

EDITORIAL

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

Saturday, October 26, 2024



A House Divided!

The recent remarks by Justice Mansoor Ali Shah about former Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa have exposed deep-seated fractures within the Supreme Court of Pakistan, signaling a crisis that cannot be ignored. Justice Shah's decision, along with five other justices, to skip the full court reference in honor of outgoing CJP Isa is a clear indication of discontent and division. In his letter, Justice Shah accused CJP Isa of fostering divisions, failing to defend judicial independence, and being indifferent to external pressures that threatened the judiciary's autonomy. Such strong words from a senior judge demand serious introspection, not just within

the judiciary but also by the new Chief Justice, Yahya Afridi, and the government.

The allegations raised by Justice Shah paint a



troubling picture of a judiciary divided, with claims of pettiness and administrative failures under CJP Isa's tenure. These concerns, coupled with the boycott of six judges, highlight a crisis of confidence that could erode the public's trust in the courts. It is imperative for the incoming Chief Justice to take proactive steps to heal these divisions, fostering a culture of

unity, transparency, and meritocracy. The judiciary must not be allowed to become a battleground of individual egos and factionalism.

The government, too, must tread carefully. An independent judiciary is the cornerstone of democracy, and any attempts to undermine it will be detrimental to the rule of law. The new Chief Justice has a historic opportunity to restore faith in the institution by building bridges, ensuring fair justice, and upholding the judiciary's independence without succumbing to external pressures. It is a moment that calls for courage, integrity, and leadership, qualities that will define the judiciary's future in Pakistan.

THE HEARTLAND



SACM Rajveer Singh Sodho Reviews Ongoing Development Projects In Umerkot

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: Special Assistant to the Chief Minister of Sindh, Rajveer Singh Sodho, recently conducted a comprehensive review of development projects in the Umerkot district during a briefing at the Deputy Commissioner's office. The meeting was attended by key officials, including Deputy Commissioner Umerkot Naveed Ahmed Larik and SSP Azhar Memon, as well as engineers from various departments.



Engineers Shaukat Ali Rajpar (XEN Machinery & Maintenance), Vishal Kumar (XEN Education Works), and Haider Shah (XEN PHED) presented detailed reports on the status of both completed and ongoing development schemes in the area. Their presentations highlighted the progress made thus far, as well as the challenges faced in implementing these projects.

During the meeting, SACM Sodho emphasized the importance of expediting the completion of projects that already have allocated budgets. He urged the officials to prioritize these initiatives to ensure that the bene-

fits reach the community as soon as possible. "It is essential that we remain accountable and work diligently to enhance the living standards of our people through timely project completion," he stated.

Sodho also announced his plans to visit Umerkot in the near future to conduct a field assessment of the Sindh government's development initiatives. He expressed his commitment to providing a detailed report to the Chief Minister, which will include recommendations based on his observations and discussions with local stakeholders.

The meeting underscored the government's focus on enhancing infrastructure and

Radio Pakistan Khairpur Launches Children's Program Initiative

By Naem Shaikh

KHAIRPUR: In a bid to foster creativity and develop young talent, Radio Pakistan Khairpur is launching an innovative initiative to record children's programs outside the studio, directly within local schools. This initiative aims to engage students and provide them with a platform to showcase their skills and talents.

A team from Radio Pakistan, led by Program Manager Musarat Ali Mangi and senior producer Kaleemullah Shaikh, recently visited the Government Boys Primary School in the Nizamani neighborhood. During this visit, they recorded the beloved children's program "Gulan Jehra Barira," bringing the excitement of radio directly to the students.

The recording session was attended by the school's headmaster, Ghulam Sarwar Narejo, along with other teachers, creating an encouraging atmosphere for the children. During the session, students including Kashif Bhambro, Muhammad Hussain, and Ghulam Abbas showcased their diverse talents through Hamd, Naat, and the national anthem.

They also shared their knowledge about Pakistan's rich seasons, important crops, and vibrant national festivals, enriching the program's content. The enthusiasm among the children was palpable as they engaged with the radio team, demonstrating their eagerness to participate in this unique opportunity. Headmaster Narejo expressed his gratitude to Radio Pakistan for this initiative, recognizing its importance in nurturing the talents of young students and promoting cultural awareness.

Two Men Injured In Tando Bago Clash

By Sher Ali Khawaja

TANDO BAGO: Tensions flared in Tando Bago after a minor dispute over fish sales escalated into a violent clash between two local communities. The incident began when fish vendor Manzoor Mallah was slightly injured during an altercation on the road near the Bago Wah Bridge. What initially seemed to be a simple disagreement quickly spiraled into a broader confrontation.

Following the initial incident, members of the Jamali community retaliated against the Mallah community. In the ensuing fight, two individuals from the Jamali side, Ghulam Haider Jamali and an elderly member of their community, sustained serious injuries and required immediate medical attention. They were rushed to the Tando Bago Taluka Hospital for treatment.

In the aftermath of the violence, a significant group from the Mallah community, led by prominent figures Noor Muhammad Mallah,

Ghulam Mallah, and Saleem Mallah, organized a protest. They blocked the Badin Road at the Bago Wah Bridge, causing substantial traffic disruptions. The protesters demanded legal action against the Jamali community for the injuries inflicted during the clash, asserting their right to justice and accountability.

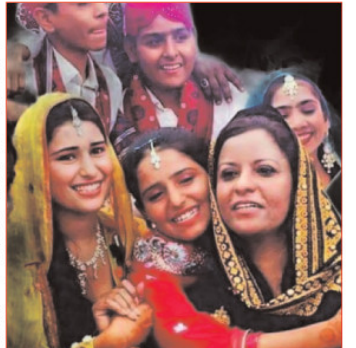
Community leaders and local officials were called to mediate the situation and prevent further escalation. The atmosphere in Tando Bago remained tense as both communities awaited a response from authorities regarding their grievances.

The incident underscored the fragility of peace in the area and highlighted the need for dialogue and conflict resolution mechanisms to address underlying issues. As the situation developed, residents expressed concern about the potential for further violence and called for community solidarity to prevent future clashes.

Advocate Sabiha Solangi Lauds Services Of MNA Dr. Nafisa Shah Jilani

By Naz Solangi

KUMB: Advocate Sabiha Solangi, a prominent member of the Pakistan Peoples Party's Ladies Wing, recently commended the outstanding contributions of MNA Dr. Nafisa Shah Jilani to public service, particularly in support of women and marginalized communities. Speaking at a gathering, Solangi highlighted how Dr. Nafisa has tirelessly dedicated herself to the welfare of the people during her tenure and even after stepping away from formal political power.



Advocate Solangi outlined several key areas where Dr. Nafisa has made a significant impact. She noted the MNA's role in improving essential services across the region, including health and education, as well as infrastructure related to sewage and other basic amenities. Among her notable initiatives are the establishment of vocational schools aimed at empowering women and young people through skill development, as well as efforts to ensure a clean drinking water supply for local communities.

Additionally, Solangi pointed to the construction of metal roads, which have enhanced connectivity in rural areas, facilitating easier access to markets and healthcare. Dr. Nafisa has also been active in providing financial assistance to widows and or-

phans, showcasing her commitment to uplifting vulnerable segments of society.

During the recent floods, Dr. Nafisa Shah demonstrated her dedication by helping those stranded and providing them with much-needed shelter. Solangi emphasized that her proactive approach during such crises highlights her compassion and readiness to serve.

Furthermore, Advocate Solangi acknowledged Dr. Nafisa's efforts in repairing the damaged national highway from Rani Pur to Babarlu, a vital route that connects multiple districts and is crucial for the region's economic development. This initiative has not only improved transportation but has

also significantly contributed to local trade and accessibility.

Despite the absence of other politicians in terms of need, Dr. Nafisa has consistently been present to address public issues, earning her the respect and admiration of the community. Advocate Solangi concluded her remarks by asserting that Dr. Nafisa Shah Jilani's unwavering commitment and exemplary services deserve widespread recognition and commendation.

As the community continues to benefit from her initiatives, it is clear that Dr. Nafisa Shah Jilani remains a pivotal figure in advocating for progress and social justice in the region.

Nawab Noshad Ali Laghari Felicitates PPP Leadership On Party's Historic Victory In NWM

NAWAB WALI MUHAMMAD: The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) has celebrated a historic victory in the recent local elections, successfully securing the vacant councilor seat in Ward No-02 of the UC Patt Peeral. PPP leader Nawab Noshad Laghari addressed the media at Nawab House, expressing his satisfaction with the outcome.



Laghari noted that despite previous electoral setbacks in the area, the dedicated efforts of the Nawab family and their supporters played a crucial role in achieving this unopposed success for the PPP candidate. He attributed the victory to a combination of strategic campaigning and community engagement, which resonated with the voters.

In his remarks, Laghari also expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Sindh United Party (SUP) candidate, Ghulam Mustafa Machhi, for his decision to withdraw from the race in favor of the PPP candidate.

This act of collaboration demonstrated a spirit of unity and cooperation within the political landscape, aiming for a better governance for the local community.

The PPP's victory is seen as a significant step forward, reinforcing the party's presence in the region and signaling a renewed commitment to addressing the concerns of the constituents. Laghari emphasized that this win reflects the community's trust

Hingorja Premier League To Begin From October 28th

By Sajjad Chang

HINGORJA: Excitement is building in Hingorja as the Hingorja Sports Society has officially announced the commencement of the Hingorja Premier League, set to kick off on October 28. This highly anticipated tournament will feature six competitive teams, showcasing local talent and fostering a spirit of sportsmanship within the community.



The announcement was made during a press conference attended by key figures of the Hingorja Sports Society, including Chairman Farman Ali Sehto, Vice Chairman Jameel Ali Bhutto, President Adnan Ameen Mughal, and General Secretary Kashif Sehto. The leaders expressed their enthusiasm for the upcoming league, which promises to deliver thrilling matches over a span of 15 days.

In addition to the league announcement, a meeting of the sports society was held prior to the press conference, where annual elections took place under the supervision of the chairman and vice chairman. The elections resulted in a new leadership team for the year 2024/25. Adnan Ameen Mughal was elected as President, with Abdul Razaq Tunio taking the role of Senior Vice President.

Ayaz Sehto was appointed Vice President, while Kashif Sehto will continue in his position as General Secretary. The new leadership team also includes Hassan Ali Mallah as Joint Secretary, Nadeem Arain

as Treasurer, and Mohsin Ali Bhutto as Office Secretary. The Hingorja Premier League is not only a platform for local athletes to showcase their skills but also an opportunity to strengthen community bonds and promote healthy competition. As the league approaches, anticipation continues to grow among players and fans alike, eager to witness the thrilling matches and the vibrant atmosphere that the event is sure to bring.

The Hingorja Sports Society remains committed to enhancing sports in the region, and the upcoming league is a testament to their ongoing efforts. With dedicated leadership and community support, the Hingorja Premier League is poised to be a remarkable celebration of sportsmanship and talent.

THE HEARTLAND

Three Men Killed In Khairpur's Kandhro Community Clash

By Naem Shaikh
RAHALPUR: A tragic incident unfolded in Khairpur as three members of the Kandhro community were shot dead in a violent attack while attending court proceedings. The victims—identified as Shakeel Kandhro, Khadim Kandhro, and Barkat Kandhro—were ambushed by armed assailants on motorcycles outside the Sessions Court. The gunmen, who were masked and heavily armed, opened fire indiscriminately, leading to immediate fatalities and instilling fear among bystanders. Eyewitnesses reported that the attack occurred during a tense moment during a court case, with many present at the court expressing shock and horror at the sudden eruption of violence. The rapid response from police, however, drew criticism, as no First Information Report (FIR) was filed at the time of reporting.

There Will Be No Compromise On Azadari-e-Hussain (AS): SUC

By Didar Ali Samo (AS)
TANDO ADAM: In a powerful statement delivered during a recent media address, Syed Ghulam Mehdi Shah Kazmi, the Vice President of the Shia Ulema Council District Sanghar, asserted unequivocally that there will be no compromise on Azadari-e-Hussain (AS). Kazmi emphasized that the observance of mourning for Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) is not merely a tradition, it is a timeless symbol of resistance and resilience that will endure through the ages. Kazmi passionately condemned any attempts to divert the routes of mourning processions or impose bans on Majalis-e-Aza, calling such actions unacceptable. He stated that the community will not be deterred by these challenges and will continue to uphold the principles and values associated with the legacy of Imam Hussain

Eight Shaikh Community Homes Gutted In Sujawal Fire

By Kamran Hidayat
SUJAWAL: A sudden fire broke out in Ward No-6 of Sujawal city, igniting from a household stove and swiftly engulfing eight homes in the Shaikh Muhalla. This devastating incident has resulted in the complete loss of property for the affected families, leaving them in a state of shock and despair. The fire, which spread rapidly, consumed the homes of Ubaidullah Shaikh, Abdul Shaikh, Abdul Wahid Shaikh, Muhammad Umar Shaikh, Abdul Aleem Shaikh, Aziz Shaikh, Muhammad Ismail Shaikh, and Gul Muhammad Shaikh. Among the casualties of this tragedy

Handiari's Journalists Condemn Registration Of Cases Against Their Colleagues

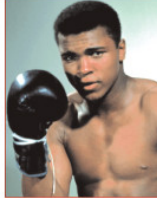
By Bashir Shaikh
HANDIARI: In a strong show of solidarity, local journalists gathered to protest against the registration of false cases targeting their colleagues. The demonstration, held in Handiari, was marked by impassioned speeches from several prominent figures in the journalism community, including Fida Baloch, Bilawal Shar, Abdul Hafeez, and Sikandar Shar. The speakers condemned the increasing harassment faced by journalists not only in Khairpur district but throughout Sindh, emphasizing that such tactics are attempts to stifle press freedom. They highlighted specific instances of intimidation, citing the recent false charges filed against journalists Hussain Bux Kunar and Bhango Bhan as particularly egregious examples of this troubling trend.

SPORTS



Legendary Boxer Muhammad Ali's Ex-Wife Ventures To Afghanistan, Backed By Taliban, To Build Sports Stadium

A former wife of legendary US boxer Muhammad Ali arrived in the Afghan capital, a Taliban government official said on Friday, to reportedly open a stadium in a country where women are barred from sports. The head of the Taliban government's sports directorate, Ahmadullah Wasiq, told AFP that Khaliliah Camacho-Ali, who was married to the boxer for a decade from 1967, had arrived in Kabul. State media cited the directorate as saying she was in the city "to build a sports stadium to be named 'Piroz' (victory in Dari) and a sports association named after Muhammad Ali". Born Belinda Boyd in 1950 in the United States, Camacho-Ali, like her world champion boxer ex-husband, converted to Islam after they married. Muhammad Ali himself visited Kabul in 2002, a year after the US forces overthrew the first Taliban government, visiting a girls' school in his role as a United Nations peace ambassador. Since the Taliban government came to power in Afghanistan in 2021, they have imposed a strict interpretation of Islamic law, with women bearing the brunt of



Pakistan vs. England: Sajid And Noman Strike Early, England In Trouble At 24/3

RAWALPINDI: England suffered from three early blows against Pakistan as the hosts concluded their first innings on 344 runs on the second day of the third and final Test of the series on Friday at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium. As the English began their second innings, they faced two early blows as openers Ben Duckett and Zak Crawley were dismissed by Sajid Khan and Noman Ali respectively. Pakistan continued their domination as Noman dismissed the dynamic Ollie Pope taking England to 20/3 in eight overs of the innings. The match had to be suspended due to light concerns after England had just batted for nine overs and ended the day on 24/3. The side trails by 53 runs. Earlier, Saud Shakeel crafted a gritty century to haul Pakistan back into the contest as the hosts bundled out on 344 runs. Pakistan were reeling 46-



Lionel Messi Earns Coveted Spot As Finalist for Prestigious MLS Award

Inter Miami star Lionel Messi landed a spot on the list of finalists for the 2024 Major League Soccer's 'Most Valuable Player' (MVP) award, earning his second nomination for the award since joining the league in July 2023. The Argentine football legend joined his Inter Miami teammate Luis Suárez on the list of finalists for the award which also included Columbus Crew's Cucho Hernandez, Portland Timbers' Evander and DC United's Christian Benteke, ESPN reported. Each player met the new qualifying regulations that require a minimum of 1,000 minutes played in the regular season campaign. The 36-year-old former



Mohammad Rizwan Joins Elite Club, Becomes Fifth Pakistani Keeper To Cross 2000 Test Runs

Pakistan's wicketkeeper-batter Mohammad Rizwan has cemented his place in the annals of Test cricket by reaching a coveted milestone during the third and final Test against England in Rawalpindi. In his 57th Test innings, Rizwan became the fifth Pakistan wicketkeeper to cross 2000 runs in Test cricket. Rizwan now joins an elite group of Pakistani wicketkeeper-batters, with Sarfaraz Ahmed holding the top spot at 3031 runs across 95 Test innings. Here's a look at the record-holding wicketkeepers in Pakistan's Test cricket history: Most Runs by Pakistani Wicketkeeper Batters in Test Cricket: Sarfaraz Ahmed - 3031 runs, Kamran Akmal - 2648 runs, Moin Khan - 2581 runs, Imtiaz Ahmed - 2010 runs, Mohammad Rizwan - 2000* runs. As the Test match progresses, England faced a challenging first innings after opting to bat, with their lineup bowled out for 267 runs. Pakistan's spinners dominated, with Sajid Khan claiming six wickets, Noman Ali taking three, and Zahid Mahmood adding one to his tally.—Agency



ENTERTAINMENT

Liam Neeson And Busty Pamela Anderson's 'Dynamic' Bond Finally Revealed

The Naked Gun co-stars Liam Neeson and Pamela Anderson recently got candid and spoke highly of each other. According to People magazine, Anderson and Pamela developed a mutual understanding while filming the new version of the popular Leslie Nielsen's comedy The Naked Gun earlier this year. Neeson told the outlet that "With Pamela, first off, I'm madly in love with her. She's just terrific to work with." "I can't compliment her enough, I'll be honest with you. No huge ego. She just comes in and do the work. She's funny and so easy to work with. She's going to be terrific in the film," the 72-year-old actor added, singing praises of her. In addition, the Oscar-nominated actor praised Anderson's work but was not so "confident" about his own "comedy skills" in the lead role. Taking into account his acting, he quipped, "Whether I can carry it or not, I honestly don't know," to which Anderson disagreed and added, "It was hard to keep a straight face in scenes together." Moving forward, the Baywatch actress called Neeson a "humble and 'the perfect gentleman'" and noted that "he brings out the best in you... with respect, kindness and depth of experience. It was an absolute honor to work with him." The 57-year-old star also revealed that the Wildcat actor "sincerely looked after me — wrapped his coat around me when I was cold." While to reciprocate his respect and love, she made him bread and cookies and let them for him in his dressing room. For those unversed, Anderson stars as a "femme fatale" opposite Neeson, who plays the protagonist role of Detective Sergeant Franklin "Frank" Drebin Jr., "presumably" the son of Nielsen's character Frank Drebin in the upcoming film.



Badin Hosts Meeting On MAMTA Social Security Program

By Raja Zafar Iqbal
BADIN: In a significant step towards enhancing social welfare in the region, the fourth meeting of the District Coordination Committee for the Sindh Social Protection Authority was held under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Yasir Bhatti. The meeting was chaired by Additional Deputy Commissioner Two, Rajesh Dalpat, who provided an overview of the "MAMTA" social security program, which has been making strides across 15 districts in Sindh. Dalpat highlighted that the MAMTA program is designed with the critical objective of safeguarding maternal health, addressing the nutritional needs of newborns, and providing financial support to economically disadvantaged women. Since its launch on January 24, 2024, in Badin, the program has targeted an impressive 38,777 eligible mothers in the district. As part of his report, Dalpat noted that the initiative has seen significant engagement, with 25,566 pregnant women having registered for assistance. Out of these, 21,466 women are currently benefiting from the program. He shared that over 11,000 women are actively receiving financial aid, while approximately 10,300 women have yet to collect their funds. To qualify for the MAMTA program, mothers

CENTRAL PUNJAB

Town Chairman Nazir Ahmed Bhutto Unveils New Water Supply Scheme In Ibrahim Hyderi

KARACHI: Chairman of Ibrahim Hyderi Town Municipal Corporation, Nazir Ahmed Bhutto, inaugurated a new water supply scheme in the Chaukandi area of Marri Goth Nazir Ahmed Bhutto assured the community that fulfilling election promises is a priority, stating that providing clean water is a duty, not a favor. He emphasized that under the guidance of PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, municipal services are being delivered impartially to the public. He asserted that the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) is the only party dedicated to serving the



METRO KARACHI



Sindh Govt Rolls Out Bold Public Welfare, Energy, and Transport Initiatives

KARACHI: Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon announced an end to political turmoil, with the provincial government focused on public welfare under the direction of Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and President Asif Ali Zardari. Recently, Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah inaugurated six new projects in Karachi, underscoring the Pakistan People's Party's commitment to development across all sectors. Highlighting progress in renewable energy, Minister Memon announced a 2,320 MW solar project at Dow Medical Campus and full solarization of Karachi Central Jail, with similar initiatives underway in schools and health centers across Sindh. He further shared that 200,000 families are set to receive solar systems to reduce electricity costs. In the transport sector, double-decker buses and the



Yellow Line BRT are under rapid development, with plans for eco-friendly EV buses, the Pink Bus Service, and EV taxis for men and women. The Excise Department has also introduced on-line vehicle registration. On the constitutional front, Memon highlighted the recent passage of the 26th Constitutional Amendment, achieved with broad parliamentary consensus. He emphasized PPP's dedication to Pakistan, noting its history of sacrifices for the nation and respect for the judiciary despite challenges. Minister Memon affirmed efforts to improve the judiciary, maintain law and order, and address criminal activity, pointing to a declining crime rate as proof of progress. He assured that the Red Line BRT project remains a top priority and will be completed promptly, with collaborative efforts for democratic consensus at the forefront.—RT

Murad Congratulates Acting Governor Syed Awaiz Qadir Shah In Power-Packed Visit To Governor House



KARACHI: Chief Minister Sindh, Syed Murad Ali Shah, visited the Governor House to congratulate Syed Awaiz Qadir Shah on his appointment as Acting Governor of Sindh. He was accompanied by several Sindh Cabinet ministers and Provincial Assembly members, including Home Minister Zia-ul-Hasan Lanjar, Industries Minister Jam Ikramullah Dharejo, and Environment Minister Dost Muhammad Rahimoon. The meeting covered discussions on the province's political climate and law and order issues. Acting Governor Awaiz Qadir Shah hosted a luncheon in honor of the Chief Minister and Sindh Cabinet members, commending the provincial government's public welfare efforts.—RT

Victory For Pakistan! Jamal Said Crowned As 2024 Backyard Ultra-World Team Champion



KARACHI: Jamal Said has clinched the title of Backyard Ultra-World Team Champion of Pakistan by completing an astounding 39 loops in the 2024 championship, which ran concurrently across 63 countries and six continents. Organized locally by the Margalla Trail Runners in Islamabad, this grueling event saw 13 ultramarathoners from across Pakistan showcase remarkable endurance and skill on the trails of Margalla Hills. The Backyard Ultra format challenges runners to complete a 6.706-kilometer lap every hour until only one runner remains; all others receive a "Did Not Finish" status. Jamal covered 241.42 kilometers in 39 hours, securing victory as his closest competitor fell short on the final lap. Notably, Umaira Sheeraz broke records with 25 laps, surpassing the previous national record set at 24 laps. An Australian High Commissioner Neil Hawkins sponsored and supported Jamal, even running alongside the participants. World Athlon also backed Jamal's team, ensuring essential support at the Margalla Hills Camp. This win marks Jamal's third consecutive national title in this demanding event.—RT

TEXPO 2024 Ends With A Bang! Game-Changing Deals And Global Partnerships Sealed

KARACHI: The 5th International Textile & Leather Exhibition (TEXPO 2024) wrapped up on October 25 at Karachi Expo Centre, showcasing Pakistan's textile sector to a global audience. Organized by the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), the event attracted 527 international buyers from 60 countries and featured 272 exhibitors, with buyers from non-traditional markets adding diversity to the textile trade base. A key highlight was the 1,969 B2B meetings, facilitating strategic connections between exhibitors and international buyers, resulting in deals exceeding USD 910 million and ten significant MoUs. TDAP hosted



seminars focused on sustainable and circular innovations in textiles, with prominent speakers discussing trends like green manufacturing and SME transformation. The final day included industrial visits, giving foreign delegates a firsthand view of Pakistan's manufacturing capabilities and quality standards. Top global brands also participated, underscoring Pakistan's potential as a leading hub for textile and leather industries.—RT

Arts Council Of Pakistan Karachi Dazzles With "Flavors Of The UAE" Event At World Culture Festival



KARACHI: The Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi marked the 29th day of its ongoing "World Culture Festival" with an engaging event titled "Flavors Of The UAE" at the Jam Elita Lawn. The event celebrated the rich culture and culinary traditions of the United Arab Emirates, attended by UAE Consul General Dr. Bakheet Ateeq Alreimeithi, Sindh's Minister for Culture and Tourism Syed Zulqifur Ali Shah, and Arts Council President Muhammad Ahmed Shah. The evening featured an Arabic cultural tent offering a variety of traditional dishes, including kahwa, date tea, and luqaimat, alongside a captivating display of a rare white falcon and a traditional sword dance, enhancing the festive atmosphere with lively Arabic music. In his remarks, Consul General Alreimeithi expressed gratitude for the opportunity to showcase Emirati culture in Karachi and announced plans for a festival in the UAE to promote Sindhi culture, in collaboration with the Arts Council and the Sindh Culture Department. President Ahmed Shah praised the UAE Consulate's efforts, emphasizing the strong ties between Pakistan and the UAE and the importance of such cultural exchanges. Minister Shah added that the festival fosters understanding and friendship, creating a positive global image for Sindh amid challenges.—RT

KATI Celebrates New Leadership With Lavish Ceremony, Honored For Major Economic Gains



KARACHI: Sindh's Minister for Industry and Trade, Jam Ikram Dharejo, lauded the Korangi Association of Trade and Industry (KATI) as a vital institution supporting national economic growth. Speaking at a dinner celebrating the election of Sheikh Umar Rehan, Danish Aman, Afif Rashid, and Mehwish Akhtar to key positions within KATI, he commended KATI's role in fostering industrial development. The event drew notable attendees, including KATI President Junaid Naqi, Deputy Patron-in-Chief Zubair Chhaya, senior officials, and prominent business figures. Minister Dharejo reaffirmed the Sindh government's commitment to industrial growth and economic stability, emphasizing its collaborative ties with KATI. President Junaid Naqi recognized the new leadership's achievements, crediting the late SM Munir for mentoring KATI's leaders. Zubair Chhaya praised the new leaders as assets to KATI, contributing both to economic growth and social welfare, and emphasized the importance of nurturing future business leaders for sustained progress.—RT

Murad Pushes For Equality At Karachi Down Syndrome Program's Star-Studded 10th Anniversary

By Rahib Gaho
KARACHI: Chief Minister Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah emphasized that Down syndrome is a chromosomal condition, not a disease, urging a shift from misconceptions to recognizing the potential of individuals with Down syndrome. Speaking at the Karachi Down Syndrome Program (KDSP) Conference 2024, titled "Stepping Towards an Inclusive Tomorrow," Shah highlighted the importance of early intervention and support for enabling independent, fulfilling lives. Since the Sindh Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Act 2018, the Sindh government has funded assistive devices, vocational training, and skills development, and partnerships with organizations, with an additional Rs 25 million for KDSP. Shah also revealed plans for an "Inclusive City" in Korangi, supported by a Rs 5 billion budget. KDSP, reaching over 2,300 families, has made strides in inclusive education, raising Rs 50 million this year. Civil society members and the Chief Minister praised KDSP's work and celebrated the value of inclusion for individuals with Down syndrome in Pakistan.



for the Press Club to outline member concerns. Chief Secretary Shah assured his full cooperation, pledging priority action on land allocation and developmental needs. Recognizing the Karachi Press Club as a historic institution, he directed relevant departments to expedite solutions. President Sarbazi expressed gratitude for the government's commitment, hoping the support would lead to meaningful improvements for Press Club members.

CS Sindh Promises Unwavering Support For Karachi Press Club Members Amid Growing Tensions



KARACHI: A Karachi Press Club delegation, led by President Saeed Sarbazi and Secretary Shoaib Ahmed, met with Chief Secretary Sindh Asif Hyder Shah to discuss key issues, including plot allotment for new club members, lease renewals, KPC solarization, and ongoing development projects. The meeting, attended by officials from the Information Department, KDA, and MDA, provided a platform

PPP Plans Massive Celebration For 26th Amendment Passage On Oct 28 At Mazar-e-Quaid



KARACHI: The Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Karachi Division will hold a celebration on the evening of October 28, 2024, outside the mausoleum of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah to mark the passage of the 26th constitutional amendment. This decision was made during a meeting led by Sindh Local Government Minister Saeed Ghani, who emphasized the positive response to the amendment and the pivotal role of PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. In addition to the celebration, the PPP Karachi Division will participate in the All Parties Hurriyat Conference rally on October 27, expressing solidarity with the people of Occupied Kashmir. Ghani announced that a large gathering would take place at the VIP Gate of Mazar-e-Quaid at 6 PM, with attendees including PPP office-bearers, workers, and supporters from across the city. The meeting also addressed upcoming local government by-elections in Karachi, with plans to field candidates for all vacant seats under the election symbol "Arrow." Ghani instructed party members to ramp up campaign efforts, particularly in union committees where the by-elections will occur, highlighting the active involvement of the women's wing in the election campaign. PPP Sindh General Secretary Waqar Mehdi commended party workers for their significant turnout at a recent public meeting in Hyderabad and acknowledged their contributions to strengthening the party and assisting citizens.—RT

Power Shock! K-Electric Consumers Hit With Rs3.03 Tariff Hike Under FCA

KARACHI: The National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) has announced an increase of Rs3.03 per unit in electricity tariffs for K-Electric consumers, effective under the Fuel Cost Adjustment (FCA) mechanism for July 2024. This revised tariff will take effect on electricity bills issued in December 2024. The adjustment will apply across most consumer categories, with exceptions for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (EVCS), lifeline, and prepaid metering consumers. A recent NEPRA notification further revealed that the Central Power Purchasing Agency (CPPA) has recommended a reduction of 57 paise per unit for this period. The power regulator clarified that the decrease would apply to all consumer categories, except lifeline, domestic users consuming up to 300 units, agricultural consumers, and EVCS consumers of all power distribution companies except K-Electric. NEPRA held a public hearing on September 26 and formally notified this adjustment on October 24, allowing an additional refund of Re0.8555 per unit under the FCA mechanism.—RT/Agency



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah revealed that the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has collected over Rs. 22 billion from approximately 500 industrial units in Sindh between 2014 and 2021, without transferring the funds to the provincial government. In a meeting with provincial ministers and officials, Shah emphasized plans to address these pending transfers with the federal government, including the recovery of the Sindh Workers Welfare Fund (SWWF) and the Sindh Workers Participation Fund (SWPPF). The FBR has also collected funds from major trans-provincial entities like OGDCL, PPL, and Engro, which remain unlocated to Sindh since 2016. The Chief Minister highlighted the province's authority, post-18th Amendment, to collect SWWF and SWPPF from industrial establishments. Currently, Rs. 25.36 billion collected from trans-provincial firms is under review by the Sindh High Court. The meeting discussed the Sindh Workers Welfare Board's ongoing initiatives, including free education at Workers Model Schools, financial support for workers' children, and housing projects. The CM intends to request the prime minister's intervention to expedite provincial entitlement transfers and devolution of the Workers Welfare Fund and Employees Old-Age Benefits Institution (EOBI) assets.

Murad Demands Immediate Release Of Rs22 Billion In Withheld Federal Taxes

By Rahib Gaho
KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah revealed that the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has collected over Rs. 22 billion from approximately 500 industrial units in Sindh between 2014 and 2021, without transferring the funds to the provincial government. In a meeting with provincial ministers and officials, Shah emphasized plans to address these pending transfers with the federal government, including the recovery of the Sindh Workers Welfare Fund (SWWF) and the Sindh Workers Participation Fund (SWPPF). The FBR has also collected funds from major trans-provincial entities like OGDCL, PPL, and Engro, which remain unlocated to Sindh since 2016. The Chief Minister highlighted the province's authority, post-18th Amendment, to collect SWWF and SWPPF from industrial establishments. Currently, Rs. 25.36 billion collected from trans-provincial firms is under review by the Sindh High Court. The meeting discussed the Sindh Workers Welfare Board's ongoing initiatives, including free education at Workers Model Schools, financial support for workers' children, and housing projects. The CM intends to request the prime minister's intervention to expedite provincial entitlement transfers and devolution of the Workers Welfare Fund and Employees Old-Age Benefits Institution (EOBI) assets.

PPP Senator Sarmad Ali Sounds Off On Dangerous Fake News Culture And AI's Threat To Critical Thinking



KARACHI: Senator Sarmad Ali of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) criticized the pervasive fake news culture in Pakistan, asserting that 99% of false information is presented as truth. He expressed concerns about the impact of social media on political dignity, noting that this trend is increasingly embraced by political parties. Speaking as the chief guest at the final day of a workshop organized by the Women Media Center, Sarmad Ali reflected on the legacy of former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who, he said, upheld his integrity even in the face of death. He also argued that AI has diminished critical thinking skills, as people increasingly rely on search engines like Google instead of reading books. The two-day workshop, attended by women journalists and media students in Karachi, concluded with the distribution of certificates to participants.—RT

Try not to become a man of success but rather try to become a man of value.

—Albert Einstein

Finance Minister Aurangzeb Pushes For Pakistan's First Panda Bond In Explosive Talks With IFIs

ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb engaged with leaders from many international finance institutions (IFIs) in Washington, doubling down on Pakistan's commitment to entering global capital markets by issuing its first Panda Bond.



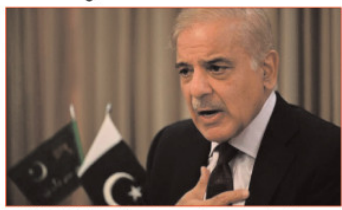
The discussions were held on the sidelines of the World Bank-IMF Annual Meetings. Aurangzeb is leading a Pakistan delegation to the event underway in the US capital from October 21 to 26.

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Other delegates accompanying him include Finance Secretary Imdad Ullah Bosal, Secretary of Economic Affairs Dr. Kazim Niaz, and State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) Governor Jameel Ahmad.

PM Urges Modern Tech To Revolutionize Pakistan's Tax System

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif directed concerned officials to timely complete all reforms in the Federal Board of Revenue.



Presiding over a meeting on the progress of reforms in the FBR, PM Shehbaz emphasised that a cordial and friendly environment should be ensured in the FBR for taxpayers.

The prime minister stressed the need to use modern technology to make the taxation and revenue collection system more effective. Shehbaz Sharif also instructed to formulate a strategy for the restructuring of Pakistan Revenue Automation Limited.

Besides, he called for enhancing the professional capabilities of FBR officers and ensuring their effective utilization. The Prime Minister also directed that the system to check smuggling in the country be further strengthened. Meanwhile, the amended income tax rules 2002 to improve the efficiency and responsiveness of the Active Taxpayer's List (ATL) system, streamlining tax operations for enhanced compliance.

Under the new amendments, the ATL will now be updated on daily basis, replacing the previous practice of weekly updates. This adjustment ensures that taxpayers who meet their filing obligations are reflected as active taxpayers promptly, enhancing real-time accuracy and facilitating compliance.

Taxpayers who submit their Income Tax Returns (ITR) for the latest tax year (2024) by the due date, or within an extension granted, will be included in the ATL immediately. Additionally, taxpayers who file their returns after

the issuance of the inaugural Panda Bond. In the meeting with World Bank Managing Director of Operations Ms Anna Bjerde, the finance minister discussed Pakistan's development priorities supported by the Country Partnership Framework (CPF). He also briefed the MD about the Joint Domestic Resource Mobilisation Initiative (JDRMI) being launched with the support of the World Bank and IMF.

"We welcome the decision of the Board not to levy any commitment fee for four years for Program-for-Results Financing (PforR) and Investment Project Financing (IPF) instruments," he said. Aurangzeb appreciated that the bank was considering a grant facility for project preparation and noted with satisfaction that IDA replishment was proceeding satisfactorily.

While appreciating the recent improvements in the disbursements, the forum

Chinese Envoy Demands Pakistan Take Action, Calls For Aggressive Crackdown On Terrorism

ISLAMABAD: The Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan on Friday termed the recent visit of the Chinese prime minister a "complete success" but urged Pakistan to take practical and concrete steps to crack down on terrorist groups targeting Chinese nationals in the country.



He noted that this was the second terrorist attack this year on Chinese nationals, adding that it is not acceptable.

"They (Chinese) are innocent and they don't deserve this kind of sacrifice and their families do not deserve this kind of tragedy," the Chinese envoy added.

The Ambassador said that during the recent visit of the Chinese PM, the Pakistani leadership made commitments that the government would crackdown on terrorism and effectively safeguard the security of Chinese personnel, institutions and projects.

"We hope the Pakistani side translates statements into concrete actions," the Chinese envoy stressed. He also stressed that those who were behind these incidents must be apprehended and brought to justice as soon as possible.

The envoy further said his country was cooperating with Pakistan in the counter-terrorism efforts and was ready to extend all possible assistance to counter this menace.

Just days before the visit of the Chinese PM, two Chinese engineers were killed in a terrorist attack outside the Jinnah International Airport in Karachi. The Ambassador

noted that this was the second terrorist attack this year on Chinese nationals, adding that it is not acceptable. "We hope the Pakistani side translates statements into concrete actions," the Chinese envoy stressed.

Referring to the Chinese investment under the banner of CPEC, he noted, "We believe high-value projects deserve high-level security arrangements."

Talking about the outcome of the Chinese PM's

Vawda Celebrates Imran's Sisters' Bail Victory: "I Promised, And I Delivered"



ISLAMABAD: Senator Faisal Vawda stated that he has successfully secured bail for the sisters of former Prime Minister Imran Khan.

Vawda expressed his satisfaction, stating, "I had already said I would make efforts for the release of Imran's sisters, and today, thank God, their bail has been granted." Express News reported. In a statement posted on X (formerly Twitter), he remarked, "Last night, I mentioned my intentions regarding Imran's sisters, and today, their bail has been secured."

He further criticised the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leadership, labelling them as "sellouts" and "fugitives," asserting that they did not even visit Imran's sisters while they were in jail. Vawda questioned the commitment of the PTI leadership, stating, "The nation

Naqvi Hails Mianwali Police For Taking Down 10 Notorious Extremist Terrorists

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi has praised the brave efforts of Mianwali Police for their successful operation that resulted in the elimination of 10 extremist terrorists in the Mianwali district on Friday.



Naqvi praised the Mianwali police team courageously thwarted the nefarious designs of extremist terrorists, he remarked, pointing out how their decisive actions served as a crucial contribution to national security.

The police action was described as a major blow to terrorist activities in the region and a testament to the courage and efficiency of Punjab's law enforcement agencies. In an official statement, Minister Naqvi commended the District Police Officer (DPO) of Mianwali, Akhtar Farooq, along with his entire police team, for their exceptional performance in thwarting what could have been a devastating attack by the terrorists.

"The brave sons of Punjab Police have achieved significant successes in the fight against terrorism," the Interior Minister declared, reflecting on the sacrifices and efforts made by the force to uphold peace and stability across the province.

The brave personnel of Punjab Police have brought 10 extremist terrorists to a humiliating end," Naqvi said, emphasizing the significance of the operation. He added that the terrorists were part of a dangerous extremist network seeking to spread fear and chaos in the region, but their evil plans were crushed by the prompt action of the police.

In a message directed to the public, Naqvi expressed that the nation should be proud of its law enforcement officers who risk their lives every day to ensure the safety of the people. "The nation is proud of the achievements of Mianwali Police," he said,

Naqvi also highlighted the broader impact of this successful mission on the ongoing fight against terrorism in the country. "The Mian-

while praising the exceptional bravery of the officers involved in this particular operation. "The brave sons of Punjab Police have achieved significant successes in the fight against terrorism," the Interior Minister declared, reflecting on the sacrifices and efforts made by the force to uphold peace and stability across the province.

In closing, Naqvi hailed the officers who carried out the mission as national heroes. "The police officers who killed 10 extremist terrorists are the nation's heroes," he concluded, expressing his gratitude for their dedication and service.

This operation comes as a strong message to terrorist organizations attempting to disrupt peace in the country. With the continuous efforts of law enforcement agencies, Pakistan remains committed to defeating terrorism in all its forms.—RT/Agency

Tarar Blasts PTI For Allegedly Orchestrating Armed Assault On Prison Vans Near Sangjani Toll Plaza

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Friday said the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) had orchestrated an armed assault on prison vans near Sangjani Toll Plaza.



Tarar said the PTI had orchestrated an armed assault on prison vans near Sangjani Toll Plaza. "Armed workers of the PTI including a son of the MPA of the PTI from KPK Liaquat Sahib attacked the prison vans which were carrying 83 detainees, and slowed down near the Sangjani Toll Plaza," said the minister while talking to the media.

He said that 30 persons in four cars attacked the vans to help the detainees to escape from the custody of the police which had successfully repulsed the attack. Two police personnel got injured, but all those who tried to flee had been re-arrested. Four assailants including the son of the PTI's MPA have been arrested, while their weapons and two cars were taken into custody, he said, adding interrogation of the arrested persons was underway.

The authorities had the CCTV footage of the attack, said the minister while debunking a flimsy story worked out by the PTI which claimed that the police had staged the attack and itself opened the gates of the vans for prisoners and then vandalized the vehicles by their selves. The PTI's reaction over the incident is "ludicrous," he said asking its spokesperson to be ashamed of himself for churning out such lies that showed the party had nothing to do but "deceit and fraud".

Tarar said rest of the assailants and their cars were being traced and would be taken into custody soon. All those involved in the planning and abetment of the attack would face the law, he added. The authorities had the CCTV footage of the attack, said the minister while debunking a flimsy story worked out by the PTI which claimed that the police had staged the attack and itself opened the gates of the vans for prisoners and then vandalized the vehicles by their selves.

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The minister condemned the attack which was planned by the PTI in a habitual criminal manner and just like gangsters, who always at-

Tarar: Ending Contracts With Five IPPs To Cut Power Burden On Overburdened Consumers

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information Attaullah Tarar said on Friday the government had terminated contracts with five independent power producers (IPPs).



Tarar mentioned that K-Electric was being provided a subsidy of 174 billion while lifeline and non-life line consumers were already being provided subsidy annually. However, users were given additional subsidies this year. The government was more focused on the issues of power, he asserted. Attaullah Tarar stated that fuel cost adjustment and closure of IPPs would reduce the electricity bills.—RT/Agency

He said termination of contracts with the five IPPs would help bring down the electricity prices leading to a positive impact on the economy as well. Speaking on the National Assembly floor on calling attention notice, he stated that reduction in electricity prices was PM Shehbaz Sharif's first and foremost priority. He said contracts with another eight power producers were on the cards. He also mentioned that NEPRA reduced 86 paisa per unit on fuel price adjustment.

He highlighted the federal government's people friendly measures including Rs50 billion subsidy for consumers using up to

PM Hails PSX Milestone, Claims Economic Stability Is Finally Within Reach

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif extended felicitations to the nation as the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) reached a historic milestone, with the KSE-100 index crossing the 90,000-point mark on Friday.



He attributed this significant achievement to the relentless efforts of his administration's economic team and stated it as a marker of investor confidence in the government's economic policies. In a statement, the PM commended the economic team for orchestrating a 36% surge in the stock market since March and for helping reduce inflation from 38% to 6.9%. He highlighted recent economic stability, pointing to increased remittances and a surplus in the current account for the past two months. Remittances from Pak-

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indicators have dispelled the narrative of imminent default," he said, expressing satisfaction with the progress on multiple fronts and promising further positive developments for the economy in the coming days.

PM Shehbaz said that his administration remains committed to steering the country away from economic distress, calling this progress a testament to his government's focus on fiscal responsibility and investor trust.—RT/Agency