



## Two militants killed in firing by accomplices: CTD

DEBRA GHAZI KHAN: Punjab Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) claimed on Friday that a terror plot was thwarted and two suspected terrorists were killed during an intelligence-based operation in the limits of Sakhi Sarwar police station.

According to spokesperson, a CTD team in Debra Ghazi Khan received information about the presence of four suspects who were allegedly planning attacks on vital installations and law enforcement agencies in the province.

Acting on the information, the CTD team carried out an operation in the area under the jurisdiction of Sakhi Sarwar police.

He said the suspects were reportedly in possession of explosives and firearms. On seeing the CTD team, the suspects opened fire on them indiscriminately.

The spokesperson said that after the gunfire ceased, two of the suspects were found dead, apparently killed in the firing by their own accomplices, who managed to escape under the cover of darkness.

The CTD team recovered four grenades, a 44-bore rifle with ammunition and a sub-machine gun (SMG) with ammunition from the suspects' hideout.

Bomb Disposal Squad was also called to the location to defuse the recovered explosives. — Correspondent



LAHORE: Devotees light earthen lamps at the shrine of Hazrat Miran Mir during the saint's Urs celebrations. — White Star

## PPHI Sindh Redefining Primary Healthcare NOTICE INVITING TENDER

PPHI Sindh, a company registered under Section 42 of Companies Act 2017 invites sealed bids from the interested Contractors / firms meeting eligibility criteria, viz. having registration with Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) for Income Tax, Sales Tax in case of procurement of goods, registration with the Sindh Revenue Board in case of procurement of works and services and registration with Pakistan Engineering Council as the case may be and are not black listed with any Federal, Provincial or District government, having sufficient experience in execution of construction / repair and renovation of buildings for the following works.

Sr. #	Name of Work	District	Estimated Cost Rs in Million	Tender Fee (Rs.)	Bid Security 5% (Rs.)	Time for completion
<b>Call deposit @ 5% of the cost against below mentioned schemes Sr No.1 to 2 through payorder Region Hyderabad in the name of "R&amp;R PPHI RD Hyderabad"</b>						
1	BHU Sirochu Kaka	Matiari	15,000	3,000	750,000	6 months
2	BHU Plus Ditto Kalroo	Tando Allahyar	14,800	3,000	740,000	6 months
<b>Call deposit @ 5% of the cost against below mentioned schemes Sr No.3 to 4 through payorder Region Mirpurkhas in the name of "RSU R&amp;R PPHI Mirpurkhas"</b>						
3	RHC Karlo Gharwar	Badin	29,000	3,000	1,450,000	8 months
4	RHC Nindo		15,000	3,000	750,000	6 months
<b>Call deposit @ 5% of the cost against below mentioned schemes Sr No.5 to 18 through payorder Region Larkana in the name of "RSU R&amp;R PPHI Larkana"</b>						
5	MCHC Jahan Khan	Shikarpur	13,387	3,000	669,650	6 months
6	MCHC Ali Khan		13,113	3,000	655,650	6 months
7	BHU Muhammad Khan Mazari	Kashmore	14,744	3,000	737,200	6 months
8	Remaining work of BHU Kumb		3,272	3,000	163,600	6 months
9	GD Ali Baig Kodrani		6,500	3,000	325,000	6 months
10	GD Ghulam Hussain Hakro		5,500	3,000	275,000	6 months
11	GD Mehrabpur		6,500	3,000	325,000	6 months
12	GD Yaqoob Jabani		6,500	3,000	325,000	6 months
13	GD Shambh Jaho	Larkana	9,600	3,000	480,000	6 months
14	GD Talb		6,700	3,000	335,000	6 months
15	GD Ramzan Chahwan		9,500	3,000	475,000	6 months
16	GD Thango Boodar		9,600	3,000	480,000	6 months
17	GD Moris Faqeer		5,500	3,000	275,000	6 months
18	GD Allah Bux Hakro		12,000	3,000	600,000	6 months
<b>Call deposit @ 5% of the cost against below mentioned scheme through payorder Region Sukkur in the name of "PPHI Sindh R&amp;R RSU-W Sukkur"</b>						
19	Remaining work of GD Plus Hayat Pitafi	Ghori	12,700	3,000	635,000	6 months
<b>Call deposit @ 5% of the cost against below mentioned scheme through payorder Region Karachi in the name of PPHI Sindh R&amp;R Grant Region Karachi</b>						
20	GD Dhani Bux	Maler	13,900	3,000	695,000	6 months

The tender documents for the above-mentioned works can be obtained from the Head Office of PPHI, located at Banglew # C-27/1, Block 2, Clifton, Karachi, on any working day from 10-09-2024 to 02-10-2024 (10:00 am to 4:00 pm) upon submission of a written request and payment of the prescribed tender document fee through a pay order (non-refundable) in favor of "PPHI SINDH INCOME".

Sealed tenders, using the prescribed proforma, should be submitted to the PPHI Head Office by October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, at 11:00 am and will be opened on the same day at 11:30 am in the presence of authorized representatives who wish to attend. If the day for bid submission/opening is declared a holiday, the tenders will be submitted and opened on the next working day.

- The method of Procurement is Single Stage - One Envelope Procedure.
- The tenders will not be issued to those firms which are black listed by PPHI Sindh or any Government department/agency/body or have defaulted in execution of PPHI Scheme(s).
- Any conditional bid or tender will not be considered in the competition.
- Firm/Contractor/person can participate against maximum of five (5) schemes in the above listed Works.
- A bid must be submitted along with a bid security of 5% in the form of a pay order. If not submitted, the bid will be considered non-responsive.
- Bidders must have valid PEC Registration in Category C-6 or above for all works, except for Sr. No. 3, which requires C-5 or above, with at least 3 years of successful experience in similar assignments in any organization.
- Bidders must have a total turnover of Rs.45.0 million for all works, except for Sr. No. 3, which requires a turnover of Rs.90 million for the last three years, verified by a bank statement.
- Other terms & conditions specified in tender documents.

The Procuring Agency may cancel the bidding process at any time prior to the acceptance of a bid or proposal.

Executive (F&A) R&R

## PA speaker wants parliament to reclaim role in judges' appointment

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Amid reports that the federal government is going to introduce a constitutional package to restore the parliament's powers with regard to the higher courts judges' appointment, Punjab Assembly Speaker Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan exhorted the parliamentarians to reclaim the role.

"Why the parliament is silent on the basic structure judgment," he asked, in a reference to Justice Durrani's landmark Supreme Court decision that forced the then government to introduce a constitutional amendment eliminating the role of the parliamentary committee in the selection of superior court judges.

"I, while explaining the Constitution, the court had said that it would itself make the appointments of judges, then why the parliament is not objecting to it," Speaker Khan said a press conference here on Friday.

"There's a clear trichotomy of powers in the Constitution under

which there are three pillars of state — the judiciary, the executive and the parliament. The parliament will decide the role of each [of the pillars]. The parliament will keep a check on the executive under the Constitution."

He appreciated that parliamentarians from across the aisle for sitting together on the issue of the arrest of some lawmakers from the National Assembly gate, but regretted that no one, from the treasury or the opposition, was bothered by the attack on the Constitution.

There's a judicial history in which Clause 143C had been used as a substitute for the new defined 143C(a) clause of the Constitution to send a government packing, he said.

"The political parties must raise the issue. If you cannot object to the judgment that defaced the Constitution, then you are leaving your space only to be claimed by someone else. Why are you becoming apologetic?"

He clarified that he was not paving the way for a clash between the parliament and the judiciary, but

was only stressing on rectifying the foundation (of the issue).

Responding to a query, the speaker asked if the parliamentary committees in the US and UK did not have a role in the appointment of judges. "Here [in Pakistan] the parliament has been incapacitated, not even allowed to discuss the issue."

"About Ali Amin Ghasseer's intercession in the PTE's Islamabad public meeting, the speaker said these were absolutely unwarranted and that the KP chief minister attacked the intervention by threatening to hold direct talks with Afghanistan on terrorism.

"The federal government, executive and parliament should question him [Ghasseer]."

He said it seemed the KP CM was under the influence and would need to undergo medical tests to ascertain his condition.

The speaker said that in view of the PTE's track record, the government must have demanded affidavits from the party leadership, committing that no hate speech would be delivered at the meeting.

## Omar for probe into MPs' arrest

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Opposition Leader in the National Assembly, Omar Ayub Khan, on Friday demanded an investigation into the arrest of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) lawmakers in the parliament.

Speaking to the journalists outside the anti-terrorism courts, he urged the prime minister and the army chief to immediately hold an inquiry to fix responsibility for the 'injustice' against the public representatives.

He termed the opposition members' arrest within the Parliament House a bigger

tragedy than May 9 protests.

Ayub said he had been studying in Lahore, but didn't know that the corps commander's residence was called 'Jinnah House'.

He added that the people put an end to the May 9 rally on Feb 8 — the date of the last general elections.

To a question, he said the longer the PTI founding chairman Imran Khan was kept in jail, the greater would be threat to his (Imran's) life.

He declared all cases against the PTI founder as bogus, saying he could have been released anytime.

The opposition leader pointed out that the 'aggressive' DPPs agree-

ments were made during the terms of the PML-N and the PPP in the government, claiming that an energy minister, he had managed to bring the power generation rate down to two-and-a-half cents.

Earlier, ATC Judge Arshad Javed extended prevention bail of Mr Ayub, former Federal minister Asad Umar and others till Oct 8 in Askari Tower attack case.

Asad Umar did not appear due to illness, and his request for a one-time exemption from personal appearance was allowed by the judge.

The Gilgong police had registered a case related to the attack on Askari Tower near Liberty Chalk.



**GOVERNMENT OF SINDH**  
**REQUEST FOR BIDS**  
**NON-CONSULTING SERVICE**  
**Procurement of Solar Home System Independent Verification Agents**

**Headquarters: South Sindh Energy Corporation**  
 Government of Sindh, South Sindh Energy Project, Plot No. 1, Block 1, Phase 1, Durrani Road, Karachi-74200, Sindh, Pakistan.  
 Contact: 021-111-111-1111

**Headquarters: South Sindh Energy Project**  
 Government of Sindh, South Sindh Energy Project, Plot No. 1, Block 1, Phase 1, Durrani Road, Karachi-74200, Sindh, Pakistan.  
 Contact: 021-111-111-1111

The Energy Department, Government of Sindh has invited Bidding from the "Interested Bidders" to submit bids for the procurement of Solar Home System Independent Verification Agents for the South Sindh Energy Project. The details of the project are as follows:

- The project management level, South Sindh Energy Project will involve design, procurement, installation and commissioning of Solar Home System Independent Verification Agents for the South Sindh Energy Project. The project will be executed in the following phases:
  - Phase 1: Design, procurement, installation and commissioning of Solar Home System Independent Verification Agents for the South Sindh Energy Project.
  - Phase 2: Design, procurement, installation and commissioning of Solar Home System Independent Verification Agents for the South Sindh Energy Project.
- Bidding will be conducted through national competitive procurement using a Request for Bid (RFB) as described in the RFB document. The interested bidders should submit their bids to the Government of Sindh, South Sindh Energy Project, Plot No. 1, Block 1, Phase 1, Durrani Road, Karachi-74200, Sindh, Pakistan.
- Interested bidders should submit their bids to the Government of Sindh, South Sindh Energy Project, Plot No. 1, Block 1, Phase 1, Durrani Road, Karachi-74200, Sindh, Pakistan.
- The successful bidder shall be responsible for the design, procurement, installation and commissioning of Solar Home System Independent Verification Agents for the South Sindh Energy Project.
- Bidders should submit their bids to the Government of Sindh, South Sindh Energy Project, Plot No. 1, Block 1, Phase 1, Durrani Road, Karachi-74200, Sindh, Pakistan.

**Submission & Opening of Bids:**

- The bids must be submitted to the Government of Sindh, South Sindh Energy Project, Plot No. 1, Block 1, Phase 1, Durrani Road, Karachi-74200, Sindh, Pakistan.
- The bids will be opened on the date of the bid opening as mentioned in the RFB document.
- All bids must be accompanied by a "Bid Security" of 5% of the bid price.
- Interested bidders should submit their bids to the Government of Sindh, South Sindh Energy Project, Plot No. 1, Block 1, Phase 1, Durrani Road, Karachi-74200, Sindh, Pakistan.

**PROJECT DIRECTOR**  
 South Sindh Energy Project  
 Government of Sindh, Pakistan  
 Telephone: 021-111-111-1111, Fax: 021-111-111-1111, Email: info@sindh.gov.pk







# IMF hopes

**T**HE inclusion of Pakistan's case on the agenda of the IMF Executive Board meeting later this month must end the uncertainty around the new \$7bn bailout for this crisis-hit nation. The IMF will review the country's loan request on Sept 25 since Islamabad has "obtained necessary financing assurances from its development partners". The IMF announcement comes nearly two months after the lender had signed a staff-level agreement with Islamabad. The delay in the ratification of the 30-month programme by the Fund had fuelled speculation that the government was facing difficulties in meeting its stipulations regarding the confirmation of \$1.2bn debt rollovers from China, Saudi Arabia and the UAE, as well as the arrangement of fresh funding of \$2bn to cover the external financing hole for the present fiscal. The recent power subsidy amounting to Rs45bn announced by Punjab was also being seen as the latest bone of contention between the two sides. Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar's statement accusing the Fund of "deliberately delaying" the release of funds and pinning the blame on geopolitics had led many to believe that the bailout was in jeopardy. However, it is all water under the bridge now.

The IMF announcement, preceded by an aggressive rally by the State Bank, cheered up the stock market, with share prices soaring the next morning as the package was hailed as a 'lifeline' for an economy reeling from a financial crisis that brought the country to the brink of insolvency last year. Pakistan had narrowly averted default only after the Fund agreed to provide a nine-month short-term facility of \$3bn on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's personal request at the end of his previous term. The approval of the programme is also crucial for the coalition government, which is struggling to overcome a serious legitimacy crisis, to improve its ratings by reviving the moribund economy. The nod to the loan will help the beleaguered Sharif government kick the default can a little further down the road, but constant borrowing is not the solution to the nation's deep-seated economic woes and structural issues. Nor does it mean an end to the trials and tribulations of ordinary citizens.

With the government failing to put its fiscal house in order, some reports suggest it is preparing to further tighten the noose around taxpayers and possibly bring in a supplementary or 'mini' budget over the next several weeks to meet the Fund programme's revenue targets. These reports also suggest that much of the burden of additional revenue measures will be borne by taxpayers, both corporate and individual. That is not how crisis-hit nations like ours break out of the debt trap. If anything, the new IMF loan is surely not going to be our last bailout.

# Media unity

**I**N recent years, media owners and senior decision-makers in newsrooms across the country have found themselves in increasingly difficult positions. Faced with external pressures, they have frequently had to make tough calls — often at the expense of their editorial judgment. These pressures have come from certain institutions within the state. At times, these institutions have sought to generally expand their influence; at others, they have wanted coverage of a certain kind or demanded that something — or someone — be censored or not reported. A recent incident serves as a stark reminder of the consequences that can arise when editorial independence within news organisations is compromised. This Thursday, the Supreme Court summoned the owners and senior executives of 34 television channels to account for several speeches that were broadcast from their platforms and were rightly considered contemptuous of the judiciary. The speeches in question had been made earlier this year by lawmakers Faisal Waqar and Mustafa Kamal at the height of a stand-off between senior members of the judiciary and the incumbent regime. Both lawmakers had quickly issued apologies after being hauled up by the apex court, and were eventually let off with a warning. However, the media houses found themselves caught in the crossfire.

Though the Supreme Court took a decidedly lenient view of the incident, the media channels were nonetheless required to air their own apologies during prime-time slots, quoting relevant court orders as part of their compliance. The industry, already vulnerable to external influences, now faces an even greater challenge: it must decide how to safeguard its independence and credibility in the face of the increasing push and pull of various external stakeholders. The contempt episode offers an opportunity for reflection: is it time for owners and senior decision-makers at media houses to form a united front and resist undue external pressure? After all, they showed unity while tendering an unconditional apology before the court — why not extend that same unity towards preserving their independence as well? Reputation is a media channel's most valuable asset. By defending their right to independent decision-making, media owners can ensure that their platforms uphold the principles that are fundamental to their role in society. Without collective resolve, incidents like the latest one will continue to impact not just their credibility but also the broader landscape of media freedom.

# Grim example

**T**HE struggle to eliminate extremism from society and create a more tolerant nation cannot succeed without the state's firm commitment to achieving this goal. But when representatives of the state themselves are found to be involved in extremist acts, the road to deradicalisation is that much longer. The murder of a man accused of committing blasphemy in a Quetta police lock-up — by a policeman no less — on Thursday is one example of the considerable challenges facing Pakistan on this count. According to reports, the suspect had been taken into custody after a video in which he had allegedly made sacrilegious remarks went viral. Following the man's detention, a mob led by religious parties besieged the police station where he was being held and attacked it with grenades. The law enforcers later shifted the suspect to another police station, where an officer opened fire on him.

While acts of sacrilege obviously cannot be condoned, there exist laws to address this serious issue. But when ordinary citizens or state functionaries take the law into their own hands, the gates to mob rule and anarchy are flung wide open. The Quetta incident is a grim reminder of Punjab governor Salman Taseer's murder in 2011 by his own police guard. More recently, a mob in Swat stormed a police station in June where a man accused of committing blasphemy was being held. The suspect was set on fire. Arguably, in no other Muslim country is such violence tolerated. These shocking incidents all point to the need to urgently deradicalise society. The state, as well as the ulama, must reiterate the fact that no one can be allowed to play executioner in blasphemy cases, and that the law must take its course. In far too many of such incidents, the law is misused to settle personal scores. Therefore, strict action is required against those who exploit the sensitive issue of blasphemy.

# OPINION

BY FARID PANJWANI



# Negotiating with AI

The world today — the ecosystem in which artificial intelligence is born — is not enviable.

**L**AST December, I observed a child watching a fire made by watchmen in our street to keep warm. The dance of the flames fascinated her but the heat she felt stopped her from going too close, which was a safe response. Myerium meanderism or fascism (myerium is that we simultaneously admire and fear), theologian-philosopher Rudolf Otto coined this phrase to describe the human response to the incomprehensibility of extraordinary phenomena that people cannot explain. This triggered the thought of artificial intelligence, an invention unlike anything humans have created. From carrying out complex medical diagnoses to engaging in poetic conversations, AI is fascinating. But there is another side to it as well, a power that can have largely undesirable consequences for people and the environment.

Technologies require negotiation. A well-negotiated car — serviced and well-driven — serves superbly for years. Mishandled, it gives trouble and becomes a burden. When technologies have a collective social use and impact, this negotiation involves wider material, legal and social factors for the realisation of its full potential. Continuing with the example of the car, these broader factors include, among other things, notable roads, traffic regulations, an effective licensing system and considerate behaviour by drivers. In short, a technology's potential — will it serve the few or the majority? — is fated in an ecosystem.

As it happens, the world today, the ecosystem in which AI is born, is not enviable. It is rather hugely worrisome: a closely interconnected world yet one where many people display a propensity to hate those defined as the 'other' through polarising ideologies; an unprecedented scientific knowledge of the physical world, yet a fragile relationship with nature; and, an unparalleled technological promise with serious threat to freedom and privacy. Hope and despair, like shadow and sunshine, are interlocked by these paradoxes.

At the heart of these conditions is the escalating concentration of wealth in fewer and fewer hands. In 2022, 1.2 per cent of the richest peo-

ple controlled 87.9pc of global wealth. This skewed distribution of wealth, an outcome of the neoliberal mode of economics, has political, social and psychological consequences as it creates inequalities in access to resources and opportunities. In such an ecosystem, the power of AI is likely to exacerbate inequalities and their consequences.

What harm can this do? Sometimes AI is compared to the Industrial Revolution. The automation goes only so far. That revolution, though catastrophic for unskilled physical labour, still left, in fact increased, the need for skilled manual work as well as intellectual labour. But now, the combination of AI and robotics can displace those forms of work and labour. The allure of profit makes this possibility attractive. This makes the threat of a completely unemployed life for hundreds of millions a real possibility. With humanoid teachers and nurses, even the belief that jobs that require a soft, human touch are safe becomes untenable.

AI's advocates often respond by foreclosing an age of leisure with universal income and unlimited time for swimming, playing, singing, fishing etc. This poses hope, or a false promise to justify the march of AI, forgets that barring a few, most of us enjoy leisure only after spending time on what is called work. The sweetest tooth will be repelled if forced to eat sweets as a staple meal. Moreover, given what we now know of the neural plasticity, without the challenges of work and our growing dependency on AI for answers, how would the mind change? Would it become less agile, curious and intelligent whilst AI, on the other hand, with greater training becomes more intelligent? Finally, there is the question of its effect on the democratic model of governance: We work, pay taxes, and get a share in the government. We become citizens. Money received through largesse would mean no taxes and hence may result in no say in governance.

Even if we set aside the danger of mass unemployment, without rebalancing the power structure, the biggest uses of AI are likely to be in warfare, surveillance and marketing, with

crumbs falling to education, health and other social goods. It is not a surprise that some of those who pioneered this technology, for example Geoffrey Hinton, formerly at Google, are now worried about the impact of AI.

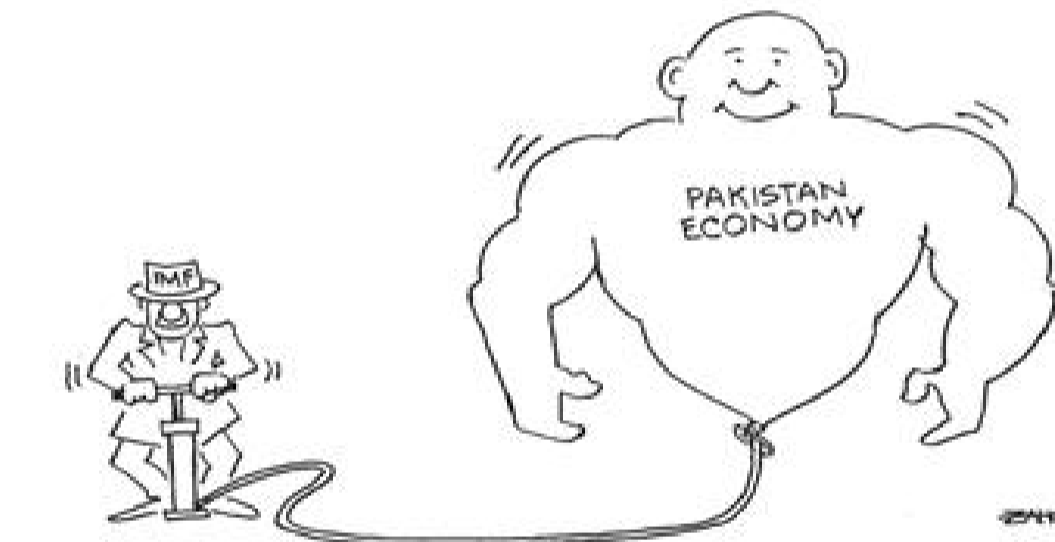
Enter the importance of negotiation with AI. Without it, the path forward is slippery. How do we negotiate with AI? Critical education, at the individual level, and sound global and national regulations, at the collective levels, are the best negotiating tools we have.

Critical here means developing capacities to understand the structures of power and knowledge that lie beneath the surface and that shape life chances and access to opportunities and resources. The humanities are considered best suited for such capacities. They need to be an integral part of higher education with an aim to develop and sustain an interest in inner life, fellow beings, social organisation and the moral consequences of actions. Such an education can help us realise that technologies do not stand outside of a society, from where they can be called upon to rescue it. Rather, they are embedded within a society whose contours must be reimagined if the technology is to become a force for good for the majority.

Equally important is to bring a range of global and national regulations that create a fine balance between creativity and social responsibility. These would include: an AI governance framework; accountability and safety protocols; data protection and privacy policies; equitable learning access; prescription on certain uses of AI, such as in warfare and for clandestine surveillance; public democratic oversight; transparency of algorithms; job protection, environmental impact regulations; and monitoring and enforcement mechanisms. This is far easier said than done. Hardly any of this exists currently.

Negotiations are possible under certain conditions and within a certain period. After that, it can be too late. Now is the time to negotiate. ■

The writer is a professor and dean, Institute for Educational Development, Aga Khan University



BY SAMIA LIAQUAT ALI KHAN

# Public Mis-service Inc

**T**HROUGHOUT my profession, I have closely engaged with government ministries, agencies and departments, both at the local and federal levels. In my younger days, the calling of the public services was strong, and I passed through the process of the CSS examinations and interviews. My aim was to be an officer of the DMG (district management group), and I disabused the possibility of joining any other group. Given my domicile (urban Sindh), competition was strong for the single slot allotted to Karachi and that was chosen by the person who topped the exams. I decided then that I would still try to work for the people of my country, but go the way of civil society.

I learned my trade (development — in public service context) not by private citizens (in the katchi abadis of Karachi — Machhar Colony, Baloch Colony, Orange Town, and other smaller areas). My work brought me close to people there, and it also made me realise that government involvement was essential. In the 1990s, Machhar Colony, home to 400,000 people from all over the country, came under the administrative division of the Port Authority. The colony, which comprised of internal migrants who had illegally settled on Railways land in the 1950s/60s, was divided by ethnic and socio-economic grouping — so the Bengalis who were the poorest lived closest to the sea with most of their women and children engaged in the shrimp-cleaning trade. The Pathans and Punjabis were somewhat better off and lived in their demarcated areas of the colony, and their men would work in the city.

There was one government school and one government health centre in the area. The school catered to around 500 children. The remaining 120,000 (approximately) children were catered to by low-income private schools, or not at all. The Citizens Foundation (CF) was just starting up in those days but did not yet have their Lyari campus. There was a gigantic open rubbish — at least 10 metres wide — that took wastewater into the sea, but there was so much debris and plastic waste in the drain that you could not see the water flow. One

would keep hearing about how children would fall in and drown or never be found again. There was no proper drainage, electricity or water provision in this colony. The streets, if that is what they could be called, were not made for humans or cars. And as the name suggests, the area was infested by mosquitoes (although one personally felt that the flies outnumbered the mosquitoes). The banyan, however, was the best I have eaten — yet readers, there is a reason Karachiites are known for their cast-iron tummies.

We made continuous efforts to involve the

While there have been good and even great public servants in Pakistan's history, their greatness owes little to the institution.

Years later, living in Islamabad, I again had the opportunity to engage closely with government institutions and individuals, this time at the federal level. This experience left me scarred and with the realisation that we need urgent structural reforms if we are to save this country. Yet, those with power believe that such reforms can only make them the losers.

We inherit our colonial heritage — rightly so — all the while adamantly adhering to those same rules. But even our colonial masters have changed their rules. If you examine the British public service today, it is a different beast to what it used to be and to what we continue to have in place. Here, the 'servants' continue to remain the masters. And while there have been good and even great public servants in Pakistan's history, their greatness owes little to the institution. It is that special individual who sometimes manages to build a small circle of excellence in spite of it all. I think of the recent events hosted by the Pakistan Academy of Letters, and feel a sense of pride and inspiration. Yet, I also know it will not last. And the greater challenge is that debate on systemic reforms only begins post retirement, when the powerful are suddenly left weakened.

I write this piece on the back of my recent experience and extreme frustration with the Islamabad Electric Supply Company — Iesco. My fellow citizens across the country are reeling from the way such agencies currently do business. The aim, it seems, is to rob the citizen through procedural obstruction and human apathy. Our structures and systems have become criminalised and decency has long since left the building. My heart breaks for my country. But a little voice inside my head raises a sneaky question — don't people deserve the rulers they get? If that is the case, my fellow citizens, we are all to blame. ■

The writer is an independent development professional and impact advisor with over 25 years of experience designing and managing programmes to improve people's lives. samialikhan21@gmail.com



Reopening of Angoor Adda border demanded

By Our Correspondent

SOUTH WAZIRISTAN: The tribesmen staged a demonstration in Wana Bazaar of Lower South Waziristan district here on Friday...

The gathering was organised by political parties, including Pakhtunkhwa Milli Awami Party, Jamaat-e-Islami, Pakistan People's Party, Pashtun Tahafuz Movement and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf.

Tribal elders, political leaders and residents participated in the gathering. They urged the federal government and the security officials to address their legitimate demands.

The speakers, including Imran Makhdoom, Anshulab, Haroon, Khayat Muhammad and Maulana Tahirullah Wasti, highlighted the sacrifices made by the Wazir tribes of Lower South Waziristan for the country's sake...

They said that continuing suspension of trade activities at the Angoor Adda border crossing was tantamount to economic martyrdom of local people.

The political leaders also asked the authorities to meet the demands of the people, who had been continuing a strike at the Angoor Adda border for one year.

Jamrud tehsil chairman to be elected on Oct 20

KHAYBER: A day after the election commission announced the postponement of the elections for the post of Jamrud tehsil chairman...

An election commission notification dated Sept 11 and issued the next day stated that the decision regarding the postponement of elections for Jamrud tehsil chairman was taken after a request from the provincial government...

The elections were earlier announced to be held on Sept 25 with electioneering by the contesting candidates in full swing...

The announcement immediately drew the wrath of both the contesting candidates and the political parties' representatives...

Treasury lawmakers emphasise importance of strong army

Claim 'elements' in the institution want to manipulate politics

By Umar Farooq

PESHAWAR: Treasury members in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly on Friday emphasised the importance of a strong army...

During a session chaired by Speaker Babar Saloon Swati here, the lawmakers voiced concern about the deteriorating law and order situation in the province...

They criticised security agencies for targeting PTI and its jailed leaders, Imran Khan, instead of fulfilling their basic responsibility of protecting public life.

The treasury members debated and criticised the army's involvement in politics for the fourth consecutive day.

denied political manoeuvring but it pressured the PTI candidates before the Feb-8 general elections to join the PTI Parliamentarians formed by former chief minister Pervez Khattak with its support.

The MPAs said their criticism was aimed at violators of the Constitution, so it shouldn't be considered a rebellion against the entire army or Inter-Services Intelligence.

They said the PTI would hold a public meeting in Lahore on Sept 22 at all costs.

Special assistant to the chief minister Sohail Afridi asked "these lecturers as about the Constitution they're referring to."

He said the Constitution clearly mandated elections within 90 days of the assembly's dissolution.

Mr Afridi feared a government crackdown on the PTI's Sept 22 public meeting in Lahore and said if the meet across, the participants would use the law's 'self defence' provisions for their protection.

Another PTI member, Imran Ghani, asked the establishment to disclose its "agenda" and accused it of hiding AI-Qaida leader Osama Bin Laden in Abbottabad.

He said the PTI was ready for both rebellion and revolution.

Mr Ghani demanded accountability of all top military officers from the past and said even the "graves should be commemorated."

Arif Ahmadani from the treasury benches claimed that he was asked to quit the PTI to join Pervez Khattak's party, but he refused.

He said his party was opposed to the army's political manoeuvring and would continue to oppose them.

Mr Ahmadani insisted that the life of incarcerated PTI founder Imran Khan was under serious threat.

Treasury member Mohammad Adnan Qadir requested the Director-General of Inter-Services Public Relations to retract his recent statement that the army had nothing to do with politics.

He claimed that a year ago, the establishment pressured PTI leaders to join the party of Pervez Khattak despite claiming political neutrality.

PTI lawmaker Israr Khan alleged that people were picked up from the merged tribal districts on the charge of providing meals to militants.

"As the sun rises, they come and take the people away. If authorities know about this activity of the people, why they're not familiar with the whereabouts of militants," he said.

of militants," he said.

The MPA said PTI founder Imran Khan had become a brand beyond the control of the powers that be.

Member of the opposition JUI-F Adnan Khan said his party openly criticised the establishment's involvement in politics.

He suggested legislation to strip the armed forces from acting in aid of civil power. Mr Khan said his party leader had categorically denied becoming part of unconstitutional actions.

MPA Muhammad Rashid Khan of the PTI-N said if the provincial government declared the arrest of PTI lawmakers from inside the National Assembly unjust, the opposition supported it.

He suggested a grand debate and a multi-party conference with representatives of political parties and all institutions, including judiciary, attending it.

Awami National Party member Muhammad Nisar Bano complained that all border crossings with neighbouring countries except for Afghanistan were open for trade. He said a border with 2,000 checkpoints were enough to enable the army to monitor the country's trade with Afghanistan.

Lakki, Bannu police end protest as demands 'accepted'

Bajaur sit-in also called off as authorities promise early arrest of attackers

Dawn Report

LAKKI MARWAT: Police officials ended their four-day-long sit-in and opened the Peshawar-Karachi highway and other roads in Lakki Marwat for vehicular traffic after the authorities accepted their major demands...

officials late Thursday night.

Officers along with Capital City Police Officer Peshawar Qasim Ali Khan, Frontier Reserve Police (FRP) Commandant Ashfaq Arwan, Regional Police Officer Bannu Imran Shahid and other officials engaged the protesters' representatives in negotiations at the police lines in the District Headquarters Complex, Taji, and eventually them to wind up the protest camp.

Frontier district mainstay Ishtiaq Mirakhal said the negotiations continued for several hours and finally they succeeded in persuading protesters to end their agitation.

The protesting police official told the gathering of his colleagues that their demands had been accepted.

"The authorities have assured us that there will be no compulsion on the police to launch action against armed groups," he said.

He said police would be provided with more armoured personnel carrier vehicles and other resources to enhance their professional capabilities. He claimed the security forces would be called back or confined to their camps.

The police official said the authorities would not initiate any adverse action against the protesters, who took part in the sit-in.

The policemen had set up a protest camp at Lt-Adnan Shahzad Square, popularly known as Taji, close to the Indus highway for vehicular traffic. As soon as the protesters greeted their tents and dispersed from the venue, the transporters, who had been stuck on the main artery for the last four days, took a sigh of relief and set out for their destinations.

In Bannu, the protesting police officials also ended their sit-in and handed over a charter of demands to the district police authorities.

They had closed the Bannu-Miranshah Road after establishing the protest camp at Maulana Abdul Sattar Shah Bokhari Shah Chowk against the gun attack on a police constable, Jan Alam, in Dossal area.

Protesters had also showed their solidarity to express solidarity with the protesting police officials.

On Friday, the protesters gave a list of their demands to district police officer Ziauddin Ahmed and made clear that they would again come onto roads if their grievances were not addressed.

Mr Zia assured them that he would take up their issues with higher authorities concerned for an early solution.

Meanwhile, a sit-in staged by the police and local residents against the Wednesday's attack, which left a policeman and a police worker martyred, ended in Bajaur district on Friday evening.

A large number of people, mostly youth, social and political activists, attended the gathering held on the main Khan-Miranshah Road in Haji Lawang area.

The attack on the police team took place in the hilly Salazar tehsil.

The protesters ended the agitation after local elders and members of a jirga formed by the district administration met with them and assured them that the perpetrators of the attack would be arrested soon.

Advertisement for NAFIP (2330/24) regarding recruitment for various positions in Islamabad.

Advertisement for PTA (Pakistan Telecommunication Authority) regarding a request for proposal.

Advertisement for PTA regarding hiring of consultant for interior designing of PTA HQs.

Advertisement for PTA regarding electronic proposal submission for interior designing.

Advertisement for IESCO regarding tender notice for supply of various electrical components.

Advertisement for Ingr. Asif Saeed regarding civil works at PTA HQs.

Advertisement for BUITEMS regarding tender notice for equipment for computer engineering lab.

Advertisement for BUITEMS regarding tender notice for equipment for computer engineering lab.

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## Putin draws line on Ukraine use of Western missiles

- Warns green light will mean Nato at war with Russia
- Starker in Washington for talks with Biden on the issue
- Zelensky wants to fire US, UK missiles deep into Russian territory

MOSCOW: The Kremlin said on Friday that President Vladimir Putin had delivered a clear message to the West about the consequences it will face if it allows Ukraine to hit Russian territory with Western long-range missiles.

The warning came as the leaders of Britain and the United States met on Friday in Washington on whether to let Kyiv fire Western-made long-range missiles into Russia — an option that has some tensions easing with Moscow.

Putin said on Thursday that the West would be directly fighting with Russia if it allowed Ukraine to strike Russian territory with Western-made long-range missiles, a move he said would alter the nature and scope of the conflict.

"The statement made by President Putin yesterday is very important. It is extremely clear, unambiguous and does not allow for double readings. We have no doubt that this statement reached those it was intended for," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said.

President Volodymyr Zelensky has been pleading with Kyiv's allies for months to let Ukraine fire Western missiles, including long-range US ATACMS and British Storm Shadow, deep into Russian territory to limit Moscow's ability to launch attacks.

Zelensky said on Friday that he will meet US President Joe Biden "this month" to present his "victory plan" on how to end two and a half years of war with Russia.

He also said Kyiv's recent offensive into Russia's border region of Kursk had "allowed" Moscow's advance in eastern Ukraine and that there are currently 40,000 Russian troops fighting in the area.

But he accused the West of being too "afraid" to even raise the possibility of shooting down Russian missiles and Iranian drones, even though it was helping Israel to do so.

President Biden and British Prime Minister Keir Starmer will discuss whether to give the go-ahead for such strikes at talks in Washington on Friday.

Putin said on Thursday that such a move would drag the countries supplying Kyiv with long-range missiles directly into the war, he said according to the target data and programming of the missiles' flight paths would have to be provided by Nato military personnel,

## NA passes cannabis control and regulatory authority bill

Dawn Report

KARACHI: The National Assembly on Friday passed a bill to regulate the cultivation of cannabis, and the sale of derivatives of the plant for medicinal and industrial use, Dawn.com reported.

Earlier this week, the Senate Standing Committee on Science and Technology approved the country's first-ever Cannabis Control and Regulatory Authority Bill after a delay of over four years due to disputes between ministries over its jurisdiction.

The committee unanimously passed "The Cannabis Control and Regulatory Authority Bill 2024" with amendments that seek the inclusion of two senators — one of whom must be a woman — in the board of governors of the authority, along with other revisions to the bill's clauses.

The idea of legalizing the production of medicinal hemp in Pakistan was mooted in September 2020 by Farooq Khattak, the then minister for science and technology, but the Ministry of Narcotics Control had raised objections, claiming that the matter fell under its jurisdiction.

Later, the Ministry of Food Security expressed concerns about approving research and pilot cultivation of medicinal hemp, citing potential negative impacts on food cultivation in the country.

On Friday, the NA passed the bill to "regulate the cultivation of cannabis plant, extraction, refining, manufacturing and sale of derivatives of the plant for medicinal and industrial use."

The Act, known as the "Cannabis Control and Regulatory Authority Act, 2024", extends the scope of Pakistan and will come into effect immediately as soon as it receives the president's assent.

For the text of the approved bill, cannabis has defined as "resin (charas) that is, the separated resin, whether crude or purified, obtained from the cannabis plant or leaves of the cannabis plant and also includes concentrated preparation and resin known as hashish oil or liquid hashish."



CHIEF Minister of Delhi Arvind Kejriwal greets his supporters after Supreme Court granted him bail, on Friday.—APF

## India's top court frees Modi's opponent Kejriwal on bail

US think tank Freedom House says BJP has "increasingly used government institutions to target political opponents"

NEW DELHI: A top political opponent of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi was granted bail on Friday after months behind bars on accusations his party took kickbacks in exchange for liquor licenses.

Arvind Kejriwal, chief minister of the capital Delhi and a key leader in an opposition alliance that battled Modi in national elections earlier this year, was first detained in March over the long-running corruption probe.

He is among several opposition leaders under investigation or facing criminal charges, with one of his colleagues describing his arrest at the time as a "political conspiracy" orchestrated by Modi's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

A two-judge bench of the Supreme Court ruled that Kejriwal's arrest was lawful but that he should be released from custody while prosecuting the charges against him.

Kejriwal in support of Kejriwal, who has consistently denied wrongdoing and refused to relinquish his post after his arrest, were held in numerous other big cities around India after he was taken into custody.

The 55-year-old has been chief minister for nearly a decade and first came to office as a staunch anti-corruption crusader. He had resisted multiple attempts from the India's financial crimes agency, Enforcement Directorate, to be interrogated as part of the probe.

## Imran booked for allegedly inciting official to mutiny

Ex-PM refuses to answer FIA about his social media post in absence of lawyers; minister alleges post aimed at creating chaos, anarchy

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) on Friday registered a case against PTI founder and former prime Imran Khan for inciting government officers to mutiny, sources said.

An FIA team comprising investigation and technical officers visited Aizawl Jail to question the PTI founder in connection with a controversial post on his official X account, but the personnel returned empty-handed after he insisted he would not join the interrogation without the presence of his lawyers.

In a statement, Minister for Information and Broadcasting Anisul Hameed said the FIA would probe into the handling of the PTI founder's

social media accounts, which were being used allegedly to "create chaos and anarchy" in the country, and "undermining the national security", adds AFP.

Mr Tarar said it would be ascertained who was the handler of his social media accounts, and whether such posts were being made on his behalf or it was done on directives of someone else. He said a batch attempt had been made to compel against the sitting chief justice and heads of other institutions. Through these posts, he tried to mobilize the people against the major state institutions, which was highly condemnable.

He said the PTI founder would be investigated in this regard. The message posted on the social media from the PTI founder's account was "instigation to mutiny, and creating an anarchy" in the country.

He said the PTI founder, in the post, had once again related himself with Sheikh Mujibur-Rahman, but he seemed to be evasive about the current situation in Bangladesh where the left's status were demolished by the people after realizing the truth.—Staff Reporter

## Spanish PM hosts meeting on two-state solution for Palestine

Asks international community to take a 'decisive step' towards a just and lasting peace in the Middle East

MADRID: Ministers from Muslim and European countries, along with the European Union's foreign affairs chief, gathered in Madrid on Friday to discuss how to advance a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"Together, we want to identify the concrete actions that will enable us to make progress towards this objective," Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez wrote on a social network X.

"The international community must take a decisive step towards a just and lasting peace in the Middle East," the Socialist premier added.

Sanchez welcomed participants at his official residence before the start of the meeting at the foreign ministry in central Madrid, hosted by his top diplomat Jose Manuel Albares.

In attendance were Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammed Mustafa and the foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Jordan, Qatar and Türkiye — all members of the Arab-Islamic Contact Group for Gaza — as well as the heads of the Arab League and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation.

The European Union was represented by its foreign affairs chief Josep Borrell as well as the foreign ministers of Ireland, Norway and Slovenia, in addition to Spain.

"The implementation of the two-state solution is the only way to ensure a just and lasting peace in the region through the peaceful and secure coexistence of the state of Palestine and the state of Israel," Albares told a news conference.

## EU diplomat faces lack of engagement during key visit

Insiders say officials 'skipped' meetings with special envoy on freedom of religion, whose findings can affect Pakistan's GSP+ status

By Adnan Koztal

ISLAMABAD: As a special envoy from Brussels concluded a fact-finding trip to Pakistan on Friday, there was a sense among the diplomatic community that the visit could have gone better for Pakistan if top officials had engaged with the mission as planned.

Ambassador Frans van Daele, special envoy of the European Union for the Promotion of Freedom of Religion or Belief, met a number of key officials during his week-long trip.

The mandate of the special envoy involves raising awareness and engaging with state and non-state actors, civil society, churches, faith-based and religious organisations, as well as non-confessional organisations in order to prevent and address violations of the freedom of religion and belief.

But while Senate Chairman Syed Yusuf Raza Gillani, National Assembly Speaker Sardar Anas Ud Din, Law Minister Anwar Nasir Tarar and Foreign Secretary Anwar Baksh found time for the diplomat, other key officials are said to have skipped meetings



AMBASSADOR Frans van Daele shakes hands with Senate Chairman Yusuf Raza Gillani.— X / EU/Pakistan

with the EU diplomat.

insiders said such as Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, Interior Minister Mohsin and Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif did not meet with the EU delegation.

"The meetings that did not happen... confirmed the impression that certain voices — which are some of the key voices on these issues — do not seem ready to engage in the matter," a well-placed diplomatic source told Dawn.

The week-long visit provided the EU with the opportunity to hear the full range of views on [freedom of religion or belief] before next year's monitoring mission, which is exactly the point of a fact-finding trip like this, said the source, who was privy to developments.

It should be noted that the status of religious freedoms in the country is one of the benchmarks for retaining the duty-free access to European markets through the Generalised Scheme of Preferences Plus (GSP+) regime.

Pakistan's status is up for review in 2027 and another extension for unqualified duty-free exports to Europe will greatly depend on how the country can demonstrate a commitment to upholding all global human rights obligations.

Ambassador Daele said that the next GSP+ monitoring mission to Pakistan is expected in early 2025.

According to an official comment, the ambassador has encouraged Pakistani authorities to continue to implement relevant international conventions to facilitate the country's reappraisal for the GSP Plus status once new regulations on GSP+ is in force.

In his interactions with interlocutors, Ambassador van Daele underlined the EU's continued support for and interest in enhanced cooperation with Pakistan.

During the visit, the ambassador met with both of federal and provincial officials, parliamentarians, religious leaders, non-government and civil society organisations, human rights defenders and local communities to engage and exchange on the state of freedom of religion and belief in Pakistan and to foster the respect for diversity of religions and beliefs.

In Lahore, the special envoy held meetings with Punjab Minister for Minorities Affairs Sardar Ramoosh Singh Anwar and Inspector General of Police Dr Usman Arwan.





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South

**KARACHI**  
 Sunset 06:38 pm  
 Sunrise (Tomorrow) 06:17 am  
**NEXT 24 HRS**  
 Minimum 27°C  
 Maximum 31°C  
 Humidity 74%  
 Outlook Partly Cloudy



**Afghanistan-NZ Test abandoned without ball being bowled**

Page 20 SPORT

## Uplift schemes to be looked after properly, Aurangzeb assures CM

KARACHI: Federal Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb has assured Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murrat Ali Shah that the federally funded projects would be looked after properly. He held out the assurance at a meeting with the chief minister (CM) at the CM House. They also discussed the overall economy and measures being taken to strengthen it. The CM told the federal minister that the Sindh Revenue Board had been given a Rs350 billion collection target during the current financial year. Similarly, the mechanism to collect agricultural tax was being strengthened, he added. The finance minister stated that significant measures were being implemented to strengthen the national economy. The initial results were evident as the inflation rate had dropped to single digit, he said. The Sindh CM took up the issue of federally-funded projects (Public Sector Development Programme) in Sindh for which funds were not being released, as a result even the ongoing project of Jamshoro-Schwan road, to which his government had also contributed Rs7 billion, was going on at a slow pace. He also discussed the dualisation of the Mohren Highway. It was agreed that the federal and provincial governments would work together to strengthen the national economy by promoting industrialisation and the agriculture sector, and by attracting investment. The projects launched in the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode by the Sindh government were listed in the meeting. The CM said the Thar Coal Mining project was the largest one launched in the PPP mode. Currently, the Malir Expressway and Ghali-Kandhkot bridge on the River Indus were major projects going in the PPP mode, the CM said.—APP



A STREET in old city area is festooned with colourful lights in connection with Eid-ul-Miladun Nabi (Eid) celebrations.—Online

## SHC seeks plan for 'high-level' board to tackle city's basic issues

Multiple organisations responsible for basic amenities in Karachi are not working under one umbrella, bench observes

By Ishaq Tariq

KARACHI: The Sindh High Court has directed the federal and provincial governments to file proposals about formation of a high-powered board comprising all civic bodies in the metropolis in order to regulate water, sewerage and other basic amenities. A two-judge bench comprising Justice Sahibuddin Pathan and Justice Anwar Ali Sahito gave such directives while hearing a set of identical petitions filed against an additional levy on water and electricity

facility of potable water in the DHA and Clifton areas. The bench said that issues of basic amenities in Karachi division were governed by different provincial and federal organisations. "It has come on record that all such bodies are not under one umbrella and thus, there are overlapping and conflicting policies," it added. At the outset of the hearing, the counsel for petitioners emphasised on the shortage of water in DHA. The bench in its order noted that there were overlapping and conflicting policies since various bodies were managing the issues of basic amenities in the city. It also said that autonomous boards had their own by-laws, whereas other entities had their separate rules and regulations. The bench questioned under these circumstances how issues of sewerage, water, electricity, gas and plantation could be regulated. "Judicial propriety demands to direct

federal and provincial government(s) to submit proposal(s) with regard to formation of a high-level board comprising of all entities relating to approval of schemes in public and private sector as well as basic amenities schemes and responsibility to lessen miseries of common citizens," the bench stated in its order. A lawyer for the Cantonment Board Clifton sought time to file a compliance report in the light of a previous order of the court through which it sought an explanation as to why the five million gallons per day of water being supplied to the CBC for its residents was being sold by tankers to the same residents who were paying taxes for such services. The bench accepted his request and adjourned the hearing to a date to be later fixed by its office after four weeks. Earlier, the SHC had observed that concrete steps were required to be taken by the

Continued on Page 14

## Judge rejects bail plea of Karsaz accident suspect in drug case

By Sumair Abdullah

KARACHI: A district and sessions court on Friday rejected the post-arrest bail application of the Karsaz traffic accident suspect in a drug case. Suspect, Naveetha Danish had challenged the dismissal of her bail application by a judicial magistrate before Additional District and Sessions Judge (East) Shahid Ali Memon. In his detailed order, the judge mentioned that he had examined both reported and unreported case laws submitted by defence counsel Azam Mansoor Qureshi. He added that he had also reviewed the impugned bail order of Judicial Magistrate (East) Muhammad Raza Ansari along with the available records. "It may not be forgotten that the deep appreciation of bail stage is not permissible and only the tentative assessment of the case is permissible," the order said, adding that the defence counsel had ventured into a deep appreciation of the case during the bail stage. "If this bail application were to be considered in such depth, it would undoubtedly affect the merits of the case and against the well-established principles of law and guidelines, which discourage deep analysis in bail matters," the court order said. The court stated that the records showed nothing had been recovered from the vehicle of the suspect. Her samples were collected and examined by the chemical examiner who confirmed that she was "under the intoxication of Methamphetamine (ice), which was detected in her urine sample". "Again, I have not found any ill will even on the part of the chemical examiner, because he only found" detected an intoxication substance in the urine of the body accused and if he would have any little bit of will then he would have also shown to have detected the intoxication substance from her blood sample for making the case more strong," the court ruled. Addressing the arguments of the defence counsel, who contended that only one FIR should be registered for a single incident, the court observed that the first FIR was filed in connection with the accident, while the second FIR was lodged based on the examiner's report that pertained to a separate crime. "On Wednesday, Advocate Tahir Iqbal Malik, who is the counsel for the legal heirs of the deceased victims, appeared in court and submitted that his clients had no objection if the court granted bail to the suspect. However, the court rejected his submission, noting that the counsel had "no right to address the court in the instant case as it was a state case".

## Anti-beggary drive underway in Sindh to rescue children, minister tells PA

• Says begging has become a 'multi-million-rupee business' • Article 140-A doesn't explain to what extent political, financial, and administrative authority should be devolved to local govts, observes Ghani

By Tahir Siddiqui

KARACHI: The Sindh Assembly was on Friday informed that the Sindh Child Protection Authority was working in close coordination with the provincial police to conduct anti-beggar drive for rescuing children who were forced to be involved in this worst form of child labour. Furnishing statements and replies of lawmakers' written and verbal queries during Question Hour, Social Welfare

Minister Tariq Ali Talpur said the organized beggary was a business of multi-million rupees and it was not easy to eradicate the menace, though the provincial government was "making all possible" efforts to contain that. He said that child beggars were recruited and shifted in the Shelter Home for Deafness and Orphan Children, Malir, which had a capacity to accommodate 200 children. He said that the beggar children were provided with support including basic needs such

as shelter, food, clothing, health care, legal support, counselling, recreational activities to promote physical and mental well-being. With regards to victims of trafficking, the welfare minister said that the SCPS participated in meetings organised by the Anti-Human Trafficking Wing of the Federal Investigation Agency and submitted monthly report with requisite information. "Furthermore, SEPC is working to identify and rescue under-18 victims of trafficking in coordi-

nation with law enforcement agencies and NGOs to ensure their protection," he added. Mr Talpur said that the management of the Shelter Home for Deafness and Orphans was providing comprehensive support to the rescued children, including informal education, to rehabilitate street children and child victims of trafficking to readjust them back into society. Replying to a question, he said that as many as 10 child protection units had been established across the province to address the cases of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation against children. Besides, he said, 34 Senior Citizen Centres were under construction in districts Karachi, Tharparkar, Sanghar, Thatta, Badin, Hyderabad, Tando Allahyar, Naushahero-Feroze, Tando Muhammad Khan, Sujawal, Umarkot, Shikarpur and Dacha. Responding to another question, the minister said that the number of people treated and

Continued on Page 14

## Celebratory gunfire claims man's life

KARACHI: A young man was killed when some people fired into the air in celebration of a wedding in Orangi Town on Friday, police said. Local Market SHO Aslam Khan said that during a marriage ceremony in Balaemabad, Sector-11, a group of friends started aerial firing in jubilation. However, a bullet hit 24-year-old Arslan Rasheed. He was taken to the Abbasi Shaheed Hospital where doctors declared him dead. The officer said that the suspects had been identified and efforts were underway to arrest them.—Staff Reporter

## The inspiring world of Saadat Hasan Manto

Adapted from *Khol Do* and *Inqilab Pusand*, *Kamra-i-Afsana* will complete its run at Naps tomorrow

By Peerzade Salman

KARACHI: Saadat Hasan Manto has had a resonating impact on the coming generations of storytellers. Even when the division of the subcontinent doesn't seem to be a subject to focus on for writers, painters and filmmakers in the 21st century, Manto's stories, a good number of which are to do with the horrors of the partition, continue to generate ideas. A play titled *Kamra-i-Afsana*, written and directed by Syed Qasim Shah adapted from two of Manto's stories — *Khol Do* and *Inqilab Pusand* — that will complete its run on Sunday at the National Academy of Performing Arts (Naps), is an effort that needs to be lauded; and at the same time it must be mentioned that some loose ends could have been tied up and rough edges smoothed off. The play begins when a man (Zohair

Baloch) assuming the role of Manto addresses the audience, telling them about how he's feeling in contemporary times. He gives the reference to a report in which a mother, her daughter and son in Multan were raped and killed. Then he reads *Khol Do* as a related item. The scene shifts to a needy house — the second part of the play inspired by *Inqilab Pusand* — where Abbas (Akhtar Abbas) is seen talking to Saleem (Shahzad Akil) in a cordial tone. Saleem comes across as a delicate person. The conversation reveals that Saleem's father has died which has aggravated his sensitive disposition. In comes Zakir (the man from the first scene) and it turns out that Abbas and Zakir are actors. Zakir has some projects on his hands, including TV assignments. He has been asked to do Manto and Abbas tries to teach him how to do that part. As the story moves forward, Saleem's unbridled mental state makes things go haywire. There are quite a few things to like about *Kamra-i-Afsana*. Shah has the knack for writing good, meaningful lines — make no mistake. The performances by the three actors are good, too. They just need to work on their diction, though, something that Naps used to attach importance to when the late Zia

Mohyeddin held its reins (he wouldn't have liked puppets pronounced as jabbay). Again, that shouldn't take away anything from the three actors. They do a fine job. Since one was drawn to the drama when one saw it, two things felt jarring. One: in the first scene as Zakir comes to the point where he is to say arguably the most important line of the Manto story (the doctor asks to open the window, *Khol do*, resulting in the climactic response), the actor doesn't make it count. He reads the line in a free-flowing manner. Two: the second part of the script had the audience invested in it when Abbas and Zakir engage in an interesting discussion about the art of acting and how television, theatre and film differ. It was nice. But when Saleem returns in a shabby state after engaging a crowd with his ideas, he delivers a long, schizoid spiel (taken from the original *Inqilab Pusand*). He keeps on rambling in a glib way and the other two actors keep following him like hapless children trying to make sense of peppy pat, with no lines to say. It dilutes the whole poetic effect of the first half of *Inqilab Pusand*. That said, Shah seems to have his heart in the right place and his pen has the right kind of energy. He just needs to know when to hit the high notes at the right time.



A SCENE from the play.—Fahim Siddiqi / White Star















PRAYER

Table with prayer times: Fajr (04:28), Zuhr (12:08), Asr (04:34), Maghreb (06:20), Isha (07:45)

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Defectors in AJK will not be accepted back to PTI

By Tariq Naqvi

MUZAFFARABAD Former Aajam Khan and Kashmiri (AJK) Prime Minister and regional president of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan, reiterated on Friday that there was no place in the party for Legislative Assembly members who had defected during difficult times in the region.

Currently, only six legislators remain openly affiliated with PTI and sit on the opposition benches. "They [the defectors] have no connection with us, and under no circumstances will they be taken back into the party. There is no room in the party for those who proved disloyal," Mr Niaz declared bluntly.

that, as per Imran Khan's instructions, legal action was to be initiated against all defectors. However, the proceedings had to be shelved due to the cancellation of the registration of political parties, including PTI, by the AJK election commission.

Nust hosts art competition on climate change

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD Nust School of Health Sciences (NSHS) in collaboration with Jhpiego, Pakistan hosted an art competition on climate change and its impact on health and communities.

District Health Officer Islamabad, Dr Osman Hasan, Pro-Rector Academics, Nust, and Prof Dr Riazwan Aslam, Principal NSHS, were present.

Prof Dr Riazwan Aslam, Principal NSHS, said, "We are thrilled to host this event aimed at not only showcasing the creative talent of our students but also raising awareness about the impact of climate change."

The event witnessed vibrant participation from over 100 students, who showcased their creativity while reflecting the crucial intersection of climate and community health, says a press release issued by Nust on Friday.

Dr Zameer highlighted the importance of youth involvement in addressing climate change. He said, "It is essential that we engage young people in the conversations about climate change."

By collaborating on this event, we aim to highlight the urgent need for climate action and inspire young people to be proactive in addressing these challenges.

Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University Faculty Required Shifa College of Medicine. Position: Professor, Department: Community Medicine. Position: Associate Professor, Department: Pharmacology. Position: Assistant Professor, Department: Pharmacology & Behavioural Sciences.

CORRIGENDUM. Reference advertisement No. 99/P/27/0024 published in daily Morning dated 21/08/2024 and other newspapers as well as published on PNRA official website vide advertisement No. 28200 dated 02/08/2024.

PROJECT DIRECTOR Gravity Flow DWSS Rawat Islamabad PHE Divisional office Abbottabad

پاکستان سکاوش کمیٹی کاٹیج خدای مان سائبر. Security Wall, Fire Alarm, etc. Project Cost Columns & Slabs etc. 1488 MM

NATIONAL TRANSMISSION & DESPATCH COMPANY LIMITED AMENDMENT NO. 4 TENDER NO. TLC-22-2024 (INTOC FUNDED)

CIVIL WORKS, ERECTION, STRINGING, TESTING & COMMISSIONING OF 500KV DOUBLE CIRCUIT QUAD BUNDLE TRANSMISSION LINE FROM 500KV MAIRA SWITCHING STATION TO 500KV ISLAMABAD WEST SUBSTATION (APPROX. 138KM) AND 500KV DOUBLE CIRCUIT TRANSMISSION LINE FROM MAIRA SWITCHING STATION TO KAROT SWITCHYARD (20KM APPROX.), USING ACSR "DIAKI" CONDUCTOR

حکومت پاکستان. (Corrigendum). Reference advertisement No. 99/P/27/0024 published in daily Morning dated 21/08/2024 and other newspapers as well as published on PNRA official website vide advertisement No. 28200 dated 02/08/2024.

ADVERTISER

TO ADVERTISE IN DAWN For display advertisements please contact. Landline: +92-01-2082714-5 Ext: 328 Mobile: +92-333-5482094 Email: mohammed.asif@dn.com

RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

ISLAMABAD. GDA PARK ENCLAVE. GDA PARK ENCLAVE 1 & 2 NEW PLOTS IN GDA QATED 4 KM FROM ISLAMABAD CITY. RESIDENTIAL PLOTS 968, 969 BYDS. CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY SAJJAD HAJER

COURT NOTICE. MANAGERIAL. In the Court of Additional District Judge D. Reza Khan, Case No. 16/21 Date of institution 10-09-2024

COURT NOTICE. INQUIRY. In the Court of Additional District Judge D. Reza Khan, Case No. 16/21 Date of institution 10-09-2024

ISLAMABAD. In the Court of Additional District Judge D. Reza Khan, Case No. 16/21 Date of institution 10-09-2024

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Neelum Jhelum Hydropower Company (Pvt) Ltd (A Subsidiary of WAPDA) NOTICE INVITING TENDER. Tender No. NJHP/JM/JSC-2024/01. Description of Material & Lots. Chief Engineer & PD NJHP, Chatter Kates, Muzaffarabad. Office Phone No. 0522-921184

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ISLAMABAD. In the Court of Additional District Judge D. Reza Khan, Case No. 16/21 Date of institution 10-09-2024. ISLAMABAD. In the Court of Additional District Judge D. Reza Khan, Case No. 16/21 Date of institution 10-09-2024.



LAHORE
Sunset 06:12 pm
Sunrise (Tomorrow) 05:44 am
NEXT 24 HRS
Minimum 26.0°C
Maximum 35.0°C
Outlook Sunny
AQI
Maximum (Yesterday) 162

METRO Central



Afghanistan-NZ Test abandoned without ball being bowled

Pg.18 SPORT



DEVOTEES light earthen lamps at the shrine of Hazrat Miran Mir during the saint's Urs celebrations. — White Star

PA speaker wants parliament to reclaim role in judges' appointment

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Amid reports that the federal government is going to introduce a constitutional package to restore the parliament's powers with regard to the higher courts judges' appointment, Punjab Assembly Speaker Malik Muhammad Ahmed Khan endorsed the parliamentarians to reclaim the role.

The speaker had said that it would itself make the appointments (of judges), then why the parliament is not objecting to it? Speaker Khan told a press conference here on Friday.

Class 194(3) had been used as a substitute for the more defunct 58(2)b clause of the Constitution to send a government packing, he said.

He clarified that he was not paving the way for a clash between the parliament and the judiciary, but was only stressing on rectifying the foundation of the issue.

Minor girl 'tortured' to death at home

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: A minor girl was allegedly tortured to death in her Bahawalpur's home on Shalimar Road on Friday.

Police are questioning the father to determine his role in the alleged abuse that led to Muskan's death.

Omar demands probe into MPs' arrest in parliament

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Opposition Leader in the National Assembly, Omar Ayub Khan, on Friday demanded an investigation into the arrest of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) lawmakers in the parliament.

He declared all cases against the PTI lawmakers bogus, saying he could have been released anytime.

He said it seemed the KP CM was under the influence and would need to undergo medical tests to ascertain his condition.

LDA DG can retain only one accommodation: LHC

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court on Friday declared that the Lahore Development Authority (LDA) director general cannot retain more than one official accommodation under the law.

Justice Raheel Kamran issued the ruling on a petition challenging an order by the LDA director administration whereby official accommodation No 2, Shadman Colony, Lahore, had been cancelled from the name of a director and declared as official accommodation of the LDA DG.

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Two militants killed in firing by accomplices: CTD

DEBRA GHAZI KHAN: Punjab Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) claimed on Friday that a terror plot was thwarted and two suspected terrorists were killed during an intelligence-based operation in the limits of Sakhi Sarwar police station.

Three robbers shot dead in 'encounter'

By Our Correspondent

KASUR: Three robbers were killed in an alleged encounter with the police near Cinema Mor in the jurisdiction of the Kot Radha Kishan police on Friday.

PTI for contempt proceedings against DC

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court on Friday sought a reply from the deputy commissioner (DC) on a contempt of court petition filed against him not granting permission to PTI for holding a rally in the city.



PRAYER

Table with prayer times: Fajr 4:23, Zuhar 1:00, Aar 4:27, Maghrib 6:52, Isha 7:32.

REFLECTIONS

NOTHING IN THIS WORLD IS REALLY USEFUL TO YOU UNLESS IT HAS SOME UTILITY AND VALUE FOR YOU FOR THE NEXT WORLD!!

Minor girl...

Continued from Page 13

Swaraz attempted to hit her... The official said the girl... the police registered a case against him.

LDA to construct shops on retrieved land

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The governing body of the Lahore Development Authority (LDA) on Friday approved a layout plan for constructing shops on 10.8 kanals of land retrieved from land grabbers at Jinnah Market, Township.

The meeting approved the recovery of development charges at revised rates from defaulters of the first and second batches of LDA City, giving them a two-month window to make payments at the old rates.

The traffic police and Metropolitan Corporation Lahore (MCL) would jointly set up and oversee these camps. The camps will focus on gatework, streamlining U-turns, lane marking, encroachment removal, parking management, issuing challans and continuous monitoring.

System to monitor teachers' attendance in schools

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Punjab Education Department (PED) on Friday launched a monitoring system to ensure teachers' attendance in all public schools, expecting to enhance the overall quality of education in the province.

The PED has communicated these directives to all chief executive officers of District Education Authorities (DEAs) in Punjab. The notification emphasizes the importance of adhering to the school timings as per the previously issued orders on Aug 11.

Interventions: The Punjab Higher Education Department (HED) on Friday completed the first phase of the interview for the posts of Directorate of Public Instruction (DPI), chief executive officers (CEOs) and district education authority (DEA).

ADVERTISER - Multiple real estate and legal notices for various locations including Lahore, Multan, Bahawalpur, and Rawalpindi.

Plea for better deal for PR 'heroes'

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Train Drivers Association (Lahore division) President Irfan Iqbal says the gaman and driver who saved Shalimar Express from a major accident were national heroes and deserved better deal.

Nawabshah a week ago. Talking to Dawn, the association president said in case of any rail crash the PR suffered losses to its infrastructure and rolling stock beyond paying compensation in case of deaths and injuries to passengers.

emergency brakes to slow down the speed. The train derailed outside with the truck but the impact was not so serious as it did not derail.

PHC advertisement in Urdu detailing services like MSDS, blood tests, and emergency care. Includes contact information for PHC.

Large advertisement for Stubble burners with text: 'Stubble burners are KILLING US SILENTLY let's stop them loudly'. Includes image of a farmer and logos of Environment Protection and Climate Change Department, Government of the Punjab.



METRO North

PESHAWAR
Sunset 06:25pm
Sunrise (Tomorrow) 05:54am
NEXT 24 HRS
Minimum 22°C
Maximum 31°C
Outlook Mostly Cloudy



Afghanistan-NZ Test abandoned without ball being bowled
Pg.18 SPORT



AN artist decorates a truck with intricate designs of a workshop on Ring Road, Peshawar. — APP

Reopening of Angoor Adda border demanded

By Our Correspondent
SOUTH WAZIRISTAN: The tribesmen staged a demonstration in Wana Bazaar of Lower South Waziristan district here on Friday, demanding of the authorities to resume trade activities at the Angoor Adda border crossing.

Treasury lawmakers emphasise importance of strong army

Claim 'elements' in the institution want to manipulate politics

By Umar Farooq
PESHAWAR: Treasury members in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly on Friday emphasised the importance of a strong army for the country but complained that certain elements in the institution wanted to manipulate politics and democracy to serve their ends.

They criticised security agencies for targeting PTI and its jailed leader, Imran Khan, instead of fulfilling their basic responsibility of protecting public life. The treasury members debated and criticised the army's involvement in politics for the fourth consecutive day. They claimed that the establishment denied political manoeuvring but it pro-

posed the PTI candidates before the Feb 8 general elections to join the PTI Parliamentarians formed by former chief minister Pervez Khattak with its support. The MPA's said their criticism was aimed at violators of the Constitution, so it shouldn't be considered a rebellion against the entire army or Inter-Services Intelligence. They said the PTI would hold a public meeting in Lahore on Sept 22 at all costs. Special assistant to the chief minister Sohail Afridi asked "those lecturing us about the Constitution should explain what Constitution they're referring to."

The MPA said PTI founder Imran Khan had become a brand beyond the control of the powers that be. Member of the opposition JUI-F Akbar Khan said his party openly criticised the establishment's involvement in politics. He suggested legislation to stop the armed forces from acting in aid of civil justice. Mr Khan said his party leader had categorically denied becoming part of unconstitutional actions. MPA Muhammad Rashid Khan of the PML-N said if the provincial government declared the arrest of PTI lawmakers from inside the National Assembly unjust, the opposition supported it. He suggested a grand debate and a multi-party conference with representatives of political parties and all institutions, including judiciary, attending it. Awami National Party member Muhammad Nisar Inam complained that all border crossings with neighbouring countries except for Afghanistan were open for trade. He said a fenced border and 2,600 checkpoints were enough to enable the army to monitor the country's trade with Afghanistan. The speaker later adjourned the session until 2pm on Sept 19.

Jamrud tehsil chairman to be elected on Oct 20

KHAYBER: A day after the election commission announced the postponement of the elections for the post of Jamrud tehsil chairman due to 'precarious law and order situation' in the region, the district administration announced to hold the by-election on Oct 20. An election commission notification dated Sept 11 and issued the next day stated that the decision regarding the postponement of elections for Jamrud tehsil chairman was taken after a request from the provincial government, while citing the unfavourable law and order situation in the area. The elections were earlier announced to be held on Sept 25 with electioneering by the contesting candidates in full swing despite a protest by Kulkhels, a major tribe of Jamrud, for return of their remaining displaced families. The announcement immediately drew the wrath of both the contesting candidates and the political parties' representatives, who rejected the EC decision and accused the provincial government of its failure to effectively control the law and order situation. — Correspondent

PHC stops law-enforcement agencies from arresting CM aide, ACE officers

PESHAWAR: The Peshawar High Court on Friday directed law enforcement agencies not to arrest special assistant to the provincial chief minister on anti-corruption retired Brigadier Mohammad Masood Ali Khan and two officers of the anti-corruption establishment in any cases, registered against them, without its permission. A bench consisting of Justice Shab-eel Ahmad and Justice Waqar Ahmad directed the government to produce details of any cases registered by the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) or any other law-enforcement agencies against the three

people by Sept 26. The court was hearing three petitions filed by Mr Akbar, ACE director Saibong Anjum and additional director (admin) Umar Siddique, seeking its orders for law-enforcement agencies, especially those of the federal government and Punjab, to provide details of the cases registered against them. A day earlier, a single-member high court bench had granted transit bail to the three petitioners until Oct 5 in a case registered against them under cyber-crime law in Islamabad for allegedly defaming a judicial officer, Humayun Dilwar, who

convicted former Prime Minister Imran Khan last year, and his family members. This case was registered by the FIA on Sept 11 over a complaint filed by Ahmad Sadiq Khan, a nephew of special judge (control) Islamabad Humayun Dilwar. On Sept 10, a judicial magisterial court in Bannu had issued arrest warrants of judge Humayun Dilwar, his father Dilwar Khan, his brother Sadiq Dilwar, and revenue officer Taj Mall Khan in a case registered by the KP ACE accusing them of tampering with a court decree to "illegally occupy" land and convert the same into a housing scheme. In the present case, the petitioners requested the court to stop the respondents, including different law-enforcement agencies, from arresting or harassing them, and declare the recent registration of any case against them illegal. Advocate Alam Khan Adnan appeared for the petitioners and said their clients were respectable and law-abiding citizens and had never committed any illegal act. He said the petitioners recently learned that an FIR was registered against them by the FIA in Islamabad.

The lawyer said Mr Akbar intended to leave for Islamabad from Peshawar when he was informed about FIRs registered against him and other petitioners. He said the petitioners feared arrest in any undisclosed case registered against them. The court served a notice on additional attorney general Saadullah Khan, who was present in the courtroom, on the petition. He said he should be given two weeks' time for producing a report. The bench adjourned the hearing until Sept 26. — Bureau

Driver dies as truck plunges into Shangla ravine

SHANGLA: A truck loaded with buffaloes fell into a ravine after its brakes failed in Machar area of Alpin here on Friday, killing its driver and injuring another person. Rescue 1122 spokesman Rasool Khan Shauif said the truck was going from Swat to Bannu. He said a rescue team retrieved the body and the injured from the ravine and shifted them to the District Headquarters Hospital, Alpin. The injured man was later referred to Saiki Teaching Hospital, Swat, in critical condition. The rescue official said eight buffaloes also perished in the accident. — Correspondent

Lakki, Bannu police end protest as their demands 'accepted'

Bajaur sit-in also called off as authorities promise early arrest of attackers

Down Report
LAKKI MARWAT: Police officials ended their four-day-long sit-in and opened the Peshawar-Karachi highway and other roads in Lakki Marwat for vehicular traffic after the authorities accepted their major demands that they wouldn't be forced to launch attacks against

armed groups and that the security forces would be called back or confined to their camps. An announcement to this effect was made by a protesting police official in the presence of local elders and senior police officials late Thursday night. Elders along with Capital City Police Officer Peshawar Qasim Ali Khan, Frontier Reserve Police (FRP) Commandant Ashfaq Arwan, Regional Police Officer Bannu Imran Shabid and other officials engaged the protesters' representatives in negotiations at the police lines in the District Headquarters Complex, Tajarat, and convinced them to wind up the protest camp. Former district master Ishfaq Mirakhal said the negotiations continued for several hours and finally they succeeded in persuading protesters to end their agitation. The protesting police official told the gathering of his colleagues that their demands had been accepted. "The authorities have assured us that there will be no compulsion on the police to launch action against armed groups," he said. He said police would be provided with more armoured personnel carrier vehicles and other resources to enhance their professional capabilities. He claimed the security forces would be called back or confined to their camps.

The police official said the authorities would not initiate any adverse action against the policemen, who took part in the sit-in. The petitioners had set up a protest camp at Le-Ahlan Shabud Sogara, popularly known as Tajarat Shabud, closing Indus Highway for vehicular traffic. As soon as the protesters uprooted their tents and dispersed from the venue, the transporters, who had been stuck on the main artery for the last four days, took a sigh of relief and set out for their destinations. In Bannu, the protesting police officials also ended their sit-in and handed over a charter of demands to the district police authorities.

They had closed the Bannu-Miranshah Road after establishing the protest camp at Maulana Abdul Sattar Shah Bokhari Shah Chowk against the gun attack on a police constable, Jan Alam, in Damsel area. Traders had also downed their shutters to express solidarity with the protesting police officials. On Friday, the protesters gave a list of their demands to district police officer Ziauddin Ahmed and made clear that they would again come onto roads if their grievances were not addressed. Mr Zia assured them that he would take up their issues with higher authorities concerned for an early solution.

Meanwhile, a sit-in staged by the police and local residents against the Wednesday's attack, which left a policeman and a police worker martyred, ended in Bajaur district on Friday evening. A large number of people, mostly youth, social and political activists, attended the gathering held on the main Khar-Minda Road in Hag Lawang area. The attack on the police team took place in the hilly Salazarai tehsil. The protesters ended the agitation after local elders and members of a jirga formed by the district administration met with them and assured them that the perpetrators of the attack would be arrested soon.





# Young World

DAWN

September 14, 2024

## The teenage rollercoaster!

By Crystal Maria Pereira



### Recycled bottle airplane

Learn how to reuse ordinary objects, like empty plastic bottles, and transform them into a fun and creative airplane, and this 'private jet' of yours can be customised to reflect your personality and taste

Pg 5



### The weekly weird

Artists are going to great lengths to showcase their extraordinary talents. One is creating a cigar lighter out of solid gold, adorned with sapphires, while another is crafting character portraits using leaves and petals. Keep reading, as there's more in the weird news section that will leave you amazed.

Pg 9

arena  
Family Recreational & Sports Complex

# Games

# Party

**BUY 1 GAME GET 1 FREE**

FOR DETAILS: 021 99245251-54

**The gravity of carelessness**

This is regarding the story "The gravity of carelessness" by Aqsa Shoaib (YW, July 20). The article was nicely written and emphasised the importance of paying proper attention to our parents' instructions, especially when they leave us alone at home. Even a little carelessness by us can result in dire consequences. The famous quotation "Prevention is better than cure" perfectly illustrates the scenario depicted in the story.

I am glad *Young World* publishes stories that teach children how their irrational acts could lead to dangerous situations, helping them understand the value of caution and responsibility in their daily lives.

**Azeem Hassan Maitlo,**  
Khairpur Mirs

**The world of rocket launches**

This is regarding the website review of "The world of rocket launches" by Asif Ali (YW, July 27).

I visited the site and found all the information quite comprehensive. The website focuses on rocket launches, and I can confidently say that those who love rockets will enjoy knowing and reading about all the rocket launches. The topic is hardly talked about and I would suggest to the YW team to include more articles and stories about space and the universe.

**Muneer Shar,**  
Mir Wah

**Tune in, turn down**

This is regarding the advice "Tune in, turn down" by Marvi (YW, July 20). Like everything, headphones have both benefits and downsides. The important thing is to see whether the benefits outweigh the downsides or vice versa, and to maintain a balance between the two.

The writer acknowledged that while one cannot completely avoid using headphones, it is crucial to use them carefully and sensibly. The article also mentioned precautions, which I found practical.

Additionally, one should be well-informed regarding the use of gadgets or devices like headphones, to prevent damaging one's hearing.

**Umair Khan,**  
Kazi Ahmed

||

Listening through headphones can be an enjoyable experience, making us feel immersed in the moment. However, it's important to remember the potential long-term damage to our hearing.

The article, "Tune in, turn down" by Marvi highlighted all the essential details about headphone usage and the risks we often overlook. Headphones are here to stay, but we should use them responsibly. By being mindful of our listening habits and taking simple precautions, we can enjoy sound without compromising our health.

**Ayaan Ali,**  
Karachi



**Mailbox**

**Quotes**

**"If you're afraid — don't do it, — if you're doing it — don't be afraid!"**

— Genghis Khan (Emperor)

**"There is only one way to deal with fear: to face it, to bring it out into the open and to challenge it."**

— Nadeem Aslam (Novelist)

**"Beware of false knowledge; it is more dangerous than ignorance."**

— George Bernard Shaw (Playwright)

**"Even the greatest was once a beginner. Don't be afraid to take that first step."**

— Muhammad Ali (Boxer, activist)

**"Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see."**

— Mark Twain (Author)

**"What we become depends on what we read after all of the professors have finished with us. The greatest university of all is a collection of books."**

— Thomas Carlyle (Philosopher)



**Word search**

Find these words, related to different types of containers, from the list given below, hidden in this word grid.

T	L	W	V	R	D	K	S	A	L	F	F
L	O	O	P	I	T	C	H	E	R	G	J
W	N	P	E	L	Q	D	G	A	G	F	P
Y	R	C	M	J	M	B	R	A	K	O	D
P	U	A	G	D	O	I	R	P	S	R	M
O	A	L	Y	T	R	E	E	J	U	C	M
L	I	D	T	L	K	E	D	M	B	A	Q
E	R	L	S	A	H	Y	N	B	U	N	V
R	E	M	E	I	O	C	I	U	S	I	H
R	E	B	Q	H	X	P	L	T	Q	S	G
A	D	G	K	P	X	A	Y	Q	N	T	Z
B	X	L	I	A	P	R	C	M	T	E	O
P	Y	D	D	E	C	A	N	T	E	R	A
E	S	W	E	T	A	R	C	A	U	D	C
Q	D	T	U	M	B	L	E	R	R	S	G

- Wordlist:  
CANISTER  
BOTTLE  
TUMBLER  
CRATE  
FLASK  
PAIL  
POT  
BARREL  
BEAKER  
PITCHER  
DECANTER  
TUB  
DRUM  
CYLINDER  
PHIAL



Your contributions should mention your full name, age, class, school, address and telephone number/email address. If you are under 18, you need to give your parent's or guardian's name too with their CNIC number. *Young World* accepts original contributions only.

### My dad

My dad is a great man,  
He went to the beach and got a tan.  
He is a spectacular soccer player,  
Often talks on the phone with his friends everywhere.  
He's a big fan of Messi,  
And likes to drink cold and refreshing Pepsi.  
He loves to make me fool,  
And often takes me to the swimming pool,  
Sometimes, tells me bedtime stories.  
And he likes to watch horror movies.  
He bakes me yummy chocolate cake,  
I eat it, while drinking a mango shake  
When I call him again and again, "Dad!"  
He laughs and asks, "Are you mad?"  
My dad is the best,  
Yet, he always keeps on giving me a test.

.....  
**Tehreem Noor,**  
13 years, Multan

### Palestine

Tears fall from the eyes,  
And pain hurts my heart,  
Blood sheds from the bodies,  
The people I speak about are Palestinians.  
.....  
**Hassnain Ali,**  
13 years Sukkur

### Dear parents!

You're like a shining bangle,  
Just like a burning candle.  
Your presence is a pleasure,  
Like a valuable treasure.  
You're the best,  
Like the treasure chest.  
You're the nicest, and the brightest.  
You teach us to grow.  
You're a light of guidance,  
Who gives us light in the dark night.

.....  
**Aroosh Waseem,**  
10 years, Islamabad

### Humanity

Even the name is sacred.  
Was it worth it?  
Making all those animals go extinct?  
Dinosaurs, dodos, rhinoceroses,  
How did they ever harm you?  
Killing life instead of nourishing it,  
Cutting down trees, manufacturing cars,  
Smoke streaming from factories.  
Tearing down trees, destroying the ozone layer.  
Let me just say,  
You're all gathering diseases in your basket.  
Will you keep up this destruction?  
Killing animals, destroying forests.  
Do you ever think of the harm to our environment?  
The clouds of carbon dioxide,  
The dangerous greenhouse gases.  
Do you even know how we depend on Amazon?  
How does it produce oxygen for us to breathe?  
How does it swallow carbon dioxide?  
Forests are critical for our survival,  
Producing not just oxygen, but fruits and berries too,  
So please decide, the choice is up to you.  
How do you wish to live your life each day?  
Do you want to breathe fresh air, come what may?  
Do you want to be healthy?  
Plant a tree, save a life,  
Don't just kill these innocent creatures,  
The choice is yours.

.....  
**Zoya Agha,**  
12 years, Karachi

### My era

The best of times is this age,  
With peace, charity and prosperity.  
The worst of times is also this age,  
With poverty, disparity and adversity.  
This is the age of wisdom,  
With education and philosophical thoughts.  
This is the age of foolishness,  
No fair decisions in the courts.

.....  
**Muhammad Zaid,**  
12 years, Sukkur

### The people of Gaza

Oh dear people of Palestine,  
You are so innocent,  
They are killing you for months.  
You are still patient,  
They are so tyrant.  
They have no heart,  
Don't be sad,  
Because you are the best.

.....  
**Fatema Khan,**  
8 years, Karachi

### The fox

I saw a fox in a box,  
And it was wearing red socks.  
It sneaks into houses and open locks,  
It's clever and never gets electric shocks.  
The fox coloured the roads with chalks,  
And played with rocks and blocks.

.....  
**Razeena Ahmed,**  
7 years, Islamabad

### The night sky

In the night, the moon is bright.  
In the night, the stars shine.  
In the night, the birds sleep.  
In the night, the sky is dark.  
In the night, we all say good night.

.....  
**Rijia Hareem,**  
6 years, Karachi

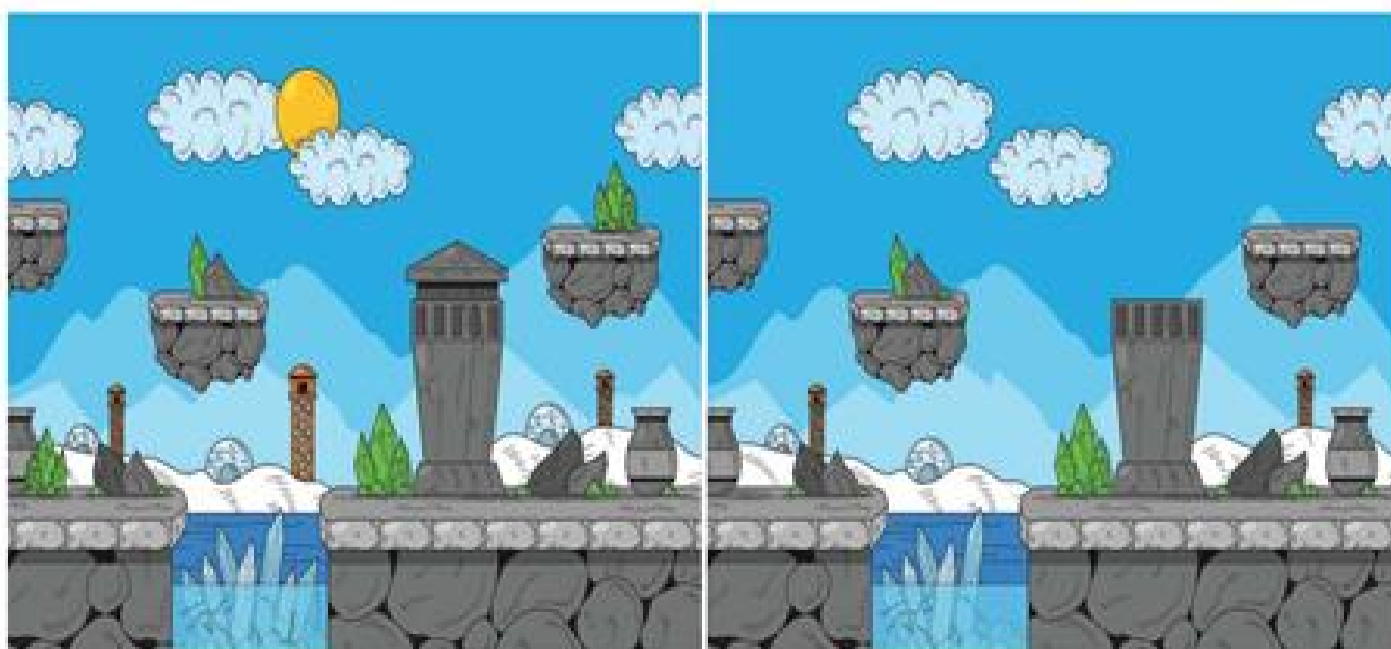
### Mother

Mum, you are the one everything for me,  
You are the one who likes everything in me.  
You are courageous as well as gorgeous,  
You are precious than any treasure.  
For me, being your daughter I feel pleasure.  
You always encourage me to continue,  
That's why my success is all due to you.  
You remember me in your prayers,  
And pray for me with the tears.  
A lot of pain you bear,  
But I never feel pain because of your care.  
You are my friend as well,  
And the one I want all the secrets to tell.  
Our friendship's bond will never end,  
Because you always give me a helping hand.  
Thank you for being my whole life.  
And making me sharp as a knife.

.....  
**Anshra Zahid,**  
11 years, Karachi

## Spot the difference

There are eight differences in these pictures, see if you can spot them. You can find the answer on Page 11



Created by S. Mumtaz



# The teenage rollercoaster!

**I**f you feel like your life is suddenly spiralling out of control, you're a teen.

If your friends have become your priority and family no longer seems as important, you're a teen.

If you feel like everyone is turning against you, you're a teen.

If you think that working a little harder might finally earn you some appreciation, you're a teen.

And if you feel like you have a hundred problems in your life, congratulations — you're normal. It's all part of growing up.

As a teenager, how do you find your way through this maze of challenges, expectations, opportunities and tough choices? Well, let me help you there.

## Discipline is the key

First of all, I have noticed a lot of teens complaining that they don't have time to do their chores or even school homework, etc. Well, let's accept that we mostly have time, it is just that we are a little disorganised. Those who are organised don't know what to do with it.

And to bring a little discipline into your life, you just need a pen and a planner. Simply plan out your day. It doesn't take long at all and pretty soon you will be planning out your life. The best part about planners is that you feel that you have a certain goal to achieve. And trust me, you feel so proud of yourself at the end of the day that you can't help smiling and thinking 'Wow! I can do that; I am so amazing!'

## The power of a smile

Next up I'd like to give you the biggest power of all time — the power of a smile. This is often underestimated, especially by teenagers.

Caught up in their busy lives, whether it's school, social media, or hanging out with friends, teens can become so absorbed in their world that they forget something as simple, yet powerful, as a smile. A smile can brighten someone's day, lift spirits, and create a sense of warmth and connection.

When was the last time you smiled at your family? Parents, siblings and even grandparents often go unnoticed in the hustle of daily life, yet they are the ones who appreciate these small gestures the most. A simple smile shows them that you care and that you're present. It's a tiny act with a huge impact, capable of soft-

tening hearts and strengthening bonds.

So, next time you're rushing out the door or sitting down for dinner, take a second to smile. You might be surprised at how much it changes the atmosphere around you.

## Believe in yourself!

Believe in yourself — always and forever. If you're wondering how to think positive always, well, I suggest you start simple. How many of you, after getting ready for an occasion, have looked in the mirror and thought, "Oh no, why do I look like

or "We are all different and beautiful in our ways". You will see that cloud of jealousy and hatred toward others vanishing as if it were never there.

It's not just teenagers — people of all ages have developed the bad habit of putting others down to elevate themselves. Whether it's jealousy, sarcasm, hate, fake smiles, lies, gossip, selfishness, greed, negativity, dishonesty or envy, the list of negative behaviours goes on and on. These habits have become so ingrained in us that they could easily fill pages.

But imagine a world where we replaced these toxic tendencies with positive thinking, kindness, and self-control. Simple changes like

Exercise, for instance, doesn't just keep us physically fit; it also reduces stress, boosts mental clarity and helps us sleep more peacefully at night. The road to a more fulfilling life starts with small, mindful choices each day. By consciously adopting healthier habits and letting go of negativity, we can truly transform ourselves and the world around us.

## Music, food for the soul

As a teenager, you probably listen to music more than most people, and it's one of your favourite ways to relax. You have your unique playlist and the music becomes your escape when you need a break or just some

Cont...  
pg1



this?" or "Why does my hair stick up like that?" or "Why do I have so many zits?"

The next time you take a peep at yourself in the mirror, focus on the good in you, "Oh look, my eyelashes are so pretty", or "I have the perfect jawline". Or even saying things like, "Wow! Don't I look amazing" can help boost your confidence.

Remember, be confident about yourself. No one is ugly or beautiful, everyone is just different. Try saying, "I'm unique", or "I can do this",

swapping gossip for compassion, or bitterness for gratitude could make all the difference, not just for ourselves, but for those around us.

As Charles R. Swindoll said, "Life is 10% what happens to us and 90% how we react to it."

How we choose to respond to challenges, stress, or the actions of others defines our character and shapes our happiness. Developing healthy habits like meditation, mindfulness and regular exercise can also work wonders.

time to yourself.

But here's some advice: when you're feeling down, try to avoid listening to sad music. Yes, I know it's tempting to match your music to your mood, but honestly, it won't help as much as you think.

Instead, create a playlist of your favourite upbeat, feel-good songs that can instantly lift your spirits. Music has the power to change your emotions and, if you choose wisely, it can make you feel lighter, happier and more positive.

**Journaling to share**

For a nice, peaceful, fun-filled, yet organised, life is to practice journaling. Now for those who don't journal, writing their thoughts, feelings and emotions down on paper may seem ridiculous. But I promise you give it a try sometime and you'll see all the changes in your life. Suppose you have a secret that you badly want to tell someone, but as it's a secret you can't. Well, write that down in your journal.

Similarly, if you are angry just write how you feel, believe me, once you're done you will feel good. It feels like a burden is being taken off your back. Write in a journal if you have a problem that you can't seem to find the solution to. Later on, reading back you will find the answer to that problem.

Trust me, writing is fun, it not only strengthens your memory but also builds your confidence, reduces stress and makes you happier. If that doesn't seem like the perfect life, I don't know what is.

**Healthy habits first**

As a teenager, healthy habits might seem far from your understanding or even unimportant, but believe it or not, developing them now can have a profound impact on your life, both mentally and physically. You might feel invincible or too busy with school, friends and social media, but taking small steps toward building positive routines will pay off in ways you can't imagine. Whether it's getting enough sleep, eating a balanced diet, or finding time to exercise, these habits will help you stay energised, focused and more in control of your emotions.

Activities like taking nature walks, practicing mindfulness or listening to uplifting music can help clear your mind and reduce stress. Even something as simple as spending less time on your phone and more time reading or writing can give you a sense of balance. It's all about taking small actions that build up over time. You don't have to do everything perfectly, but starting now will make the journey to adulthood a lot smoother.

And here's the key: this isn't just about looking after your body — it's about nurturing your mind, too. Positive thinking, self-reflection and surrounding yourself with supportive people will make a world of difference. Believe in your ability to grow and face challenges with resilience, because these habits will give you the foundation you need to become the best version of yourself. ■

**Wonder****Craft****Recycled bottle airplane**

By The Crafter

The empty bottles often sit around the house, seemingly without purpose, but can hold immense potential. Beyond their usual function of storing water, these bottles can be repurposed in countless creative ways.

Today's activity highlights this idea perfectly, as we transform a simple, empty plastic bottle into a fun and imaginative airplane. Thus, with a little creativity, even the most ordinary objects can take on new life and purpose. Let's not waste time and start our project instantly:

**Things you need:**

1. Empty plastic bottle (250ml)
2. Two A-4-sized coloured papers
3. 18 inches long string or jute rope
4. Double-sided tape
5. Ruler
6. Scissors/paper cutter
7. Pencil
8. Marker

**Directions:**

1. Decide colours to use for the plane's wings and the stars and windows. Here, I have used purple for the wings, and yellow for the windows and stars.

2. Place the paper in portrait orientation, then fold it into three equal sections, picture 2.

3. Cut the two parts still joined together, and secure and paste double tape on one side of the fold (wings), picture 3.

4. Using a pencil, create the wing shape from both sides then cut it out, see pictures 4 and 5.

5. Mark 3 inches long line on both sides (parallel to each other) in the middle of the bottle, then carefully make slits using scissors or a paper cutter. This is where you will insert the wings (see picture 6). You can ask an adult for help.

6. Take the bottle cap and cut a piece of paper to match its size. Cut a propeller from the same paper, then paste the propeller onto the circular piece and then onto the bottle cap, pictures 7, 8 and 9.

7. Cut a fin that is three inches long and one-inch-wide, then cut a rudder that is two inches long and one-inch-wide from the same purple paper, pictures 10 and 11.

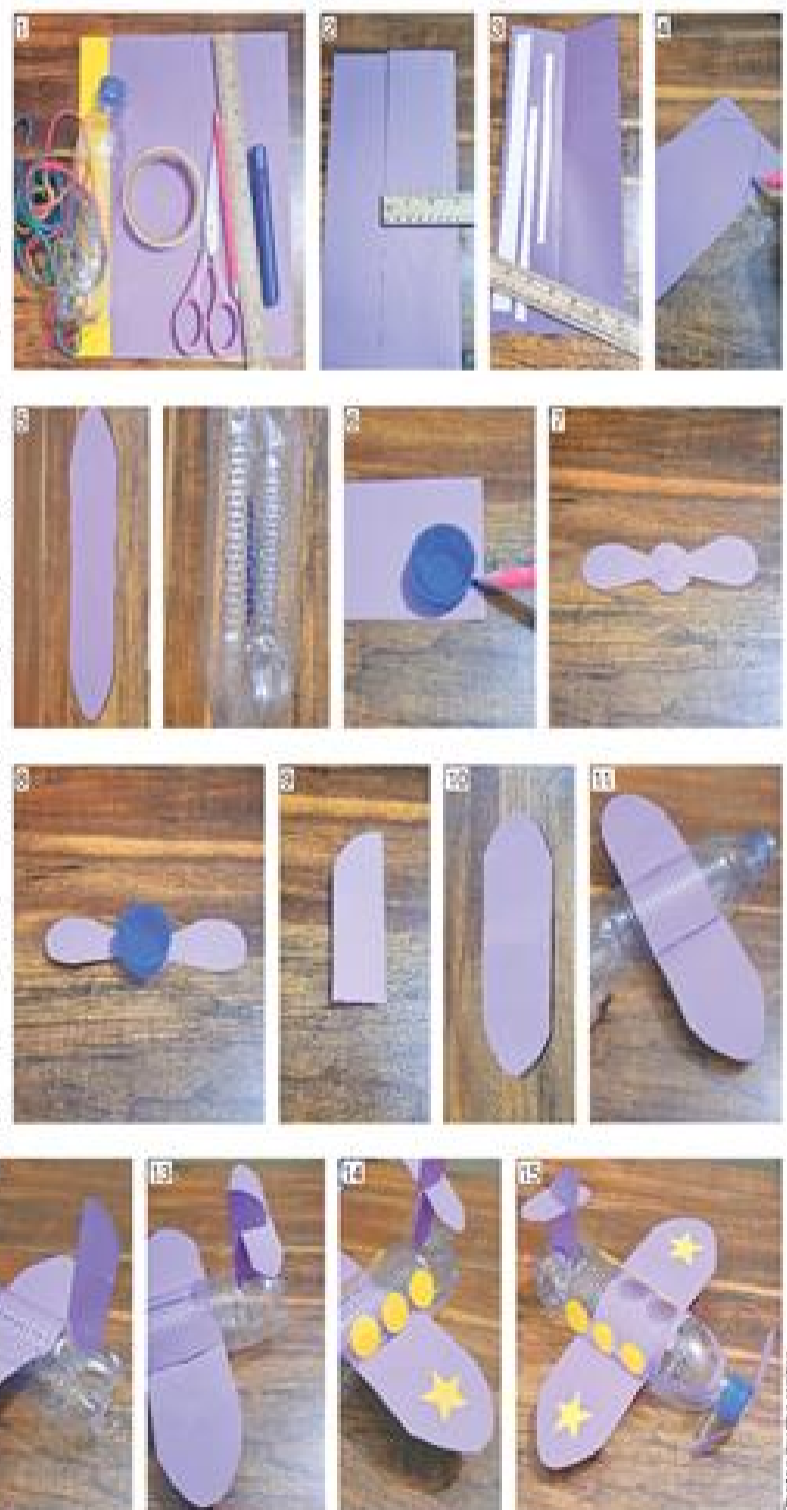
8. Insert the wings into the slits you made in the bottle, picture 12.

9. Cut a one-inch slit at the bottom of the bottle and insert the fin and rudder, pictures 13 and 14.

10. Cut six small circles from the other coloured paper and paste them on top of the wings on the bottle. Add two stars, one on each wing; picture 15.

11. Make two small holes at the top centre of the bottle, insert the string from one hole and bring it out from the other. ■

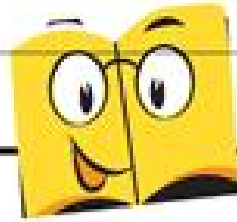
The writer can be contacted at [thecraftman@gmail.com](mailto:thecraftman@gmail.com)



Photos by the writer

## Story time

By Aqsa Shoab



# The power of encouragement

**A**fter multiple days of practice, the day had finally arrived — the day of my first ever live performance in front of an audience. I had worked so hard during the last two months.

The backstage air hung heavy and I had the mixed feeling of nervousness and excitement. The dim glow of the dressing room reflected anticipation in my eyes. The muffled hum of the audience created restlessness. Although I had practiced for so long, I felt butterflies in my stomach. I felt on the edge, as if my soul had left my body. A sense of anxiety washed over me. I was biting my nails and that was an action I had never done before. I could hear the echo of my heartbeat in the chamber.

I went over my script again and again to make sure that I remembered everything and would not embarrass myself in front of the audience. I was mumbling every word constantly. I kept on thinking that I was not good enough to handle this and that I might fail. At one moment, I also thought about quitting.

While I was thinking all these things, an unknown kind-hearted lady, after perceiving that I had stage anxiety and fright, approached me and asked my name. I stopped

thinking and glanced at her.

Her voice was very polite and soothing. She had a huge smile on her face. Looking at her was very motivating. I told her my name.

She asked me, "What would you be

performing on stage today?"

I told her I was a participant in the debate group. She told me a little about herself like her name, and that she worked there. She shared a story from her own life, telling me that she also had stage fright when she was young, and understood how difficult it was to get up and speak in front of a crowd. She encouraged me to stay calm, assuring me that once I started speaking, everything

no one can tell when my heart is racing or if my hands get sweaty, and even if they do, it's completely fine.

Listening to her words I took a deep breath and kicked out all negative thoughts out of my mind. I looked at the audience from backstage and noticed that my friends in the audience were thrilled and excited. They were excitedly waiting to see my performance. Seeing them gave me a surge of courage.

On the contrary, some people in the audience were least concerned about who was performing and who was not, and then there were my parents who were eagerly waiting to see me on stage for the first time.

I then realised that most of the other performers were sailing in the same boat as me. Suddenly, my name was announced. My palms were sweaty. I looked back at the lady. She gave me a thumbs up which made me smile. With a heavy heart, I walked to the stage.

I did not look at the audience in the first few seconds, but then I recalled the words of that lady and gave myself the confidence and courage to look up at the audience and I did it. I confronted myself with the audience. Seeing the familiar faces once again, my fear completely vanished into thin air and I had a huge smile on my face. I tried my best and I ended up doing every step and part well.

The audience was impressed and cheered for me. Their cheering was like a soothing balm on all the nervousness I was going through. It was beyond my expectations. I went through the ride of emotions. The beginning was rough, but it ended wholesome.

That lady's personality and the way she treated me had a huge impact on who I am. I never realised how a few words could change someone's day or even their life. I'm so grateful and will never forget her. ■



Illustration by Sumit

**J**okes  
A man got a job of painting the white line on the middle of the highway. After three days, the foreman called him.

"The first day on the job, you painted five miles of the highway; the second day, one mile, and today only a few feet! Why are you slowing down like that?"

"Cant' be helped," replied the man. "I keep getting farther and farther away from the paint can!"

"Any complaints?" asked the restaurant manager to a man dining in.

"Yes," said the man, "these peas are awfully hard."

The manager dipped a spoon into the peas in the plate and tasted them.

"They seem soft enough to me, sir," he declared.

"Yes, they are now," agreed the man, "I've been chewing them for the last five minutes!"



Two fleas were walking out of a cinema when they discovered it was raining hard.

"Shall we walk?" said one flea.

"No," said the other, "let's take a dog."

## Story time

By Rabia Hamid

# A birthday to remember

**I**t was a typical evening, and I walked with my father to the bakery to order my birthday cake. The anticipation of my birthday, which was just two days away, filled me with excitement.

As we entered the bakery, I felt a thrill knowing I would soon be celebrating with friends and family, enjoying the cake we were about to order. There were different types of cakes on display, and I got a little confused. After discussing it with my father, I ordered a customised cake.

When we arrived home, my mother gave invitations to all our close family and friends. The most exciting part of my birthday for me is when different people give me various presents.

The day of my birthday finally arrived. When I woke up, my family wished me first. My grandparents blessed me with their prayers and warm hugs. However, I had to wait the whole day for the birthday party because it was scheduled to start at eight in the

night. Finally, at 7 o'clock, I started getting ready for the party. I wore my new frock and a crown.

Then my family and friends started arriving. I met everyone excitedly, and they wished me and gave me gifts. But my excitement wasn't complete because my favourite aunt, Iman khala, hadn't arrived yet. She always brings me unique and different birthday presents. Last year, she gave me a roller skates.

I was desperately waiting for her, and finally she arrived a bit late due to traffic.

She said in her usual tone, "Mir-

ha, I have something special for you. You will love it."

Everyone gathered around us because it was a special gift. My cousin Irtiza bhai, Iman khala's son, had the basket in his hands. I was so excited,

wondering what it could be. Then khala gave me the basket, and as I took the net off the basket, I saw a beautiful white kitten, which was incredibly cute. I hugged it and carried it around.

Everyone cheered because it was a very different gift and special gift. I thanked khala, as she knows how much I love cats. The kitten then jumped from my hands and went into the lawn to play. We left her there and gathered around the cake to cut it.

After cutting the cake, we had dinner. Then, we played some games and danced to some music. Finally, the party ended and everyone started leaving.

When everyone had gone, I thought of looking for my kitten. I searched the lawn, but she was not there. I called all my family members and asked if they had seen my kitten. They said I should have taken care of her and not let her go outside because kittens are curious creatures, and they can go out wandering. I got upset, thinking I had lost her.

Then, my elder brother advised we should go out and ask our neighbours if they had seen a white kitten. My dad and brother looked for it in the house and all around the neighbourhood, but returned empty-handed. I had tears in my eyes. Because of my carelessness, the kitten had gone missing.

We went inside the house and suddenly, my mother called, "Look, here's your kitten! She is sleeping under the cushion here."

We were all relieved to know that the kitten was safe in the house, and we all sighed in peace. We had been looking for her everywhere, and all this time she was right at home near us.

I hugged her, and my brother said, "Give your kitten, a name at least."

So, I named her Butter because I had thought long ago that if I ever had a cat, I would name my cat Butter.

It was my best and most memorable birthday because I received my favourite birthday present and also learned an important lesson about taking care of my possessions. ■



Illustration by Aamnah Anahad



## Opinion

By Armeen Shahzad

**L**ife sometimes takes us on an exciting rollercoaster ride, that too without any admission fee. And in such a scenario, it demands a great deal of perseverance and resilience from us. As we reflect on our experiences, we come to realise that they have played a significant role in shaping the story of our lives.

This could not be more interesting than the adventures a science student experiences. From observing ripples in the water collected in the potholes on the street to recalling the process of diffusion after spraying a fragrance. From carefully observing the nutrient chart behind every product to remembering why that drop seeping through the balcony grills seems to be spherical.

Everything has a reason and is a phenomenon, according to science, and a true science student can never find it hard to know the reason behind the distortion of signals on your television screens.

## Science has it all



Illustration by Aamnah Anahad

Has the sight of dew on leaves ever sparked your curiosity about science? Or has a knee-jerk reaction ever made you wonder about the sci-

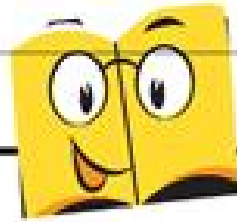
ence behind it? Science is all around us, waiting to be explored and understood.

A science student starts with excitement, feeling a rush of energy and motivation. What was once just a simple fever becoming something they now know as pyrexia. As their knowledge grows, they transition into a 'pre-medical student', driven by the desire to become a doctor. With that goal in mind, they work tirelessly day and night, putting in endless effort to finally achieve their dream of becoming a

medical student. The universe is expanding with all of its diverse mysteries that leave us in awe and wonder, becoming the

basis for new research and fuelling the curiosity in a science student's inquisitive mind. From the vastness of galaxies to the microscopic world of cells, each discovery opens the door to countless questions. These mysteries not only shape the direction of their studies, but also inspire them to seek answers and contribute to the ever-growing body of scientific knowledge.

Kudos to all the groundbreaking science discoveries and to my fellow science enthusiasts, who understand the underlying principles of our daily experiences. We know that every action has an equal and opposite reaction, just like Newton's third law of motion explains. This principle helps us grasp why reactions from our siblings or others might seem so intense. It's a reminder of how fundamental scientific laws can illuminate the simplest aspects of our lives, making us appreciate the depth of science in our everyday interactions. ■



# Story time

By Amna Asgher

## From challenge to glory

In the bustling city of Karachi, lived two brothers, Ahmed and Shafiq, each with their distinct nature and personalities. Ahmed was a cool and outgoing kid, while Shafiq was a silent observer and quite wise for his age.

Ahmed was always involved and occupied in football games and competitions, as he was the most outstanding player in his college team. Unfortunately, his interest cost him his studies and he failed his intermediate examination very badly.

Out of frustration, he lay on the couch in despair, complaining to his brother, who was silently reading a book.

"I don't understand, Shafiq. I failed the exam despite burning the midnight oil studying. The examiners must have been cruel; they must have deducted my genuine marks. I just know it!" he grumbled.

"Ahmed, take a deep breath, you have been cursing the examiner for a long time," said Shafiq calmly.

"You can calm yourself Shafiq, because you just got lucky enough to



pass your examination with flying colours," sniffed Ahmed in a very envious manner.

Shafiq instantly figured out Ahmed's intentions, but being his brother, he decided to help Ahmed out of his misery.

The next day, Shafiq urged Ahmed to submit his re-examination form. Later that day, Ahmed learned about the annual football

championship and his coach encouraged him to register as an official member of the All-Sindh Colleges Team.

When Ahmed came home that night, he was perplexed. Noticing his brother's unusual behaviour, Shafiq asked what the matter was.

"I don't know Shafiq, I cannot decide whether I should focus on my studies or football career," Ahmed said in a sorrowful tone.

Hearing his brother's frustration about his career choices, Shafiq came up with an idea and explained that Ahmed could pursue both paths if he directed his efforts properly.

Shafiq quickly grabbed Ahmed's football and three books from the shelf, for the subjects in which Ahmed had received poor marks. Ahmed looked on in surprise.

Shafiq placed the football on the table in front of Ahmed and tried to balance the books on it, but despite his efforts, he failed. He then explained to his brother that if he didn't manage his responsibilities in a balanced way and also in the

right way, no matter how hard he tried, he would not succeed.

"Then what am I supposed to do?" asked Ahmed desperately.

"Place three books on top of each other and then put a ball on the uppermost book," Shafiq instructed.

Ahmed easily balanced the ball above the books. He quickly understood the lesson Shafiq was trying to teach him.

"Now I see that if I plan my days properly, I'll have enough time to prepare for my re-examination and practice for the annual football event," Ahmed said, while giving a high-five to his brother warmly.

The next day, he registered for the football team and, at home, he organised his daily schedule to include football practice at a nearby club after college and exam preparation by subject.

Shafiq was pleased to have helped his brother with his advice.

Ahmed confidently passed his examination and led his team to victory in the championship. Later, his parents supported his participation in international championships.

A few years later, Shafiq became a bank manager after completing his ACCA, while Ahmed, having graduated on a scholarship from a German university, joined the official football league.

Their combined achievements highlight the impact of determination and wise counsel. From overcoming challenges to reaching new heights, their journey exemplifies the rewards of dedication and support. ■



### Music

**1** "The Eras Tour" was the highest-grossing concert tour in 2023. The tour was of which artist?

**2** Which instrument is the largest in the string family?

**3** Which band released the popular song "Let It Go" from the Disney movie *Frozen*?

**4** Billie Eilish is the youngest person to win two Oscars. It was for her songs "No Time to Die" from the movie *No Time to Die* and "What Was I Made For?" from which movie?

**5** Which musical genre is commonly associated with bagpipes?

**6** Zayn Malik was a former member of which

musical band before going solo?

**7** Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta is the real name of which famous American singer?

**8** The soul-pop superstar recently announced plans to take a lengthy break from the music industry, while wrapping up live performances in Germany?

**9** Which band's signature song is "Dancing Queen"?

**10** In 2024, Taylor Swift set an all-time record at the Grammys as the performer who has the most wins in the Album of the Year category. She won her fourth Grammy for which album?

—The Quiz Master

- 1. Taylor Swift
- 2. Double bass. It over 6 feet long. The double bass has the longest strings, which allow it to play very low notes. The 6 to 8 double basses of the orchestra are almost always playing the harmony.
- 3. Idina Menzel
- 4. Barbie
- 5. Celtic, a genre commonly found in Scotland and Ireland.
- 6. One Direction
- 7. Lady Gaga
- 8. Adele
- 9. ABBA
- 10. "Midnights"

ANSWERS

## Spotlight

### LEGO Harry Potter games getting a new remaster soon

Warner Bros. Games is remastering the LEGO Harry Potter collection, which will be released on October 8 for PlayStation 5, Xbox Series X/S and PC (Steam) at \$39.99.



Originally launched in 2016, this collection combines the 2010 and 2011 games covering all Harry Potter films. The remaster will feature 60 FPS, native 4K resolution, haptic feedback and high-resolution shadow maps. It will be available only digitally, with no physical release planned. ■

### Marvel's Infinity Saga concert debuts *Fantastic Four's* theme

The Marvel Studios' Infinity Saga Concert Experience debuted at the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles. Fans got a surprise with the debut of the *Fantastic Four: First Steps* theme, composed by Michael Giacchino. After the concert, Giacchino appeared on stage, offering an additional four-minute performance of the score for the upcoming *Fantastic Four* film, set to release on July 25, 2025. Marvel Studios' Kevin Feige also made an appearance, announcing the concert experience will go on a world tour next year. ■



### Adele confirms musical hiatus

Adele is taking a lengthy hiatus and bidding farewell to her fans for an undisclosed amount of time.

"I'd like to thank you so much for coming to my show this evening," Adele said during the final show of her Munich residency, per fan footage shared via social media. "And after that, I will not see you for an incredibly long time and I will hold you dear in my heart," Adele said, adding that she will "fantasise" about the shows she's played the past three years.

"It has been amazing, I just need a rest," she said while getting emotional. "I have spent the last seven years building a new life for myself and I want to live it. I want to live the new life that I've been building. I will miss you terribly." The multiple Grammy winner and single mother previously said she suffers from sciatica and is uncomfortable performing live for long periods. ■



## The weekly weird

### Toothache tree shrine in Kathmandu

In Kathmandu, Nepal, a unique shrine to the goddess Vaisha Dev, the patron saint of toothache, draws scores of visitors seeking relief from dental pain. Known as the Toothache Tree, this old stump, located between Thamel and Kathmandu Durbar Square, is covered with rupee coins nailed by sufferers hoping for the goddess's aid.

Despite modern dentistry, people continue this tradition, which dates back to the Lichchhavi kingdom (400-750 CE). Legend says a gold idol once resided in the tree, but it was stolen long ago. Today, the area around the Toothache Tree is known as the city's dental district, with numerous clinics nearby. ■



### The world's most expensive cigar lighter

The Louis XIII Fleur de Parme, crafted from 400 grams of solid gold and adorned with 152 sapphires, is recognised as the world's most expensive cigar lighter, priced at \$500,000.

French luxury brand S.T. Dupont created it in 2013 for Hong Kong billionaire Steven Hung, with Princess Tania de Bourbon Parme, a descendant of Louis XIII, designing the piece. Inspired by the Renaissance/Baroque style, the lighter resembles a royal gold crown. Its popularity led S.T. Dupont produced 31 smaller replicas, each sold for \$15,900. Over a decade later, it remains the world's most expensive cigar lighter. ■



### New lightsaber toy shows off a retractable blade

Star Wars fans should be on the lookout for a

brand-new lightsaber toy with features you haven't seen on an official release. Goliath has launched its new Power Saber line, which featured auto-retracting and extending glowing plastic swords — something never seen in official Star Wars toys.

Initially developed with Hasbro, but inventor Yair Shilo secured a patent and teamed with Goliath for the release. The Power Saber boasts motion-based SFX, flash-on-clash, and a 35" extendable blade, available in red or green. ■



### Pop culture icons from flowers and leaves

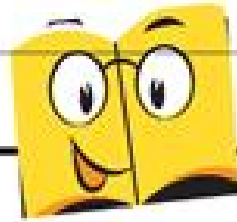
Raku Inoue is a talented Canadian artist who specialises in carefully arranging flower petals, leaves and other plant parts to recreate pop culture characters, animals and pretty much anything else you can think of.

Inoue's journey into painstaking floral art began one windy day in 2017 when he noticed a strong wind shaking dozens of pink petals from a rose bush in his backyard. The Japanese-born artist picked them up and came up with the idea to use the petals to create art. He arranged them in the shape of a beetle with small twigs for legs, and his little project turned out so well that he kept at it. Today, Raku Inoue is famous for his impressive portfolio of plant art. Each design is meticulously arranged and photographed before being composted, highlighting the ephemeral nature of his work. ■



## Story time

By Syeda Alvina Fatima Zaidi



# The fateful dream

**I**naya was deep in slumber when she suddenly tumbled out of bed and landed in a 'heap' on the floor. Just a second later, cries of "Ammi!" filled the house. Poor Ammi had to leave her cooking and go inspect the scene.

"What happened beta?" she asked, confused as she found a scowling Inaya on the floor.

"Ammi, I had that same dream about my project that ... that I have exceeded the deadline and I got expelled!" she explained with a shriek.

Ammi's anxious face changed into a calm expression as she sat on the bed.

"Beta, you don't need to worry. You are an A-grade student and you still have at least ... (she counted her fingers) three months! This is an end-of-term assignment, just put your thinking cap on and come up with ideas. Oh, and also, you won't get expelled!" she consoled her in a soothing tone.

"Hmm ... sounds reasonable. I just need to think of some lead for my project," Inaya gestured towards her stomach. "The problem seems to be that I'm too hungry to think of anything but food."

"Yes, I was busy cooking breakfast when a rude call interrupted me," Ammi added with a laugh. "Go and get ready."

Inaya nodded and left for the bathroom.

The next day when Inaya arrived home after school, she rang the bell continuously until the door was eventually opened by her younger brother, wearing a dazed expression on his face.

"Assalam-o-alaikum!" she howled and launched her shoes on the rack, nearly destroying it. Hearing Inaya, Ammi greeted her back.

"Ammi! It's so hot outside. I think I'm melting, help me!" Inaya over-reacted.

"Okay, drama queen come, first go freshen up, then come and eat some food."

After lunch, Inaya went into her room to work on her project. A few failed attempts later, she thought, "I'm so sleepy. Maybe I'll be able to concentrate after a tiny nap ..." and before she knew it, she was fast



Illustration by Sumbal

asleep, drooling on her desk.

"What is this place?" she thought as she looked around the strangely all-white room after being jolted to consciousness. Eager for a clue, Inaya ran around and after finally becoming exhausted, she found a standing figure looking at the ground disappointedly.

She approached it and, hesitantly, poked it in the arm. As the mysterious person turned around and Inaya was shocked as it was the one and only — Quaid-i-Azam!

Taken aback, Inaya exclaimed, "I can't believe it!"

"Yes dear, it's me. I think you may not realise this, but this is your dream," he replied in his crisp voice.

Inaya was surprised beyond words, but she gathered her senses and dared to ask about him what he felt about how things are like in Pakistan today.

"Ah, Pakistan! My Pakistan is deteriorating. Heatwave after heatwave, thousands suffering from heat strokes, there are landfills overflow-

ing with toxic waste and water becoming increasingly polluted. This isn't the Pakistan I dreamt of and I struggled for. It's turning into something like a boiler room."

Inaya was ashamed because she knew she had also contributed to the state her beloved country is now in.

"You, my dear Inaya, you have to do something about this, for I be-

hauled her heavy bones up and sat on her desk. After a couple of hours inside her locked room, Inaya came out. Her family was just sitting down for dinner while Ammi was bringing something for her to eat when Inaya appeared in the dining room.

She pretended this was her school assembly, imagining herself on stage with hundreds of eyes focused on her. She coughed to capture the supposed 'audience's' attention before beginning her speech.

"Since the primary issue facing our struggling country is the heat caused by the careless littering of polluted materials on land, in the air and in our water, I've decided to organise a small plantation programme at our school. Anyone can participate. I've also created a chart highlighting the benefits of plants to our environment — they help reduce heat and produce oxygen, a gas essential for our survival. I hope you all understand the purpose of this project, as I'm doing it not for recognition, but for the betterment of Pakistan."

After ending the speech a few minutes later, Inaya made a courteous bow and said, "Thank you". The dining table erupted in applause from her family.

"That was awesome, aapi!" her brother squeaked.

"Thank you, everyone, and especially Ammi, for the motivation I needed," Inaya replied, beaming from ear to ear.

It looked like the rest of the month went by in a blur and the big day came, the end of term project day. Inaya had already had her campaign approved by her principal and she was ready for the ultimate reveal.

After hearing her name being called out, taking a deep breath, Inaya went up the stage. After the speech, she launched the campaign with her friends, collecting funds from students who wanted to participate. With the funds they collected, they bought plants and planted them with other students in the school's vicinity and, surprisingly, it went better than she expected.

Everyone in the school was very impressed with her presentation and the project itself. And it was no surprise that Inaya got the first prize in the project competition.

"This calls for a treat at Inaya's favourite restaurant!" her dad announced joyfully and everyone agreed.

Inaya grew up to become a philanthropist, dedicating her social work to the same principle that Quaid-i-Azam had conveyed to her in that dream — age does not matter, it is the small steps that lead to bigger ones, much like how a river is formed by many small drops. ■

lieve in you. Your spirit of energy is unnatural and the fire of knowledge is still young. Think about how to reduce heat in your country," Quaid-i-Azam explained.

"B-but, how si-r? I'm just an ordinary girl," Inaya nervously replied.

Quaid-i-Azam smiled and gave a small chuckle and spoke, "Inaya, age does not matter in any way. And the small steps lead to bigger ones, for remember this example that a river is made up of small drops."

Inaya woke up, still confused by her dream. But instead of Quaid-i-Azam, she saw her parents and brother trying desperately to wake her up.

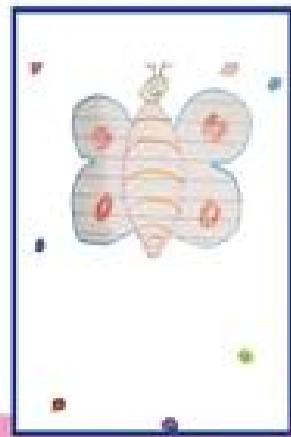
"Ammi ... what happened? Why is Baba here?" Inaya she spoke weakly after Ammi released her.

"Beta, thank God you are awake! We got so worried! You collapsed because of the heat, and I called your father so he came back from work early."

Later in the evening, Inaya suddenly remembered her assignment. Gathering all her strength, she

# art corner

How can I get more people to see my work?



**Bilal Zaman**  
6 years, Karachi



**Piryanka Khanghar**  
11 years, Karachi



**Abdullah Anas**  
9 years, Karachi



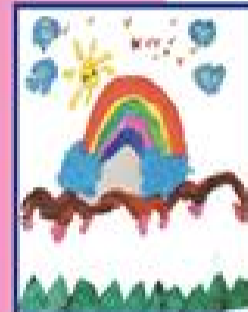
**Sarrinah Fatima**  
12 years, Karachi



**Abdullah Zaman**  
4 years, Karachi



**Ali Zainulabedin**  
6 years, Karachi



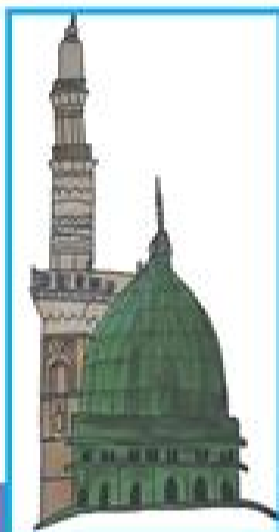
**Duae Zainab**  
6 years, Karachi



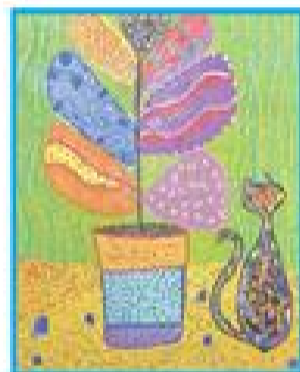
**Zamin Mansoor**  
5 years, Karachi



**Maryam Zia**  
9 years, Karachi



**Muntaha**  
9 years, Karachi



**Anabia Farrukh Ishrat**  
11 years, Karachi



**Haadiya Bhangar**  
11 years, Karachi



**Aleeza Amna**  
12 years, Karachi



**Moosa Hasani**  
7 years, Karachi



**Huzaiifa Zaman**  
9 years, Karachi



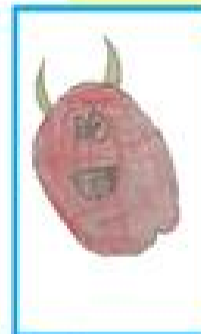
**Rayyan Hameed Magsi**  
8 years, Karachi



**Ilsa Khurram**  
8 years, Karachi



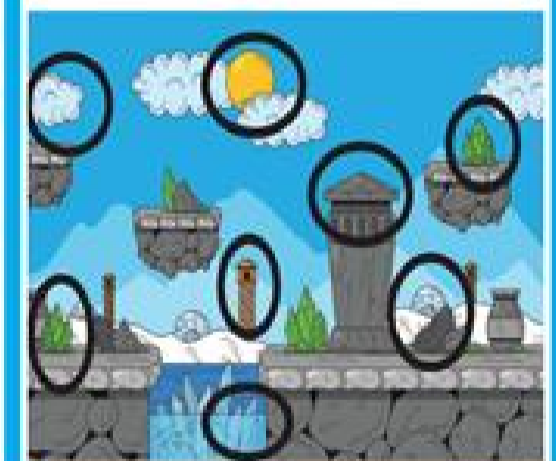
**S. Hassaan Ahmed Rizvi**  
5 years, Karachi



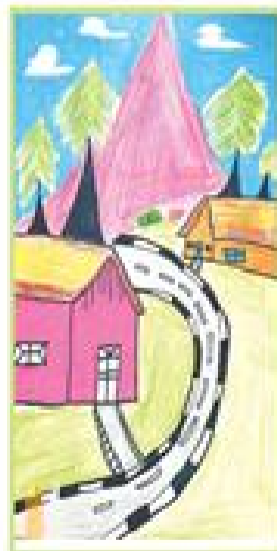
**Zohaib Adnan**  
6 years, Karachi

## Spot the difference

Answers of the pictures on Page 3



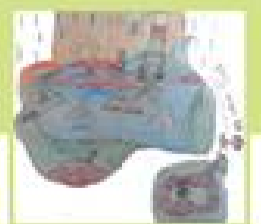
**Zoobia**  
6 years, Karachi



**Kartik Kumar**  
10 years, Karachi



**Faris Farukh**  
7 years, Karachi



**Muskan**  
7 years, Karachi



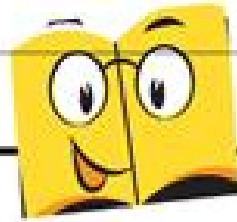
When sending your drawings, poems and contributions to us, write your full name, age, class, school, address and telephone number/email address. If you are sending your drawings by post, please write your details on the back side of the drawing.

Email: [youngworld.dawn@gmail.com](mailto:youngworld.dawn@gmail.com) or [youngworld@dawn.com](mailto:youngworld@dawn.com)  
Postal address: Young World, Haroon House, Dr. Ziauddin Ahmed Road, Karachi, Postal Code 74200. Telephone: +92-21-35613338, +92-21-35613014  
Please note that we don't accept drawings that have been traced or made by children over 12 years, of age.



## Story time

By Mahnoor Sohail



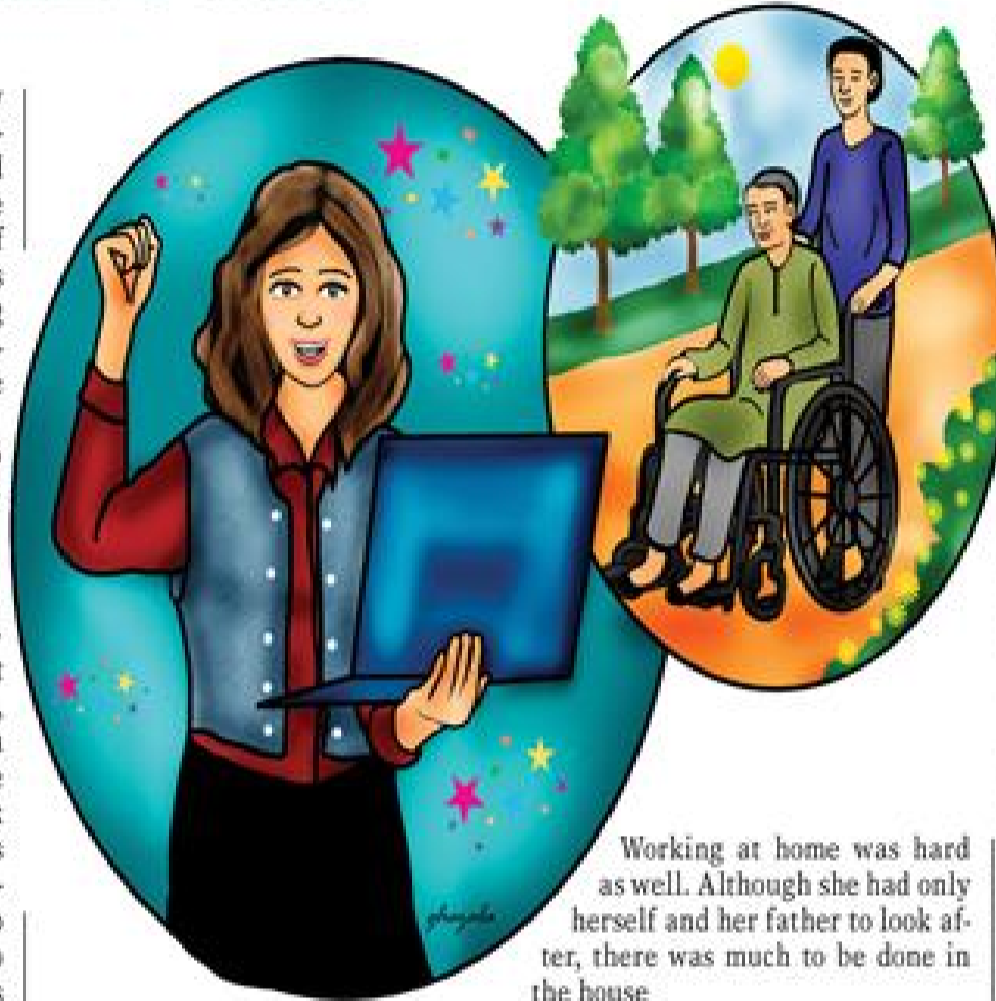
# Against all odds

**M**aham was an only child and, as a 19-year-old, she often wished that she could have some fun like other girls. Some of her friends, she knew, were always going to see the latest films, eating meals in the most expensive restaurants, and wearing expensive branded clothes.

"My life is all work. I don't get to enjoy most of the exciting things other girls my age do," Maham said to herself one day.

It was indeed all work, because Maham's mother died in an accident, while the same accident left her father paralysed. Therefore, as well as working hard all day in a departmental store in the large city she lived in, Maham had to look after her father. She cooked all his meals and kept the house spotlessly clean. But she did not want to spend all her life doing this and so at night, when everything else was done, she started learning web design. She went to attend classes in the evenings.

She would often think, "One day, I will get a really good job as a web designer for a big company, and I will have much more money and I



will be able to get external help to take care of my father while I go to work."

Time passed, Maham worked harder than before. She was very often on her feet all day from morning un-

til night. Her work was not easy, as Maham worked at the meat counter where sometimes, the buyers were never satisfied. She did not like this job, she would have preferred a coffee or a clothing shop. However, like many working girls, she needed the money and so she had to persevere.

Soon the sound of the click, click, click of the keys could be heard as the class began its evening's work. Maham became absorbed in hers too. She was very tired, but she tried her best to concentrate, looking all the time at the code and designs on her screen.

"You have a good understanding," said a voice. "I have great hopes for you in diploma examinations next week."

She looked up to find her tutor standing by her desk. This was indeed an honour.

"Your coding speed is good too," went on the tutor. "Try hard in your examination and then I will help you to find a nice job. Remember to practice your coding at home, as well. If you have no one to help you, there are plenty of tutorials available online."

He walked to the next desk, leaving Maham to her work and wondering just what time she could find to fit in any more practice.

Her tutor was right, indeed, for that year, Maham obtained her diploma with very good marks. As promised, her tutor secured her a job at a large company, where she showcased her hard work and was soon promoted. She didn't stop learning; she continued studying in the evenings and acquired other skills that helped her build a successful career. Eventually, she fulfilled her dream and was able to provide her father with a caretaker at home. She was so happy that, through determination and hard work, she achieved everything she had dreamed of. ■

Working at home was hard as well. Although she had only herself and her father to look after, there was much to be done in the house

"It will all pass if I work hard enough," she thought as she walked towards the technical institute, where she was learning web design.

The room was busy as she entered it. Most seats were occupied by girls and boys.

## Movie

review

# The Sandy Cheeks Movie

By Muhammad Suhayb

**T**he *SpongeBob SquarePants* Cinematic Universe manages to expand with *Saving Bikini Bottom: The Sandy Cheeks Movie*. Released on Netflix, the movie mixes live-action with CGI and animation, where the animated characters interact with the real ones. The film brings back the crazy underwater world of all the beloved characters, *SpongeBob* and *Sandy Cheeks* at the forefront. This third *SpongeBob* movie keeps up with the fun jokes, bright animation and lovable lessons from the other films.

The film begins when the whole of *Bikini Bottom* — *SpongeBob*'s underwater home — is scooped up by a crane and transported to a Texas laboratory. Evil scientist Sue Nahmee (Wanda Sykes) plans to exploit their environs and turn them into a theme park attraction and a toy line. All in flesh and blood (not animation), she begins with experiments on the residents, and here

enter the heroes. When it's saving the world, *SpongeBob* is joined by a capable, science-savvy character, *Sandy*. The addition of *Sandy* makes the two-member world-saving team stronger.

Despite the presence of *SpongeBob* (voiced by Tom Kenny), *Sandy Cheeks*' character (voiced by Carolyn Lawrence) is given more screen time in this 86-minute movie than in the previous ones. Her practical approach to problem-solving gives the film a balance of humour and heart. Whether it's constructing gadgets on the go or using her karate skills to fend off enemies, *Sandy* proves to be a reliable and tough ally. Even her family, when summoned at a crucial moment, is a treat to watch. They are more circus performers than family members, who perform rather than help out.



The stunning animation, vibrant colours and detailed character designs bring all the characters and its surreal underwater landscapes to life. While the humour remains as silly as ever, warmth comes from the camaraderie between the characters. *Sandy*'s dry humour, often poking fun at *SpongeBob* and *Patrick*'s antics, fits perfectly into the film's tone. As for the one-liners, they are silly and senseless. *SpongeBob*'s dialogues are funny while *Sandy* has used philosophy in the lines.

Directed by Liza Johnson, the movie touches on themes of friendship, perseverance, and being there for the ones you love. *Sandy*'s unwavering dedication to helping *SpongeBob* demonstrates the power of true friendship. Her character embodies loyalty and strength, serving as a reminder that intellect and courage can go hand in hand. ■