

THE HEARTLAND



HYDERABAD: Members and leaders of the Bagri Community are holding a protest demonstration for recovery of their missing boy, at the Hyderabad press club.—RT

Commissioner Fayaz Hussain Abbasi forms District Task Force to combat climate change in Sukkur

By Absar Alvi

SUKKUR: In a bid to tackle climate change and promote environmental sustainability, Commissioner Sukkur Fayaz Hussain Abbasi has established a 13-member District Task Force. The task force aims to implement the National Climate Change Policy through afforestation and reforestation initiatives in urban areas, along irrigation channels, and in industrial areas of Sukkur district. The task force will be convened by the Deputy Commissioner of Sukkur, with the Mayor of Sukkur Municipal Corporation, the Principal of Ghulam Muhammad Mahar Medical College Sukkur, the Chairman of the District Council Sukkur, the Superintendent Engineer of the Irrigation Department, the Superintendent Engineer of the Buildings Department, the Municipal Commissioner of SMC, the Director of Local Government, the Director of the Agriculture Department, the Conservator of Forests of the



Social Forestry Circle, a representative from Sukkur Institute of Business Administration, Aror University, Begum Nusrat Bhutto Women University, and all Assistant Commissioners of Sukkur as its members. The task force has been entrusted with the responsibility of developing long, medium, and short-term action plans to optimize public lands for tree plantation and vegetation. They will ensure the implementation of the National Climate Change Policy and integrate tree plantation into public buildings and infra-

structure. The task force will also recommend legal action against tree cutting and vegetation loss, conduct periodic tree plantation drives in Sukkur focusing on urban areas and engage with civil society for tree plantation, preservation, growth and sustainability. The District Forest Officer Sukkur will act as the member/secretary of the task force. With the formation of this task force, the Commissioner of Sukkur has shown his commitment to addressing climate change and promoting environmental conservation in the region.

Mir Gajo Khan Mallah demands justice for his brother

HYDERABAD: The founder Chairman of the Pakistan Peoples Party's Asif Ali Zardari and Faryal Talpur Release Committee, Mir Gajo Khan Mallah, held a press conference at the Hyderabad Press Club, demanding that the Sindh government and IG Sindh Police register a case against PPP Dadu City President Khalid Mirani, who has been accused of a murderous attack on his brother, Waheed Mallah, and threatening to kill him. He called for protection and justice for his brother. Mir Gajo Khan Mallah alleged that Khalid

Mirani had recently carried out a murderous attack on his brother Waheed Mallah, firing bullets and leaving him severely injured. Waheed Mallah is currently battling between life and death in a Karachi hospital. Mir Gajo Khan Mallah stated that Khalid Mirani was originally a PTI supporter who, to save himself, entered the PPP through the backdoor and is now shooting at party members. He further claimed that Khalid Mirani is continuously threatening him with murder, and if anything happens to him, Khalid Mirani, Ali

Haider Mirani, and Haji Amin Mirani will be held responsible. He also accused the SHO of Dadu's A Section police station, Benazir Jamali, of being aligned with the accused party and that the police are favoring the accused in exchange for bribes. Mir Gajo Khan Mallah appealed to PPP Chairman Asif Ali Zardari, President Asif Ali Zardari, PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Adi Faryal Talpur, and other higher authorities to take notice of the issue, take strict action against Khalid Mirani and Dadu police, and ensure justice is delivered.—RT

Three die in different Thatta incidents

By Khuda Bux Brohi

THATTA: In a series of tragic incidents in the coastal area of Thatta district, two children and a man lost their lives. In the first incident, two children drowned while swimming in a deep pond near their village, Jooho. The children were bathing in the pond with three other kids when the accident hap-

pened. Villagers nearby heard their cries for help and rushed to the scene. They managed to rescue the other three children, but sadly, the two victims could not be saved. In another incident, a loader rickshaw crashed into a wall and overturned into a water-course, resulting in the death of Haider Khaskhali. The driver of the rickshaw, Qadir, was injured in the

accident. The rickshaw lost control due to high speed, leading to the fatal crash. All the victims were promptly taken to the local rural health center. After completing the necessary formalities, the deceased were laid to rest in their respective villages. The community is mourning the loss of these lives and extends condolences to the grieving families.

Wife of police encounter victim Sikandar Mallah passes away at Hyderabad's Civil Hospital —SSP Abid Baloch announces to reinvestigate controversial case



By Abdul Sattar

TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: In the aftermath of the alleged police encounter in Bulri Shah Karim, Tando Muhammad Khan, which led to the death of nationalist worker Sikandar Mallah, his wife, Ms. Atiya Mallah, who had attempted suicide by ingesting poison due to the trauma, passed away a week later in Hyderabad's Civil Hospital. Her death led to a prolonged protest near Tando Muhammad Khan's Tando Syedad, on the Hyderabad-Badin road. The protest, which lasted for 7 hours, resulted in a complete traffic blockade. Protesters, including Sikandar Mallah's mother, Ms. Shehnaz Mallah, and nationalist leaders like Gulsher Kolachi, Abdul Khaliq Khaskheli, Javed Halipoto, and Muhammad Jaman Mallah, accused the

police of unjustly killing Sikandar Mallah after a false encounter. They claimed that Sikandar had been arrested and subsequently killed by the police without justification. The protest led to negotiations with a team formed by SSP Abid Baloch, including CIA DSP Abdul Rauf Arbab, DSP Muhammad Bux Khaskheli and ADC-I Naem Soomro. The team assured that the demands of the protesters would be considered, and they were provided with a letter from SSP detailing the suspension of Inspector Hadi Bux Lashari, Constable Arshad Ghatko, and Constable Dildar. SSP Abid Baloch also announced that the case of Sikandar Mallah's death would be re-investigated to uncover the truth and any necessary legal actions would be taken based on the findings.

Al-Furqan Trust installs solar water plant



By Jibran Talpur

BADIN: Near Matli in the Badin district, a new water solar project has been installed in the village of Kot Abdullah under the patronage of Mahmood Sabir Mosque and Al-Furqan Trust. This ongoing charity water project has been set up by Nazir Ahmed and Sughra Ahmed for the benefit of these poor families. Mahmood Sabir Mosque and Al-Furqan Trust have installed hundreds of water projects in these underdeveloped areas of inner Sindh, continuously aiding impoverished, needy, and destitute individuals, including those who have converted from Hinduism to Islam. Whether during difficult times such as floods, the COVID-19 pandemic, or for eye treatments, Mahmood Sabir Mosque and Al-Furqan Relief Trust have provided substantial assistance to these vulnerable people. Today, they have installed a water project in a newly converted Muslim community in Matli, Badin district, ensuring that these poor families have access to clean water. They also provide financial support to these newly converted Muslim families.

PTI condemns arrests of Barrister Gohar and Rauf Hassan

By Younis Chandio

MIRPURKHAS: President of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Mirpurkhas Division, Aftab Qureshi, strongly condemned the arrests of PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar and Central Secretary Information Rauf Hassan. The Divisional Secretary, Amin Sangrasi, Divisional Vice President, Lekraj Malhi said that the PTI is a peaceful party and we will pursue our rights through legal means. We have full confidence in our country's judiciary and we believe justice will be served. The Divisional

Additional General Secretary, Advocate Ejaz Ahmed Randhawa added that Yazid was defeated and Hazrat Imam Husain (AS) prevailed. Insha'Allah, Yazidiyat will come to an end and Husainiyat will always remain alive. The Divisional Senior Vice President, Muhammad Amin Sangrasi, Divisional Vice President, Ayaz Qaimkhani and other PTI leaders have also condemned the arrests of their central party leaders and vowed to continue their struggle for the rule of law in the country.



HYDERABAD: Residents of Latifabad are holding a protest demonstration against prolonged electricity load shedding in their area, at the Hyderabad press club.—RT

DC Naveed Rehman Larik chairs meeting of Land Utilization Dept

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: The Sindh Government's Land Utilization Department held a meeting of the District Base Price Assessment Committee regarding government lands, chaired by Deputy Commissioner Umerkot, Naveed Rehman Larik, at his office. The meeting was attended by committee members including Additional Deputy Commissioner-I Javed Ahmed Dahri, Assistant Commissioner Umerkot Rajib Ali Suthio, District Accounts Officer Umerkot Muhammad Alam Soomro, Mukhtiarar Umerkot Azzullah Chachar, District Registrar Umerkot, Agriculture stakeholder Ghulam Akbar Dars, local estate business representative Syed Qamar Hussain Shah, Information Officer Muhammad Aslam Bhatti, among others.



During the meeting, new government rates were set for three public projects on government lands within the jurisdiction of 10 Dehs in Umerkot Azzullah Chachar. These projects include the railway track from Thar Coal Block-II to New Chhor, the new water channel lining for SIFC and the Green Pakistan project. The Deputy Commissioner, Naveed Rehman Larik, with the consensus of all committee members, set the rate for government land in various Dehs such as Chhor Thar, Kaploor, Lala Bosh, Kacheli, Doolhar, and Mokel Besh at Rs. 200,000 per acre. For Deh Sarang Sar, the rate was set at Rs 600,000 per acre, and for Deh Banhari, the rate was set at Rs 500,000 per acre.

NDMA and Sindh University Laar Campus collaborate to enhance disaster management

By Munawar Chandio

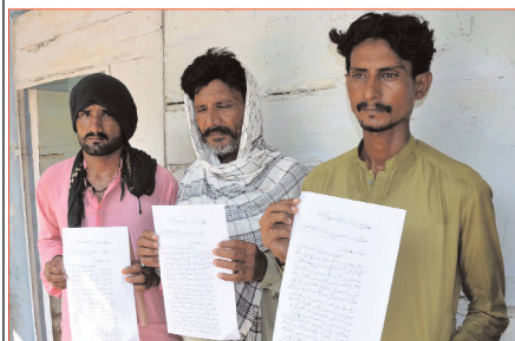
JAMSHORO: In a significant step towards enhancing disaster management capabilities, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Sindh University Laar Campus (SULC) Badin have signed a Letter of Cooperation (LoC) to ensure robust cooperation in the field of disaster management. The agreement was signed by Pro-Vice Chancellor Sindh University Laar Campus Professor Dr. Khalid-Ur-Rehman Khoumbati representing the University of Sindh and the Director General National Institute of Disaster Management M. Tanveer Piracha on behalf of NDMA. According to the letter of cooperation, the agreement aims to strengthen coordination and technical capacity to effectively manage natural and human-induced disasters. Recognizing the critical importance of disaster management in safeguarding human lives and property, both parties have committed to various areas of cooperation as outlined in the agreement. The agreement further states that the parties will exchange knowledge on past disasters, early warning systems, and innovative practices, creating synergy through

shared platforms. Efforts will focus on enhancing the capabilities of government agencies and local communities to handle geo-physical and climate-induced hydro-meteorological disasters such as floods, earthquakes, droughts, tsunamis, GLOFs, heat waves, and cyclones. According to the LoC, advanced technologies and innovative practices like remote sensing, GIS mapping, and risk-based spatial planning will be employed to bolster emergency response systems. Training experts, professors, scientists, and other disaster management staff will engage in exchanges, joint workshops, conferences, seminars, drills, and training courses. Both parties will collaborate on scientific research and practical surveys related to disaster management and climate change adaptation. The LoC does not create legally binding rights or obligations but represents a mutual commitment to collaborate and support each other's disaster management efforts. Any amendments to the LoC will require mutual written consent. Disputes arising from the application or interpretation of the LoC will be resolved through negotiations and consultations. Both parties have agreed to safeguard confidential in-

formation exchanged during the implementation of the LoC. No party will disclose classified information to third parties without prior written consent. According to the agreement, the LoC enters into force upon signature and remains valid until terminated. Either party may terminate the LoC by providing a six-month advance written notice. This cooperation marks a significant milestone in Pakistan's disaster management efforts, promising enhanced preparedness and resilience against future disasters. After this landmark agreement between Sindh University Laar Campus Badin and the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Sindh University Registrar Professor Dr. Mushtaque Ali Jariko has officially notified the establishment of the Disaster Risk Reduction Society (DRRS). According to the notification, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Sindh, Jamshoro, has constituted the DRRS Committee, drawing attention to the critical importance of disaster management in safeguarding human lives and property. The committee is composed of a diverse group of experts and professionals, each bringing a unique set of skills and knowledge to the table.



HYDERABAD: Members and leaders of the Asif Zardari and Faryal Talpur Rehbi Committee are holding a protest demonstration for acceptance of their demands, at the Hyderabad press club.—RT



HYDERABAD: Residents of Tando Hyder are holding a protest demonstration for the acceptance of their demands, at the Hyderabad press club.—RT

NATIONAL



President Calls For Comprehensive Plan To Prevent Urban Flooding In Karachi

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari on Monday directed the Sindh government to prioritize a comprehensive plan to prevent urban flooding in Karachi by adopting a sustainable, long-term strategy based on international best practices for managing sewage and stormwater.

The President expressed these views while chairing a meeting on saving Karachi from urban flooding and environmental degradation and promoting sustainable water resource development, at Aitwan-e-Sadr.

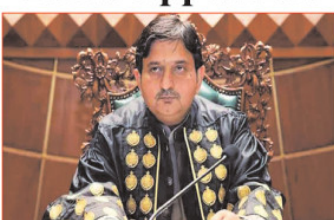
The President was given a comprehensive presentation by international water and sewage management experts and proposed various solutions to address the challenges of urban flooding and sewage in Karachi on the pattern of the tunnel sewer systems of Washington DC, the London Super Sewer Project, and the Deep Tunnel Sewerage System of Singapore.

Chief Minister Sindh, Syed Murad Ali Shah, Adjutant General Lt General Muhammad Asim Malik, Minister for Local Govern-



ment Department of Sindh, Saeed Ghani, Mayor Karachi, Barrister Murtaza Wahab, Chief Secretary Sindh, Syed Asif Hyder Shah, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Karachi Water and Sewerage Corporation, Syed Salahuddin, Country Head Herrenknecht Pakistan, Col (r) Danyal Naveed Ahmed, senior government officials, and local and international water management experts attended the meeting. During the briefing, it was proposed that a network of small and large sewer tunnels under existing roads in high-flood zones of Karachi may be developed. It was highlighted that underground tunnelling using modern techniques would not disturb

Punjab Assembly Speaker Condemns Abusive Language From Opposition



LAHORE: Punjab Assembly Speaker Malik Ahmad Khan has said this is the first assembly where people are being abused. He made this remark while talking to the media outside the Punjab Assembly. Khan said "a day of the meeting costs around 27 million and 60 members of the opposition attended the meeting to take TADA." He said he would release the list of 60 members of the opposition to the media. The speaker said that since August 2014, the PTI has been attacking the country and accused it of the only political party which has been paralyzing the Parliament.—RT/Agency

Punjab Government Approves New Tram Service For Lahore

LAHORE: The Punjab government has approved the launch of a tram service in Lahore which is aimed at enhancing the city's transportation infrastructure.

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif approved the project during her recent visit to the Lahore Development Authority (LDA) headquarters.

According to the LDA, the tram service will cover an 11-kilometer route with 10 stops, spaced approximately 1 to 1.5 kilometers apart.

The project is inspired by modern tram systems in Finland and China and has an estimated cost of Rs27 billion.

The route will traverse key localities, including Main Boulevard from Kalma Chowk, Liberty, Main Market, Mini Market, and Hall Road.

Additionally, MM Alam



Road will be converted into a one-way street as part of the remodeling and beautification efforts associated with the tram project.

A notable feature of the new tram service is a dedicated stop within Gaddafi Stadium, offering convenience for sports enthusiasts and event-goers.

Ticket prices for the tram service will be announced closer to the launch date.

On Sunday, a rescue air ambulance successfully transferred a patient for the first time in the country through an initiative undertaken by Chief Minister Maryam.

Following her direction, Halima Bibi was airlifted from Mianwali to Rawalpindi within the critical "golden hour," under the supervision of Dr Raza Nasir.—RT/Agency

Teenager Tragically Burned Alive In Muzaffargarh Land Dispute

MUZAFFARGARH: An 18-year-old boy was allegedly burned to death over a land dispute in Muzaffargarh, south Punjab, media reported Monday.

The teenager, Ehsanullah, was burned alive in Sestpur, a city in Alipur Tehsil of Muzaffargarh, the police revealed.

The police added that a case against the perpetrators has been registered on

behalf of the boy's uncle. According to first information report (FIR) filed by the victim's uncle, their family and the suspects were involved in a land dispute.

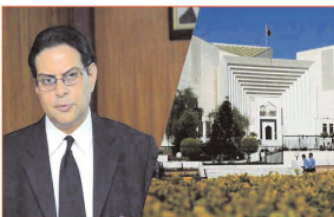
It further stated that the young boy was taken to the THQ hospital in Alipur which referred him to Multan.

Additionally, the FIR stated that the victim was tied to a tree and set on fire.

It added that he later succumbed to his injuries. The uncle said that he has also been issued death threats before.

The police filed a murder case against four people at the Sestpur police station on the family's complaint. The law enforcement officials said that an investigation of the case is underway and they are conducting raids to arrest the suspects.—RT/Agency

Salman Akram Raja Requests SC To Restore Election Tribunals



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) legal czar Salman Akram Raja on Monday moved the apex court for the restoration of the election tribunals.

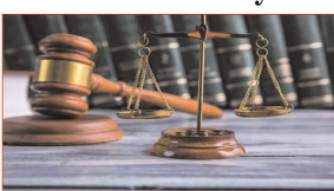
Raja has filed an application to review the SC's July 4 judgment.

According to the petition, the applicant said that the Supreme Court had the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to consult with the Lahore High Court (LHC) chief justice for the appointment of judges to look into the applications of rigging, pointing that the SC had not issued any guidelines in its July 4 verdict.

Raja further said in the application that the LHC judges were right in the appointment of judges which must have been accepted by the ECP instead of raising objections over it.

Evaluating the SC's decision of overruling the LHC judgment, Raja said that the apex court had not suspended the judges appointed to weigh-in on electoral rigging, adding that the ECP didn't have the right to oppose the LHC judgment.

"Only LHC can decide the jurisdiction of the judges of election tribunals of Punjab," he added.—RT/Agency



ISLAMABAD: PTI media coordinator Ahmed Waqas Janjua has been handed over to the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) on seven-day physical remand.

The accused was produced in court of ATC judge Tahir Abbas Sipra in a case registered in a CTD police station.

The investigating officer informed the court that explosive materials were recovered from Janjua at the time of his arrest and therefore, the accused being given on a physical remand for further investigation and recovery.

The officer sought 15-day physical remand but the court allowed seven-day remand and ordered to produce the accused before the court on July 29.

A case of disappearance of the PTI media coordinator is being heard in the Islamabad High Court (IHC).—RT/Agency

CM Gandapur Orders Arrest of Armed Men Impersonating Government Officials

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Chief Minister (CM) Ali Amin Gandapur has ordered the immediate arrest of armed individuals impersonating government officials in the province. The chief minister noted that the provincial government, police, and public have reservation about these armed men. He directed the police to take action and arrest these elements, and appealed to the public to identify them.—RT/Agency

Girls' School Blown Up In North Waziristan

NORTH WAZIRISTAN: In a distressing incident, another girls' school has been blown up by some unidentified individuals in the village of Zerakki located in North Waziristan, media reported on Monday.

According to the district administration, the blast was carried out last night with not only destroyed the Government Girls' Middle School but also severely damaged a nearby house. Fortunately, no casualties have been reported.

The intensity of the blast was so severe that it completely destroyed seven rooms, which had 255 female students enrolled.

The Education Minister, Faisal Tarakai, has taken im-



mediate notice of the incident and has instructed the director of education and the concerned deputy commissioner to launch a thorough investigation.

Emphasizing the government's commitment to education, Faisal Tarakai assured that the school will be re-

opened soon and that educational activities in the tribal districts will continue without any disruption.

"Such incidents will not discourage us," said Tarakai. "Educational reforms will persist, and we will prioritize women's education without compromise"—RT/Agency

SOUTHERN PUNJAB

Two Detained Criminals Killed By Gunfire From Their Own Accomplices

By Abid Mehmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: In a police encounter, two detained robbers were killed by their own accomplices' gunfire. The robbers had been detained by the police and were being transported to Okara for recovery when the incident occurred. According to reports, the SHO of Thana Saddar Gojra, Hakim Ali, along with police personnel, was transporting the two detained robbers when, near Chak No. 367 JB Jalianwala on Samundri Road, four armed accomplices of the robbers on two motorcycles suddenly opened indiscriminate fire on the police party. The police responded with gunfire, but the assailants



took advantage of the darkness and escaped. During this exchange of fire, the two detained robbers sustained severe injuries from the accomplices' gunfire and subsequently died at the scene. The police have transferred the bodies to the Tehsil Headquarters Hospital for postmortem examination and registered a case against the unknown

attackers under charges of murder and other relevant sections. According to the police, the deceased robbers, Sher Alam and Fayaz, were both previously recorded criminals and were wanted by police in various districts for multiple cases.

Laborer Shot Dead In Toba Tek Singh

By Abid Mehmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: In the area of Thana Nawaan Lahore, unknown armed motorcyclists ambushed him and opened fire. Umar Hayat succumbed to his injuries at the scene, and the assailants fled the area. The Nawaan Lahore police have taken

Dhani, was returning to his village on a motorcycle after irrigating the fields when two unknown armed motorcyclists ambushed him and opened fire. Umar Hayat succumbed to his injuries at the scene, and the assailants fled the area. The Nawaan Lahore police have taken

the deceased's body into custody and, after completing the necessary formalities, handed it over to the family. A case has been registered against the unidentified perpetrators based on the complaint filed by the victim's brother, Maqbool Hussain.

METRO KARACHI

FPCCI Demands Audit And Reform Of IPPs



KARACHI: The FPCCI Standing Committee on Energy, chaired by Malik Khuda Bakhsh, held an emergency meeting to address the impact of high electricity charges on Pakistan's economy. The committee condemned the high rates, stating that the burden is unfairly placed on the public to favor 40 Independent Power Producers (IPPs).

Key points from the meeting include: 25% of IPPs are closed but still receive Rs 10 billion monthly, worsening the economic crisis.

IPPs charge Rs 24 per unit for unused electricity, pushing industries towards collapse and threatening businesses.

The high charges have caused widespread unemployment, industrial closures, reduced foreign investment, and significant economic losses.

Malik Khuda Bakhsh warned that achieving the revised tax collection target of Rs 12.9 trillion and the export target of \$100 billion by 2030 is impos-

sible under the current conditions. He called for immediate action to address the crisis.

The committee passed a resolution urging the government to revisit agreements with IPPs to lower electric charges and consider terminating contracts with non-compliant IPPs. Swift action is demanded to ensure sustainable and affordable energy for industries and the public, crucial for Pakistan's economic stability.—RT

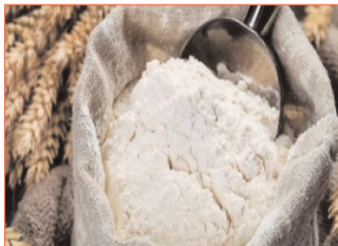
Government Eliminates Advance Tax Following Successful Negotiations With Flour Millers

KARACHI: The federal government abolished a 5.5 percent advance income tax after successful talks with the flour millers, media reported.

The development came after the government formed a committee to negotiate with the flour mills association as they announced and held a strike against the advance income tax imposed in the budget 2024-25.

The negotiations successfully concluded, resulting in the abolition of the tax by the government and consequently the withdrawal of the strike by the millers owners.

It is pertinent to mention here that the flour millers owners held a three-day strike



that led to the shortage of flour, particularly in Karachi. The flour mill owners announced and held a strike on July 11 against the imposition of the tax in the budget 2024-25

The flour mill owners said that due to increasing electricity bills, they are already facing difficulties in running their business.—RT/Agency

EDITORIAL



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

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

A Call for Unity and a Pakistan First Policy

In a world rife with political divisions and conflicting interests, it is imperative that Pakistan remains steadfast in its commitment to a Pakistan First policy. Lt. Gen. Ahmed Sharif's recent press conference underscores the pressing need for national unity in the face of a relentless threat: terrorism. His stark warning about a "massive, illegal political mafia" undermining counter-terrorism efforts is a clarion call for every Pakistani to prioritize the nation's security above all else.

The valiant efforts of the Pakistan Armed Forces, who have conducted over 22,409 intelligence-based operations this year alone, are testament to their unwavering dedication to the country's safety. These operations, which aim to dismantle terrorist networks and their facilitators, highlight the tireless vigilance of our military

and law enforcement agencies. Lt. Gen. Sharif's clarification that Azm-i-Istehkam is a comprehensive counter-terrorism campaign built on national consensus, rather



than a mere military operation, reinforces the need for a united front.

Despite these efforts, a strong lobby driven by personal and monetary interests seeks to thwart the National Action Plan (NAP). This undermines not only the stability of our nation but also the sacrifices made by our soldiers. Political exploitation of critical issues, as highlighted by Lt. Gen. Sharif, distracts from the ulti-

mate goal of national security and stability.

It is essential that all Pakistanis, regardless of political affiliation, rally behind the Pakistan Armed Forces and support the NAP. The establishment of provincial Counter-Terrorism Departments and the regularization of religious seminars are vital steps in this direction. The illegal spectrum that fuels terrorism and criminal activities must be eradicated for the greater good of society.

Let us not allow political differences to sacrifice the very essence of our nation's security. The Pakistan First policy is not just a slogan; it is a necessary stance that requires the collective resolve of every citizen. Our armed forces stand as the bulwark against terrorism; it is our duty to support them unequivocally. Together, we can ensure that Pakistan remains safe, stable, and united.

REGIONAL TIMES

THE HEARTLAND



HYDERABAD: Asif Zardari and Faryal Talpur Rehail Committee Leader, Gajju Khan Mallah is addressing a press conference, at the Hyderabad press club-RT

Sihanro community demands justice in land dispute



By Afaque Khazada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: The residents of the village Qaisar Sihanro in Tando Allahyar have reached the press club seeking justice. During a press conference at the Tando Allahyar Press Club, villagers Hanif Sihanro, Muhammad Aslam Sihanro, Zahid Hussain Sihanro, and others, while speaking to the media, said that those protesting against them actually want to illegally occupy government land and are harassing them using various tactics. They mentioned that they have also filed a petition against these individuals in the court. They further explained that in 2019, they planted crops of cotton and babul (acacia) trees on their privately surveyed land, which they are currently harvesting. Due to this, influential individuals are, under the guise of patronage, making baseless accusations and creating an uproar against them to withdraw their petition and case. They are falsely accusing them of cutting down trees planted on government land but in reality, they are harvesting crops from their own private land. They demanded of the higher authorities to take notice of the matter and provide justice to them.



HYDERABAD: Resident of Latifabad, Afaq Nasr is addressing a press conference, at the Hyderabad press club-RT

Rahu community rallies for recovery of abducted Sana Rahu

By Samad Ayaz

NAWABSHAH: In a protest for the recovery of a kidnapped woman named Sana Rahu, residents of village Hashim Rahu near Qazi Ahmed organized a rally from Court Road to the Nawabshah Press Club. The demonstration was led by Sana's family, including her father Raza Muhammad Rahu, mother Gulshan, brother Amjad Ali, and sisters Soonhan, Suraya and Saba Rahu, along with other supporters. The protest saw significant participation from leaders of the Sindh United Party (SUP), such as Gul Hassan Rind, and Sindh Tariq Party (STP) members like Budhal Magasi, among others. The family claimed that nine months ago, their married daughter Sana Rahu



was abducted by armed men associated with Sardar Khalid Lund of Ghotki, including Nisar Ali Lund, Zameer Hussain Lund, and Mehboob Sehto, while she was on her way home. Despite continuous protests in various cities over the past nine months, the police have failed to arrest the culprits, even though a case has been registered against them. The family expressed concerns that Sana might have been murdered and criticized the police for not recovering her yet. They urged the Chief Minister of Sindh, the Inspector General of Police, the Deputy Inspector General and the SSP of Shaheed Benazirabad to immediately recover Sana and arrest the accused. They warned that if their demands are not met, they would escalate their protest further.

District Council Tharparkar approves budget for fiscal year 2024-25



By Ashraf Kunbhar

MITHI: Chairman of District Council Tharparkar, Dr. Ghulam Haider Samejo, presented a budget of Rs 305,992 in savings for the fiscal year 2025-2024, which was unanimously approved by the council members. The meeting, held under the chairmanship of Dr. Samejo, took place at the Karoonjhar Hall in Mithi. Vice Chairman Kamla Bai Bheel, Chief Officer Syed Musharraf Hussain Shah, council members, and journalists attended. National Assembly Member Dr. Mehesh Malani also participated specially in the meeting. Dr. Mehesh Malani stated during the meeting that the Pakistan Peoples Party's manifesto emphasizes serving the people and ensuring the provision of basic facilities to their doorsteps. Chairman Dr. Ghulam Haider Samejo outlined that the budget for Tharparkar has been prepared with a tax-free surplus, and no new taxes have been imposed. The total tax-free budget for the fiscal year 2025-2024 amounted to Rs 88.63 crore. After accounting for expenses, a saving of Rs 305,992 was reported. The presented budget was unanimously approved by all council members.

Prolonged load shedding results in shortage of ice in Daulatpur

By Aijaz Jokhio

DAULATPUR: In Daulatpur, the HESCO administration has increased electricity load-shedding, causing severe distress among the residents. Areas such as Mehboob Shah Muhalla, Safan Muhalla, Sarmad Town, Kabir City and Langah Muhalla are experiencing power outages for 14 to 16 hours a day, making life unbearable for the people. This has also led to a severe ice shortage in many areas, leaving residents to suffer in the scorching heat. Additionally, ice factory owners have raised the prices of ice, citing electricity load-shedding as the reason. The price for a large ice cane is now set at Rs 1200 and a small cane at Rs 900. Ordinary citizens are unable to purchase ice for less than Rs 30 to Rs 40, making it difficult for poor people to get cold drinking water. Citizens, including Sadaqat Jokhio, Syed Zaman Shah, Zameer Dahri and Shaman Langah, have complained that continuous load-shedding by HESCO officials has allowed ice factory owners to arbitrarily increase ice prices. They expressed their frustration over the increased load-shedding and expensive ice, stating that no one is addressing their complaints. They demanded an end to the load-shedding and a reduction in ice prices.



Golo community notable Mohabbat Khan Golo passes away

By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: The elder brother of Thul Municipal Officer and head of the Golo community, Mohabbat Khan Golo passed away. Following the funeral prayers, he was laid to rest after offering his funeral prayers at the Jilani Madrasa. The funeral prayers were attended by a large number of people including Golo community leader Sardar Shoaib Khan Golo, Sardarzada Haider Ali Khan Golo, Dr. Sohrab Khan Sarki, Syed Rizwan Ali Shah, Rehmatullah Khan Khoso, Dr. Muneer Soomro, Zafar Khan Golo, Imdad Ali Golo, Arbab Ali Golo, journalist Muhammad Nawaz Golo and other mourners expressed their condolences.



Dadu Awami Forum to protest against negligence of local authorities on July 30

By Javed Laghari

DADU: In the district of Dadu, despite a high alert for potential flooding, there has been no repair work on the FP, SP, LS and MNV drains. Over the past two months, there has been a severe water shortage in all branches of the Dadu Canal and the Johi Branch. Additionally, there has been extreme and unannounced electricity load shedding. In response, the Dadu Awami Forum, led by Chairman Ashiq Ali Zaur, held a meeting with all officials and committee members in attendance. During the meeting, Chairman Ashiq Ali Zaur, Senior Vice Chairman Gul Bhand, General Secretary Waryam Sindh, Nabi Bux Halipoto, Zameer

Korejo and other leaders expressed their concerns. They stated that despite repeated warnings from the Meteorological Department and the National Disaster Management Authority regarding severe rains and dangerous flooding in the current monsoon season, the Sindh government, elected representatives of Dadu, and the district administration have remained inactive. This inactivity suggests a possible covert scheme to deliberately flood the Dadu district in order to embezzle billions of rupees under the guise of a natural disaster. They criticized the destruction of the Sindh irrigation system by deliberately releasing water from the Indus River through the Sukkur Barrage, which they believe is part of a conspiracy to ruin Sindh's agricultural economy and force Sindh people into dire conditions. The water shortage has severely affected the district, with crops drying up due to lack of water in the Dadu Canal and Johi Branch. The leaders also condemned the extreme electricity load shedding, which has devastated city businesses and created unbearable living conditions due to the severe heat. They questioned what crimes the current rulers are punishing the people of Dadu for. As a result, they have announced a protest sit-in at SSP Chowk, Dadu, on Tuesday, July 30. A public awareness campaign has also been launched throughout the district to ensure the success of the protest.

Kunri receives fresh spell of monsoon rains

By MM Faisal

KUNRI: After experiencing intense heat and the light rain, the temperature has decreased, with the possibility of more

rain expected tonight. Farmers in the area are hopeful for additional rainfall, as the seasonal rains are crucial for the recovery and improvement of the affected crops, particularly cotton and chili plants. The ongoing weather conditions are crucial for the recovery and improvement of the affected crops.

THE HEARTLAND



Shifting of BISP Centre demanded from Govt High School Shadi Palli

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: In the remaining week before the school reopens, if the Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) Centre is not relocated from the high school Shadi Palli to another site, the school's cleanliness and sanitation system will not improve. There is a concern that if the BISP Centre is not moved soon, it may negatively affect the students' education. The local community has urged the Chief Minister of Sindh, the Minister of Education and the DC of Umerkot to expedite the relocation of the BISP Centre from the high school Shadi Palli and to ensure that the school is cleaned thoroughly. This is necessary to prevent any adverse impact on the students' education.

Former UC Secretary Jam Bahadur Ali Khan's wife passes away

By Hakim Baloch

JAM NAWAZ ALI: The former UC Secretary Jam Bahadur Ali Khan's wife has passed away on Monday. Her funeral prayer was offered by Jam Nawaz Ali. The funeral prayers were attended by a large number of political and social leaders, including PPP MPA Jam Shabbir Ali Khan, Vice Chairman Jam Zaheer Ali Khan, Jam Sadiq Ali, Mir Sagor, Hakim Baloch, Shakir Rajput, Imdad Baloch, and



GM Junejo, among others. In addition, the condolences and expressions of sympathy are ongoing for Jam Bahadur Ali Khan following the death of his wife.

Prisoner hangs himself at Central Jail Larkana

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: In the Larkana Central Jail, an inmate named Ghulam Haider, son of Ghulam Hussain Jatui, reportedly committed suicide by hanging himself using a cloth. According to jail authorities, Ghulam Haider

Jatui, a resident of Lashari area in the Ratodero taluka, was suffering from tuberculosis and had been admitted to the jail's hospital. He took his own life inside the bathroom of the hospital. The Larkana jail police stated that Ghulam Haider Jatui was involved in a murder case registered in 2022 at the Lashari police station and was serving time in jail for this case. The incident has been reported to his family. Following the required legal procedures under the supervision of the relevant judicial magistrate the body was handed over to the family.

Hyderabad Man Dies After Five-Day Electricity Suspension

HYDERABAD: In a tragic incident, a man lost his life due to a five-day suspension of electricity supply caused by a transformer malfunction. The incident occurred in Allah Dad Chand Goth, within the jurisdiction of the Phuleli Police Station.

Residents report that they cannot obtain water to bathe the deceased due to the power outage, forcing them to purchase water for the ritual washing of the body. This incident highlights the urgent need for infrastructure improvements and accountability within utility services to prevent such tragedies in the future.—RT

Heatwave Claims 11 Lives In Hyderabad

HYDERABAD: In a tragic turn of events, 11 bodies, all suspected to have succumbed to the intense heat, were discovered in various locations across Hyderabad, media reported on Monday.

Two in the Thana section limits, one in the Narajil limits, two in the Thana market area, three near Civil Hospital, one on Thana Hali Road, one in Thana Ford, and two others in unspecified locations. All the deceased have been transported to the mortuary of Hyderabad Civil Hospital for further examination and identification.

Arrested Munawar Solangi's family protests for his release

By Yousif Rind

NAWAB WALI MUHAMMAD: In protest against alleged police action, women from the village of Khuda Bux Solangi, including Fatih Khatoon, Fatul Solangi, Sahiban Solangi, and others, gathered in front of the Nawab Wali Muhammad Press Club. They expressed their grievances to journalists, stating that the Nawab Wali Muhammad police had arrested Munawar Solangi on charges of possessing ZA (a type of Gunka) and then disappeared him.



although Munawar had previously been involved in such activities, he had since stopped and now earns a living through manual labor to support his children. The protesting women have called on the SSP Shaheed Benazirabad to ensure Manzoor's release.

Shaheed Benazirabad's civil society urges for crackdown against drug dealers

By Farooq Junejo

SHAHEED BENAZIRABAD: In Nawabshah and surrounding areas, the youth are being devastated due to drug abuse. Areas such as Sakrand, Sabu Rahu, Panj Moro, Daur, Bandhi, Jam Sahib, Qazi Ahmed, Daultpur, Shahpur Jahania and others are witnessing severe issues with heroin, ice, whiskey, raw alcohol, hashish, opium, Z21, and injections. The wide-

spread availability of these substances has contributed to the destruction of the younger generation and an increase in thefts and crimes. The community is pleased with the police's effective actions against drug trafficking, but citizens, civil society, journalists, social workers, and the SSP of Shaheed Benazirabad are urging for a stronger crackdown on drug dealers. They demand that the heroin and ice trade in Nawabshah and surrounding cities be addressed urgently to shut it down completely. The presence of heroin and other drugs being openly sold in main city squares and medical stores, along with visible injections and ice, has led to many families being devastated and numerous youths lying on the streets. There is a call for immediate action against drug traffickers to prevent further loss of valuable lives and to combat the drug trade effectively.

PTI protests against former MPA Adeel Ahmed

By Shaikh Sindhi

KOTRI: The PTI Students Federation Hyderabad Division leaders staged a protest at the Kotri District Press Club against the arrest of PTI Students Federation President and former MPA Adeel Ahmed. They chanted slogans and expressed their grievances to the media, asserting that Adeel Ahmed is completely innocent and has been falsely implicated in fabricated cases. During the protest, PTI leaders from Hyderabad spoke to the media, accusing the PDM government of being desperate and asserting that their leaders have been arrested and trapped in false cases related to the events of May 9. They demanded the release of their leaders.

Mayor Advocate Anwar Ali Luhur distributes gratuity cheques



By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: In Larkana, Mayor Advocate Anwar Ali Luhur distributed gratuity cheques among retired employees. On this occasion, Pakistan People's Party City District Larkana President Khair Muhammad Shaikh, Deputy Mayor Muhammad Amin Shaikh and Municipal Commissioner Dr. Javed Abbasi were also present. The employees expressed their gratitude and offered prayers for the Mayor of Larkana and others upon receiving their gratuity cheques.

Services of Mayor Abdul Rauf Ghori lauded



By Younis Chandio

MIRPURKHAS: Mayor Abdul Rauf Ghori has taken another commendable step for the residents of Mirpurkhas by addressing a longstanding issue related to electricity. Due to the lack of electricity, water supply from the Bahawal Khan Lashari Water Supply Pumping Station was facing delays. Mayor Abdul Rauf Ghori's personal efforts, the Municipal Corporation Mirpurkhas promptly submitted demand notices, and work is now underway to install electricity poles by HESCO. This project is expected to be completed soon. The residents of Mirpurkhas have praised Mayor Abdul Rauf Ghori's public service and actions, expressing their gratitude for his efforts.

Two injured in Soomro-Pathan clash

By Shaikh Sindhi

KOTRI: In Kotri SITE Area, a clash erupted between the Soomro and Pathan communities after a motorcycle accident. During the altercation, Deedar Soomro was injured. To intervene and stop the clash, members of the Panwar community were also injured in the scuffle. A report (NC) has been filed at the police station against the Pathan community involved in the incident.

Gazetted Field Officers of NCHD demand rights for employees

By Naz Solangi

KUMB: A meeting of the Gazetted Field Officers of the Federal Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, NCHD was held in Shaheed Benazirabad (Nawabshah). The meeting was attended by a large number of field officers from Hyderabad, Sukkur, Larkana, Shikarpur, Khairpur Mir's, Tando Allahyar, Tando Muhammad Khan, Jamshoro, Mirpurkhas, Badin, Naushahro Feroze, Sanghar, Nawabshah and other cities. During the meeting, it was reported that NCHD Head Office officers in Islamabad had been intimidating and pressuring employees to work under the Benazir Income Support Program's National Socio-Economic Registry Survey (NSER) without a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and proper mobility agreements. Additionally, corruption was alleged in the BISP Wasela-e-Taleem program, where directors at the Head Office were accused of misappropriating funds and making unauthorized deductions from field officers' earnings, despite their hard work. Shafi Mallah criticized these practices, stating that NCHD officers had allegedly exploited the organization. He expressed concerns that over 1,500 field officers across Pakistan are being



pressured to relocate to provinces, despite such transfers being under the jurisdiction of the Pakistan CCI (Council of Common Interests), which includes employee protection measures. Shafi Mallah emphasized that NCHD Head Office officials had started treating employees like slaves, but now all gazetted employees in Grade 16 have united. Other leaders, including Nazir Shar, Sada Mirani, Qamar Rajar, Khadim Baladi, and Ghulam Mustafa Sagar, stated that employees would no longer be misled by non-commissioned NCHD officers or be part of any conspiracy. They highlighted that employees are entitled to their dues and time-scale promotions after ten years of service, which have not been implemented. Legal cases regarding illegal show-cause notices and transfers are ongoing. The employees expressed full confidence in the judiciary and the Ministry of Federal Education to resolve their legitimate issues promptly. The meeting concluded with a consensus to form working committees, emphasize quarterly meetings, and resolve issues through legal channels with the ministry and judiciary. They also declared their disassociation from any plans of provincial transfers proposed by provincial directors. Notable attendees included Hakeem Jarwar, Kazim Bhutto, Abdullah Rahujo, Tanveer Pathan, Asif Jamani, Israr Dhamraj, Darya Khan Umrani, Razaq Jalalani, Ghulam Mustafa Bughio, Syed Zulfiqar Shah, Ghulam Mustafa Soomro, Abdul Ha Mangi, Talib Dahri, Mir Muhammad Dal, Ijaz Soomro, and Majid Shah Akhtar Sathio among others.

Tharparkar Law Students Association holds Thar Law Conference

By Ashraf Kunbhar

MITHI: In the Thar Law Conference, informed stakeholders have stated that destruction is occurring in the name of development in Thar, and no mountain, including Karoonjhar, should be cut. The victory will belong to Karoonjhar. The Thar Law Conference was organized by the Tharparkar Law Students Association at the Mithi Press Club, attended by a large number of students, civil society members, and political and social figures. Addressing the conference, young writer Kabir Bheel said that the law does not permit selling land and resources. The rulers are deceiving the people and selling the homeland. Every citizen should read and understand the law to be aware of their rights and responsibilities. Kabir Bheel emphasized that basic rights should be included in the pri-

many curriculum to make people aware of their rights. During the conference, various speakers gave lectures on legal awareness. Advocate Khansa Waseem mentioned that women becoming lawyers would themselves become an authority. Lawyer Rahman Korai said that human rights are being violated in Pakistan. Advocate Ahsan Ali Arain stated that young lawyers are bringing innovation to the legal field. Advocate Vasand Thari said that destruction is happening in Thar in the name of development and Thar is being sold illegally. Lawyer Dhannaraj Palani said that false FIRs have made the lives of the poor miserable and there is a need to understand the FIR. Lawyer Subhash Sharma stated that a good lawyer can be a protector of the homeland. A panel discussion against the cutting of Karoonjhar was held, featuring Advocate Shankar Meghwar, Allah Rakhio Khoso, and Poonam Singh, who have fought the case for Karoonjhar. Advocate Shankar Meghwar said that the Sindh government wants to cut Karoonjhar and that he has filed a contempt of court case. The company will not win against Karoonjhar. Allah Rakhio Khoso said that as long as they are alive, they will not allow Karoonjhar to be cut. Resident of Kharsar, Poonam Singh, said that the residents of Kharsar will resist the cutting of the mountains. Thar Law Students Association organizer Gulshan Sharma welcomed the guests. Anil Meghani expressed gratitude, and Saagar Meghwar and Hafsa Khuharo performed the duties of comparing. Rahat Fakir presented a Wai of Hazrat Shah Abdul Latif Bhitai (RA). The organizers of the Thar Law Conference, including Sharma, Vinod Parmar, Faiz Rahmon, and others, welcomed the guests.

AC Raja Qureshi, Deputy Director SFA Ghulam Ali Buledi visit Sindh Small Industries

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: The Assistant Commissioner Larkana Raja Qureshi, along with Deputy Director of Sindh Food Authority Ghulam Ali Buledi and his team, conducted an inspection of factories and industrial units established in Sindh Small Industries in the city. During the visit, fines amounting to thousands of rupees were imposed on the owners of factories and industrial units using harmful substances for human health and not maintaining proper cleanliness. They were fined by the Sindh Food Authority. They were instructed to use quality products and adhere to these

sanitation measures. In a media briefing, Assistant Commissioner Raja Qureshi stated that at the request of the Sindh Food Authority, a visit was made to factories and industrial units producing salt, ice, biscuits, and other products in Sindh Small Industries. He highlighted that the owners of factories and industrial units using harmful substances for human health and not maintaining proper cleanliness were fined by the Sindh Food Authority. They were instructed to use quality products and adhere to these sanitation practices. Deputy Director Ghulam Ali Buledi of the Sindh Food Authority mentioned that this action was taken following the directives of the Sindh government and district administration. A total fine of 30,000 rupees was imposed on the negligent factory and unit owners, and they were directed to comply with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). He warned that strict action would be taken against those failing to adhere to these guidelines.

LS Fayaz Hussain Memon leads recovery campaign in Thari Mirwah

By M Iqbal Soomro

THARI MIRWAH: In Thari Mirwah, Line Superintendent Fayaz Hussain Memon, along with his team, visited the city and villages to recover outstanding SEPCO bills. Fayaz Hussain Memon said that efforts are being made to recover outstanding electricity dues on the orders of the Executive Engineer of Ranipur. He

stated that electricity consumers owe millions of rupees, and for this reason, the team continuously visits the villages. Fayaz Hussain Memon said that strict action will soon be taken against illegal connections, and cases will be filed against those involved in electricity theft.

METRO KARACHI

Sharjeel Launches Hawkes Bay Route For People's Bus Service

KARACHI: Sindh Transport Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon on Monday inaugurated a new route of the Peoples Bus Service from Hawkes Bay to Tower...



of Route 12. From July 23, the Peoples Bus will start its service from Qaidabad, Korangi, and Memon Goth to Tower, which was earlier from Khokhara...



Electric Vehicles Essential To Combat Pollution And Save Fuel, Says Jam Ikramullah Dharejo



KARACHI: A meeting was held in the Sindh Secretariat, chaired by Provincial Minister for Industries and Commerce Jam Ikramullah Dharejo...

AKU-EB Recognized For Contribution To Global Educational Assessment Standards

KARACHI: The Aga Khan University Examination Board (AKU-EB) proudly announces its significant role in developing the International Standards for Educational Assessment...

Sindh Minister Saeed Ghani Swears In New Office-Bearers Of Malir Press Club

KARACHI: Provincial Minister Saeed Ghani emphasized the vital role of journalism in democracy during a ceremony at the District Press Club Malir...



has emerged, democracy has been undermined, with political parties, judiciary, and media being the primary targets...

UAE Introduces Zero Bureaucracy Initiative To Support Pakistani Businessmen



KARACHI: In a positive move for the stability of Pakistan's economy, UAE Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al-Maktoum has decided to implement a Zero Bureaucracy policy...

PSX Adopts One-Share Marketable Lot For Greater Investor Convenience

KARACHI: Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) has successfully transitioned to a One-Share Lot system for investor transactions on the regular market...

Costly IPP Electricity Forces Industries To Close: KATI

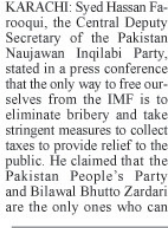
KARACHI: President of Karachi Association of Trade and Industry (KATI) stressed for review of the IPP contracts, otherwise the situation will become more serious...

Couple Killed In Alleged 'Honor' Crime



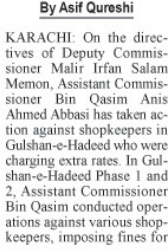
KARACHI: A young couple who had contracted free-will marriage was found dead inside their home in the Manghopir area of Karachi on Monday...

Syed Hassan Farooqi: Only Bilawal Bhutto Zardari Can Lead Country Out Of Current Crises



the United States does not pay attention, a severe crisis could occur in the country. Syed Hassan Farooqi called for strict actions against those who have embezzled billions of dollars in mineral resources...

AC Anis Ahmed Abbasi Leads Operation Against Price Gougers



shopkeepers. Many shops were reprimanded for not displaying the official price lists. Deputy Commissioner Malir Irfan Salam Memon stated that a crackdown against those charging extra rates has been initiated...

President Of SITE Association Demands Rationalization Of Power Tariff

KARACHI: President of the SITE Association of Industry, Muhammad Kamran Arbi, has issued a press statement urging the government to address the issue of exorbitant electricity tariffs for all consumer categories...



KARACHI: Sardar Manzoor Ahmed Khan is meeting with the Nawab of Junagadh, Nawab Murata Khan on the first death anniversary of his father Late Nawab Jahangir Khan of Junagadh.—RT

