



Govt To Uphold Sindh's Voice On IRSA Act Amendments: Murad



Taylor Swift reacts to political accusations after Travis Kelce breakup rumors

## Heartland

PPP MPA Pir Mujibul Haq calls on LUMHS VC Prof Dr Ikramuddin Ujjan



## Money

-Zafar Moji is Sad!  
PSE 100-index down by 634.94 points to close at 78,651.79



## NATIONAL

Naqvi Calls For Adhering To Quaid-e-Azam's Principles For National Salvation



## SPORTS

Babar Azam, Shaheen Afridi, Mohammad Rizwan climb in latest ICC Test rankings



## NA Speaker Suspends Sergeant At Arms For Failing In His Security Duties

ISLAMABAD: National Assembly Speaker Ayaz Sadiq on Wednesday suspended Sergeant at Arms Muhammad Ishfaq Ashraf for four months for negligence in security duties.

Four other security personnel were also suspended for the same duration due to their failure in ensuring the security of the House.

The suspended personnel include Security Assistant Waqas Ahmed and three junior security officers Obaidullah, Waheed Safdar, and Muhammad Haroon.

Chairing the House, the Speaker also announced the suspension of five employees of the Capital Development Authority (CDA) who were involved in switching the lights and directed their removal from the duty at the Parliament.

Sadiq called on the political parties to evolve a "charter of parliament" to ensure the smooth functioning of the House. He urged the opposition



members to collaborate with the treasury benches in addressing common issues.

He noted that the opposition members had been given more time to speak in the House, stating that he had acted according to his conscience in handling the issues.

Sadiq also pointed out that during the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf government, the opposition members were denied production orders to attend parliamentary proceedings.

Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Qaiser

Ahmed Sheikh praised the Speaker for effectively managing the issues in the Parliament. He also suggested that a comprehensive debate should be held on the law and order situation.—RT/Agency

## PHC Grants Interim Bail To Omar Ayub And Asad Qaiser In Islamabad Rally Law Violation Case

PESHAWAR: The Peshawar High Court (PHC) on Wednesday approved Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leaders Omar Ayub, Asad Qaiser, Faisal Amin and Zartaj Gul's petitions seeking transit bail in connection with cases filed against them regarding the former ruling party's power show in Islamabad on September 8.

Justice Shakool Ahmed of the PHC heard the pleas and granted them bail till October 10.

In their petition, Omar and Qaiser said cases were filed against them and other party leaders by the Islamabad administration for ending the rally two hours after the scheduled time.

The petitioners said that they want to appear in the relevant courts and demanded for transit bail in this regard. The plea also said that they fear their arrest.

Omar, while speaking to media persons today, ques-



tioned the powers behind masked people entering the Parliament to arrest lawmakers.

"This does not work in a democracy," Ayaz Amin Gandapur is the chief executive of the province and he represents 40 million people," said the PTI leader.

The development comes after the Islamabad police launched a crackdown on PTI leaders including Chairman Barrister Gohar Khan and arrested them outside the Parliament House for allegedly violating the newly enacted public gathering law

during the rally. The Islamabad police said PTI leaders Omar and Zartaj would also be taken into custody.

Heavy contingents of police were deployed outside the parliament while all entry and exit routes to the Red Zone were also closed from D-Chowk, Nadra Chowk, Serena, and Marriotti, except for Margala Road.

However, Ali Muhammad Khan was not taken into custody by the police when he departed from the parliament.—RT/Agency

## Federal Government Demands Release Of Dam Funds From Supreme Court

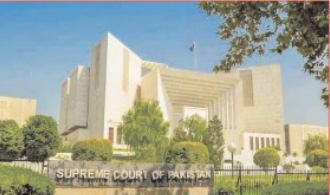
ISLAMABAD: The federal government has demanded release of dams funds from the Supreme Court (SC). A four-member bench headed by CJP Qazi Faez Isa heard the Diامر-Bhasha and Mohmand dams funds case today.

Additional Attorney General Amir Rehman informed the court that a miscellaneous application had been filed and dams funds must be handed over to the federal government and Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA).

Amir Rehman said that the funds were deposited in the account opened in the State Bank in the supervision of the SC.

CJP inquired about the amount of funds collected for dams. Wapda counsel Saad Rasool informed the court that Rs 20 billion was deposited in dam funds.

CJP inquired how this case was started. WAPDA counsel responded that the SC took the suo-motu in



2018 during proceedings of the Auditor General of Pakistan on the matter of granting funds to the federal government. The SC ordered the appearance of the Auditor general of Pakistan or his authorized officer in the next hearing and provide assistance on the matter of provision of dams funds. Former attorney generals, Khalid Javed and Anwar Mansoor had been summoned. The apex court had also summoned judicial assistant Makhdoom Ali Khan on the next hearing for the assistance on matters pertaining to the dams construction and implementation bench.—RT/Agency

The SC issued notice to

## Bilawal Urges PTI To Keep Fighting Imran's Legal Issues But Focus On Parliamentary Responsibilities

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman, Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, has criticised the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) for leaving the assembly, stating that both the party and the country are suffering the consequences of their decision.

Speaking during a session of the National Assembly on Wednesday, Bilawal said, "I repeatedly advised PTI not to leave the assembly."

"Today, they are suffering, and so is the country."

He urged PTI to continue fighting the legal battle for its incarcerated chairman Imran Khan, but to prioritise serving the people by returning to the parliament.

Bilawal expressed concern over the current state of



politics, adding that the behaviour of politicians has turned politics into something undesirable for the younger generation.

"By watching our conduct, these children will not want to become politicians. We have turned politics into a disgrace," he remarked.

He stressed the need to

fulfil their responsibilities by creating employment opportunities for the youth.

Referring to the political environment, he criticised provincial leaders for engaging in abusive language during rallies instead of solving public issues.

"If a chief minister stands in a rally cursing the govern-

ment and judiciary, he cannot serve his province's people," Bilawal said, pointing to recent remarks made by CM Gandapur during PTI's Islamabad rally.

K-P Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur on Monday came under fire for his tirade against journalists during the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) power show in Islamabad, several federal ministers and senators condemned the main opposition party's firebrand leader.

"Politics has reached a point where we don't even shake hands with each other anymore," he said.

Bilawal also called for the formation of a parliamentary committee involving all political parties to address the ongoing issues.

"We can hold rallies, and so can they, but we need to create a parliamentary committee to resolve these matters," he suggested.—RT/Agency

## Amna Baloch Appointed As Pakistan's 33rd Foreign Secretary



ISLAMABAD: Veteran diplomat Amna Baloch has taken charge as the country's 33rd Foreign Secretary replacing Syrus Sajjad Qazi who stepped down after attaining superannuation, the Foreign Office said in a statement on Wednesday.

A Grade-22 officer of the Foreign Service of Pakistan, Baloch was appointed as Foreign Secretary last week — the second woman to be appointed on the said post after Tehmina Janjua.

She holds a master's degree in history and joined the Pakistan Foreign Service in 1991. She served as a joint secretary at the Prime Minister's Office and additional secretary in the foreign minister's office.—RT/Agency

the country's Consul General to Chengdu, China from 2014 to 2017.

She has also served as High Commissioner to Malaysia from 2019 to 2023 and Ambassador to the European Union, Belgium and Luxembourg from 2023-2024.

Baloch, a mother of two, has also worked as a Minister Counsellor in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

She holds a master's degree in history and joined the Pakistan Foreign Service in 1991. She served as a joint secretary at the Prime Minister's Office and additional secretary in the foreign minister's office.—RT/Agency

## PM Calls For Renewed National Dedication To Building Pakistan In Line With Quaid's Vision

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif called on the nation to renew the commitment for building a Pakistan having peace, justice, and equal opportunities for all citizens as per the vision of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

The prime minister, in his message on the 76th death anniversary of the Quaid-e-Azam being observed with deep respect on September 11 (Wednesday), said the Quaid stood out as one of the most visionary politicians and eminent statesmen in history. He adeptly led the Freedom Movement for the Muslims of the Sub-Continent, establishing the world's first Islamic ideological state.

"The Freedom Movement serves as a testament to his political acumen and visionary leadership, reflecting his dedication to the principles of democracy and the rule of law," he added.

PM Shehbaz said the Quaid's unwavering commitment to the principles of



democracy, social justice, and equality laid the foundation for a nation where every citizen could aspire to thrive despite diverse cultures.

"Jinnah's emphasis on unity and faith resonates deeply within the fabric of our society, reminding us that the strength of Pakistan lies in its diversity and inclusiveness."

He further said, "While we honour his legacy, we reaffirm our commitment to realizing the Quaid's vision for Pakistan and addressing contemporary challenges with the determined spirit of a

great nation." "In remembering the Quaid-e-Azam, we are also reminded of our duty to the future generations. It is our responsibility to instill in them the values of integrity, hard work, and patriotism."

"Today, as we renew our pledge to work tirelessly towards the realization of a Pakistan that exemplifies the ideals of our Founding Father—a nation where peace prevails, justice is served, and every citizen has the opportunity to flourish," the prime minister concluded.—RT/Agency

## Following Imran, Shehbaz And Hamza Seek Relief Through Changes To NAB Laws

ISLAMABAD: After incarcerated PTI founder Imran Khan sought relief under amendments to the National Accountability Ordinance 1999 recently restored by the Supreme Court, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his son Hamza Shehbaz demanded retransfer of Ramazan Sugar Mills reference to the National Accountability Bureau (NAB).

The apex court, on September 6, accepted intra-court appeals filed against the September 15, 2023, majority judgement striking down the amendments to the National Accountability Ordinance.

Approving the intra-court appeals filed by the federal and provincial governments, the top court remarked Imran could not prove that NAB amendments were unconstitutional.

During today's hearing, the father-son duo's counsel argued that the reference against their clients is "inadmissible" after the Supreme Court's verdict and that the "accountability court lacks jurisdiction to proceed in the case". In re-



sponse to the argument, the judge asked the lawyers to file an application for the transfer of sugar mills reference to the anti-graft body. The court added the hearing on the application will be conducted on October 1.

Meanwhile, it also accepted Hamza Shehbaz's plea for exemption from personal appearance.

On February 18, 2019, the anti-graft crusader filed a reference against Hamza and Shehbaz, alleging that the former Punjab chief minister had misused his authority to get a 10km sludge carrier constructed in district Chintot to facilitate Ramzan Sugar Mills, owned by his sons.

The anti-corruption bureau had alleged that the project had inflicted a loss of Rs213 million to the national exchequer.

The reference was reopened in November 2023 after the amendments — introduced by the coalition government of the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) — were struck down.

Earlier, Imran also sought acquittal from the £190 million case under the NAB amendments — which he had challenged.

The deposed prime minister's lawyer told the accountability court in Rawalpindi's Adiala jail that the case was no longer valid after the verdict as all the cabinet decisions are protected in NAB amendments.—RT/Agency

# THE HEARTLAND



HYDERABAD: Members and leaders of the HDA Labour Union are holding a protest demonstration against the non-payment of their salaries, at the Hyderabad press club.-RT

## Former Nazim Daim Khan Majidano's father passes away



By Hakim Baloch

Khaskheli, Raees Ahmed Ali Rind, Haji Hakim Khan Mari, Muhammad Ismail Gaho, Hayat Bhanbho, Abdul Qadir Junejo, PPP leader Amir Ali Rind and journalists Hakim Ali Baloch and Shakir Ali Rajput, among other political and social figures from the region. Meanwhile, condolences continue to be extended to his sons Daim Khan Majidano and Qurban Majidano.



HYDERABAD: Residents of Pano Aqil are holding a protest demonstration for Aid, at the Hyderabad press club.-RT

## PPP MPA Pir Mujibul Haq calls on LUMHS VC Prof Dr Ikramuddin Ujjan

By Munwar Chandio

JAMSHORO: MPA Pir Mujibul Haq held a meeting with Professor Dr Ikramuddin Ujjan at Jamshoro. The purpose of the meeting was to hatch a Strategy for the improvement of District Headquarter Hospital (DHQ) Dadu and ensure its functionality 24/7. It was discussed in the meeting that people from different corners of District DHQ for seeking qualitative treatment and cure. The DHQ is consisted on 435 beds but due to meager arrangements and proper functioning, patients from the surrounding prefer from the Shaukat Institute Sehwan. Professor Dr Ikramuddin assured Pir Mujib that he will support to ensure proper functioning of said hospital and will ensure



Shafique Moosvi, former administrator Indmad Dawach and Amir Ali were present.

## Mother and daughter demand justice in property dispute



By Younis Chandio

MIRPURKHAS: Tehmina, daughter of Muhammad Shafi Khan, from Karachi, held a press conference at Mirpurkhas Press Club alongside her widowed mother. She stated that her stepister sold half of their ancestral property located in the Satellite Town area of Mirpurkhas without obtaining a legal inheritance document (Foti Khata). She informed the journalists that her family consists of her mother, herself, and two sisters, including one stepister. Tehmina and her two sisters live in Karachi, while her mother and one brother, who passed away in childhood, were also part of their family. After the death of their step-

## DC Altaf Ahmed Chachar reviews arrangements for 12th Rabi-ul-Awal

By Adeel Alvi

SHIKARPUR: A meeting was held at the Deputy Commissioner's Office in Shikarpur regarding the celebration of 12th Rabi-ul-Awal. The meeting was chaired by Deputy Commissioner Shikarpur, Altaf Ahmed Chachar. During the meeting, Deputy Commissioner Chachar stated that 12th Rabi-ul-Awal is a day of joy for the entire Muslim world and emphasized the importance of cleanliness and lighting in all towns and districts during the month of Rabi-ul-Awal. He instructed the Assistant Commissioners of all four districts to monitor the situation one or two days before the 12th Rabi-ul-Awal. He directed the Sui Gas and WAPDA officials to ensure that there is no power outage in areas where Mlad celebrations are being held on the 11th and 12th of Rabi-ul-Awal. Additionally, he instructed municipal officials to manage lighting and cleanliness on the main streets



from where processions will emerge. Dr. Shahid Ahmed Chachar, the District Officer, has provided 32 ambulances, 7 1122 vehicles, and medical staff with medicines. SSP Shikarpur, Shahzeb Chachar, mentioned that security arrangements will be tightened within Shikarpur and noted that some volunteers will be needed. He requested schedules of processions and programs from villages and towns to ensure adequate security. SSP Chachar announced the deployment of 2300 police personnel and appointed Syed Shahjehan Shah as the focal person. He advised setting up a WhatsApp group for local persons from procession or program locations to coordinate any issues promptly. The meeting was attended by DSR Rangers Azam Khan, Assistant Commissioner Muhammad Faizan Cheema, Health Department officials, Local Government officials, police, SEPCO, Sui Gas representatives, and officials from all four districts along with scholars and other officers.

## Jagirani-Solangi clash settled after three months in Pir Jo Goth

By AQ Khilji

PIR JO GOTH: A resolution has been reached regarding the ongoing deadly feud between the Jagirani and Solangi communities in the vicinity of Pir Jo Goth, Khairpur. The conflict, which has resulted in six deaths and 19 injuries, has now been settled with a fine of 21.9 million rupees imposed on the warring parties. Any further infractions will incur an additional penalty of 5 million rupees. According to the details, the deadly clash between the Jagirani and Solangi communities in the Khairpur district led to severe consequences, including the displacement of several families. Despite efforts by various leaders to mediate between the two communities, the attempts were unsuccessful.



Khan Junejo and Azhar Kamario representing the Solangi community. Other dignitaries such as Syed Sadat, Gulshan Solangi, Ashraf Khan Solangi, Mir Israr Khan, Abdul Sattar Jagirani, Abdul Khaliq Jagirani, Syed Ali Haider Shah Rashdi, Ghulam Shabbir Ghumro, Hussain Bux Narejo and Syed Gul Muhammad Shah Rashdi were also present. The decision included a fine of 9.9 million rupees on the Jagirani community for the three murders and 12 injuries in the Solangi community, while the Solangi community was fined 12 million rupees for the three murders and seven injuries in the Jagirani community. The damages were to be covered accordingly. Following the decision, both communities embraced each other and reconciled, resolving their

disputes. This feud had been ongoing for the past three months, involving intermittent firing and creating a state of fear, with schools closed and people confined to their homes. The resolution was overseen by the Hur community's high-ranking officials, including Chief Khalifa Faqir Qadir Bux Mangrio, Khalifa Ali Muhammad Gaho, Khalifa Sultan Faqir Rajar, Khalifa Muhammad Rahim Hingoro, Khalifa Ahmad Saleh Mahar, Khalifa Faqir Muhammad Akram Khoso, and Dewan Topan Das. The session concluded with prayers for peace, brotherhood, and mutual tolerance. The efforts of Pir Sahib Pagara and Syed Muhammad Rashid Shah in resolving the conflict were acknowledged and praised.

## Education Dept Thatta takes out an awareness rally



By Khuda Bux Brohi

THATTA: In a collective effort to enhance enrollment in government schools and promote education in the district, teachers, students, and local educational leaders from Makhdoom Abul Hassan Thattvi High School, Makli, took to the streets in a rally. Holding banners and placards urging parents to enroll their children in government schools, the participants aimed to raise awareness about the importance of education. The rally, which commenced at the high school and proceeded to DC Chowk, Makli, saw active participation from key figures in the district's education sector, including District Education Officer (DEO) Hazoor Bux Khaskheli, Senior Headmaster Bisharat Ilyas Jokhio, and GSTA District President, Sir Ghulam Nabi Khushk. Addressing the gathering, DEO Hazoor Bux Khaskheli emphasized the pivotal role of education in shaping children's futures and encouraged parents to take advantage of the free, quality education provided by government schools. TEO Secondary Kashif Shafiq highlighted the qualified teachers and facilities available in public schools, making a compelling case for parents to consider government institutions for their children's education. Senior teachers like Abdul Hameed Mehranvi, Amir Usman Memon, and Ali Asghar Brohi reiterated these points, discussing ongoing efforts to enhance the quality of public education.

## HCSTSI President Muhammad Farooq Shaikhani decries ignoring contracts with Independent Power Producers

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: Muhammad Farooq Shaikhani, President Hyderabad Chamber of Small Traders & Small Industry (HCSTSI), has voiced grave concerns regarding the government's negligence in handling the contracts with Independent Power Producers (IPPs). He highlighted that, despite numerous demands and protests, the government's failure to either cancel or reschedule these contracts has plunged the business community into severe difficulties. Shaikhani pointed out that each month, the exorbitant electricity bills are compounded by various taxes, including electricity charges, television fees, general sales tax, income tax, surplus tax, additional tax, retailer sales tax, and fuel price adjustments. These additional costs are exacerbating the financial strain on the public. Furthermore, he revealed that payments to IPPs have surged by 33%, reaching Rs. 2.8 trillion in the new financial year, thus placing an extra burden on consumers. This year alone, the cost of electricity per unit has risen by approximately Rs. 5, resulting in an added expense of Rs 310 billion. He stated that the escalating electricity prices are crippling industrial activities, leading to the closure of thousands of factories. Despite this crisis, the government persists in subsidizing IPPs and continues to make payments in dollars rather than terminating these contracts. Shaikhani emphasized that these inequitable IPP contracts and the dollar-based payments are placing a substantial burden on the Pakistani economy. Even power plants funded with local currency are receiving payments in dollars. According to NEPRA, 71% of the cost of power generation is being allocated to payments for IPPs, with a significant portion going to inactive power plants. Chamber President Farooq Shaikhani expressed that the current situation has exacerbated Pakistan's debt crisis to an unsustainable level and poses a severe threat to national security. Previously, citizens struggled to pay their household electricity bills, and now the business community faces the same issue with commercial bills. This has led to a significant disruption in business activities and a widespread disturbance in the entire business sector. Shaikhani highlighted that the soaring energy prices and tariffs are the most pressing issue in the country, directly undermining industrialization. Despite a generation capacity of 45,000 MW, only 22,000 MW is being transmitted through the main lines, with consumers still required to pay for unused electricity. Additionally, he pointed out that 56% of the electricity price is being spent on capacity charges, with the government paying Rs. 2 trillion in this regard. He urged the government to make a critical decision, whether to prioritize the interests of IPP owners or to safeguard the welfare of 250 million Pakistanis, who are already witnessing the shutting down of thousands of industries and numerous operations due to exorbitant electricity tariffs. Shaikhani warned that if immediate action is not taken, the escalating prices and mounting bills could overwhelm the entire economic system.



HYDERABAD: Advocate High Court, Z. A Kandro is addressing a press conference, at the Hyderabad press club.-RT



HYDERABAD: A resident of Qasimbabad is addressing a press conference against the highhandedness of his area police, at the Hyderabad press club.-RT

# NATIONAL



# SOUTHERN PUNJAB

## Naqvi Calls For Adhering To Quaid-e-Azam's Principles For National Salvation

ISLAMABAD: Federal minister for Interior and Narcotics Control Mohsin Naqvi said on Wednesday that country needed to act upon country's founding father's principles more than ever now.

In a statement issued on the occasion of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah's 70th death anniversary, Naqvi said tireless struggle, unflinching courage and matchless integrity were the distinctive features of Jinnah, adding that Pakistan could never have become an independent country without the courageous leadership of Jinnah.



He stated that people living in this independent state would always remain indebted to Jinnah, stressing that following in the footsteps of Jinnah were directly needed in order to be a prosperous country. Underscoring the need for unity, Naqvi said there was no

## President Emphasizes Adherence To Quaid's Principles For A Stronger Pakistan



ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari has urged the nation to follow Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah's principles of 'unity, faith and discipline' emphasizing their significance as a beacon for the country's development.

"I am sure that by acting upon his (Quaid-e-Azam) teachings and advice, we can make Pakistan strong and prosperous," the president said in his message to the nation on the occasion of the 70th death anniversary of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah annually observed on September 11.

Paying tribute to Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the president said that the Pakistani nation was indebted to him for his efforts and contribution to the creation of a separate homeland for the Muslims of the sub-continent where they could live with dignity and exercise their political, cultural, and religious rights.

Calling him a visionary leader, who united the Muslims of India under one banner, the president said the whole nation was proud of Quaid-e-Azam's untiring struggle and unwavering commitment to the right to self-determination that

shaped the destiny of millions of Muslims.

"Quaid-e-Azam's vision for Pakistan was fundamentally democratic as he firmly believed in a state where all citizens, irrespective of religion, would be equal before the law. Muhammad Ali Jinnah's struggle not only laid the foundation of Pakistan's democratic system but continues to influence our aspirations for parliamentary democracy and communal harmony," he remarked.

President Zardari said that Quaid-e-Azam successfully steered Indian Muslims through the complex political landscape of India while maintaining an unyielding stance on the rights of Muslims.

He said that Jinnah had envisioned a Pakistan based on Islamic principles of democracy and socio-economic justice.

"It was due to his sheer will, hard work and successful advocacy of the cause of Muslims that the partition of India became a reality. On this day, we not only honour his efforts but also recommit ourselves to the values and ideals that he championed," the president added.—RT/Agency

## Traffic Police Under CTO Ayesha Butt Create Major Hassles For Gujranwala Residents

By Dr Mirza MB Qamar



GUJRANWALA: The daughter of Gujranwala, SP/CTO Ayesha Butt, has reportedly issued an excessive number of fines, causing distress among the citizens. Previously, people struggled with hunger and electricity bills, but now they are being pushed towards despair due to what they claim are unjustified fines imposed by their own city's officer. Citizens, who once celebrated her appointment with sweets, are now expressing disappointment as traffic jams continue, and many claim they are being humiliated in public to meet the fines quota. Allegations suggest that SP Ayesha Butt's directives have led to an overwhelming number of fines being issued around the CTO office, the DSP License Branch, and other areas. People feel that the government's treasury is being filled at

one case involving a traffic warden named Nadeem slapping a vendor. The city's poor feel increasingly marginalized, unable to make an honest living due to the authorities' actions. Two particular incidents have gained attention: in one, a vendor claims that he and his mentor were falsely accused of possessing drugs and harassed by the DSP after being detained for setting up a food cart without a permit. In another, a street vendor reported being slapped repeatedly by Inspector Nadeem, allegedly for operating without permission. The citizens of Gujranwala are now appealing to higher authorities, including the Chief Minister and Commissioner, for justice. They demand action against the alleged misconduct of the CTO and traffic officers, hoping for an end to the mistreatment of the poor and marginalized in the city.

## Mobile Registration Vans Now Operating To Assist BISP Beneficiaries In Remote Areas

ISLAMABAD: Chairperson of the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Senator Rubina Khalid Wednesday said that the Mobile Registration Vans are being utilized to facilitate the registration of eligible individuals in remote areas of Pakistan.



Murtaza, and Director for the Skardu Zone, Wazir Asrar Haider, briefed her on BISP operations in Gilgit-Baltistan.

Additionally, she visited the Dynamic Registry Center established at the Skardu Office.

There, she addressed the women who had come for registration, clarifying that there is no registration fee for the Benazir Income Support Programme.

She emphasized that 8171 is the only official number used by BISP for communication, and any messages from other numbers are fraudulent. She advised contacting the BISP helpline at

0800-26477 to report any issues.

In a media interaction later, she explained that the purpose of her visit was to raise awareness about the challenges faced by deserving women.

She highlighted that the Benazir Income Support Programme is working to economically empower women in line with the vision of Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto. She underscored the significance of the Benazir Kafaalat, Taleemi Wazaf, and Nashonuma programs in improving the lives of impoverished households.—RT/Agency

## Pakistan's Mpox Cases Rise To Six with New Reported Case In KP



PESHAWAR: Another case of the mpox, also known as monkeypox, was reported in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), taking the total tally of the virus to six in Pakistan, provincial Health Minister Syed Qasim Ali Shah said on Wednesday.

This is the sixth case reported in the country this year and the fifth since the World Health Organisation (WHO) declared the recent outbreak of the disease as a public health emergency of international concern after the new variant of the virus was identified in August.

The latest patient is a resident of Lower Dir area of KP, according to the National Institute of Health Islamabad. He was isolated after the screening at the Peshawar Airport and after a medical test, he was confirmed as a carrier of the mpox virus, it added.

The KP health minister said: "A public health lab confirmed the presence of the mpox virus in the patients' blood samples."

"The patient has been quarantined at his home in the Lower Dir area," the minister said, adding that he reached Islamabad from a Gulf country on September 9 and then stayed at a hotel in Peshawar.

Shah further added: "Next day the patient went to a private clinic for (some) treatment and was then transferred to Khyber Teaching Hospital."

Mpox is a virus that causes flu-like symptoms and pus-filled lesions and, while usually mild, it can kill. Children, pregnant women and people with weakened immune systems are all at higher risk of complications.—RT/Agency

## Conjunctivitis Cases Surge Rapidly Across Punjab

By Abid Mehmood Ch



TOKA TEK SINGH: The outbreak of conjunctivitis (pink eye) has worsened across Punjab, with a rapid increase in the number of affected patients and ineffective government measures. Healthcare professionals report a record rise in conjunctivitis cases over the past week. A survey conducted with ophthalmologists indicates a 10 to 15 percent increase in cases within a week, with major cities being particularly affected. Patients suffering from severe eye pain are flooding ophthalmology clinics, and there has been a notable increase in the sale of specific medications for this illness, leading to shortages of some eye drops. Eye specialists report that conjunctivitis causes itching, burning, swelling, and pain in the eyes. Continuous rubbing due to these symptoms leads to redness and watery discharge. The

typical duration of conjunctivitis is about one week, though it can last up to two weeks in some cases. Patients usually experience the most discomfort in the first three days, with symptoms gradually easing afterward. The majority of those affected are students from schools and colleges. Due to insufficient government preventive measures and lack of precautions, the number of patients continues to rise daily. Ophthalmologists emphasize that conjunctivitis is a contagious viral infection, and the belief that it spreads merely by looking at an infected person is incorrect. Instead, preventive measures are crucial to avoid the disease. People should avoid shaking hands with affected individuals, refrain from touching shared items like towels and handkerchiefs, and frequently wash their hands with soap. Infected individuals should avoid physical contact and maintain a safe distance to prevent transmission.

## DC Muhammad Naem Sindhu Presides Over Media Meeting



By Abid Mahmood Ch

TOKA TEK SINGH: Deputy Commissioner Toka Tek Singh, Muhammad Naem Sindhu, met with representatives of print and electronic media. The meeting was attended by the District Information Officer, officials from journalistic organizations across the district, and media representatives. In response to the journalists highlighting public issues, Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Naem assured that the district administration would resolve these issues promptly.

Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Naem Sindhu praised the positive attitude of media persons in the district and said that regular meetings with journalists would continue. He encouraged the journalist community to point out issues, promising that they would be addressed on a priority basis. The Deputy Commissioner further mentioned that upon identifying public concerns, relevant departments would be mobilized to take steps to resolve their resolution. He urged print media representatives to use news articles and columns to inform the public about welfare projects and government initiatives. The media should highlight the actions taken by the district administration and other related institutions in the public interest through a positive approach. He assured that all available resources would be utilized to resolve public issues.

## Maryam Orders Enhanced Security for Eid Milad-un-Nabi Celebrations

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz has directed officials to ensure foolproof security on Eid Milad-un-Nabi.



She chaired a session on law and order situation where she directed foolproof security arrangements for Eid Milad-un-Nabi.

Maryam Nawaz approved an increase in provincial check posts during the session. She instructed to provide APC, bullet-proof vehicles and bullet-proof jackets to police officers on an immediate basis.

A grant of Rs1 billion was approved for police in the session. Maryam Nawaz issued directives for the special training of police officers de-

ployed on check posts and to improve and strengthen border security check posts. The restructuring and latest training of Border Military Police was also approved. Installation of bodycam on police force during duty was also decided. A ban on the use of cameras and social media by on duty police officers has been imposed. Campaign to eradicate illegal weapons use was agreed upon in the session. Addressing the session, the chief minister stressed that safety and security of lives and properties of people of Punjab was the first priority and the government was utilising all resources to ensure it.—RT/Agency

## South Korea's Liberal Unification Vision vs North Korea's Two-State Approach

By Chung Eui-sung (North Korean Defector)



On the 79th anniversary of National Liberation Day, South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol unveiled the "August 15 Unification Doctrine," focusing on improving human rights in North Korea, ensuring the right to survival, and increasing access to information. The doctrine also aims to rally international support for these initiatives.

In stark contrast, North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has adopted a more aggressive stance, labeling South Korea a "hostile state" and abandoning previous efforts at peaceful unification. During a Party session last year, Kim advocated for unification through military force, vowing to annex South Korea in the event of war. He declared that relations between the two Koreas have shifted to a "complete state of belligerency," fueled by North Korea's nuclear capabilities, and seeks to exploit the emerging Cold War tensions in Northeast Asia.

A key point in President Yoon's doctrine is the emphasis on the "right to know" for North Korean citizens. He

highlighted the importance of access to information, noting that many North Korean defectors and diplomats have testified that increased awareness of the outside world could undermine the regime. Yoon's policy suggests that dismantling North Korea's propaganda machine and exposing citizens to the realities of other nations could foster dissent within the country.

In response, Kim Jong-un has taken steps to block the influence of South Korean culture, known as the "Korean Wave" (Hallyu), fearing that admiration for the South could weaken his regime. Measures such as the destruction of the Inter-Korean Liaison Office in 2020, along

## Barrister Saif Urges NA Speaker To File FIR Against Parliament Attackers



PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Adviser Barrister Saif on Wednesday demanded imposition of the Article 6 on those who barged into the parliament to arrest the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leaders.

In a statement, Saif slammed the federal ministers for being insensitive and remaining belligerent during this situation, adding that nothing else could be expected from those at the helm.

"We will not let the government pass illegal amendments in the Constitution. The government cried hoarse on false flag operation of May 9 but it chose to remain silent on attack on the parliament," he deplored.

He criticised the ministers for shedding crocodile tears in the name of May 9 while urging the National Assembly Speaker Ayaz Sadiq to lodge an FIR against the attackers of the parliament instead of dilly-dallying the matter.—RT/Agency

## Gujranwala's Civil Society Condemns Rising Environmental Pollution

By Dr Mirza MB Qamar

GUJRANWALA: Despite multiple complaints and reports from local residents about factories, kilns, and industrial units releasing toxic smoke and causing air pollution, these facilities are sealed only to be reopened the next day under the protection of the district administration and financial incentives. Factories such as Cannon Metal and Works,

also known as Baw Farukh Ijaz Factory, and other factories, kilns, and industrial units on Sheikhupura Road have not been sealed despite their contribution to air pollution. The factories and industrial units, which continue to emit toxic smoke 24 hours a day, have subjected local residents to severe discomfort, including allergies, asthma, and serious eye problems. Local residents have appealed to the Chief

## LHC Grants Bail To Minor In Defence Car Accident Case

LAHORE: A Lahore High Court (LHC) division bench on Wednesday granted bail to underage driver Afnan in connection with the Defence car accident case that tragically claimed the lives of six family members.

The division bench, headed by Justice Syed Shahbaz Ali Rizvi, heard the shortest bail petition filed against Afnan's friends had been declared innocent during investigations, and the allegations made by the complainant had not yet been proven. He also raised objections to two statements made by witness Zubair Ghaffor, arguing that the witnesses were not present at the scene of the accident.

He further noted that the anti-terrorism court had dismissed the Afnan's bail petition based on inaccurate facts.

He highlighted that three of Afnan's friends had been declared innocent during investigations, and the allegations made by the complainant had not yet been proven. He also raised objections to two statements made by witness Zubair Ghaffor, arguing that the witnesses were not present at the scene of the accident.

The counsel emphasized that Afnan, being 17 years and six months old at the time of the accident, was classified as a juvenile in the charging-sheet (challan). According to the law, Afnan was entitled to bail, he submitted, requesting the bench to grant bail to his client.

In response, the complainant's counsel argued that the witness statements were not relevant to the bail petition.

Addressing the complainant's counsel, the bench remarked, "Bail decisions are made based on the evidence available.—RT/Agency"

# EDITORIAL

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

Thursday, September 12, 2024



## A much needed and timely consensus on democratic norms

The unanimous resolution passed by the National Assembly to form a committee for addressing house-related issues in light of the recent arrests of PTI legislators is a welcome and timely move. This consensus comes as a breath of fresh air amid the heightened political tensions caused by the arrests within the confines of Parliament, allegedly by masked men. The disturbing incident, which violated the sanctity of the legislative institution, has sparked widespread condemnation across party lines.

Speaker Ayaz Sadiq's stance on issuing production orders, and his emphasis on upholding the Parliament's dignity, reflects a much-needed

commitment to maintaining democratic norms. His reminder that "two wrongs do not make a right" underlines the necessity of setting a



higher standard of governance, even in politically charged times. The suspension of security officials for their role in the arrests demonstrates that swift action has been taken to address the failure of parliamentary security.

Moreover, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif's condemnation of the police and masked men's entry into Parliament as "shameful" reinforces

the need to preserve the institution's sanctity. Both treasury and opposition benches have shown commendable unity in recognizing the gravity of the situation and agreeing on the formation of a committee to restore parliamentary order.

This resolution marks a critical step toward fostering dialogue and reconciliation. As PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar stressed, negotiations are essential for the country's and democracy's survival. The hope now lies in this committee working swiftly to resolve house-related issues, ensuring that the democratic process remains uninterrupted and that Parliament continues to function with the respect it deserves.

# THE HEARTLAND



## Shehzad Shaikh assumes charge as Divisional Director of Information Dept Mirpurkhas

By Narain Das

MIRPURKHAS: Shehzad Shaikh, a senior officer of the Sindh Information Department, has assumed charge as the Divisional Director of Information in Mirpurkhas and has begun his duties. Following his appointment, he held an introductory meeting at his office with the officers and officials of the Directorate. In the meeting, he emphasized that the primary responsibility of the Information Department's officers and staff is to highlight government public welfare projects through the media, ensuring that the public is informed about these initiatives. Shaikh stressed the importance of the Information Department's role in promoting the Sindh Government's



major developmental projects at both the divisional and district levels, so that their benefits can reach the people. He noted that the work of the Information Department differs from that of other departments and emphasized the need for teamwork in projecting projects effectively.

During the meeting, Deputy Director Information Mirpurkhas, Ghulam Raza Khoso, provided a detailed briefing on the office's performance and the division's activities. Information Officer Yasir Nawaz Memon and other staff members also participated in the meeting.

## SSP Asif Raza Baloch reviews overall performance of Umerkot Police



Umerkot: SSP Umerkot Asif Raza Baloch chaired an important meeting with all police officers of the district. The meeting focused on directives from the IGP Sindh and DIGP Mirpurkhas, along with performance reports of officers and strict actions against crime. SSP Asif Raza Baloch reviewed the performance reports of all officers. He further instructed the officers to take stronger actions against criminals, including those involved in the sale of

Gurka, drug dealers, habitual offenders, anti-social elements, and gangs. In preparation for Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAWW), regular checks will be conducted at police checkpoints on key city roads, both at entry and exit points. Additionally, officers were directed to carry out regular snaf checking and ensure effective patrolling in their areas. SSP Baloch also emphasized the need to promptly arrest absconders and fugitives wanted by the Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) and other courts.

## Tando Adam's fabric manufacturing industry seeks relief amidst declining conditions

By Mumtaz Ali Thahim

TANDO ADAM: The textile sector plays a crucial role in the economic development of any country, and in Pakistan the textile industry particularly power looms holds a prominent position. This sector is a key contributor to national economic strength and employment. The district of Sanghar in Sindh, especially the city of Tando Adam holds special significance in the textile industry due to its large production of high-quality cotton. The domestic power loom industry in Tando Adam has been established for the past 50 years providing thousands of people with employment, which not only helps individuals stand on their own feet but also brings valuable foreign exchange to the country.



Muhammad Irshad Ansari, the Official of the Pakistan Small Units Power Looms Association, stated that the fabric manufacturing industry and the textile sector play the most crucial role in the national economy.

In Tando Adam, there are over 500 small and large power loom units operating, with approximately 4,000 machines running. More than 3,000 workers are employed daily in these looms, earning their livelihood and supporting their families. Sabir Ansari explained that yarn imported from various countries reaches Karachi, where it is purchased. Using these machines, various types of fabric, including polyester, georgette, polyester, mill-made cloth, staple, khadi, and others are produced and in high demand. Shakeel Ahmed, another power loom factory owner, mentioned that both small and large power looms in the area not only provide employment but also create opportunities in related sectors. Transportation, vendors, and other associated sectors are also flourishing. Workers in the power loom industry say that their basic needs and household expenses are met thanks to this industry. Most workers are daily wage earners, receiving 500 to 700 rupees per day. They face challenges related to wages, health, education, and other facilities, which need urgent attention from the authorities. The power looms in Tando Adam and other areas of the province are not only a major source of employment but also play a significant role in strengthening the national economy.

He noted that fabrics like georgette, polyester, mill-made cloth, staple, khadi, and others are produced and in high demand. Shakeel Ahmed, another power loom factory owner, mentioned that both small and large power looms in the area not only provide employment but also create opportunities in related sectors. Transportation, vendors, and other associated sectors are also flourishing. Workers in the power loom industry say that their basic needs and household expenses are met thanks to this industry. Most workers are daily wage earners, receiving 500 to 700 rupees per day. They face challenges related to wages, health, education, and other facilities, which need urgent attention from the authorities. The power looms in Tando Adam and other areas of the province are not only a major source of employment but also play a significant role in strengthening the national economy.

## Maulana Abdullah Mahar elected District Ameer of JUI-F Shikarpur

By Adeel Alvi

SHIKARPUR: In the recent elections for the JUI-F in District Shikarpur, the new District Ameer for the next five years is Maulana Abdullah Mahar, and the General Secretary is Maulana Muhammad Tayyab Mekho. The election meeting was held at a wedding hall in Shikarpur city, under the supervision of Provincial Election Commissioner Maulana Muhammad Saleh Indhar, Division Assistant Maulana Mohabbat Ali Khadro, and District Election Commissioner Maulana Ghulam Allah Mahar. Out of 948 district council members, 680 participated in the meeting, which began with the recitation of the Quran. Maulana



Abdullah Mahar, Syed Maulana Muhammad Tayyab Mekho were elected as District Ameer and General Secretary, respectively, with no other candidates contesting for these positions. The meeting was attended by several prominent figures, including Maulana Abdul Bari Shaikh, Maulana

## Sindh Ombudsman's Regional Director Manzoor Ali Soomro holds a Brand Ambassador Program



By Raza Jafar Iqbal

BADIN: On the special instructions of Provincial Ombudsman Sindh Muhammad Sohail Rajput (Nishaan Intiaz), Regional Director Badin Manzoor Ali Soomro organized a "Brand Ambassador Program" workshop to promote administrative justice and civic responsibility. The meeting was held with the participation of Principal Government Islamia Degree College Badin Professor Haroon Rasheed, Principal Government Girls Degree

## NDSO Chairman Ali Ansar Sindhu returns home after undergoing surgery at SIUT

By Naeem Ahmad Shaikh

KHAIRPUR: Renowned social figure and Chairman of the NDSO, Ali Ansar Sindhu, has returned to Khairpur after undergoing surgery at the SIUT Hospital in Karachi. He arrived by train and was warmly welcomed by political, social, and distinguished personalities of Khairpur. He adorned him with floral garlands and showered petals, congratulating him on his recovery. Following his arrival, Ali Ansar Sindhu was brought to his home in a grand rally. The reception included notable figures such as Muhammad Athar Siddiqui,



Ashraf Mughal, Zahid Mangi, Advocate Zulfiqar Ali Sindhu, Shafiq Muhammad Katohar, Raza Sheikh, and Muhammad Ali Phulpoto, among others. The attendees distributed sweets to celebrate the occasion. During the event, Ali Ansar Sindhu expressed his gratitude for the warm reception and the care he received.

## Two children die in diphtheria outbreak in Hingorja

By Sajjad Chang

HINGORJA: In Khairpur District, the health department's oversight is under the Director Health Sukkur, while the position of District Health Officer (DHO) in Khairpur has been vacant for the past three months. Despite this, a diphtheria outbreak has occurred in the villages of Naik Muhammad Janwri and Muhammad Khan Janwri in Hingorja, and the acting DHO has not taken any measures to address this disease. Political and social leaders of Hingorja, includ-

ing Aziz Memon, Kifayat Janwri, Haqim Janwri, and others, have demanded that the provincial health minister appoint a new DHO for Khairpur District and take effective steps to control the spread of the disease in Hingorja. It is worth mentioning that the villages of Muhammad Khan Janwri and Naik Muhammad Janwri in Hingorja, a dangerous outbreak of diphtheria has been noted, prompting action from the DC of Khairpur. Following this, Dr. Muhammad Hanif Somroo and Dr. Farhan Memon, medical officers from Hingorja Hospital, visited the villages with their team to examine the children. Dr. Muhammad Hanif Somroo confirmed the presence of diphtheria in two children, Anam Janwri and Adeel Janwri, had died from the disease. Another child, Huzaifa Janwri, is currently hospitalized in Sukkur. Dr. Somroo stated that they are following orders from the health department and will send a complete report to higher authorities. He also advised parents to take precautions to protect their children.

# REGIONAL TIMES

# SPORTS

## Babar Azam, Shaheen Afridi, Mohammad Rizwan climb in latest ICC Test rankings

DUBAI: Pakistan cricketers experience a ranking boost, with key players like Babar Azam, Shaheen Afridi, and Mohammad Rizwan making notable improvements in the latest ICC Test rankings.

Babar Azam, Pakistan's white-ball captain, has improved his standing in the Test rankings.

Despite ongoing struggles in the red-ball format, Babar has climbed one position to 11th place, now holding 712 rating points.

Meanwhile, Mohammad Rizwan, the wicketkeeper-batter, has surged back into the top 10, securing the 9th spot with 720 rating points.

However, not all news is positive for Pakistan's batsmen.

Saud Shakeel has dropped to 21st place with 661 rating points, while all-



rounder Salman Ali Agha has fallen to 32nd place with 606 rating points.

On the international front, Sri Lankan cricketers have made significant progress following their surprising Test victory over England at The Oval.

Dhananjaya de Silva has achieved a career-high rating, moving up to 13th in the Test batting rankings after his impressive 69 in the first innings.

Kusal Mendis and Pathum Nissanka also reached career-best ratings, with Mendis climbing to 19th after a notable half-century and Nissanka making a remarkable jump to 39th following innings of 64 and 127.

England's Joe Root maintains his position as the No. 1 Test batter despite a dip in form in the final Sri Lanka Test, with his rating falling from 922 to 899.—Agency

## Asian Champions Trophy: Pakistan defeat Japan 2-1 to register first win

HULUNBUIR: Pakistan on Wednesday defeated Japan 2-1 to register their first win of the Asian Hockey Champions Trophy at the Moqi Hockey Training Base in Hulunbuir City, Inner Mongolia, China.

The first goal was scored by Nadeem Ahmed in the first quarter but later it was equalised as Japan scored a goal in the second quarter.

In the 10th minute of the second quarter, Sufyan Khan scored a goal to restore Pakistan's lead which was enough to secure a win.

It must be noted that Pakistan's first two games ended in a draw.

The Green Shirts' clash against South Korea on Monday ended in a 2-2 draw after



they failed to defend their two-goal lead.

South Korea took the lead by scoring a goal in the second quarter, which remained intact until the third quarter. Pakistan's team could not score any goals up to the third quarter and was losing by one goal.

However, in the fourth quarter, the Pakistan team

made an impressive comeback, with Hanan Shahid scoring two quick goals.

But before the match could end, Korea scored another goal to level the game. On Sunday, Pakistan's match against Malaysia also ended in a 2-2 draw. Pakistan will play China on September 12, followed by India on September 14.—Agency

## Salman Butt among commentators for Champions One-Day Cup

LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has announced the commentary line-up for the Champions One-Day Cup.

The tournament will take place from September 12 to 29 at the Iqbal Stadium in Faisalabad.

Former Pakistan captain Salman Butt will be the voice of the competition.

Alongside Butt, Pakistan's analyst Sikandar Bakht, former cricketer Marina Iqbal, Shah Faisal, and Ali Younis are included in the commentary line-up.

Moreover, Meesha Inman, the sports presenter, will be presenting the tournament.

Dolphins, UMT Markhors, Panthers, Allied Bank Stallions, and Nurpur Lions are ready to compete with each other in thrilling fixtures.



leading the Dolphins under the mentorship of Sarfaraz Ahmed, Shaheen Afridi is appointed as the captain of the Lions, supported by Waqar Younis while Muhammad Harris will helm the Stallions, guided by Shaoh Malik, Mohammad Rizwan will be the leader of Markhors, with Misbah-ul-Haq as the coach of the team.

Moreover, the Islamabad United captain is also selected as the captain of the Panthers, with Saqlain

Mushtaq providing mentorship. The clash between Panthers and UMT Markhors will be the inaugural match of the tournament, scheduled on September 12, when the clock ticks three in the afternoon at the Iqbal Stadium in Faisalabad.—Agency

# REGIONAL TIMES

# THE HEARTLAND



## Bookseller shoots himself at his shop

By Younis Chaudhry

MIRPURKHAS: In the Station Road area of Mirpurkhas, Sarfraz Ansari, the owner of a bookstore, committed suicide by shooting himself inside his shop. The reason for

the suicide is still unknown. Rescue 1122 transported Sarfraz Ansari's body to the Civil Hospital for legal formalities. His family members arrived at the scene, and the household is in deep grief.

## Talhar youth drowns in Mirwah Canal

By Jibrán Talpur

BADIN: In Badin, a 22-year-old resident of Ward No-1 in Talhar, Nazir Ahmed Mallah, drowned while swimming in the Mirwah Canal. After two hours, local divers managed

to recover the body and transport it to the Rural Health Center, where doctors confirmed his death. Following the necessary formalities, the body was taken home, causing great grief among the family members.

## Open sale of chemical mixed milk spreading different diseases in Khairpur

By Naeem Shaikh

KHAIRPUR: Like the rest of the country, Khairpur is also facing severe health risks due to the widespread sale of chemical-laden milk. According to the details, the proliferation of milk made from various hazardous and health-damaging chemicals has led to increased issues related to liver, stomach, and bone diseases. Experts have labeled chemical milk as a poison for human life, and its widespread sale highlights government apathy. The lack of effective action from the government has emboldened

sellers of chemical milk, who face no fear of repercussions. This milk is openly used in tea at shops and hotels across the city, while the general public remains unaware of the chemical risks, leading to rising health problems. Despite frequent protests by health experts and social reformers against the sale of toxic chemical milk in both urban and rural areas, the government continues to play a passive role. Immediate and effective measures are needed from the government to curb the sale of chemical milk and ensure the provision of safe milk to the public.

## Solar power system installed for students benefitting Education Dept officials in Badin

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: At High School Badin, instead of benefiting students, the newly installed solar system is being used by officers, leading to protests from parents in the extreme heat. The solar plant was installed out of consideration for the students of Badin, but currently, it is being utilized by District Education Officer Ahmad Khan Zaun and Deputy District Education Officer Sikandar Mallah. Consequently, the facility intended for students has been terminated. The solar power has been redirected to six rooms of the officers' offices and their residences, with air conditioning running in both

the office and residences. This misuse of resources has left the children in a distressing situation, suffering in the intense heat and facing health risks. When parents of these children approached the DEO, they were informed that he would do whatever he could. The parents have urged the Sindh Education Minister, Secretary Education, Session Judge of Badin and the Deputy Commissioner Badin to take notice of the matter. They demand that the solar connection for the six rooms used by the officers be redirected to benefit the students, ensuring their well-being and protection in these challenging conditions.

## Residents of UC Piro Lashari rally against Chairman Pir Imam Ali Siddiqui

By Jibrán Talpur

BADIN: In the vicinity of Badin, in UC Piro Lashari, residents from various villages staged a protest symbolically carrying the funeral of the UC Chairman. The protest was held due to the failure to drain rainwater from the villages and the lack of developmental work, including anti-mosquito spraying. The protesters claimed that UC Chairman Pir Imam Ali Siddiqui has not visited his office since taking the oath, nor has he taken any action to drain the accumulated rainwater after the torrential rains. Due to the stagnant



water, several infectious diseases, such as diarrhea and malaria, have begun to spread, and many villagers remain trapped in the rainwater. The protesters demanded action against the UC Chairman from District Chairman

Ali Asghar Halipoto and Deputy Commissioner Badin Yasir Bhatti. They also called for the immediate drainage of rainwater from the UC, the establishment of medical camps, and the provision of relief.

## Transferred SAU employees protest for cancellation of orders

By Irfan Ali Khushk

TANDO JAM: Eight employees from Tando Jam Agricultural University have been transferred to Larkana University. The employees claim that under the 2023 Act, they have the right to continue their employment at any university, and they have also approached the court regarding this issue. However, the administration has forcibly transferred them to Larkana University and their salaries have been stopped, forcing them into a life of extreme poverty. Speaking to the media, Haider Bux Junjo said that his daughter was pursuing an M.Phil at Tando Jam Agricultural University but

could not get admission due to a lack of funds. His son, a third-year student at the university, also could not enroll due to the suspension of his salary for eight months. He expressed regret that the institution where he had given thirty years of his life is now causing his children to suffer. Muhammad Saleem Langah also spoke to the media, saying that he has been a lab attendant at the agricultural university for thirty years. He has been forcibly transferred and his salary has been stopped. His son, who is studying in the DVM faculty at the university, could not get admission due to the inability to pay the fees. His son, a congenital insulin-dependent pa-

tient, is experiencing frequent bouts of unconsciousness due to the lack of timely insulin. Additionally, the administration has blocked their medical cards. On this occasion, Assistant Registrar Administration Nizamuddin Bhatti and Lab Assistant Mohammad Bux Mashori appealed to PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah, local MPA Sharjeel Inam Memon, and other concerned officials to reverse their transfers back to Tando Jam Agricultural University and to restore their halted salaries so that they can escape the hardship of poverty and continue their children's education.

## Highway Employees Union hosts farewell for Darogha Ghulam Shabbir Almani

By Akhtar Laghari

MORO: In Moro, a farewell ceremony was held by the Highway Employees Union CBA Subdivision in honor of Darogha Ghulam Shabbir Almani, who retired after completing 60 years of service. During the ceremony, he was honored with cash gifts and flower garlands, acknowledging his contributions to the department. Following the ceremony, a protest was held against illegal recruitments from Grade 1 to 4 and Grade 15 should be con-

ducted legally through departmental manuals, and no illegal actions would be permitted. They urged Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, the Chief Justice of Sindh High Court, the Provincial Minister of the Roads Department, and other relevant officials to halt the illegal recruitment process, investigate the appointments made, cancel any illegal orders, and ensure that future recruitments are conducted legally through proper departmental channels.

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## Chandio Family protests for release of two arrested youths

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: The residents of Yar Muhammad Colony in Larkana protested outside the press club, carrying the Holy Quran in their hands, demanding the release of two young men allegedly detained by the police. The protest was led by women including Wazir Khanat Chandio, her son Mujahid, daughter-in-law Sheila

Khatoon, daughter Samina Ameer and Shaukat Chandio. They accused SHO Ashfaq Shar of the Waleed Police Station and his team of raiding their home on September 9, arresting their innocent sons, Manzoor and Jameel Chandio, and hiding them at an unknown location. The protesters claimed that the police are demanding a bribe of one lac rupees for their

release, which they cannot afford due to poverty. They alleged that if they fail to pay the bribe, the police have threatened to file false cases against their sons and continue to harass them. The protesters appealed to the DIG and SSP of Larkana to take notice of the situation, investigate the actions of the SHO, and ensure the release of their sons and justice for the victims.

# REGIONAL TIMES

# ENTERTAINMENT



## Taylor Swift reacts to political accusations after Travis Kelce breakup rumors



Taylor Swift has shared a meaningful message after the speculations of separation from Travis Kelce.

Swift and her beau were surrounded by rumours of a split over a "fake" and "fabricated" document, which went viral on social media earlier.

Taking to Instagram on September 11, the pop icon broke her silence and emphasised the importance of participation in the 2024 U.S. elections.

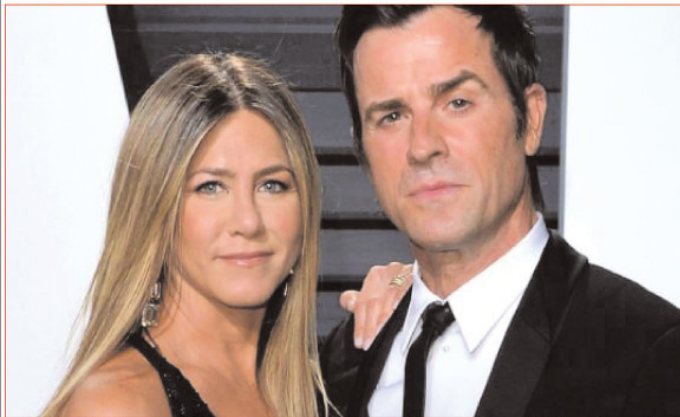
The Enchanted singer said that she felt the urge to be "very transparent" about her actual plans for the presidential elections as a voter and extended her support to Kamala Harris, who is set to compete against Donald Trump.

Swift also eulogised Kamala's efforts for human rights by sharing her personal opinion and persuaded her fans to do their thorough research as she did hers.

She said, "I'm voting for @kamalaharris because she fights for the rights and causes, I believe we need a warrior to champion them."

"I think she is a steady-handed, gifted leader and I believe we can accomplish so much more in this country if we are led by calm and not chaos."

## Jennifer Aniston 'heartbroken' after Justin Theroux engagement



Jennifer Aniston's former husband Justin Theroux has finally confirmed his engagement with lady love, Nicole Brydon Bloom.

While the newly engaged couple is receiving wishes from other stars, their reunion has opened old wounds for Jennifer Aniston, as per the findings of Life & Style.

In addition to this, the confidante maintained that Jennifer Aniston was hurt

by Justin's unexpected engagement because she saw a romantic future with him despite their platonic bond. "A small part of her heart really did think that a reunion with Justin could happen," the tipster disclosed.

It is pertinent to mention here that Jennifer and Justin turned friends to lovers in 2007. The duo tied the knot on 5th August

2015 but divorced from each other in 2018. Since then, they have remained amicable.

The insider even told the outlet, "When he and Jen got married, she truly thought he was going to be her forever guy." Conclusively, the source remarked, "They were a good match, and Jen hasn't had the easiest time letting go of what they once had."

## Face of the Day



Name: Qasim Khan  
Location: Karachi  
About me: I'm the selfie king of Karachi

Please email us your photo for our Model Watch and Kids' Corner section at regionaltimes10@gmail.com

# THE HEARTLAND



## Former PPP Senator Malik Imamudin Shouqeen visits SIMS

By Sajjan Jani

SHAHDADPUR: During a visit to SIMS Hospital, former Senator Malik Imamudin Shouqeen and PPP leader Abdul Rehman Thahem expressed that significant improvements have been made, but further enhancements are still needed. Speaking to the media, Thahem noted that while the current director has made progress, there is still a need for additional improvements. He emphasized that SIMS Hospital is an exemplary institution and that citizens and civil society must also play a role in its development. Thahem highlighted various issues such as budget constraints, a shortage of doctors, the need for a solar system, and the installation of an elevator for the new OT complex. He assured that efforts would be made to resolve these issues through the Sindh government and funds from the oil and gas sector. On the occasion, Director of SIMS Hospital, Dr. Bashir Jamali, Mehdi Hassan Panhwar, Nazir Ahmed



Brohi, Iqbal Bhatti, Aziz Jan Brohi, Ishfaq Qureshi and Dr. Niaz Chandio were also present.

## Wadero Roshanuddin Junejo felicitates Adi Faryal Talpur

By Farooq Junejo



Minister Shah Nawaz Junejo, at Zardari House in Karachi. During the meeting, Wadero Roshanuddin Junejo congratulated Faryal Talpur on her recent Umrah pilgrimage and presented her with a bouquet. They also discussed political, social, and administrative matters.

## PST organizes Tajdar-e-Khatm-e-Nabuwat (S.A.W.W) and Dastar-e-Fazilat Conference

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: In Larkana, Pakistan Sunni Tehreek organized its annual Tajdar-e-Khatm-e-Nabuwat (S.A.W.W) and Dastar-e-Fazilat Conference at the city's main Bandar Road, hosted by the Jamia Masjid Saadat. The event saw a large attendance, including notable figures including Shahid Hussain Ghori, Central Vice President of PST, Professor Manzoor Ahmad Mashori, Sajjadanashen of Dargah Mashori Sharif Mian Munir Ahmad Mashori, Mufti Dr. Haq Nabi Sikandri, Pir Haji Shamsuddin Sohu, Suhail Sain, Dargah Bakrani Syed Zulfikar Ali Shah, Sajjadanashen of Dargah Faizpur Sharif Noor Ahmad Qasmi, Central Leader of PST, Molana Ali Nawaz Qasmi, Provincial Leader Hafiz Abdul Rauf Qasmi, Mufti Abdul Rehman Qasmi, Muhammad Umar Laghari, Madad Ali Qadri, Qamaruddin Shaikh and others. Thousands of devotees participated in the conference. During the event, Shahid Hussain Ghori and other leaders spoke about the dedication of Pakistan's lovers of the Holy Prophet (S.A.W.W) to protecting the finality of Prophethood. They expressed readiness to sacrifice everything for this cause and criticized Supreme Court Judge

## Town Chairman Syed Uzair Akhtar Shah reviews arrangements for Eid Milad-un-Nabi (S.A.W.W) celebrations

By Zeeshan Soomro

SAKRAND: A meeting was held under the chairmanship of Chairman Syed Uzair Akhtar Shah at Town Committee Sakrand to celebrate the Eid Milad-un-Nabi (S.A.W.W). The meeting was attended by various religious figures including Tehsil Incharge of Dawat-e-Islami Hafiz Mukhtiar Ali Karmi, Divisional Ameer of Jamaat-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat Syed Noor Muhammad Shah Jilani, leader of the Milad Council Umar Dastar Akhtar Qadri, and senior journalist Qazi Javed Sanai, among others. During the meeting, Syed Uzair Akhtar Shah stated that, as in previous years, this year too the



Town Committee administration of Sakrand would arrange for the cleaning and lighting of the routes for the three separate Milad processions. He emphasized that the celebration of the birth of the Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad should be observed with respect and honor by all. During the meeting, religious leaders raised concerns about the cleanliness of the procession routes and encroachments, which they claimed were being caused by local shopkeepers. Uzair Akhtar Shah assured them that efforts would be made to address these complaints and resolve the issues.

## District Council Chairman Sohail Ahmed Shoro chairs a meeting



KOTRI: A meeting of Jamshoro District Council was held under the chairmanship of Chairman Sohail Ahmed Shoro. During the meeting, development schemes of 16 crores were approved for the district in the year 2025, 2024. Officer Dr. Kailash Kumar Kewlani, Accounts Parvez Baloch, Member Dr. Bhawan Mal, Bhagwan Das, Hakim Khan Nohani, members and officers of the district council attended the meeting. The participants of the meeting presented the plans to the chairman to stop the crime while the chairman Sohail Ahmed Shoro listened to the problems of all the honorable members and assured to solve them.

## HESCO Chief Roshan Otho reviews arrangements for Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAWW)

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: To review the arrangements made by HESCO during the month of Rabi-ul-Awal, HESCO Chief Roshan Ali Otho, accompanied by HESCO officials and prominent social figure Muhammad Naveed Shaikh, visited various locations. The officials visited Fian-e-Madina where the delegation was welcomed by Danish Attari and Jahanzeb Attari, who guided

them through the different departments and offices of Fian-e-Madina. A documentary prepared by Dawat-e-Islami was also shown. Danish Attari expressed gratitude to HESCO Chief Roshan Ali Otho and congratulated him on the reduction of load shedding during Rabi-ul-Awal. HESCO Chief Roshan Ali Otho highlighted that Rabi-ul-Awal is a blessed month marking the birth of the Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (SAWW) and praised the religious work of Dawat-e-Islami at Fian-e-Madina. The HESCO Chief also attended a session at Lati-fabad and visited the shrine of Syedna Sakhi Abdul Wahab Shah Jilani. XEN Syed Aqib Shah, XEN Salahuddin, PRO Sadiq Qambar, XEN Zafar Solangi, social figure Muhammad Naveed Shaikh and journalist Rahat Kazmi accompanied the HESCO Chief during his visit.

## Daulatpur's Otho community demands justice

By Aijaz Johio

DAULATPUR: Near Daulatpur, in the village of Dolo Otho, a dispute broke out between two factions of the Otho community ten days ago over the drainage of water from an alley, during which a woman was injured. In connection with this incident, Haji Khan Otho, Fayaz Ali Otho, and Irshad Ali Otho held a protest at the Daulatpur Press Club. During the protest, they told the journalists that a fight occurred between them and Nisar Otho and Abdul Sattar Otho over rainwater drainage, during which Fayaz Otho's wife, Farhana, was shot and injured. She is still undergoing treatment. They added that they took



legal action and had the accused arrested, but the accused have been continuously harassing them and threatening them with death if they don't withdraw the case. They further claimed that Nisar Otho, Abdul Sattar Otho, Murtaza Otho, Mustafa Otho, Talib Otho, Somar Otho, and Ali Sher Otho are the criminal individuals trying to forcibly take over their plot. Several cases have already been filed against the accused at different police stations. They appealed to the IG Sindh, DIG SSP Shahzad Benazirabad, and other authorities to take action against the threatening individuals, as they fear for their lives and property. They requested protection and the immediate arrest of the accused.

## DC Mukhtiar Ali Abro reviews anti-polio campaign in Dadu

By Javed Laghari

DADU: In Dadu, Deputy Commissioner Mukhtiar Ali Abro reviewed the ongoing anti-polio campaign, inspecting various villages. During the visit, he administered anti-polio drops to children and commended the polio workers for their excellent performance. N-Stark Dr. Ashfaq Hussain Memon also briefed the Deputy Commissioner on the progress of the campaign. In a separate action, Deputy Commissioner Abro took measures against the squatter mafia involved in occupying government plots and constructing illegal structures. He visited occupied government plots at the Old Vegetable Market and the Irrigation Office, where he arrested two individuals on the spot. Deputy Commissioner Abro directed Mukhtiar Dadu, Shiraz Panhwar, to file



cases against the arrested individuals and to demolish the illegal constructions. He further instructed that any structures illegally occupying government plots should be vacated following a notice, and if occupiers do not comply, legal cases should be filed, and the structures should be demolished immediately. During these operations, Mukhtiar Dadu Sheeraz Panhwar and police officials were also present alongside the Deputy Commissioner.

## Three killed in Zardari community clash

By Farooq Junejo

SHAHEED BENAZIRABAD: In the Nawabshah district, near Arab Stop on Qazi Ahmed Road in the village of Bagh Khan Zardari, a shooting incident occurred at around 2 AM, resulting in the deaths of two women and one man. The

victims Sharifa Bibi Zardari, Sania Bibi Zardari and Dhalu Zardari were shot and died at the scene. The relatives of the deceased placed the bodies on Qazi Ahmed-Nawabshah Road at Arab Stop and blocked the road, causing traffic to be halted in both directions. They demanded the arrest of the culprits involved in the incident and sought justice. Rahib Zardari stated to the media that the incident stemmed from a dispute over familial relationships. Despite repeatedly approaching the village leaders to resolve the issue, their concerns were addressed, leading to this tragic outcome.

## Construction of Govt Primary School demanded in Dhani Parto Jat



BADIN: In the village of Dhani Parto Jat near Talhar, children are forced to attend classes under the open sky due to the lack of a roof on the Government Primary School. With around 200 students affected, the situation has become dire. The school building is in complete disrepair, and education for the children is severely impacted. In their protest, the children have expressed their distress, stating that their only school in the village has deteriorated to the point where it is no longer functional. They have appealed for help, emphasizing that their access to education is at stake. The affected villagers are calling on PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhatti Zardari, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, and PPP MNA Mir Allah Bux Talpur to ensure the construction and repair of their Government Primary School in Deh Kandri.

## SAU VC Dr. Fatah Muhammad Marri visits Khairpur Agricultural College

By Naeem Ahmed Shaikh

Khairpur: Dr. Fatah Muhammad Marri, Vice Chancellor of Sindh Agriculture University, arrived in Khairpur and, together with Professor Jam Ghulam Murtaza Sehto, Principal of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, visited the Khairpur Agricultural College. VC Dr. Fatah Muhammad Marri stated that efforts are underway to highlight the potential of the region's agricultural industry and to take advantage of opportunities in industries such as the CPEC project. He emphasized the need for skilled professionals to leverage these opportunities. Dr. Marri mentioned that the goal is to produce a skilled workforce from the



agricultural university and its affiliated colleges by providing research-based training and quality education. During the visit, Principal Professor Jam Ghulam Murtaza Sehto presented cultural gifts to the guests and provided a warm welcome. He briefed the guests on the facilities available to students, highlighting that those from poor and farming backgrounds are being equipped to play significant roles at local, national, and global levels to eradicate poverty and boost the economy. Agricultural science students are uniquely positioned to address global warming and natural threats in the agricultural sector, reflecting the vision of Vice Chancellor Dr. Fatah Muhammad Marri. The Principal also provided an overview of plans to implement modern, research-based education across all departments of the college, in line with the practices of SAU University.

## Maulana Aijaz Ali Inqilabi stresses need for establishing connection with Imam-e-Zaman (AS)

By Dildar Samo

TANDO ADAM: On the martyrdom anniversary of Hazrat Imam Hassan Askari (AS), the renowned and popular speaker Maulana Aijaz Ali Inqilabi from Tando Adam expressed in a statement that there are two fundamental qualities that one should adopt to establish a spiritual connection with Imam-e-Zaman (AS). The first quality is to obey God in every action, and the second is to maintain sincerity in



one's intentions. He highlighted the significance of sending blessings (Salawat) and said that the Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (SAWW) mentioned that those who are afflicted by distress and send abundant blessings will have their sorrows and worries alleviated, and their needs fulfilled. In conclusion, he mentioned that although meeting Imam-e-Zaman (AS) in person is not possible, a connection with him can be established through the heart and soul, and he always includes us in his prayers.

## JUI-F protests against deteriorating law and order situation in Thul

By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: JUI-F staged a protest in response to the robbery of District Deputy General Secretary, Mufti Abdul Shakoor Khoso, Abdul Qadir Channa, and their companions. The protest was led by the district patron Maulana Syed Shah Muhammad Shah, Taluka Thul Ameer Dr. Khalil Ahmed Khoso, Molvi Abdul Wahed Brohi, Maulana Saleemullah Brohi, Maulana Taj Muhammad Bhatti, District Commander Mir Hassan Burriro, Deputy General Secretary Qari Inayatullah Mahar, Abdul-lah Abbas Noonari, Shafi Muhammad Khoso, and others. They held the



protest in front of the Municipal Committee, burning tires and blocking the Thul-Jacobabad road, chanting slogans and causing traffic to come to a halt. The protesters stated that despite the robbery occurring near the police, no action was taken, and the police failed to reach the crime scene, highlighting their incompetence. They claimed that criminals have taken over the district, leaving the police helpless and citizens unsafe. The protesters demanded the return of the stolen belongings and money, warning that their protest would continue if their demands were not met.

# METRO KARACHI



## MD SSGC Announces New High-Pressure Gas Lines For Korangi Industrial Area

KARACHI: Imran Manzar, Managing Director of Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC), announced the installation of new high-pressure gas lines in Korangi and other industrial zones of Karachi. This upgrade is designed to enhance gas supply and improve production capacity, ensuring consistent and reliable gas pressure for industrial operations. Manzar noted that while Regasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG) consumption is higher in Punjab, leading to lower prices there, the new infrastructure will greatly benefit Karachi's industrial sectors.



The announcement was made at a farewell lunch hosted by the Korangi Association of Trade and Industry (KATI), attended by KATI President Johar Qandhari, Deputy Patron-in-Chief Zubair Chhaya, Senior Vice President Nighat Awan, Vice President Muslim Mohammad, Standing Committee Chairman Ehteshamuddin, and other KATI members, alongside SSGC officials. Many expressed gratitude for the support from industrialists and KATI members and highlighted significant improvements at SSGC during his tenure. Johar Qandhari praised Manzar for his transformative changes at SSGC, including reducing gas theft by 56%, the lowest in 20

years, and increasing record investments from PKR 9 billion to PKR 25 billion, with projections of reaching PKR 40 billion next year. Zubair Chhaya emphasized the strong collaboration between KATI and SSGC but noted the competitive disadvantage faced by Sindh industries due to the disparity in gas prices between Punjab and Sindh. Ehteshamuddin raised concerns about the Gas Supply Manzar for his transformative changes at SSGC, including reducing gas theft by 56%, the lowest in 20

## Govt To Uphold Sindh's Voice On IRSA Act Amendments: Murad

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah affirmed that the provincial government will honor the opinions of assembly members and the people of Sindh regarding the proposed amendments to the IRSA Act, just as it did in the Kalabagh Dam case.



Speaking to the media after offering prayers at Mazar-e-Quaid, alongside Sindh Governor Mohammad Kamran Tessori and cabinet members, the Chief Minister emphasized the commitment of the PPP government to safeguarding the province's interests. He stated, "We have always stood by the will of the people, whether it was Kalabagh Dam or the IRSA

Act, and we will continue to do so." Murad Shah highlighted that the assembly has already passed a resolution opposing the amendments to the IRSA Act, reflecting the public's stance. He also pointed out that the assembly previously called for the full implementation of the 1991 water accord.

Addressing the aftermath of recent climate-related damages, the Chief Minister noted that heavy

rainfall had severely impacted the road infrastructure across Sindh, particularly in coastal districts like Badin and Sujawal. He mentioned that the provincial government is assessing the damages for reconstruction.

Regarding Karachi, CM Shah mentioned that the city's mayor had requested special funds to repair damaged infrastructure. He expressed concern about the drainage system's inadequacies and instructed the mayor to develop a plan for permanent improvements.

Responding to a query about derogatory remarks made by certain political

figures, Shah condemned such statements, remarking that such behavior stems from the divisive approach of the previous leadership.

On Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah's 76th death anniversary, CM Shah, accompanied by cabinet members, paid homage at Mazar-e-Quaid. He reflected on Jinnah's vision for Pakistan and urged the nation to unite in the face of challenges, honoring Jinnah's values of unity, faith, and discipline. The visit concluded with a tribute to Jinnah's enduring legacy and his pivotal role in the creation of Pakistan.—RT

## BMG Poised For Landslide Victory In KCCI Elections: Zubair Motiwala

KARACHI: Chairman of the Businessmen Group (BMG), Zubair Motiwala, has expressed confidence that the group will secure a sweeping win in the upcoming Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) elections. Speaking at a press conference held at BMG House on Wednesday, Motiwala highlighted the overwhelming support from all segments of the business community, including small traders, importers, exporters, trade associations, and industrial town representatives.



Key BMG leaders including Vice Chairman Anjum Nisar, Jawed Bilwani, and Mian Abrar Ahmed, as well as other senior members, were present at the press conference. Motiwala stressed that despite Karachi's contribution of 67% to the national revenue and 95% to the provincial treasury, the city has been neglected. He called for immediate government dialogue with KCCI to address issues related to infrastructure and law and order, which continue to hinder business activities in the city. He also emphasized that improving Karachi's conditions would greatly benefit the national economy.

Reflecting on BMG's successful tenure, Motiwala credited the late Siraj Kassam Teli for founding the group in 1998. He proudly noted that BMG has won KCCI elections for the past 25 years without losing a seat, and many elections have been won unopposed, a testament to its unwavering service to Karachi's business community. Addressing the opposition's calls for change, Motiwala rejected their claims, stating that KCCI, under BMG's leadership, had introduced modern technologies and established a strong, transparent institution with a highly professional team. He reaffirmed BMG's commitment to continuing its legacy of service, focusing on the future with a think-tank of experts to tackle upcoming economic challenges.—RT

## PPP Fully Committed To Addressing Public Issues At All Levels: Jam Ikram



KARACHI: Provincial Minister for Industries and Commerce, Jam Ikramullah Dharejo, stated that the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) is dedicated to resolving the problems of the people across all sectors. Under the guidance of PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, efforts are being made to develop industrial zones throughout the province. Dharejo made these remarks while speaking with various delegations at his office.

He emphasized that the Sindh government has always stood by its people

during challenging times and has carried out record-breaking development work in the past. The current government is determined to meet the public's expectations. He added that the government is providing support to the private sector to create employment opportunities and urged private businesses to collaborate with the Sindh government in generating jobs.

During the meeting, several visitors raised concerns with Minister Dharejo, who promptly directed officials to address their issues.—RT

## Malir Police seize Iranian diesel, generators and vehicle worth millions of rupees

By Asif Qureshi



KARACHI: At the Gadap City police station, under the supervision of SSP Malir Kashif Aftab Abbasi, SP Malir Saeed Randhawa, DSP Memon Goth Ghulam Shabbir Jamali, SHO Malik Saleem, and Kathore Chowki In-Charge Muhammad Khan Abro, the police conducted three separate operations and seized illegal Iranian diesel, generators, and a vehicle worth millions of rupees. In the first operation, police seized 25 large drums filled with illegal Iranian diesel, a Mazda vehicle (number NAG279), four illegal Iranian diesel and petrol trading in various areas of Malir, police raided three different locations within the Gadap police station limits and recovered 1,000 liters of illegal Iranian diesel, a diesel tank, a generator, and 200 liters of diesel in drums near the Manzil Hotel in Kathore. The third operation took place at the Bis-

millah Hotel near Kathore, where 200 liters of Iranian diesel and a generator were recovered. SSP Malir Kashif Aftab Abbasi informed District News that following reports of illegal Iranian diesel and petrol trading in various areas of Malir, police raided three different locations within the Gadap police station limits and recovered 1,000 liters of illegal Iranian diesel, a diesel tank, a generator, and 200 liters of diesel in drums near the Manzil Hotel in Kathore. The third operation took place at the Bis-

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## CM Murad Orders Preparations For Eid Milad-un-Nabi Celebrations

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah chaired a joint meeting with religious leaders and officials, directing that Eid Milad-un-Nabi be celebrated on September 17 with the utmost respect and reverence.



He instructed that all government buildings be illuminated for the occasion and ordered the administration and police to make necessary arrangements in coordination with religious scholars (ulema). He urged the ulema to work closely with the administration to ensure a smooth celebration.

The meeting was attended by provincial ministers, including Sharjeel Memon, Nasir Shah, Saeed Ghani, Zia Lanjar, and others, along with key officials such as Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, Commissioner Karachi Hassan Naqvi, and Additional IG

Javed Alam Odho. Religious leaders, including Haji Hafiz Tayyab, Allama Kokab Noorani, and others, also participated. The ulema raised concerns about road and drainage repairs, continuous power supply, and security for the event. In response, CM Shah acknowledged the challenges posed by recent heavy rains and explained that while immediate re-

## Former Secretary SBTA Dr. Zahid Hasan Ansari Organizes An Informative Health Seminar



KARACHI: Dr Zahid Hasan Ansari, former Secretary of the Sindh Blood Transfusion Authority and Convenor of the FPCCI Central Standing Committee for Medical and Health Sciences, hosted a health seminar featuring prominent figures in the medical field.

Dr. Abdul Bari Khan, President of the Indus Hospital Health Network, and Dr. Sohrah Khan Sarki, MPA and Chairman of the Sindh Provincial Assembly's Standing Committee for Health, attended as Guests of Honour. Dr. Muhammad Junaid Patel delivered the keynote address on diabetes and hypertension. The event also saw the presence of FPCCI Senior Vice President Saqib Fayyaz Magoon, along with numerous doctors, dignitaries, and Standing Committee members. Dr. Ansari concluded the seminar by thanking all participants.—RT

## Sindh Textbook Board Completes Timely Distribution of Free Textbooks Across Government Schools

KARACHI: The Sindh Textbook Board has successfully completed the distribution of textbooks to government schools across the district and tehsil levels in the province, with ongoing inspections to ensure the smooth delivery to individual schools. Chairman of the Sindh Textbook Board, Abdul Aleem Lashari, emphasized that under the leadership of Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah and Education Minister Syed Sardar Ali Shah, the initiative "Sindh will learn

and Sindh will grow" is being actively pursued to ensure education for every child in the province. Lashari highlighted that, for the first time, the distribution of textbooks has been completed on time with full transparency. A total of 4,453,686 sets of books comprising 24,351,475 individual volumes were printed and delivered promptly to students. After completing distribution to all government schools, including those under the Sindh Educa-

tion Foundation and Karachi Municipal Corporation, teams have been conducting daily visits to monitor the distribution process. He assured that any schools or areas facing shortages are being immediately provided with the necessary textbooks, reinforcing the government's commitment to advancing education in the region. "When the children of Sindh are educated, the province will develop and thrive." Lashari added.—RT

## Philippines Undersecretary Visits Karachi To Strengthen Bilateral Ties

KARACHI: Eduardo Jose A. de Vega, Undersecretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) of the Philippines, visited Pakistan at the invitation of Ambassador Maria Agnes M. Cervantes. This marks his first official visit to Asia, beginning in Karachi, and highlights the growing importance of Pakistan-Philippines relations.



The visit aimed to enhance bilateral ties, promote cultural exchange, and launch the Pakistan-Philippines Alumni Website. A special dinner, featuring a cake-cutting ceremony, was held at a

local hotel in honor of the occasion. In recognition of Undersecretary de Vega's efforts to strengthen diplomatic relations, Dr. Imran Yousof, Chairman of Transformation International Society, presented him with a commemorative shield and a set of his authored books.—RT

## DIG Pir Muhammad Shah recommends Haq Nawaz Baloch to lead Ghotki operations

KARACHI: DIG Sukkur Pir Muhammad Shah has recommended Commandant Haq Nawaz Baloch, a distinguished officer of the Sindh Police known for his operations against target killers, the Lyari gang war, and robbers, to IG Sindh Ghulam Nabi Memon for operations

in Ghotki. Commandant Haq Nawaz Baloch, who has earned accolades and awards for his outstanding performance, has a record of conducting hundreds of operations across various districts in Sindh, successfully eliminating and arresting criminals. DIG Sukkur Pir Muhammad Shah has acknowledged Haq Nawaz



Baloch's exceptional performance and has selected him to handle the task of tackling robbers and recovering kidnapped victims from the hideouts in the katcha (riverine) areas of Ghotki district. DIG Shah has also recommended Haq Nawaz Baloch for this mission to IG Sindh Ghulam Nabi Memon.

## Fire Erupts In Karachi Residential Building, Dozens Trapped

KARACHI: A fire broke out at an illegal petrol station, endangering those living above. The fire quickly spread, leaving many residents in a nearby building, according to reports. Preliminary information suggests that the petrol pump was operating unlawfully be-

neath a residential structure, endangering those living above. The fire quickly spread, leaving many residents in a nearby building, according to reports. Rescuers are currently working to evacuate those trapped, but thick smoke is complicating their efforts. One fire brigade unit has been dispatched, with additional fire tenders on the way to assist.

Several motorcycles parked near the petrol station also caught fire during the incident.—RT/Agency

It is not in the stars to hold our destiny but in ourselves.

—William Shakespeare

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THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 12 2024

## Afghanistan Announces Start Of \$10 Billion Tapi Pipeline Project

ISLAMABAD: CHESHMA: Afghanistan said Wednesday work would begin on a \$10 billion gas pipeline traversing South Asia as officials joined dignitaries in neighbouring Turkmenistan to celebrate its completion on that side of the border.



"This project will benefit not only the economies of the countries participating but also the countries of the whole region," the President of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdimuhamedov said in a video broadcast live at the ceremony.

Progress on the TAPI pipeline — running through Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India — has been repeatedly delayed because of security issues in conflict-ravaged Afghanistan.

Afghanistan, including Herat and Kandahar in the south, before crossing into Balochistan province in Pakistan and ending in Fazilka in Indian Punjab.

Pakistan and India will each purchase 42% of the gas deliveries, and Afghanistan 16%, while Kabul will also benefit from lucrative transit fees of around \$500 million per year, according to Afghan media.

Work on the Turkmen side began in 2015 and was initially scheduled to start in Afghanistan in 2018, but has been repeatedly delayed.

India's commitment to the pipeline has also previously been questioned over its relationship with Pakistan and easy access to liquefied natural gas markets, which are seen as potential stumbling blocks.

It will be pumped through a 1,800-kilometre (1,120-mile) pipeline traversing

ibian authorities since they seized power in 2021, ending their two decade-long insurgency against the foreign-backed government.

The pipeline gives the government, which is not officially recognised by any nation, a strategic role in regional cooperation between Central Asia and South Asia, which is facing huge energy deficits.

Afghanistan, although still under economic and financial sanctions from the West, is currently trying to relaunch ambitious projects, particularly in energy, mines and infrastructure.

At the end of July, Afghanistan and China officially relaunched a major copper-extraction project in the world's second-largest known deposit, near Kabul, which has been bogged down since 2008. —RT/Agency

## Fazl Remains Resolute Against Government's 'Sweet-Talk', Pledges To Oppose Unconstitutional Legislation

ISLAMABAD: Amid government efforts to muster support of its allies and disgruntled partners ahead of potential judiciary-centric legislation, JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rahman has stated that he will not support any legislation contradictory to Constitution and remain part of the opposition.



"I am and will remain part of the opposition," the veteran politician said during a meeting with former senator Muhammad Ali Durrani, who called on him at his residence in Islamabad.

His remarks came days after the veteran politician apparently lowered his rhetoric against the coalition government led by the PML-N after months after accusing it of coming to power via rigging in the February 8 elections.

Addressing the National Assembly session last week, Fazl had said that they had to accept the present "Form 45 or 47" parliament — reference to the alleged manipulation in the election results — and use it to address all the national issues.

ator Muhammad Ali Durrani held a lengthy meeting with him at the former's residence on the night between Tuesday and Wednesday, sources told media.

During the meeting, both politicians discussed ongoing political issues and future course of action, the insiders added. Durrani also took Fazl into confidence over his political interactions.

Speaking on the occasion, the JUI-F chief claimed that the incumbent rulers would not be able to gain support for a legislation "that contradicts the Constitution of Pakistan and democracy."

Furthermore, he said, the government's existence and its actions were contradictory to the interests of the people. "Supporting such a government is tantamount to make the people angry."

"We want to come into power only with the votes of the people of Pakistan," Fazl said, reiterating that they will not allow anyone to steal

their mandate once again. Durrani, while responding to JUI-F chief's remarks, said that he was "standing on the right side of history", adding that Maulana has always remained "faithful" to political traditions and democratic values.

The development came after the incumbent government stepped up its efforts to woo disgruntled ally Fazl as President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif held separate meetings with him and sought to assuage his concerns earlier this month.

Before the 2024 general elections, Fazl was one of the closest allies of the PML-N and the PPP and headed the multi-party opposition alliance — Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) — which successfully ousted the former premier Imran Khan from office via a no-confidence motion in 2022. —RT/Agency

## IHC To Review Imran's Request To Avoid Possible Military Detention

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) has scheduled a hearing on a petition filed by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan, seeking to prevent his transfer to military custody.



The court's Registrar's Office set the petition for hearing despite objections, with Justice Mianqul Hassan Aurangzeb presiding over the case on Thursday (tomorrow).

Imran Khan had filed the petition expressing concerns over a potential trial in a military court for the May 9 cases. The PTI founder argued that the Pakistan Army had already detained a retired officer (Gen Faiz Hameed), who could testify against him, raising the possibility of his trial under military law.

Khan's legal team urged the court to ensure that he remains under the jurisdiction of civilian courts and not be handed over to the military. The petition cited the federal government, interior and defence ministries, Islamabad and Punjab police, and Adiala jail authorities as respondents.

for to military custody have been circulating, with some observers speculating that the former prime minister may face court-martial proceedings. The petition also highlighted media reports on the potential military trial.

At a recent press conference, DG ISPR Lt-Gen Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry addressed these concerns, stating, "The matter is sub judice, but military law will take its course if anyone uses individuals under the Army Act for personal objectives."

Observers believe the remarks alluded to Imran Khan's possible involvement in ongoing military court proceedings.

The case also links to former ISI chief Lt-Gen (ret) Faiz Hameed, who faces multiple allegations, including misuse of authority and collusion with a political party. Khan has expressed concern that he might be implicated in these proceedings, particularly following Faiz's arrest.

The military has maintained that it has no political agenda, with General Sharif emphasising that the Pakistan Army functions in accordance with the Constitution, working alongside the elected government. —RT/Agency

## Senate Committee Proposes Amendment Bill To Criminalize Necrophilia



ISLAMABAD: A Senate committee unanimously approved amendments to the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) on Wednesday, moving to criminalise necrophilia.

Necrophilia refers to having sexual attraction to or committing sexual assault on a dead body. A meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Interior was convened by Senator Shahadat Awan at Parliament House, attended by Senators Irfan-ul-Haq Siddiqui and Samina Mumtaz Zehri, along with representatives from relevant departments.

The committee was scheduled to review various private members' bills; however, due to the absence of the bill movers, these bills were deferred.

Amidst the deferral of most bills, the committee unanimously approved the "Pakistan Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2024," introduced by Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri.

It acknowledges the "disturbing trend" of necrophilia in Pakistan, pointing out that other nations have also enacted laws to criminalise the act.

The bill aims to establish a clear legal stance against necrophilia by penalising it under relevant criminal laws. It is amending Section 377 (unnatural offences), which is punishable by life imprisonment. —RT/Agency

## ECC Prioritizes Gas Supply For Industrial Sector

ISLAMABAD: The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) approved a proposal for placing gas use for industrial processes as the first priority alongside domestic and commercial sectors, media reported.



The ECC meeting chaired by Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb also considered other proposals from different ministries.

On the summary of the Ministry of Energy (Petroleum Division) regarding a change in the gas supply priority order, the ECC approved the proposal to amend the existing gas allocation priority by placing gas use for industrial processes as the first priority alongside domestic and commercial sectors.

The gas use for industries using captive power was relegated to a lower priority alongside the Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) sector. "This measure would facilitate the industry using gas in its processes, as they would be included in the top priority category," said a press statement issued here.

The ECC also reviewed a summary from the Ministry of Communications concerning the "Kalkatark-Chirral 48 km (Section-III) Road Project (N-45) — Procurement of Civil Works" and authorised it and the National Highway Authority to proceed with the procurement of civil works as per Public Procurement Rule-5.

The ECC also okayed a proposal for the provision of funds amounting to Rs. 238.42 million, for clearing arrears of wheat subsidy schemes 2015-16, by the Ministry of National Food Security and Research up. —RT/Agency

(NFSR) ECC took into account the recommendations of the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Revenue and directed the concerned ministry to arrange the funds through the available budgetary resources and settle the long pending claims. On a proposal of the Ministry of National Food Security and Research for a loan of Rs. 656 million to the Pakistan Cotton Committee (PCCC) to enable the organisation to pay salaries and pensions to its employees, the ECC deliberated on the rationale and decided that this entity should be considered for wound-up. —RT/Agency

## Abbasi Criticizes Government For Implementing Restrictive Laws Under The Guise Of Democracy

ISLAMABAD: Awam Pakistan Party (APP) Chairman Shahid Khaqan Abbasi criticised the current government, calling it unfortunate that oppressive laws are being enacted under the guise of democracy.



In a press conference on Wednesday, Abbasi accused the government of crafting tough laws to stifle opposition rallies, asserting that true democracy is lacking in Pakistan's capital.

He remarked that members of the National Assembly and Senate are now answerable only to a local SHO and that political parties are subordinating themselves to police officers and deputy commissioners.

Abbasi pointed to the PTI rally on September 8, noting that the government's preemptive and subsequent ac-

tions demonstrated the prevailing political climate. Despite the rally being held outside Islamabad, the government blocked large sections of the city, disrupted internet services, and erected roadblocks, questioning the nature of the democracy in practice.

He also criticised the speeches delivered at the Islamabad rally, describing them as full of accusations

and insults rather than addressing public concerns. Abbasi expressed particular disapproval with the language used by the KP chief minister, emphasizing that such conduct undermines democratic values.

He stressed that leaders in responsible positions must choose their words carefully, as their statements are closely observed by the public. —RT/Agency

## Saudi Envoy Lauds Pakistan For Introducing Economic Reforms



ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb Wednesday called on Saudi Arabia's envoy to Pakistan, Nawaf Bin Said Al-Malki in Islamabad.

During the meeting, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb appreciated the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's "consistent economic support to Pakistan."

He highlighted the renewed interest shown by Saudi investors in pursuing joint ventures and business collaborations with Pakistan's private sector.

Finance minister recalled his productive meetings with Mohammad Al-Jadaan, Finance Minister of Saudi Arabia, and Sultan Abdulrahman Al-Marshad, CEO of the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD), during his visit to Washington in April this year.

"He further noted the significant outcomes of the high-level business delegation's visit from Saudi Arabia to Pakistan in May, aimed at exploring investment opportunities, expanding bilateral cooperation, and scaling up partnerships across diverse sectors," read the statement.

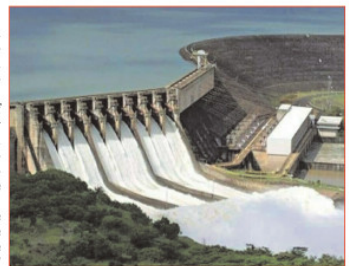
During the discussion, Senator Aurangzeb outlined Pakistan's positive economic trajectory, citing key indicators such as currency stabilization, reduced inflation, a surge in remittances, prudent management of the current account deficit, and foreign exchange reserves sufficient to cover two months of imports, read the statement.

He emphasized that structural reforms are pivotal for ensuring sustainable economic growth and stability, forming a cornerstone of the government's policy agenda.

Aurangzeb reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to a homegrown economic agenda centered on comprehensive institutional reforms across key sectors of the economy. —RT/Agency

## Sindh And Balochistan Reject Amendment To Irsa Act

KARACHI/QUETTA: Balochistan and Sindh provinces have jointly rejected proposed amendments in the Indus River System Authority (IRSA) Act.



Irrigation ministers of Balochistan and Sindh, Mir Sadiq Umrani and Jam Khan Shoro in a joint press conference here said, "We jointly reject the amendment in the IRSA Act."

"Amendments in the IRSA Act violation of the constitution and against the provincial autonomy," Sindh's irrigation minister Jam Khan Shoro said.

He said Sindh Assembly yesterday rejected the IRSA amendments in a unanimously passed resolution.

"Under the current law Chairman IRSA becomes by rotation but under the proposed amendment the prime minister will appoint the chairman."

"The amendment in the law allows the PM to nominate the chairman with proposed amendments in law the prime minister could nominate or remove a member of the authority," Sindh's minister said.

He said the water has been a provincial subject, proposed amendments in law are a blow to the provincial autonomy.

Shoro said that parties Sindh's political parties today Balochistan has also rejected the IRSA amendments.

The Sindh Assembly in a rare show of unity rejected the proposed amendment to the Indus River System Authority Act, resolving to never give up the province's right on water guaranteed in the Water Accord of 1991.

The house unanimously adopted a resolution against the proposed amendment to the IRSA Act-1992, with members terming the proposal against the Constitution and democratic spirit of the federation.

The resolution, tabled by Pakistan People's Party member Nisar Ahmed Khuro, demanded the federal government to implement the water accord in true letter and spirit and not change or amend the IRSA law. —RT/Agency

## Government To Establish 'Economic Zones' To Stimulate Business Activity: Tanveer

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Industries and Production Rana Tanveer Hussain on Wednesday said that incumbent government was establishing "economic zones" in different parts to boost business activity in the country. "We are working to promote industrial sectors and for this, all necessary steps are being taken to achieve the

objectives," he said while talking to a private television channel. In reply to a question, he said International Monetary Fund didn't raise any condition regarding economic zones. Commenting on constitutional amendment, he said, "we should have a required number of voters in the Houses to bring amendment." "We hope

that leader of Jamiat Ulama-e-Islam Maulana Fazal ur Rehman would support the government to bring legislation and amendment," he added to a question about role of PTI in the current situation, he said Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf (PTI), should avoid wasting time of the public through politics of agitation. —RT/Agency