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Heartland

Nawab Khan Waseem Appointed District President of PPP
Khairopur; Aijaz Ahmed Khuroo Named General Secretary



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FBR Faces Rs 90 Billion Shortfall In August Tax Collection



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Murad Proposes Sindh Premier League Cup At Niaz Stadium, Hyderabad

KARACHI Edition Vol. XV No 251 Regd. No. 114 visit us at

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Sunday, September 01, 2024, Safar 26, 1446 A.H 8 Pages

CIRCULATION CERTIFIED BY ABC

Petrol Prices Decreased

KARACHI: The government has announced a slight reduction in the prices of petroleum products, effective from September 1, 2024, media reported on Saturday.



The price of petrol has been reduced by Rs 1.86 per litre, bringing the new price to Rs 259.10, while the High-speed diesel will see a reduction of Rs 3.32 per litre, now costing Rs 262.75.

Following the recent change, the Kerosene oil will be priced at Rs 169.62 per litre after a decrease of Rs 2.15, while light diesel oil will drop by Rs 2.97 per litre, with the new price set at Rs 154.05.

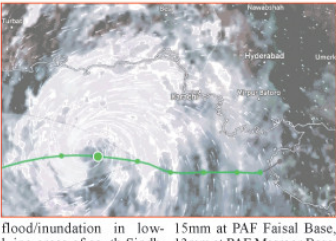
It is worth mentioning here that the federal government was considering a reduction in petrol price, which will be a third consecutive decrease in petroleum products rates since July 31.

According to sources, the proposal suggests a decrease in the price of petrol by Rs 2.97 per litre, high-speed diesel by Rs 2.31 per liter, kerosene oil by Rs 1.39 per liter, and light-speed diesel by Rs 1.96 per liter.

Sources said that the drop in international oil prices has resulted in the proposed reduction, with American crude oil falling by 3.60% to \$74.69 per barrel over the past two weeks and London Brent oil decreased by 2.34% to \$74.69 per barrel.—RT/Agency

Cyclone Asna Shifts From Karachi, But Winds, Heavy Rains Forecast Remains For Coastal Areas

KARACHI: As Cyclone Asna on Saturday steered away from Pakistan's coastline—lying about 300 kilometres away from Karachi—residents still braced for expected heavy rains brought by the weather system.



A deep depression (a very strong low-pressure area), which the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) warned on Thursday would bring widespread rainfall, intensified into Cyclone Asna on Friday.

According to a PMD alert issued at 5:30pm today, the cyclone over the northeast Arabian Sea off the Sindh coast has kept moving further west-south-westward during the past six hours and now lies at around about 300km southwest of Karachi, 230km south of Ormara and 300km southeast of Gwadar.

"The system is likely to track further west-south-westward," the Met Office added. It said torrential rains may generate pluvial flood/inundation in low-lying areas of south Sindh, south Balochistan and possible flash flooding in local nullahs/streams of Karachi, Hyderabad, Dadu, Kalat, Khuzdar, Jaffarabad, Sibbi, Naserabad, Barkhan, Lorlai, Awaran, Panjgur, Washuk, Mastung and Lasbella from Saturday-Sunday.

According to rainfall figures as of 3pm, it rained 39 millimetres in Karachi's Quidabad, 24mm in Surjani, 18.4mm in Korangi, 17mm in North Nazimabad, 16.5mm in North Karachi, 6mm each at University Road and Jinnah Terminal, 15mm at PAF Faisal Base, 13mm at PAF Masroor Base, 12.4mm in Old Area Airport, 11.8mm each in Keamari and Gulshan-i-Maymar, 5mm in Gulshan-i-Hadeed, 4.2mm in Gadap and 1mm in Saddar.

Two days," the JTWC was quoted as saying.

Met officials have described the formation of a cyclone in the monsoon season as a "rare phenomenon". It would be a rare event as cyclones are uncommon in the monsoon season," Chief Meteorologist Dr Sarfar Sarfarz said earlier.

He said the cyclone would be the first in the Arabian Sea in August since 1976 and would get the name 'Asna' suggested by Pakistan. He added that regional cyclones were assigned names according to a list prepared by a 13-country panel, including Pakistan.

About two dozen people were killed on Friday across the country as heavy monsoon rains caused widespread devastation.

In Sindh, at least nine people lost their lives in rain-related incidents in Jamshoro, Dadu and Mirpurkhas districts on Friday. More than 30 people were injured as the deluge ruptured sewers, breached dykes and swept away countless mud houses.

Due to the forecast of heavy showers and urban flooding warnings, schools in Karachi and Hyderabad were shut on Friday.

In Balochistan, two persons were missing after 13 people were swept away in flash floods in Lorlai, Qila Saifullah, Duki, Har-nai and Jhal Magis areas.

Aban on "fishermen venturing into the sea, as well as on swimming, bathing, diving, and wading in the sea/beaches and coastal areas" of Karachi Division had been imposed from Aug 29 till Aug 31 (Saturday).

In the north, 13 of a family died when the roof of their home collapsed due to a landslide induced by incessant rainfall in Dipr Dir. Meanwhile, in India, where at least 31 people have died this week from rain-related incidents, authorities evacuated more than 8,700 people from ten districts in the Gujarat state yesterday, officials said.—RT/Agency

Pakistan Army Reports Success In Ongoing Tirah IBOs; 37 Terrorists Including Ringleader Killed

KHYBER-PAKHTUNKHWA: The Pakistan Army has announced that 37 terrorists have been killed and 14 others wounded in ongoing intelligence-based operations (IBOs) in the Tirah area of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.



The operations, which began on 20th August, have dealt a significant blow to the Fitna Al Khawarij militants, with the death of their key leader, Abu Dhar alhas Saddam.

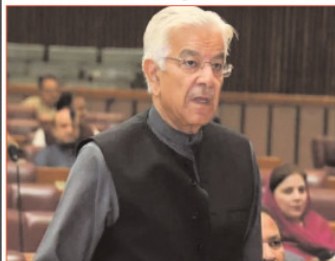
The operations in Tirah Valley have been described as highly successful by military officials. Brigadier Commander Frontier Corps Amir Nawaz Khan stated that the security forces have effectively countered the incursion of Khawarij militants from Afghanistan and are continuing their efforts against militant hideouts in the region.

Group (SSG) highlighted that a coordinated strategy was implemented to minimise casualties among the local population and Pakistan Army personnel while maximising damage to the enemy.

"By the grace of Allah Almighty and the bravery of our soldiers, we have inflicted heavy losses on the Khawarij and dismantled their top leadership," he said. Major Mohsin, who led the mission to destroy Khawarij hideouts in the valley, praised the valiant efforts of the SSG and Light Commandos, despite challenging conditions. Lieutenant Hafiz Muzamil also confirmed that the operations had successfully inflicted heavy losses on the enemy.

The Pakistan Army has reiterated its commitment to protecting the lives and property of the local population against the threat posed by Khawarij militants.—RT/Agency

Not In Favour Of Talks With PTI: Khawaja Asif



ISLAMABAD: Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has expressed his opposition to engaging in negotiations with Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI).

During a key advisory meeting of the Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) held under the chairmanship of Nawaz Sharif at the party secretariat in Model Town, Lahore, Asif made his position clear.

Responding to media queries after the meeting, Asif stated, "I am not in favour of talks with PTI." He further clarified that he is not part of any team involved in negotiations with PTI through Mahmood Achakzai.

Recent media reports suggest that the Pakistan Muslim League (N) has been in contact with Mahmood Khan Achakzai to explore indirect negotiations with PTI, with the party leadership assigning Rana Sanaullah, the Prime Minister's advisor on political affairs, to engage with Achakzai for this purpose.

Achakzai, representing PKMAP, was elected in April as head of an alliance—the Tehreek-e-Tahaffuz-e-Aim—also comprising the PTI, the SIC, the MWM, and the BNP-M. The PTI had later announced expanding the alliance to include all opposition parties.

However, Asif distanced himself from these efforts, reiterating his opposition to such negotiations.—RT/Agency

Moody's Upgrades Ratings Of 5 Pakistani Banks

KARACHI: International rating agency Moody's on Saturday upgraded the ratings of five major Pakistani banks, citing improved economic conditions in the country.



The long-term deposit ratings of the five banks have been upgraded from Caa3 to Caa2.

The banks include Habib Bank Limited, National Bank of Pakistan, United Bank Limited, Allied Bank Limited, and MCB Bank Limited.

The upgrade reflects Pakistan's improved macroeconomic conditions and moderately better government external positions from very weak levels.

Moody's said that this upgrade reflects Pakistan's improved macroeconomic conditions and moderately better government external positions from very weak levels.

Moody's also changed the outlook for all five banks from stable to positive. The decision comes after Moody's upgraded Pakistan's credit rating from Caa3 to Caa2 and changed the country's outlook from stable to positive.

In a positive development, Moody's Investors Service has upgraded Pakistan's long-term issuer rating from "Caa3" to "Caa2" with a stable outlook.

The international ranking agency noted that Pakistan's improved economic conditions, including a reduction in default risk, were key factors in the upgrade.

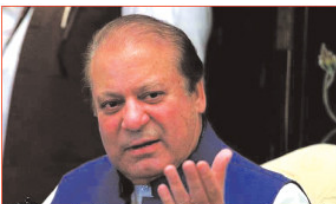
This upgrade follows Fitch Ratings' decision in July to raise the country's credit rating from "CCC" to "CCC+."

The agency also cited the country's \$7 billion deal with the

International Monetary Fund (IMF) as a positive development.

Nawaz Pledges More Relief For Electricity Consumers

LAHORE: Former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has pledged to provide more relief to Pakistan's electricity consumers, media reported.



criticizing the previous PTI government's policies Nawaz said that they pushed people into a quagmire of expensive electricity and inflation.

Speaking in Lahore, Nawaz Sharif said that Pakistan Muslim League (N) is the only party that has consistently provided relief to the people in difficult times.

He emphasized that stabilizing the economy is his top priority and that he will take all necessary steps to reduce electricity bills and strengthen the economy. Nawaz Sharif mentioned that his party has already provided relief to domestic consumers and is now working to find solutions for industrial consumers.

ship emphasized that true leadership requires providing relief to the people and that they will continue to work towards this goal. Its worth mentioning here that, former Prime Minister and PML-N supreme Nawaz Sharif has announced a major relief for electricity consumers in Punjab, with focus on providing relief to low-income households. The PML-N supreme stated that consumers using up to 500 units of electricity will receive a relief of Rs 14 per unit. Sharif praised Punjab CM Maryam Nawaz for her efforts in providing relief to the people and announced that she will be launching a solar panel scheme to provide further relief. He added that the Punjab government has allocated Rs 700 billion for the solar panel scheme, which will help further reduce electricity bills in the future.

PML-N Bigwigs Mull New Local Govt System In Punjab



LAHORE: In a bid to drum up support from both present and former allies for expected legislation in the National Assembly, a meeting of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz bigwigs was held in party's Model Town Secretariat.

Party president Mian Nawaz Sharif presided over the meeting.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, PML-N leader Hamza Shehbaz, federal and provincial ministers attended the meeting. According to PML-N sources, Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq

Dar, Rana Sanaullah and other party leaders also participated in the huddle.

Overall political and economic situation came under discussion during the meeting. In addition, relief in power bills for Punjab and Islamabad consumers was also discussed. The participants were briefed on new local body system in Punjab. Meanwhile, Rana Sanaullah was tasked to reach out to Pashtoonkwa Milli Awami Party chief Mahmood Khan Achakzai in order to hold talks with the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)—RT/Agency

PM Meets 5-Year-Old Guinness World Record Holder Sufiyan Mehsood

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday met with five-year-old Sufiyan Mehsood from Dera Ismail Khan at the PM House, who recently set a Guinness world record.



Sufiyan has made Pakistan and his parents proud by achieving this feat at a very young age, the prime minister said.

He also spoke to Sufiyan Mehsood's father, Irfan Mehsood, who holds more than 100 Guinness Book of World Records, specializes in martial arts and runs a training academy in Dera Ismail Khan.

He praised Sufiyan's achievement and emphasized the importance of providing opportunities for youth to engage in sports and positive activities.

He also instructed the Youth Program to take steps to promote various sports across the country. The meeting was also attended by Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attallah Tarar, Minister of State for Information Technology Shaza Fatima Khawaja, Chairman PM Youth Program Rana Mashhood and PM Coordinator for Climate Change Rumina Khursheed Alam.—RT/Agency

He directed the Chairman of the Youth Program, Rana Mashhood, and relevant authorities to provide more sports facilities for young people.

The prime minister said that talented youth like Sufiyan were a guarantee of a bright future for Pakistan. He added that Pakistani youth were making the country proud in various fields, including sports. Sufiyan told the prime minister that he wanted to make Pakistan's name brighter by becoming a scientist in the future. The prime minister also spoke with Sufiyan in his native Pashto language.

THE HEARTLAND



TALIHAR: PPP Minority Wing leader Sunil Kumar is visiting the rain affected areas during which he lauded the services of the town administration.—RT

Sindh CM Takes Immediate Action to Address Ali Ansar Sindhu's Illness

By Naeem Shaikh

KHAIRPUR: In a compassionate and timely response to the health crisis of Ali Ansar Sindhu, the Chairman of the National Disabled Support Program (NDSP), Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has intervened to ensure the continuation of medical treatment for Sindhu. The Chief Minister's proactive approach highlights his commitment to the welfare of individuals with disabilities and his attention to their pressing needs.



Ali Ansar Sindhu, who has been a significant advocate for the rights and support of disabled persons through his role at NDSP, recently faced a serious health condition. This development sparked widespread concern among his supporters and the broader community. Recognizing the urgency and gravity of the situation, Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah took immediate notice and directed the Secretary of Health to facilitate uninterrupted medical care for Sindhu.

The directive from the Chief Minister includes ensuring that all necessary medical treatments and interventions are provided to Ali

Ansar Sindhu at government expense. This intervention underscores the Sindh government's dedication to supporting key figures who contribute significantly to the welfare and rights of marginalized groups.

The Chief Minister's decision reflects his administration's broader commitment to addressing health emergencies and ensuring that individuals in critical conditions receive prompt and effective care.

In response to the Chief Minister's intervention, Ali Ansar Sindhu expressed his deep gratitude. He publicly thanked Sindh CM Syed Murad Ali Shah for his swift action and

the provision of government-funded medical treatment. Sindhu's acknowledgment of the Chief Minister's support highlights the positive impact of the government's assistance on individuals in critical need of medical care.

This incident not only underscores the importance of responsive governance but also serves as a reminder of the vital role played by leaders in addressing health crises among prominent figures and advocates in society.

Jamshoro Struggles with Persistent Flooding and Health Risks After Recent Heavy Rains

By Munawar Chandio

JAMSHORO: Four days after a heavy rainfall inundated Jamshoro, the city continues to grapple with extensive flooding that has disrupted daily life and raised serious concerns among residents. The rainwater remains stagnant in residential areas and on major roads, exacerbating the challenges faced by local communities.

The heavy downpour that struck the city has left a lasting impact, with residential neighborhoods and key thoroughfares still submerged under several inches of water. The ongoing inundation has created significant difficulties for the residents, who are struggling to navigate through the floodwaters. The persistent flooding has also caused widespread damage to property and infrastructure, further compounding the residents' woes.

In addition to the inconvenience caused by the standing water, there is growing concern about the public health implications. The stagnant water has become a breeding ground for disease-carrying mosquitoes, leading to an increase in cases of malaria and other waterborne diseases. The spread of these illnesses has added to the urgency of addressing the flooding situation.

Local residents have expressed frustration with the performance of the local authorities, who they believe have not adequately addressed the issue. The community's concerns were voiced in a series of public complaints and demands directed at higher authorities. Residents have called for immediate action to drain the accumulated rainwater from the city and implement effective measures to ensure cleanliness and sanitation.

In response to the situation, there have been calls for intervention from higher levels of government to provide relief and support.

The community is seeking prompt and effective action to manage the flooding, address health risks, and restore normalcy to daily life. The persistent waterlogging underscores the need for improved drainage systems and better preparedness for managing heavy rainfall events in the future.

As Jamshoro continues to deal with the aftermath of the rains, the focus remains on mobilizing resources and efforts to alleviate the current challenges and prevent similar issues in the future. The situation highlights the critical need for coordinated action between local and higher authorities to effectively manage and mitigate the impacts of severe weather events.



HYDERABAD: Oazi Ahmed newlyweds are protesting for the provision of protection at the Hyderabad press club.—RT

Allama Syed Sajid Ali Naqvi demands action against growing sectarianism and extremism



By Dildar Ali Samo

TANDO ADAM: Zahid Ali Akhonzada, spokesperson for the leader of the Shia community leader in Pakistan, Allama Syed Sajid Ali Naqvi, has strongly condemned the attack on Gollimar Ali Mosque Haideri, calling for the need to curb sectarianism and mischief through the rule of law. He reiterated that sectarianism and mischief in the country need to be brought under legal control, which has not been achieved so far. Sectarianism and extremism are resurging and need to be stopped. According to the spokesperson, the leader of the Shia community, Allama Syed Sajid Ali Naqvi, prayed

for the elevation of the martyrs' ranks and the swift recovery of the injured. Additionally, the leader expressed regret that the administration had not taken sufficient action against the Takfiri attackers who targeted the Chehlum procession in the villages of Darya Khan and Kala Bagh in district Naushahro Feroze. He called for justice to be served and for those who violated the law to be held accountable. In conclusion, the spokesperson expressed condolences to the families of deceased pilgrims from Pindi Bhattian and other incidents involving pilgrims, particularly in Kerma, Iran. He also prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured.

Sindh Abadgar Board demands relief for growers



By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: The leader of Sindh Abadgar Board, Advocate Irfan Jatoti while addressing a press conference on Saturday said that the irrigation system has been destroyed due to corruption and mismanagement. No Engineer is agreed to work with honesty. The water supply is suspended to the Rice Canal since past several days due to which the agricultural lands at hundreds of acres has been affected. The growers took all the necessary measures for their crops but the unavailability of water is resulting in huge losses to them. He demanded of the government to take notice of the matter and provide relief to the growers.

Sindh Minister Ali Hassan Zardari visits Keti Bandar amid rain emergency



By Sajid Ali Janjaro

KETI BANDER: Provincial Minister and Rain Emergency Focal Person Haji Ali Hassan Zardari visited the flood-hit areas of Keti Bandar today to assess the situation and meet with victims. During his visit, Zardari instructed the local administration to provide all possible assistance to those affected by the ongoing rains and potential storm threats.

PPP has never abandoned the people in their time of need. The entire team of our party chairman, Bilawal Bhutto, is among the people, and they will be provided with all necessary facilities," Zardari stated. He emphasized that efforts are being made across the district to help victims and ensure their safe relocation to avoid any loss of life, particularly in the river, coastal, and Kohistan belt areas. Zardari assured the residents of Keti Bandar and affected communities.



HYDERABAD: Muttahida Quami Movement (MQM-P) leader, Sabir Hussain Qaimkhani is addressing a press conference about his party's initiatives.—RT

Nawab Khan Wassan Appointed District President of PPP Khairpur; Aijaz Ahmed Khuhro Named General Secretary

By Naeem Shaikh

KHAIRPUR: In a significant development for the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) in Khairpur, Nawab Khan Wassan has been officially appointed as the District President of PPP Khairpur. This strategic move has been confirmed by a recent notification issued by the party leadership. Alongside Wassan's appointment, Aijaz Ahmed Khuhro has been designated as the General Secretary of the district, further strengthening the party's leadership structure in the region.



Nawab Khan Wassan, a prominent political figure and former Member of National Assembly (MNA), brings a wealth of experience and political acumen to his new role. His appointment is seen as a strategic decision aimed at revitalizing and consolidating the PPP's presence in Khairpur, a key district in Sindh. Wassan's tenure as MNA has been marked by his active involvement in local issues and development projects, which positions him well to lead the party's efforts in the district. Aijaz Ahmed Khuhro, the newly appointed General Secretary, is also a respected figure within the PPP. His role will be crucial in organizing party activities, managing internal affairs, and supporting the district's strategic goals. Khuhro's experience and dedication to the party are expected to play a pivotal role in enhancing the PPP's organizational effectiveness and outreach in Khairpur.

Condolences Reference Held for Renowned Journalist Syed Rehan Shabbir Shah

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: On Saturday, a heartfelt condolence reference was held in honor of the late senior journalist Syed Rehan Shabbir Shah, who passed away recently. The gathering, held at the Umerkot Press Club, was a tribute to the esteemed journalist's contributions to the field of journalism and his impact on the community. The event was attended by a distinguished group of individuals, including the President of the Umerkot Press Club, Ghulam Muhammad Kumbhar, along with prominent figures such as Rasool Bux Rahimani, Haji Gul Hassan Arisar, Azizullah Shah, Mir Hassan Arisar, Abdullah Khoso, Liaquat Junejo, Muhammad Zaman Khoso, Muhammad Bux Khoso, Azhar Arain, Ilyas Thari, Utam Sangrasi, Asad Ali Bhurgari, Ramesh Kumar, Zahid Bhai, and many others.



During the reference, speakers paid glowing tributes to Shah's legacy, highlighting his journalistic integrity, professional achievements, and his role as a mentor to aspiring journalists. Stories of his dedication, perseverance, and the positive influence he had on the media community were shared, underscoring the void of journalism for years since his passing has left in the field.

Attendees gathered to offer their condolences and prayers for the eternal peace of Syed Rehan Shabbir Shah's soul. The solemn event was marked by a moment of silence, followed by prayers for his family and for his lasting peace. The collective sentiment of loss was palpable, as the community came together to honor a man who had significantly shaped their professional and personal lives.

The condolence reference not only celebrated Shah's life and career but also served as a reminder of the enduring impact of his work. His legacy will continue to inspire and influence the field of journalism for years to come.



HYDERABAD: Members and leaders of Sindh Sabah are holding a protest demonstration for the acceptance of their demands, at the Hyderabad press club.—RT

THE HEARTLAND



Drainage canal suffers breaches in Nawab Wali Muhammad

By Yousef Rind
 water inundated agricultural lands which had already been hit by rains. This condition has resulted in a huge loss to the growers, while several villages have also been inundated by water. In this regard the local people said that the operators of the water disposal stations closed the motors for several hours due to which drainage canal suffered breaches. They demanded of the higher authorities to provide relief to them and take action against the negligent officials.

METRO KARACHI

Kaiser Bengali Resigns From Three Government Committees

KARACHI: Prominent economist Dr. Kaiser Bengali has resigned from three key government committees, citing concerns over the federal government's austerity measures, media reported on Saturday.

In his resignation letter addressed to Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb and Cabinet Secretary Kamran Afzal, Dr. Bengali expressed his dissatisfaction with the government's cost-cutting strategies. While acknowledging the government's efforts to reduce expenses, he criticized their approach as flawed.

Dr. Bengali had previously proposed significant measures for cost reduction, including the closure of 17 divisions and 50 government departments. His recommendations focused on addressing inefficiencies by reducing the number of smaller government employees rather than targeting senior officers.

However, he criticized the current policy of terminating lower-grade employees (Grades 1 to 16) while retaining higher-ranking officers (Grades 17 to 22). Dr. Bengali argued that removing senior officers could save up to Rs 30 billion annually, but this approach is not being pursued.

The committees from which Dr. Kaiser Bengali resigned are the Austerity Committee, the Right-Sizing Committee, and the Government Expenditure Reduction Committee.

Dr. Bengali also warned that the economy is on the brink of collapse, exacerbated by the lack of support from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other financial institutions. He expressed concern over the severe impact on household budgets, leading to increased financial distress and even instances of 'self-harm' among the population.—RT



Services of SHO Syed Abdul Khaliq Shah lauded

By Mehtab Shar
 JHOL: A few unidentified thieves had stolen batteries from the PPHI Hospital in Jhol after which the police led by SHO Syed Abdul Khaliq Shah started investigation into this incident. Thieves after being confused by the police the police action secretly left the stolen batteries outside the hospital and managed to flee from the scene. After the recovery of the batteries the services of SHO Syed Abdul Khaliq Shah and his team were lauded by the hospital administration and area notable Ali Nawaz Keerio.



DG M&E ensures supply of books in Taluka Jhando Marri

By Afaq Khanzada
 TANDO ALLAHYAR: DG Monitoring and Evaluation, Syed Imdad Hussain Shah after taking notice of the shortage of books in Taluka Jhando Marri directed the concerned authorities to ensure the provision of books to the students. In this regard free textbooks were provided to the TEO (Female) Taluka Jhando Marri, who distributed books amongst the heads of the schools so that those could be provided to the students. On the occasion, District Monitoring Officer Hamad Zardari and TEO Jhando Marri said that the Education Department is committed to provide quality education to the students and in this regard no stone will be left unturned.

MPA Pir Mujeebul Haq visits free medical camps in Dadu

By Javed Laghari
 DADU: The Health Department on orders of MPA Pir Mujeebul Haq has set up free medical camps in the rain hit areas of Dadu. In this regard it was learnt that MPA Pir Mujeebul Haq and DHO Nazir Qambray, Aslam Chehwan, Tahir Laghari and others were also present. On the occasion, Imdad Hussain Dawach, Shahmir Chehwan, Nazir Qambray, Aslam Chehwan, Tahir Laghari and others were also present.

Residents of Zardari Colony protest against suspension of power supply

By Afaq Khanzada
 TANDO ALLAHYAR: The residents of Zardari Colony recorded a protest demonstration against the suspension of power supply to their area for past five days. The protesters condemned the authorities for showing an indifferent approach in repairing the out of order transformers in the area. They accused the HESCO officials of demanding money from the people for the replacement of the transformers. On the occasion, they demanded of the higher authorities to take notice of the matter, otherwise they have announced to widen their protest.

Towns of coastal belt in Badin lashed by heavy rains

By Raja Zafar Iqbal
 BADIN: The entire coastal belt including Koski, Nandu city and other towns received heavy rains with thunderstorm due to which many trees were uprooted and the roofs of small houses in the villages were blown away. Due to the collapse of thousands of houses, they are living under the open sky by making roofs of plastic leaves on top of the beds, trying to avoid the rain. There are many feet of water standing till now due to the administration not establishing relief camps. Daily wagers and laborers and harvesting workers are pouring in for help, but except for the limited aid of Al-Khidmat Foundation, none of the government agencies or elected representatives have reached for their help. According to official figures, 254 mm of rain has been recorded in Badin from 26 to 30 August, due to which there is water everywhere in the district. The government has not made any provision for food and tents due to which people are facing difficulties on their own. The local people said that the provincial minister and the district administration are busy in the photo sessions only. The affected people have not received even a tent, while they are dying of hunger. The affected people have demanded of the Sindh Government to improve its performance and provide relief to them.

DEO Malir Imtiaz Ali Unar Receives Threats After Addressing Ghost Teachers

By Asif Qureshi
KARACHI: District Education Officer (Secondary) Malir, Imtiaz Ali Unar, has been receiving threats following his recent actions against ghost teachers in Malir a few days ago, issuing show cause notices to absent teachers, demanding their explanations within ten days.

Since the issuance of these notices, DEO Imtiaz Ali Unar has reported a series of threatening messages from unknown individuals. In response, he has called upon higher authorities, including the FIA Cyber Crime Wing, to investigate the threats and take appropriate action against those responsible.

Unar's actions are part of an ongoing effort to address absenteeism and improve accountability within the district's education system. The threats against him highlight the challenges faced by officials in enforcing educational reforms and maintaining integrity in public service.



DEOs Gulbahar Magsi, Anis Rehman Jalbani lead an awareness walk for the promotion of children's education

By Saleem Soomro
 LARKANA: An awareness walk was taken out by the Education Department Larkana under the leadership of DEO Anis Rehman Jalbani DEO Gulbahar Magsi, CMO Shazia Khokio, TEO Munir Ahmed Bhutto, TEO Mumtaz Soomro and other officials, who marched through different parts of the city carrying the banners and placards in their hands in connection with the enrollment campaign launched by the Government of Sindh. The officials of the Education Department urged the people to get their children enrolled in the schools so that they could get free education.

Mirpurkhas man demands pedophile's arrest

By Younis Chandio
 MIPURKHAS: A man named Ashiq Hussain, resident of Gharibabad while addressing a press conference along with his wife and son said that a man named Ibrahim Babar has sexually abused his son after subjecting him to torture. He demanded of the SSP and DIG Mirpurkhas to take notice of the incident and provide justice to his son, otherwise his family members will be compelled to launch a protest movement.

Eight Students Injured in Roof Collapse at Tando Adam Primary School

SANGHAR: Eight students were injured when the roof of a government primary school collapsed in the village of Rahim Mulukhani, Tando Adam, in Sanghar district, as reported by local media citing police sources.

The incident occurred shortly after schools in Sanghar had reopened following a two-day closure due to heavy rainfall. The injured students were promptly transported to the nearest hospital for treatment.

In response to the tragedy, Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah has ordered an immediate inspection of the affected school and all other dilapidated school buildings across the region. The Chief Minister has instructed the Deputy Commissioner and the Director of Schools to assess the situation and submit a report. He has also expressed deep condolences and emphasized that the injured students receive the best possible medical care.—RT/Agency

SOUTHERN PUNJAB

FIA Arrests 240 Human Traffickers and Advertisers in August 2024

Dr. Mirza MB Qamar
 GUJRANWALA: FIA Gujranwala zone has released the performance report for the month of August, 2024. According to the details, 85 cases were registered against human traffickers, advertisers and suspects involved in white-collar crime and a total of 240 suspects were arrested. The challan was submitted to the court. According to the spokesperson of FIA, the FIA issued a report on the arrests of human traffickers, advertisers and suspects involved in white-collar crime on the instructions of FIA Director Abdul Qadir Qamar. Among the arrested suspects, there are also suspects involved in the kidnapping of citizens abroad in Iran and Bulgaria. Most wanted among the arrested suspects 6 advertising suspects including human traffickers are also involved. The accused stole about 12 crore rupees by pretending to send innocent citizens abroad. Apart from Pakistani passports, fake documents of Spain, UK, Italy and Greece were recovered from the accused. For the recovery of money from human traffickers actions are being taken. FIA registered 21 cases during the campaign against electricity theft, arrested 190 accused and filed challans of 160 cases against GAPCO officials involved in over billing. More than 80 million rupees have been recovered from the possession of the accused involved in the illegal money exchange. The investigation of 833 inquiries was finalized on merit, and all resources were used to deliver justice.

SUP's Manzoor Ali Abro Commends AC Saira Khan's Efforts Against Land Grabbers And Criminal Elements

By Asif Qureshi
KARACHI: Manzoor Ali Abro, President of the Sindh United Party (SUP) Malir, has praised the efforts of Assistant Commissioner Saira Khan of Ibrahim Hyderi for her proactive stance against land grabbers, criminal elements, and vendors selling substandard food items, including milk.

In a recent media statement, Abro commended Khan's decisive actions and condemned the attack she faced during an anti-encroachment operation in the Malir district. He expressed support for Khan, affirming that SUP leaders and workers will ensure her safety so she can continue her work in addressing social issues and transforming Malir into a model district in Karachi.



Landmark MoU Signed Between PSQCA And LCCI To Promote Quality Standards And Boost Economic Growth

KARACHI: The Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA) and the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) have formed a strategic partnership, formalized by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Lahore. The MoU was signed by Mr. Kashif Anwar, President of LCCI, and Mr. Taufique Ali Abbasi, Director General of PSQCA.

This landmark agreement marks a significant advancement in promoting quality standards, enhancing industry competitiveness, and fostering economic growth across Pakistan. The collaboration between PSQCA and LCCI aims to streamline processes and eliminate barriers for industrialists, providing them with a single window facility to address various challenges more effectively.

According to PSQCA spokesperson Majeed ur Rehman Solangi, under this partnership, LCCI will allocate space to support PSQCA's awareness initiatives, enabling broader outreach and education on quality standards within the industrial sector. This mutual cooperation is expected to play a pivotal role in driving the adoption of best practices, contributing to the sustained economic development of the country.

Both organizations have expressed a strong commitment to this collaborative effort, emphasizing that this MoU represents a crucial milestone in their shared vision of advancing industry standards and ensuring that Pakistan's industries remain competitive on a global scale.—RT



NATIONAL

Gandapur Appeals To Public To Avoid Electricity Theft

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur has urged the people of the province to refrain from stealing electricity to avoid loadshedding.

Speaking at a ceremony in Dera Ismail Khan on Saturday, he emphasized the need for citizens to safeguard development projects and participate in the province's progress. Gandapur highlighted ongoing efforts to provide basic facilities to hospitals and combat drug dealers.

He stressed that the province was utilizing its resources effectively and urged the people to cooperate with the government.

The KP CM also stated that he would personally oversee the development projects, ensuring transparency and alignment with the PTI's vision.—RT/Agency



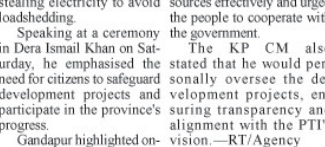
Poor Sanitary Conditions Prompt Concern Among Ghaffar Park Muhalla Residents

By Abid Mehmood Ch
 TOBA TEK SINGH: The residents of Ghaffar Park Muhalla are facing many hardships due to poor sanitary conditions. The sewerage water is inundating the streets, markets and other areas. While talking to the media, the local people expressed concern over the performance of the concerned authorities for their failure to ensure cleanliness in their area. On the occasion, they demanded of the higher authorities to take notice of the matter, otherwise they will be compelled to record a protest.



DC Muhammad Naem Sindhu Leads Suthra Punjab Program in Toba Tek Singh

By Abid Mehmood Ch
 SUTHRA PUNJAB program. No-96 and 97-B. The Deputy Director Local Government, Ghulam Shabbir said that all efforts are being made to ensure cleanliness in every area of the district under the vision of the CM Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif. The Assistant Commissioners, municipal committees are participating in the cleanliness campaign. In this regard local authorities launched the cleanliness campaign in Chak Muhammad Naem Sindhu led by DC Muhammad Naem. Sindh have launched cleanliness campaign under the Punjab CM's vision.—RT/Agency



Flooding in Sindh: An Urgent Call for Preparedness

The rising floodwaters in Sindh have once again highlighted the urgent need for robust disaster preparedness at all levels of government. The recent submersion of 70 villages in the Sehwan and Manjhand areas, as reported by the Sindh irrigation department, is a grim reminder of the recurring crisis that floods have become in the province. With the Indus River's water levels surging and reaching the Indus Highway at Sehwan and Jamshoro, the situation is rapidly deteriorating. This is not just a natural calamity; it is a crisis exacerbated by inadequate infrastructure, poor planning, and a lack of timely intervention.

Year after year, the people of Sindh find them-

selves at the mercy of floodwaters, with their homes submerged, their livelihoods destroyed, and their lives thrown into chaos. The current



situation, where 30 villages in Manjhand and 40 in Sehwan have been cut off from nearby cities, is a tragic testament to the failure of the authorities to learn from past disasters. The rising water levels in Manchar Lake, compounded by the inflow from streams and torrents from Kachho, Larkana, and Qambar-Shahdadkot, only add to the severity of the situation.

It is imperative that the federal and provincial governments, along with relevant local authorities, take immediate and comprehensive action. This includes reinforcing embankments, improving drainage systems, and ensuring that emergency response teams are adequately equipped and ready to act. Long-term solutions, such as the construction of proper flood management infrastructure and the rehabilitation of affected communities, must also be prioritized.

The people of Sindh deserve better than to live in perpetual fear of floods. The time for half-hearted measures has long passed. It is time for decisive, coordinated action to protect lives, property, and the future of the province.

THE HEARTLAND



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

Nawab Khan Wassan Felicitated on Becoming New District President of PPP Khairpur

By Naz Solangi

KUMB: The recent appointment of Nawab Khan Wassan as the District President of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Khairpur has been met with widespread enthusiasm and celebration among party leaders and workers. On the heels of this significant appointment, a jubilant rally was organized to honor Wassan and express gratitude to the party leadership for his new role.

The rally, which took place in Kumb, saw a vibrant turnout of PPP supporters and local leaders. Participants gathered to celebrate Nawab Khan Wassan's promotion and to show their support for his leadership. The event was marked by a festive atmosphere, with banners and placards reflecting the excitement within the party ranks.

During the rally, key figures within the PPP expressed their appreciation to the party leadership for choosing Wassan for this



important position. The leaders highlighted Wassan's longstanding dedication and contributions to the party, emphasizing that his appointment as District President was a well-deserved recognition of his hard work and commitment. Their speeches underscored the confidence that the party has in Wassan's ability to lead and advance the interests of PPP in Khairpur.

In his address to the gathered supporters, Nawab Khan Wassan expressed his gratitude for

the trust placed in him by the party leadership and the local members. He acknowledged the support of his colleagues and the confidence shown by the party's central leadership. Wassan assured the attendees of his dedication to fulfilling his responsibilities and working towards the growth and success of the PPP in the district.

The rally also served as an opportunity for party workers to express their optimism about the future under Wassan's leadership. They voiced their commitment to supporting his efforts and working collaboratively to strengthen the party's presence and influence in Khairpur.

The celebrations marked the beginning of a new chapter for PPP Khairpur, with Nawab Khan Wassan poised to lead the district with renewed energy and focus. The event not only celebrated his appointment but also reaffirmed the party's solidarity and collective resolve to achieve its goals in the region.

Newlyweds Saddam Dahri and Saima Dahri Seek Protection Amidst Threats



By Aijaz Ali Jokhio

DAULATPUR: On Saturday, a newlywed couple, Saddam Dahri and Saima Dahri, from the village of Yar Muhammad Dahri near Daulatpur, staged a protest demonstration demanding protection from the authorities. The couple, who recently married of their own free will, have reported facing severe threats from Saima's relatives, prompting their call for immediate intervention and safety measures.

The protest took place in a prominent area, drawing attention from both local media and community members. Saddam Dahri and Saima Dahri, visibly distressed, shared their plight with reporters. They explained that their decision to marry was based on mutual consent and personal choice, but this has not been well-received by Saima's family. According to the couple, Saima's relatives have issued serious threats, creating an environment of fear and insecurity for them. During the demonstration, the Dahri couple highlighted the urgency of their situation. They expressed concern for their safety and requested the concerned authorities to intervene promptly. Their ap-

peal was not only for immediate protection but also for a longer-term solution to ensure their safety and security in the face of ongoing threats. The couple's plea underscores the broader issue of personal safety and the challenges faced by individuals who choose to marry outside traditional norms.

The protest was attended by local supporters and community members who rallied in solidarity with the couple. Many expressed their condemnation of the threats and their support for the Dahri family's right to live without fear. The demonstration also served as a platform for raising awareness about the need for protective measures and legal support for individuals facing similar threats due to personal choices. In response to the protest, local authorities and law enforcement officials have been urged to take swift action. Ensuring the safety of Saddam Dahri and Saima Dahri will be crucial in addressing their immediate concerns and upholding their right to personal freedom and security. The case highlights the need for vigilant and responsive law enforcement to safeguard individuals' rights and address threats effectively.



LARKANA: Students are taking part in an awareness rally for the promotion of child education.-RT

Khairpur Police Successfully Recover Abducted Son of Deputy Jail Superintendent

By Naeem Shaikh

KHAIRPUR: In a significant development, Khairpur Police, under the leadership of Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Samiullah Soomro, have successfully recovered Jamil Rind, the son of Deputy Jail Superintendent Muhammad Ishaque Rind. The recovery followed a tense and intensive operation carried out in the forested areas surrounding Khairpur.

Jamil Rind, who had been abducted several days prior, became the focus of a high-stakes police operation. The abduction had created a wave of concern among the local community, with authorities and family members anxiously awaiting updates on his whereabouts. The swift and strategic response from Khairpur Police was instrumental in securing his safe return.

The operation led by SSP Samiullah Soomro involved meticulous planning and coordination. Police teams



scoured the dense forest areas where the kidnappers were believed to be hiding. The thorough search and the police's commitment to resolving the case played a crucial role in locating the abducted youth.

While the police managed to recover Jamil Rind, the kidnappers managed to evade capture and flee the scene. Despite the success of the rescue operation, the escape of the kidnappers has prompted ongoing efforts to track them down and bring acts

them to justice. The Khairpur Police have assured the public that they are intensifying their efforts to apprehend the culprits and ensure that they face the full extent of the law.

The recovery of Jamil Rind has been met with relief and gratitude from Deputy Jail Superintendent Muhammad Ishaque Rind and his family, who have expressed their appreciation for the police's dedication and swift action.

The incident has also highlighted the challenges faced by law enforcement in dealing with criminal activities and the importance of continued vigilance and effective response strategies.

As the investigation continues, Khairpur Police remain focused on securing the apprehension of the kidnappers and ensuring that justice is served. The community's support and the police's determination are seen as vital components in addressing and preventing such criminal acts.

SAU VC Prof Dr Fateh Marri announces to establish state-of-the-art animal hospital at varsity

By Irfan Ali Khushk

TANDO JAM: Dr. Fateh Marri, Vice Chancellor of Sindh Agriculture University (SAU) Tando Jam, announced the establishment of a state-of-the-art animal hospital at the Faculty of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Sciences, with support from the Sindh Government. This initiative aims to provide advanced treatment facilities for local livestock owners, fully equipped and hands-on training for veterinary students. He said while visit of the free medical camp set up for the treatment of livestock affected by the

rains at the Faculty of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Sciences. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Fateh Marri said that with the support of the Sindh government, work is being initiated on a modern animal hospital in the Faculty, where advanced treatment facilities for livestock will be provided. Dr. Marri emphasized that the new hospital will feature cutting-edge laboratories, fully equipped operation theaters, and modern infrastructure. He stated that the facility will also offer house job opportunities for students and support re-

search and surgical experiments on livestock diseased. Dr. Marri reaffirmed the university's commitment to assisting local cattle owners, particularly during the challenging monsoon season. He received a detailed briefing on the camp's operations from Professor Dr. Ahmed Nawaz Tunio, Chairman of the Surgery Department. Faculty Dean Dr. Syed Ghayasuddin Shah Rashidi and Professor Dr. Muhammad Bachal Bhutto also shared insights on the faculty's ongoing projects and the future potential of the veterinary sector.



LARKANA: President of the Sindh Abadgar Board Association, Advocate Irfan Jatoi is addressing a press conference at the Larkana press club.-RT

Pir Jo Goth woman protests for recovery of her abducted daughter

By AQ Khilji

PIR JO GOTH: A woman named Reshma Narejo, resident of the slum colony of Pir Jo Goth, has complained to the journalists by recording a protest in Pir Jo Goth that her innocent daughter Shamma Narejo has been abducted by her stepsons along with

the accused. Such report has been lodged at the Pir Jo Goth police station. She demanded that her daughter be recovered. On the other hand, SHO Pir Jo Goth has said that the investigation has been started to ensure the recovery of the abducted girl and very soon she will be recovered.

SPORTS



Raheem Sterling switches Chelsea for Arsenal in pursuit of Premier League glory



MANCHESTER: Raheem Sterling has made a surprise loan move to Arsenal from Chelsea as Bangladesh bowled out Pakistan for 274 on day two of the second Test at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium in Rawalpindi on Saturday.

Shadman Islam was batting on six and Zakir Hasan was on zero as Bangladesh reached 10 for no loss at stumps, seeking a strong reply in their bid to secure a 2-0 series victory after winning the first game at the same venue by 10 wickets.

Miraz (5-61) and Taskin Ahmed (3-57) were the picks of the Bangladesh bowlers as they claimed timely wickets and controlled the run-rate after the opening day was lost to incessant rain and a wet outfield.

Taskin, drafted into the Bangladesh side after fellow pace bowler Shoriful Islam sustained a groin injury, bowled Abdullah Shafique with a swishing delivery in the first over of the day after the tourists won the toss and opted to

ended, the Bangladesh bowlers grew in confidence as the day wore on and could have had more wickets but for some sloppy catching.

Ayub was stumped for 58 a few overs later after coming down the track and missing the line of a flighted delivery from Miraz while Saud Shakeel, who was dropped after slipping on one, perished after chopping one from Taskin back onto his stumps.

Having stemmed the flow of runs, Bangladesh removed the out-of-form Babar Azam for 31 before tea and Mohammad Rizwan for 29 shortly after to leave Pakistan in a spot of bother at 211-6.—Agency

Pak vs Ban: Mehidy takes five as Pakistan bowled out for 274



RAWALPINDI: Spinner Mehidy Hasan Miraz took five wickets as Bangladesh bowled out Pakistan for 274 on day two of the second Test at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium in Rawalpindi on Saturday.

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US Open: Aryna Sabalenka wins in historic late-night match against Ekaterina Alexandrova



Aryna Sabalenka, the world's number two, defeated Ekaterina Alexandrova in the third round of the US Open on Saturday.

The match began at 12:08 a.m., setting the record for the latest start of a men's or women's match in the history of the tournament.

The match finished at 1:48 a.m. It is tied for the second-latest finish for a women's singles match at the US Open.

The 29th seed Alexandrova was defeated in the early hours of Saturday morning by last year's runner-up with a 2-6 6-1 6-2.

Following 2-6 in the first set, the Australian Open champion made a strong comeback, winning the next two sets 6-1, 6-2 which allowed her to make a spot in the Round 16.

"I don't know what I did, I was just trying to stay low, put as many balls as I can back on that side. She played incredible tennis in the first set. It was really tough to change it," Sabalenka said.

The 26-year-old quickly found her groove and broke for a 3-1 lead in the next set and never looked back thereafter, leveling the contest with a breathtaking display of power to overwhelm her spirited Russian opponent.

"I'm really happy I was able to turn around this match and get this really difficult win."

In the final set, Sabalenka was on the verge of winning 5-0 until Alexandrova broke her opponent's serve, making it 5-1.—Agency

Wrestler Ali Asad receives four-year ban for doping



Pakistani wrestler Ali Asad, a bronze medalist at the Commonwealth Games, has been handed a four-year ban for using prohibited performance-enhancing substances.

The International Testing Agency (ITA) offered him the opportunity to appeal and request a B sample test. However, due to his lack of response, a direct four-year ban was imposed.

Ali Asad denied using performance-enhancing drugs after his positive doping test.

Earlier on May 29, the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) handed four-year bans to four Pakistani weightlifters for violating anti-doping rules.

Abdur Rehman, Sharjeel Butt, Ghulam Mustafa, and Farhan Amjad were suspended in 2022 after refusing to provide samples to the International Testing Agency (ITA) team on November 10, 2021.

According to sources, these four weightlifters took their case to the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS) to defend themselves, but they were unable to avoid the lengthy ban.—Agency

Ramiz Raja offers a piece of advice to Babar Azam amid rough patch



KARACHI: Former Pakistan captain Ramiz Raja offered a piece of advice to star batter Babar Azam, who is going through a rough patch with the bat, particularly in Test cricket.

Babar has thus far managed to score 250 runs in seven matches of the ongoing World Test Championship (WTC) 2023-25 at a dismal average of 22.72 and the highest score of just 41.

He bagged a two-ball duck in the first innings of the home series opener against Bangladesh while managing just 22 in the second innings as Pakistan succumbed to a 10-wicket defeat.

Meanwhile, former Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Ramiz Raja, speaking on his YouTube

channel, Ramiz Speaks, defended under-fire Babar Azam, stating that the star batter receives severe criticism with each of the national team's defeats.

"It seems the entire nation does not have a problem with anything except the form of Babar Azam. Unfortunately, what happens is when you lose a match and you have not scored runs and if you are Babar Azam, then you become a headline - How did we lose? What did he do? What was his contribution? And then this is the era of social media. Anybody can criticize and ridicule anyone, this should be discouraged as much as possible," said Raja.

"Cricket is in our blood but don't know for how long

if we continue to lose matches like this in Test cricket. Fan following increases with wins and fans identify themselves with success stories. Babar Azam has had a famous success story. There is no doubt that he has been a big player in all three formats," he concluded.

For the unversed, Babar Azam finished as the fourth-highest run-scorer in the previous cycle of the WTC with 1527 in 14 matches.

However, in the ongoing edition, the star batter is ranked 48th, behind some of the bowlers and bowling all-rounders like Chris Woakes, Jason Holder, Pat Cummins, Mehidy Hasan Miraz and Ravindra Jadeja.—Agency

PSB rejects PHF's allegations of withholding fund for participation in Asian Champions Trophy



KARACHI: The Pakistan Sports Board (PSB) has dismissed claims by the Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) alleging that PSB is withholding funds for the national hockey team's participation in the Asian Champions Trophy in China.

In a strongly worded statement, the PSB criticized the PHF for its "baseless allegations" and clarified that the delays in releasing funds were due to the federation's failure to provide necessary documentation on time.

The PSB pointed out that the PHF had submitted a request for a budget exceeding Rs 55 million, in addition to US \$60,000 in foreign exchange, and sought funding for 27 players and six officials.

The Pakistan Sports Board called this demand "excessive" and "beyond international standards," adding that it had agreed to finance air tickets for 19 players and four officials in line with global norms.

"Despite this, the PHF claimed it had already booked tickets, to which PSB agreed to reimburse upon receipt of original tickets," the

PSB stated, mentioning any delay in the process was due to the PHF's failure to meet procedural requirements.

The sports board accused the PHF of failing to provide the required documentation on time, including lists of players and officials, computer clearance forms, undertakings, and surety bonds.—Agency

the team's participation in the tournament scheduled from September 6 to 18.

"PSB remains fully committed to supporting the national hockey team and ensuring its successful participation in international tournaments," the statement read.

The PSB also added that they supported the three-week training camp at the Naseer Bunda Hockey Stadium and provided accommodation at the Sports Complex in Islamabad.

Cristiano Ronaldo to join Portugal squad for upcoming UEFA Nations League



Portuguese football legend Cristiano Ronaldo is set to take to the field with his national team once again as they prepare for the upcoming UEFA Nations League matches against Croatia and Scotland.

According to Goal, Ronaldo managed to retain a place in Portugal's squad for the upcoming league despite his underwhelming performance in the national team during Euro 2024.

This year, the 39-year-old Al Nassr striker endured a disappointing European Championship, as he failed to score a goal with Ronaldo losing to France on penalties in the quarter-finals.

The five-time Ballon d'Or award winner is still Portugal's captain and is in line to win his 213th cap for his country, during which he has scored 130 goals, and will be out to add to that tally as the campaign begins.

Additionally, the former Manchester United, Real Madrid and Juventus star is reportedly determined to play at the 2026 World Cup, so his continued selection may not be surprising.

Ronaldo is one among a list of attacking choices for Roberto Martinez to choose from, including Joao Felix, Pedro Neto, Diogo Jota, Rafael Leao, and Pedro Goncalves. However, it is yet to be known who will be selected.

Meanwhile, Ronaldo is on break from the Saudi Pro League for the upcoming international break. He will next be seen in action against Croatia on September 5.—Agency

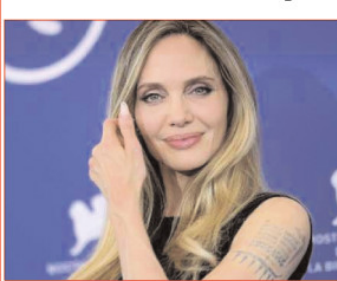
Face of the Day



Name: Humayoun Sheikh
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

ENTERTAINMENT

Angelina Jolie discusses her preparations for Maria Callas role in new biopic



Angelina Jolie has opened up about her preparations for portraying the role of Maria Callas in a new biopic.

In an interview with The Hollywood Reporter, the 49-year-old actress revealed that she rediscovered her voice after playing the role of an opera singer.

"I had somebody in my life who was not kind to me about singing," said Angelina. "It was a relationship I was in."

"And so I just assumed I couldn't really sing. I'd been to theater school, so it was weird that it even had an effect on me. I just kind of adapted to this person's opinion. So it took me getting

Kim Kardashian, Kendall Jenner show support to incarcerated firefighters



Kim Kardashian and Kendall Jenner spent some time with incarcerated firefighters of the Pine Grove and Growlersberg fire camps.

The sisters were joined by Olivia Pearson and Kourtney Kardashian's ex, Scott Disick, when they met with the "incredible" inmates of firefighter camp.

Taking to Instagram, the Skims founder shared a series of pictures of her visit featuring her and her crew all dressed up in black.

She captioned the post: "Yesterday I had the amazing opportunity to spend some time with the guys at Pine Grove youth firecamp, and Growlersberg Firecamp Crew 3 and 5."

"These incredible men are incarcerated firefighters saving our state, homes and communities from fire."

"This program is the first of its kind allowing 18-25 year old incarcerated people to get out of prisons and into a firecamp to serve the community."

"Through this voluntary program they can fully expunge their felony records when they are released and now can go into firefighting careers when they get out," she added.

The reality TV star continued: "Thank you so much CDCR and Cal Fire Staff for everything you do to our support these guys and thank you to everyone we met yesterday working so hard at fighting these California fires."

"Forever thank you to @scottbudnick for caring so much!" she concluded with thanks.

For those unversed, Kim met with pardon attorney Elizabeth Oyer at the Department of Justice in Washington to work on behalf of inmates who are ready to be assimilated into society.

REGIONAL TIMES

THE HEARTLAND



MNA Javed Ali Shah Jilani Hosts Open Katchery to Address Public Concerns

By Sajjad Chang

HINGORJA: On Saturday, MNA Syed Javed Ali Shah Jilani hosted an open katchery at his residence in Khairpur, marking a significant community engagement initiative aimed at addressing the issues faced by local residents. The open katchery provided a platform for individuals to voice their concerns and seek assistance directly from their elected representative.

The event was attended by a notable group of local leaders and officials, including Vice Chairman District Council Khairpur, Syed Fahad Ali Shah Jilani, President of PPP Gambat Syed Liqat Ali Shah, Gadap Hussain Sehto, Syed Roshan Ali Shah, Syed Iqbal Ali Shah, Sardar Yar Muhammad Mangnejo, Noordin Panhwar, Hussain Ahmed Mahar, Naem Ahmed Shah, Muhammad Saleh Ujan, and others. Their presence underscored the collaborative effort to address community issues and provide support.

During the open katchery, MNA Syed Javed Ali Shah



Jilani actively listened to the grievances and requests of the attendees. The issues presented ranged from local infrastructural concerns to social welfare needs. The MNA assured the public that their concerns would be taken seriously and directed district officials to prioritize and resolve the reported problems expeditiously.

In a statement to the media, Syed Javed Ali Shah Jilani emphasized that addressing the problems of the people and providing them with necessary relief is a fundamental responsibility of his role as an elected Member of the National Assembly. He reaffirmed his commitment to working diligently on behalf of the people of Khairpur and ensuring that their needs are

met. The open katchery served as an important forum for strengthening communication between the public and their representatives, fostering transparency and accountability in addressing local issues. The initiative reflects MNA Jilani's dedication to community service and his proactive approach to engaging with constituents. As the event concluded, the feedback from the community was positive, with many expressing appreciation for the opportunity to discuss their concerns openly. The MNA's commitment to follow up on the issues raised during the katchery is expected to result in tangible improvements in the local community.

Ali Asghar Halipoto Appointed District President of PPP Badin

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: In a significant reshuffle within the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has made notable changes in the leadership of PPP Badin. Haji Ramzan Chandio and Haji Sami Bux Jamali have been removed from their positions as District President and General Secretary, respectively. This decision marks a strategic realignment aimed at invigorating the party's leadership in the region.

Ali Asghar Halipoto, who has been serving as the Chairman of the Badin District Council, has been appointed as the new District President of PPP Badin. His appointment reflects a move to leverage his extensive ex-

perience and local influence to strengthen the party's position in the district. Halipoto's leadership is anticipated to bring a fresh perspective and renewed energy to the party's activities and objectives in Badin.

In conjunction with this change, Dr. Sajjad Ahmed Chandio, the son of MNA Haji Rasool Bux Chandio, has been appointed as the new General Secretary of PPP Badin. Dr. Chandio's appointment is expected to bring a new dynamic to the party's administrative functions and further enhance its organizational effectiveness.

The changes in leadership have been met with approval from party workers and local leaders. Many expressed their full confi-

dence in Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's decision, believing that these appointments will help consolidate the party's efforts and foster a more cohesive and effective leadership structure. The party workers have voiced their support for Ali Asghar Halipoto and Dr. Sajjad Ahmed Chandio, anticipating positive outcomes under their leadership.

The recent developments signal a proactive approach by the PPP leadership to address local needs and challenges, aiming to bolster the party's presence and impact in Badin. The party's local base looks forward to the new leadership driving forward the party's agenda and strengthening its influence in the district.

Cyclone Asna stays clear of Pakistani coastline, brings heavy rains to Sindh

By Khuda Bux Brohi

THATTA: The anticipated cyclone Asna, named by the Pakistan Meteorological Department, originated as a low-pressure area over the Bay of Bengal on August 16. Despite initial concerns, the cyclone remained at a safe distance from Pakistan's coastline. Asna intensified into a depression over the Saurashtra and Kutch regions of Gujarat, India, but did not make landfall in Pakistan. It maintained a distance of 200 to 220 km from Karachi, according to meteorological reports. While Asna stayed offshore, its presence brought heavy rainfall and gusty winds to the southeastern coast of Sindh, affecting areas such as Badin, Sujawal, Thatta, and Karachi. According to TV channel reports that the India Meteorological Department (IMD) had indicated that the depression was likely to move west-southwest into the northeast Arabian Sea, potentially strengthening into a cyclonic storm by Friday. Fortunately, the deep depression and Asna did not pose a direct threat to the Pakistani coast as it continued moving away from land towards the Arabian Sea. Although initial concerns had suggested a possible impact on Sindh's coastline, but by the blessings of God the cyclone did not make landfall. However, the coastal regions experienced significant rainfall and strong winds, leading to inundation in some cities, including Karachi. A new system of torrential rains and stormy winds is expected to enter the Arabian Sea, potentially bringing more rainfall and thunderstorms to the region in the next Three days meteorological department has also updated.

Makhdoom Jamil-uz-Zaman Criticizes Sindh Government's Failure to Provide Relief



By Sajjad Ali Abbasi

MATIARI: MNA Makhdoom Jamil-uz-Zaman, the prominent spiritual leader of the Sarwari Jamaat, has sharply criticized the Sindh Government for its failure to deliver adequate relief to the people. During his recent visit to Sarhandi House in Matiari, where he met with Sajjadnashin Pir Ghulam Mujaddid Sarhandi, and to the Darqah Pir Sarhandi, Jamil-uz-Zaman expressed his concerns about the governance and political dynamics in Sindh. In a press briefing following his visit, Makhdoom Jamil-uz-Zaman delivered a scathing critique of Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, stating that the CM should focus on restoring peace and addressing issues in Kashmir, Kandhot, and Shikarpur. He argued that the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) has become increasingly confined to Sindh and warned that if the party does not revise its policies, it risks being limited to only Matiari and Garhi Khuda Bux.

The MNA accused certain factions within the PPP of undermining the party's foundational strength and conspiring against its interests. He suggested that loyalty to Pir Sahib Pagara should be a prerequisite for allegiance to the PPP, implying that some members who failed to support Pagara were now betraying the party's core values.

Jamil-uz-Zaman further lambasted the Sindh Government for its inability to provide meaningful relief and transparency in development projects. He emphasized that the current administration's failure to address the needs of the people is a serious concern. In contrast, he praised the efforts of CM Punjab Maryam Nawaz, highlighting her effective measures to provide relief and protection to the residents of Punjab.

The visit and statements by Makhdoom Jamil-uz-Zaman reflect ongoing political dissatisfaction and underscore the need for significant reforms within the PPP and the Sindh Government. His comments also spotlight the contrasting approaches of provincial leaders in addressing regional challenges.

SHC Circuit Bench Mirpurkhas rejects pre-arrest bail of predatory loan sharks

By Younis Chandio

MIRPURKHAS: The Sindh High Court Mirpurkhas Circuit Bench, while rejecting the pre-arrest bail plea in the private interest loan case, issued an order to the Sindh government to crackdown against money launders (Sookhor) on Saturday. According to order of honorable court a complainant named Mandro Mal filed a case under the Sindh "Prohibition of Interest on Private Loans Act 2023" against predatory loan sharks Ropochand alias Ramesh and Naresh Kumar at Vijito Police Station of District Tharparkar/Mithi. The accused filed a pre-arrest bail application in the High Court Circuit Bench, Mirpurkhas Judge Adnan Al Kareem Memon of the one-member bench of

Councilor Nazir Noonari Attacked and Injured by Sarki Community Members in Thul

By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: In a shocking incident on Saturday, Councilor Nazir Noonari of the Municipal Committee was attacked by members of the Sarki community while he was returning from the court in Thul. The attack, which resulted in serious injuries to Noonari, has prompted local authorities to launch an immediate investigation into the matter.

The assailants, identified as Nawaz Golo, Khair Muhammad Sarki, and several others, targeted Councilor Noonari as he was leaving the court premises. The attack was reportedly unprovoked, and the motives behind the assault are currently under investigation. The assailants managed to escape the scene before law enforce-

ment could intervene, adding to the urgency of the ongoing search for their apprehension.

Following the attack, Councilor Nazir Noonari was swiftly transported to a local hospital for medical treatment. His condition is reportedly stable, though the injuries he sustained were described as severe. The hospital staff is providing him with the necessary care, and the councilor's recovery is being closely monitored.

An initial report of the incident has been filed at the A-Section Police Station in Thul. The police have begun their investigation into the assault, working to identify and apprehend the suspects involved. The authorities are gathering evidence, interviewing witnesses, and reviewing surveillance footage from the area to aid in the investigation.

As the investigation progresses, the police are appealing to anyone with information about the whereabouts of the suspects or details about the attack to come forward. The local community is rallying in support of Councilor Nazir Noonari, advocating for justice and the restoration of peace in the region.

TEO Allah Diwayo Mangi Conducts School Visits in Khangarh to Monitor Attendance and Assess Rain Damage

By Shad Mahar

GHOTKI: On Saturday, Allah Diwayo Mangi, the Taluka Education Officer (Primary) for Khangarh, undertook a comprehensive visit to several schools within the Taluka. The visit aimed to evaluate the current state of the educational institutions, monitor staff and student attendance, and address any challenges faced by the schools, particularly those impacted by recent heavy rains.

During his visit, TEO Allah Diwayo Mangi conducted thorough inspections of both staff and student attendance records. His primary focus was to ensure that all educators and students were adhering to the prescribed school schedules and maintaining regular attendance. Mangi emphasized the importance of punctuality and regularity in educational settings, stressing that any form of negligence would not be tolerated. He reminded the teaching staff of their crucial role in fostering a disciplined and productive learning environment.

In addition to monitoring attendance, the TEO collected data on students who had received free textbooks provided by the education department. This data collection was part of an effort to assess the distribution of educational resources and ensure that all eligible students had access to necessary learning materials. Mangi underscored the importance of equitable resource distribution in enhancing educational outcomes and addressing disparities.

Another key aspect of Mangi's visit was assessing the impact of recent heavy rains on school infrastructure. Several schools in the region had reported damage due to severe weather conditions, which had disrupted classes and affected the learning environment. The TEO inspected the affected facilities to evaluate the extent of the damage and identify the necessary repairs and resources required to restore normalcy. His assessment aimed to prioritize and address the immediate needs of the schools to ensure that the disruption to students' education was minimized.

The visit by TEO Allah Diwayo Mangi reflects the commitment of the Taluka Education Office to maintaining high educational standards and addressing challenges faced by schools. The proactive approach in monitoring attendance, resource distribution, and infrastructure repair underscores the ongoing efforts to support and improve the educational environment in Khangarh.

SSS and Shirkatgah Host Seminar on Combating Early Age Marriages

By Samad Ayaz

NAWABSHAH: Shah Sachal Sami (SSS) and Shirkatgah jointly hosted an impactful seminar at the Mantha Hall on Saturday, focusing on the critical issue of early age marriages. The event was attended by a diverse group of stakeholders, including local officials, activists, and community leaders, who gathered to discuss and promote strategies for preventing early marriages and advancing child protection.

Town Municipal Committee Chairman Muhammad Hayat Kakepoto, who was a key speaker at the seminar, highlighted the Sindh Government's recent legislative action banning marriages before the age of 18. Kakepoto praised the efforts of Shah Sachal Sami, Shirkatgah, and other participating organizations for their dedication and initiatives aimed at addressing the issue of early age marriages. He emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts in enforcing this ban and ensuring its effectiveness.

Dr. Mansoor and Afshan from Shirkatgah, Lala Ar-



Shah Sachal Sami, CEO of Shah Sachal Sami Foundation, Riaz Shar, Population Officer, Gm Sehto, Director of Social Welfare, Farhana Iram, Law Officer, and journalist Ismail Domki were among the distinguished speakers at the seminar. Each speaker brought valuable insights into the challenges and solutions related to early marriages.

Dr. Mansoor and Afshan discussed the role of community awareness and education in combating early age marriages, while Kakepoto focused on the legal and policy frameworks supporting the ban. Gm Sehto and Farhana Iram addressed the social welfare aspects and legal enforcement mechanisms, respectively. Ismail Domki provided a journalistic perspective on media's role in raising awareness and advocating for change. The seminar aimed to foster dialogue and collaboration among various stakeholders to enhance efforts against early age marriages. It also sought to empower local communities with the knowledge and tools needed to support and enforce the Sindh Government's new regulations effectively. The event underscored the collective commitment to protecting children's rights and ensuring their well-being.

People of Tando Bago face hardships in woman's burial post-rains

By Sher Ali Khawaja

TANDO BAGO: The residents of Tando Bago and its adjoining areas are facing many hardships as the rainwater is still inundating the Taluka. In this regard it was learnt that a woman passed away in village Wahid Dino Malah in UC Pahar Marri but due to rainwater accumu-

lation have been inundated by the rainwater due to which people have to face problems in burying their deceased family members due to the poor performance of the local authorities. They demanded of the higher authorities to take notice of the matter and provide relief to the people.

DC Imran-ul-Hassan Khawaja and Aurangzeb Marri Assess Damage and Oversee Relief Efforts in Rain-Affected Sanghar District

By Hakim Baloch

JAM NAWAZ ALI: Following a period of intense rainfall that severely impacted Sanghar district, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Imran-ul-Hassan Khawaja and Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) leader Aurangzeb Marri conducted an on-site assessment of the affected areas. Their visit aimed to evaluate the damage and oversee the ongoing relief efforts.

The heavy rains, which lasted for 36 consecutive hours, led to widespread flooding in several regions of Sanghar. The inundation caused significant disruptions, affecting daily life and infrastructure. In response, DC Imran-ul-Hassan Khawaja and Aurangzeb Marri visited various rain-hit areas to directly witness the extent of the damage and to ensure that immediate action was being taken to address the situation.

During their visit, both officials issued clear directives to the Chairman of the



Municipal Committee and the Chief Municipal Officer. They emphasized the need for an expedited drainage process to remove the accumulated rainwater from the affected areas. The DC stressed the importance of providing the best possible facilities and support to the displaced and affected residents.

DC Khawaja assured the public that the district administration had implemented an action plan to manage the aftermath of the heavy rains. He confirmed that the plan had been effectively executed, leading to significant progress in draining the water and addressing the immediate concerns caused by

the flooding.

Accompanying DC Khawaja and Aurangzeb Marri during the visit were XEN Public Health Pir Raza, SC Muhammad Shafiq Anzar, Chairman Municipal Committee Rashid Islam Mughal, and other key officials. Their presence underscored the coordinated effort to tackle the crisis and support the affected communities.

The visit served to reaffirm the commitment of local authorities and political leaders to resolving the issues caused by the flooding and to ensuring that residents receive the necessary relief and support during this challenging time.

Deputy Director Disaster Management Rashid Mukaram visits areas affected by Rohri Canal breach

By Mumtaz Ali Thahim

TANDO ADAM: Deputy Director of Disaster Management Sindh, Rashid Mukaram, along with District President of Al-Khidmat Foundation Adil Maroof and Al-Khidmat volunteers, visited the areas affected by the breach in the Rohri Canal near Tando Adam. They distributed various supplies to the people and assured them that Al-Khidmat Foundation would soon distribute essen-

tial items to the flood victims and those affected by the Rohri Canal breach. Rashid Mukaram stated that rainwater has accumulated in both urban and rural areas, leaving people stranded under the open sky with no visible government support. Due to the lack of maintenance of the sewage system and the cleaning of rainwater drains, many areas are submerged, and people are trapped in their homes. It has been over three weeks since the breach in the

Rohri Canal, yet more than 40 villages remain flooded, thousands of acres of crops are destroyed, and hundreds of families are displaced. He called on the government to urgently undertake relief and restoration work in the affected areas, demanding practical action rather than mere verbal promises, so that affected people can safely return to their homes and the government can compensate for their losses.

"The beginning is the most important part of the work."

—Plato

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SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 01 2024

PTI Reschedules Public Gathering At Minar-e-Pakistan

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) rescheduled its public gathering at Minar-e-Pakistan Lahore that was earlier set to be held on September 15, media reported.

According to details, the Imran Khan-founded party has now decided to hold public gathering at Minar-e-Pakistan on September 22.

The PTI sought permission for the public gathering at Minar-e-Pakistan on September 22 from the Deputy Commissioner PTI Secretary General Omar Ayub submitted the request through Barrister Ahmad Salman Niazi.

Earlier, the party sought permission to hold the public gathering in September but the date has been changed to September 22 in respect of the 12th Rabi-ul-



Awwal.

Earlier, the PTI postponed its August 27 power show in Lahore due to non-issuance of permission.

The Imran Khan-led party had also canceled the Islamabad Public gathering on August after the administration once again revoked

the No Objection Certificate (NOC).

The public gathering was scheduled to be held in Tarnol on August 22 but the PTI had to cancel as the administration revoked the NOC.

The decision to revoke the NOC was made in a

meeting of the Intelligence

Committee chaired by the Chief Commissioner Islamabad. The district administration maintained that religious parties have also called for protests, adding that permission for the public gathering cannot be granted in such circum-

stances. Earlier, the PTI announced that it will hold power show in three major cities

Addressing a flag-hoisting ceremony at the DC Office Buner, PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan said that the party will be holding public gatherings in three major cities including Islamabad, Lahore, and Karachi.

He said that the PTI will hold rallies in the three major cities after their power show in Swabi.

Barrister Gohar said that the PTI will continue to struggle for the release of its founder Imran Khan on all fronts. "We will strive for Imran Khan's release in courts as well as public gatherings," the PTI Chairman added.—RT/Agency

Information Minister Rejects Attempts To Damage Pakistan-China Relations

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Saturday said that "The Diplomat" magazine in its article had tried unsuccessfully to spoil Pakistan's relations with long-time friend China.

In his reaction to the article published in the journal through his account on X, Tarar maintained: "This is yet another failed attempt to damage Pakistan's relations with its time-tested friend China. These attacks on our foreign policy will never succeed."

He said that the impression given in the article was based on false opinions which did not reflect the sentiments of the people of Pakistan.

On the other hand, the



istry of Information and Broadcasting (MoIB) on Saturday declared the article published in "The Diplomat" magazine regarding the visit of a high-level Chinese delegation to Pakistan as misleading and baseless.

"An attempt has been made in the article to create a misleading link between the visit and the in-

cidents of terrorism". The Fact Checker said the article was based on false pretext and untrue context.

It said that visits of foreign dignitaries continue throughout the year.

The article was misleading and baseless, the Ministry of Information Fact Checker maintained.—RT/Agency

Nab Requests Court To Seize Zulfi Bukhari's Assets

ISLAMABAD: The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) filed a plea in an accountability court, requesting it to freeze the assets of Zulfi Bukhari, a close aide of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan, media reported.

Zulfi Bukhari has been declared a proclaimed offender by the accountability court in a corruption case after his continuous absence during the hearings.

In the fresh plea, the NAB requested the court to order the seizure of Bukhari's assets to ensure his appearance in the court.

According to the NAB, Zulfi Bukhari possesses 30 plots in Sector 16, Islamabad, four pots in Sector 15, and, 1300 kanals of land in Attock Reason for Request. The court will re-



view NAB's request and make a decision on freezing Bukhari's assets in the coming days. Earlier, the Ministry of Interior on Wednesday gave its approval for the issuance of a red warrant against PTI leader Zulfi Bukhari.

The approval for the red warrant is an international notice sent to the International Criminal Police Organisation (Interpol) seeking the arrest and extradition of an individual. In a letter to the Federal In-

vestigation Agency (FIA), the interior ministry directed the agency to contact the International Criminal Police Organisation (Interpol) in France for the issuance of a red warrant against Zulfi Bukhari.

The approval for the red warrant was issued in a case related to attack on Judicial Complex Islamabad during the appearance of the PTI Chairman before the court in the Toshakhana case.—RT/Agency

No Talks With PTI Until Imran Khan Apologizes For May 9 Fiasco: Ahsan



LAHORE: Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal said on Saturday there would be no talks with the PTI until its founder Imran Khan apologized for the events of May 9.

The minister rebuked the PTI, claiming they had caused more damage than terrorists had done and questioned how any dialogue could take place with such people.

He also condemned the former ruling party's approach, particularly its insistence on demanding 'receipts' from opponents.

The minister also highlighted that the country is currently facing an unde-

clared war, with enemies attempting to destabilise the nation through terrorism and internal conflicts.

Also, according to Ahsan Iqbal, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif met JUI-F chief Fazlur Rehman. "The prime minister also plans to engage with other political leaders as well," he said.

Discussing the PML-N meeting, Iqbal revealed that rising electricity prices was a key topic of discussion. The party leadership stressed the importance of resolving the energy crisis to provide relief to the public, he added.

He also noted that the local government system was part of the party's manifesto.—RT/Agency

Police Arrest Former Senator Mushtaq Ahmed In Islamabad

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Police on Saturday arrested former senator Mushtaq Ahmed of Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) during a march organized by the party to express solidarity with the people of Gaza, media reported.

The authorities has imposed section 144 in Islamabad according to which gatherings without prior permission from the district administration is prohibited.

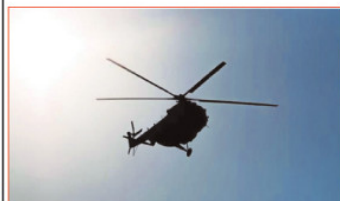
The administration warned that violators would face legal action, reiterating that any procession or protest with-



out approval is unlawful. The march, which took place near D-Chowk, led to the arrest of more than 20 participants, including two women, for violating Section 144.

The district administration has urged citizens to refrain from participating in unauthorized activities, stressing the importance of adhering to the legal restrictions in place.—RT/Agency

Helicopter With 22 Aboard Goes Missing In Russia's Kamchatka



MOSCOW: A helicopter with 22 people aboard, most of them tourists, has gone missing in Russia's Kamchatka peninsula in the far east, regional authorities said Saturday.

"Today at about 1615 (0415 GMT) communication was lost with a Mi-8 helicopter... which had 22 people on board, 19 passengers and three crew members," Kamchatka Governor Vladimir Solodov said in a video posted on Telegram.

Rescue teams in helicopters have been searching the night for the missing aircraft, focusing on a river valley that the helicopter was due to fly along, Russian authorities said.

The Mi-8 is a Soviet-designed military helicopter that is widely used for transport in Russia. The missing helicopter had picked up passengers near the Vachkazhets ancient volcano in a scenic area of the peninsula

known for its wild landscapes and active volcanoes.

A source in the emergency services told TASS news agency that the helicopter disappeared from radar almost immediately after taking off and the crew did not report any problems.

The local weather service said that there was poor visibility in the area of the airport.

Accidents involving planes and helicopters are very frequent in Russia's far eastern region, which is sparsely populated and where there is often harsh weather.

In August 2021, a Mi-8 helicopter with 16 people on board including 13 tourists crashed into a lake in Kamchatka due to poor visibility, killing eight. In July the same year, a plane crashed as it came in to land on the peninsula, with 22 passengers and 6 crew aboard, all of whom were killed.—RT/Agency

PTI Has No Idea About Formation Of Government Committee For Negotiations: Barrister Gohar

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan said on Saturday that his party had no idea about the formation of the government for negotiation.

Expressing his thoughts, Khan said, "Nobody has told us about the formation of the government committee. It is a good thing that the committee has been formed for the negotiations."

Khan said: "From our side, it is up to Mahmood Khan Achakzai to hold talks with the government. We have no objections to Mahmood Khan's talks with the government. We will look forward to proposals brought forward by Mahmood Achakzai after holding talks with the government."

"The PTI founder had also given the permission to Mahmood Khan Achakzai to



hold talks with the government weeks ago," he said.

Few days back, the PTI announced on Sunday that it is postponing its Lahore rally originally scheduled to take place on August 27.

According to PTI Punjab Information Secretary Shaukat Basra, the party's current focus is solely on the Islamabad rally, which was also recently resched-

uled. The new date for the Lahore rally will be announced following the Islamabad event. The Islamabad rally, initially set for August 22, has been postponed to September 8 on the direction of the PTI founder and at the request of the Islamabad administration. The administration has issued a new No Objection Certificate (NOC) for the revised date.—RT/Agency

'PPP Is Playing An Active Role In Punjab', Says Kaira

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) senior leader Qamar Zaman Kaira said on Saturday that his party was playing an "active role" in Punjab and at the national level.

According to details, Kaira called on Punjab Governor Saleem Haider in Lahore. On this occasion, the Punjab governor stated: "The doors of the Governor House are open for all the political parties."

Moreover, both the leaders had also discussed the matters in line with their mutual interests. —Insufficient relief for KP people—



Earlier on Friday, Kaira rued the "insufficient relief" for the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in the last 10 years during the tenure of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI).

Expressing his thoughts, Kaira said: "Today, the country is facing the challenges resources to provide the masses with the relief." Kaira added.—RT/Agency

Nawaz Tasks Shehbaz, Sanaullah To Negotiate With Opposition

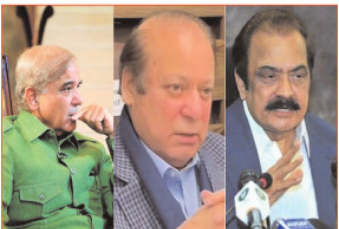
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supremo Nawaz Sharif on Saturday assigned Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Rana Sanaullah to negotiate with the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI).

According to details, PML-N President Nawaz Sharif and Maryam Nawaz were opposed to negotiating with the PTI. Meanwhile, the PML-N supremo had given the party the greenlight to negotiate with the like-minded other parties within the opposition.

Sources revealed that the PML-N huddle agreed to hold the local government elections.

Meanwhile, PML-N stalwart Ayaz Sadiq suggested: "The negotiations can take place with the PTI leaders with good timing."

Separately, Federal Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal disclosed on Saturday that former prime minister Nawaz Sharif has directed the



federal and Punjab governments to reduce expenses and provide relief to the public.

The instructions were issued during a consultative meeting of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), which was chaired by Nawaz.

During the meeting, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Federal Energy Minister Awaiz Leghari provided a detailed briefing on ongoing reforms in the energy sector.

The focus of these reforms, they said, is to ensure the supply of afford-

able and uninterrupted electricity to the people.

The PML-N supremo emphasised the need for stringent oversight of government expenditure, instructing both the federal and provincial administrations to identify areas where savings can be made and redirect those funds towards public welfare initiatives. "Just as we resolved the energy crisis in 2013, we must tackle this challenge with the same resolve and prevent the public from suffering," Nawaz Sharif said.—RT/Agency