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CIRCULATION CERTIFIED BY ABC

Civil-Military Leaders Greenlight Bold Operation In Balochistan Amid Escalating Terror Onslaught

ISLAMABAD: In view of spike in militant attacks in Balochistan, the Apex Committee — a civil-military body — on Tuesday formally approved a comprehensive military operation against terrorist organisations operating in the province.



The meeting was held at the railway station earlier this month.

According to a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office, the top civil-military body gave its nod to a military operation in Balochistan against terrorist groups including the Majeed Brigade, B.L.A., B.L.F. and BRAS who are targeting innocent civilians and foreign nationals to scuttle Pakistan's economic progress by creating insecurity at the behest of hostile external powers.

The Federal Apex Committee of the National Action Plan was held with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in chair and the agenda of the meeting was focused on the "Reinvigorating Pakistan's Counter Terrorism (CT) Campaign".

The development came amid spike in terror attacks on security forces and civilians, with the latest deadly suicide explosion claiming at least 27 lives and left over 60 others injured at Quetta's

All provincial chief ministers, Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir, cabinet members and senior government officials were among the attendees of the important huddle.

The top civil-military body highlighted the necessity of a "unified political voice and a cohesive na-

tional narrative" to effectively address these multifaceted challenges.

It was emphasised that political support across party lines and complete national consensus are critical to reinvigorating the national counter terrorism campaign under the framework of Vision Azm-e-Ishtekam.

The meeting also agreed upon revitalisation of National Counter-Terrorism Authority (Nacta) and the establishment of National and Provincial Intelligence Fusion and Threat Assessment Centre.

The statement said civil-military leadership adopted a whole-of-system approach, incorporating diplomatic, political, informational, intelligence, socio-economic, and military efforts to address these issues comprehensively.

"Specific emphasis was placed on strengthening collaboration between federal

and provincial governments and between relevant institutions and ministries to ensure seamless execution of the CT [counter-terrorism] campaign. It was decided to establish District Coordination Committees under the provincial apex committees to ensure implementation of directions received from federal and provincial governments."

In addition to this, the forum demonstrated political resolve to dismantle ecosystem of illegal spectrum and crime-terror nexus.

Speaking on the occasion, COAS General Munir reiterated the Pakistan Army's unwavering resolve to eliminate all threats to national security and provide robust support to the government's initiatives aimed at ensuring peace and stability.

All those who create obstruction in Pakistan's security or tries to stop them from performing their duty would face the music, he added. The army chief also called for putting up collective fight against the menace of terrorism.

"Every Pakistani is a soldier in the war against terrorism, whether in uniform or not."

He further said that the Constitution mandated them to ensure the internal and external security of Pakistan.

A total of 722 people were killed, including civilians, security personnel, and outlaws, while 615 others were wounded. As many as 328 incidents recorded during the period under review.

Nearly 97% of these fatalities occurred in KP and Balochistan — marking the highest percentage in a decade, and over 92% of these incidents of terror attacks and security forces' operations were recorded in the same provinces. The total fatalities from three quarters of this year have now surpassed the total fatalities recorded for the entire 2023; the number of fatalities rose to at least 1534 in the first three quarters compared to 1523 in 2023.

Meanwhile, terrorist groups continue to reorganise and beef up their ranks. Most of the terror attacks remained unclaimed by terrorist or insurgent groups, likely for tactical reasons, as per the report.—RT/Agency

Imran Demands Party Loyalty, Calls On Leaders To Quit If They Skip November 24 Protest

ISLAMABAD: Former prime minister Imran Khan on Tuesday told party leaders and ticket holders to "dissociate themselves from the party" if they could not participate in the PTI's announced power show for November 24.



On Nov 13, Imran issued a "final call" for nationwide protests on Nov 24 (Sunday), denouncing what he described as the stolen mandate, the unjust arrests of people and the passage of the 26th amendment, which he said has strengthened a "dictatorial regime".

"The nation will not accept any excuse at such a critical time," the statement reads.

Since Imran's arrest in August 2023 on several counts, his party has been holding protests across the country for his release and against the alleged rigging of the Feb 8 elections.

Imran called the protest a "golden opportunity to secure genuine freedom for Pakistan", adding that "enslaved nations eventually die away."

The former premier acknowledged that he had previously only called on people associated with the PTI to protest, but added that he was now extending the call to the entire nation since "the final nail has now been hammered into the coffin of democracy in our country," referring to the allegedly rigged Feb 8 elections.

"There is a complete ban on broadcasting my statements and the media is being used to operate under severe restrictions," he said, adding that repeated internet disruption had cost the country Rs550 billion this year.

"Everyone must join the protest on November 24th. If any PTI leader or ticket holder is not able to ensure their participation in the protest, they should dissociate themselves from the party because this is the decisive moment when the entire nation will come out for freedom."

Imran also declared the "enforced disappearances, brutality, and violence" against PTI workers.

"Come out on Nov 24 with the same passion that you demonstrated on Feb 8, when you came out, despite all the challenges, to prove the power of your vote."

He lamented that the "foundational pillars of democracy" were "suspended" in Pakistan, referring to the rule of law, fair and transparent elections, and freedom of expression.

Shehbaz Declares War On Sugar Mills In Sweeping Crackdown



ISLAMABAD: The Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has ordered action against sugar mills and dealers along with CCTV surveillance to prevent hoarding.

Prime Minister Shehbaz directed the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), and Intelligence Bureau (IB) to take joint action against sugar mills and dealers involved in tax evasion, undocumented sales, and price hikes in the sugar sector.

Following the Prime Minister's instructions, a notification has been issued directing FBR, FIA, and IB to ensure the prevention of sales tax evasion in the sugar industry.

He emphasised that with the sugar crushing season approaching, it is essential to collect 100% of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) from sugar mills and dealers.

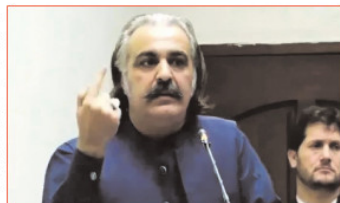
The Prime Minister also directed to install cameras in sugar mills to prevent hoarding and price manipulation, Express News reported.

He warned that strict legal action would be taken against sugar mill owners involved in tax evasion and hoarding practices. According to the Prime Minister, the cameras will monitor the production process and stockpiling of sugar, ensuring GST payments are made, and price hikes are prevented. He stated that any increase in sugar prices would not be tolerated.

Furthermore, the Prime Minister directed stern action against the sugar mafia and called for similar measures in other sectors, such as steel, cigarettes, cement, and beverages.—RT/Agency

CM Gandapur On The Run As ATC Lahore Issues Non-Bailable Warrants

LAHORE: An anti-terrorism court in Lahore issued non-bailable arrest warrants for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur on Tuesday.



The police had registered a case against Gandapur at the Manawa Police Station in Lahore for breaking the windows of vehicles while travelling for the public gathering in Lahore's Kahna.

The development comes days before the PTI's planned protests across Pakistan on November 24 after Imran Khan called on his supporters to march to Islamabad.

The party has made four demands — revoke the 26th Constitutional Amendment, "restore" democracy and Constitution, return the public's mandate, and release all "innocent political" prisoners.

On September 24, the Lahore police filed a fresh case against CM Gandapur under 13 provisions, including the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA), for resorting to violence near Sialkot Interchange while en route to the provincial capital to attend the PTI jalsa.

The PTI held a rally in Lahore, which suddenly came to an end after the police raided the stage and turned off the microphone and lights which forced the PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan and other party leaders to leave the site.

The police and district administration took action after the PTI rally ignored the 6pm deadline specified in the no-object certificate (NOC) and continued their show.

CM Gandapur, who was leading a convoy from KP, failed to arrive at the venue by the time of the deadline's expiry. However, he managed to reach the venue and briefly address the party workers and supporters.

His convoy reportedly includes rescue 1122 ambulances and heavy machinery to remove any hurdles on their way.

Later, videos emerged on social media showing the KP chief minister breaking the window of a truck with his rifle.

Subsequently, a first information report (FIR) was registered at Manawa Police Station with Gandapur being charged under 13 provisions, including attempted murder.

The FIR stated that the chief executive was leading an armed mob at Sialkot Interchange, claiming that the mob attempted to set the vehicles on fire, parked at the toll plaza, on orders of the politician.

According to the FIR, an armed mob resisted police with an AK-47, while CM Gandapur, Shahid Khatak, and others moved ahead during the riot. Amid the rampage, two policemen also sustained injuries, the FIR added.—RT/Agency

COAS Munir Praises Security Forces As Unsung Heroes Battling Governance Failures

ISLAMABAD: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir issued a stern warning that anyone who obstructs national security or hinders the military's operations will face consequences, reported Express News on Tuesday.



Speaking at an apex committee meeting chaired by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the army chief stressed the collective responsibility of every Pakistani in the ongoing fight against terrorism.

"Anyone who creates an obstacle to Pakistan's security and tries to prevent us from fulfilling our duties will have to bear the consequences," he warned.

The army chief also acknowledged the sacrifices made by the Pakistan Army and law enforcement agencies in addressing governance challenges.

"In the war against terrorism, every Pakistani is a soldier — some in uniform, others without," he stated. He further affirmed that the nation must unite to combat the scourge of terrorism.

COAS Munir reiterated the primacy of Pakistan's constitution, highlighting that it assigns the military the responsibility of ensuring both the internal and external security of the country.

Barrister Gohar Slams Government For Silence Amid Growing Crises



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Barrister Gohar stated that the government has not initiated any dialogue.

Speaking to the media in the federal capital, Barrister Gohar questioned recent political developments, asking, "Will you accept what was discussed with the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chief minister? He further clarified that any questions regarding negotiations should be addressed within the party's committee or through consultation with PTI's founder.

Afghan Refugee Camps Under 'Geofencing' Lockdown Ahead Of PTI's High-Stakes Protest

ISLAMABAD: As the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) gears up to hold "do-or-die" protest on November 24, the Ministry of Interior has begun geofencing Afghan refugee camps in Islamabad and other cities, sources said on Tuesday.



Informed sources told media that the ministry was mulling to cancel passports and identity cards and blocking the SIM cards of miscreants involved in the protest.

Authorities have also chalked out strict measures for the security of all public buildings in the federal capital, besides deploying a large number of security personnel in twin cities — Islamabad and Rawalpindi.

Meanwhile, the interior ministry has begun surveillance of suspicious locations to address potential terrorist threats, instructing the security agencies to fully prepare ahead of the PTI's demonstration.

PTI founder Imran Khan last week issued a "final call" for a nationwide protest against the alleged rigging in the February 8 elections, arrests of party workers, and the passage of the 26th Constitutional Amendment, calling on his supporters to march to the federal capital on November 24.

The Islamabad administration has already imposed Section 144 for two months. In addition to this, the Islamabad police have sought the services of 9,000 personnel of Rangers and FC with full anti-riot kits since November 22.

Deployment of 5,000 additional personnel of the Pakistan Rangers and 4,000 of the FC has been sought by the Islamabad Police IG through a letter.—RT/Agency

THE HEARTLAND



Sindh Govt will transform Ketri Bandar into a major port: Ali Hassan Zardari

By Khuda Bux Brohi

THATTA: In a significant stride for Sindh's development, Provincial Minister for Works Services and Jails, Haji Ali Hassan Zardari, has revealed the Sindh government's ambitious plan to transform Ketri Bandar into a major port, in collaboration with the federal government. This initiative seeks to bring to life the long-held vision of Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto.



As part of this transformative project construction of the Coastal Highway currently underway from Bhambhore to Ketri Bandar is projected to be completed within two years. Furthermore, the District Jail in Thatta is in its final stages of construction and is expected to welcome its first prisoners by January, following final preparations in December. The minister made these announcements while addressing the Thatta Bar Association during the inauguration of a newly constructed hall and library, both funded by the Sindh government on his recommendation.

Zardari emphasized the government's focus on developing Thatta's coastal and hilly regions through several large-scale projects nearing completion. In a separate event, Minister Zardari attended a luncheon hosted by Rasool Bux Jakhro, a former PML-N candidate in NA-237 who recently rejoined the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) after competing against a PPP candidate in the previous general election. The event saw the participation of several prominent figures, including PPP District President Sadiq Ali Memon, Vice President Abdul Hameed Panhwar, Information Secretary Syed Mehmoed Alam Shah, and PPP leader Ashiq Hussain Zardari.

SSP Aziz Ahmad pays a surprise visit to MT Section Umerkot



By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: SSP Umerkot, Aziz Ahmad, conducted a surprise visit to the Motor Transport (MT) section of the Umerkot Police. During his visit, he inspected the police mobile vehicles, prisoner vans, and crime scene units, which had been provided with official government vehicles. He also reviewed the maintenance and condition of these vehicles. SSP Aziz Ahmad issued instructions to the MT Officer (MTO) to ensure that all vehicles undergo timely tuning and oil changes. He emphasized the importance of maintaining cleanliness and order in the MT section. Furthermore, SSP Aziz Ahmad announced that additional critical investigative equipment would be installed in the government vehicle assigned to the Crime Scene Unit. This upgrade would assist in the swift resolution of serious cases, including terrorism, murder, rape, abduction, sexual assault, vehicle accidents, and other major criminal investigations.

DC Dr. Rasheed Masood Khan chairs meeting for distribution of Benazir Hari Cards



By Narain Das

MIRPURKHAS: A meeting was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Mirpurkhas, Dr. Rasheed Masood Khan, at the Darbar Hall in Mirpurkhas to discuss the distribution of the Benazir Hari Card for small landowners. During the meeting, Dr. Rasheed Masood Khan emphasized that the distribution of the Benazir Hari Card to small landowners is an important step towards agricultural development. He mentioned that efforts are being made to ensure that small landowners benefit as much as possible from this program. Dr. Rasheed Masood Khan instructed all Assistant Commissioners and Mukhtarkars to prepare a list of landowners holding between 1 and 25 acres of land. In the first phase, he directed that landowners whose land has been affected by rainfall should be prioritized. He further instructed that meetings be held at the tehsil level to verify and check the necessary details of these landowners, with the inclusion of UC Chairmen. The finalized list should be submitted to the DC office within 15 days so that it can be forwarded to the relevant authorities. Additionally, Dr. Rasheed Masood Khan directed representatives from the Agricultural Bank and commercial banks to fully cooperate with the government's agricultural schemes by facilitating the provision of agricultural loans to farmers and landowners. He also requested that details regarding the recovery of agricultural loans be provided. The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner I. Mohammad Ali Baloch, Additional Director Agriculture Extension Zulfikar Ali Jagirani, Agriculture Officer Bhart Kumar, all Assistant Commissioners of the tehsils, Mukhtarkars, Haji Muhammad Umar Bughio of the Sindh Abadgar Board, Khadim Hussain Bhanran of the Chamber of Agriculture, and representatives from agricultural and commercial banks.

Sindhiani Tehreek protests against River Indus dams and exploitation of resources

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: The Sindhiani Tehreek staged a hunger strike outside the press club in Hyderabad to protest against the construction of six new canals from the Indus River, corruption, and the exploitation of Sindh's land and resources. The protest was led by Central President Zainat Samo, General Secretary Nusrat Khakheli, Rafia Palijo and other activists, including Shazia Ahmedani, Reshma Gopang, Ameer Zadi Birhamani, and Azra Rind. Zainat Samo, speaking to the media, condemned the plan to extract water from the Indus River, calling it an attack on Sindh's lifeblood. Rafia Palijo stressed that diverting water from the Indus River by building new canals is a direct threat to Sindh's agricultural sector and will cause widespread destruction. She warned that if the project is not stopped, it will lead to the environmental collapse of the province. Nusrat Khakheli added that the PPP government is selling Sindh's resources for political gains, leaving the population deprived of basic needs like water and jobs.



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DEO Muhammad Ismail Buriro visits schools in Thul



By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: DEO Secondary Muhammad Ismail Buriro recently visited several schools in Thul, including the Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Thul, where he participated in a special program dedicated to martyrs and Pakistan. The event began with the recitation of the Holy Quran, followed by a welcome address from the school's Principal, Niaz Ahmed Sarki, who also extended warm hospitality to the distinguished guests. During the program, many students delivered speeches on the sacrifices of Pakistan's martyrs, particularly those from the Pakistan Army. DEO Muhammad Ismail Buriro, alongside teachers and students, spoke at length about the significant contributions of the martyrs in securing the nation's sovereignty and freedom.

Govt Degree College Dadu organizes a STEAM Exhibition

By Javed Laghari

DADU: In line with the directives of Sindh Minister for Education, Syed Sardar Ali Shah, and Secretary Education Colleges, Asif Ikrum, a Science Fair was organized under the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) umbrella scheme to assess the developmental skills, individual, and collective efforts of students from colleges across Sindh. The event, which took place at the Government Degree College Dadu, was attended by a large number of teachers, students, journalists, and members of civil society. The event, hosted by Dadu College, saw participation from ten colleges in the district. Students presented various individual and group models, developed with the help of their peers, covering a wide range of scientific concepts and practical applications. The event also aimed to foster creativity and bring students closer to practical science. In the science category, the winners included Bukhari Degree College Dadu, which secured the first position, followed by Government Girls College Dadu in second, and Government Girls College Khairpur in third. In the arts category, Government Girls College Dadu took the first position, while Professor Raftiq Ahmed Bhattacharya, Professor Masood Memon, Sardar Rajab Khan Shahani, Deputy Commissioner Dadu Mukhtiar Joyo, SSP Dadu Ameer Saud Maggi, and District Session Judge Dadu Muhammad Yaseen Qadri.



Electricity theft causes widespread power outages in several villages

By Abdullah Shahani

PHULI STATION: The administration of SEPCO at the Rehmani Nanger Grid Station has been accused of causing severe and prolonged load shedding on the Pyaro Feeder, resulting in an increase in electricity theft. As a consequence, unknown thieves easily removed 17,000-volt wires from six transmission towers along the main line of the Pyaro Feeder near the village of Rahjoja. This theft caused widespread power outages in several areas, including Pyaro Station, Rahjoja, Pat Sharif, and surrounding villages. The power failure not only disrupted electricity supply but also led to a water crisis, affecting residents' access to drinking water. Despite the severe impact, the local police have reportedly failed to take any action, and the SEPCO management remains silent and inactive. Several affected individuals, including Munir Ahmad Samo, Muhammad Ali Qureshi, Guddu Manganhar, Mir Mukhtiar Birhamani, Amanullah Memon, Mohsin Abbasi, Nanger Chandio, and others, expressed their frustration to the media. They

blamed corrupt WAPDA officials for creating the situation through deliberate and prolonged load shedding, which ultimately led to the theft of the wires. The victims criticized SEPCO's inefficient administration, claiming that the theft occurred without any fear of law enforcement. The residents urged SEPCO's higher authorities and elected representatives to intervene, ensure that an independent investigation is conducted, and hold those responsible accountable for their negligence and criminal activities.

Crackdown on gutka and drug suppliers continues in TMK



By Abdul Sattar

TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: A series of raids have been conducted across Tando Muhammad Khan district as part of an ongoing campaign against gutka and drug suppliers, following orders from SSP Abid Ali Gadani. Several key arrests have been made in recent operations. According to the details, SHO Bulri Shah Karim arrested Inayat Hussain Shah with 20 bags of gutka material and Dost Ali with 510 packets of gutka. SHO Tando Muhammad Khan City arrested Abdul Sattar Noonari with 700 packets, and Ramiz Raja Rand and Vishnu Thakur with 1,430 packets of gutka. SHO B Section Tando Muhammad Khan arrested Sakina, a female supplier, with 510 packets. SHO Gulam Haider apprehended Rajab Awam with 1,400 packets. SHO Women Police Station arrested Amad and Sana Rajput with 1,000 packets of gutka. SHO Shaikh Barkhio arrested Aftab Khoso and Dadan Wassan with 1,330 packets. SHO Moya arrested Dharmon Bheel with 400 packets. SHO Taluqa Tando Muhammad Khan arrested Ayaz Zaur with 550 packets. All suspects were charged under the Mainpuri Gutka Act. These actions are part of ongoing efforts to curb the illegal gutka trade in the region.

DEO Gulbahar Maggi distributes honorary certificates amongst students at Saint Joseph High School



By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: During a visit to Government Saint Joseph High School, Larkana, DEO Gulbahar Maggi attended the school assembly and honored students for their outstanding performance in the annual exams conducted by the Larkana Education Board. Students who achieved notable positions included Muhammad Hassan Jatoti, Dua Batool, Abdul Rashid Memon, Adam Chandio, Rafiq Hussain Khokhar, Imtiaz Hussain Jaffari, Muhammad Bux Brohi, Hussain Ali Khokhar, Ali Soomro, and Ali Raza Soomro. These students were awarded honorary certificates and cups by the DEO. In addition, Hadiya Batool Jaffari, an eighth-grade student, was recognized with an honorary cup for her contribution to the STEAM program by creating a guitar. Similarly, Majid Hussain Syed, a ninth-grade student, was also honored with an honorary cup for his contributions. Other prominent attendees included Masooq Ali Brohi, Assistant at the DEO office, Ayesha Hullo, Deputy DEO, Saecola Abbasi, TEO, Farzeeda Bibi, AEO, Bibi Hamida Mirani, Deputy DEO Larkana, and Headmaster Abdul Karim Chandio. The esteemed guests were presented with Sindh Ajrak gifts, including Zavar Sajjad Muhammad Panah Otho.

Badin Police continue their operations against drug dealers with multiple arrests and recoveries

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: On the instructions of SSP Badin, Sheeraz Nazir, operations are actively underway targeting drug dealers in the region. Several key arrests have been made, and significant recoveries of illegal substances have been reported. Abdul Razaqq Mandhro, Asghar Ali Soomro, and Ali Ahmed Bughio were arrested during a series of operations, and gutka (a form of chewable tobacco) was recovered from their possession. Munawar Mallah, another gutka seller, was apprehended along with 500 packets of indigenous gutka. Additionally, bicycles used by the accused were also seized. SHO Police Station Shaheed Fazl Rahu carried out further operations, arresting Ehsan Ali Chandio and Imran Shah, who were found in possession of 1,800

indigenous gutkas. During regular patrolling, Sajjad Ali Syed, Ashiq Ali Turk, and Chetan Kohli were arrested, and gutka was seized in these operations. CIA Inspector Shahjahan Lashari, acting on a tip-off, arrested Imtiaz Mallah, a known gutka seller, along with the staff, recovering a substantial amount of illegal gutka. SHO Police Station DEI Inspector Tufail Ahmad Jalalani and his team recovered 550 Safina sachets during their operation. However, the main accused, Amjad Kaloi, managed to escape from the scene. In another operation led by SHO Police Station Kadio Ghanoor, Sub-Inspector Iltaz Khakheli arrested Majid Chandio, a gutka seller, while Lulu No-hani, his accomplice, escaped. Tando Gulam Ali Police, led by Sub-Inspector Asif Mehmoed Kayani, ar-

Larkana Court sentences man to 12 years in a drug case

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: In a hearing at the District and Sessions Court in Larkana, presided over by Judge Samkan Hussain Mughal, a verdict was announced in a drug-related case that had been filed 7 months ago at Wafid Police Station. The court found the accused, Sajjad son of Nadir Ali Makol, guilty of drug trafficking and sentenced him to 12 years in prison and a fine of 2 lakh rupees. The case dates back to April 28, when the police, during their routine patrol near Anjira Road, arrested Sajjad Makol and allegedly seized 2 kilograms of hashish from his possession. The police subsequently filed the drug case, leading to today's conviction.

EDITORIAL

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

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Teflon Dynasty: The House of Sharif's Endless Excuses

The House of Sharif has once again unveiled its uncanny ability to blame everyone but itself, this time regarding Hasan Nawaz's bankruptcy declared by the High Court of Justice in London. The family's statement, brimming with familiar refrains, attributes this latest debacle to the nationalization policies of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the machinations of General Pervez Musharraf, and the rulings of former Chief Justice Saqib Nisar. Conveniently missing, however, is any acknowledgment of their own accountability or mismanagement.

How long will this strategy of deflection endure? The Sharifs have perfected the art of spinning their financial disasters as political vendet-

tas. Yet, their claims of having suffered due to "unjust" actions fall flat when juxtaposed against their professed "astute business ac-



men," the supposed source of their opulent lifestyles. If their financial prowess was indeed so exceptional, why does bankruptcy keep shadowing their enterprises, now including Hasan Nawaz's UK company?

The narrative offered by the Sharifs is as transparent as it is tiresome. By shifting blame to external forces—be it governments, judiciary,

or historical policies—they sidestep any scrutiny of their practices. Is it arrogance, believing the public gullible enough to swallow their excuses? Or is it an almost magical Teflon quality that prevents anything—even the UK's legal declaration of bankruptcy—from sticking to their name?

This relentless cycle of denial must end. Pakistan's people deserve leaders who take responsibility for their failures, not just their successes. The Sharifs' ability to dodge accountability may have worked in the past, but the time has come for the public to see through their spin. If we continue to accept their excuses, we endorse a culture where power shields incompetence and evasion reigns supreme.

THE HEARTLAND



Barrister Mir Hamza Khan Talpur distributes solar panels among rain-affecteds

By Maqbool Dal

KOT GHULAM MUHAMMAD: In Union Council Shaheed Mir Ali Bux Khan Talpur, including various villages of Mir Allahad Talpur, 200 solar energy plates and stoves were distributed free of charge to rain-affected poor and deserving individuals. The event was attended by PPP leader Allah Rakhio Dal, UC Chairman Shahbaz Jatt, senior journalist Ghulam Rasool Junejo, and other local dignitaries. During the occasion, PPP leader Barrister Nawabzada Mir Hamza Khan Talpur addressed the gathering and stated that the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) is the party of the poor, without any discrimination of color or ethnicity. He high-



lighted that the mission of the party's leader, the Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, was to serve the poor and the downtrodden. He further mentioned that, following the footsteps of PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, they

are continuing to assist the poor. He also emphasized that the party's central leadership, including MNA Mir Munawar Ali Khan Talpur, is dedicated to standing by the poor and understanding their pain and suffering.

Former District Council Member Muhammad Ali Junejo grieved

By Hakim Baloch



JAM NAWAZ ALI: Condolences continue to pour in on the passing of the mother of former District Council member Muhammad Ali Junejo, Ahmed Ali Junejo, and Rajib Ali Junejo. On this occasion, provincial leaders of GDA, Ahmed Ali Junejo, Rajib Ali Junejo, and Imran Bux Shamsher Ali Khan, Raees Ali Khan Rind, Khamiso Marri, Shah Nawaz Shar, Dr.

Jacobabad journalists visit shrine of Pir Tiar Shah Ghazi (RA)



By Muhammad Ali Surhio

JACOBABAD: A delegation of journalists from the Jacobabad District National Press Club, led by President Muhammad Ali Surhio, visited the shrine of Pir Tiar Shah Ghazi (RA). The delegation, which included journalists Abdul Sattar Dayo, Abdul Razaq Syal, Ghulam Yaseen, Khair Muhammad, Taj Mehmood Dayo, Akbar Ali Golo, Bilawal Baloch,

and others, paid their respects at the shrine and met with Pir of Tiar Shah Ghazi and the Sajada Nasheen (spiritual successor), Pir Ghulam Ali Shah. During the meeting, Pir Ghulam Ali Shah briefed the journalists on the key issues facing the shrine and the local area. He highlighted that although the shrine of Pir Tiar Shah Ghazi (RA) has a history of over 300 years, the basic problems of the area remain unresolved even in the modern era.

Shaheed Dodo Soomro Welfare Organization hosts a successful workers' convention in District Thatta

By M Iqbal Soomro

THARI MIRWAH: A grand workers' convention of the Shaheed Dodo Soomro Welfare Organization Pakistan was held in District Thatta, under the leadership of Sindh President, Manowari Gulzar Ahmed Soomro.



The event saw the participation of special guest, Central Chairman Ali Muhammad Soomro, along with key provincial and divisional office bearers, including Nazir Ahmed Soomro, Nizam Hussain Soomro, Abdul Jabbar Soomro, and other prominent leaders. In his address, Ali Muhammad Soomro, the Central Chairman of the Sha-

heed Dodo Soomro Welfare Organization, emphasized the organization's commitment to serving the Soomro community. He assured that the platform would continue to provide all possible support to the community, stating, "We will unite the Soomro community and stand together in every moment of their joys and sorrows. They will never be left alone, and we will always be there."

Jamshoro Police arrest Mohsin Bhalai's killers



By Munawar Chandio

JAMSHORO: In a press conference held at the SSP Office in Jamshoro, SSP Zafar Siddique Chhanga revealed details about the murder of 27-year-old Mohsin Bhalai, who was shot dead in front of the Youth Hostel in Jamshoro on November 20, 2023. The victim was shot by three motorcycle-riding assailants. Upon receiving the complaint, Jamshoro Police registered a case and initiated an investigation. A committee consisting of the Digital Investigation Cell and officers from various departments was formed under the leadership of DSP Kotri Shah Nawaz Jokhio. The investigation team, which included

officers from SHO SITE, SHO Jamshoro, and Kotri Police, carried out technical analysis and acted on confidential information to arrest the main accused, Deedar Hussain Buledi, son of Ali Murad Buledi, who was arrested in connection with the murder. During the investigation, the police recovered the weapon (a pistol) used in the murder from the possession of the accused. Two other suspects, Waheed Hussain and Muhammad Rafique, were arrested earlier on July 18, 2024, and presented in court. The arrested suspects have confessed to their involvement in the crime, and it was revealed that the motive for the murder was personal enmity.

Drug Inspector seals medical stores over sale of substandard medicines in Thari Mirwah

By Bashir Shaikh

HANDIARI: In response to reports of the sale of substandard and counterfeit medicines in Thari Mirwah, Drug Inspector Altaf Buzdar, along with his team, conducted raids at several medical stores across the city. The team examined the medicines on display, and during the inspection, substandard drugs were discovered. As a result, medical stores, including that of Dr. Ansar Ali Gopang, were sealed. Additionally, samples of substandard medicines were taken from Bhatti Medical Store and sent to the laboratory for further testing. During the operation, Drug Inspector Altaf Buzdar ad-



ressed the media, stating that strict action would be taken against those selling substandard medicines. He emphasized that there would be no leniency, and medical store owners found playing with human lives would not be spared. He further warned the store owners to keep only standard medicines in stock, or face legal action. Buzdar made it clear that those keeping substandard medicines or operating without permits would never be forgiven, and their stores would remain sealed.

Young doctors and medical staff protest at Johi Hospital

By Roshan Memon

JOHI: In response to the violence against doctors, nurses, and other staff at the DHO Hospital in Dadu, a protest was organized at Taluka Hospital Johi by young doctors, paramedical staff, nurses, and other medical personnel. The protest followed a boycott of the OPD (Outpatient Department) by the staff. The demonstration was led by Dr. Pervez Shah, Dr. Asif Raza Malkani, and others. During the protest, the leaders condemned the violent attack that took place at DHO Hospital, Dadu, where the accused targeted and severely assaulted doctors, nurses, and



other staff members. The assailants also vandalized hospital property. The protesting staff expressed their outrage over this act and demanded justice. The protestors called on the IG Sindh, SSP Dadu, and other relevant authorities to take immediate legal action against the perpetrators of the violence. They also urged the authorities to provide adequate security and protection to the medical staff and ensure that justice is served.

Health Minister takes action in GIMS Hospital harassment case

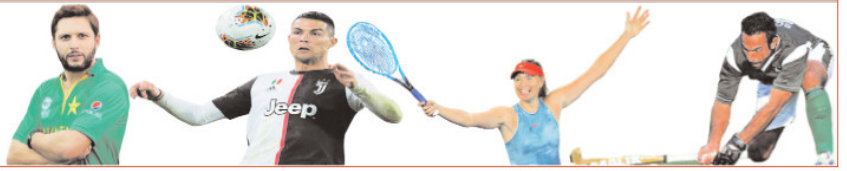
By Hafeez Mallah

GAMBAT: A case of harassment of female doctors in the Gynecology ward of GIMS Hospital has come to light, leading to action by the Health Minister. Paramedical leader Rahib Bambhan has been recommended for dismissal from his position following the investigation. According to the report, Rahib Bambhan, a GIMS employee and paramedical leader, has

been accused of harassing the medical staff in the gynecology ward. Following the report, an inquiry committee recorded statements from the female doctors. Based on the findings, the Health Department has recommended that Rahib Bambhan be dismissed from his position. Dr. Rahim Bux Bhatti, Director of GIMS, confirmed that the Health Department's report would be acted upon, and Rahib Bamb-

han would be removed from his job. Bambhan, however, challenged the decision in the Sindh High Court, but his petition was rejected. Rahib Bambhan has denied the allegations and claims that the action against him is unjust. He asserts that his dismissal is a result of a biased investigation and his advocacy for the rights of employees, calling it an injustice and demanding that fairness be upheld.

SPORTS



Shahid Aslam Takes Charge As Mercurial Pakistan's Batting Coach



LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has appointed Shahid Aslam, former first-class cricketer, as the Pakistan men cricket team's batting coach just few days ahead of the Zimbabwe tour.

The PCB spokesperson on Tuesday confirmed Aslam will serve as the full-time batting coach with the national squad.

Moreover, the spokesperson said soon spin bowling coach would also be appointed for Pakistan as the board management was on the hunt for one.

The development has come as Pakistan are reeling from more dismal than prideful performances in cricket. The recently-concluded T20 international series against Australia, that Pakistan lost 3-0, has particularly been hurtful for its memories are freshly etched into minds.

Earlier, sources privy to the development said newly-appointed interim white-ball head coach Aqib Javed had recommended Aslam for the post.

Aslam has spent a number of years working as a support staff member for the Green Shirts. The white-ball tour of Zimbabwe will be his first assignment, before a full-fledged tour of South Africa.

The first ODI match between Pakistan and Zimbabwe will be played on November 24 (Sunday).—Agency

India's Blind T20 World Cup Drama: Modi Government Stops Blue Shirts From Crossing The Border Into Pakistan

The Indian blind cricket team has withdrawn from the upcoming T20 World Cup 2024, scheduled to be held in Pakistan, after its Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) denied permission to cross the border, Indian media reported on Tuesday.



Shaileendra Yadav, General Secretary of the Indian Blind Cricket Association (IBCA), has confirmed the development to an Indian media outlet, saying that the Indian team will not travel to Pakistan for the global event, which will be held from November 23 to December 3.

Speaking to the media outlet, Yadav shared that the blind cricket team received a no-objection certificate (NOC) from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) but was awaiting the government's approval.

However, as per the latest development, the MEA has denied granting

permission to the blind team to participate in the upcoming world cup.

"We were waiting for the last 25 days to get permission from the government to go to Pakistan. Now we can't wait any longer as the tournament is about to begin," Yadav said.

"When I talked with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on the phone then they told us that we won't be getting any permission to go to Pakistan and we can cancel your tournament."

"They also told us that we will be getting an official letter of denial as well. However, we haven't got any official letter yet but on the basis of our conversation with MEA we've decided not to go to Pakistan and we will not participate in the Blind T20 World Cup."

He expressed disappointment over the decision but affirmed that the cricketing association would abide by the MEA's directives.

"Along with us, England, Australia and New Zealand are also not coming. Hence, India will become the fourth team which will not take part in this tournament," he claimed.

Despite India's refusal, the Blind T20 World Cup 2024 will proceed as per the schedule.

"All other teams are coming to Pakistan for the World Cup. If one team doesn't show up, it won't affect our preparations," Pakistan Blind Cricket Council (PBCC) chairman Syed Sultan Shah had stated.

The development came amid reports, suggesting that the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has formally informed the International Cricket Council (ICC) that it will not send its national men's team to Pakistan for the Champions Trophy, citing the directives of the federal government.—Agency

David Warner Sounds The Alarm: Don't Underestimate King Kohli, Australia

SYDNEY: Former Australia opener David Warner is convinced Virat Kohli will be amongst the runs in the upcoming five-test series and has warned his former teammates not to write off the Indian batting great.



India will be aiming for a third successive series triumph Down Under when the first test starts in Perth on Friday but have concerns about the recent form of batting mainstays Kohli and Rohit Sharma.

Warner, who experienced a few dry spells during his 13-year test career, said Kohli's 1,352 runs and six centuries in 13 tests on Australian soil should be a matter for concern for the home team.

"I don't worry about Virat Kohli away from Australia. I worry about Virat Kohli in Australia. He averages 55," Warner told reporters on Tuesday.

"He hasn't had the wickets that batsman would love to be batting on and that's what scares me about him and Rohit Sharma... With good batting wickets, hopefully this summer, I think Virat is going to be amongst the runs."

As well as more favourable batting conditions, Warner thought the profile of the series would bring out the best in 36-year-

old Kohli.

"I've always said you're not out of form, you're out of runs," Warner added.

"The class and player that he is, he just knows how to flick that switch and turn his mindset to big series, and Border-Gavaskar trophy, he's always had a big series against us. I think that's what Australia would be fearing."

With the globalisation of cricket, the days when touring sides were largely unknown when they arrived on Australian soil are long gone.

David Warner knows most of the touring team well from his spells in the Indian Premier League and enjoys a close friendship with Kohli.

"Since the IPL started, I think they've sort of grown towards playing alongside each other, loving each other, embracing each other's cultures," said Warner, who despite his caution predicted a 4-0 series win for Australia.—Agency

Saudi Arabia Stuns The World With Massive 92,000-Seater King Salman Stadium For 2034 FIFA World Cup



Saudi Arabia recently unveiled its design plans for the King Salman Stadium, a giant, 92,000-capacity facility, which will be constructed in Riyadh as the showpiece of the 2034 Fifa Men's World Cup.

The Saudi Ministry of Sports unveiled a promotional video made with computer-generated imagery to offer a first look at the state-of-the-art stadium which is scheduled to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2029, according to Sports Business Journal.

The stadium is set to serve as the main base of the Saudi national football team and will be part of the sports complex featuring an indoor sports hall, an Olympic-sized pool, and other facilities.

Although not officially confirmed by Fifa, Saudi Arabia is almost certain to win the vote to host the 2034 Fifa World Cup, having been the only country to formally submit a bid before the deadline in late 2023.

The King Salman Stadium in Riyadh, designed by leading architectural firm Populous, is poised to redefine global sports and entertainment infrastructure.

The stadium is a flagship project of Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 initiative, aimed at transforming the nation into a global hub for sports and culture.

Populous is also designing Prince Mohammed bin Salman Stadium, King Fahad International Stadium and Aramco Stadium, all of which figure to play a role in hosting the 2034 Fifa Men's World Cup in Saudi Arabia.

These stadiums are part of 11 stadiums that the country plans to build ahead of the tournament.

King Salman Stadium will also include a Royal Box, 300 VVIP seats, hospitality suites and lounges (circling the seating bowl), and another 2,200 VIP seats. The stadium will be connected to the surroundings through green walls and roofs and include gardens and a walking path on its roof with panoramic views of the surrounding King Abdulaziz Park.—Agency

Patrick Vieira Poised To Shake Things Up As Genoa's New Manager

Genoa have parted ways with coach Alberto Gilardino, appointing former Arsenal captain Patrick Vieira as his replacement, Sky Sport Italia reported on Tuesday.



Gilardino, appointed Genoa coach in July 2022, led the team to direct promotion to Serie A in 2023 but departs following a lacklustre start to the current season.

Genoa have 10 points from the first 12 games of the campaign and are hovering above the relegation zone in 17th place

in the standings.

Vieira parted ways with French Ligue 1 side Strasbourg in July, having previously managed Premier League Club Crystal Palace and will now take charge of Italy's oldest active football team, established in 1893.

The Frenchman began his managerial career with Manchester City's under-23 team from 2013-2015, before he took over at MLS side New York City. He then spent a two-and-a-half years at Ligue 1 side Nice before moving to Palace.

Vieira will also reunite with new signing Mario Balotelli, having coached the Italian striker for 10 matches when they were both at Nice in the 2018-19 season.—Agency

Rodrigo Bentancur Slammed With Seven-Match Ban And Hefty £100,000 Fine For FA Rule Breach

Rodrigo Bentancur, the Tottenham Hotspur midfielder, has been suspended for seven matches and fined £100,000 by an independent Regulatory Commission for breaching FA Rule E3.



The charge stems from a media interview in which Bentancur allegedly acted improperly, using abusive and/or insulting language, bringing the game into disrepute.

The breach was deemed "aggravated" under FA Rule E3.2 due to references to nationality, race, or ethnic origin, either explicitly or implied.

Despite denying the allegations, the Regulatory Commission found Bentancur guilty after a hearing. The sanctions, including the suspension and fine, were imposed following the panel's review of the evidence. Full written reasons for the decision have been made publicly available, providing further details on the case.—Agency

Mohammad Yousuf's Resignation Sparks Standoff With PCB



LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has declined the resignation of former Test cricketer Mohammad Yousuf, who recently stepped down from his role as a selector for the Pakistan national team.

According to media reports, there is a possibility that the board may offer him new responsibilities, including two or three new positions within the PCB.

It is also anticipated that the PCB will reach out to former cricketer Abdul Razzaq for future roles as well.

Recently, Mohammad Yousuf had announced his resignation from the position of national team selector, citing personal reasons for stepping down.

In his statement, Yousuf expressed his pride in having served the national team and contributing to the development of cricket.

Mohammad Yousuf is widely regarded as one of Pakistan's most successful batsmen.

During his career, which spanned from 1998 to 2010, he scored 7,530 runs in Test cricket and 9,720 runs in One Day Internationals.

In 2006, he achieved the remarkable feat of scoring 1,788 runs in a calendar year, a record for most runs in a calendar year in Test cricket.—Agency

Kids' Corner



Name: Ahad Hussain S/o Asif Hussain Khuwaja
Location: Talhar
About me: I love my Pakistan!
Please email us your photo for our Model Watch and Kids' Corner section at regionaltimes10@gmail.com

ENTERTAINMENT

Mean Angelina Jolie's New Quest Amid Heated Battle Over Brad Pitt's Winery



Angelina Jolie is reportedly looking for new ways to defeat Brad Pitt.

As per the newest findings RadarOnline.com, Angelina Jolie is backing up her finances to finalize the fate of their \$350m vineyard.

In order to fight with Brad Pitt next year in court, the star is "hunting down the back of her sofa" for cash, as per a tipster.

Meanwhile, the Maria actress, who recently dropped her lawsuit against the FBI for its investigation on alleged domestic violence, is also reportedly "making an inventory" of her valuables like jewels, handbags, and artworks.

In addition to this, the source claimed that the Oscar-winning actress has also put her vintage Ferrari up for sale for \$1.3 million in a desperate attempt to win over Brad, who is currently dating Ines De Ramon and reportedly wants to start a new family with her.

It is pertinent to mention here that the couple's years long feud over Chateau Mirava, their shared French winery, is now scheduled for a 2025 trial.

This action was taken after a recent court ruling in which Angelina's attempt to have Brad's filing thrown out was dismissed.

Lindsay Lohan Dazzles At 'Our Little Secret' Premiere With Show-Stopping Glam



Lindsay Lohan grabbed attention on Monday night as she graced the red carpet for the New York City premiere of her latest Netflix film, Our Little Secret.

The 38-year-old actress wowed in a sleek black gown featuring a sheer, pleated skirt and black platform heels which revealed her red pedicure.

According to Daily Mail, Lohan's look was a full face of glamorous makeup with peach-toned eyeshadow, blush and glossy lip.

Meanwhile, her ginger-toned locks, styled with blonde highlights, cascaded in soft waves over her shoulders.

Moreover, accompanying Lohan was her husband of two years, financier Bader Shammak, who complimented her appearance in a dark tailored suit with a black mock-neck sweater.

As per the publication, the couple, who welcomed their son Lui in July 2023, looked every bit the power pair on the red carpet.

Following her appearance, fans took to social media to applaud the actress, while noting her glowing transformation following years of personal challenges.

Many users remarked on her "youthful look" with comparisons to her earlier years sparking discussions about her evolution in the spotlight, as per the outlet.

Furthermore, there was also Kirstine Chenoweth in attendance, who made a bold statement in a monochrome red outfit featuring a PVC corset and cargo trousers.

Additionally, the screening, held at the Paris Theatre, marked a glamorous evening for the cast and crew of Our Little Secret.

THE HEARTLAND



Six suspects arrested during ongoing operations of Naushehro Feroze Police

By Usama Ayaz

KANDIARO: In a series of operations, the police have arrested six more suspects, including a wanted criminal involved in a terrorism case. A large cache of items, including a non-licensed repeater rifle, a pistol, rounds of whiskey, and gambling articles, have been recovered. Darya Khan Marri Police successfully apprehended the wanted fugitive, Zaheer Dahri, who was sought in a terrorism-related case. During interrogation, Nimano Khakheli provided information that led to the recovery of a non-licensed repeater and three cartridges, while Inayat Khakheli led to the seizure of a pistol with four rounds. Cases were registered under the Sindh Arms Act at the relevant police stations. Tharo Shah and Moro Police Stations carried out

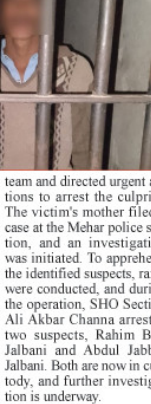


separate operations, arresting two drug dealers along with the seizure of alcohol Di Jan Kalhoro was caught with six bottles of whiskey, while Sakhawat Chehwan was found with three bottles. Cases under the Narcotics Act were registered at the respective stations. Bharya City Police raided a gambling den and arrested a gambler, Asghar Kalhoro, from whom playing cards and cash used for gambling were seized. A case was registered under the Gambling Act.

Mehar Police arrest two suspects in a murder case

By Murtaza Panhwar

MEHAR: In a recent murder case in Mehar, the suspects involved in the killing of a young man were arrested within 24 hours. The incident occurred near Mehar, where 30-year-old Ashiq Khoso was shot and killed due to an old rivalry. Taking immediate notice of the incident, SSP Dadu Captain Ameer Saud Maggi ordered the formation of a police team and directed urgent actions to arrest the culprits. The victim's mother filed a case at the Mehar police station, and an investigation was initiated. To apprehend the identified suspects, raids were conducted, and during the operation, SHO Section Ali Akbar Channa arrested two suspects, Rahim Bux Jalbani and Abdul Jabbar Jalbani. Both are now in custody, and further investigation is underway.



SAS holds a book launch and poetry session in Qazi Ahmad

By Mumtaz Ali

QAZI AHMED: The Sindh Adabi Sangat (SAS) Qazi Ahmad Branch organized a book launch and poetry session in honor of two prominent Sindhi poets Nawaz Ali Nawaz Unr and Shaban Khokhar. The event was held at the Raees Ali Nawaz Khan Unr Public Library in Qazi Ahmad. Poets, writers, and literary enthusiasts from all over Sindh attended the event. The session was presided over by Noor Chakrani, the General Secretary of Sindh Adabi Sangat Sindh, who highlighted the importance of promoting Sindhi literature and culture. The guest speakers included Shabbir Sival (Central Treasurer of SAS), Mahboob Sindhi, Manik Mallah, Masoom



Bukhari, Waseem Soomro, Mohabbati Mallah, Khair Muhammad Lakho and Raza Dahri. A birthday cake was also cut to celebrate Nawaz Ali Nawaz Unr's special day. Both poets recited their own poetry, mesmerizing the audience with their words.

Syed Shahnawaz Shah Bukhari's birthday celebrated in Tando Muhammad Khan

By Abdul Sattar

TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: A birthday celebration was held in Tando Muhammad Khan at Mir Muhalla by PPP City Council Member Khalil Khakheli, Ward 17 President Agha Zakir Khakheli, Zain Abbas Mirjat, and other local leaders. The event was organized in

honor of City Chairman Syed Shahnawaz Shah Bukhari. During the occasion, the birthday cake was cut, and Shah Bukhari was presented with gifts of Sindhi cultural Ajraks and Lungis as a token of appreciation. In his address, City Chairman Syed Shahnawaz Shah Bukhari stated that the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) is a party that be-

TAUJ holds a Health Card distribution ceremony

By Afaq Khanzada



TANDO ALLAHYAR: A health card distribution ceremony was organized by the Tando Allahyar Union of Journalists at Khanzada Hall. The special guests of the event included Junaid Ahmad Khanzada, Vice President of the Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists, Hamid Mian Shaikh, Assistant Secretary General, and Aftab Ahmed Memon, President of the Hyderabad Union of Journalists. The ceremony was held to distribute health

MS Dr. Hemant Kumar Govinda Bhoujwani briefs about ongoing developments at Taluka Hospital Mehar

By Murtaza Panhwar

MEHAR: In a recent conversation with the media in Mehar, Medical Superintendent Dr. Hemant Kumar Govinda Bhoujwani provided an update on the ongoing construction and development at Taluka Hospital, now being managed by Ghulam Muhammad Mahar Medical University (GMMU). Dr. Bhoujwani shared that the hospital's construction work is continuing, and two new departments will be inaugurated in January, one for dialysis related to kidney diseases and the other for liver transplant surgeries. He further mentioned that, in the initial phase, the hospital will also begin offering heart care for bone diseases, heart diseases, and a pediatric ward. These developments aim to address the growing healthcare needs of the com-



munity. Dr. Bhoujwani also highlighted some challenges, particularly regarding a shortage of medicines, including essential medications for hepatitis B and C, snake bites, and dog bites. He informed that the Director of GIMS, Dr. Rahim Bux Bhatti, has been sent a detailed list of required medicines, and he is hopeful that they will arrive within the week.

EU delegation visits Niaz Muhammad Nizmani Enterprise's Tissue Culture Lab and Banana Farm in Tando Allahyar

By Afaq Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: The Thardeep Rural Development Program (TRDP), a social organization, hosted a visit to the tissue culture lab, nursery, and banana farm of Niaz Muhammad Nizmani Enterprise in Tando Allahyar, along with a delegation from the European Union. Following the visit, the delegation reviewed ongoing efforts aimed at increasing employment opportunities for women and expressed satisfaction with the progress. They described the initiatives as an important step toward

the development of Sindhi medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) for green development are being demonstrated through the GRASP program, which is supported by TRDP, PPAF, ITC, and the European Union. The delegation highlighted that crops affected by the Panama virus could be revived using plants prepared in the laboratory, which would provide significant benefits to farmers.

cards to the candidates of the Tando Allahyar Union of Journalists. During the event, the guests from Hyderabad, representing the Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists, distributed health cards among the union's members. The ceremony was attended by Tando Allahyar Union of Journalists' President, Abdul Latif Hamid Mian Shaikh, Assistant Secretary General, and Aftab Ahmed Memon, President of the Hyderabad Union of Journalists. The ceremony was held to distribute health

Services of SEF's Haji Muhammad Bachal Dasti Public Elementary School lauded

By Bashir Shaikh

HANDIARI: The services of the Haji Muhammad Bachal Dasti Public Elementary School, Sindh Education Foundation, Government of Sindh have been lauded after a visit of the journalists. The journalists observed results in an outstanding achieve-

ment of 81% success. A special congratulations were exchanged to the team leader, Principal Safia Dasti, for her unwavering commitment, and to Teacher Nisar Ahmad Dasti, who has been hailed as the "Man of the Match" for school's success. It is hoped that the entire team will continue its efforts to

125th annual Urs of Ali Sher Shah Lakiari celebrated in Umerkot

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: The 125th Urs of Ali Sher Shah Lakiari began with a five-day celebration at the Sufi shrine in Ram Jag, Umerkot, under the patronage of Syed Zulfiqar Ali Shah Lakiari, the spiritual leader of the shrine. This historic event, marking over 125 years of the shrine's existence, attracted a large gathering of devotees and followers from across Sindh. The celebrations included the participation of

prominent wrestlers from various parts of the region, including Northern Sindh, Laar, and other renowned localities. The first round of wrestling competitions featured Asghar Anwar and Khadim Hassan Halipoto, while the second round saw participation from famous wrestlers such as Muhammad Ali Nohri, Jalal Brohi, Palo KTN, Babu Brohi, and many others. Notable wrestlers like Ghulam Muhammad Machhi, Abdul-Rahman, Malook Khoso, Jumman Brohi, and Khameso Brohi also took part in the exciting Malh Laar, and other renowned localities. The festival also attracted a large number of families, especially children, who enjoyed various recreational activities. The event featured swings, boats, and other entertainment activities, as well as numerous stalls showcasing Sindhi's ancient culture, including traditional turbans, Gaj Mohr, Kashmiri, sweets.

Man killed, three injured in fatal Talhar road accident

TALHAR: A tragic accident occurred near Jhalor Bus Stop, within the limits of Talhar Police Station, located approximately four kilometers from Badin, on the Hyderabad-Badin main road. A speeding car collided with two motorcycles, resulting in the death of a 17-year-old youth, Yasir Ali, son of Muhammad Haneef Soomro, a resident of Tando Gamon. Yasir succumbed to his injuries on the spot, suffering severe trauma. In the same accident, a 14-year-old boy, Ehsan Ali, son of Muhammad Ismail Soomro, sustained critical injuries. Additionally, two other victims riding the second motorcycle, Abdul Ghafar, a 40-year-old resident of Nimdo City, and Allah Bachayo, a 35-year-old man, were also severely injured. Upon receiving the report, Badin police and local villagers arrived at the scene and rushed the injured and the deceased to Indus Hospital, Badin. The body of Yasir Soomro was handed over to his family after completing the necessary formalities. The police have registered a report of the incident and are conducting further investigations into the cause of the accident.—RT

STEVA holds program in Jacobabad to promote technical education

By Hashim Brohi

JACOBABAD: The Sindh Technical Education and Vocational Training Authority (STEVA) organized a program in Jacobabad to highlight the importance of technical education for new students. The event was attended by Regional Director of STEVA Larkana, Mureed Hussain Khakhriani, Manager of CC & PC, Tariq Hussain Abro, Principal of Government Commercial College Jacobabad, Ali Bux



Kalhoro, Principal of Government Polytechnic Institute Jacobabad, Attaullah Jagirani, and other college staff. During the program, the speakers emphasized that STEVA plays a pivotal role in Sindh's technical education sector. The speakers encouraged young people to pursue technical education, assuring them that completing technical training would enable them to secure good employment opportunities.

Haji Khalid Hussain Bughio vows to continue his efforts to uplift the poor and needy

By Akhtar Laghari

MORO: Renowned social figure and philanthropist from Moro, Haji Khalid Hussain Bughio, who is always deeply concerned about the well-being of the underprivileged, has expressed that serving the poor and marginalized brings the pleasure of Allah Almighty. Haji Khalid Hussain Bughio mentioned that, near the National Highway in Moro, the Saylani Welfare Trust has made

arrangements to provide food and water to the poor. Additionally, an eye hospital is being established where free eye checkups will be conducted, glasses will be provided, and surgeries for various eye ailments will also be performed. Expert doctors from Karachi, including renowned specialists, will offer their services at the hospital. Haji Khalid Hussain Bughio emphasized that all of these initiatives are part of the Saylani Welfare Trust's ongoing efforts to uplift and support the poor. He also urged others to join in this noble cause and contribute to these charitable endeavors.

-Can you believe what the world has come to?

Newborn found dead in garbage heap in Larkana

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: A newborn baby's body was discovered in a heap of garbage in Larkana city near Khaliq Colony, within the jurisdiction of Dari Police Station. The body was found by the cleaning staff while they were performing their duties. The cleaning staff reported that this morning, while working on the garbage pile, they came across the body of

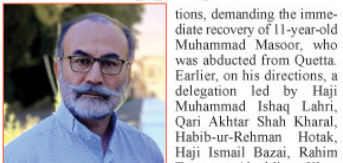
a newborn baby in an abandoned state. The staff immediately informed the police, and their supervisors about the discovery. They also stated that, out of respect for the infant's dignity, they gave the body a proper washing and shrouding before burying it in the Abu Bakr Cemetery in the city. The authorities have been notified, and investigations are ongoing regarding the circumstances of the baby's death.

BALUCHISTAN HEARTLAND

Nawabzada Mir Lashkari Khan Raisani supports protest against child's kidnapping

By Inayatullah Hur

JAFFARABAD: Senior politician and former Senator Nawabzada Mir Lashkari Khan Raisani has expressed his support for the ongoing protest sit-in in Quetta over the failure to recover the abducted child. He also endorsed the shutter down strike in Quetta, emphasizing that the people of Balochistan are suffering due to the mistakes of those who have traded away the future of the next generations for small personal gains. He called on the real tribal leaders, intellectuals, students, lawyers, and political workers to unite



and define a national agenda to steer the country out of its ongoing crises. He made these remarks during a telephonic address to the protest sit-in staged in front of the Balochistan Assembly, organized by the family of the kidnapped child, political parties, and trade associa-

DC Yasir Bhatti addresses public issues in an Open Katchery

By Khadim Shaikh

KADHAN: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Badin, Yasir Bhatti, held an open Katchery (public hearing) to address citizens' complaints regarding several pressing issues in the town. The complaints raised during the session included the early closure of water supplies, the rampant sale of drugs in the city, encroachments on main roads, and a shortage of medicines in local hospitals. In

response to these concerns, DC Yasir Bhatti took immediate action by visiting the Rural Health Center (RHC) to assess the situation firsthand. He interacted with patients and doctors to understand the challenges being faced, particularly regarding the shortage of medicines. During his visit, DC Badin inquired with the District Health Officer (DHO) Badin, Dr. Anjum Ali Soomro, who assured that efforts would be made to ensure a sufficient supply of medicines. Speak-Bhatti assured that he would coordinate with the Irrigation Department to address the water closure issue and resolve it promptly, ensuring that the cotton crop is not negatively affected. He also promised to take swift action against the drug sale in the city and to work with state authorities and local stakeholders to resolve educational infrastructure issues.

METRO KARACHI



Sharjeel Unveils State-Of-The-Art Command Center For People's Bus Service

KARACHI: Sindh Senior Minister for Information, Transport, and Mass Transit, Sharjeel Inam Memon, inaugurated the Command and Control Center for the People's Bus Service at the Sindh Mass Transit Authority's office in Clifton on November 19, 2024.



Speaking at the event, Memon highlighted the center's advanced features, including live tracking, passenger monitoring, staff behavior oversight, and complaint management. He emphasized that the modern facility, a first in Sindh, would ensure efficient service delivery, enhance passenger convenience, and improve public transport operations.

Memon reassured the public of the Sindh government's commitment to providing world-class transport services, including the introduction of a card-based ticketing system and plans to expand the bus fleet with double-deckers.

Addressing various topics during a media briefing, Memon criticized opposition protests planned for November 24, calling them an attempt to disrupt economic stability and create chaos

akin to the events of May 9. He reaffirmed the government's stance on safeguarding democracy and maintaining law and order.

On the issue of water shortages, Memon expressed Sindh's strong reservations about canal construction on the Indus River, stressing the province's unwavering position on equitable water distribution. Memon also condemned misuse of technology, including VPNs, for digital terrorism, urging positive use of such tools. He reiterated the PPP's enduring support for press freedom, contrasting it with actions taken by other political parties during their regimes.

The minister noted the PPP's unconditional support

IDEAS 2024 Breaks Records With Unprecedented Global Participation At Karachi Expo Centre



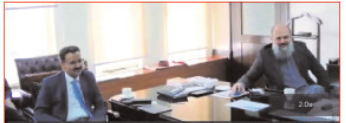
KARACHI: The 12th International Defence Exhibition and Seminar (IDEAS 2024) commenced at the Karachi Expo Centre on Tuesday, inaugurated by Defence Minister Dhwaja Muhammad Asif. The four-day event, organized by the Defence Export Promotion Organisation (DEPO), will continue till November 22, attracting over 350 high-level delegations from 55 countries.

Since its inception in 2000, IDEAS has become a premier platform for global defence manufacturers, policymakers, R&D specialists, and entrepreneurs, fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange in defence innovation.

During his inaugural speech, Asif highlighted Pakistan's commitment to international peace and stability, emphasizing the role of technology in addressing modern security challenges. "Pakistan offers immense opportunities for profitable investments and joint ventures in all sectors, including

Logistics And Transport Sector Council Meeting Held At TDAP Headquarters

KARACHI: The Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) hosted a sectoral council meeting on logistics and transport on November 18, 2024, at its headquarters in Karachi. The session, held in the 5th-floor committee room, focused on addressing key challenges and exploring actionable strategies for sectoral growth.



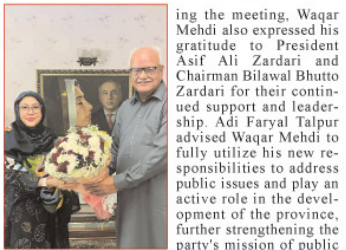
The meeting was chaired by Minister for Commerce, Mr. Jam Kamal Khan, and attended by senior officials from TDAP, the Ministry of Commerce, provincial governments, and related departments. Representatives from the Federation of Pakistan Freight Forwarders Association (PIFFA), World Logistics Alliance (WLA), Association of Pakistan Ship Agents (APSA), and council members participated.

Presentations by WLA Chairman Mr. Haroon Farooq and FOAP Chairman Mr. Rana Asim Shakoor highlighted the sector's challenges and opportunities. Council members provided recommendations, emphasizing the

need for interventions from relevant federal and provincial departments. Concluding the session, the Commerce Minister assured attendees of pursuing solutions at the highest levels and integrating the council's recommendations into the National Export Board's agenda for actionable outcomes.—RT

Senator Waqar Mehdi Holds Strategic Meeting With Adi Faryal Talpur

By Saleem Soomro



KARACHI: Meeting between Adi Faryal Talpur and Waqar Mehdi, Special Assistant to the Chief Minister of Sindh for Inspection, Inquiries and Implementation was held at the Zardari House in Karachi. In a meeting with Adi Faryal Talpur, Waqar Mehdi, thanked the leadership of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) for entrusting him with new responsibilities in

the Sindh Cabinet. During the meeting, Waqar Mehdi also expressed his gratitude to President Asif Ali Zardari and Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari for their continued support and leadership. Adi Faryal Talpur advised Waqar Mehdi to fully utilize his new responsibilities to address public issues and play an active role in the development of the province, further strengthening the party's mission of public service.

Health Department Sparks Outrage By Canceling Job Offers For Malir District Candidates

By Jamshaid Zuhrani

KARACHI: In a surprising turn of events, despite passing the exams for various posts in the Health Department, 18 youth from Malir district found their job offers abruptly revoked after an advertisement mistakenly mentioned Malir as part of the recruitment process. These candidates, who had cleared all stages of the hiring process, were left shocked when, just before receiving their appointment orders, they were told that the inclusion of Malir district in the advertisement was a mistake, and as a result, all positions for Malir had been canceled. A press conference was held at the Public Press Club in Malir, where the candidates, including Fazal Qaisrani, Shamsuddin, Naseebullah, Ameen Qaisrani, Mujahid Hussain, and others, expressed their outrage. They

displayed documents showing that an advertisement for the positions of vaccinators had been published by the Sindh Health Department on the STS website, calling for applications from various districts, including Malir. After submitting their applications, candidates received test slips and appeared for the written exam on June 30, with results published on August 25. Out of the applicants from Malir, 18 were declared successful. However, when these successful candidates arrived on November 18 to give their final oral exams and receive their offer letters, they were informed by the administration that the advertisement containing Malir district's name was issued in error, and all positions for Malir had been canceled. This decision was communicated at the last minute, leaving the candidates devastated. The candidates raised

concerns that this might be part of a larger plan to exclude Malir from the recruitment process, and that these jobs might be sold or given to others. They condemned this as a violation of their rights, calling it an injustice against Malir's youth. They expressed their disappointment at the government's lack of response to their repeated requests and the eight months of effort they had put into the application process. The candidates, during the press conference, urged the Sindh Government, Health Minister, and the elected representatives of Malir to take notice of the irregularities and to issue offer letters for the 18 successful candidates. They warned that if this issue is not resolved, they would not only launch a protest movement but also approach the courts for justice.

Builders And Developers' Tax Troubles To Be Addressed On Priority, Assures FTO



By Rahib Gaho

KARACHI: Federal Tax Ombudsman (FTO) Dr. Asif Mahmood Jah assured the Association of Builders and Developers (ABAD) of resolving their tax-related grievances on a priority basis. During his visit to ABAD House, he emphasized eliminating irregularities in the tax system and proposed appointing an ABAD representative as an advisor to address their concerns effectively.

ABAD Chairman Hassan Baksh highlighted challenges posed by the Federal Board of Revenue's (FBR) policies, including excessive

monitoring and new tax impositions, which he said discourage foreign investment and burden the construction sector.

Dr. Jah acknowledged the sector's pivotal role in economic growth, noting its contribution to employment and significant tax revenue. He urged ABAD members to file their complaints formally, assuring swift resolution.

In 2023, the FTO received 8,963 complaints, resolving 8,000 of them, demonstrating its commitment to addressing taxpayers' concerns. The meeting was attended by senior ABAD members and FTO advisors.

Bilawal Reaffirms Sindh Government's Public Welfare Agenda During Key Meeting With Sharjeel



KARACHI: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari held a meeting with Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon at Bilawal House, Karachi, on Saturday, October 19, 2024.

During the meeting, Chairman Bilawal emphasized the dual responsibility of addressing public issues and reinforcing the perception that the government stands with the common man at every step. Minister Sharjeel Memon briefed the PPP chairman on the initiatives undertaken by the Sindh government to enhance public service delivery and showcase its achievements. He highlighted the role of the provincial information department in promoting the government's development efforts.

Minister Memon also informed Bilawal about the progress in establishing a public transport network across Sindh, adding that challenges related to this initiative are being addressed on a priority basis to facilitate the public.—RT

Haque Academy Clinches Victory In Under-16 Girls Football Championship Showdown

KARACHI: Haque Academy emerged as champions in the 3rd Under-16 Girls Inter-School Football Championship, organized by the Diya Women Football Academy at the KMC Sports Complex Maidan. The tournament featured ten school teams from across Karachi, showcasing exceptional talent and competitive spirit.



In a thrilling final, Haque Academy defeated SMB Fatima Red with a narrow 2-1 victory to claim the title. SMB Fatima Red secured the runner-up position, while Aster School took third place. SMB Black received the Fair Play Trophy for their sportsmanship and discipline.

Individual accolades included Eshal Zain and Fatima as Best Goalkeeper, Harmain Shaukat and Javeria Jawad as Top Scorers, and Sofia Asif Haque, Romain, Maryam, and Irfah Khurshid receiving Best Player awards for their all-round performances. Dr. Saadia Sheikh and Naila Sheikh, the event organizers, distributed trophies and individual awards during the closing ceremony. The tournament was part of the "Orange the World: A Future Free From Gender-Based Violence" campaign, emphasizing the importance of promoting women's sports. The organizers vowed to continue providing platforms for young female athletes, fostering the growth of women's football and nurturing emerging talent in the region.—RT

Gadap Town Celebrates Opening Of Community Center Led By Chairman Tariq Aziz Baloch

By Asif Qureshi



KARACHI: The Chairman of Town Municipal Corporation Gadap, Tariq Aziz Baloch, along with Vice Chairman Jam Muhammad Jokhio, Council Member Murtaza Yar Muhammad Baloch, and Municipal Commissioner Ahmed Yar, inaugurated the construction boundary wall and Community Center in Mazar Khan Goth, UC Darsano Chhano. Chairman Tariq Aziz Baloch highlighted that the development projects in Gadap Town that are essential for the welfare of the people are being prioritized. Despite limited resources and many obstacles, they are moving ahead

swiftly with their development efforts. Vice Chairman Jam Muhammad Jokhio mentioned that all council members are in close contact with their respective communities, and with their input, development projects are being carried out in every union council. He assured that the ongoing development projects are progressing rapidly to ensure that the people of Gadap Town benefit as much as possible. Superintendent Engineer (B&R) Farman Ali Lashari reported that, under the special guidance of the Chairman, significant developmental work has already been completed in Gadap Town and is now being inaugurated. Some projects are in the final stages of completion and will be inaugurated soon.

Daring Motorcyclist's Armed Robbery Thwarted By Karachi Woman's Brave Scream

KARACHI: A CCTV recording released by police on Tuesday captured a motorcyclist attempting to rob a woman at gunpoint in the Korangi Rafah-e-Aam area. The incident, which occurred on November 18, unfolded as the woman was returning home from school. The

footage shows the armed assailant approaching her on the street. However, upon the woman's loud screams, the suspect concealed his weapon and quickly fled the scene. Residents expressed concern over the rising street crimes in the area and urged authorities to intensify police patrolling. Last year, similar incidents in Karachi, including two harassment cases in Korangi and Joharabad, were caught on CCTV and shared on social media, triggering public outrage and calls for stricter security measures across the city.—RT/Agency

Accused Rapist Of 15-Year-Old Girl Nabbed In Karachi In Swift Police Action

KARACHI: Police arrested an alleged rapist of a 15-year-old girl in Karachi's Korangi, media reported. The girl was 'raped' in Korangi's Zia Colony on November 15 in a stitching shop. The police swung into action after the registration of the case on the complaint of the family. According to Station House Officer (SHO) Malik Amir, the arrested accused Pervaiz is the victim's father's friend. The police said the accused was hiding due to fear of being arrested. SHO Malik Amir stated that the accused will undergo a medical check.—RT/Agency

Sindh Prison Workshop Aims To Revolutionize TB Management For Women And Juveniles



KARACHI: The Bridge Consultants Foundation (BCF) organized a workshop to enhance the capacity of administrative and medical staff in women and juvenile prisons across Sindh to address tuberculosis (TB).

The workshop aimed to establish stronger connections between prisons and the provincial TB control program's Basic Management Units (BMUs), ensuring improved healthcare access for this vulnerable population. Representatives from six prisons, including administrative and medical staff, participated in sessions led by BCF's Executive Director Dr. Sharaf Ali Shah and TB specialist Dr. Shahina Qayyum. Topics included TB basics, infection control in prisons, and strengthening referral systems. Insights were

also shared by experts like ASP Bilawal Kumbhar, Mr. Nazir Baphar from CDC Sindh, and Dr. Tajamal from the PPM Project. "This initiative addresses a critical healthcare gap for incarcerated women and juveniles, aiming to reduce TB transmission and improve health outcomes," said Dr. Sharaf Ali Shah. The workshop concluded with a certificate distribution ceremony, reflecting BCF's commitment to bridging healthcare gaps for underserved populations in Sindh.—RT



KARACHI: Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Junior is attending the wedding ceremony of PPP- SB leader Nazir Madi's daughter.—Photo by Asif Qureshi

We are what we repeatedly do; excellence, then, is not an act but a habit.

—Aristotle

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WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 20 2024

PM Champions Peace And Progress As Islamabad Braces For PTI's Grand Power Play

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz on Tuesday called for prioritising peace and progress of the country over "protests and sit-ins" as the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) all set to march on Islamabad on November 24.

Addressing the National Action Plan's apex committee meeting, PM Shehbaz said that they should think rationally if the sit-in was in the country's interest.

"We have to decide whether [one should be] staging sit-ins or long marches or work for the [country's] progress."

He said that the country's economy was gradually heading towards stability due to the collective efforts of the federation, provinces, institutions and chiefs of Army Staff (COAS) General General Asim Munir.

"Political and economic stability are interlinked," he added.

Urging the participants to play their role for the im-



provement of the economy, the prime minister said. "Economic and political stability vital for the country's progress and prosperity."

He thanked the all the provinces for their support to the Centre for securing the \$7 billion International Monetary Fund (IMF) bailout package.

Addressing the key meeting, the premier reaffirmed government's firm resolve to wipe out the menace of terrorism.

"We have no other choice,

but to crush the terrorist elements for peace and progress of the country."

Describing terrorism as the biggest challenge, he voiced concerns over the uptick in terror attacks in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

He recalled, "The menace was eradicated back in 2018 due to the sacrifices of our people and security personnel through a consensus plan formulated under the leadership of Nawaz Sharif."

Expressing satisfaction

over the improved economic indicators, he said the country's stock exchange had touched the historic peak level, while inflation has come down to a single digit and the key policy rate reduced from 22% to 15%. The premier said record increase has been witnessed in IT exports while there is also significant surge in remittances.

Efforts were underway to enhance tax base, he said and emphasised that they have to address the issue of leakages and massive evasion to free the country from debt.

The PM stressed the need for collective efforts to take the country forward on the path of development.

Today's meeting chaired by PM Shehbaz was attended by civilian and military leadership including all provincial chief ministers, the army chief, Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) chief, Military Intelligence, Intelligence Bureau chiefs, key federal ministers, and others to discuss the security situation in light of surge in terror attacks in the country.

—RT/Agency

Earlier, Adviser to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister on Information Barister Muhammad Ali Saif said that Gandapur would table the PTI demands in the apex committee meeting.

Speaking on private tv on Monday, Barrister Saif confirmed that CM Gandapur will take up PTI's demands including the "do-or-die" protest, in the high-level meeting.

Gandapur had told media that the PTI founder and the party were bound to be discussed in the apex committee meeting revolving around the law and order situation and the National Action Plan.

The chief minister, while referring to the ongoing tension between the PTI and the establishment, underscored that the situation was neither in the interest of the party, the country or the institution.—RT/Agency

Constitutional Bench Crushes Challenge Against Army Chief's Tenure Extension

ISLAMABAD: A seven-member Supreme Court constitutional bench on Tuesday dismissed a petition challenging the extension of the tenure of the army chief.

Justice Amin-ud-Din Khan-led bench rejected the petition over non-pursuance, whereas, the SC registrar office's objections regarding the plea being inadmissible were also maintained.

The SC bench also includes Justice Ayesha Malik, Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar, Justice Hassan Azhar Rizvi, Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail, Justice Naem Akhtar Afghani and Justice Musarrat Hali.

The development comes as the ruling coalition, earlier this month, amended the laws — via the Pakistan (Army/Air Force/Navy) Act Amendment, 2024 — that dealt with all three branches of the armed forces, extending the fixed tenure of services chiefs up to five years.

Regarding the retirement age and service limits of services chiefs, including chief of army staff (COAS), chief of naval staff (CNS) and chief of air staff (CAS), the bill read that the criteria prescribed for the senior military officers "shall not be applicable" to the army, navy and air force heads during their "tenure of appointment, reappointment and/or extension".

Meanwhile, Justice



The government also amended Section 8C, which deals with the retirement age, which is 64 years, and service limits of service chiefs.

The bench also held a hearing on a case involving the registration of two first information reports (FIRs) for a single incident.

During the proceedings, the court declared the petition inadmissible and subsequently dismissed it.

Justice Mandokhail highlighted that cases like these have significantly contributed to the backlog of 60,000 pending cases in the judiciary.

He also remarked that the court is repeatedly reminded of this mounting number and questioned why the petition should not be dismissed with a penalty.

Addressing the petitioner, who is a lawyer by profession, Justice Mandokhail criticised the filing of such cases.

Mazhar referred to the Sighran Bibi case and noted that the court had already ruled on the matter.

He further questioned the petitioner on why they had not approached the High Court to seek the dismissal of the second FIR.

A three-member bench, led by Justice Mansoor Ali Shah, had transferred two cases from the regular bench to the constitutional bench.

However, during the hearing today, the seven-member constitutional bench decided to transfer the cases back to the regular bench.

During the proceedings, Justice Ayesha clarified that the petitioner's lawyer had requested the case be sent to the constitutional bench, and it was done at their behest.

Justice Mazhar expressed that not every case should be sent to the constitutional bench, suggesting that cases involving constitutional questions should be the exception.—RT/Agency

Vawda Warns Of Unyielding Clampdown: "No One Will Walk Free On November 24"

ISLAMABAD: Senator Faisal Vawda has stated that the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) rally on November 24 would be a complete failure and that founding the party's jailed chairman Imran Khan will not be released from Adiala jail.

During a press conference in Islamabad, he also expressed concerns that no one is genuinely trying to save Imran Khan, the founder of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), and that a particular group is actively escalating his difficulties.

Vawda stated that charges would be framed against Imran Khan on November 25.

He further mentioned that even if the rally took place, PTI members would not be allowed entry into the Red Zone. Instead, they would be assigned a specific location to stage a demonstration, adding that the rally seemed more like a social gathering than a serious political protest. Vawda warned that if PTI attempted to take any unlawful action, the courts would intervene.

He accused a certain faction within PTI of exacerbating Imran Khan's problems and pursuing their own agenda of power and financial gain, while being detached from the true cause of the party. Vawda remarked that many PTI leaders were



compromising their values for political advantage and criticized them for not bringing their own children into the country's political matters, while the general public's children suffer.

"Why don't PTI members bring their children to Pakistan? Everyone's children are abroad while we continue to deal with the consequences," Vawda stated, calling for an end to this "spectacle" in front of the nation.

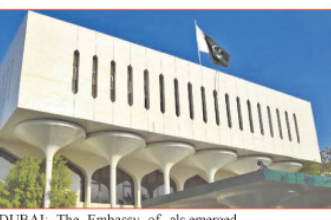
Vawda also highlighted a growing sentiment that some members of PTI, who had previously been loyal party workers, were now speaking about staging an armed march on Islamabad with 5,000 to 7,000 people. He described it as a series of "final calls" from within the party, urging that no one should take advantage of Imran Khan's current imprison-

ment. Regarding foreign interference, Senator Vawda expressed strong criticism of international bodies such as the US Congress and the United Nations for making statements about human rights violations in Pakistan.

He questioned why these organizations were silent about international issues such as the treatment of Dr Aafia Siddiqui, the destruction in Afghanistan, and attacks on former President Donald Trump in the US, which he considered violations of human rights.

Vawda added, "We don't interfere in your country, so why are you interfering in ours? Your countries have created more destruction in the Middle East and Afghanistan than we ever did, and now you lecture us about human rights."—RT/Agency

Pakistan Embassy Denounces UAE's Alleged Visa Restriction Memo As Baseless



DUBAI: The Embassy of Pakistan in the United Arab Emirates has rejected media reports, claiming that the UAE government shared a document citing reasons for imposing visa restrictions on Pakistani nationals.

"These claims are factually incorrect. No such document has been shared by the UAE authorities," the embassy said in a press release issued on Tuesday.

The statement stated that Pakistan enjoys strong and cordial relations with the UAE, and both governments are committed to addressing any issues of mutual concern through official channels and constructive dialogue.

"The embassy remains fully committed to safeguarding the interests of Pakistani nationals in the UAE and will continue to work closely with UAE authorities to further strengthen the friendly ties between our two countries," it concluded.

The rebuttal came after media reports of the UAE government imposing a ban on visas to Pakistani nation-

als emerged. The reports stated that the Emirati government shared documents with the Pakistani embassy, claiming that the ban was proposed in a cabinet meeting following complaints about the conduct of some Pakistani citizens.

The documents indicated that certain nationals have engaged in protests, criticised the UAE government policies online, and misused digital platforms. These actions have been perceived as damaging to the UAE's reputation, prompting the country's government to take action. Additionally, concerns were raised over allegations of forgery in identity documents, such as altered identity cards and passports, by certain Pakistani individuals. The documents also highlighted involvement in criminal activities — including theft, fraud, begging, and drug-related offences — which were reportedly more prevalent among Pakistani individuals compared to individuals from other countries.—RT/Agency

PTI Spokesperson Breaks Silence: No Backdoor Channels With Government

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) spokesperson Sheikh Waqas Akram on Tuesday said there has been no contact between his party and the government, led by the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N).

Rejecting the media report about the PTI's establishing contact with the government, Akram termed it "fake".

"Neither a contact has been made between the PTI and government nor can it happen. The fake news is an attempt to hurt the protest," he said as his party gears up to hold nationwide demonstrations against the government on November 24. A high-level contact, media reported, has been established between the PTI and an important member of the government to work on a possible breakthrough. An informed source, on condition of anonymity, told media on Monday that the initial contact was positive. According to the source, the government's contact person will take the powers that be into confidence and if things proceed positively the PTI may call off its November 24 protest march in return for some assurances for meeting their demands.



It is said that Tuesday's Apex Committee meeting may be critically important to set the tone for whether the two sides will talk or continue the ongoing confrontation. KP Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur has already told media that he would raise in the Apex Committee the issue of Imran Khan, the PTI and the ongoing tension between his party and the military establishment.

The Apex Committee, which is chaired by the prime minister, comprises the country's top civil and military leadership. Therefore, Gandapur will have the opportunity to talk about the irritants between the PTI and the establishment in a platform where he would be sitting face to face with the top military leadership including the Army Chief General Asim Munir and all intelligence

chiefs. In case the decision is taken to start a dialogue between the two sides, it is said, the talks will be held between the PTI and the government. Military establishment may not be part of such a dialogue but in matters relating to PTI, the government's negotiators would require the former's nod before agreeing to any point. According to a source even the PTI leaders, no matter what they say in public, know that in case of initiation of dialogue, their demands cannot be met forthwith. Presently, the start of the dialogue process would mean a big development. Initiation of the dialogue process, it is said, may persuade the PTI to call off its November 24 protest march to Islamabad where the party has announced to stage a sit-in until their demands are met.—RT/Agency

PHC Shields Bushra Bibi From Arrest, Extends Bail Until December 23



PESHAWAR: The Peshawar High Court (PHC) has extended the interim bail of Bushra Bibi, the wife of PTI Chairman Imran Khan, and ordered that she not be arrested in any case until December 23.

The hearing was conducted by Chief Justice PHC, Justice Ishaq Ibrahim, and Justice Waqar Ahmed, who heard Bushra Bibi's petition seeking details of the cases against her.

During the proceedings, the lawyers of PTI filed a request seeking exemption for

Bushra Bibi from attending court for one day, citing her illness as the reason for her absence.

The PHC accepted her request for exemption and remarked that in future, such requests for attendance exemptions would not be entertained.

Subsequently, the PHC extended Bushra Bibi's interim bail and ordered that she not be arrested in any case until December 23. The hearing of the petition has been adjourned until December 23.—RT/Agency

Shehbaz And Saudi Deputy Interior Minister Strengthen Historic Alliance

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif held a meeting with Saudi Arabia's Deputy Interior Minister Nasser bin Abdul Aziz Al Dawood, in Islamabad, during which the premier acknowledged the historic fraternal relationship between the two countries.

PM Shehbaz thanked the Saudi leadership for their unwavering support and emphasised the significance of the bilateral investment in fostering mutually beneficial cooperation.

Prime Minister Shehbaz also expressed satisfaction over the progress made in implementing the \$2.8 billion investment deal with Saudi Arabia, which was formalised through Bilateral Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs).

The investment is set to strengthen Pakistan-Saudi ties in multiple sectors, particularly economic and defence cooperation.

"The \$2.8 billion investment reflects the growing economic cooperation between our two nations," Shehbaz said. "We are committed to deepening our ties,



particularly in the defence and security sectors, which are of critical importance to both countries."

The Prime Minister also discussed the current situation in Gaza and broader Middle Eastern issues with the Saudi delegation. He praised Saudi Arabia's leadership in convening the recent Arab-Islamic Summit in Riyadh, which addressed the ongoing violence in Gaza.

Shehbaz Sharif commended Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman for his efforts to unite the Muslim world and seek an end to the violence, which he described

as "genocidal actions" by Israel. Shehbaz reaffirmed his invitation to Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to visit Pakistan at the earliest opportunity, stating that the people of Pakistan were eager to welcome him warmly. He also expressed his hope that the Saudi leadership would continue to work alongside Pakistan to advance mutual interests and strengthen regional stability. In addition to discussing economic and security cooperation, the two sides also explored new avenues for collaboration.—RT/Agency