTI. It is pertinent to mention here that the Senior leadership of Pakistan Peoples' Party (PPP) emphasising their opposition against the federal government's decision to ban Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). PPP leader Raza Rabbani stressed that banning a polit-

ical party goes against the principles of democracy and urged the federal government to avoid such actions. He also called for an emergency meeting of the provincial cabinet to discuss law and order. Kundi also suggested holding an All-Parties Conference (APC) on security and an in-camera session of the assembly. —RT/Agency

## Bushra Bibi Fears For Imran's Life, Alleges Inhumane Conditions In Jail

ISLAMABAD: Bushra Bibi, the wife of former prime minister Imran Khan, expressed grave concerns about her husband's safety in Adiala Jail.



Speaking informally to journalists at the prison on Saturday, she revealed fears for her own life as well.

Bushra Bibi stated that Imran Khan's life is in danger, mentioning past incidents where he was allegedly poisoned and shot at.

She added that their legal request to investigate the poisoning has not been addressed by the court yet.

Describing conditions in the jail, Bushra Bibi alleged that Imran Khan was kept in unsanitary conditions and given contaminated food to eat.

She mentioned that during their meeting in Attock Jail, Khan appeared emaciated and had to pick insects from his hair through the night.

prisoners received VIP treatment, while Khan struggled without basic amenities.

During the conversation, a journalist questioned Bushra Bibi about claims of adding toilet cleaner to food and her accusations against the authorities.

She responded firmly, asserting that these claims are true, despite lacking physical evidence.

Imran Khan intervened briefly, cautioning his wife about the limitations of the media, which led to a brief protest from the attending journalists.

Khan attempted to stop Bushra Bibi from speaking, stating, "Censored media won't broadcast your words."

This remark prompted the journalists to protest, asserting that all his statements are aired.

The session ended with Bushra Bibi emphasising her and Imran Khan's willingness to swear an oath that the charges against them are fabricated.

Despite Khan's concerns, Bushra Bibi insisted on sharing her story with the media. —RT/Agency