

# The REGIONAL TIMES Of Sindh

Uniting People Every Day



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## Khawaja Asif Criticizes PTI For Seeking NRO From Establishment

ISLAMABAD: Slamming the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) for not seeking negotiations with political parties, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif on Monday said that Imran Khan-founded party was begging for a "NRO-like deal" from the establishment. [PTI spokesperson] Raouf Hasan is begging for an NRO from those who they believe wield real powers," the defence czar said while speaking on the National Assembly floor.

His remarks came in response to Hasan's interview to Voice of America (VOA), wherein the PTI leader "hoped and prayed" that the deadlock between the military and his party does not continue any longer.

"In the interest of the state, it is imperative that PTI and the establishment engage in dialogue," he said, adding that the party had not left any stone unturned to "end this stalemate".

The former ruling party has long maintained stance that it will only hold talks with the powers that be instead of the political parties.

Today, Asif said that Imran Khan "only wanted" to negotiate with the establishment and seeking the NRO, clarifying that the government has no objection



with whom they want to be engaged.

Reminding the PTI that their past benefactor are no more in power, the defence minister said: "This is a new system with a new leadership."

The defence minister said the embattled party is looking towards establishment for relief and reiterating negotiations with the Imran Khan-founded party cannot take place until they apologised for the May 9 murders and terrorism.

However, the minister asked Pashtunkhwa Milli Awami Party (PKMAP) Chairman Mehmood Khan Achakzai — who had been tasked by PTI founder in this regard — will he hold negotiations with the establishment?

"They [PTI] say Achakzai heads the opposition alliance [Tehreek-e-Tahafuz-e-Ain-e-Pakistan] and he will negotiate," he said, asking them to decide

## Senate Bill Proposes Increasing Supreme Court Judges To 20, Excluding Chief Justice

ISLAMABAD: Seeking an amendment to the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1997, a bill was tabled in the Senate on Monday to increase the number of judges in the Supreme Court to 20 — other than the chief justice — to address the rising number of pending cases.

The bill titled "Supreme Court (Number of Judges) (Amendment) Act", 2024, was presented by an independent senator from Balochistan, Mohammad Abdul Qadir.

He sought the increase in the number of top court judges from 17 to 21 as



"more than 53,000 cases" pending in the apex court.

According to the bill, a copy of which is available with Geo News, the number of judges of the top court other than the chief justice

shall be 20.

It further stated: "The Supreme Court has four jurisdictions original, appellate, advisory, and review being diverse and demanding, contributing to the continuous accumulation of cases."

"With economic growth and social changes, the complexity and variety of cases have increased," it pointed out. It stressed: "This backlog, combined with the complexities of integrating the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (Fata) into Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, necessitates more judicial resources."

Speaking on the floor of the upper house, Senator Abdul Qadir called for appointing "at least 16 judges" to the top court, saying that several constitutional matters were being referred to the top court.

"Larger benches are formed and these judges look into the constitutional matters," he added.

Not only constitutional cases, but several cases related to financial matters worth billions were also pending in the top court as it does not have time to hear these cases, the senator claimed.

"Our judicial system is lowest on the [global] ranking," he added.

Federal Minister for Law and Justice Azam Nazeer Tarar also backed the legislation and suggested forwarding the new bill to the relevant committee.—RT/Agency

## Imran Open To Talks With Key Decision-Makers, Highlights May 9 As Pivotal For Government

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder, Imran Khan, has expressed his willingness to engage in dialogue, stating that discussions will take place only with those who make the decisions.

During a conversation with journalists at Adiala Jail, Imran Khan remarked that May 9 is their "insurance policy."

He further claimed that if May 9 is disregarded, the government and its politics will come to an end.

He suggested forming a judicial commission to investigate the events of May 9.

"Whenever the topic of negotiations arises, they start making noise about May 9. We are always ready for talks. We will speak with those who make the decisions," he added.

Imran Khan also mentioned that his potential appointment as Chancellor of Oxford University would be a matter of pride for Pakistan.

However, he stated that even if he doesn't become Chancellor, it wouldn't be an issue.

He highlighted his achievements in cricket and philanthropy, noting



that he is Pakistan's biggest philanthropist, having established two hospitals and two universities, with a third university currently under construction.

Khan also claimed there were two upcoming entries in the Guinness Book of World Records.

The first, he claimed, would be for the "U-turn" where the slogan "Respect the Vote" was replaced with "Respect the Boot."

Imran Khan, when in power himself was described a "master of U-turn" which he had claimed was a "hallmark of great leadership."

He criticized Nawaz Sharif for his previous stance against the mili-

## Shehbaz Calls For Strengthening Key Sector Partnerships With China



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday expressed satisfaction over the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics report, which announced that inflation had fallen to single digits in August 2024.

"With the grace of Allah, the hard work of the government's economic team is bearing fruit," the prime minister said in a statement issued by Prime Minister's Office.

According to data released by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) earlier in the day, the country's consumer price index (CPI) rose by 9.6 per cent year-on-year (YoY) in August, marking a 34-month low.

The inflation rate dropping to 9.6% in August is a reflection of the government's efforts to improve the economy, the prime minister said.

"This is the lowest inflation rate in the past three years, and credit goes to the tireless work of our economic team," he added.

He noted that the reduction in inflation aligns with the Ministry of Finance's economic outlook report, which had forecasted inflation to be between 9.5% and 10.5%

## Prime Minister Expresses Relief As Pakistan's Inflation Falls To Single Digits

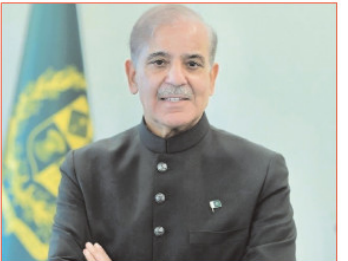


lenging period.

The prime minister praised the Chinese leadership's vision to consistently enhance Pakistan-China strategic relations and collaboration on upgrading the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

He emphasized that the friendship between Pakistan and China is essential not only for both nations but also for regional and global peace and development.

Deputy Prime Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister Tariq Fatemi, and other relevant officials were also present in the meeting.—RT/Agency



for August 2024.

"The prediction by economic experts of a further reduction in inflation in September is no less than good news for the nation," Shehbaz stated.

The prime minister recalled that inflation was in single digits in 2018 as well. "Between 2018 and the next four years, the economy suffered due to criminal negligence and anti-people policies, leading to record inflation and causing hardship for the public," he remarked.

"We sacrificed our politics to save the national economy from bankruptcy," Shehbaz declared.

He praised his economic team's efforts, saying their hard work had not only stabilised the economy but also set it on a path towards growth.

"After taking on the responsibilities as a servant of Pakistan, I made a promise to the people that I would not rest until their difficulties were alleviated," Shehbaz said.

"By the grace of Almighty Allah, we are moving towards fulfilling that promise." The prime minister emphasised that the positive outcomes of the government's economic reforms are beginning to reach the people in the form of prosperity.

"The goal of Pakistan's development cannot be achieved without improving the lives of ordinary citizens and ensuring their economic well-being," he concluded.—RT/Agency



ISLAMABAD: PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari is seen with CM Balochistan Sarfraz Bugti after reviewing the law and order conditions of the province.—Photo by Fahim Soomro

## JI Aims To Address Political Void, Says Hafiz Naem

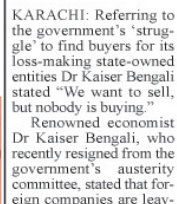


LAHORE: Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Emir Hafiz Naemur Rehman on Monday slammed the government for imposing scores of taxes on the already weighed down salaried class while exempting the owners of the Independent Power Producers (IPPs).

He made these remarks during a press conference in Lahore. Rehman announced that his party would start a mass drive this month in which it intended its membership to expand as high as five million.

He said that the JI was

## Dr. Kaiser Bengali: No Buyers For Loss-Making State-Owned Enterprises



KARACHI: Referring to the government's "struggle" to find buyers for its loss-making state-owned entities Dr Kaiser Bengali stated "We want to sell, but nobody is buying."

Renowned economist Dr Kaiser Bengali, who recently resigned from the government's austerity committee, stated that foreign companies are leaving the country, and despite efforts to sell institutions, there are no buyers.

During a press conference in Karachi, Dr Kaiser Bengali declared that the country is bankrupt, with no loans being offered and foreign companies exiting.

He emphasised the need for urgent measures, noting that while they are trying to sell institutions, there are no buyers.

The economist highlighted that small industries are shutting down, while large industries can afford generators, small ones cannot. To promote industries, taxes need to be reduced, and interest rates must be lowered to save the industry.

Dr Kaiser Bengali mentioned that he has been advocating for reduced expenses and imports for the past 10 years. He stated that closing institutions will not solve

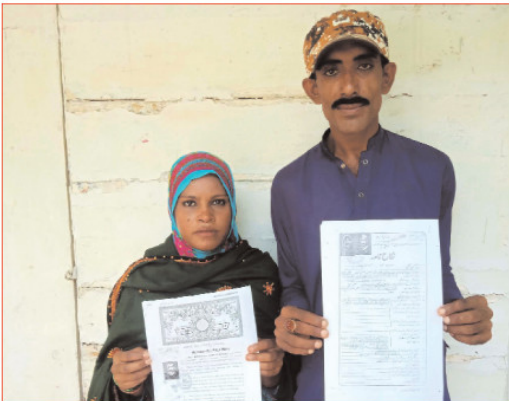


the problems and that he is presenting facts, not supporting anyone. He expressed support for providing employees and advised the prime minister to close institutions without laying off employees immediately.

He said the government was protecting the jobs of higher-grade officers who are the actual burden on the state while laying off lower-cadre employees in an attempt to cut costs.

Dr Kaiser Bengali also addressed the complex issue of Independent Power Producers (IPPs), noting that with 100 companies having different terms of agreement, resolving the issue is challenging unless the companies agree.—RT/Agency

# THE HEARTLAND



HYDERABAD: Newlyweds belonging to Dadu District, who were married on their freewill, are protesting at the Hyderabad press club for the provision of protection.-RT

## MPA Barrister Pir Mujeeb, LUMHS VC Prof Dr Ikramuddin Ujjan resolve power supply issue at DHQ Hospital Dadu

By Javed Laghari

DADU: An express power feeder connection has been installed at the DHQ 435-bed hospital. The LUMHS administration has acquired the express power feeder at a cost of approximately 4.5 crore rupees. MPA Barrister Pir Mujeeb-ul-Haq personally supervised the installation of the power connection. During this event, the Assistant Commissioner of Dadu, Shahnavaz Mirani, DHO Dadu Syed Imdad Hussain Shah, MS Dr. Amjad Hussain Mastoi, Mukhtiar Kar Dadu Sheeraz Panjwar and SEPCO officers monitored the power supply to the hospital. On the other hand, following the efforts of the Vice Chancellor of Liaquat University of Medical and Health Sciences, Professor Dr. Ikramuddin Ujjan, and the Medical Superintendent of DHQ Hospital Dadu, Dr. Amjad Hussain Mastoi, elec-



tricity has now been connected to the new DHQ hospital building. The emergency ward, general OPD, blood bank, digital X-ray, and laboratory are also being shifted to the new building. MS Dr. Amjad Mastoi stated to the media that once the new DHQ hospital is fully operational, it will provide

## Sarfraz Ahmed Bhatti of All Sindh Revenue Employees' Union passes away in TMK



By Abdul Sattar

TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: The former President of Tando Muhammad Khan Press Club, Central Information Secretary of All Sindh Revenue Employees' Union and Office Superintendent of Land Record Office, Sarfraz Ahmed Bhatti passed away on Monday. The body of the deceased was laid to rest at Pir Sharfo

Graveyard after performing his funeral prayers which were attended by journalists, civil society leaders, government officials and a large number of people belonging to different walks of life. It is worth mentioning that MPA Syed Aijaz Hussain Shah Sheerazi, Sardar Shah, Dr Ahmed Noonari and other area notables offered condolence over the sad demise of Late Sarfraz Ahmed Bhatti.



LARKANA: Members and leaders of the local Gadhi community are holding a protest demonstration at Jinnah Bagh for the release of missing Azad Ali Gadhi.-RT

## Advocate Rashid Munawar Khanzada donates books to Shah Latif Public Library Sakrand

By Zeeshan Soomro

SAKRAND: Deputy Commissioner of Shaheed Benazirabad, Shehryar Gul Memon, stated that libraries are the hallmarks of vibrant nations, and those who have loved books have achieved great success. He expressed these views during a ceremony at the Shah Latif Public Library in Sakrand, where Advocate Rashid Munawar Khanzada donated 200 books to the library in honor of the former President of Sakrand Press Club, Qazi Javed Sanai. Shehryar Gul Memon remarked that after visiting the library and hearing about its activities, it became clear that students are benefiting from the library's resources. He suggested including the young man, Khem Chand, in the library committee so that he can address the needs of students and communicate any issues, such as the need



for specific books, to those who can help resolve them. The event was attended by Vice Chairman Ali Bux Mallah, Town Officer Ghulam Murtaza Shah, Accounts Officer Ali Sher Magsi, Syed Ehsan Ali Shah, Ghulam Nabi Chohan, Muhammad Hanif Soomro, Amjad Khanzada, Shamshad Mallah, Javed Soomro, and several other notable individuals from the town.

## Two Talhar villagers drown in accumulated rainwater



TALHAR: In the neighboring village of Saindad Lashari near Talhar, 10-year-old Zoya Lashari, daughter of Haji Khan Lashari, drowned in standing rainwater near her home after slipping. The child's family and villagers staged a protest on the Hyderabad-Badin Road with the body of the deceased, blocking the road and raising strong slogans against the administration. The villagers claimed that the administration had not yet re-dug the rainwater from the village and the entire village is submerged. Meanwhile, in the village of Ghanwar Khan Jamali, 50-year-old Shafi Muhammad Jamali, a father of five, also drowned in the rainwater.—RT

## Ph.D seminar highlights training needs of apple value chain in Balochistan



By Irfan Ali Khushk

TANDO JAM: Syed Taimoor Shah, a scholar from the Department of Agricultural Education, Extension & Short Courses at Sindh Agriculture University Tando Jam, presented his final Ph.D seminar on the training needs analysis of intermediaries in the apple value chain in Balochistan. The seminar was presided over by Vice Chancellor Dr. Fateh Marri, and the speakers highlighted the significance of the apple value chain. In his presentation, Ph.D. scholar Syed Taimoor Shah noted that 11 districts in Balochistan are major apple producers, and his research focused on 6 of these districts. His findings revealed that the best commercial apple varieties are grown in these areas, and if farmers receive training in supply chain management, value chain shelf life, and export of high-

quality varieties, both the farmers and the province of Balochistan could see significant development. Vice Chancellor Dr. Fateh Marri praised the scholar's research, stating that it identifies a critical gap in agricultural activities, specifically the training needs of individuals involved in the apple value chain. This work not only has the potential to improve apple production and marketing in Balochistan but also offers guidance on the possible opportunities for apple cultivation in Sindh. Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural Social Sciences, Dr. Aijaz Ali Khuharo, emphasized that the research identifies key training gaps and proposes strategies to improve the apple value chain in Balochistan, which could support economic growth and strengthen the local economy. Prof. Dr. Badar Nasseem

## Seminar held on implementation of Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013 in Sindh

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: In Umerkot, a seminar was held at the District Population Welfare Office, organized by the Sukar Welfare Organization, Indus Resource Centre, and Chanan Development Association under the Young Umang Project. The seminar aimed to promote advocacy and awareness regarding the implementation of the Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013 Sindh. At the seminar, District Population Welfare Officer, Abdul Hamid Memon, National Lobbying Delegation member Sarupchand Malhi, Sukar Welfare Organization's Muhammad Bakhsh Kumhar, social organization CWSA's Eidul Kumhar, Project Manager Madam Saba Randhawa, Dr. Pooja Khatri, staff from the Population Welfare Department, doctors, civil society organizations, and government stakeholders participated. During the seminar, District Population Welfare Officer Abdul Hamid



Memon addressed the attendees, emphasizing that in every society, children hold a social and moral status. In modern times, protecting children's rights is outlined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), which mentions basic rights for children. He highlighted that early marriages push girls towards gender inequality, poverty, and domestic violence. The lack of education for girls means that even if they attend school, they are

## ANF appoints Talhar's Faizan Shafiq Jamali as a Youth Ambassador against drugs



TALHAR: Faizan Shafiq Jamali, a youth and student leader from Talhar, has been appointed as the Honorary Ambassador of Sindh by the Anti-Narcotics Force Sindh for running an awareness campaign to eliminate drugs from educational institutions. On this occasion, a ceremony was held at the Anti-Narcotics Force Regional Director's Office in Karachi, where Brigadier Muhammad Umar Farooq, Faizan Shafiq Jamali on receiving this honor.—RT

## DC, SSP Khairpur call on SALU VC Prof. Dr. Muhammad Yousif Khushk

By Naeem Shaikh

KHAIRPUR: Syed Fawad Ahmed Shah, Deputy Commissioner Khairpur and Dr. Samiullah Soomro, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Khairpur called on Prof. Dr. Muhammad Yousif Khushk, Vice Chancellor, Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur to extend their heartfelt felicitations on his appointment as the Vice Chancellor. In addition to offering their congratulations, different aspects of Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur were exchanged and brought under the discussion. During this meet and



greet session, the DC and SSP discussed potential areas of collaboration between the university and local administration, focusing on how both institutions can work together to ensure a secure and supportive environment for the university community. The meeting reflects the strong ties and mutual cooperation between the university and the district's administrative and law enforcement authorities.



LARKANA: Employees of the Sindh Solid Waste Management (SSWM) are holding a protest demonstration against the non-increase of their salaries, at the Larkana press club.-RT

## Crime on the rise in Tando Jam

By Irfan Ali Khushk

TANDO JAM: Near Tando Jam, on the Jam Samo Link Road, unknown armed robbers used weapons to threaten and rob Melvi Abdul Hakeem Zardari, a confectionery vendor and resident of Kisanra Mori. They took his cash, valuable mobile phone, and confectionery goods before easily escaping. Last week, known robbers also used weapons to rob Ali Gohar Zardari of his motorcycle on the Darva Khan Nahiyon Link Road and fled. Despite informing the police, no action has been taken by the authorities, leaving poor people dis-

# REGIONAL TIMES NATIONAL



## PTA To Deactivate SIMs For Users With Expired CNICs

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) Monday said it will begin suspending mobile SIMs of users who have not renewed their Computerised National Identity Card (CNIC).

The authority's announcement comes as it begins the second phase of its operation to stop the illegal use of SIMs across Pakistan.

"Those whose ID cards have expired before 2017 and have not been renewed, their SIMs will be suspended," said PTA in a statement issued today.

The authority has urged users to get their identity cards renewed to avoid getting their SIMs blocked.

It should be noted that PTA blocked fake SIMs and cancelled CNICs of citizens in the first phase after initiating the operation.

"Since August 16, more than 69,000 illegal SIMs have been blocked," the statement read, adding that the illegal SIMs are being



blocked on the basis of data obtained from National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra).

Meanwhile, the authority will terminate SIMs registered in the names of deceased persons during the third phase.

Before the blocking of mobile SIMs, awareness messages were sent to users, asking them to update relevant data.

The statement by the PTA maintained that fake SIMs are being used in various illegal activities including terrorism, financial fraud and other activities.

In the last three and a

## Barrister Saif Accuses Sharif Brothers Of Playing 'Good Cop, Bad Cop'



PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Adviser Barrister Saif said on Monday that division in both camps of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz was palpable during recent meeting of the party bigwigs at the Model Town Secretariat office.

In a statement, he said that PML-N president Nawaz Sharif wanted to extend olive branch to the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leadership while Shehbaz Sharif preferred persistent chaos on the political landscape, adding that the PM looked bizarre during the last meeting with his elder brother, which he said, was called after a long time.

He said both brothers were pursuing divergent paths to stay relevant in politics, adding that elder Sharif wanted to become premier for the fourth time by using narrative of reconciliation while younger Sharif was seeing his survival in persistent political uncertainty in the country. —RT/Agency

## Two Officers Injured In Terrorist Assault On Mianwali Checkpoint

MIANWALI: At least two policemen sustained injuries after more than a dozen terrorists attacked Qabool Khel police check post in Punjab's Mianwali on Monday.

According to a police spokesperson, about 12 to 14 khawarij attacked the check post with rockets and hand grenades.

However, the Punjab Police thwarted attack by the terrorists after which they escaped, said the spokesperson, adding that two cops were injured in the attack.

Following the incident, district police officer of Mianwali, Deputy Superintendent of Police Isa Khel reached the check post along with heavy personnel.

Last month, at least 12 policemen were martyred and six sustained injuries after bandits attacked their vans with rockets in a ravine area of Punjab's Rahim Yar Khan.

The horrific attack occurred in the Machka area located in one of Rahim Yar Khan's riverine areas.

Police officials told the media that two police vans



with more than 20 cops were trapped in rainwater in the locality when bandits launched rockets at them.

As a result of the fierce attack, a dozen cops were martyred while seven others were wounded and five went missing, the police added.

Pakistan has witnessed a surge in militant attacks since the Taliban government returned to power in neighbouring Afghanistan in 2021, mostly in the north-western border province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, but also in southwestern Balochistan, which abuts Afghanistan and Iran.

There were at least 170 militant attacks killing 151

## Punjab Government Partners With Huawei To Launch 'Smart Classroom' Initiative

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Sharif has unveiled the 'Smart Classroom' Project at the government Kinnaird Girls High School, Empress Road.

This cutting-edge initiative, developed in collaboration with Huawei, represents a major leap forward in transforming education in Punjab by integrating advanced technology into the classroom said a news release issued by Huawei on Monday.

Punjab government launches innovative 'Smart Classroom' project with Huawei. The Smart Classroom Project is a key component of the 'Back to School' enrollment campaign. It introduces state-of-the-art technology, including cameras that record lectures, allowing students to review and engage with lessons outside of class time. This initiative aims to enhance educational quality and make learning



more interactive and accessible. Huawei's support is remarkable for this project, highlighting its strong commitment to advancing educational innovation. By integrating Huawei's advanced technology, Punjab sets a new benchmark for educational excellence and technological integration in schools. Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz highlighted the significance of the project, stating, "Incorporating Huawei's technology into our classrooms is a testament to

our commitment to providing high-quality education to every student in Punjab. Our goal is to elevate every government school to the standards of the best private institutions." The initiative is also a part of Punjab's broader strategy to boost its IT industry and establish itself as a hub for technological innovation. The Smart Classroom Project aligns with the government's vision of nurturing talent and driving economic growth through technology. —RT/Agency

## SOUTHERN PUNJAB

### Gojra youth injured in bizarre porcupine attack

By Abid Mahmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: A 23-year-old youth named Ramzan, son of Latif, was severely injured in an unusual incident involving a porcupine in a nearby village of Gojra. The attack occurred when Ramzan was on his way to the fields from his home in village 363 JB Bahmaniwala. The porcupine attacked him suddenly, embedding its quills into his leg, causing serious injuries. The youth was rushed to the local



are hospital.

### SSP Riffat Bukhari receives prestigious international award

By Dr Mirza MB Qamar

GUJRANWALA: At the 61st annual conference held in Chicago, USA, SSP Riffat Bukhari was honored with a global award. SSP Riffat Bukhari is currently serving at the Punjab Safe Cities Authority. This award is given annually to a female police officer from around the world in recognition of her extraordinary services to society. Riffat Bukhari was awarded for her contributions to women's protection, artificial intelligence, intelligent traffic management, and the development of road safety mechanisms. The President of the International Association of Women Police, Debra Friedl, presented the award to SSP Riffat



Bukhari. The IG of Punjab, Dr. Usman Anwar and the MD of the Safe Cities Authority, Ahsan Younas, congratulated SSP Riffat Bukhari. Dr. Usman Anwar stated that SSP Riffat Bukhari's achievement is a source of pride for all police officers, especially female officers.

## Mohsin Naqvi Commends Punjab Police For Foiling Terrorist Attack

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi asserted that the Punjab police once again foiled an attack by Fitna Al-Khawarij terrorists.

Naqvi commended police for thwarting attack at the Mianwali check post.

Naqvi highlighted that brave police officers deployed in the Isakhel police station check post neutralised 14 cowardly terrorists.

Police personnel present at the check post gave a befitting reply to terrorists and after an exchange of fire, the terrorists escaped the scene while taking advantage of



darkness. He lauded the Punjab police officers' professional capabilities and courage for foiling the attack.

The interior minister stressed that police always displayed valour and courage

in war against terrorism. He hailed the police response to terrorist attack.

Two police officials suffered injuries when terrorists attacked Qabool Khan check post in Isakhel late on Sunday night. —RT/Agency

## THE HEARTLAND

### Jatoi community man shot dead in Pir Jo Goth

By AQ Khilji

PIR JO GOTH: In the Kot Mir Muhammad Faiz Muhammad Bindo Police jurisdiction, a body was found at Odha Mor, which

has been identified as Alam Attaran Jatoi. The victim's family alleges that members of the Uro community have killed their one man and kidnapped two others. Faiz

Muhammad Bindo police transported the body to the hospital for a post-mortem examination. After the autopsy the body was handed over to the family.

### Bethak Group hosts a reception for Jhudo's working class

By Shahid Majood

JHUDO: The Bethak Group of Jhudo organized a ceremony in honor of the laborers and working class people. During the recent rains, the group took emergency measures to drain rainwater from all areas of Jhudo and improve the city's sanitation system. For the first time in a long while, the city was kept safe from rainwater through round-the-clock hard work. In recognition of their efforts, the Bethak

Group of Jhudo honored Town Chairman Mir Kamran Talpur, Vice Chairman Zafar Arain, Town Officer Mir Atif Talpur, and sanitation staff members Akram Qaimkhani, Javed Memon, Ali Wighamal and other department heads by presenting them with Ajrak (traditional Sindh shawls). The ceremony was attended by supporters of the Bethak Group, including Haji Nisar Khan, Abdul Salam Arif, DSP Rafiq Qaimkhani, Rafiq Rajput, Mumtaz Memon, Master

Shaukat, Sabir Amin, Javed Zafar, Imran Nagori, and others. On this occasion, the distinguished guests praised the Town Chairman and the Town Officer, among others, for their immense efforts and hard work. They acknowledged their significant role in draining the city's water and relieving the citizens from distress. Town Chairman Mir Kamran Talpur, Zafar Arain, and Javed Zafar also expressed their appreciation for their staff.

### 1st anniversary of The Bright Future School celebrated in Toba Tek Singh

By Abid Mahmood Ch



TOBA TEK SINGH: The first anniversary of The Bright Future School 330 Stop Campus was celebrated at a private hotel. The teachers, students and their parents along with officials of different departments attended the celebra-

tions. Director of the school Muhammad Usman Akhtar Principal, Adnan Akhtar said that the institute has completed one year it has services with the support of the staff of the school. The participants of the program took a cake and prayed for the progress of The Bright Future School.

### Robbers Caught In Islamabad Using Government-Issued Firearms In Heist

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad's Rawat police station arrested two suspects involved in an armed robbery and recovered government-issued weapons from their possession, media reported on Monday.

During investigation, the arrested robbers revealed shocking details, stated that the weapon and wireless has been provided by two

counter Terrorism Department (CTD) officers, Tariq Mehmood and Mohammad Imran, appointed in Islamabad.

The two robbers reportedly used government weapons and wireless communication devices to carry out a robbery at a petroleum agency in the federal capital. Last month, a similar in-

cident was reported where other federal police officers were dismissed from service for aiding and abetting robbers involved in armed heists.

An inquiry into the matter revealed that these officers were actively facilitating criminal activities, leading to their dismissal from their jobs. —RT/Agency

### Three Dead As Passenger Bus Crushed In Kohistan Landslide

GILGIT: A tragic landslide struck a bus traveling from Rawalpindi to Hunza on the Karakoram Highway in Kohistan, resulting in the deaths of three passengers and injuries to two others, media reported on Monday.

The bus, carrying 55 passengers, was en route from Rawalpindi to Gilgit and Hunza when the landslide occurred.

Rescue teams responded swiftly, transporting the injured to DHQ Hospital for medical assistance, mean-



while, the remaining passengers were reported to be safe.

Aziz Ahmad Jamali, Managing Director of Northern Areas Transport Corporation (NETCO), confirmed the incident, expressing deep sorrow for the victims. —RT/Agency

### WAPDA Workers Threaten To Cut Power Supply In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

PESHAWAR: Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) workers threatened to suspend the electricity supply in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, media reported.

All Pakistan WAPDA Workers' Union staged a protest demonstration outside Press Club Peshawar against attack on the staff in Swabi.

The protesters said one of their staffer was killed and other sustained wounds in at-

tack in Swabi. The workers demanded a three-day deadline to the police for the arrest of attackers else threatened to suspend power supply across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, a province.

In a separate development, WAPDA in the tune of 3.266 billion units helped save national exchequer an amount of Rs. 143.7 billion, if the same quantum of electricity had to be generated through imported furnace oil. —RT/Agency

### Continuous increase in LBOD's water level posing a threat to Badin

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: After the continuous increase in water level and pressure on weak embankments in the country's largest drainage sluice LBOD the local growers and stakeholders protested against the excavation and non-repair of the weak embankments. Following the recent heavy rains across Sindh, the country's largest

drainage basins (LBOD) including Left Bank Outfall Drain, Amir Shah Goni Outfall Drain, Karo Ghaghara Drain, Mir Wah Talhar Outfall Drain, Luarn Sharif Drain, Shaikh Manzoor Drain, Sirami Drain and other Link Sewer Drains are increasing the water level due to the drainage of rainwater and the water pressure on the weak embankments is also

increasing, due to which the sewers often collapse. Besides water overflowing from the weak embankments of the canals and entering the nearby areas, the agricultural lands and villages were submerged due to the breaches in the three canals in different areas, while the Meteorological Department once again predicted the total of the new rain system.

# EDITORIAL

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

Tuesday, September 03, 2024



## Inflation Rate Drop: A Mirage for the Common Man

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's recent announcement of Pakistan's inflation rate dropping to 9.6% in August 2024 may seem like a cause for celebration. However, for the average Pakistani struggling to make ends meet, this drop in inflation is far from a victory. The prime minister's satisfaction over these figures highlights a growing disconnect between the government and the reality faced by millions of citizens.

Inflation statistics, while technically accurate, often fail to reflect the lived experiences of the common man. A single-digit inflation rate does not erase the months or years of soaring prices that have already eroded the purchasing power

of ordinary Pakistanis. Food, fuel, and essential commodities have become increasingly unaffordable, and the slight dip in inflation does little



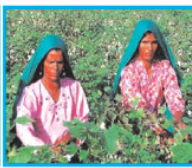
to alleviate the financial burden that has accumulated over time. The reduction in inflation might ease the government's economic report cards, but it doesn't fill the empty plates on dinner tables across the nation.

Moreover, the government's focus on the inflation rate as a metric of success ignores the broader context of economic hardship. Unem-

ployment remains high, wages stagnant, and the cost of living continues to rise. For those living paycheck to paycheck, a decrease in inflation offers little solace when their incomes have not kept pace with the cost of survival.

The reality is that a statistical drop in inflation does not translate into real relief for the common man. It is essential that the government not only acknowledges these figures but also addresses the systemic issues that keep the majority of Pakistanis trapped in a cycle of poverty and economic insecurity. Celebrating a modest drop in inflation without tackling these deeper problems is like offering a band-aid for a wound that requires stitches.

# THE HEARTLAND



## Dr. Abid Rasool Hashmi pays tribute to martyrs of Kalabagh Azadari

By Dildar Samo

TANDO ADAM: In a condolence statement, Dr. Abid Rasool Hashmi, Vice President of the Shia Ulema Council Pakistan and a district leader, paid tribute to the martyrs of Kalabagh Azadari and extended condolences to their families. He cautioned against interpreting their peacefulness as weakness, stating that the Shia community played a fundamental role in the establishment of this country. He warned that any attempt to disrupt the peace and stability of the country through nefarious plots would be met with resistance, and they would sacrifice to protect the nation. Dr. Hashmi declared that the mourning for Syed al-Shuhada Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) is a central aspect of their lives and that it is a vital platform for unity and a vibrant movement for the



revival of Islam. Any restrictions or limitations on mourning practices are unacceptable. He asserted that they are the heirs of Karbala and that their tradition has sacrificed countless lives to uphold the practice of mourning. He further noted that the district police had not been negligent in Kalabagh, these young lives would not have been lost. He called for immediate action to be taken.

## Rescued NWM woman presented in edited court

By Yousef Rind



NAWAB WALI MUHAMMAD: Two days ago, a woman named Hameeda Lashari, who had been rescued from a home in the limits of Mirzapur Police Station's village of Ismail Bhand, was presented in the court in Daultpur. After giving a statement in favor of returning home with her father, her father, Mehrab Lashari, was handed over to him. During a media interaction, both Hameeda Lashari and her father Mehrab Lashari explained that Hameeda had been subjected to abuse by her husband, Sharif Jamali, who is a harvester from Haji

Khan Bhand. After floods hit their village, Sharif Jamali's family had moved to the government hospital in Ismail Bhand. Feeling distressed by her husband's abuse, Hameeda took refuge in a local house. Mirzapur Police later rescued her and transferred her to the Women's Police Station in Nawabshah. Hameeda had been married to Sharif Jamali a year ago with the consent of her family. According to Mirzapur Police, Hameeda was presented before the Daultpur Magistrate, where she stated her desire to return home with her father. Following her statement, her father was given custody of her.

## Livestock Dept vaccinates 1,000 animals at the farm houses of elected representatives

By Munawar Chandio



JAMSHORO: The Deputy Director of Livestock and Animal Husbandry, District Jamshoro, Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Siyal, has stated that they are providing better medical facilities for animals to ensure they do not contract any diseases due to seasonal changes. He made this statement while administering vaccinations, medicines, and insecticide sprays to over 1,000 animals at the farms of MNA Malik Asad Sikandar, MPA Dr. Sikandar Ali Shoro, and former District Council Vice Chairman Sadiq Ali Shoro. On this occasion, Deputy Director Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Siyal mentioned that monsoon rains can lead to deadly diseases in animals, for which the Livestock De-

partment of Jamshoro is actively performing their duties efficiently and a Rain Emergency Cell has also been established at the Livestock Department's Jamshoro office. Accompanying Deputy Director Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Siyal were Additional Director Asghar Ali Memon, Focal Person Dr. Riaz Ahmed Channa, Dr. Amjad Ali, Manzoor Hussain Khushi, Abdullah, and others across the district are.

## Rain affected people of Taluka Jhando Marri demand relief

By Afaq Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: The residents of Taluka Jhando Marri protested against the failure to drain rainwater, despite the Sindh government's declared rain emergency. They expressed frustration that, even after the severe rainfall that devastated their area, the district administration has not taken action. The villagers have been forced to take to the streets in protest against the district and taluka administration. The villagers highlighted that many roads in their area are still submerged under water. The villages including Channesar Khaskheli, Nizam Khaskheli, Foto Khaskheli, Bilal Marri and others remain inundated. Despite the floodwaters in these villages, the adminis-



tration is draining water from the lands of influential individuals while blocking the drainage channels leading from their villages. The protesters noted that for the past two days, a focal person appointed by the Chief Minister of Sindh has been touring the Jhando Marri area, but the actual progress of this tour remains unclear. They also criticized their elected representatives for not addressing their issues. The villagers urged the Chief Minister of Sindh and the DC of Tando Allahyar to take immediate action to drain the standing rainwater from their affected villages and to carry out mosquito spraying to alleviate their suffering.

## Awami Tehreek and Sindhi Students Tehreek organize a study circle in KGM

By Maqbool Dal



KOT GHULAM MUHAMMAD: A study circle was organized by the Awami Tehreek and Sindhi Students Tehreek, where the master-terpiece essay "This System is Corrupt, Revolution" written by the esteemed Rasool Bux Palijo was read. There was a vigorous discussion on the oppressive and anti-people system and its enabler, feudal politics, in which the youth actively participated. Sajjan Kumar led off by discussing the importance of study circles in revolutionary labor organizations, and Dr. Rasool Sagar Kumar, Abdul Hafeez Sinehro, Daniyal Thebo, Allah Dino

Khaskheli, Amrat Malhi, Abdul Haseeb Nondani, Sher Nondani, Parkash Kumar, Lonaram, Usman Bhurgri, Ramzan Sheikh, and Dilip Kumar. There was a vigorous discussion on the oppressive and anti-people system and its enabler, feudal politics, in which the youth actively participated. Sajjan Kumar led off by discussing the importance of study circles in revolutionary labor organizations, and Dr. Rasool Sagar Kumar, Abdul Hafeez Sinehro, Daniyal Thebo, Allah Dino

## Arrangements for Milad-e-Mustafa (SAWW) reviewed in NWM

By Yousef Rind

NAWAB WALI MUHAMMAD: A meeting was held at the Roshan-ul-Uloom School in the central mosque of Nawab Wali Muhammad city with the participation of citizens and various villagers to fully celebrate the Milad-e-Mustafa (SAWW). The meeting was presided over

by Hafiz Taj Muhammad Rahu. During the meeting, various citizens and villagers from Nawab Wali Muhammad and nearby areas, including Hafiz Raza Muhammad Rahu, Hafiz Ihsan Rahu, Hafiz Misri Rahu, Hafiz Ashiq Hussain Bughio, Hafiz Khair Muhammad Dehitho, Ghulam Murtaza Rind, Sajjad Rind, journalist Ijaz

Ali Sangrah, President of the Citizens Action Committee of Nawab Wali Muhammad, Yusuf Rind, Dr. Allah Rakhio Kalhoro, and others, spoke. They stated that all friends assured their full participation and cooperation to ensure the success of the Milad-e-Mustafa rally on the morning of 11th Rabi' al-Awwal.

## Khanpur Mahar's growers demand restoration of water supply to Bambli Canal

By Shad Mahar

KHANPUR MAHAR: In Khanpur Mahar, farmers from various areas, led by Umed Ali Siyal, Imdad Siyal, Ali Hassan Siyal, Bashir Mahar, Allah Dino Malik, and others, staged a protest and sit-in at the Thakrah Bridge, chanting slogans. The farmers claimed that irrigation officials have cut off the water supply from the Bambli Canal

for the past one and a half months, using the pretext of recent rains. Due to this water shortage, their rice crops are drying up and being destroyed. Despite repeatedly lodging complaints, no action has been taken. The farmers further alleged that irrigation officials are demanding bribes to release water into the Bambli Canal, and those who refuse to pay are being denied water. They pointed out that

influential individuals are operating their pumps and irrigating their lands, while poor farmers are being subjected to injustice. They warned that if water is not released into the Bambli Canal in time, their crops will be completely destroyed, resulting in losses worth millions of rupees. The farmers demanded immediate action to release water into the Bambli Canal to prevent economic losses.

## Thatta Police arrest 9 during ongoing operations

By Khuda Bux Brohi

THATTA: In a series of targeted operations, the Thatta Police, acting under the directives of SSP Thatta, Dr. Muhammad Imran, have successfully apprehended a notorious criminal and seized significant quantities of illegal substances. The operations were part of an ongoing effort to combat crime in the district. Acting on a tip-off, the police conducted a raid near the Abdullah Shah Ashabi's (RA) shrine, where a group of criminals was reportedly planning a crime. Upon arrival, the police team confronted the suspects, resulting in an exchange of gunfire. During the encounter, an active criminal, Qadir Mallah, was apprehended in an injured condition and a pis-

tol was recovered from his possession. However, some of his accomplices managed to escape under the cover of darkness. Initial investigations have revealed that Mallah was involved in multiple cases of bike snatching and robbery. The police have obtained his criminal record and continue to investigate. As part of this ongoing crackdown, Inspector Mubeen Parhyar, SHO of Dhabaji Police Station led a team in conducting a series of successful raids across Dhabaji Market City. These operations resulted in the arrest of seven Gutka sellers Abdul Ghaffar Burro, Raja Burro, Akhtiar Burro, Hafeez Shah, Murad Shah, Anwar Shaikh and Javed Burro as well as one drug dealer, Nadir Burro. The police confiscated 1,100 grams of hashish, 550 packets of Gutka Mawa, and various materials used in the production of Gutka from the possession of the arrested suspects. Cases have been registered against them at Dhabaji Police Station under the Gutka Act and the Narcotics Act. The successful operations have been widely commended by social, religious, and political groups in District Thatta. Citizens have praised IG Sindh Ghulam Nabi Memon, DIG Hyderabad Range Tariq Razzaq Dharejo, SSP Thatta Dr. Muhammad Imran Khan, SHO Dhabaji Inspector Mubeen Parhyar, and the entire police team for their continued dedication to combating crime and ensuring public safety in the region.

# SPORTS



## Ahmed Shehzad slams Pakistan over dramatic collapse against Bangladesh



LAHORE: Pakistan Test cricketer Ahmed Shehzad expressed his disappointment over the national men's team's performance in the ongoing two-match home Test series against Bangladesh. Shehzad, in a video posted on X, formerly Twitter, slammed Pakistan for letting Bangladesh make a plethora of records in the Test series against Bangladesh. Bangladesh pacers wreaked havoc in the first session of the recently concluded Day 4 of the second Test, taking four key wickets to leave Pakistan reeling at 117-6 at Lunch. Wicketkeeper batter Mohammad Rizwan and all-rounder Salman Ali Agha offered some resilience with their gutsy 43 and 47 knocks before the home side was booked on a modest total of 172, setting Bangladesh a 185-run target to claim their first-ever clean sweep victory over Pakistan in Tests. Reacting to Pakistan's

## Pak vs Ban: Bangladesh in control of 2nd Test as rain ends play on day four

RAWALPINDI: The rain ended play on day four after Bangladesh scored 42/0 while chasing 185 against Pakistan in the second Test at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium on Monday. Zakir Hasan has been the aggressor in the run chase, scoring 23-ball 31 while Shadman Islam has scored 9\*. Bangladesh need 143 runs more to win the second Test as well as the series. Earlier, Bangladesh bowled out Pakistan for 172 after pacers Hasan Mahmud and Nahid Rana wreaked havoc, picking five and four wickets, respectively. The hosts started the day on 9/2 and had a decent start courtesy of Saim Ayub and skipper Shan Masood, adding 38 runs. Ayub was the first man to depart as Taskin Ahmed took his wicket. He made 20 runs off 35 balls. Masood managed 28 runs off 34 balls and was removed by Rana soon after. Kana managed to dismiss Babar Azam (11) and Saud Shakeel (2) in quick succession, leaving Pakistan in



more trouble. Babar's poor run continued in the Tests as he now batted 16 innings without a Test fifty. Meanwhile, Mohammad Rizwan and Salman Ali Agha made valuable contributions at the back end. The pair added 55 runs for the seventh wicket. Mahmud dismissed Mir Hamza (4) to wrap up Pakistan's innings on 172. Salman added vital runs for Pakistan and remained unbeaten on 47. Mahmud registered his first fiver in Test cricket, becoming first Bangladesh pacer to take this many wickets in an innings in Pakistan.—Agency

## Champions Trophy 2025: Mohsin Naqvi orders for timely upgradation of iconic Gaddafi Stadium



LAHORE: Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chairman Mohsin Naqvi conducted a detailed visit to Lahore's Gaddafi Stadium and reviewed the progress of the upgradation project for the 2025 Champions Trophy. As per the details, the construction of the water tank in the basement and steel fixing work has begun. Naqvi instructed FWO and NESPAK to complete the Gaddafi Stadium Upgradation Project within the stipulated time frame. "The steel fixing work should be completed quickly," said Mohsin Naqvi. "The construction work should be completed within the timeline," he added. A meeting was also held under Naqvi at the FWO's camp office. NESPAK was instructed to complete the drawings promptly and hand them over to FWO. Meanwhile, the FWO's Project Director briefed about the progress on the Gaddafi Stadium Upgradation Project. The PCB's Director of Infrastructure, Senior General Manager of Infrastructure, and relevant officials from NESPAK and FWO were also present on the occasion. Three venues—Karachi, Rawalpindi and Lahore—will host the matches of eight teams and according to PCB's proposed schedule to ICC, all of India's matches will take place in Lahore. The PCB also allocated Rs12.80 billion for upgradation of three stadiums. Lahore's Gaddafi Stadium, Karachi's National Bank Cricket Arena and Rawalpindi International Cricket Stadium will be elevated ahead of the marquee event.—Agency

## Two England players eye comeback for Pakistan series

LONDON: Opening batter Zak Crawley and right-arm spinner Jack Leach are likely to make a comeback for England for their upcoming Test series against Pakistan. England will tour Pakistan for a three-match Test series, scheduled to run from October 7 to 24 with matches scheduled in Multan, Karachi and Rawalpindi respectively. Meanwhile, experienced Somerset spinner Jack Leach, who has been out of the England Test side since 2018 is hopeful to make his long-awaited comeback, banking on his magnificent performance in the County Championship. Leach was one of the most pivotal parts of the Ben Stokes-led England Test team but a series of injuries put him out of the international circuit. Jack Leach acknowledged



the competition from youngster Shoaib Bashir, who made notable inroads early into his Test career, picking up three five-wicket hauls in eight matches but the former remained optimistic that England may pick both the spinners for the Pakistan tour. "I totally understand the reason why Bash has been selected," Leach said. "I rate him really highly and think he is already a very good bowler with a lot of promise for the future. We have worked together a lot and I am very proud of him and want to see him flourish. But there is a tour to Pakistan coming up and if England need me, I am more than happy to go." "I would imagine they will take more than one spinner and I feel I am getting back to my best after almost a year with niggles that have taken some overcoming. You don't always realise how hard

it is to come back from injuries," he said. "Long spells like I have had against Durham certainly help in that respect. It would be nice if both Shoaib and myself could make the Pakistan tour and there is no reason why that can't happen. I don't want to get my hopes up, but I am as determined as I ever have been to play for England," he added. On the other hand, opening batter Zak Crawley has been out of the action since the last Test of the three-match series against West Indies. He fractured his finger while attempting a catch. Crawley is now in a race against time as the typical recovery period for a broken finger is approximately six to eight weeks, and the upcoming series against Pakistan was nine weeks away at the time of his injury.—Agency

## "We have a game to win tomorrow," believes Jason Gillespie



RAWALPINDI: Pakistan's Test head coach Jason Gillespie shared that the national men's team will give their "best shot" to secure a victory over Bangladesh on the final day of the ongoing second Test here at Pindi Cricket Stadium. Bangladesh are 42/0 in pursuit of a modest 185-run target. The touring side will have an entire day and all 10 wickets to score 143 more runs and secure their first-ever Test series victory over Pakistan. "We know that we can have an impact with the ball if we bowl in the right areas. If we walk out there and expect to lose, then we will definitely lose. We need to go out there with a positive attitude," stated Gillespie. "Our shot selection is something that we continue to talk about. We just need to make sure that our batters choose the right balls to attack," he concluded. It is worth mentioning here that Bangladesh led the two-match series 1-0, courtesy of their 10-wicket victory over Pakistan in the opening fixture at the same venue.—Agency

## Ten Hag refuses to 'play Harry Potter' as Liverpool hand Manchester United a 3-0 defeat



MANCHESTER: Manchester United manager Erik ten Hag has made it clear he's "not Harry Potter" but remains confident his squad can secure silverware this season, despite a crushing 3-0 home defeat to Liverpool. Liverpool, who already had an early goal disallowed, took control of the match with Luis Diaz netting twice within seven first-half minutes. Mohamed Salah added a third shortly after the break, leaving United fans grateful it wasn't a repeat of their 5-0 drubbing by the same opponents back in 2021. The loss was particularly stinging for Ten Hag, considering six of his own signings



were in the starting lineup. Among them was the newly signed £50.5m Uruguayan midfielder Manuel Ugarte, who was introduced to the crowd before the match but wasn't eligible to play. United currently languish in 14th place on the Premier League table with just three points from three games. However, Ten Hag refused to let the defeat dampen his spirits, emphasizing that no one should expect him to work miracles overnight. "It's not like I'm Harry Potter," Ten Hag remarked. "We have to be realistic. For three of the players, it was

their first start of the season. Manuel Ugarte needs time to build his fitness and integrate into the team. I'm confident he'll contribute, but it may take weeks, even a month. The same goes for other players." Ten Hag also referenced striker Joshua Zirkzee, who had a mixed performance, missing two key chances, one of which was brilliantly saved by Liverpool's Alisson Becker. Meanwhile, Matthijs de Ligt struggled defensively alongside Lisandro Martinez, and England midfielder Kobbie Mainoo was often outmaneuvered by Liverpool's Ryan Gravenberch.—Agency

## Roelant Oltmans to not continue as head coach of Pakistan hockey team



KARACHI: The Pakistan hockey team currently in China is encountering significant challenges and after losing several senior players, the national side has also been deprived of the services of their foreign coach, Roelant Oltmans, Geo News reported on Monday. In a major blow to the team ahead of the Asian Hockey Champions Trophy, Dutch coach Oltmans has declined to continue coaching the Pakistan side. As per sources, Oltmans was keen on securing a long-term contract with the Pakistan team, but the Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) preferred to offer him a contract on an event-by-event basis. Consequently, discussions between PHF and Oltmans failed to reach an agreement, and he will not be available to coach the team in the upcoming tournament. Furthermore, the team's vice-captain, Abu Bakar, has yet to receive his visa for China. Currently playing league hockey in Australia, he was expected to join the Pakistan team directly from there. Additionally, players Murtaza Yaqoob, Ehtisham Islam, and Abdul Rehman are engaged in league hockey in Europe, while Arbaz Ahmed has opted not to travel to China due to personal commitments. Six senior players from the squad that participated in the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup and the Nations Cup will be unavailable. Pakistan's first match in the Asian Hockey Champions Trophy is scheduled against Malaysia on September 8.—Agency

# REGIONAL TIMES ENTERTAINMENT

## Jennifer Lopez in her element again as she dances on shopping mall escalator



Jennifer Lopez is seemingly shaking off Ben Affleck fever with fun dance moves weeks after filing for divorce. The mother-of-two was on a shopping trip at Westfield Century City mall in Los Angeles on Saturday with her 16-year-old daughter Emme. Lopez, 55, was onboard an escalator when she threw her arms up in the air and grooved before her daughter's phone camera. The Papi singer was dressed in a loose tank top, a denim skirt and metallic-gold sandals for the mall outing but an interesting addition was her gold band on her left hand that captured the attention of Page Six's paparazzi. She also had her ring on Friday when she made her first public appearance since officially pulling the plug on her marriage to Affleck, 52, on August 20. On the same day, she unleashed some cryptic messages on Instagram in a carousel packed with her some recent pictures of her. "Everything is unfolding in divine order," read one image in the slider post while another read, "she's in bloom and unbothered out of reach and at peace." A source close to JLo exclusively told Page Six that the "big love Jennifer believes in" is "not in [Ben's] DNA."

## Ellie Goulding teases new music amid classical album plans



Ellie Goulding has given fans a glimpse into her upcoming projects. Goulding took to Instagram Stories over the weekend and shared an update for her 13.7 Million followers. In the third clip, the singer unveiled her upcoming music as she scrolled through her iTunes library, displaying hundreds of tracks labeled "new recording," which appeared to be voice notes. She captioned the first clip as "working my way back slowly" hinting her return to the music. However, she wrote "Gona take a min" in the next snap which hints at her busy schedule with new recordings. In the third clip, the singer unveiled her upcoming music as she scrolled through her iTunes library, displaying hundreds of tracks labeled "new recording," which appeared to be voice notes. This has led fans to speculate that fresh music is on the way. Goulding's most recent album, Higher Than Heaven, was released in 2023. Last month, she reunited with Calvin Harris for the track Free, following their successful collaborations on Miracle, I Need Your Love, and Outside. Additionally, the singer has teased future classical music in an interview with The Sun. She told the outlet, "I'm always writing new music. I think my natural state is to always come up with ideas and I'll get in the studio at some point." "Since I wrote Higher Than Heaven a while ago during lockdown, I'm very ready to write new music. I've always wanted to compose music for films, so at the moment I'm focusing on more classical." "I have a half-finished classical album that I look forward to releasing at some point," she added.

## Face of the Day



Name: Muhammad Muneeb  
Location: Karachi  
About me: I'm the selfie king of Karachi  
Please email us your photo for our Model Watch and Kids' Corner section at regionaltimes10@gmail.com

REGIONAL TIMES

# THE HEARTLAND



## Ali Asghar Halipoto lauds PPP workers for their commitment to public service

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: Chairman of District Council Badin and new president of PPP District Badin Ali Asghar Halipoto said that the workers are the asset of the

party together with them we will continue to strengthen the party and serve the country. Addressing the workers who came from all over the district to congratulate him, he said that he is grateful to President Asif Zardari, Chairman Bilawal Bhattu Zardari, who trusted him. He said that soon a meeting of the general body of the party will be held and a strategy will be formulated for reorganization.

## Raheela Tiwana condemns arrest of Save Gaza March participants

By Hashim Brohi

JACOBABAD: Former Provincial Minister, Deputy Speaker of the Sindh Assembly, and Chairperson of the Pakistan Study Circle, Raheela Tiwana, condemned the unjust arrests of participants in the Save Gaza March in Islamabad. She questioned why protesting for the rights of oppressed Palestinians is disliked by the rulers, stating that by arresting those who raise their voices for Gaza's victims, the authorities are acting as agents of the Jewish state. Tiwana criticized the arrest of former Senator Mushtaq



rallies in support of Palestinians are being arrested. She further criticized the global and Muslim leaders' silence on the daily atrocities committed by the Zionist forces against Palestinians, calling for strong condemnation of these actions. Tiwana urged Pakistani rulers to stand up for the oppressed Palestinians rather than taking steps to please the terrorist state of Israel. She expressed solidarity with the oppressed Palestinian and praised former Senator Mushtaq Ahmed Khan and his team for their ongoing protests against the atrocities in Gaza.

## Municipal Committee Chairman Abdul Ghaffar Memon reviews cleanliness in Pir Jo Goth

By AQ Khilji

PIR JO GOTH: The Chairman of the Municipal Committee Pir Jo Goth, Abdul Ghaffar Memon, paid a visit to the city, reviewing the cleanliness and sanitation system. He also issued instructions for draining the rainwater from the cemeteries. According to the report, Chairman Abdul Ghaffar Memon inspected various neighborhoods in Pir Jo Goth and assessed the sanitation system. He issued instructions to the staff to drain the rainwater from the city's cemeteries. Speaking to reporters, Chairman Abdul Ghaffar Memon stated that Pir Jo Goth is the town of our revered leader, Syed Mohammad Rashid Shah, and serving its people is considered a duty. He mentioned that with the support of



Quaid Pir Sahib Pagara and Syed Muhammad Rashid Shah, he has had the opportunity to serve the area's residents and is working diligently to fulfill this responsibility with the guidance of Syed Mohammad Rashid Shah. He acknowledged that due to limited resources, many challenges had to be faced. However, improvements have been seen in the city, and he assured that further enhancements would be visible. Abdul Ghaffar Memon noted that the Municipal Committee staff provided significant support during the rains and expressed a commitment to bring more improvements to the city, taking important steps for its welfare and beautification. On this occasion, Shoaib Rehman Memon, Jahangir Mahar, Majid Babur, Ashfaq Juno, Iqbal Khaskheli, and others were present with him.

## Construction of new court premises demanded in Daulatpur

By Aijaz Ali Jokhio

DAULATPUR: The buildings of two courts of the Civil Judge and Judicial Magistrate in Daulatpur have still not been constructed due to which the courts are operating in the buildings of the Revenue Department. The Revenue Department buildings are also in dilapidated conditions due to portions of roof have collapsed. The court staff and the people coming to appear in the court along with the lawyers have to face many hardships due to dilapidated condition of the buildings. The local lawyers including Habib Rehman Buledi, Aijaz Ali Jokhio and others said that despite passage of 30 years own buildings have not been



constructed for the courts. They demanded of the higher authorities to take notice of the matter and ensure the construction of new court buildings in Daulatpur.

## Thieves ransack an internet cafe in Badin

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: A few unidentified thieves stole goods worth more than 3 lac rupees from the internet cafe. The owner of the shop, Ismail Parihar protested outside the press club and said that between

Saturday and Sunday night, unknown thieves broke the locks of my internet cafe shop near Qazia Wah Bridge and stole batteries, UPS, laptops, mobile phones, cash, money and other valuables. They have stolen the goods worth 3.5 lac rupees and I

## Nawabshah youth receives severe burn injuries under mysterious circumstances

By Samad Ayaz



NAWABSHAH: A youth named Zubair Abbasi s/o Muhammad Yamin Abbasi was rushed to the hospital after he sustained severe burn injuries. While talking to the police and media, the injured youth said that he fell in love with a woman named Abida W/o Abid Ali, who called him at her door. When he reached at the door of Abida, she spread petrol on him and set him on fire. The police after taking notice of the matter arrested the accused woman, who said that Zubair has set himself on fire at her door and her neighbors including her family members tried to extinguish fire. She denied allegation leveled in her and accused the injured youth of trying to blackmail her by this act.

## Renowned Veterinary Dr Muhammad Ajmal Kubar passes away in Daulatpur

By Aijaz Ali Jokhio

DAULATPUR: The son of a senior journalist Late Ali Sher Kubar, veterinary doctor Muhammad Ajmal Kubar passed away after severe illness. The body of the deceased was laid to rest at his family's ancestral graveyard after performing his funeral prayers which were attended by journalists, civil society leaders and a large number of people belonging to different walks of life.

## Hingorja's Bhutto community demands arrest of Javed Bhutto's murderers

By Sajjad Chang

HINGORJA: Bhutto community people and civil society leaders recorded a protest demonstration under the leadership of Manzoor Bhutto, Ayaz Bhutto, Parvez Bhutto and others for the arrest of killed shopkeeper Javed Bhutto. While talking to the media, the protest

leaders said that Javed Bhutto had been shot dead three months ago but the police have still not arrested his murderers. They expressed concern over the performance of Hingorja Police and demanded arrest of Javed Bhutto's murderers, otherwise they have announced to widen their protest.

## Four school going children bitten by stray dogs in Kumb

By Naz Solangi

KUMB: Four students of the Government Primary School Haji Gulab Wassen were bitten by the stray dogs while going to school on Monday.

The injured students included Batool, Aleesha, Samiullah and other boy were amongst the injured children. The children were rushed to the Kot-diji Hospital by school teacher Abdul Jabbar Wassen, where they were vaccinated and provided



first aid.

## Lala Abdul Ghaffar Shaikh felicitates PPP Khairpur's Nawab Khan Wassan

By Naeem Shaikh



Wassan on Monday. He presented a bouquet to Nawab Khan Wassan and felicitated him on his posting as the District President of Khairpur. He also expressed confidence in the leadership qualities of Nawab Khan Wassan.

## Recovery of missing Larkana shopkeeper demanded

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: In the Miro Khan Chowk area of Larkana city, a young man who went missing under mysterious circumstances 14 days ago has still not been found. This has caused chaos in his home, and his family is in a state of protest. In this context, the relatives of the missing young man organized a rally to seek assistance in locating him. The rally started from the SSP Chowk of the city and moved through various roads and routes, eventually reaching

the Press Club. There, they staged a protest with banners and placards and chanted slogans. On this occasion, Bashir Gadhni, a resident of Yar Muhammad Colony, along with his sons Abdul Rashid, Ayaz Gadhni, Sadaqat, nephew Imran Gadhni, and others, addressed the media. He stated that his 24-year-old son, Azad Ali Gadhni, runs a shop on Central Jail Road, providing for his family. He went missing from the Miro Khan Chowk area on August 19 and has not been found despite his phone being continuously off. The search has been conducted among relatives, friends, and also reported to the police at the Wafid Police Station but there have been no leads. He mentioned that there is no enmity or case against his son, yet he has been missing for 14 days, causing severe distress and despair in the family. He appealed to the district administrator, senior police officers in Larkana, and elected representatives to take notice of the situation and assist in locating his son, thereby alleviating the distress and despair faced by the family.

## Hyderabad residents, MUET students rally against prolonged power outages

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: HESCO's injustice with residents of downtrodden area of Hyderabad district has been continued after 4 days continuous monsoon rains. Most of the areas are still in darkness. Flashed transformers have not been changed and repaired yet. The residents of different areas are raising their voices against the HESCO by recording protests. By showing electricity bills, protesters complained that we have been paying huge amounts in return. Detection amount is more than real consumption. Despite that our areas have

been in darkness during and after the rains. Furthermore, protesters said that we have been compelled to come out of homes and record a protest against the HESCO. They complained that we have asked many times to concerned Subdivision officers for repairing transformers and reinstating electricity of our areas but they couldn't heed on our requests. Due to power load shedding, we are unable to fetch water for drinking and other chores. They further said that HESCO's team consistently focusing on such societies where bureaucrats, capitalists and landlords are dwelling. On the other hand, students of Mehran University of Engineering & Technology took to a protest rally from hok to Indus Highway against prolonged power outages. Due to protest of the students traffic was suspended for several hours on the highway. Responding to an issue, Vice Chancellor MUET, Dr. Taha Hussain said that it is an electricity problem which mostly due to HESCO but still trying to resolve it as its related to whole colony not only that students hostel. He further said that even in Hyderabad and Jamshoro city HESCO's performance can be observed.

## Orientation ceremony held at Government Arts and Commerce College Larkana

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: The Government Arts and Commerce College in Larkana held an orientation ceremony for first-year students in the auditorium hall. The ceremony was presided over by the Regional Director of Colleges Larkana, Professor Altaf Hussain Abro, with Additional Director of Inspection Professor Aijaz Ali Jamali attending as a special guest. During the event, senior students of the commerce college presented a welcome tableau. After the recitation and Nat, professors provided detailed information about the college and the benefits of the commerce field. The professors included Professor Umeed Ali Samito, Professor Dr. Sohail Ahmed Shaikh, Professor GM Shaikh, Professor Athar Soomro, and Professor Ali Akbar Chandio.

Regional Director Professor Altaf Hussain Abro, while addressing the ceremony, stated that the significant improvements in the commerce college over the past year are credited to the current principal, Professor Rizwan Gul. He highlighted that the college holds a historic status and is currently a leader in many aspects. He encouraged the new students to learn from the capable teachers and actively attend classes. He emphasized that the primary goal is to provide the necessary facilities to create an ideal educational environment in government institutions and make the colleges in the Larkana region exemplary. Additional Director Professor Aijaz Jamali mentioned that this is the first orientation program for colleges in the Larkana region, and the credit goes to the commerce college. He praised the excellent environment of the college, which reflects the high level of both curricular and extracurricular activities. The college principal, Professor Rizwan Gul, welcomed the new students to the commerce college and encouraged them to make the most of the excellent facilities available, including the library, computer lab, sports ground, lush green lawn, multimedia classrooms, and several other facilities.

## SAUTA observes Black Day in support of FAPUASA

By Irfan Ali Khushik

TANDO JAM: In Tando Jam, the Sindh Agriculture University Teachers' Association (SAUTA) observed a Black Day on Monday to protest against the illegal arrest of Dr. Riaz Ahmed, Associate Professor and Syndicate Member at Karachi University, following a call from the Federation of All Pakistan Universities Academic Staff Associations (FAPUASA). During the protest, SAUTA members wore black armbands. SAUTA President Dr. Fahd Nazir Khoso stated that such illegal arrests are attempts to suppress the voices of education. He condemned this action in the strongest terms. SAUTA leaders demanded a thorough investigation of the incident by higher authorities and called for strict action against those responsible. The protest was attended by Dr. Khalid Hussain Talpur, Dr. Sohail Ahmed Otho, Dr. Javed Gadhni, Dr. Pyar Ali Shar and others.



## Different diseases spreading in rain affected areas of MPK

By Younis Chandio

MIRPURKHAS: After the rains in Sindh, various areas, including Sindhri, Hingorno, Phulhadiyon, Garhor Sharif and Atan Mouri, have been hit by a gastroenteritis, diarrhea, and malaria epidemic. Both children and adults have fallen victim to these diseases. Due to the gastroenteritis epidemic, 2 people have died. The Sindh government has not established any emergency centers in these areas after the rains. Government hospitals and basic health centers in Hingorno, Dilbar Mahar Rural Health, Khan Sahib, and Garhor Sharif Rural Health are ineffective for the public. None of these government hospitals or centers have provided emergency services due to the rains. There is no doctor or ambulance service available; these centers only provide normal treatment from 8 AM to 2 PM. Sometimes, the staff is absent, forcing patients to seek out unqualified doctors, leading to the spread of gastroenteritis and diarrhea from one patient to another. Treatment in government hospitals is very limited, and although emergency measures were announced, they have not been implemented effectively. The stagnant rainwater has become contaminated, and the presence of mosquitoes in these areas is increasing.

# METRO KARACHI



## LG Minister Announces Repair Work On Karachi's Major Roads Post-Monsoon

KARACHI: Sindh Local Government Minister, Saeed Ghani, announced that the repair work on the main roads in Karachi, damaged due to accumulated rainwater, will commence immediately after the monsoon season concludes. The minister made this statement on Monday while addressing the Sindh Assembly during a session in response to call attention notices submitted by Opposition legislators.



Ghani highlighted that the monsoon rains in Karachi have been unusually prolonged this year. He assured the assembly that once the highways are repaired, efforts will swiftly shift to restoring smaller roads, alleys, and streets across the city that were also damaged by the rains. He informed the assembly that under the Competitive and Livable City of Karachi Project, the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC) had undertaken the construction or restoration of 400 roads in the city. However, the recent rains have damaged approximately 14 to 15 of these roads. Ghani assured concerned lawmakers that the Sindh government would investigate the extent of these damages. Addressing the Opposition MPAs, Ghani explained that repair work could not be initiated during the ongoing monsoon rains. He mentioned that the Sindh Local Government Department has instructed the KMC and town administrations to conduct surveys of the damaged roads and streets, so that restoration efforts can begin immediately after the rains subside. He noted that some areas of Karachi received up to 200 to 250 mm of rainfall during different spells. Ghani also acknowledged that Karachi and other parts of Sindh have experienced heavy rains in past monsoon seasons as well. He assured the assembly that those responsible for any damages to recently constructed or repaired roads will be held accountable, and relevant consultants involved in these development projects have been asked to submit review reports on the situation.—RT

## Karachi Customs Seize Drugs Valued At Rs 2.25 Million



KARACHI: Customs authorities successfully thwarted an attempt to smuggle drugs into Pakistan through the International Mail Office (IMO) at Jinnah International Airport Karachi, according to media reports on Monday. Subsequent laboratory testing, the parcel was found to contain 500 grams of marijuana (cannabis) valued at approximately Rs 2.25 million.

The package was addressed to Muhammad Usama Mahmood, a resident of Gulistan-e-Johar, Karachi. An FIR has been registered against the recipient, and efforts are ongoing to apprehend all the individuals involved in the smuggling operation. The Customs department has reiterated its commitment to intensifying the crackdown on drug smuggling to prevent such illegal activities and safeguard the country's borders.—RT/Agency

## Sindh Government To Build Expressway Linking Karachi Port Terminal To Jam Sadiq Bridge

KARACHI: The Sindh government has announced plans to construct an expressway connecting the Karachi Port Terminal (KPT) to Jam Sadiq Bridge, according to media reports on Monday.

The decision was made during a session of the Public Private Partnership (PPP) Board, chaired by Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah. The expressway will include a 12.5-kilometer section above ground, with the remaining portion below the surface. The expressway will connect the KPT terminal directly with the Malir Expressway at Jam Sadiq Bridge.

Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah directed the Sindh Local Government Department to finalize the project in collaboration with the PPP unit, stating that the government will undertake the construction using its own resources under the PPP mode. In addition to the expressway, Chief Minister Shah mentioned the development of the NDD Technology Park, also under a public-private partnership. The Sindh government has allocated Rs 1.7 billion for this project, with an agreement expected to be signed within the month. The PPP policy board also approved a reforestation project covering over 100,000 hectares of land in Sindh, with plans to seek assistance from the Asian Development Bank for reforestation on 88,022 hectares. According to a 2017 WWF report, only 6% of Pakistan's land is covered by forests, while the minimum recommended forest cover is 25%. The reforestation project will begin in the katcha areas of Malir and Jamshoro districts, with the first phase targeting 34,995 hectares. Chief Minister Shah also expressed frustration over delays in the Marble City project and called for its prompt implementation.—RT/Agency

## EFU Life Introduces 'WIN' Program, Merging Health And Financial Wellness

KARACHI: EFU Life Assurance Ltd, a leading provider of life, Takaful, and health insurance in the private sector, has proudly launched its new wellness proposition, EFU Life WIN. This initiative aims to empower individuals to take control of both their health and financial well-being through an integrated approach that combines life insurance with a comprehensive wellness platform. EFU Life WIN offers a holistic wellness solution that encourages healthy living by allowing policyholders to enhance their savings while improving their health. By actively participating in wellness activities and tracking daily progress, policyholders can earn rewards and bonuses, leading to better health outcomes. Speaking at the launch event, Mr. Mohammed Ali Ahmed, CEO and Managing

Director of EFU Life Assurance Ltd, emphasized the company's commitment to providing solutions that go beyond traditional insurance. "With EFU Life WIN, we are introducing a proposition that integrates wellness into the core of financial planning. This initiative reflects our belief that financial security and wellness are intertwined, helping our policyholders live healthier and happier lives," he stated. EFU Life has partnered with dacadoo, a leading Swiss health tech company, to power the wellness program dacadoo's global digital health engagement platform, built on over 300 million person-years of scientific data, supports the digital transformation of health and wellness by focusing on three key parameters: body, mind, and lifestyle. The platform allows users to track their health in real-time. EFU Life WIN provides users with a personalized health score based on physical activity, nutrition, and mental well-being, enabling them to monitor and improve their lifestyle choices. The more actively policyholders engage in their wellness goals, the greater the rewards they can unlock. Mr. Mohammed Ali Ahmed further highlighted that with the launch of EFU Life WIN, the company aims to revolutionize how people approach their lives by offering a platform that inspires transformation, fosters resilience, and ultimately improves lives. EFU Life WIN represents a significant advancement in the insurance industry, setting a new standard for how life insurance can contribute to overall well-being.—RT

## New Charge Filed Against Natasha Danish In Karsaz Accident Case

KARACHI: The Karachi police have added an additional charge to the case against Natasha Danish, the suspect involved in the Karsaz accident, according to media reports on Monday. Initially, Natasha Danish was charged with the deaths of Imran Arif, 60, and his daughter, Anna Arif, who were killed near the Karsaz area on August 19. Investigators stated that Natasha was driving from her home in DHA Scheme-I to her in-laws' residence, a distance of approximately 3-4 kilometers, when the incident occurred.

The police have now added Section 100 of the Motor Vehicle Act to the case, which pertains to driving under the influence of intoxicants. This addition follows last week's medical reports confirming that Natasha Danish was under the influence of methamphetamine (commonly known as crystal meth) at the time of the accident. Natasha Danish is currently in judicial custody following orders from a Karachi East court. The accident also resulted in injuries to five other individuals on Karsaz Road.—RT/Agency

## MPA Raja Razaq Baloch chairs meeting of PPP Malir



By Asif Qureshi

Muhammad Sajid Jokhio of the constituency, PPP Malir General Secretary Imdad Ali Jokhio, and Information Secretary Shahjahan Khan. In his address, PPP Malir President Raja Razaq Baloch stated that if the Steel Mill should not ensure water supply to Gulshan-e-Hadid, the PPP will call for a vigorous protest. He emphasized that they will not tolerate any injustice towards the residents of Gulshan-e-Hadid. He mentioned that they have also communicated with the Water Board authorities to resolve the issue with the Steel Mill administration. Until then, the Steel Mill should continue supplying water to Gulshan-e-Hadid. If the Steel Mill fails to provide water, they will organize protests.

## Another Suspect Apprehended In Karachi Over 12-Year-Old Girl's Rape And Murder

KARACHI: Karachi police on Monday said they arrested a second suspect in connection with the gang rape and murder of a 12-year-old girl during an "encounter". The body of a minor girl was found in a bag near a garbage dump in the city's Lucky Star area on August 25. The autopsy had revealed that she was raped and strangled. Last week, the police had claimed to have arrested what it described as the prime suspect in the crime. "A highly wanted suspect was arrested in injured condition during a police encounter on Abdul Sattar Edhi Avenue in Defence Phase 8," Deputy Inspector General (DIG)-South Syed Asad Raza said today. He did not specify whether the suspect was already wounded or injured during the pursuit. Noting that the suspect, Asim Ali, was wanted in the case of "rape and murder of a 12-year-old girl", DIG Raza said he had "thrown her body near Lucky Star" after committing the crime. "An accomplice of the suspect is already in custody," the DIG said, referring to the arrest made last week. The case had been registered at the Saddar police station, Raza said. DIG Raza had previously described the man arrested last week as the prime suspect, who he said was a watchman at the Bara Market near Cantonment Railway Station. However, his two accomplices, who worked at the Shalimar bus terminal, were still at large, the official had stated. DIG Raza also said that investigators had identified the victim as belonging to the Hindu community and living under the name of the Lilly Bridge with her mother.—RT/Agency

## Chairman Tariq Aziz Baloch reviews cleanliness campaign in Gadap Town



By Asif Qureshi

Chairman Tariq Aziz Baloch stated that Gadap Town is very large, and the continuous rains have caused severe difficulties due to the poor condition of the roads. The Director of the Sanitation Department, Ashraf Baloch, Deputy Director of Sanitation, Afzal Laghari, and their team are working around the clock on drainage operations. The drainage work on the National Highway connected to UC Pipri has been cleared using dewatering pumps. Additionally, areas including Gulshan-e-Hadid Phase-1 and 2, Memon Goth, and other UCs are also covered. The Vice Chairmen and Council Members of all UCs are actively serving the public in their respective areas.

## Three Lives Lost In Speeding Bus Tragedy In Karachi's SITE Area



KARACHI: At least three people lost their lives on Monday when a speeding passenger bus ran over multiple motorcyclists in Karachi's Site area, according to media reports. The bus driver fled the scene immediately after the incident. Initial reports suggest that the accident may have been caused by a brake failure.—RT/Agency

The tragic incident occurred near Bhawani Chali, where the out-of-control bus struck several motorcyclists, killing three individuals on the spot and injuring five others. Rescue teams quickly arrived at the scene and transported the deceased and injured to a nearby hospital.

## PBDN, EFP, And Partners Develop Strategies For Better Disability Inclusion In Workplaces



KARACHI: The Pakistan Business & Disability Network (PBDN), hosted by the Employers' Federation of Pakistan (EFP) with support from Sightsavers, GIZ, and the ILO, held its 3rd meeting in Karachi to advance disability inclusion in the workplace. Majid Aziz, Former President of EFP, commended PBDN's efforts and stressed the need for a comprehensive database of organizations supporting Persons with Disabilities (PWDs). He called for greater visibility of the network's initiatives, noting that many businesses are unaware of the progress being made in disability inclusion. Munnaza Gillani of Sightsavers praised EFP's leadership and highlighted the importance of public-private collaboration for meaningful progress. Saqiba Aziz from GIZ urged the creation of non-discriminatory workplaces and advocated for the inclusion of PWDs in executive roles, emphasizing mentorship as key to fostering inclusivity. EFP Secretary General Syed Nazir Ali presented PBDN's past initiatives, including awareness programs, job fairs, and policy dialogues, and introduced an action plan for the coming year. This includes organizing apprenticeship programs and job fairs in Lahore and Karachi to boost the inclusion of PWDs in the workforce. Attendees, including representatives from Sooty Enterprises and the Employment Exchange Govt of Sindh, contributed suggestions such as sharing success stories through videos and adopting global best practices to inspire further efforts. The meeting concluded with a collective commitment to advancing disability inclusion across all workforce levels.—RT

## Authorities Intercept Currency Smuggling Operation At Jinnah International

KARACHI: Customs authorities successfully thwarted an attempt to smuggle foreign currency at Karachi Airport, recovering millions in currency, according to media reports on Monday. The passenger, identified as Moster Uddin, was intercepted while attempting to board international flight FZ-336. Upon inspection at the common counter, customs officials discovered the currency hidden in a secret compartment at the bottom of his bag, which contained 30 bundles of 500 Indian Rupee notes. Further inspection revealed a total of 71.4 million in Indian Rupees and 16,000 Bangladeshi Taka in the passenger's possession. Customs officials suspect the Indian currency may be counterfeit. An FIR has been lodged against the passenger, and an investigation is currently underway.—RT/Agency



## Manghopir TMC Chairman Haji Nawaz Ali Brohi Pledges Enhanced Public Services



KARACHI: Haji Nawaz Ali Brohi, Chairman of the Town Municipal Corporation Manghopir, affirmed his commitment to providing the best possible services to the residents of the town. Speaking during an inspection of ongoing development works in various Union Councils (UCs), Brohi stated, "My team and I are honestly doing our best to provide every facility to the people of our town, even those that are not our responsibility, such as addressing issues in private societies. Some critics fail to understand that private societies do not fall under our jurisdiction. Before pointing fingers, they should realize that these tasks are not our responsibility, yet we are still doing what we can for them." During the inspection, representatives from the West District Organization accompanied the chairman and reviewed the ongoing welfare projects, expressing full confidence in the efforts being made. Brohi expressed his gratitude for their support.

He was joined by Municipal Commissioner Agha Khaliq, Superintendent Engineer Hasan Sheikh, Vice Chairman Rana Arif, West District President Abid Sati, Information Secretary Ali Akbar, as well as UC chairmen, vice chairmen, and officers and staff from the Sanitation Department and the Water and Sewerage Corporation.—RT



KARACHI: Pakistan Society of Internal Medicine (PSIM) and Sir Syed College of Medical Sciences hosted the Cardio-Metabolic Awareness Seminar 2024 at a local hotel. The event featured Prof. Javed Akram as the Chief Guest, with organizing contributions from Prof. Zaman Shaikh and Dr. Shabnam Naveed.—RT

Get your facts first, and then you can distort them as much as you please.

—Mark Twain

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TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 03 2024



ISLAMABAD: PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari met with the President of PPP South Punjab Raja Parvez Ashraf to review matters pertaining to South Punjab.—Photo by Fahim Soomro

## Court Extends Judicial Remand For Imran And Bushra Bibi In New Toshakhana Case

RAWALPINDI: An accountability court in Rawalpindi on Monday extended the judicial remand of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan and his wife, Bushra Bibi, in a new Toshakhana reference.

The accountability court's judge Javed Rana conducted the hearing of the new Toshakhana reference pertaining to a jewellery set gifted by the Saudi crown prince.

The hearing was attended by the couple's lawyers and the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) prosecutor.

The new reference pertains to a case related to a jewellery set gifted to former first lady Bushra by the Saudi crown prince when Imran



was the prime minister of the country from 2018 to 2022.

At the outset of the hearing, defence lawyer Salman Saifdar argued that the new reference was similar to the previous one, therefore, two separate references could not be filed in the same accusation.

Later, the judge extended the judicial remand of the

former premier and his wife till September 16.

The hearing was adjourned till September 6.

It is noteworthy to mention here that the couple had filed separate post-arrest bail pleas in the new Toshakhana case last week.

Mentioning the state and chairman National Accountability Bureau (NAB) as parties to the case, both the applications filed through Barrister Salman Saifdar under Section 9(b) of NA Ordinance 1999 and Section 497 of Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) request the accountability court to grant post-arrest bail to the couple to "interest of justice and fair play".—RT/Agency

## Law Minister Dismisses Rumors Of CJP Isa's Tenure Extension

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Law Azam Nazeer Tarar on Monday rebuffed speculations centred on the imminent retirement of Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa, saying that the top judge does not want extension in his tenure.

The top judge is set to retire in October this year, but as his retirement draws near, rumours of an "extension" in his tenure through judiciary-centric legislation in parliament have been rife.

However, the Centre has time and again denied these reports, saying that nothing as such was on the cards as CJP Isa has "no interest" in getting an extension.

The legal experts say there is no constitutional mechanism for such an extension without amendments to the Constitution. Even if the government wants such an amendment, it would require a two-thirds majority in



both houses of parliament, which is a challenge in the light of recent Supreme Court verdict on reserved seats favouring Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI).

"The two-thirds majority should be discussed when an extension has to be granted," Tarar said while addressing an event in Islamabad.

He said that the chief justice "clearly told me and the attorney general that he doesn't want an extension." The minister said that CJP

come the country's top judge.

The speculations about CJP Isa's extension gained attraction after the PTI sought an early issuance of notification regarding the next chief justice of Pakistan (CJP), last month.

While speaking to the media today, PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan said that the party has decided to oppose any amendment bill regarding the judiciary and all their members of parliament have been officially notified about it.

"None of our MNA or senator will vote in the favour of the proposed amendments. Every MNA has been individually instructed in this regard in the light of Article 63 of the Constitution," Gohar said.

It may be noted that the controversial apex court judgment of July 2022 on former Punjab chief minister Pervaiz Elahi's petition pre-

vents lawmakers from defying party lines in constitutional votes, effectively limiting the government's ability to secure additional votes through defections.

Moreover, speaking about the matter of parleys between the opposition and the government, the PTI chairman said that a dialogue should be held. The PTI chief said his party has also clarified with whom the talks should be held.

"PTI founder has given the mandate to hold the talks with political parties to Mahmood Achakzai and it is his prerogative to decide the point which should be talked on," he added.

Gohar further stated that if the party will consider any suggestions presented by the Pakhtunkhwa Milli Awami Party (PKMAP) chairman.—RT/Agency

## No Government Officials Willing To Support Afia Siddiqui's Lawyer, IHC Reports

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court has expressed frustration over a lack of support from government officials in the Afia Siddiqui case.

Justice Sardar Ejaz Ishaq Khan remarked that no government official had expressed support for Afia Siddiqui's lawyer.

The IHC addressed the request for release and repatriation of Dr Afia Siddiqui. The court session included the presence of Fozia Siddiqui's lawyer, Imran Shafiq, and judicial assistant Zainab Janjua.

Foreign Secretary Syrus Sajid Qazi, Additional Attorney General Manzoor Iqbal Dogal, and Senator Mushtaq Ahmed were also present. Afia Siddiqui's lawyer, Clive Smith, participated via video link.

The additional attorney general began by stating that further information from the American lawyer was needed regarding the judicial assistant's arguments. The Foreign Ministry requested additional time to



submit a report.

The court questioned Clive Smith about his role in fighting the case in the US. The court further highlighted that while an American lawyer was handling Clive Smith's case, the Pakistani government seemed disengaged and repeatedly requested extensions. The court questioned whether the ISI had allegedly handed over Afia to the US.

Judicial assistant Zainab Janjua expressed hope that the federal government would find a proper solution, to which the judge responded by pointing out that the petition had been under review for three years with

no progress.

Justice Ishaq criticised the federal government and Foreign Ministry for avoiding a stand in court alongside Smith, to which the additional attorney general responded that the government supported Afia and Fozia but must follow procedural protocols.

The American lawyer inquired about the time required to submit responses once they receive a copy, with the court stating it would not grant more than a week's extension. Subsequently, the additional attorney general requested a five-week extension, which was denied by the court.—RT/Agency

## CJP Qazi Faez Isa Has Declined Extension, Says Rana Sanaullah

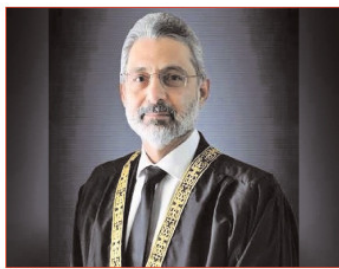
ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa has refused an extension in his service tenure, according to a statement by Advisor to the Prime Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination, Rana Sanaullah.

While speaking on a private media channel on Monday, Rana said that Justice Isa discussed the matter with the Law Minister and Attorney General, indicating that while he would accept a general age limit extension for all, he would not accept an extension in his individual case.

Rana noted that the government lacks the parliamentary majority required for either granting the extension or passing a constitutional amendment to facilitate it.

"If we had the numbers, it should have been done because a constitutional amendment is the prerogative of Parliament," he stated.

On the political front, Rana clarified that his cooperation with Maulana Fa-



zur Rehman does not signify full alignment.

He also addressed allegations against Lt. General (retired) Faiz Hameed, who is accused of influencing military appointments through the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and suggested that the involvement of PTI's founder could not be ruled out.

The PM's adviser further dismissed rumours regarding former COAS Qamar Javed Bajwa seeking an extension

and denied any meetings between Nawaz Sharif and Bajwa's father-in-law in London. Opposition leader in National Assembly and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Secretary General, Omar Ayub Khan, had earlier last week called on the government to immediately announce the name of the new chief justice, replacing CJP Qazi Faez Isa, amid speculations of a possible tenure extension.—RT/Agency

## CM Bugti Updates Bilawal On Recent Surge In Balochistan Terror Attacks



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari met Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfraz Bugti.

During the meeting, Chief Minister Bugti briefed Bilawal Bhutto on the recent wave of terrorism in Balochistan and the steps

being taken to address it.

They also discussed the country's political situation. Additionally, Bugti updated Bilawal Bhutto on the post-flood situation in Balochistan following recent heavy rains and the steps being taken to manage the aftermath.—RT/Agency

## Sanaullah Claims Imran And Faiz Hameed May Have Exchanged WhatsApp Messages On May 9

ISLAMABAD: Political advisor to the prime minister, Rana Sanaullah said that there might be WhatsApp messages between former ISI chief General (ret'd) Faiz Hameed and the founder of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) regarding the events of May 9.

In an exclusive interview with private tv, Rana Sanaullah addressed questions about Faiz Hameed, stating that speculation about him is unnecessary as the institution has already provided a brief and concise statement.

The political advisor mentioned that Faiz Hameed has been accused of influencing the appointment of Lt Gen Faiz Hameed (Ret'd), under provisions of the Pakistan Army Act, the Pakistan Army's media wing said. In addition, multiple instances of violation of the Pakistan Army Act post-retirement have also been established.

The process of Field General Court Martial has been initiated and Lt Gen Faiz Hameed (Ret'd) has been taken into military custody last month and court-martial proceedings were initiated, according to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR). "Complying with the orders of the Supreme



Court of Pakistan, a detailed court of inquiry was undertaken by the Pakistan Army, to ascertain the correctness of complaints in the Top City Case made against Lt Gen Faiz Hameed (Ret'd). Consequently, appropriate disciplinary action has been initiated against Lt Gen Faiz Hameed (Ret'd), under provisions of the Pakistan Army Act," the Pakistan Army's media wing said. In addition, multiple instances of violation of the Pakistan Army Act post-retirement have also been established.

When asked about Nawaz Sharif's alleged meeting with Bajwa's father-in-law, Ejaz Amjad, in London, Rana Sanaullah denied any such meeting took place. He mentioned that some friends suggested greeting Ejaz Amjad to help with the ongoing case against Nawaz Sharif.

The political advisor also commented on the influence of individuals like Sabir Mithoo, stating that many people benefited from their connections with General Ejaz and Sabir Mithoo, and prominent figures often sought their help.—RT/Agency

## CJP: Frivolous Lawsuits Leading To Growing Backlog Of Cases

ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa on Monday remarked that the baseless litigation used to waste the courts' time and led to an increase in the number of pending cases.

He gave these remarks during a hearing of a case regarding the distribution of property. The CJP noted that litigations were done on a deathly dispute after the property of 75-year-old owner.

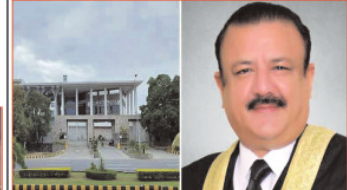
He questioned that why a 75-year-old man would gift his land to people other than his two sons. Unfortunately, such baseless and fabricated cases are wasting courts'



time and causing an increase in the number of pending cases.

The court dismissed an appeal regarding the dispute of the land.—RT/Agency

## IHC Full Bench To Hear Contempt Case Over 'Smear Campaign' Against Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri



ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court scheduled a contempt of court hearing regarding a malicious campaign against Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri.

The case will be heard by a seven-member full court bench, led by IHC Chief Justice Aamer Farooq.

It is worth noting that the full court bench had previously conducted a hearing on this matter before the summer break.

The court issued notices to Gharida Farooqi, Hasan Ayub, and Ammar Solangi, as well as to the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (Pemra), Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA), and the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) director general.

The respondents have been instructed to submit their responses within four weeks.—RT/Agency