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CIRCULATION CERTIFIED BY ABC

Bilawal Warns of 'Brute Majority' As Opposition Faces Constitutional Showdown

HYDERABAD: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari has said that he will be compelled to take "controversial path" for the passage of the 26th constitutional amendment if the opposition parties refused to support his efforts to pass the judicial package with consensus.

"I myself making last attempt to convince the opposition parties to vote for the constitutional amendment in a non-controversial way, he said while addressing a rally in Hyderabad held to mark the 17th anniversary of Karsaz incident.

The PPP chief said if he failed to evolve consensus on the proposed constitutional amendment "then we all have to pray for the country's democracy."

"If the opposition still refuses to support us despite so many compromises then I will be compelled to pass the amendment with the support of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz and the extra members," the PPP chief said.

He added that he will have to pass the 26th constitutional amendment in parliament via "brute majority"



with the support of extra members if opposition refused to evolve consensus on the draft.

"It is necessary for us to establish a forum for the equal representation of all provinces but if the opposition shuts the door on us so then I will be compelled to take the 'controversial path,' which is not my favourite path and I tried not to take it, along with my allies to form constitutional bench at the federal and provincial level," he added.

Referring to his recent meetings and consultations with Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam Fazi (JUI-F) chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman and other political parties in the backdrop of much-touted constitutional amendments, Bilawal said:

SC Declares Elections Act Amendment Powerless To Reverse Reserved Seats Ruling

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court has reiterated that parliament's amendment to the Elections Act does not have a retrospective effect and it cannot undo the top court's judgment in the reserved seats case.

The second clarification comes after the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) and the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) separately approached the apex court last month, seeking a clarification on its order to grant reserved seats to the Imran Khan-founded party.

The top court declared on July 12 that the embattled PTI was eligible for seats reserved for women and minorities. However, the government passed an amendment to the Election Act, 2017, forcing the ECP to seek clarification from the top court.

In response, the apex court's judges, who issued the order, stressed that the request was "misconceived" and ordered the poll organising authority to follow through on the verdict.

Then, the court on September 23 issued a detailed verdict declaring the PTI a parliamentary party, stating that 39 of the 80 MNAs are affiliated with the PTI, while



the remaining 41 have the chance to re-submit their party affiliations.

However, despite the court's clarification and the detailed verdict, the ECP has yet to allot reserved seats to the PTI.

The ECP, in its civil miscellaneous application (CMA), submitted that the top court's short order was based on the law which has since been altered by the amendments made to Sections 66 and 104 of the Elections Act, 2017 and a new Section, namely 104-A, has also been inserted with retrospective effect from the date of the commencement of the act, the SC stated in the clarification.

On the other hand, PTI submitted in its CMA that the short order passed by the SC was based on the interpretation and enforcement of con-

stitutional provisions, therefore the amendments cannot supplant the effect of the short order, it added.

"The court [SC] granted the relief in the short order to enforce the right of the electorate through political parties to have proportional representation in the reserved seats under paragraphs (d) and (e) of clause (6) of Article 51 and paragraph (c) of clause (3) of Article 106 of the Constitution, therefore, the amendments made in the Elections Act after the release of our short order will have no bearing and the Commission is bound to implement the judgment passed by the Supreme Court of Pakistan in its letter and spirit, without seeking any further clarification.

In its previous clarification on September 14, the top court had come down hard on the ECP for its "attempts to create confusion" on its July 12 reserved seats verdict, saying that the clarification sought by the commission was nothing but an attempt to "obstruct implementation" of the judgment declaring PTI eligible for reserved seats in parliament.

"Putting together the record placed before us [top court], and considering the same in light of the short order, leaves in little doubt that the clarification sought by the commission is nothing more than a contrived device and adoption of dilatory tactics," the eight judges had stated in the clarification.

In its four-page clarification, the SC said having itself issued notices to the PTI through Barrister Gohar Ali Khan as its Chairman, the Commission "gave recognition to both the party and the office holder."

On September 23, hours after the SC issued a detailed verdict of the reserved seats case wherein the PTI was declared eligible for seats in assemblies. Law Minister Azam Naeze Tarar rejected that decision of joining any political party by independents is "irreversible", saying that the Imran Khan-founded party was not even a peti-

Hamas Leader Sinwar Confirmed Dead In Israeli Strike

GAZA: Palestinian militant group Hamas on Friday confirmed its leader Yahya Sinwar had been killed by the Israeli military in Gaza, a day after Israel announced his death.

"We mourn the great leader, the martyred brother, Yahya Sinwar, Abu Ibrahim," Qatar-based Hamas official Khalil al-Hayya said in a recorded video statement broadcast by Al Jazeera.

Sinwar became Israel's most wanted man after the October 7, 2023 attack, the deadliest in Israeli history.

Khalil Hayya, adds that captives held in Gaza will not return until Israel stops its attacks on Gaza and withdraws its forces from the besieged enclave.

Speaking in a televised address, Khalil Hayya spoke of "the memory of the fallen martyr, Yahya Sinwar."

Describing him as "steadfast, brave and intrepid", Hayya said Sinwar "sacrificed his life to the cause of our liberation."

"He met his end standing brave, with his head held high, holding his firearm, firing until the last breath, until



the last moment of his life.

"[Sinwar] has lived his whole life as a holy fighter. Since his early days, he was engaged in his struggle as a resistant fighter. He stood defiant behind Israeli bars and after his release in a swapped deal, he continued with his struggle and his dedication to the cause."

Hayya added that Sinwar's "martyrdom" and the leaders who preceded him "will only increase the strength and resilience of our movement."

"The occupation prisoners will not return unless the aggression on Gaza stops,

Shehbaz In High-Stakes Talks Over Constitutional Amendment

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif started informal consultations with senior cabinet members regarding the approval of a proposed constitutional amendment.

Sources indicate that a meeting took place between PM Shehbaz Sharif and the members, including Law Minister Azam Nazir Tarar and the Attorney General, who briefed the Prime Minister on critical constitutional and legal matters.

PM Sharif during the dis-



ussion shared details of his late-night meeting with JUI-F Chief Fazlur Rehman, while also reviewing the draft constitutional amendments presented by the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N).

Government insiders said that efforts are underway to conclude a unified draft with input from coalition partners. The government also sees reserved seats through the Election Commission of Pakistan.—RT/Agency

Special Committee Gives Green Light To Controversial Amendment Draft

ISLAMABAD: In a major breakthrough, the special parliamentary committee — comprising government and opposition members — has "unanimously approved" the draft for 26th constitutional amendment.

The development comes after the special committee formed to debate the contentious judicial package met under the chairmanship of PPP lawmaker Syed Khurshed Shah on Friday.

Speaking to the reporters, Shah said the draft would be presented in the federal cabinet meeting tomorrow for approval.

"The draft has been approved unanimously," he said adding that the committee has also agreed on allowing overseas Pakistanis to contest the elections. Leaders from all major political parties, sans Awami National Party's Aimal Wali Khan, were present in the meeting. MQM-P leader Farooq Sattar agreed that PTI principally agreed on the draft but the party had reservations on some points.

PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan, however, said that consultation on the fourth draft shared by the government today is underway, adding that they would make final decision on the constitutional package after meeting with his party founder, who is currently incarcerated in Adiala Jail in multiple cases.

Responding to a question,

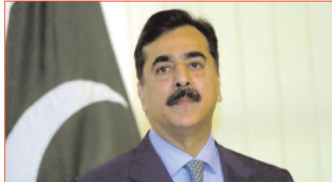


the PTI chief said that a new draft was shared with them during today's parliamentary committee meeting. The sitting approved 26 points of the fourth draft, he added.

"During meeting with Fazlur Rehman, we have reached a consensus [on a draft]." The committee approved the same draft on which we had agreed with the JUI-F chief, Barrister Gohar added. To another query, he said that PTI leader Amir Dogar was among the attendees of the parliamentary committee meeting. As per the draft, approved by the parliamentary body and obtained by Geo News, the commission for appointment of the SC judges would comprise the chief justice, four senior most judges of the top court, federal law minister, attorney-general for Pakistan, an advocate nominated by Pakistan Bar Council, two members from the Senate and as many from the National Assembly.—RT/Agency

Gilani Demands Urgent Senate Briefing On Balochistan Security

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani on Friday issued directives to the Interior Minister to come to the House and brief this august forum about prevailing law and order situation in Balochistan. The Chairman issued the directives after lawmakers from Balochistan including Manzoor Ahmad Kakar and Umer Farooq who raised their voices about deteriorating law and order situation in the province. Meanwhile, the Chair also referred the calling attention notice to the concern standing committee for detail discussion. Earlier, raising the calling attention notice Senator Hidayatullah said that the teaching staff of Balochistan University was not getting their salaries. They also staged hunger strike for payment of their



salaries but in vain. He said that salaries to the teaching staff should be released immediately. He urged the chair to refer the matter to the committee for detail discussion. Responding to the calling attention notice, Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaulah Tarar also endorsed view point of Senator Hidayatullah and requested the Chair to refer it to the committee. Earlier, Chairman, Standing Commit-

PM Hails Navy's Major Drug Bust: 1.3 Tons Seized



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday lauded the Pakistan Navy for successfully carrying out an operation in the North Arabian Sea in which 1.3 tons of narcotics were seized.

"The prime minister, in a statement, said that the vibrant leadership of the Pakistan Navy led to the seizure of huge quantity of narcotics in the operation."

He said that foiling the attempt to smuggle a huge



quantity of narcotics was laudable.

"The whole nation feels proud of the officials of the Pakistan Navy. The elimination of narcotics was essential for the welfare of humanity," he remarked.

Prime Minister Shehbaz reiterated that the government was determined to extend all possible facilities to the Pakistan Navy in its mission to purge country of narcotics.—RT/Agency

UNESCO Backs Pakistan's Bold Resolution

UNITED NATION: The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has unanimously adopted Pakistan-led Resolution on "Countering Disinformation for the Promotion and Protection of Freedom of Expression and Access to Information."

Co-sponsored by more than 50 Member States, Pakistan-led resolution was adopted at the 220th Session of the UNESCO Executive Board in Paris.

Pakistan took this initiative in the backdrop of proliferation and intensification of



disinformation, misinformation and hate speech around the world.

Pakistan's Permanent Delegate Asim Ifkhar Ahmad thanked all Member States for their invaluable

THE HEARTLAND



MIRPURKHAS: Pir Umer Jan Sarhandi is offering his condolence to senior journalist Muhammad Hashim Shar over the sad demise of his nephew.—RT

DC Yasir Bhatti reviews progress of ongoing development works in Badin

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: An important meeting regarding ongoing development schemes in the district was held in the committee room under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Badin, Yasir Bhatti. During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner stated that he would soon visit the ongoing development projects in the district. He directed the concerned engineers to work honestly, truthfully, and diligently on the development schemes to ensure their benefits reach the people. He emphasized the importance of using high-quality materials in the development work and insisted



that public welfare projects should be completed on time to provide ease for the common people. Additionally, he instructed all Assistant Commissioners to visit the development schemes in their respective areas and report back. The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner One Kashif Raza Mangi, Additional Deputy Commissioner Two Rajesh Dalpat, Executive Engineer Highway Saleem Memon, Executive Engineer Education Asad Mandhro, Executive Engineer Public Health Israr Ahmed, all Assistant Commissioners of the district, and other relevant officials.

DC Jacobabad Abrar Jaffar reviews health measures against Hepatitis



By Hashim Brohi

JACOBABAD: Deputy Commissioner Abrar Jaffar convened a meeting with health department officials to review measures taken against hepatitis. He emphasized the importance of providing comprehensive care for those affected, including access to necessary medications. Jaffar directed blood bank officials to report any patients exhibiting symptoms of Hepatitis B or C to ensure timely treatment. He stressed that hepatitis is a serious disease that requires immediate intervention to save lives.



HYDERABAD: Activists and leaders of the Pakistan Peoples Party Shaheed Bhutto (PPP-SB) are holding a protest demonstration against the alleged rape of a first-year female student by a security guard in college premises in Lahore, at the Hyderabad press club.—RT

Ombudsman's Regional Director Imdad Ali Shah visits District Jail Dadu

By Javed Laghari

DADU: The Regional Director of the Ombudsman Sindh, Syed Imdad Ali Shah, visited the District Jail Dadu to assess the healthcare, education, food and other facilities provided to prisoners. He also met with inmates to gather information about the services they receive. Accompanying him were Assistant Registrar of the Ombudsman Samiullah Joyo, Jail Superintendent Javed Ayoub Mugheri, Additional Health Officer Dr. Zahid Hussain Khuro, and Child Protection Officer Syed Hidayat Ali Shah. During the visit, Syed Imdad Ali Shah stated that he was conducting the inspection under the directives of the Provincial Ombudsman of Sindh, aimed



at reviewing the facilities and medical care available to inmates. He instructed the jail administration to ensure that prisoners receive education, medical treatment, and other necessary services as mandated by law. Jail Superintendent Javed Ayoub Mugheri informed the Regional Director that, as per the jail manual, they are committed to providing inmates with opportunities for meetings with family members, healthcare, education, and quality food. Furthermore, the Regional Director assured prisoners who complained of not having legal representation due to poverty that they would be provided free legal assistance.

Paras Dero-led caravan takes part in PPP's Hyderabad Rally

By Mumtaz Ali Tahim

TANDO ADAM: To pay tribute to the martyrs of the Karsaz tragedy, a convoy of hundreds of vehicles led by PPP MPA Paras Dero set off for Hyderabad to participate in a public rally organized by the Pakistan People's Party. Thousands of PPP supporters joined the convoy. While talking to the media, MPA Paras Dero stated that, as every year, they are heading to Hyderabad this year as well to honor the memory of Shaheed Mubtarram Benazir Bhutto and to pay a heartfelt tribute to the martyrs. He emphasized that the PPP is a people's party that has made significant sacrifices for the restoration of democracy in Pakistan. He further urged all leaders within the party to remain true and dedicated to their leadership.

Hardworking farmers awarded for exceptional cotton yield



By Hakim Baloch

JAM NAWAZ ALI: At the agricultural farm of landlord Major Zulfiqar Hussain Narejo, hardworking farmers were rewarded for their exceptional yield of cotton. Haji Nazir Ahmed Katohar awarded cash prizes to the top-performing farmers including Jetho Meghwar received PKR 50,000 for first place, while Taloo Meghwar secured PKR 20,000 for second place. The awarded farmers expressed their happiness, noting that their hard work was recognized by their landlord. Haji Nazir Ahmed Katohar emphasized that the purpose of these awards is to encourage other farmers to strive for better yields and contribute positively to agriculture.

AC Iza Inam, SFA team fine bakeries, hotels

By Hafeez Mallah

GAMBAT: Under the leadership of Assistant Commissioner Iza Inaam, officials from the Sindh Food Authority conducted raids on food shops and hotels, imposing fines amounting to millions of rupees for lack of cleanliness and the use of banned substances such as ajinomoto. In cases of non-payment of fines, shops and hotels will be sealed. During the operation, Assistant Commissioner Iza Inaam and officials from the Sindh Food Control Authority spoke to journalists, stating that the raids were carried out based on the directives of the DG of the Sindh Food Authority and the Deputy Commissioner of Khairpur. They highlighted that despite a Supreme Court



ban on ajinomoto, some hotels were found using it in their food preparations, leading to significant fines imposed for violations of the Sindh Food Authority Ordinance. The owners were mandated to immediately remove expired items from their bakeries and ensure proper cleanliness. Legal action will be taken against violators, and their hotels, shops, and bakeries will be sealed accordingly.

WWF Pakistan marks World Food Day in Atharki Village

By Sajid Ali Janyaro

KETI BANDAR: The international social organization WWF Pakistan marked World Food Day with a large gathering in the coastal village of Atharki. Leaders from various political and social organizations, along with a significant number of local villagers, including fishermen, attended the event. The event highlighted global and local food challenges, particularly the struggles faced by the coastal communities in Pakistan.



Speakers emphasized that while World Food Day is being celebrated across the world, the situation in the coastal belt of Pakistan remains dire. Villagers and fishermen work tirelessly, yet many face severe food insecurity, lack of healthcare, and poverty. One of the key issues raised was the unjust market pricing for fish and shrimp, which leaves the hardworking coastal population struggling to make ends meet. Despite their efforts, they do not receive fair prices for their catch, which deepens the cycle of hunger and poverty, a speaker explained. The effects of climate change, which are acutely felt in Pakistan, were also highlighted as a growing concern. The country frequently experiences natural disasters, leading to loss of lives and resources, further exacerbating food insecurity. On the occasion, prominent speakers, including Syed Daim Shah, Chairman of AKWA, Khuda Bux Bahrami of Social Welfare Thatta, Syed Babar Shah, Mehreen Soomro, Vinod Kumar, and Ghani Katiyar, addressed the gathering. They called for urgent efforts to tackle food shortages and ensure that the people of the coastal belt receive fair compensation for their labor, as well as support in adapting to the impacts of climate change.

Free medical camp set up at Larkana Police Training School

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: Under the direction of Deputy Commissioner Dr. Sharjeel Noor Chamma, the District Health Officer of the Larkana, in collaboration with the Sindh government's rehabilitation department, organized a free medical camp at the

Larkana Police Training School. Focal Person Dr. Farman Ali Abro oversaw the camp, where doctors and medical staff conducted health check-ups for the soldiers in training and local residents. Following the check-ups, patients received X-rays, ultrasounds, and blood tests, along with necessary medications. The Principal of the Police Training School, SP Mehmoos Hussain Raja, visited the camp and praised the efforts of the Deputy Commissioner, District Health Officer, doctors, and staff for their hard work in setting up the camp.

Meeting held to implement Infection Prevention SOPs at Private Medical Centers

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: A meeting was held under the chairmanship of Assistant Commissioner Raja Khan Qureshi in his office to discuss the implementation of infection prevention and control SOPs at private medical centers. Focal Person Dr. Marvi Qazi provided a detailed briefing to the administration of the private medical centers, instructing them to properly dispose of waste material and deliver it to the Chandka Hospital incinerator to eliminate the issue of waste in both the centers and the city. In his remarks, Assistant Commissioner Raja Khan Qureshi stated that the meeting was convened at the request of the focal person to raise awareness about the infection prevention and control SOPs among the private medical centers' administration. He assured that the message would also reach those who were not present at the meeting. He emphasized that it is essential to transfer the waste material from private medical centers to the Chandka Hospital incinerator so that everyone can live in a healthier community.

Grow Green Network objects to funding for fossil fuel projects

By Roshan Memon

JOHI: The Grow Green Network has called on the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to halt funding for fossil fuel projects in Pakistan and align its investments with the country's climate goals. This demand arose during a public forum organized by the Village Shadabad Organization

and the Indus Consortium, which highlighted the environmental damage caused by the Jamshoro Power Company Limited (JPCL) plant. Key speakers, including Akbar Lashari and Dr. Zubair Panwar, emphasized the urgent need for reforms in Pakistan's energy sector, which suffers from high reliance on imported fuels and significant energy shortages. The forum also called for investment in flood-resilient infrastructure and rejected further expansion of LNG and fossil fuels, advocating for renewable energy investments, especially for marginalized communities. Anwar Mahar, Executive Director of NARI Foundation and others also addressed the occasion.



HYDERABAD: Members and leaders of the Dadu Awami Forum are holding a protest demonstration against their local District Health Officer, at the Hyderabad press club.—RT



HYDERABAD: Residents of Kotri are holding a protest demonstration against the high handedness of their area police, at the Hyderabad press club.—RT

EDITORIAL

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

Saturday, October 19, 2024



How Long Will Pakistan Keep Tearing Itself Apart?

Just days after Pakistan proudly hosted the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit, reestablishing its importance on the global stage, we find ourselves once again mired in chaos. The recent clash between PTI workers and Karachi police is not just a political event—it's a reflection of how deeply fractured the country has become. It feels as though for every step forward, Pakistan takes two steps back. This endless cycle of internal conflict is humiliating for a country that should be focusing on its future, not constantly grappling with self-inflicted wounds.

This is no longer about political allegiances or whether or not you support PTI.



It's about realizing that Pakistan must stop inflicting its own wounds. The confrontation in Karachi is yet another reminder of how easily we fall into disarray, and how quickly we derail any progress we make. The world is watching, and just as we begin to gain recognition, we shatter that image with political unrest and public confronta-

tions. Freedom of expression, peaceful protests, and political discourse are pillars of a functioning democracy. But when these actions devolve into violence, or when authorities respond with excessive force, we degrade the very foundation of our society. The people of Pakistan deserve better, and the international community expects better. We cannot continue this cycle of chaos and instability. The longer we persist in this self-destructive behavior, the more we undermine our future as a united and progressive nation.



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

Hyderabad Police arrest four notorious criminals



By GM Chandio
HYDERABAD: Hyderabad Police in the jurisdiction of the Hussainabad Police, during patrols, apprehended four suspects along with weapons, narcotics, and alcohol on Friday. Notably, drug supplier Bilal Burro was arrested near Nagoshah Cemetery with ten liters of illicit alcohol. Additionally, street criminal Ameer Bux Jamali was caught near Mehran Oil Mills with a 30 bore pistol and ammunition. From Unit Number 4 Latifabad, drug



HYDERABAD: Activists and leaders of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) are holding a protest demonstration for the release of PTI Founder Imran Khan, at the Hyderabad press club.-RT

Sindh Minister Haji Ali Hassan Zardari leads PPP workers rally from Thatta to Hyderabad in Tribute to Karsaz Martyrs

By Khuda Bux Brohi
THATTA: Thousands of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) workers, led by Haji Ali Hassan Zardari, the Provincial Minister for Works, Services, and Prisons, participated in a caravan from Thatta to Hyderabad to commemorate the tragic Karsaz attack of October 18, 2007. The rally honored the 180 PPP workers killed and over 150 injured in the suicide bombings during Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto's homecoming procession. The procession, featuring hundreds of vehicles adorned with PPP flags and banners, was co-organized by key PPP leaders, including District President Sadiq Ali Memon and other provincial officials. In media statements, Zardari emphasized the importance of remembering the Karsaz martyrs and noted that Zardari reaffirmed the PPP's mission, rooted in the sacrifices of its martyrs, and its relentless pursuit of a just and democratic future for all Pakistanis.



SFA Team Cracks Down On Shopkeepers In Thana Bula Khan, Fines For Filthy Conditions



By Shoukat Khakheli
THANA BULA KHAN: The Sindh Food Authority suddenly launched inspections at various hotels, shops, and bakeries, causing quite a stir. Led by Director Aqeela Jalbani and Food Security Officer Asma Khoso, the team took action, expressing strong displeasure over the lack of cleanliness. They fined more than 28 shopkeepers and hotel owners for selling substandard oil, expired items, and not having licenses, collecting thousands of rupees in penalties. Over one lac and eleven thousand rupees were collected due to the absence of licenses. Aqeela Jalbani stated that the poor standard of cleanliness is causing the spread of diseases. Shopkeepers were urged to rectify their licenses as soon as possible and enhance cleanliness measures.

Hyderabad hosts Flying Disc Training Workshop and Championship

By GM Chandio
HYDERABAD: The Hyderabad Flying Disc Association organized a Flying Disc training workshop and championship in collaboration with the Sindh Flying Disc Association and Public School Hyderabad. The event was inaugurated by the Principal of Public School, Fazaluddin Memon, who was welcomed by Sindh Secretary Amir Kifayat. During the opening, Hyderabad Association President Hassan Imam Qadri presented an Ajrak and Secretary Sanam Baloch offered a souvenir. The closing ceremony featured District Sports Officer Hyderabad, Maryam Keerio, as the chief guest, who was also welcomed by Amir Kifayat and Sanam Baloch. The event saw participation from key figures, including treasurer Wasim Khan, senior vice president Naila Aqeel, and various other association officials. In the girls' event, the YTS team secured first place, Club taking third. The awards were distributed by Maryam Keerio. Hassan Imam Qadri concluded the event by thanking the guests and association officials for their support.



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

Protest Erupts, Demanding Judicial Enquiry Into Shocking Murder Of Sajan Malookani

By Mumtaz Ali Thahim
TANDO ADAM: In Tando Adam, a protest rally was held by the Malookani community against the brutal murder of law student Sajan Malookani by the Punjab police. The rally started from Iqbal Road and proceeded to MA Jinnah Road, led by Raja Malookani and Sikandar Malookani. Participants, primarily young members of the Malookani community, raised slogans vehemently. During the rally, leaders from the Jany Sindh Qaumi Mahaz, including Allahad Marri, Akbar Mari, Muhammad Ali Khoso, and district president Comrade Muhammad Khan Panhwar of the SUP, spoke out, stating that Sajan Malookani, a final-year law student at Sindh University, was wrongfully declared a criminal and murdered in a fake police encounter in Punjab. They noted that the victim had been missing for fourteen months, and a case was ongoing in the Sindh High Court based on his mother's plea regarding his disappearance. The speakers called for a judicial inquiry into the murder of the innocent Sajan Malookani and immediate arrests of the culprits. They warned that if justice was not served for the victim's family, there would be severe protests across the Sindh.



SPORTS



Ben Stokes Issues Surprising Apology After Crushing Defeat to Pakistan



MULTAN: England captain Ben Stokes has stated that he apologised to his teammates for showing his frustrations during his side's crushing 152-run defeat in the second Test against Pakistan in Multan.

The visitors were left to rue two dropped catches on day three in Multan. Salman Agha escaping on four and six on his way to a crucial half-century as Pakistan made 221 in their second innings.

England were set to chase an unlikely 297 to seal the series with a match to go but never got close on a sharply turning Multan pitch that was recycled from the first Test.

"No one means to drop catches but it just proves how important catches are out in these subcontinent conditions because they don't come along that often," Ben Stokes told Sky Sports.

"I actually apologised to the group up there last night."

Stokes, who missed England's innings victory in the first Test in Multan because of injury, added: "It's the first time in my captaincy that I've felt my emotions, how I was feeling as the game was unfolding, show in my body language."

"I owned up to that and I'm very annoyed with myself for letting that out and it's something I don't want to do or be seen to be doing."

"So I apologised to the group about that and I said it was poor old me coming out, tired, grumpy old man last night but you won't see that happen again."

The third and final Test is in Rawalpindi from October 24 and Stokes refused to look backwards or wonder what might have been. "Next week is going to be good. I'm sure everyone's enjoyed watching here and back home," said the skipper. "Hopefully we can get a win next week and go home with another series win."—Agency

England Caught in Spin Web as Pakistan Storm Back to Level Series

MULTAN: Noman Ali took eight wickets as Pakistan's leading spinners guided the team to a 152-run win over England in the second Test in Multan on Friday, leveling the three-match series at 1-1. Chasing 297 for victory on a turning track at the Multan Cricket Stadium, England were all out for 144 in the fourth day's morning session.

Skipper Ben Stokes was the top scorer for England with 37 but their frontline batters struggled against the turning ball.

Left-arm spinner Noman was pick of the Pakistan bowlers claiming 8-46. Noman and player of the match Sajid Khan, who claimed seven wickets in the first innings, shared all 20 England wickets in a terrific display of spin bowling.

It ended Pakistan's winless run on home soil where they had not won a Test match since February 2021. "I think the first one's always special, and it's come after some hard times, some rough times," Shan Masood said after his first Test win as Pakistan captain.

"Noman and Sajid coming in for their first games - it's never easy, and they seemed like two seasoned campaigners coming in and doing their job in the second innings."

"We didn't need a third bowler, so that just speaks volumes for them." Soon after putting an end to a winless home run, congratulations poured in from President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz

Sharif for the team. In his congratulatory message for the Men in Green, Zardari praised the team's spinners, noting that they "played an important role in winning this match". "I hope that this series of excellent performances will continue in the future", he said.

Meanwhile, taking to X, Shehbaz lauded the team for ending a winless streak at home.

"We are back," said the prime minister in his post on X. "Well done, Team Pakistan, for winning the first home Test after a long haul with a historic win against England," he added. "Spectacular performances by Sajid Khan wickets & Noman Ali wickets."—Agency

Babar Azam and Shaheen Afridi Break Silence on Thrilling Win Over England



LAHORE: Pakistan's star cricketers Babar Azam and Shaheen Afridi extended their congratulations to the national team following their dominant victory over England in the recently concluded second Test on Friday.

The Shan Masood-led team defeated England by 152 runs to level the three-match series and claim their first Test victory at home since February 2021.

Pakistan made four changes in their Playing XI for the second Test after the crushing loss in the first match, including dropping star players like Babar and Shaheen. Consequently, Kamran Ghulam made his long-awaited debut, while spin bowlers Sajid Khan, Noman Ali and Zahid Mahmood made their return to the Test side. Following Pakistan's victory, Shaheen Afridi took to his official X (formerly Twitter) account and congratulated the team, while praising the Kamran Sajid and Noman for their impressive performances. "Fantastic win at home! Congratulations to Pakistan. Noman Ali and Sajid Khan were exceptional, along with a dream debut for Kamran Ghulam and a massive contribution from Salman Ali Agha. Keep it going, Inshallah," he posted. Meanwhile, Babar Azam posted a picture of the team along with a heartfelt message for his teammates. "Fantastic win. Proud of the effort and spirit," Babar posted. It's worth noting that Noman and Sajid took eleven and nine wickets respectively, becoming only the second Pakistani pair to share 20 wickets in a Test match.—Agency

Pak vs Eng: Noman Ali and Sajid Khan Etch Their Names in Cricket History

KARACHI: In a remarkable turnaround, Pakistan has triumphed over England in the second Test in Multan, finally breaking their 11-Test winless streak at home and securing their first Test victory in 15 months.

This victory not only marks a significant milestone for the team but also ends a prolonged home drought of 44 months without a Test win, bringing a wave of relief and celebration to cricket fans across the nation.

The match was dominated by Pakistan's spin duo, Noman Ali and Sajid Khan, who delivered a masterclass in spin bowling.

Noman shone bright, claiming 11 wickets in the match, including an impressive 8 for 46 in the second innings. This performance has made him the first Pakistani spinner to take 8 wickets in the fourth innings of a Test match.

The previous best fourth-innings figures for a Pakistani spinner were held by Mushtaq Ahmed, who took 7 for 56 against New Zealand in Christchurch in 1995. The all-time best for a Pakistani in a fourth innings remains Sarfraz Nawaz's 9 for 86 against Australia in Melbourne in 1979.

Sajid also played a crucial role, taking 9 wickets in the match. This duo's combined effort is a historic achievement, as it marks only the seventh instance in Test history, where two bowlers have taken all 20 wickets of the opposition.

The last time this feat was accomplished by Pakistani bowlers was in 1956, when the legendary pair of Fazal Mahmood and Khan Mohammad took all wickets against Australia. This record underscores the significance of their performance, as it highlights a rare and noteworthy achievement in the record books of cricket history.

Furthermore, the Multan Test was notable for the fact that all 20 wickets for Pakistan were claimed by spinners. This marks only the third time that Pakistani spinners have collectively taken all 20 wickets in a match, with the last instance occurring against England in Lahore in 1987, when Iqbal Qasim, Tauseef Ahmed, and Abdul Qadir combined forces to achieve the same feat.

In another rare display of endurance and determination, Noman and Sajid became the first Pakistani bowling duo in 30 years to bowl unchanged through an entire innings; this feat was last achieved by the pair of Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis against Sri Lanka in Kandy in 1994.

The victory is especially significant as it marks a breaking of the "curse" that had seen Pakistan struggle for over a year in Test cricket.—Agency

Pakistan Cricket Needs Game-Changing Performances, Not PR Gimmicks, Warns Hafeez



KARACHI: Pakistan's former captain Mohammad Hafeez took a dig at players' PR agencies after Pakistan beat England by 152 runs in Multan Test on Friday.

Taking to X after the win, Hafeez praised the "impeccable" performances of Kamran Ghulam, Salman Ali Agha, Sajid Khan, and Nauman Ali who played an important role in Pakistan's Test victory at home after almost three years.

"Pakistan cricket needs impactful performances like Kamran Ghulam, Salman Agha 50, Sajid Khan 9 wickets & Noman Ali 11 wickets for winning cause. Surely not PR agencies," he wrote.

For the past three-four years, PR agencies of Pakistani players have dominated the cricket corridors as

also reported in the previous era of PCB heads Zaka Ashraf & Najam Sethi. The ex-PCB management committee's chair Ashraf also tried to launch a crack down on such PR agencies for blackmailing the board through players. However, Ashraf's tenure was cut short earlier this year when the PCB elections were held. Magical spin spells from Nauman Ali and Sajid Khan propelled Pakistan to a convincing win against England on day 4 of the Multan Test. Nauman took eight wickets while Sajid bagged two wickets in the second innings to ensure Pakistan doesn't go winless at home this time. The continuity of dominance from the first innings helped the spin duo give a strong statement to the opposition out there.—Agency

India's Batting Stars Fight Back as Ravindra's Heroics Keep New Zealand Ahead

BENGALURU: Fifties from Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Sarfaraz Khan lifted India to fight back after Rachin Ravindra steered New Zealand to a massive 356-run lead on Day 3 of the rain-hit first Test here at M Chinnaswamy Stadium.

India got to 231/3 at Stumps, trailing New Zealand by 125 runs after Glenn Phillips dismissed Virat Kohli on the final delivery of the day.

The home side got off to a steady start as Yashasvi Jaiswal and skipper Rohit Sharma added 72 runs for the first wicket.

fell victim to Patel. He struck eight fours and a six on his way to a 63-ball 52.

India's batting maestro Virat Kohli was then joined by young Sarfaraz Khan and the duo unleashed the demolition of New Zealand bowlers with a marathon stand, which yielded 136 runs.

However, Kohli had an agonizing end to his knock as he fell on the last delivery of an eventful third day of the rain-hit Test and had to settle for a well-crafted 70, laced up with eight fours and a six.—Agency

Kids' Corner



Name: Muhammad Azlan Location: Gujranwala About me: I like to play with my toys! Please email us your photo for our Model Watch and Kids' Corner section at regionaltimes10@gmail.com

REGIONAL TIMES ENTERTAINMENT

America's sweetheart Taylor Swift Drops Bombshell: 'Eras Tour' Comeback with a Mystery Guest



Taylor Swift is back for the final leg of record-breaking Eras Tour. Following a short break, Swift is now ready to wow fans with her electrifying performances.

Sharing a video of herself on Instagram, Swift has teased her return-but along with an unexpected guest.

In the video, the Cruel Summer hitmaker can be seen holding one of her beloved cats, Olivia Benson, in her arms.

She captioned the post, "Back in the office... #MiamiTSErasTour."

The 14-time Grammy winner looked stunning in bright yellow sweat shirt paired with blue jeans. However, this post has left fans wondering what's next to come, especially due to Swift's love for leaving hints for Swifties.

Jennifer Lopez Ready to Shine Again as Divorce Rumors with Big Ben Affleck Swirl



Jennifer Lopez is preparing to achieve another career milestone in year ahead. Lately, The Hollywood star has had a challenging year related to her "crummy love life" with estranged husband Ben Affleck.

Recently, a source close to the On The Floor singer dished out Lopez's upcoming plans to get her spotlight back. While reflecting on her divorce, which she filed against Affleck after two

years of marriage in 2024, the insiders told DailyMail, "She wants next year to be her best year ever to show the world her crummy love life did not get her down. She will rise."

Moreover, JLo will be vying for an Oscar for the Best Supporting Role in Affleck and his friend, Matt Damon, produced movie, Unstoppable. However, the source revealed that Affleck and his co-producer are rooting for her for the award campaign. Additionally, the source shared, "She wants an Oscar for Unstoppable. She is sensational in it, I saw the movie and wow, she nails it." "I think a lot of people have discounted her acting skills because she is such a glamazon but this film is a wake up call, like, hey guys, she can really act her pants off." "Jen wanted the Oscar for Hustlers and felt she deserved it, and she pretty much did but there is prejudice against her. There is a hope that she will get the gold for Unstoppable." "It helps that she is now seen as the victim in the Affleck split. I think voters may want to give her the award now, they feel she has been through a lot," the insiders added. Before signing off, the source revealed that the songstress is planning to announce new dates for her previously cancelled This Is Me... Now tour.

THE HEARTLAND



NATIONAL

AC Dr. Rana Haseeb Makes Surprise Visit To Mazhar Model School In Ranipur

By Sajjad Chang

HINGORJA: Assistant Commissioner of Sobhodero, Dr. Rana Haseeb, stated that private schools are providing good facilities at the government school in Sobhodero. He visited the Mazhar Model School in Ranipur and urged the administration to provide nutritious meals to primary classes on a permanent basis. In response, the administration announced the provision of lunch boxes daily to the Government Primary School Watahi Wada under the ADOP initiative. Additionally, an introductory session on CSS and MBBS was held for intermediate students in the auditorium, which will be beneficial for their guidance. These initiatives aim to improve educational standards and pave the way for students' fu-



tures. Dr. Rana Haseeb also visited the Rural Health Center in Ranipur, where he checked the cleanliness, availability of medicines, and the attendance of doctors. Two male medical officers and three female medical officers were on duty at the hospital.

Sujawal seminar discusses coastal devastation and saline water management



By Kamran Hidayat

SUJAWAL: A research seminar organized by PCRWR focused on coastal devastation and the causes of saline water, attracting significant participation from local farmers, civil society, and journalists. During the seminar, Regional Director Dr. Ghulam Murtaza and other experts stated that the Government of Pakistan has formed a team of specialists to assess the increasing salinity and saline water issues in coastal areas, including Sujawal. Local farmers expressed that the shortage of river water has led to rising salinity, causing thousands of acres of land to submerge in the sea. They noted that saline water is affecting aquatic life and agricultural productivity, leading to increased hunger and unemployment. Experts and locals emphasized the need for providing the required amount of water from the Indus River to Sujawal District and formulating effective strategies to combat coastal devastation. Participants specifically demanded the rejection of new canal projects from Punjab, warning that such initiatives would further worsen the water shortage in Sindh.

PPP Hands Reins To Bilawal As Parliamentary Leader

ISLAMABAD: As efforts to build consensus among all political parties ahead of the highly anticipated tweaks to the Constitution continue, the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) has nominated its chairman, Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, as the party's parliamentary leader.



The development comes at a time when members of the treasury benches are scrambling to win over the opposition to vote for the 26th constitutional amendment, which mainly focuses on judicial reforms. Talking to the media before the Parliament House in Islamabad on Friday, PPP leader and chairperson of the Special Committee of Parliament on the constitutional draft Khurshid Shah confirmed his party had nominated Bilawal as the parliamentary leader. Meanwhile, PPP leader Naveed Qamar has submitted the documents pertaining to the election of the party chairman as the parliamentary leader at the National Assembly Office.

Under the constitution, the parliamentary leader has the authority to direct members to vote on constitutional amendments, finance bills and the election of the prime minister or speaker as per the party policy. Shah said the decision taken by Bilawal would be final and, "God willing, the constitutional amendment would take place." "Haste is not good, everything should be done calmly. This is the amendment for which 177 of our workers were martyred today," he said referring to the 2007 Karachi-Karsaz blast incident. He said former prime minister Benazir Bhutto had returned to Pakistan to campaign for the same amendment. "We will never let this sacrifice go in vain," he added.—RT/Agency

Brohi Community Rises In Badah, Demands Swift Justice In Powerful Show Of Unity

By Ibrahim Farooqi

BADAH: In Badah, villagers staged a protest demanding justice against the filing of a false FIR. Residents of Hyder Brohi village in the Bakrani taluka, led by Nazir Ahmed Brohi, Koshan Brohi, Ramadan, and Noor Ahmed Brohi protested in front of the Press Club Badah, chanting slogans against the Bakrani police. The protesters expressed their grievances to the media, stating that their group was not involved in the murder of three family members in Hyder Brohi a month ago. They lamented that the Bakrani police, under the influence of powerful individuals, accepted heavy bribes and filed a false FIR against ten people, including UC Chairman Mashori Sharif Mir Shakil Ahmed, Dost Muhammad Brohi, and Muhammad Ishaq Brohi, without any investigation. They alleged

that the police were raiding their homes daily, harassing innocent children and women. They further asserted their innocence, stating they had no connection to the murder incident and that a conspiracy was underway to file false charges against them. They demanded the IG of Sindh, the DIG of Larkana, and the SSP of Larkana conduct an impartial investigation into the matter to reveal the truth.

Latif Day celebrated at Govt Girls Degree College Larkana

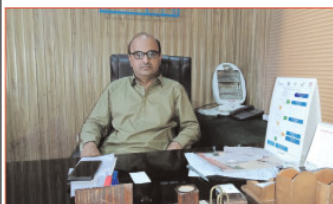
By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: A grand program titled "Latif's Day" was held at Government Girls Degree College Larkana on Friday. The event took place in the college's multipurpose hall and was attended by special guests including Additional Regional Director of Colleges Larkana, Professor Mubeen Ahmed Langah, honorary guest Professor Mukhtiar Samo, and other senior professors. Professor Ayoub Gad Latif expressed pride in celebrating Latif Day, mentioning that many PhD scholars have emerged from his teachings. He urged every student to read Shah's poetry. Professor Mukhtiar Samo described Latif as a poet for all times, emphasizing that his works should be present in every



home. Professor Rizwan Gul noted that Hazrat Shah Abdul Latif Bhitai (RA) is the voice of the oppressed, calling him the world's first feminist poet. The program concluded with addresses from Additional Director of Inspection Professor Aijaz Jamali and Professor Mubeen Ahmed Langah, who spoke about Latif's themes of love and resistance, highlighting female characters in his poetry. Students participated in recitations, poetry, and tableau performances, showcasing their talent.

Dr. Badruddin Abro assumes charge as MS Taluka Hospital Moro



By Akhtar Laghari

MORO: Newly appointed Medical Superintendent of the Taluka Hospital Moro, Dr. Badruddin Abro stated that health services will be provided to the underprivileged, with medications and tests offered free of charge. He aims to transform the hospital into a model facility. Dr. Abro emphasized that any issues faced by doctors and staff will be prioritized for resolution. He encouraged individuals to contact him directly with their concerns to ensure timely solutions. He highlighted that the hospital serves a large population in the subdivision, and collective efforts will be made to address all challenges effectively.

Ombudsman's Regional Director Manzoor Ali Soomro holds an open katchery



By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: Regional Ombudsman Director Manzoor Ali Soomro held an open meeting at the District Accounts Office in Badin to address public concerns about pensions, GP funds, and salaries. He listened to attendees and ordered immediate resolutions for several issues. Soomro emphasized that the open call aims to prioritize the problems of government and retired employees, and instructed the Finance Department to include recruitment dates on salary slips starting this month. He reassured a petitioner, Urs Khaskheli, that her long-standing issue would be resolved and encouraged others to bring their concerns directly to his office if not addressed.

Arif Hussain Mirani reported that 57 GP Fund cases, 35 Teaching Allowance cases, and 39 pension cases were resolved this month, with 125 LPR cases to follow. The meeting saw strong participation from retired and serving employees.

SC Strikes Down Quota System For Government Employees' Children

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court (SC) has declared the quota policy and packages for government employees' children as null and void. The 11-page ruling, penned by Justice Naem Akhtar Afghan, deemed all policies and packages regarding the quota for government employees' children "unconstitutional". The apex court granted the appeal of the General Post Office (GPO) and annulled the Peshawar High Court's (PHC) 2021 decision. Furthermore, the top court invalidated the Prime Minister's Package for Employment Policy and its office memorandum related to the quota. It also struck down Section 11-A of the Sindh Civil Servants Rules 1974 and Section 10 Subsection 4 of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Civil Servants Rules 1989. Additionally, it declared Section 12 of the Balochistan Civil Servants Rule 2009 as null and void. The court ruled that granting jobs to widows or children of government employees without advertisement or open merit contradicts Articles 3, 4, 5(2), 25, and 27 of the Constitution. In its ruling, the court directed all federal and provincial governments to abolish the policy of providing employment to government employees' children without advertisement or open merit. The judicial ruling will not affect the quotas already granted to government employees' children. It also clarified that the decision does not apply to the legal heirs of individuals killed in terrorist incidents. The court stated that the ruling would not impact the packages and policies awarded to the heirs of martyrs. It emphasized that the prime minister does not have the authority to soften the rules regarding the quota. "Good governance cannot be achieved through unequal treatment," the court noted.—RT/Agency

Private Company Bags Rs135m Deal To Overhaul Lahore Safari Park

LAHORE: The Punjab Wildlife Department has awarded a contract worth Rs135 million to a private company for the management of Lahore Safari Park. The department will continue to oversee the care and breeding of wildlife, including animals and birds. Under the agreement, the private company will manage key operations such as parking, entry tickets, aquarium maintenance, electric vehicles, and lion safari vehicles. The contract was signed today, and the company has already begun reviewing operations alongside the Lahore Safari Zoo administration. Project Director Mudassar Hassan stated that the reserve price was set at Rs80 million, taking into account all associated costs. "We are pleased that the contract was awarded



for Rs135 million," he said. Hassan added that the contractor will be responsible for vehicle repairs, electricity bills, and the upkeep and feeding of fish in the aquarium. Separate auctions will be held for the café, electric rides area, and horse riding concessions, with a review of previous contracts also in the works. Hassan further noted that the park staff previously involved in parking management, ticket collection, and driving electric vehicles will now focus solely on caring for the animals and birds. "Efforts will also be made to ensure that contract-based employees continue their work under the new contract, preserving their jobs," he said.—RT/Agency

PTI Backs Constitutional Amendment Draft-But With Conditions, Says Raja Pervaiz

ISLAMABAD: Former Prime Minister, Speaker National Assembly and Member National Assembly (MNA), Raja Pervaiz Ashraf on Friday said the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) delegation headed by chief whip of the party Aamir Dogar agreed on the Constitutional Amendment Draft with some changes subject to consultation with its leadership. The former Speaker National Assembly was speaking at a previous day debate on legislative reforms during the 10th session of the lower house of the Parliament. Raja Pervaiz Ashraf said all political parties should reconcile to start a new dawn of peace and progress and na-



been accepted by all political parties with small changes and it should be approved by all," he said. In response from the Opposition Benches, SIC MNA, Ali Muhammad Khan said the Parliament was the supreme forum and the government should do legislation but it should not be at the cost of political compromises. The Constitutional Amendment Draft should be prepared in the Parliament that would be presented before the PTI founder and the party members would persuade him to accept its passage for basic human rights and betterment of the Constitution, he said.—RT/Agency

Thari Mirwah's civil society protests against drug trafficking and deteriorating law and order situation

By M Iqbal Soomro

THARI MIRWAH: A rally was held in Thari Mirwah against insecurity and drug trafficking, attended by a large number of citizens, lawyers, teachers, and students. Speakers at the rally included Dr. Hosh Muhammad Jogi, Advocate Mehtab Shar, and senior journalists against drugs and take measures to control the prevailing insecurity in the area.



