



Salma Hayek says she was 'afraid' to star in Angelina Jolie's 'Without Blood'

Heartland

Mayor Kashif Shoro reviews arrangements for Eid Milad-un-Nabi



Money

-Zafar Moti is Sad! PSE 100-index down by 282.72 points to close at 78,615.00



NATIONAL

Kundi Accuses Gandapur Of Provoking May 9-Like Unrest



SPORTS

Political invasion blamed for Pakistan cricketer's downfall



Wabab Promises To Resolve Municipal Issues Before Rabi' al-Awwal

CJP Isa Joins Law Minister In Declining Extension Of Tenure

ISLAMABAD: After the federal law minister, Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa has confirmed that he does not wish to seek an extension in his tenure as the country's top judge.

During an informal conversation with journalists in Islamabad on Monday, the chief justice said he was told in a meeting that the tenure of judges would be extended. CJP Isa 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, I had suggested extending the tenure of other judges but said that I won't accept an extension in my tenure," he told the newsmen, adding that he doesn't even know whether he will be alive tomorrow or not.

The top judge said that Law Minister Azam Nazeer Tarar, Justice Mansoor Ali Shah and Attorney General for Pakistan (AGP) Mansoor Usman Awan were present in the meeting.

Earlier, CJP Isa said that every judge has some inclination and if a case is assigned to a certain judge, it helps determine the prosecution's weightage. The top judge made these



comments while addressing the full court reference at the beginning of the new judicial year at the Supreme Court today.

"Every institute has room for improvement. Earlier, it was easy to determine the verdict based on the formation of the bench, but now, even I am unaware of what the judges sitting beside me will decide," he said.

Earlier this month, Tarar rebuffed speculations centred on the imminent retirement of the CJP, saying that the top judge didn't want an extension in his tenure.

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 the recent Supreme Court verdict on reserved seats favouring Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI).

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

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 last month.—RT/Agency

PTI Leaders Barrister Gohar And Sher Afzal Marwat Detained Outside Parliament

-Can you believe this?

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad police arrested Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan and Member of National Assembly (MNA) Sher Afzal Marwat outside Parliament House following a National Assembly session on Monday.

According to media, a heavy police presence had gathered outside the Parliament House in anticipation. As PTI leaders exited the building, police took positions and swiftly moved to detain Marwat.

A scuffle reportedly broke out between Marwat's supporters and the police during Marwat's arrest. However, police managed to surround and apprehend the MNA, seizing his vehicle before leaving the scene.

While Sher Afzal Marwat was forcefully taken into custody, another PTI leader, Aamir Dogar, exited the Parliament House without any hindrance.

Sources indicate that Sher Afzal Marwat was arrested due to legal violations committed during last night's rally.

The violations include disrupting the agreed route, breaching commitments, attacking Islamabad police, exceeding permitted timings, and delivering anti-state speeches.



Sources within Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf have claimed that Advocate Shoaib Shaheen has also been arrested by police from his office.

Meanwhile, PTI leaders Aamir Dogar and Ali Muhammad Khan exited Parliament House without any hindrance.

Following Sher Afzal Marwat's arrest, several PTI leaders and parliamentarians decided to remain inside the Parliament building. Barrister Gohar, Zain Qureshi, and Waqas Akram have since returned to the premises.

The police have stated that Zartaj Gul and Omar Ayub will also be arrested.

According to sources, PTI leader Zartaj Gul managed to evade arrest by sitting in the back seat of a car and deceiving the police, a claim confirmed by a PTI spokesperson.

The development took place hours after police in Islamabad filed three cases

against the PTI leadership for failing to conclude last night's rally on time, pelting stones on police officers, and violating designated routes.

The cases were registered under the Public Order and Peace Act, following the PTI's public gathering at Islamabad's Sangiani.

The first case was lodged at Sangiani Police Station for the rally exceeding its permitted time limit.

A second case was registered at Sumbal Police Station for violating the pre-approved route by leading convoys through Sadaat Colony and Srinagar Highway.

The third case, filed at Noon Police Station, pertains to stone-pelting on law enforcement officials, including senior superintendent of police (SSP) Safi Sayed and other officers.

According to police sources, the prosecution has been prepared, with 28 local

turned Islamabad literally into a walled city with shipping containers blocking all the roads linking it to neighbouring Rawalpindi in anticipation of the rally and over 6,000 personnel of police and the Frontier Constabulary (FC) manning the routes.

Public transportation, including the Metro Bus service between Rawalpindi and Islamabad, as well as the Green and Blue Line bus services within Islamabad, were suspended while trains arriving in Islamabad and Rawalpindi were delayed.

All hotels, guest houses, and shops around the gathering venue were also closed on the order of the relevant police station.

Interestingly, last month, Marwat announced that he would personally oversee the planning of all future rallies and protests, taking full responsibility should any incidents similar to those of May 9 occur. He stressed that all future planning would be done independently, without consulting Imran Khan, to ensure any repercussions would fall solely on him. Marwat reaffirmed his commitment to leading peaceful protests and urged PTI supporters, especially students, lawyers, and farmers, to actively join the movement against the current political situation.—RT/Agency

Patel Urges Gandapur To Revoke Unacceptable Remarks Against Journalists

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) leader Abdul Qadir Patel on Monday said that the journalists community had demanded the retraction of inappropriate remarks by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur made by him at the Sangiani meeting.

Speaking in the National Assembly, he said that the journalists had staged a walk-out from the House in protest against the KP CM's comments against their community.

Gandapur had deeply hurt the sentiments of media persons, he added. The journalists were facing threats to their lives and well-being, and they wanted the Parliament to take a stand in their support.

Leader of the Opposition Omar Ayub also condemned the remarks, calling the journalists community highly professional.

He said he and his party colleagues in the House tendered an unconditional apology to the journalists. Chief Minister Gandapur should do



the same, he added.

Syed Amin-ul-Haque of the Muttahida Qaumi Movement Pakistan also strongly condemned Gandapur's comments, assuring that his party stood with the journalists.

Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz's (PML-N) senior leader Tariq Fazal Chaudhary said that on the Speaker's directive, he had met the journalists, who expressed their concerns regarding the remarks.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Gohar Ali

Khan apologized to the journalists on behalf of KP CM Gandapur and assured that his party supported the community.

The Parliamentary Reporters Association (PRA), however, asked the PTI leadership to ensure that Gandapur tenders an apology publicly as he had made offensive remarks publicly.

Gandapur should release a video message immediately, apologizing to the journalists for his remarks, it added.—RT/Agency

Imran Claims August 22 Rally Was Delayed At Establishment's Request



ISLAMABAD: Former Prime Minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder, Imran Khan, has admitted that his planned rally on August 22 was postponed at the request of the establishment, citing concerns over potential unrest in the country.

During an informal conversation with journalists at Adiala Jail, Imran revealed that Azam Swati, acting as an intermediary on behalf of the establishment, approached him early that morning to request the rally's postponement.

Swati conveyed that with a cricket match and protests by religious parties in Islamabad, the rally could fuel instability.

Imran added that the establishment guaranteed full support for an alternate rally scheduled for September 8.

"I postponed the August 22 rally for the sake of Pakistan," he said.

In response to a question, Imran dismissed suggestions that he sought legal relief for personal gain, stating that he had been offered a deal to remain silent for three years, which would have led to his cases being dropped.

"If I wanted relief, I would have fled the country," he remarked. Imran also warned of launching a strong protest movement if Justice Qazi Faez Isa is reinstated, calling him the most biased judge in the country's history.—RT/Agency

Hafiz Naeem Threatens Multiple Strikes And Long Marches Over Government's Inaction

KARACHI: Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Pakistan chief Hafiz Naeemur Rehman warned on Monday that more than one strike could be organised, with options for a long march and a nationwide transport strike on the table. His remarks came during a press conference at Idara Noor-e-Haq upon his arrival in Karachi on Monday.

"It's been a month since we reached an agreement with the government, but we need action, not announcements. Interior Minister [Mohsin Naqvi] promised to brief us on progress, but we demand real solutions to public issues," Rehman said.

He added that after consulting party members, the JI is prepared for further actions. "We held a nationwide shut-down strike before, but now there could be several strikes, and long marches or transport blockades are possible as well. The public deserves to know the details of the negotiations with Independent Power Producers



(IPPs) and the oppressive agreements harming them."

Rehman also criticised the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) for failing to devolve powers to the local level in Karachi. "The situation in Karachi is alarming. The PPP has seized control of all institutions and, even if some powers were transferred to local bodies, the system remains under their control," he stated.

Accusing the PPP of corruption, he said, "Rs66 billion

are allocated to the KLC project, but 60-70% of the funds disappear due to corruption. The recent roadwork, costing billions, washed away after the first rain. The road from Guru Mandir to Mazar-e-Quaid is now called 'the one-day road' because it didn't last longer than a day." Rehman concluded by accusing the government of imposing rejected political parties on Karachi and neglecting the city's needs.—RT/Agency

Ali Muhammad Khan Accuses Government Of Judicial Targeting

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Ali Muhammad Khan accused the government of targeting the judiciary.

Talking outside Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi, Khan expressed gratitude on behalf of the PTI founder to the party workers for the success of the Islamabad rally. He further added that the PTI founder's morale was high. Referring to Imran Khan's stance, he said, "Weakening the power of the Supreme Court would be an attack on Pakistan itself." He criticised the government for undermining the judiciary. He also criticised Pakistan People's Party (PPP), claiming



that the party abandoned Bhutto's ideology by making Asif Ali Zardari the President. Ali Muhammad Khan stressed that if the country is to move forward, the voice of the people must be heard. The nation had already delivered its verdict in favour of the PTI founder on February 8, he reiterated.—RT/Agency

Shibli Slams Misuse Of State Resources Against PTI

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Senator Shibli Faraz has stated that all state resources are being used against PTI.

Speaking during a Senate session on Monday, the senator remarked that no matter how many figures are manipulated, inflation remains unchecked.

"The country is heading towards institutional collapse, and the finance minister is left with no options," he claimed, adding that government members have turned the House into a chaotic market.

He noted that while PTI governed the country for



three years, the current government has been in power for 40 years and has led the country to ruin. He told the members of the House don't pass the laws that you have to regret.—RT/Agency

Finance Minister Calls On Private Sector To Drive Economic Growth Through Public Confidence

ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb on Monday stressed the importance of restoring public trust in the government's economic policies, saying that the private sector must take the lead in driving the country forward.

His remarks came during the Senate session where he addressed economic challenges.

"We cannot move forward until public confidence is restored. The private sector must step up and lead the country," Aurangzeb stated, adding that currency stability and single-digit inflation have been achieved in the current fiscal year, with improved exports in July and August. Responding to a question from Senator Shibli Faraz regarding a shortfall in tax collection, the finance



minister explained, "We are Rs98 billion behind in tax collection. However, private sector credit has risen by half a trillion. The government needs to maintain fiscal discipline. As the prime minister has said, the government's job is not to run businesses but to empower the private sector."

Aurangzeb agreed that digitalising the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) is essential for building trust. "We must restore confidence in the tax authority. It's impossible to develop without paying taxes. This country cannot run on charity; taxes are essential for progress," he added. He concluded by emphasising that institutional reforms could make the current IMF programme the last one for Pakistan.—RT/Agency

THE HEARTLAND



SEHWAN SHARIF: A group photo shows the newly elected office-bearers of the National Press Club Sehwan Sharif.—RT

Mayor Kashif Shoro reviews arrangements for Eid Milad-un-Nabi

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: Under the instructions of Mayor Hyderabad Kashif Shoro, the Hyderabad Municipal Corporation organized a meeting at the Mayor's Secretariat Civic Center regarding the arrangements for processions and other events to be held in the city for Eid Milad-un-Nabi. The meeting was chaired by Mayor Hyderabad. The meeting was attended by various religious figures, scholars, saints, District Peace Committee officials, leaders of religious parties, and officials from Milad committees and associations. In addition to Mayor Kashif Shoro, the meeting was also attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Gadai Hussain Soomro, Municipal Commissioner Zahoor Ahmed Lakhan, and Chairmen of Town Municipal Corporations Abdul Ghafoor Das, Mustafa Bilal, Manthar Jatoti, Taj Wali, Umair Chandio, and Ahmed. Also present were President of Anjuman Fidayan-e-Rasool Ishtiaq, Ahmed Jafari of Imamia Trust, President of Markazi Tanzeem-e-Aza Syed Aleem Haider Taqvi, Faqeer Abdul Ghafoor Shah, Mufti Shahid Barkati, Chairman of Dargah Sakhi Abdul Wahab Shah Jilani Haji Gulshan Elahi's son,



Anjuman Shidaiyan-e-Rasool's Mehboob Alam Sherwani, Sunni Tehreek's Imran Qadri, Jamiat Ulema-e-Pakistan Noorani's Dr. Yunus Qadri, Sunni Ittehad Council, Dawat-e-Islami's Jahanzeb Attari, Hyderabad Chamber's Najmuddin Qureshi, District Peace Committee officials, and other officers from Hyderabad Municipal Corpora-

PPP is the only true representative party of the people: PPP Shahdadt Kot



SHAHDADKOT: The President of PPP Taluka Shahdadt Kot, Mir Asif Ali Laghari, Vice President Sirai Darya Khan Mastoi, General Secretary Rais Wajid Khan Chandio, and General Secretary of PPP City, Sirai Qurban Ali Soomro, have stated that PPP is the representative party of the people. They emphasized that PPP is working tirelessly for the development of the country and its people. The support provided by PPP to the current government setup is aimed at ensuring the progress and stability of the country, its citizens, and democratic institutions. They remarked that those who came into power in the past but ruled for personal interests instead of focusing on national progress, democratic stability, and public service, are now distant from the people's hearts and have disappeared from the political scene. The people have permanently rejected them. On the other hand, PPP remains in the hearts of the people and continues to represent their aspirations.—RT

Party workers will be given their due recognition: PPP Khairpur's Sardar Aijaz Khan Khuhro

By Sajjad Chang

HINGORJA: Sardar Aijaz Khan Khuhro, the newly appointed General Secretary of PPP District Khairpur, stated that the party workers in Khairpur District will be given their due recognition. He expressed a desire for MNAs and MPAs to include party workers in developmental schemes so that basic public issues at the grassroots level can be resolved. Khuhro, speaking with elected municipal representatives, party officials, workers, and the media from various cities in Khairpur District at the Khuhro House, mentioned that Gorakh Hill, a potential development site, is being worked on by the Sindh Government. He warned that the construction of the Kalabagh Dam would turn Sindh into a desert, an issue that PPP had previously



opposed but now opposes even more strongly. He emphasized that organizing within Khairpur District is a key focus and that the district remains a stronghold for PPP. Among those who met with PPP General Secretary Aijaz Khan Khuhro were Zainab Shar of the PPP Ladies Wing, Vice Chairman Sohbat Dero, Habibullah Sehto, Shams

Abbasi, Zahid Samito, Shehzad Lashari, Aziz Memon from Hingorja Town Committee, Azeem Seho, Chairman of the Journalists' Union Khairpur Ghulam Hussain Chang, President Jamal Mahmood Khuhro, Dr. Khair Muhammad, Manthar Soomro, and Wadero Mithal Sehto from Rasoolabad, among others.

SSWMB, Gansu Company launch a cleanliness campaign in Larkana



By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: In Larkana, the Sindh Solid Waste Management Board and the Chinese Gansu Company carried out extensive cleaning operations across various areas of the city in honor of the blessed month of Rabi' al-Awwal. The areas cleaned include Bandar Road, Bank Square, Girls College Road, VIP Road, SSP Chowk, Chandka Bridge, Sachal Colony, Shabbaz Colony, Qaim Shah Bukhari Road, Jinnah Bagh Chowk, Lahori Mohalla, Pakistan Chowk, Vegetable Market, Yar Mohammad Colony, Bhains Colony, Nazur, Rehmatpur, Sheikh Zayed Colony, Old Bus Stand, Bakrani Road, Murad Wahan, Ali Goharabad, Naudero Chowk, Gajjanpur, Allahabad, Khaliq Colony, Dodai Road, Aqil Road, and Professor Colony, among others. Officials from the Sindh Solid Waste Management Board and the Gansu Company, including Project Director Hamid Khan, Operations Manager Mohammad Yousof, Director Gul Muhammad Shaikh, Operations Manager Ifkhar Narejo, Assistant Manager Nadeqat Junjo, Darya Khan Jalbani, Ghulam Murtaza Jalejo, and Wasay Sami, stated that their team regularly conducts cleaning work in the city. However, during this time, in anticipation of the Rabi' al-Awwal processions, the cleaning efforts along the routes of the processions in various areas of the city have been intensified.

14 SU students receive cheques under PM's scholarship Fund



By Munawar Chandio

JAMSHORO: As many as 14 students of the Institute of Art and Design, University of Sindh, Jamshoro were awarded scholarship cheques under the Prime Minister Fund Scholarship program. Vice-Chancellor Professor (Meritorious) Dr. Muhammad Siddique Kalhoro personally handed over the cheques to 5 male and 9 female students at a ceremony held at his office. The event was also attended by the University's Registrar and Director of the Students Financial Aid Office Professor Dr. Mushtaq Ali Jariko, Focal Person Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Campus Dadu Professor Dr. Nek Muhammad Shaikh, Dr. Rafique Ahmed Lashari, Dr. Muhammad Younis Laghari, and Ghulam Saqib Burro. While address-

ing the recipients, SU Vice-Chancellor Dr. Muhammad Siddique Kalhoro said that over the past four years, scholarships worth Rs. 860 million had been distributed among students of Alma Mater. He said that these scholarships had greatly benefited students, enabling them to continue their education without financial stress, even in the face of rising inflation. Some recipients have already graduated, thanks to the support provided. He also acknowledged the contributions of both federal and provincial governments, private donors and university teachers' welfare funds. He reassured that in cases of emergencies, where a student is unable to pay the tuition fees, their requests were considered, and the fees were covered through the Sindh University Teachers' Welfare Fund. Dr. Kalhoro pointed out that more than 5,000 students resided in the boys' and girls' hostels and many have achieved academic success with the provided facilities. He noted that if the university had stopped offering hostel facilities, it would have been difficult for 2,000 female and 3,000 male students to pursue higher education. He further stated that the tuition fees at the University of Sindh were very affordable, with senior batch students paying annual fees ranging from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000. The Vice Chancellor said that the university had initially received 14 scholarship slots under the Prime Minister Fund, but after a request to the authorities, 8 more slots were granted and additional students will soon receive their scholarship cheques.

Students, teachers protest against posting of male Head Master at Girls High School in TMK

By Abdul Sattar

TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: In Tando Muhammad Khan, female teachers and students from the Government Main Girls High School staged a protest outside the school's main gate, expressing their concerns. They stated that for several years, the female headmistress has been effectively running the school. However, the education department has proposed the appointment of a male teacher to the school, which they object to. Speaking to the media, they explained that their current headmistress, Ms. Gul Afshan Bhatti, and the entire staff are providing education to over 3,500 students, including those from rural areas, without any fear. They expressed concern that the appointment of a male headmaster would create fear among the students and their parents. They emphasized that Ms. Gul Afshan Bhatti, being a woman, is well-acquainted with the issues faced by female students and



teachers. They argued that the presence of a male principal in a girls' school would make them feel unsafe. The protesters called on the provincial minister for education and other high authorities to take immediate notice of this important issue.

Khairpur Court orders recovery of three women

By Naeem Shaikh

KHAIRPUR: The court of Third Additional Session Judge Altaf Hussain Bijar has issued directives for the recovery of three individuals, including two women, held in captivity. Letters have been sent to the respective police stations to execute the court's orders. According to the news, the court has directed the Kotdiji Police Station SHO to recover Rehana, who is allegedly held captive by residents of the village Dhap Waro, namely Mazar, and Amina Soomro of Nizamani Muhalla, and present him in court. The court has also issued show-cause notices to the SHOs of Babil, Pirjo, and Tando Masti police stations for failing to comply with court orders and has instructed them to appear in court. A warning has been issued regarding the filing of cases against them in case of non-compliance.

Komal Gul, who is allegedly held captive by Babar, Sikandar, Owais and Zaid Banbhani of village Moulani Banbhani near Tariqo, and present her in court. In addition, the court has deemed the petition filed by Nazia January from Azam Colony Khairpur worth hearing. The court has directed the B-Section Police Station SHO to recover Muhammad Murtaza, a one-year-old boy allegedly held captive by Ibrahim, Jameelan, Ahmad Raza, and Amina Soomro of Nizamani Muhalla, and present him in court. The court has also issued show-cause notices to the SHOs of Babil, Pirjo, and Tando Masti police stations for failing to comply with court orders and has instructed them to appear in court. A warning has been issued regarding the filing of cases against them in case of non-compliance.

Ghotki Police arrest three notorious criminals during ongoing operations

By Shad Mahar

GHOTKI: DSP Mirpur Mathelo Abdul Qadir Soomro and SHO Khanpur Mahar Barkat Ali Bhatti held a press conference at the Khanpur Mahar Police Station. They claimed that during a continuous three-day search operation in the Sahanjro Bozdar area against criminals, they have arrested key suspects involved in the murder case of a local named Sabir Panhyar, who was killed by armed men during a robbery attempt. The primary sus-

pect, Akhtar alias Akhtar Bozdar, along with two other criminals, Adam Pitafi and Abdul Sattar alias Sattar Pitafi, were apprehended. According to DSP Soomro, Akhtar Bozdar is wanted in the murder case of Sabir Panhyar, who was killed during a robbery resistance. Bozdar also has 22 additional cases registered against him, including robbery, dacoity, and kidnapping. DSP Mirpur Mathelo mentioned that Adam Pitafi and his brother Sattar Pitafi are also wanted in 10 other cases across various police stations. Additionally, firearms were recovered from Akhtar Bozdar, and a stolen motorcycle was recovered from local resident Shabbaz Panhyar. DSP Soomro stated that the three suspects were arrested during the three-day operation, and efforts are underway to apprehend other criminals as well. Meanwhile, SHO Khanpur Mahar Barkat Ali Bhatti emphasized that the police in Khanpur Mahar and surrounding areas should not be disturbed and assured that the operation against criminals will continue.

Commissioner Ghulam Mustafa Phul launches anti-polio campaign in Larkana

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: The inauguration ceremony for the September 2024 SND (Sub-National Immunization Days) Polio Campaign was held at village Waris Dino Machi at the guesthouse of UC Chairman Zameer Hussain Solangi. The event was officiated by the Commissioner of Larkana, Ghulam Mustafa Phul, along with Dr. Shoukat Ali Abro, the District Health Officer (DHO) of Larkana. Participants in the ceremony included Dr. Aziz Ahmed Mangi, Area Coordinator for



WHO, Dr. Amanullah Abro Taluka Health Officer (THO) Ratodero, M. Alam Marfani, Chief Coordination Officer (CCO), Intiaz Ali Abro, District Supervisor for Vaccination (DSV), Sarfraz Ahmed Tagar, Dr. Mukhtiar Ahmed Chama, District Focal Person for PEI (Polio Eradication Initiative) Larkana. The campaign aims to enhance polio immunization efforts and ensure the protection of children in the region from the polio virus.

8-year-old Khairpur boy drowns in water tank

By Naeem Shaikh

KHAIRPUR: In the village of Waris Gambhir, within the jurisdiction of Shah Hussain Police Station, an eight-year-old boy named Shahzaib, son of Shaukat Ali Seelro, tragically drowned in a water tank outside his home. According to reports, the incident occurred when Shahzaib acci-

dentially fell into the water tank. His family rushed to the scene and managed to retrieve him from the tank. He was then taken to the emergency ward of the Civil Hospital Khairpur, where doctors confirmed his death. After completing the necessary formalities, the body was handed over to the family.

PTI's Sardar Mir Sher Muhammad Rind acquitted in murder case

By Samad Ayaz

NAWABSHAH: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) central leader Sardar Mir Sher Muhammad Rind has been honorably acquitted by the court in a murder case. He stated that my political opponents conspired to falsely implicate me in a murder case, which also led to the rejection of my nomination papers. Today, the Sariaab Court has honorably acquitted me. It should be noted that 14 years ago, Sardar Mir Sher Muhammad Khan Rind was included



in a murder case involving a person killed in the Sariaab area of Balochistan. His nomination papers were rejected in Nawabshah based on the same case, allowing Aseefa Bhutto Zardari, daughter of Pakistan's current President Asif Ali Zardari, to be elected unopposed as MNA. Today, the complainant appeared in the Sariaab Court and testified that he had named Sardar Mir Sher Muhammad Khan Rind under political pressure and was now withdrawing from the case.

REGIONAL TIMES
NATIONAL



Maryam States Terrorism Hasn't Affected Education Sector's Resilience

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz has said the country has strengthened its education sector despite the evil attempts by terrorism otherwise.

In her message on International Day to Protect Education, she said, "We pledge to impart education to everyone. The religion of Islam lays emphasis on acquiring knowledge and the Holy Quran also preaches to attain knowledge." The chief minister added, "Literacy improves quality of life and provides immense opportunities of progress. We cannot think of a bright future without attain-



ing a 100 percent literacy rate. The Punjab government is taking historical and innovative steps for the provision of ease in access to education." She said many countries had become the target of terrorism which hurt their ed-

Kundi Accuses Gandapur Of Provoking May 9-Like Unrest

ISLAMABAD: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Governor Faisal Karim Kundi has accused Ali Amin Gandapur of inciting unrest similar to the events of May 9 during a recent rally in Islamabad.

The governor urged the federal government to take immediate action against those involved in violating the law.

He stressed that anyone distorting the constitution must face consequence, especially those responsible for the violence on May 9.

Governor Kundi also criticised the KP CM, calming his district was a hotspot for terrorism activities, and urged the KP CM to seek a vote of confidence for the provincial assembly as the law-and-order situation had deteriorated in the



province. Kundi reiterated that the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) has always supported democracy and peaceful political process, and stressed the politicians were easy to hold accountable, but questioned when judges and military leaders would face the same level of scrutiny.—RT/Agency

SOUTHERN PUNJAB

TTS woman hospitalized after being tortured by her husband

By Abid Mehmood Ch



TOBA TEK SINGH: In the village of 701/43 G B, near Pir Mahal, a woman named Anna was subjected to brutal violence by her husband and in-laws for failing to meet their demands. As a result, she sustained severe injuries. Anna reported that after the assault, her husband and other family members locked her in a room. She managed to escape by pretending to go to the wash-room and fled to save her life. Anna was transported to the THQ Hospital in Pir Mahal for medical treatment. She explained that her in-laws had been demanding money and dowry from her and subjected her to violence

when their demands were not met. Additionally, they had confiscated two carets of gold jewelry given by her parents and had previously subjected her to violence as well. The local village head had mediated reconciliation earlier, but the abuse continued. Anna's father also mentioned that he had taken loans from the bank multiple times to meet the demands of the in-laws and to ensure his daughter's well-being, but the abuse persisted. Anna is now receiving medical care at THQ Hospital.

Bomb Explosion On Police Van In South Waziristan Injures 13

SOUTH WAZIRISTAN: A remote-controlled bomb attack on a police van in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's (KP) South Waziristan injured 13 people which included six police personnel and seven civilians, a hospital official told media on Monday.

According to police officials, the bomb exploded

on a police van at Kir kot Road in the Wana Rustam Bazar.

The officials added they reached site of the incident as soon as the blast was reported, while rescue teams arrived there to shift the injured to the District Headquarters Hospital Wana. One of the critically injured victims of the attack

Aliya Hamza Announces Upcoming Movement Towards Adiala Jail

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Aliya Hamza has announced that a significant movement will begin soon, directing its focus towards Adiala Jail.

Speaking to media outside the Anti-Terrorism Court in Lahore, Aliya Hamza remarked that Prisoner Number 804 (referring to Imran Khan) had won while being incarcerated in Adiala Jail.

She said a rally would be held in Lahore on Sept 22. Aliya accused the authorities of continuing to oppress PTI supporters. She claimed that she had endured every injustice with a smiling face.

The PTI leader criticised the government for not learning from its mistakes but instead resorting to further oppression in Punjab.

She asserted that the mandate given by the people



on Feb 8 belonged to the founder of PTI.

She said that despite numerous obstacles, the government had failed to stop public from attending the rally.

She concluded by stating that PTI would continue with peaceful protests and rallies, declaring that the "final round" had now begun.—RT/Agency

Gujranwala Police arrest notorious criminals during ongoing operations



By Dr Mirza MB Qamar

GUJRANWALA: In Gujranwala, the Patrol Police conducted a significant crackdown on various criminal activities. Under the direction of SP Patrol Ferooz Ahmad Bhutta, and supervised by DSPs, the operation focused on robbers, illegal arms holders,

advertising criminals, and liquor sellers. Key results of the crackdown include two robbers were arrested along with weapons, five accused criminals were apprehended and four other individuals were arrested for illegal possession of arms. One modern rifle (244 bore), one modern rifle (223 bore), one pistol (9 mm), two pistols (30 bore), dozens of bullets, four bottles of alcohol, seven stolen motorcycles were seized during the ongoing operations. SP Ferooz Ahmad Bhutta emphasized that strict measures are being taken to suppress criminal elements, with operations continuing without fear or favor.

METRO KARACHI

Gadap's civil society rallies against increasing number of social crimes

By Habib Bugti

KARACHI: In Gadap Town, Malir, a protest rally was organized by the Civil Society and Malir Journalist Welfare Organization from Pipri Ground to Malir Press Club, in response to rising lawlessness, land grabbing, drug dealing, gambling dens, and other social evils. The rally was led by social leaders, including lawyer Musa Kolachi, Mama Misri Bugti, Imdad Solangi, President of the Malir Journalist Welfare Organization Manzoor Solangi, and Nawab Solangi. Participants in the rally chanted slogans against so-



cial ills, carrying banners and placards. The rally passed through various areas, eventually reaching the National Highway and culminating in a sit-in at the District Press Club in Malir. On this occasion, lawyer and social leader Muhammad Musa Kolachi

Three Killed As Jeep Falls Into Ravine In Neelum Valley



MUZAFFARABAD: At least three people dead, four others sustained injuries as a jeep plunged into ravine in AJK's Neelum valley, media reported.

As per details, the unfortunate incident occurred on Neelum valley-Babon road, whereas the injured and dead bodies have been shifted to the nearby hospital.

Earlier, at least 23 dead, one injured as a coaster carrying passengers plunged into a gorge near the Azad Pattan Pana Bridge in

Rawalakot. According to Commissioner Rawalakot, the coaster was traveling from Rawalpindi to Rawalakot when it met with the accident. On August 19, at least seven labourers were killed when a vehicle plunged into a ditch in Chilas region of Gilgit Baltistan. Seven labourers working at the Diamer Bhasha Dam were killed and one was seriously injured when their vehicle fell into a ravine near the Karakoram Highway.—RT/Agency

RPO Dr. Muhammad Abid Khan dismisses SI Zubair Khalid Randhawa from service

By Abid Mehmood Ch



TOBA TEK SINGH: Sub-Inspector Zubair Khalid Randhawa, who served as SHO, has faced multiple allegations including corruption, negligence, and irregularities. During his tenure as SHO City, there was a significant increase in incidents of theft, robbery, and dacoity. Additionally, an inquiry is ongoing in the Anti-Corruption Department against him. The wife of a laborer from the nearby village

High Court against him for the illegal possession of her livestock. Moreover, after an inquiry into the allegations of corruption, severe public complaints, and departmental irregularities, RPO Faisalabad Dr. Muhammad Abid Khan has dismissed Sub-Inspector Zubair Khalid Randhawa from service. The public has expressed satisfaction with his dismissal. However, no placement has been appointed yet.

ACs review ongoing anti-polio campaign in Gujranwala



By Dr Mirza MB Qamar

GUJRANWALA: The Assistant Commissioners including City Iqra Mubeen, Sadr Usman Sikandar, Kamonki Maham Wahid, Wazirabad Rabnawaz Chadhar, Nowshera Warkhan Naveed Haider under the instructions of Deputy Commissioner Gujranwala Muhammad Tariq Qureshi conducted a review of the ongoing 5-day national anti-polio campaign in the district. They visited various locations including bus stops,

union councils, kiins, and fixed polio points to monitor the campaign's progress and to administer anti-polio drops to children under 5 years of age. CEO Health Dr. Moez, and WHO representatives Dr. Amina and Dr. Aysha also visited to oversee the polio teams' activities. During the review, the officers checked the registration process, micro plan, and transit teams, issuing necessary instructions for further improvement of the campaign. The anti-polio campaign is set to continue until September 12 in all Union Councils of Gujranwala, aiming to vaccinate children under five years of age across the district. Polio workers and teams are conducting door-to-door and street-to-street visits to ensure every child receives the vaccine. The officers urged parents to ensure their children receive the two polio drops and help make Pakistan polio-free. They emphasized that the campaign's success depends on reaching every home and every child.

Karachi Police Detain Suspect In Robbery-Related Murders Of Father And Daughter

KARACHI: Karachi police have arrested Ali Gohar, a fugitive involved in the murder of a father and his daughter during a robbery last year at Korangi's Chama Chowrangi.



The Korangi Industrial Area Police, working with intelligence agencies, apprehended Gohar, who was wanted for the double murder. SSP Korangi, Touheed Rehman, confirmed the arrest and detailed that Gohar fired eight shots from a .30 bore pistol during the robbery, resulting in the deaths of two-year-old Anam and

her father, Tahir Zaman. Tahir Zaman, a sailor in the Pakistan Navy, had taken his daughter to Sea View for an outing on his motorcycle. The tragic incident occurred on their return journey on Sector 16 main road. Legal proceedings are underway against Gohar. In 2023, the murders of Tahir Zaman and his daughter shocked the community when they were shot while riding their motorcycle in Korangi Industrial Area.—RT/Agency

Three Dead, Including Two Women, After Consuming Toxic Liquor At Wild Islamabad Party

ISLAMABAD: Three people including two women and a man, lost their lives after consuming 'toxic liquor' in Islamabad, media reported, citing police.

Reports indicate that the group had gathered for a dance party in Islamabad's Sector F/11-2 when the tragedy occurred.

The victims collapsed after drinking 'substandard

liquor'. One of the women named Nadia informed the administration of the residential apartments, who later cautioned the Shalimar police.

Upon being informed, the police reached the apartment and moved Nadia to the Pakistan Institute of Hospital but unfortunately succumbed to the same cause shortly after.—RT/Agency

Town Municipal Corporation Manghopir Chairman Haji Nawaz Ali Brohi Oversees Eid Milad-ul-Nabi (S.A.W.W) Arrangements

By Rahib Gaho

KARACHI: Haji Nawaz Ali Brohi, Chairman of the Town Municipal Corporation Manghopir, led the arrangements and activities for Eid Milad-ul-Nabi (S.A.W.W) at the Manghopir Town Office. During the ninth council meeting, which began with the recitation of the Holy Quran, Naat Rasool Maqbool, and the National Anthem, council members discussed local government issues related to the occasion. Chairman Brohi emphasized the significance of Rabi-ul-Awwal, celebrating the birth of Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.W) with devotion and respect. He assured that, similar to the arrangements made during Muharram, municipal services would be



fully provided throughout Rabi-ul-Awwal, pending approval. The meeting also addressed cleaning, grass maintenance, and lighting along procession routes. The Sindh Solid Waste Management Board was directed to ensure cleanliness at worship sites and mosques in Manghopir Town during Eid Milad-ul-Nabi (S.A.W.W). Member Council Ali Akbar Kachhilo proposed several suggestions, which were promised to be acted upon promptly. The meeting was attended by Town Municipal Commissioner Agha Khaliq, Account Officer Fayyaz Chana, Vice Chairman Rana Muhammad Arif, and other officials including Ali Akbar Kachhilo, Hassan Baloch, Mushtaq Ahmad, Gibran, Hafiz Imran, Ali Nisar Khan, Ali Hassan Brohi, Sajid, Kanwar Iqbal, Shazia Baloch, Saleem, Aamir Malik, Sanitation Director Liaquat Province, Asim Hasan Sheikh, MND Engineers Fahad Jameel, Sub Engineers Junaid Siddiqui and Afaq Alam, among others.

One Injured In Karachi Sewerage Line Explosion

KARACHI: A sewerage line blast near New Sabzi Mandi in Karachi resulted in injuries to one person, according to reports.

The explosion, which occurred near a bank, shattered glass windows of nearby shops and buildings and caused damage to parked bikes and cars.

Azma Bokhari Challenges Gandapur To Release Leader Within 20 Days

LAHORE: Punjab Information and Broadcasting Minister Azma Bokhari said on Monday she would give 20 days to Ali Amin Gandapur to dare release his leader if he could. Addressing a press conference in Lahore, she gave a response to the statement of KP CM Ali Amin Gandapur who made the claim in the Islamabad rally that his party would get



Imran Khan released in 15 days if the government failed to do so. Gandapur also said the PTI would hold a public gathering in Lahore on Sept 22 come what may. She criticised the PTI for disturbing law and order in its Islamabad rally on Sunday and

the chaotic party was involved in arson and its leaders considered themselves 'Tarzan' by throwing containers. She said Zartaj Gul was engaged in this activity. She said her party and government didn't want rift between provinces but the Punjab police were a courageous force who could give a strong response to Ali Amin Gandapur. She challenged Gandapur by saying, "I give you 20 days to get your leader released." She criticised, what she said, thinly attended public gathering and misuse of funds by the KP government.—RT/Agency



The Dismantling of Democracy: End the PTI Persecution Now

The ongoing harassment of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and its leadership represents a disturbing trend that threatens the fabric of democracy in Pakistan. The recent arrest of PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan, along with other key figures, merely exemplifies the broader, systematic attempt to stifle political dissent and undermine democratic processes.

The PTI's consistent mistreatment, evidenced by the arrests of its members for alleged violations, highlights a worrying pattern of political victimization. This relentless pressure on PTI not only hampers the party's operations but also jeopardizes the core democratic principles of free speech and political plurality. The Islamabad police's actions,

targeting PTI leaders in and around the Parliament House, seem less about upholding the law and more about creating an environment of fear and



repression. The role of the judiciary in this scenario cannot be understated. It is imperative for Pakistan's honorable courts to scrutinize these actions closely. The relentless browbeating of PTI not only jeopardizes the party's right to operate freely but also sends a chilling message to other political entities about the potential consequences of opposing the

current government. The courts must act as a bulwark against such erosions of democratic norms.

Furthermore, international bodies, including the United States, should take note of these developments. Political victimization undercuts the democratic values that many nations, including the U.S., champion. The world must stand vigilant against such practices that endanger democratic governance and political freedoms. Only through robust international and judicial oversight can we ensure that democratic processes are preserved and respected.

The time to act is now. It is crucial for the global community and Pakistan's judiciary to address and rectify the ongoing suppression of democratic practices.



THE HEARTLAND



44th death anniversary of classical singer Ustad Manzoor Ali Khan observed in Tando Adam

By Mumtaz Ali

TANDO ADAM: The 44th death anniversary of the renowned classical singer Ustad Manzoor Ali Khan was observed with simplicity in Tando Adam. The event was marked by the absence of official recognition or organized programs from any organization. His nephew, Ustad Nadir Ali Khan, along with Humair Ali Khan, paid tribute by laying a floral wreath and performing a prayer at his final resting place. Ustad Manzoor Ali Khan was born in 1922 in Shikarpur. His father, Ustad Jamal Khan, was also a prominent musician from whom Ustad Manzoor Ali Khan learned music. Known for his captivating performance style, Ustad Manzoor Ali Khan had a significant impact on his listeners, often leaving them mesmerized. He dedicated 50 years to the field of music and was known for covering all expenses for his students' training. He was a connoisseur of



music and well-versed in the compositions of Hazrat Shah Abdul Latif Bhitai (RA). His contributions to classical music earned him several awards, including the Pride of Performance, Shah Latif Award, Sachal Award, and more. He passed away on September 9, 1980, and was laid to rest in the Said Haji Ismail Shah cemetery. During the commemoration, prominent figures from the

PPP Sanghar's Jahangir Junejo thanks party leadership for placing confidence in him



By Khadim Khakheli

SANGHAR: Jahangir Junejo, the General Secretary of PPP District Sanghar, expressed his gratitude for the trust placed in him by PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Co-Chairman Asif Ali Zardari, MNA Faryal Talpur, PPP Sindh President Nisar Ahmed Khuhro, and Zia-ul-Hassan Lanjar, President of PPP Shaheed Benazirabad Division. He acknowledged their support and expressed his commitment to fulfilling their trust by serving the poor, needy and working-class people of District Sanghar and by playing his role in implementing PPP's manifesto. He mentioned that all other political ideologies have faded away and people are abandoning their forty-year-old political affiliations to join PPP. This shift reflects the victory of the philosophy of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and the vision of PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and President Asif Ali Zardari.

SSP Tanveer Hussain Tunio visits shrine of Hamal Faqir Laghari (RA)

By Zeeshan Soomro

SAKRAND: SSP Tanveer Hussain Tunio stated that Sindh has been a land of saints and sages for centuries, and it is due to the teachings of these elders that the people of Sindh are known for their peace-loving nature. This is the reason why Sindh is recognized worldwide as a peaceful, hospitable, and forgiving place.



He was speaking during his visit to the shrine of the great Sufi saint and renowned poet of Sindh, Saraiki, and Urdu, Hamal Faqir Laghari (RA), located in the village of Mir Khan Laghari near Sakrand. He mentioned that he had studied Hamal Faqir (RA) during his student days and had long desired to visit his shrine. Today, that wish was fulfilled, and he prayed that Allah may once again make Sindh a center of peace, erad-

icating crime and criminals so that ordinary people can breathe in peace. Senior journalist Qazi Javed Sani provided information about the shrine and Hamal Faqir Laghari, noting that although Hamal's death occurred 150 years ago, it was nearly 50 years ago that Dr. Nabi Bux Baloch and Anayatullah Ghancho advised former MPA Syed Inmad Muhammad Shah to locate the shrine with the help of the elders of the Laghari clan. Following this, the shrine was built and is now a place of reverence. On this occasion, Liaquat Ali Keerio presented SSP Tanveer Hussain Tunio with Hamal Faqir's famous book "Kulyat-e-Hamal" as a gift. The event was attended by DSP Sakrand Bashir Ahmed Khuharo, SHO Sakrand Asghar Ali Awan, young journalist Sajjad Ali Magasi and Ghulam Nabi Mallah. The gathering concluded with a collective prayer at the shrine.

Dr. Sham Sundar K. Adwani attends annual Urs of Sufi Saint Murshid Kitpal

By Shoukat Khakheli

THANA BULA KHAN: PPP MPA and Parliamentary Secretary for Excise, Taxation, Narcotics, and Transport, Dr. Sham Sundar K. Adwani, participated as the chief guest at the annual Urs of the Sufi saint, Murshid Kitpal. During the event, Dr. Sham Sundar K. Adwani was warmly welcomed by the All Murshid Kitpal Shiwa Mandali, who presented him with a traditional shawl (Saropu) as a gift. In his address, Dr. Adwani highlighted that Sindh is the land of Sufis, saints, and mystics, who have always preached peace, love, and brotherhood. He emphasized that the land of Kohistan is also characterized by peace, love, and mutual respect, where Hindus and Muslims live together harmoniously. He assured that there is no religious discrimination in Kohistan and



committed to standing with the minority communities. The event saw a large turnout of devotees from Kohistan and various corners of Sindh, reflecting widespread participation and devotion.

SALU observes World First Aid Day



By Naem Shaikh

KHAIRPUR: To commemorate World First Aid Day, the Students Societies Center (SSC) at Shah Abdul Latif University (SALU) Khairpur, in collaboration with the Center for Peace & Development Initiative (CPDI) and Rescue 1122, held a special session aimed at educating students and volunteers on essential life-saving first aid techniques, particularly relevant during disasters and floods. The event featured prominent speakers from Rescue 1122, including Inspector Muhammad Awaiz, Noor Nabi, and Latif Dino, who shared their expertise with the attendees. Inspector Awaiz emphasized the critical role paramedics play in everyday life and led demon-

strations on proper first aid procedures, ensuring the audience understood how to respond effectively in emergency situations. He also praised Dr. Ali Raza Lashari for organizing such a vital session. Noor Nabi offered insightful discussions on the significance of first aid in saving lives, stressing the need for widespread knowledge of paramedic skills in disaster-prone regions. His session helped deepen the understanding of how first aid can make the difference between life and death. Dr. Majid Ansari, Chairman of the Department of Biochemistry, commended the efforts of Rescue 1122 and expressed his satisfaction with the enthusiastic participation of students. Similarly, Dr. Irshad Hussain Wassan,

Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAWW) celebrated in village Dhoro Anwar Kapri



By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: In the village of Dhoro Anwar Kapri, the Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAWW) was celebrated with great reverence and respect. Molvi Ghulam Muhammad Naemi from Karachi and Allama Mufir Umar Madani Memon delivered speeches, while Abdul Karim recited the Holy Quran. Renowned scholars recited Naats, illuminating the gathering with the love and light of the Holy Prophet Hazrat

Muhammad (SAWW). The celebration of Eid Milad-un-Nabi also saw participation from the lovers of the Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (SAWW) in various parts of the Umerkot district, including the towns of Kunri and Bhado Kapri. Notable attendees included Hajj Rafiq Kapri, Altaf Hussain Hayat Kapri, and other esteemed guests. The event concluded with a general distribution of food organized by the host, Muhammad Anwar Kapri.

Rain affected people of MPK protest for draining of rainwater

By Younis Chandio

MIRPURKHAS: In Mirpurkhas, residents of the 4th, protested against the Town Committee Chairman Narjo Muhammad Narjo. The residents took to the streets, criticizing the failure to drain the rainwater and accusing the

officials of inadequate performance. The protests included chanting slogans against the officials. Town Committee Chairman Narjo visited the site, stating that he had limited power and could not address the issue himself. He directed residents to begin within two hours and would be completed within a week.

REGIONAL TIMES

SPORTS



REGIONAL TIMES

THE HEARTLAND

Pakistan bags 11 medals in Long-Range Shooting Championship



UNITED KINGDOM: Pakistani shooters have made the country proud by winning as many as 11 medals in the Long-Range Shooting Championship held at the prestigious Bisley Ranges in the United Kingdom.

During the competition, the Pakistani team won three gold, four silver and bronze medals each. With Junaid Khattak and Ahmad Javed winning gold medals, the team also managed to secure three positions in the overall top 10.

Cristiano Ronaldo's heroics ensure Portugal's triumph over Scotland



LISBON: Staying true to his reputation, star footballer Cristiano Ronaldo once again proved why he is considered by many as one of the best players in the world as he scored his 901st goal to see Portugal secure 2-1 win over Scotland in the Nations League match.

During Sunday's match, Ronaldo - who reached 900 career goals with his 131st international strike in Thursday's victory over Croatia - showed no signs of being aged by that incredible milestone as he came off the bench to lift Portugal to their second successive win in Nations League Group A1.

The Estadio da Luz in Lisbon rose in unison to chant the relentless Al Nassr forward's name after he struck with two minutes to play.

On his 30th birthday, Manchester United midfielder Bruno Fernandes fired Portugal's second-half equaliser after his former Old Trafford team-mate Scott McTominay gave Scotland a surprise early lead.

For Portugal boss Roberto Martinez, victory over Scotland could mean some awkward silences at his next family gathering. Martinez met his wife Beth while playing for Scottish club Motherwell in 2001 and joked before the match he would be delighted to upset his father-in-law by beating Scotland.

He did exactly that, leaving Scotland still waiting for their first win over Portugal. Beaten 3-2 by Poland at Hampden Park on Thursday, Scotland have won just once in 14 matches, a barren sequence that included their lacklustre failure to make it out of the group stage at Euro 2024.

Steve Clarke's men have lost six of their nine matches in 2024, with only victory coming in a friendly against Gibraltar in June. "When you bring quality players from the bench like Roberto can do you always know there's a risk," Clarke said.—Agency

Political invasion blamed for Pakistan cricket's downfall



RAWALPINDI: Pakistan cricket has given several memorable moments to its fans including the ODI World Cup 1992 win, the T20 World Cup 2009 triumph and the 10-wicket victory over arch-rivals India in the T20 World Cup 2021.

However, recent times paint a rather bleak picture of the country's most loved sports.

It seems that the "good old days" are long gone and are only reminiscent of what the Green Shirts once represented on the field as the national side's recent performances in international cricket have sparked debate over the invasion of politics in sport, with claims of nepotism at the top sabotaging success on the ground.

The national team's downward spiral that began with Asia Cup 2023 - was followed by the team's elimination from the ODI World Cup 2023 after winning only four of their nine matches. Unfortunately, it didn't stop there and got worse as they first lost the away Test series against Australia and then were recently whitewashed by Bangladesh in the two-match series played in Rawalpindi.

With the 2-0 defeat, the Men in Green last week fell to eighth, their worst Test ranking in nearly six decades. It was the 10th winless home Test in a row for the cricket-crazy country and exacerbated the fans' disappointment from the last two world cups.

The current Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman is Mohsin Naqvi, who has a second full-time job as interior minister in a nation grappling with a surge in militant attacks. In the past two years, Pakistan cricket has ploughed through four coaches, three board heads, three captains and numerous formats of the domestic competition. Instability experts say rides on the whims of politicians. "This has a knock-on effect on team performance," said cricket journalist and former PCB media manager Ahsan Iftikhar Nagi. "When we have chaos and chronic instability within the management of the board it will reflect on-field performances," he added.—Agency

Dead body of drowned Karachi youth recovered from Sanghar's Aral Wah

By Qaimuddin Memon
SEHWAN SHARIF: Recently, after the tragic incident of a young man from Ayoub Goth, Karachi, drowning at Aral Wah in Sehwan, the local administration, with the help of divers, recovered the missing body

after 16 hours of search and effort. The deceased has been identified as 20-year-old Riaz, son of Shams Alam Bengali, a resident of Ayoub Goth, New Karachi. Regarding the incident, Assistant Commissioner Sehwan Waqas Malook and Assistant Mukhtiar Asghar Solangi stated that the young man had gone swimming in Aral Wah with his friends, but due to the strong current, he was swept away and drowned. After continuous efforts, his body was recovered and handed over to the family after completing the necessary legal formalities.

Completion of link road's construction work demanded in Tando Jam

By Irfan Ali Khushk
TANDO JAM: Near Tando Jam, residents of the village of Bahadur Chandio protested against the influential landowner Aftab Shah who halted the construction work of a new link road in their village. The protest was led by Abdul Aziz Chandio, Javed Chandio, and Abid Chandio. The villagers called

upon MNA Tariq Shah and Senior MPA Sharjeel Inam Memon to take notice and ensure the completion of the road. The villagers informed the media that the road, which was approved by MPA Sharjeel Inam Memon and for which stones had already been laid, was halted by Dr. Aftab Shah, an influential landowner and maternal uncle of Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah. This interruption has caused significant difficulties for the villagers traveling to and from the city. The villagers appealed to their elected representatives, MNA Tariq Shah Jamot and Senior MPA Sharjeel Inam Memon, to ensure that the road construction scheme, approved from the MPA quota, is completed.

DC Dr. Rasheed Masood Khan takes notice of cholera outbreak in MPK

By Younis Chandio
MIRPURKHAS: Deputy Commissioner Dr. Rasheed Masood Khan promptly responded to reports of a cholera outbreak in Haji Sakhi Shar village, UC Garhor Sharif, Taluk Sindhri. Following the instructions of Assistant Commissioner Sindhri Abdul Ghaffar Lakher, District Health Officer Dr. Jai Ramdas dispatched a

medical team to the affected village. The team set up an emergency medical camp in Sakhi Shar village, where they treated 137 patients, including 77 men and 60 women. Among the children, 40 under 5 years of age received treatment for diarrhea, while 70 children above 5 years were also treated for the same condition. Additionally, the team attended to 6 patients with skin issues, 35 sus-

District officials visit rain affected areas of Shadi Palli

By Muhammad Bachal
UMERKOT: Under the orders of Deputy Commissioner Umerkot, Assistant Commissioner Pithoro Sanjay Kumar, and Town Officer Shadi Palli Shamsheer Shah, several houses in Ward No-2 of the Shadi Palli Town Committee collapsed due to

rainwater. The administration of Shadi Palli Town Committee removed standing water from homes in Bhatti Talpur and Syed Sardar Ali Shah, are appealing to the Sindh government to provide a transformer for their area. They have been without electricity for eight years and seek assistance to avoid living in darkness. No-2 also expressed their concerns, stating that they, along with Nawab Yousef Talpur and Syed Sardar Ali Shah, are appealing to the Sindh government to provide a transformer for their area. They have been without electricity for eight years and seek assistance to avoid living in darkness.

Nissanka hits ton as Sri Lanka stun England in third Test



LONDON: Pathum Nissanka scored an unbeaten century in the run chase and powered Sri Lanka to a resounding eight-wicket victory over England in the third Test of the three-match series here at The Oval on Monday.

The victory marked Sri Lanka's fourth against England in the latter's backyard since their infamous win at Headingley in 2014.

But England took the three-match series 2-1, having won the Old Trafford Test by five wickets and Lord's Test by 190 runs.

Sri Lanka, set to chase 219, resumed their second innings at 94/1 with Pathum Nissanka (53*) and Kusal Mendis (30*) going strong.

England made an early inroad with an important scalp of Mendis, who could score just nine to his overnight score and returned after scoring 39 off 37 deliveries. Meanwhile, Nissanka remained unfazed by the dismissal and kept dominating the English bowlers. He put together an unbeaten 111-run partnership with veteran all-

rounder Angelo Mathews (32*) to steer his side to glory before Lunch on the penultimate day of the third Test.

He remained the top-scorer for Sri Lanka with an unbeaten 127 off just 124 deliveries, smashing 13 fours and two sixes amid his magnificent knock.

"It was a great opportunity to play in England and I enjoyed that innings," said Nissanka. "I just wanted to play my normal game and I have done that," added the opener, who spent two years out of the Test side.

Sri Lanka captain Dhananjaya de Silva termed his side's long-awaited victory over England as one of the happiest moments of his career.

"This is one of the happiest moments in my career and my life," said De Silva.

"We had a tough time in the last two weeks so to come here and get a win in English conditions against an English team, it is a very good moment for me, my team, and my country as well."—Agency

Pyaro Lund's civil society protests against influential man controlling city's power supply

By Afaq Khanzada
TANDO ALLAHYAR: In Pyaro Lund, citizens staged a protest against an influential government employee, leading to intense slogans, road blockages, and long queues of vehicles. Molvi Humair Shah and Umar Shah claimed that the influential Union Council employee had taken control of the city's electricity supply and threatened them with severe consequences.

They accused this person of using his power to cut off electricity, causing significant disruptions in the city. The Pyaro Lund police arrived at the protest site and negotiated with the demonstrators, urging them to end the protest. After discussions, the protesters agreed to disperse. They demanded of the HESCO authorities to take notice of the matter and provide relief to them.

Justice demanded in high-profile Seema Khaskheli and youth Zafar Hajano murder case

By Naeem Ahmed Shaikh
SHAIRPUR: The case of prominent TikToker Seema Khaskheli and youth Zafar Hajano, whose bodies were found 15 days ago, remains unresolved as the final autopsy report is still pending. The preliminary autopsy report did not determine the

cause of their deaths. Although an FIR has been lodged at the A-Section Police Station, authorities have not yet apprehended the named suspect, Yaseen Unar. This inaction has eroded Seema Khaskheli's family's trust in the police. Seema's mother expressed her frustration with the police, stating that despite identifying the suspect, no action has been taken against him. She accused the police of shielding the influential suspect instead of pursuing legal action. Mrs. Khaskheli has called on the IG Sindh to ensure the immediate arrest of the suspect and to provide justice and protection.

REGIONAL TIMES ENTERTAINMENT

Salma Hayek says she was 'afraid' to star in Angelina Jolie's 'Without Blood'



Angelina Jolie's new movie Without Blood depicts the horror that follows a war, and the movie's star Salma Hayek Pinault was initially reluctant about starring in the movie.

"I was afraid to play this part. I was not immediately jumping in it because she suffers so much, my character, and I had to go there and suffer for the entire time of the shooting," Salma told Variety at the Toronto Film Festival.

The Frida star continued: "You have to keep it boiling, boiling, boiling for hours, for days, for weeks. So I was terrified and I didn't want to do it." She added: "The more we talked about it... I started seeing myself, my own traumas, the traumas of people that I know, that are close to me, in this character that was so foreign at the beginning and where I didn't want to go. I started realizing, 'What do you mean you don't want to go? You've always been there.' I started seeing how it connected to so many women even if we're not post-war. We've all been tossed aside and not seen or abused in one way or another."

Reflecting on the movie's theme, Angelina said: "It was something that everybody, and especially these two extraordinary actors, had to come to the set very, very human," Jolie added. "We all had to talk about what it was. After thinking about that pain, and thinking about that desire for revenge, and thinking about all of that hurt, and listening to the other side. Can you then let it wash over you? Can you really have heard [what the other side is saying], and can you let it transform you?"

Taylor Swift, Travis Kelce go strong amid 'false contract' controversy



Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce just shut down any remaining rumors of their relationship being a PR stunt.

As the sensational popstar enjoys her break from the Eras Tour, she made an appearance at the US Open with her Kansas City Chiefs boyfriend, Kelce and other friends. America's sweetheart couple put on a PDA-packed display as they witnessed the men's single final alongside

their pals, Chiefs' quarterback, Patrick Mahomes and his wife, Brittany.

Ahead of her performances scheduled in the US and Canada, the Lovcrooner is spending her time supporting Kelce at his games. Despite the VMAs coming up where Swift might make an appearance, currently the pop star looked in high and carefree spirits as she

danced, sang and spent quality time with the NFL star at the Tennis tournament.

Swift and Kelce looked visibly happy as they shared many kisses on the court-side, which comes after a rather questionable "contract" circulated about over social and media platforms claiming that the pair's romance was not created, issued or authorized by this agency, as per Daily Mail.

Face of the Day



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

THE HEARTLAND



PPP's Jam Ali Asghar Halipotio felicitated on being party's District President Badin

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: Chairman District Council Badin Jam Ali Asghar Halipotio was felicitated by the PPP office-bearers, local body representatives and citizens after his posting as the District President of PPP Badin. Apart from the est-

ablishment of the party secretariat in Badin, he assured to take steps to maintain permanent contact with the workers to solve their problems and difficulties. PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has nominated Jam Ali Asghar Halipotio for the post of District President. The series of

Daulatpur Police arrest a drug dealer

By Aijaz Jokhio

DAULATPUR: The Daulatpur Police have claimed that during their patrol, acting on a tip-off, they arrested a suspect on the link road leading to Shahpur Jahania from Bab Jahania. Upon seeing the police, the suspect attempted to flee. The police chased him, arrested him, and upon searching him, found 1270 grams of hashish. The suspect, Ali Nawaz Khaskheli, resident of Haji Mir Khan Khaskheli, was arrested. An FIR (No. 133) has been



filed under the Narcotic Substances Act (9) on the complaint of ASI Muhammad Pinjal Solangi from Daulatpur.

Marriage hall converted into a drug den in Talhar

TALHAR: Due to the negligence of the Badin district administration, a wedding hall in the city, built with millions of rupees, has turned into a hub for drug activity. There is a growing demand to repurpose the hall into a computer training center for the youth. Some time ago, the former Taluka Nazim of Talhar and current MPA, Mir Allah Bux Talpur, took a personal interest in building this wedding hall in Market Chowk for the convenience of the city's residents, at a cost of millions. However, because of the district administration's incompetence, the hall has become a center for drugs addicts and a dumping ground, leading to the destruction of the



local youth. Political and social leaders of Talhar, along with members of civil society such as Sunil Kumar, Faizan Shafiq Jamali, and Abid Hussain Khawaja, have urged the chairman of the town committee and the Badin district administration to dismantle the wedding hall and establish a computer training center for young people. This initiative aims to save the younger generation from the harmful effects of drug addiction.—RT

New office-bearers of CIP Sukkur elected

By Naeem Shaikh

KHAIRPUR: The Coalition for Inclusive Pakistan (CIP) Sukkur Chapter elections were held under the supervision of Jawad from TDEA Islamabad at the NDSF office in Khairpur. The event saw participation from disabled transgender individuals and organizational workers from Khairpur, Sukkur, and Ghotki districts, who cast their votes to elect new office bearers. According to the results, Shah Nawaz from the Disabled Alliance was elected as the President, while Nasir Khawar of the Ghotki Disabled Forum, Ms. Safena Noonari of Mehak Women's Association Ghotki, Mr. Latifaan Solangi of Mark Rural Development Organization, Ms. Zahida Parveen of Women and Agriculture Development, and Ms. Nashat Solangi of South Development Foundation were appointed to various posi-



tions. BB Beladi Chundio and BB Beladi Welfare Organization of Khairpur, along with NDSF Chairman Ali Ansar Sindhu, participated online from SIUT Hospital Karachi. According to the election supervisor, Ali Ansar Sindhu won the Convenorship.

New office-bearers of Awami Tehreek KN Shah elected

By Ayaz Burio

KN SHAH: In Khairpur Nathan Shah, the Awami Tehreek's elections were conducted under the supervision of the former district president and central member, with a large number of activists participating. The elections resulted in the appointment of Hadi Bux Kharuro as President, Muhammad Juman Khoso as Vice President, Altaf Langah as General Secretary, Barkat Mallah as Joint Secretary, Bakht Burioas Press Secretary, and Manzoor Hussain Khoso as Treasurer, while Mukhtar Ali Gadhi was selected as Office Secretary. Additionally, a ten-member Taluka Committee was also elected. On this occasion, the newly elected officials vowed to follow the path of their leader, Rasool Bux Paljio, and continue the genuine struggle for the public.



as General Secretary, Barkat Mallah as Joint Secretary, Bakht Burioas Press Secretary, and Manzoor Hussain Khoso as Treasurer, while Mukhtar Ali Gadhi was selected as Office Secretary. Additionally, a ten-member Taluka Committee was also elected. On this occasion, the newly elected officials vowed to follow the path of their leader, Rasool Bux Paljio, and continue the genuine struggle for the public.

DHO Dadu Dr. Syed Imdad Ali Shah launches anti-polio campaign

By Javed Laghari

DADU: Under the supervision of District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. Syed Imdad Ali Shah, anti-polio campaign was launched at the Civil Hospital Dadu. In the children's ward, two anti-polio drops were administered to children, and a rally was organized to promote the campaign. Speaking to the media, DHO Dr. Syed Imdad Ali Shah emphasized that the anti-polio campaign is a national duty and it is everyone's responsibility to support the teams and ensure the success of the campaign. He highlighted the importance of eradicating the polio virus and called for collective efforts to achieve this goal. Dr. Shah also visited various villages in Dadu to oversee the polio teams. He reiterated that it is crucial for everyone, including himself, to contribute to the success of the polio campaign and ensure that every



child receives the polio drops. The campaign is a national obligation that can be accomplished through joint efforts. The polio walk rally was attended by Dr. Javed Soomro from WHO, Dr. Ashfaq Ahmed Memon from N-Staff, focal person Dr. Junaid Memon, and a large number of LHWs and doctors.

Tando Bago's rain affected people demand relief

By Sher Ali Khawaja

TANDO BAGO: In the village of Natho Halipotio near Tando Bago, standing rainwater has not been drained even after 11 days, leading to severe health issues. The stagnant water has resulted in outbreaks of malaria, skin diseases, and gastroenteritis. Residents have staged a protest, demanding the removal of rainwater and boycotting the polio campaign. According to reports, the village of Natho Halipotio in Union Council Paryal Khan Buledi has been struggling with standing rainwater for over 11 days, causing hundreds of villagers to live in distress. The stagnant water has led to various diseases, including malaria, skin infections, and gastroenteritis. Residents, led by Azeem Halipotio, Ahmed Halipotio, Muhammad Halipotio, Wali Muhammad, Lala and Hanif, protested, stating that despite the rain subsiding 11 days ago, the authorities and elected chairman have not taken action to drain the water. As a result, the entire



village is plagued by diseases and the situation has become unbearable due to mosquito bites and stagnant water. The villagers have warned that if the rainwater is not drained, they will continue their protests and have already boycotted the anti-polio campaign, sending the polio vaccination teams back.

Town Committee Chairman Kamran Abbas Kubar committed to Setharja's development

By Sajjad Chang

SETHARJA: In a press conference at his residence, Town Committee Setharja Chairman Kamran Abbas Kubar announced that an NIT (National Investment Trust) of 14 crore rupees has been allocated for developmental works within the town. The development work will soon commence in various wards of the town. Chairman Kubar criticized certain individuals who, according to him, are creating obstacles to the city's development for personal gain. He accused these individuals of disrupting the city's development through the guise of protests. Kubar assured that the issues created by these individuals would be addressed through proper channels. He emphasized that he is always ready to engage in dialogue with the protesting youth but will not succumb to blackmail.



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GPS Bukera Sharif takes out an education awareness rally

By Afaq Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: A protest rally was organized by the teachers and students of Government Primary School Bukera Sharif to promote educational awareness. The rally started from Government Boys Primary School and concluded at the main Benazir Chowk in the city. Headmaster Qurban Ali Qumbrani, teacher Waqas Bhatti, and students from Government Primary School led the rally to raise awareness about the free admission campaign. They reached Benazir Chowk, emphasizing the importance of enrolling children in government schools for free education. The teachers and students highlighted that the Sindh Government is offering free education for children. They urged the public to enroll their children in government schools, which provide better quality education compared to private schools, with experienced teachers and no discrimination. The rally aimed to encourage children to receive education and build a better future. The students also chanted slogans like "Read Sindh, Grow Sindh" to emphasize the importance of education.



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Sulemani Welfare Trust installs RO plant in Tando Jam's Spinning Colony

By Irfan Ali Khushk

TANDO JAM: In Tando Jam, the Sulemani Welfare Trust has resolved the long-standing issue of providing clean drinking water in the Spinning Colony. Following the guidance of Sajjadnashen Tonsa Sharif Khawaja Ali Abbas Chishti, Chairman Abir Khan Chishti of the Sulemani Welfare Trust took prompt action by installing an RO plant in the Spinning Colony. Abeer Khan mentioned that additional welfare work would be carried out in the city by the welfare officer. At the inauguration ceremony, spiritual figure Peer Iqbal Zahoori Chishti, Khalifa Muhammad Ali Sulemani, Khalifa Saeed Saifi, and President of Sulemani Welfare Tando Jam were present. Also in attendance were Zaryab Chishti and Abdullah Khaskheli, President of Tando Allahyar.



At the inauguration ceremony, spiritual figure Peer Iqbal Zahoori Chishti, Khalifa Muhammad Ali Sulemani, Khalifa Saeed Saifi, and President of Sulemani Welfare Tando Jam were present. Also in attendance were Zaryab Chishti and Abdullah Khaskheli, President of Tando Allahyar.

Sunni Rabta Council protests against removal of Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAWW) flags in Kumb

By Naz Solangi

KUMB: Under the leadership of Sunni Rabta Committee's Taluka Kotdiji President, Molvi Muhammad Ismail Brohi, along with Molvi Jameel Ahmed Ali Murad Usmani, Molvi Muhammad Ilyas, Molvi Faiz-ur-Rehman, Hafiz Muhammad Brohi, Lala Imran, Ustad Muhammad Sarang Shanbani, Muhammad Asad Tanwari, and other leaders, a protest was held at the Public Press Club against the SHO of the Kumb Police Station, Muhammad Aslam Laghari. The leaders alleged that, in celebration of 12 Rabi-ul-Awwal, they had put up flags, but at night, the SHO forcibly removed their flags, which they claimed was illegal. They warned the SHO that if their flags were not restored, they would hold a sit-in protest against him, which would continue until his transfer.



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Library inaugurated at GBHS Makli to mark Int'l Literacy Day

By Khuda Bux Brohi

THATTA: Ghulam Sarwar Mallah, Director of Elementary, Secondary, and Higher Secondary Education Division Hyderabad, inaugurated the newly established Makhdoom Abul Hassan Thattvi Library at Government Boys High School Makli. During the inauguration, Mallah was welcomed with traditional Sindhi gifts, including Lungis and Ajraks, presented by Headmaster Bisharat Ilyas Jokhio, GSTA President Ghulam Nabi Khushk, Abdul Hameed, and

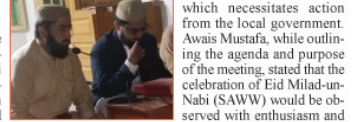


Ali Asghar Brohi. He highlighted the vital role of libraries in promoting academic growth and urged students to utilize the new facility fully. He also praised the school's administration and pledged for continued support for future educational initiatives.

Central Ahle Sunnat Jamaat reviews arrangements for Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAWW) in Sujawal

By Kamran Hidayat

SUJAWAL: Regarding the preparations for the celebration of Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAWW), the city's decoration, and the central rally, an annual meeting was held under the leadership of Moulvi Sohail Mustafa, the Chief Organizer of the Central Ahle Sunnat Jamaat in District Sujawal. The meeting began with the recitation of the Holy Quran. After presenting offerings of devotion, the attendees expressed their opinions and, through mutual consultation, noted that there was a lack of cleanliness,



which necessitates action from the local government. Awais Mustafa, while outlining the agenda and purpose of the meeting, stated that the celebration of Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAWW) would be observed with enthusiasm and fervor. It is a matter of faith to make every possible effort for this. The meeting saw significant participation from the youth, activists, and students.

SUP Thul observes death anniversary of Saqib Burio

By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: In Thul, the Sindh United Party held a ceremony to commemorate the 14th death anniversary of GM alias Saqib Burio, the former District President of JSSE. During the ceremony, speeches were delivered by several prominent figures, including Mehboob

and loyal worker of Sain GM Syed. They highlighted his dedication and the impact of his short life on Sindh and Syed's ideology. The event was attended by a large number of participants, including members of SUP, JSQM, STP, QAT, political activists, journalists, and other esteemed guests.

Antiquities and Archaeology Dept begins survey of archeological sites in Nangarparkar

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: The Antiquities and Archaeology Department, under the directives of Director General Abdul Fatah Shaikh, has sent a team to survey historical sites in Nangarparkar. The survey is being led by Coordinator Nawazish Ali Dayo along with Photographer Zahid Hussain. The objective is to document these sites for conservation in accordance with international standards, and to enhance basic facilities at these locations. Nawazish Ali Dayo emphasized his dedication to safeguarding Sindh's historical heritage under the leadership of DG Abdul Fatah Shaikh. The archaeological sites included in the survey are Gori Temple, Bhodesar Mosque, three Jain Temples at Bhodesar, and Vira Wah Temple.



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Man electrocuted by a high tension wire in Larkana

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: A tragic accident occurred near Larkana in Wikia Fanger, where a 19-year-old farmer, Aijaz Ali Mirali, was electrocuted by an 11,000-volt power line. The young man sustained severe burns and was immediately rushed to Chandka Hospital by his family. Doctors confirmed his death upon arrival. The deceased's brother, Parvez Ali Mirali, reported that Aijaz Ali came into contact with the hanging 11,000-volt wire while heading towards the fields. He was electrocuted and fell unconscious. He was taken to Chandka Hospital in an unconscious state but did not survive. After completing the necessary legal formalities, the body was handed over to the family, causing a wave of grief and mourning upon its return home.

HESCO continues its operations against power theft

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: By following the orders of the HESCO Chief Roshan Otho operation is being continued by HESCO against the Kunda mafia under the leadership of SDO Pretabad Subdivision Awais Memon under the directives of XEN Phleli. SDO Pretabad Sub Division Awais Memon is addressing public grievances promptly Area Makin Sagar Colony, Al Fazal Town. SDO Awais Memon said that by taking immediate action on the complaints of the customers the issues are being resolved. He added that some miscreants are trying to cover up the good works by making false propaganda. He said that under the direction of HESCO Chief Roshan Otho, take impartial action against electricity thieves and their facilitators and try to improve the recovery. Aslam Qila, former Vice Chairman of Sagar Colony, Al-Fazal Town, while talking to media representatives, said that in the last few days, 4 transformers in his area had failed due to technical problems, which were rectified and installed by SDO Awais Memon in time.

METRO KARACHI

Wahab Promises To Resolve Municipal Issues Before Rabi' al-Awwal

KARACHI: Mayor Karachi, Barrister Murtaza Wahab, has pledged to resolve key municipal issues ahead of the 12th of Rabi' al-Awwal. Chairing a meeting at Bagh-e-Ibn Qasim, Clifton, Wahab emphasized the importance of ensuring smooth preparations for the holy month, including sanitation, road repairs, security, and uninterrupted power supply for Eid Milad-un-Nabi (PBUH) processions.



The meeting was attended by key officials, including Deputy Mayor Salman Abdullah Murad, Commissioner Hassan Naqvi, and representatives from the Sindh Solid Waste Management Board, Water Corporation, and K-Electric. Scholars and profession organizers also contributed suggestions to improve city services during the celebrations.

EFP, ILO, And Government Join Forces To Eliminate Forced Labor



KARACHI: The Employers Federation of Pakistan (EFP), in partnership with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the U.S. Department of Labor's BRIDGE Project, hosted a National Conference on Eliminating Forced Labor. The event focused on best practices, supply chain roles, and promoting the adoption of Protocol 29 to combat forced labor in Pakistan's supply chains.

strengthen Pakistan's global trade relations. Provincial Labor Minister Shahid Abdul Salam Thahim highlighted the government's commitment to eradicating forced labor, praising the ILO's and EFP's efforts in this regard. Guillermo Mont, ILO Officer-in-Charge, thanked Pakistan for its collaboration, while Raja Tanveer Azmi, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis, announced Pakistan's forthcoming ratification of Protocol 29 as a clear stance against forced labor.

United Business Group Requests 4-5% Interest Rate Reduction To Stimulate Economic Growth



KARACHI: The United Business Group (UBG) has called on the government to reduce interest rates by 4 to 5 percent to stimulate economic growth. UBG President Zubair Tufail, Sindh Zone Chairman Khalid Towab, and other leaders, including Muzahar Ali Nasir and Malik Khuda Baksh, emphasized the need for a rate cut in the upcoming monetary policy to support export-driven industries and boost exports.

Backing UBG Patron-in-Chief SM Tanveer's demand, the leaders argued that lower interest rates would increase industrial investment, create jobs, and enhance government revenue. They pointed out that with inflation reduced to 9 percent, a further reduction in interest rates would strengthen production, expand exports, and improve purchasing power for ordinary citizens.

Zubair Motiwala Cites Karachi's Decline, Calls For Unity To Revitalize City

KARACHI: Zubair Motiwala, Chairman of the Businessmen Group (BMG), voiced concerns about Karachi's deteriorating infrastructure, stating many areas are now unwalkable. Speaking at a North Karachi Association of Trade and Industry (NKATI) event, he underscored Karachi's significant contribution to Pakistan's economy, generating 54% of the country's taxes and 70% of its exports, yet facing severe infrastructure neglect.



Motiwala called for unity within the business community to tackle these challenges, emphasizing the need for collective action ahead of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) elections. He also criticized the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) for tax collection issues and called for a 5% reduction in interest rates to help struggling industries.

NKATI President Faisal Moez Khan and KCCI presidential candidate Jayed Beltani echoed Motiwala's concerns, urging the business community to stand together for the betterment of Karachi, noting that the city's prosperity would benefit the entire country.—RT



Tessori Praises IVY Online App As Revolutionary For Educational Access

KARACHI: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori hailed the launch of the IVY Online app, emphasizing its potential to transform educational access for students, particularly those pursuing O and A Levels, as well as ACCA candidates. Speaking at the inaugural ceremony at Governor House, Tessori highlighted the app's role in delivering affordable, high-quality education to Pakistan's youth.



He noted that the initiative reflects the Governor House's dedication to advancing education through modern technology, and stressed the importance of collaboration between the government, private sector, and civil society in supporting such efforts. "With 62% of our population under 25, education is key to unlocking opportunities for Pakistan's future," he remarked.

CEO Waleed Khanzada provided an overview of the app, designed to help students excel in global competitions, offering a user-friendly interface and affordable subscription. Director Madani Jatoi thanked the Governor for his support and praised the team behind the project.

The event was attended by prominent figures, including Consul Generals from various countries, academic leaders, and education experts.—RT/Agency

Sindh Education Department To Dismiss 'Ghost' Teachers



KARACHI: The Sindh Education Department has announced plans to terminate 'ghost' schoolteachers who have been absent from their posts.

According to the department, 20 teachers in Sharqi District are currently unaccounted for, with many residing abroad for years while continuing to draw salaries. The provincial education authorities had previously instructed these

teachers to provide explanations for their absences, but no responses have been received. The department has now decided to proceed with dismissals for these absentee teachers. This move comes amid reports of widespread teacher shortages in Sindh schools. Additionally, schools are facing a shortage of textbooks, compounding the challenges in the education sector.—RT/Agency

Sick Passenger On Dhaka-Bound Flight Dies After Emergency Landing In Karachi



KARACHI: A Dhaka-bound flight from Sharjah made an emergency landing at Karachi's Jinnah International Airport on Monday due to a medical emergency involving a passenger. The Pakistan Airports Authority (PAA) spokesperson confirmed that the 42-year-old Bangladeshi passenger's health deteriorated mid-flight, prompting the airline to seek emergency landing approval.

The Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority (PCAA) further clarified that the landing was coordinated by Karachi's Air Traffic Control (ATC) after receiving the pilot's request. Medico-legal formalities were completed, and the body was handed over to the airline.

After landing, a doctor declared the passenger deceased following a medical check-up. The flight, identified as G-9512, resumed its journey to Dhaka after 6 AM, carrying the deceased's body.

This incident echoes a similar occurrence in February when a Saudia Airlines flight also made an emergency landing in Karachi due to a medical emergency on board a Riyadh-bound flight from Dhaka. In that case, the passenger was treated and the flight resumed its journey.—RT/Agency

Suspect In Karsaz Accident Appeals Bail Denial In Drug Case

KARACHI: The lawyer representing the suspect in the Karsaz road accident has challenged the judicial magistrate's decision to dismiss her bail petition in a drug-related case. The appeal was filed in the sessions court, arguing that the magistrate had overlooked key evidence in the bail petition. The suspect, involved in the fatal Karsaz accident on April 19, 2024, has been pardoned by the families of the victims—two deceased and two injured. Despite this, she remains entangled in legal trouble due to drug allegations.

Following the accident, commonly known as crystal meth, was detected in her blood and urine samples. The Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (JPMC) collected these samples, which led to a separate case being filed against her. According to police, the case was registered based on a fresh medico-legal report, and charges related to the use of prohibited substances were included. The police confirmed that the presence of the banned substance was detected in the suspect's blood samples. The ongoing legal battle continues as the suspect seeks to overturn the denial of her bail.—RT/Agency

Sindh Assembly Proposes Resolution Against Dastardly Amendments To IRSA Act

KARACHI: Sindh President of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), Nisar Khuro, presented a resolution in the Sindh Assembly on Monday, opposing proposed amendments to the Indus River System Authority (IRSA) Act and the non-implementation of the 1991 Water Accord.



Addressing the Assembly, Khuro stressed that the people of Sindh will not accept any changes to the IRSA Act without provincial consent, as water remains a provincial subject. He argued that no serving or retired bureaucrat should hold the position of IRSA Chairman and urged the federal government to avoid actions that could weaken the federation. Khuro reminded the assembly that the 1991

Water Accord was signed by all chief ministers, emphasizing that Sindh, being at the tail-end of the river system, has the first right to water under the law. He criticized IRSA for not distributing water according to 'para-II' of the accord, and urged equal water sharing among all provinces during shortages. He noted that many areas in Sindh are receiving water on a rotational basis, which has left lands uncultivated, and called for an end to the discriminatory treatment towards Sindh's water allocation.—RT

Police Investigate Alleged Strangulation Death Of Woman By Husband In Landhi

KARACHI: A 24-year-old woman, identified as Fatima, was reportedly strangled to death by her husband in Karachi's Landhi area on Monday, according to police. Quaidabad police recovered Fatima's body from her home in Sherpao Colony near Aqsa Masjid. The body was transported to Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre for legal procedures. At present, no first information report (FIR) has been filed regarding the case.

Quaidabad Police Station House Officer (SHO) Ghulam Husain Pirzada informed the media that Fatima's death was attributed to strangulation, based on doctors' reports. Her husband has been detained following a complaint from her sister, though he maintains that Fatima died by suicide.

Fatima and her husband married in 2017 and had two children. They experienced marital discord, and the suspect had verbally divorced Fatima three months ago. A local religious scholar had given them a three-month period to reconcile, which expired on Sunday without resolution. The initial investigation revealed that Fatima had recently demanded her dowry and other valuables, leading to a heated argument with her husband. The argument allegedly escalated into her murder. Crime scene investigators found a rope attached to a door, which the suspect claims Fatima used to take her own life. However, circumstantial evidence suggests the incident may not have been a suicide. The police are continuing their investigation and will file an FIR for murder when the victim's sister formally approaches them.—RT/Agency

TMC Saddar observes Defence Day of Pakistan with zeal

By Asif Qureshi



KARACHI: Under the Town Municipal Corporation Saddar Karachi, a Defence Day Pakistan rally was held. The rally was led by Town Vice Chairman Abdul Rehman Motiwala, Municipal Commissioner Noor Hassan Jokhio, and Assistant Commissioner Saddar Rana Sufyan Babar. The participants of the rally marched from the Sindh High Court to Zainab Street. A large number of town council members, town officials, and staff were also present on this occasion. In his speech, Town Vice Chairman Abdul Rehman Motiwala stated

that on September 6, 1965, the Pakistani forces not only successfully defended their borders but also dealt a crushing blow to the Indian forces, which were larger and better equipped. Municipal Commissioner Noor Hassan Jokhio added that the martyrs and veterans of the 1965 war are our pride and remain alive in our hearts. He, along with the President of the Town Administration and all participants of the rally, paid tribute to the martyrs of the Pakistani army. During the rally, participants held banners and national flags of Defence Day Pakistan and chanted slogans of "Pakistan Zindabad" and "Pak Army Zindabad."

PPP's Haji Ali Ahmed Jokhio visits rain affected areas of Karachi



By Asif Qureshi

KARACHI: Haji Ali Ahmed Jokhio, a senior leader of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and former Chairman of the Karachi Market Committee, recently visited the flood-affected areas of Moidan Kundh Jang. Along with his associates, including Wadera Aslam and Eid Muhammad Gabol, he offered condolences to the families of the deceased and met with PPP activists. He also oversaw the immediate repair of roads damaged by recent rains, which earned him praise from local dignitaries and community leaders.

In a conversation with the media, Haji Ali Ahmed Jokhio emphasized that he and his team are dedicated to serving the community in line with the vision of Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and Shaheed Benazir Bhutto, and that they are motivated by service rather than positions.

Shamaeel Ansari's 'Symposium Of Queens' Fashion Show Raises Funds For Hunar Foundation

KARACHI: Shamaeel Ansari unveiled her "Symposium of Queens" collection at a charity fashion event in Karachi, supporting the Hunar Foundation. The collection paid tribute to iconic figures like Hurrem Sultan, Elizabeth I, and Noor Jehan, showcasing regal designs inspired by their legacies. The evening featured poetry by Faraz Maqsood Hamidi, music by Abbas Ali Khan, and styling by Ehtesham Ansari. Attendees generously pledged to support Hunar Foundation's vocational training programs for marginalized youth in Pakistan.—RT



KARACHI: Dr. Maqsood Ahmed, DIG SSU, and Ishtiaq Baig, Founder & CEO of Make-A-Wish Foundation Pakistan, with students from leading institutes in Karachi upon the completion of their internship program with the foundation.—RT

"Challenges are what make life interesting and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful."

—Joshua J. Marine

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TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10 2024

Ministers And Senators Criticize Gandapur's Offensive Language At PTI Event

ISLAMABAD: A day after Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) staged a much-hyped power show in Islamabad featuring fiery speeches and "threats", several federal ministers and senators condemned the main opposition party's firebrand leader Ali Amin Gandapur for his derogatory remarks during his address to the gathering.



"If the founder of the PTI is not legally released within one to two weeks, we will have him freed ourselves," the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chief minister said during Sunday's event, announcing to hold a rally in Lahore in the face of any obstacles or restrictions in his typical tone.

The former ruling party held a public gathering — aimed at demanding the immediate release of its founding chairman Imran Khan from prison — amid clashes and violation of the rally deadline despite extraordinary security arrangements made by the Islamabad au-

thorities and roadblocks.

Federal Minister for Information Attaullah Tarar said that those who are "holow inside" can only hurl threats.

"[He is] challenging a woman while standing on the stage, while being scared of terrorists" the minister said while condemning the KP government's "failure" to control rising militancy in the province.

While addressing a press conference in the federal capital alongside federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan Engineer Amir Muqam, Tarar said that

Gandapur vented out his frustration of a failed rally on Punjab CM Maryam Nawaz and institutions.

He also asked the KP chief minister to be serious about his position as the ruler of a province instead of hurling threats.

Meanwhile, Amir in a strong condemnation of Gandapur's statement about the top brass of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), said that KP CM badly failed to show his provincial government's performance.

He termed Gandapur's use of derogatory language about his Punjab counterpart a

"very shameful act", saying that KP CM had violated all the Pakhtoon norms and respect for women.

He also accused the PTI firebrand leader of using KP's resources for organising the rally.

In a separate statement, KP Governor Faisal Karim Kundi called for action against those involved in vandalism during yesterday's public meeting.

Sharply criticising the KP CM, the governor said that the writ of the state is being challenged in the southern districts of the province while the majority of the incidents of terrorism are happening in Gandapur's district.

"Either the chief minister should have the courage to take action or he may be bracketed with those who are involved in terrorism", he said.

Moreover, Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Vice President Senator Sherry Rehman also condemned the chief minister's remarks, saying

that the PTI was "once again promoting the politics of violence and chaos".

A statement issued by her office read that the Gandapur's threats against institutions were highly "condemnable".

"Does the PTI want the justice system to be run by rallies and gatherings?" Those who threaten to free the accused with the help of mobs are armed groups, not the political parties," Rehman stated.

"They have not learned from May 9. Do they still think that threats, violence, and anarchy have any place in politics?" she added.

Rehman acknowledged that the PPP's leaders have also served time in prison, but none of its party workers ever threatened to free their leaders with force.

She added that the PTI threatened violence after institutions refused to hold a dialogue with them. —RT/Agency

New Toshakhana Case Against Imran And Bushra Bibi Reassigned To Different Court

RAWALPINDI: After the Supreme Court's landmark verdict on the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) amendments, an accountability court on Monday transferred the new Toshakhana reference against the PTI founder Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi to a relevant court.



The development was witnessed during a hearing of the incarcerated premier and former first lady's bail petitions in the new Toshakhana reference related to a Jewellery set gifted by the Saudi crown prince.

Accountability court Judge Muhammad Ali Warraich heard the bail pleas of the PTI founder and his wife at a makeshift court in Rawalpindi's Adiala Jail. The ex-PM and his wife were produced before the court.

At the outset of the hearing, PTI founder's lawyer Salman Safdar told the court that the new reference could not be heard by any accountability court under existing laws which came into effect after the restoration of the NAB amendments.

He pleaded with the accountability court to transfer the reference to another court after giving a verdict on the bail petitions.

Last week, a larger bench of the top court headed by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faiz had approved the intra-court appeals filed by the federal government and restored the amendments made to the National Accountability Ordinance, 1999 via the National Accountability (Amendment) Act, 2022.

It was a unanimous verdict by the larger bench which was reserved on June

6 following the intra-court appeals against the top court's verdict that struck down the amendments to the NAB law passed by the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) government in 2022 in response to the petition filed by the PTI founder.

Under the amendments, the NAB was restricted to investigate into any graft case worth less than Rs500 million.

Additionally, regulatory bodies operating in the country that the new reference could not be heard by any accountability court under existing laws which came into effect after the restoration of the NAB amendments.

When the judge sought arguments from the NAB prosecution team on the couple's bail petitions today, the anti-corruption watchdog officials opposed it, saying that

the accountability court was not authorised to hear Imran and Bushra's bail pleas after the changes in the laws.

The prosecutor representing the top accountability body said that under the amended laws, the reference must be transferred to relevant court to decide on the bail.

After hearing arguments from the defence and the prosecution, Judge Warraich adjourned the hearing for three hours.

Later, the judge announced his verdict on the pleas to transfer the case to a special judge central.

He remarked that the relevant court will now hear bail pleas of the accused in the next hearing on Tuesday (tomorrow).

The accused couple had filed separate petitions seeking post-arrest bail in the new Toshakhana case.

Mentioning the state and chairman National Accountability Bureau (NAB) as parties to the case, both the applications filed through Barrister Salman Safdar 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".

The duo was arrested in the said case on July 13 hours after a district and sessions court in Islamabad acquitted them in the iddat case — also known as the un-Islamic nikah case — which was the last hurdle in the couple's release from jail before the filing of the new cases. —RT/Agency

Privatization Of PIA To Be Completed By October, According To Khawaja Asif

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Defence, Khawaja Asif, informed the National Assembly on Monday that the privatization process of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) will be finalized by the end of October.



Responding to a calling attention notice regarding the prolonged closure of Hyderabad airport for commercial flights, he said that reopening PIA flights on this route is not financially feasible.

He explained that

PIA currently faces a debt burden of Rs. 800 billion, and routes that are not financially able cannot be operated. —RT/Agency

PTI Challenges ECP's Investigation Into Internal Party Elections

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on Monday challenged the Election Commission of Pakistan's (ECP) inquiry into the party's intra-party elections in the Lahore High Court (LHC), media reported.



According to details, PTI Chairman Barrister Ghar Ali Khan filed a petition in the LHC against the ECP for conducting an inquiry into the party's elections.

The petition, filed through lawyer Azhar Bhandari, also challenged the non-return of seized goods during a raid on the PTI office.

In the petition, the party argued that the ECP's behavior towards it is "biased", requesting the court to declare its acts as null and void.

Earlier on September 6, the ECP dismissed all four miscellaneous applications submitted by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) in the intra-party election case.

A 10-page decision was issued by the Election Commission of

Pakistan, authored by Sindh's member, Nisar Durran.

PTI's objection regarding the ECP's jurisdiction in the intra-party elections was overruled in the verdict.

Additionally, the party requested to delay the proceedings in the case as well as struck down.

The plea to postpone action on intra-party elections until a decision on reserved seats was similarly turned down.

The ECP in its verdict advised the party to approach the court for the return of documents taken from the party of file.

The Supreme Court later upheld the ECP order, forcing the party to field its candidates as independents in the Feb 8 general elections.

After the general elections, the party once again conducted its intra-party elections on March 3. —RT/Agency

PTA Warns Senate of Major Network Disruptions Without LDI Licence Renewals

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) Monday alerted the Senate Standing Committee on IT and Telecom to the imminent threat of severe network disruptions across Pakistan if the licences for Long Distance International (LDI) companies are not renewed at the earliest.



A meeting of the committee, chaired by Palwasha Mohammad Zai Khan, addressed the ongoing issues related to the renewal of Long Distance International (LDI) and Fixed Line Local Loop (FLL) licences.

Chairman of the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA), Major General (R) Hafaezur Rehman, briefed the committee on the matter, highlighting that the issue primarily affects four companies, including Wateen, which has an extensive fibre optic infrastructure across 24 cities, primarily in Balochistan and interior Sindh.

He said Wateen was also connected to 44 banks and NADRA, making its network critical to the country's communications infrastructure.

Despite a committee also acknowledged that in 2020, companies were permitted to pay their dues in instalments, but the same relief cannot be granted this year.

The committee discussed the Rs54 billion exemption sought by the LDI companies.

It was noted that the former IT Secretary had issued a policy directive on the matter, which was opposed by officials from the Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication (MoITT), claiming the directive exceeded the Secretary's authority.

Senator Palwasha Mohammad Zai Khan raised concerns about the potential impact on the national network if these licences were

not renewed.

Regarding the payments required from LDI companies, Secretary MoITT suggested getting the stay orders vacated by the court to resolve the matter. The committee called for a clear policy directive from the federal government to prevent similar issues from arising in the future.

The Chairperson also expressed concerns about the accountability of the former secretary of IT, specifically questioning a letter issued in May 2024, where a policy directive was made without Cabinet approval. She requested a list of individuals responsible for overseeing the matter and questioned whether the actions taken were within legal bounds.

The Secretary of MoITT also detailed the meeting on the composition of the PTCL Board, noting that, per federal government directives, the remuneration for government officials on company boards is capped at Rs1 million annually.

The committee also discussed the qualifications and criteria for hiring consultants and advisors, with the secretary explaining that all such

positions were filled on a contract basis.

The Special Secretary of the Establishment Division presented details about the hiring of the sitting MoITT Secretary from the private sector. She informed the committee that 77 applications were scrutinised by a review committee, leading to 15 candidates being shortlisted. Senator Palwasha requested that the criteria for shortlisting the candidates be presented in the next meeting. A senator warned that suspending LDI company operations could lead to significant network disruptions. PTA officials confirmed that PTCL alone cannot manage the shortfall, meaning network restoration would take time if operations were halted.

The committee urged the federal government to provide a clear policy direction to avoid further complications and potential losses. Members also recommended that PTA strengthen its legal team, as ongoing court stay orders have delayed proceedings. Without timely court rulings, licence cancellations could further exacerbate the situation. —RT/Agency

PTI Leaders Issue Unconditional Apology for Gandapur's Comments About Journalists

ISLAMABAD: Journalists staged protests in both the Senate and National Assembly on Monday after Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur made objectionable remarks about the media during last night's rally.



The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leadership swiftly issued an unconditional apology.

During the Senate session, journalists boycotted proceedings in protest against Gandapur's speech. PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar personally approached the journalists, offering an apology.

"We respect the entire journalist community," Gohar said. "I extend an unconditional apology for any hurt caused by the chief minister's remarks, which were directed at only a few journalists."

He clarified that the speech was political, adding, "We have no intention of escalating tensions. If we wanted to take the law into our hands, we could have done so by now. There is immense public pressure for PTI founder Imran Khan's release."

Simultaneously, in the National Assembly, parliamentary reporters also boycotted the session.

Leader of the Opposition Omar Ayub, accompanied by Barrister Gohar, visited the media gallery to apologise.

Journalists however demanded a direct apology from Ali Amin Gandapur.

Later, Senators Afnan Ullah Khan and Aon Abbas Bappi also visited the press gallery to reconcile with the media representatives.

Last night, journalists had announced their intention to file a lawsuit against CM Gandapur following his derogatory re-

President Advocates For Political Stability And Strengthening Democracy

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari on Monday underscored the need to further strengthen parliamentary democracy and promote political stability to put the country on the path of development.

Talking about the current challenges facing the country, the president emphasized the need to forge political unity to steer the country out of its political, economic and security challenges.

The president expressed these views during a dinner held in honour of parliamentarians belonging to Pakistan People's Party (PPP), Awami National Party (ANP), Pakistan Muslim League-Q (PMLQ), and Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party (IPP), at Awan-e-Sadr.

Chairman Senate Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani, Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony Chaudhary Salik Hussain, Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan, Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi, Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti, President ANP Senator Aimal Wali Khan, Former Caretaker Prime Minister and Senator Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar, President IPP Abdul



Aleem Khan, and senior political leadership of the country attended the dinner.

Speaking on the occasion, President Zardari called for promoting tolerance and mutual respect as well as strengthening democratic institutions.

He said that political, economic and governance reforms were essential for improving public service delivery and bringing economic prosperity.

He urged the need to rise above partisan interests and committedly work for the welfare of the people, adding that he was against the politics of confrontation that harmed the country. The parliamentarians from different political parties suggested various measures to bring stability and provide relief to the people. They also appreciated the president for his political wisdom and vision in evolving consensus on issues of national significance. —RT/Agency