



Lawmakers can't join PTI under new law: speaker

- "Defiant" ECP to meet today to ponder apex court's order in reserved seats case
- May also deliberate over fresh petitions seeking to deprive PTI of reserved seats
- Information minister terms Ayaz Sadiq's letter "milestone in parliamentary history"

By Iftikhar A. Khan

ISLAMABAD: An apparently defiant Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) is set to meet today (Friday) for the third consecutive day to deliberate over the Supreme Court's order on reserved seats, whereas the National Assembly speaker urged the body to honour laws made by parliament, insisting that the amended Elections Act prevents independent lawmakers from switching parties.

Sessions told Dawn the ECP's meeting stretched to the next day because a legal expert, who was supposed to be consulted on the matter, was unavailable on Thursday.

In a majority ruling passed on July 12, the Supreme Court declared PTI eligible for reserved seats despite an amendment barring independently elected candidates from joining political parties after a specific deadline.

The ECP, chaired by Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sohail

Khan, met on Thursday for the second day but deferred further discussions to Friday's session.

In a related development, a petition was filed by two PML-N members of the Punjab Assembly — Amira Hassan Sheikh and Mohsin Ayub Khan — seeking to declare that any political party failing to submit its list of candidates for reserved seats

envygity is essential in maintaining the integrity and independence of our parliamentary system. Any actions perceived as undermining the sovereignty of parliament can erode public trust and confidence in our institutions," the letter said.

Mr Sadiq alleged that the Supreme Court's July 12 ruling enabled a candidate to switch political parties and argued that this went against the amended Elections Act, which he said now has overriding authority.

The speaker's letter highlighted the parliament's passage of the Elections (Second Amendment) Act 2014, which was signed into law on Aug. 2 and came into retrospective effect from 2012. He said the amendment precludes independent candidates from switching parties once they have declared their affiliation.

"Two particular provisions of the amended Elections Act are particularly relevant for your

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Speaker's letter

In his letter to the chief election commissioner, National Assembly Speaker Asrar Ayaz Sohail stressed the importance of parliamentary sovereignty and its implications for the democratic process.

"Upholding the principles of parliamentary sov-

'Proposed' amendments can't be challenged: SC

- Registrar returns plea filed by SCBA's Abid Zuberi; terms question posed in petition 'hypothetical'
- PBC decries 'secrecy' surrounding Constitutional Package; lawyers' body to study proposed amendment

By Nauman Iqbal

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court has said that proposed constitutional amendments can't be challenged at this stage, since they are yet to be passed by parliament.

Meanwhile on Thursday, lawyers com-

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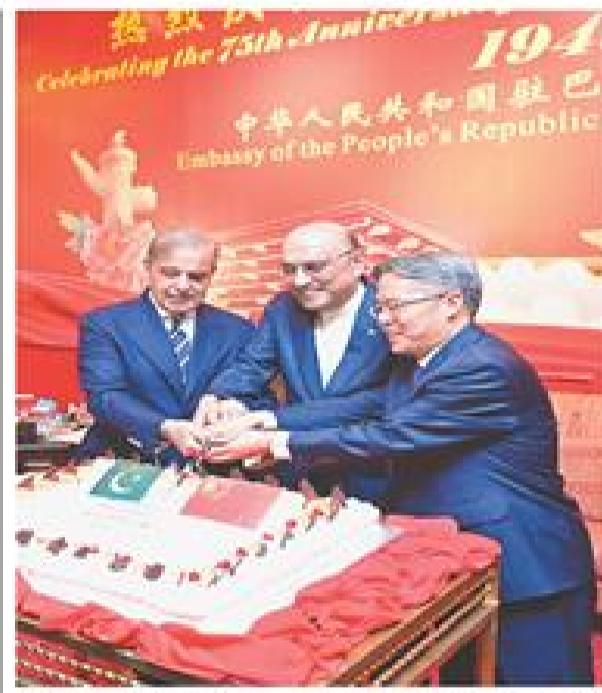
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tion moved by former Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) president Abid Shahid Zuberi, seeking to stop the government from tabling the "Constitutional Package" in parliament.

In a one-page letter, the assistant registrar referred to the direction from the registrar's office to return the petition, which raised "hypothetical questions".

It said that under the Constitution, the power to make laws lies with parliament, and it cannot be curtailed before a law has been passed.

The registrar also objected to the officials who have been cited as respondents



ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi and Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zaidong cut a cake to celebrate China's National Day, at a reception on Thursday.—PM Office

New CPEC phase will transform the country's economy: PM

Dawn Report

KARACHI: Pakistan on Thursday reaffirmed its commitment to working with China for shared prosperity, and promoting peace and stability in the world.

The second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) would help transform the country's economy, Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi said at the National Day Reception, hosted by the Chinese Embassy to mark the 65th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

Meanwhile, President Asif Ali Zardari said that high-quality development of CPEC would "help unlock greater benefits for our people, besides enhancing connectivity and prosperity of the region".

"We are entering into the second phase of CPEC which has huge potential of mutual cooperation in the field of

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Blasphemy suspect killed in 'police encounter'

Mobs burns man's body after snatching it from heirs; family say slain doctor was struggling with mental health issues

By Qamaruddin & A.B. Arisar

MIRPURKHAS/TURMEROT: An Umerkot-based doctor, Shabir Nasar Kausar, was shot dead by police in an alleged extra-judicial killing in Mirpurkhas on Thursday, a day after he was booked on allegations of blasphemy.

Shabir Nasar Kausar was arrested by Umerkot police and brought to Mirpurkhas, where he was allegedly killed by Sindhi police in an "encounter". Police, however, denied arresting the man from Karachi.

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On Wednesday, the medical professional was booked by Umerkot police under Section 295-C of the Pakistan Penal Code for allegedly posting "blasphemous content" on Facebook following protests by religious parties.

Reportedly, the suspect had

Women sentenced to death for online blasphemy: Page 3

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Ready to discuss India's concerns on Indus Waters Treaty, says FO

Says deliberations should be held within existing mechanism; calls Lebanon attack 'terrorism' by Israel

By Baqir Sajjad Syed

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has expressed willingness to discuss issues concerning the Indus

Water Treaty (IWT) with India. Weeks after India formally notified Pakistan to amend the bilateral treaty due to "fundamental and unforeseen changes in circumstances," the Foreign Office said on Thursday that all discussions could take place within the treaty's existing framework.

During her weekly press briefing, Foreign Office Spokesperson Muneeza Zahra Baloch was asked about India's intention to review the water sharing agreement.

In response, Ms Baloch reaf-

firmed Pakistan's commitment to the treaty and said the issues could be discussed between the commissioners for Indus Waters appointed by both countries.

Under the IWT, the commissioners are part of the Permanent Indus Commission, comprising officials from India and Pakistan. This body oversees the treaty's implementation and exchanges bilateral data.

"The Indus Water Treaty is an

Continued on Page 5

Pakistan warns UN of global threat posed by TTP

Dawn Report

KARACHI: Pakistan has warned the UN Security Council of a "serious threat of terrorism within and from Afghanistan", emphasising that the Islamic Taliban Pakistan (ITP) is fast emerging as an "umbrella organisation" with potential destabilisation dimensions reported.

The banned TTP, a separate group but aligned with the Afghan Taliban, had launched attacks on Pakistani security forces after breaking fragile ceasefire agreement with the government in November 2012.

According to a statement posted on the X account of the Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN, Mian Aslam, while addressing a UN Security Council meeting on the situation in Afghanistan on Wednesday, pointed out the threat posed by the TTP globally.

The ambassador termed the TTP, known as Fitrat ul Khawarij in Pakistan, as the largest terrorist organisation in Afghanistan that is conducting almost daily

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ON OTHER PAGES



Israel bombs Lebanon after paper blasts

Israel bombed Lebanon on Thursday, after two waves of blasts targeted its communications systems, killing at least 37 people across the country. On Thursday, the Israeli military claimed it struck an Hezbollah "infrastructure site" and a weapons storage facility overnight in southern Lebanon. Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah said his group had suffered an "unprecedented" blow.

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Governor sees corruption in VCs selection

By Imran Gabol

LAHORE: A conflict has started brewing between the Punjab government and the government/chancery regarding appointment of VCs in public sector universities of the province.

Governor Sardar Saleem Haider Khan raised concerns over corruption allegations involving top candidates for VC positions while Punjab Information Minister Asma Balkhan reminded him of his "limited role" in the selection process. Twenty-five public universities have been working without regular VCs for the last two-and-a-half years.

In an interview with a private TV channel, the governor expressed serious doubts over the transparency of the ongoing hiring process.

He said that he had received information from sources that the search committee did not follow the transparent process as better candidates were not in the top three, candidates while those who had assumed top positions were facing corruption allegations.

He claimed that he had documentary proofs of allegations and wondered what would happen if he made these proofs public. He said he was not satisfied with the summaries sent to him and he would decide the fate of these recommendations on merit.

Answering a question, Mr Khan said he would get legal opinions on the matter before issuing the notifications.

"We did not have any names to be appointed as VCs or demand (the) government to appoint anyone as VC but we were asking (it) to discuss the matter with us and the VCs should be appointed on merit through proper discussion," he said.

Mrs Balkhan refuted the allegations of the governor, stressing that his role was only to endorse the decisions made by the Punjab Assembly and the provincial cabinet. She stressed that the governor had no authority to overturn cabinet decisions.

"This selection committee was formed by the cabinet and it has carried out interviews of all aspiring candidates. The committee recommended senior, eligible and experienced educationists for the positions of VCs," Mrs Balkhan said in response to the governor's allegations.

Truck kills four wedding guests, injures eight

By Our Correspondent

TOKA TEK SINGH: Four women died and at least eight were injured when a truck laden with cement bags ran over a group of people walking by the roadside at Oddamwali Basti near Chak 427-JB, Aduaywal, on the Gojra-Jhang Road at night.

Rescue 1122 said the mishunt function of one Mansha Qadhi, a resident of Chak 430-JB, Gojra was taking place and a number of people were going to participate in it when the incident happened. They were crossing the road when the truck drove lost control of his vehicle due to speeding and it hit another truck coming from the opposite direction in an attempt to save the people before running them over. The Gojra-bound truck was coming from Jhang.

The incident left at least a dozen people injured, out of them four women died on impact while eight other persons were shifted to the Gojra Civil Hospital.

The deceased women were identified as Asma Bibi (36) and Nisha Younis (41), residents of Chak 427-JB, Yasmin (36) of Chak 420-JB and Nimsa Ashraf (37) of Lalyah. The eight wounded who were shifted to hospital included Farzana (22) and Yasmin (22), resident of Aduaywal, Put, Asim (30), Nasim Bibi (36) and Sana Aslam, resident of Jhang, Muhammad Hassan (12), Jawed (24) and Rukhsana Bibi (11) of different villages.



LAHORE: Clerks protest in front of the Civil Secretariat against inflation.—White Star

Surrender of policewoman to Centre withdrawn abruptly

SSP Dr Anoosh transferred and repatriated against laid-down procedure

By Asif Chaudhry

LAHORE: To an utter surprise to many PSPs, the Punjab government withdrew the order of repatriation of First woman SSP Investigation Lahore Dr Anoosh Masood Chaudhary within 24 hours of surrendering her services to the Establishment Division Islamabad.

Surprisingly, in this particular transfer case, the Punjab government addressed all the issues in one notification.

"The services of Dr Anoosh Masood Ch, currently awaiting posting in Central Police Office Punjab are hereby repatriated to the Establishment Division Islamabad. She is relieved of her duties in the government of Punjab, forthwith," reads the notification.

The official further said that the notification contained the words "currently awaiting posting" which again confused the police officers who declared it as "unusually unusual happening" in the transferring practices.

He said the confusion descended when the chief secretary issued another notification within 24 hours and announced withdrawal of the earlier notification of her repatriation.

"The department's notification regarding repatriation of Dr Anoosh Masood, currently awaiting posting in Central Police Office is hereby withdrawn/cancelled ab initio," reads the second notification issued later on the laid-down procedure.

A senior official said according to the procedure the government used to issue a notification of a grade-18 police officer related to his/her transfer from the position he/she was serving and direct

him/her to report to the Central Police Office (CPO).

In case, he said, further services were not required further for the province, the government would issue a separate notification/order of the inspection officer, relieving him/her of duties from the province and repatriation as well.

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Constitutional court dominates political discourse

- Bilawal calls for such courts in provinces, says other parties to be contacted if Fazl refuses to lend support
- Tariq says parliament has sole jurisdiction to enact, amend laws; Aqeel denies law being made in 'haste'
- Omar says PTI will resist move to set up 'super court'

By Syed Irfan Raza

ISLAMABAD: While the ruling allies on Thursday assailed the judiciary for "interfering" in constitutional matters and vowed to establish the proposed constitutional court at any cost, the opposition PTI termed the proposed forum a "super court" and resolved to block it.

PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari said his party will never retreat from its stance on the formation of a constitutional court as it was the dream of his slain mother Benazir Bhutto and also promised in the Charter of Democracy signed between her and former prime minister Nawaz Sharif in 2006.

Speaking at a Peoples Lawyers Forum (PLF) programme, the PPP leader said he believed that not only in the centre but constitutional courts should also be set up in provinces. He said the party's lawyers' wing gave the 1973 Constitution to the country and stood firm against every tyrant, whether in the form of dictators like Gen Zia and Gen Musharraf, or co-chair Justice Iftikhar Chaudhary.

"The [position of] opposition of judges, which constitutionally lies with the prime minister, was later transferred to the chief justice through judicial intervention. Attempts were made to address this in the 18th Amendment, following global examples like the United States, where legislators hold such powers. However, this effort was defeated by the so-called 'handshake' chief justice, who set a precedent for an unequal judicial system. The doctrine of 'political activism' initiated by Chief Justice Iftikhar Chaudhary has since been propagated by figures like Saigib Nasar and Gulzar Ahmed," he regretted.

He said the process of judicial appointments needs reforms. Stressing the need for constitutional courts, he said only 15 per cent of the Supreme Court's cases are constitutional, "yet these occupy significant portions of [the court's] time". He said provinces need to have their own constitutional courts. "In provincial courts, 50 per cent of cases are related to

constitutional matters. Legislation in this regard would provide meaningful relief to people seeking swift and timely justice," he added.

He lashed out at the judiciary for not giving prompt justice to people, saying as PM Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto got justice 50 years after his "judicial murder". "Is it the responsibility of judiciary to fix prices of bananas and sugar?" he asked.

Later, speaking on ANTV News, the PPP chairman endorsed a proposal regarding a council of high court judges but said it should be done through the Judicial Commission of Pakistan or a proposed parliamentary body.

"When our cases are shifted from Sindh to Islamabad, why can't the judges be transferred from one high court to another?" he asked.

About his meeting with JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman, Mr Bhutto-Zardari said it was decided that they would meet again in two days, but no one from the JUI-F had contacted him. He said the government office had asked him that JUI-F was deserving.

"If the Machans doesn't agree on the constitutional package, we will talk to any other party for support," he added.

Mianwali Information Minister Anasullah Tariq told a presser that parliament is supreme and has the sole jurisdiction to enact and amend laws.

Prime Minister's Adviser on Law and Justice Aslamdar Aqeel said the government would take opposition on board on the issue of constitutional courts and would incorporate their positive suggestions. In a statement, he said the government was not making the proposed legislation its basis as it was working on it since its inception.

Separately, PTI leader Omar Ayub said that his party would never accept any "super court", adding that there would be marital law in the country if the constitutional package was passed by parliament.

He said both Mr Bhutto-Zardari and Mr Tariq were not aware of the several issues when efforts were made last week to get them passed from parliament.



HYDERABAD: A worker places clay pitchers in the sun to dry at Kurnool Para.—APP

Woman sentenced to death for 'online blasphemy'

- Family pardons cop who killed blasphemy suspect in Quetta
- HRCP raises alarm over extrajudicial killings in blasphemy cases

By Malik Asad and Saleem Shahid

ISLAMABAD-QUETTA: A woman was sentenced to death on Thursday under the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act (Peca) in a blasphemy case.

Judge Mohammad Ahsan Majoka convicted the woman under Section 295 of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) and Section 11 of Peca. In addition to the death penalty, the court imposed a fine of Rs200,000 on the convict.

The case was brought against her by the Federal Investigation Agency's (FIA) cybercrime wing on a complaint lodged by a private citizen, Shiraz Ahmed.

According to the FIA, the woman, who belongs to the Christian community, was accused of posting blasphemous content about the Holy Prophet (PBUH) on social media in September 2020. The FIA registered the case against her on July 26, 2021.

The woman, a mother of four, had previously sought bail from both the trial court and the Islamabad High Court (IHC), but her bail applications were rejected by both courts.

Family pardons cop

Separately, the family of Abdul Ali, who was shot and killed while he was police custody over blasphemy accusations, has pardoned the police officer responsible for his death.

At a press conference, the son of Abdul Ali (also known as Shaukat), Muhammad Usman and Muhammad Waqar, along with the chief of the Noorani tribe, Haji Fatimullah Noorani, condemned

the act of blasphemy allegedly committed by Ali. Two of Ali's brothers, Khair Muhammad and Har Muhammad, also denounced his actions.

"The family and tribe have nothing to do with the vile act of blasphemy committed by Abdul Ali," Usman said, adding, "We have pardoned police official Saad Muhammad Sarhadi unconditionally, in the name of Allah."

Usman and Waqar also announced that they would not pursue legal action against the police officer, who had been arrested after the killing and charged with murder.

All had been arrested the previous week for allegedly making blasphemous remarks, which had gone viral on social media.

HRCP expresses concern over killings

Meanwhile, the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) said it is "gravely concerned" by the alleged extrajudicial killing of two people accused of blasphemy: a hotel owner in Quetta while in custody, and a doctor in Islamabad during a police raid.

"This pattern of violence in cases of blasphemy, in which law enforcement personnel are allegedly involved, is an alarming trend," the commission said in a statement.

It urged the government to conduct an independent inquiry into the death of the doctor in Islamabad and ensure that those responsible are held accountable. "At a wider level, the state must counter the rising radicalisation (much of which has been historically sponsored by the state itself) that triggers such incidents," the HRCP said.

Imran warns of 'court arrest drive' if *jalsa* blocked

ISLAMABAD: Incorporated former prime minister Imran Khan on Thursday threatened the government with a "jail-in" (court arrest drive) if his party was not allowed to hold its *jalsa* in Lahore on Sept 21.

Talking to reporters after accountability court proceedings in the £130m corruption case at Adiala jail, Mr Khan said he had been in prison for the last 15 months and could stay there longer.

He described the planned Sept 21 *jalsa* as a "do and die" issue for PTI, saying the Constitution guaranteed the right of assembly and if this right was denied, PTI supporters would fill the jails.

He alleged that the government was playing horse with the Supreme Court by amending the Constitution in haste and it is tantamount to usurping the rights to liberty which ensured people.

In response to a question whether he supports the proposed Federal Constitution Court, Mr Khan said amendments were being made to clip the wings of judiciary.

He claimed that the government wants to exceed the tenure of Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa, adding that even schoolboys know the objectives behind these amendments. The PPP said it knew that the government would invoke these amendments as they were afraid of the PTI's popularity.

Cross-examination

Earlier, Mr Khan's counsel concluded cross-examination of the last prosecution witness in the case.

Advocate Zahoor Abbas questioned the witness, an investigation officer of the National Accountability Bureau. However, the counsel for Justice Rabi Usman Raheem Gilani was not available to cross-examine the witness.

Mr Khan's counsel requested the court to adjourn the hearing till Sept 26. Accountability Court judge Nasir Javaid Rana remarked that the defense counsel could not complete the cross-examination during the last 21 hearings while the investigation officer had appeared on every day and rejected the counsel's request. The case would be taken up on Friday (today).

Meanwhile, EHC Justice Mian Saad Aslam Aslamgiri reminded the special judge, central to decide Mr Khan and his spouse's bail petition within five days in accordance with the National Judicial Policy. —Malik Asad

Why didn't Nawaz help govt win over 'old pal' Fazl?

Insiders say PML-N chief warned to stay away due to Maulana's 'obstinacy'

By Zulqarnain Tahir

LAHORE: After the PML-N-led coalition failed to able to overturn a Constitutional Package in parliament due to an inability to convince Maulana Fazlur Rehman — a former ally of the PML-N — questions are being raised over the role of PML-N President Nawaz Sharif, who

remained conspicuous by his absence from the scene, despite the tough time being faced by his party.

There are also questions about whether the former premier was on board with the amendments proposed by the government of his younger brother Shehbaz Sharif, who is leading a coalition government in the Centre, and if so, why he did not play an active role.

Sharif spoke to a number of PML-N leaders and party insiders about the role of the older Sharif in the Constitutional Package saga.

His close aide and former information minister Pervez Rasheed said that the PML-N president had been thoroughly briefed on the

Constitutional Package and had given it a thumbs-up.

Mian Sabir (did not have any reservations over the proposed draft. He was briefed on it thoroughly and it was subsequently put to others to evolve a larger consensus," Senator Hashmi told Dawn on Thursday.

With the party president on board, the PML-N then reached out to other parties, including the JUI-F, which eventually ratified the ruling coalition and "completely rejected" the proposed amendments on Wednesday.

Interestingly, a government delegation made several calls on the Maulana, while PM Shehbaz also

met him twice—but in vain.

After the PML-N failed to win the Maulana over, Nawaz Sharif spoke to his younger brother and expressed a willingness to make an effort and persuade the JUI-F leader, with whom he has a considerable rapport.

However, insiders claimed Nawaz was told that the Maulana had made up his mind, so it might not be a good idea to call on the JUI-F chief, knowing he would not budge from his stance.

Nawaz Sharif and his nephew Hassan Shehbaz — who are both MNAs — had remained in Islamabad over the weekend to take part in the voting for the proposed constitutional package,

but returned to Lahore after the coalition government's attempt to muster a two-thirds majority in parliament fell through.

The elder Sharif had expressed his disappointment on his younger brother's failure to woo Maulana Fazlur Rehman, another party insider said, adding that both the PML-N and PPP did not expect the Maulana to be such a tough nut to crack.

However, there are murmuring in Punjab, where some PML-N leaders are reportedly not happy with how the older Sharif handled the situation.

They wish the PML-N president should have summoned a meeting of

the party's top brass and gritted them for not delivering.

"The PML-N government has faced a huge embarrassment and [this episode is] a blow to its future plans related to the judicial amendments," another party leader said.

However, Mr Hashmi was still hopeful of a consensus on the proposed amendments, even though the PPP and JUI-F are said to be working on their own drafts.

"The process of consultation with other parties is underway. One thing is clear, all parties want judicial reforms. They have a total consensus on this. However, no timeframe can be given regarding a consensus on the draft," he said.

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Family of missing GB youth seeks his recovery

By Javed Manqri

GELOFT: The family and relatives of Waheed Akram, a resident of Gilgit-Baltistan, have called for urgent action to find him after he went missing in Baltistan last month. The family fears he has been abducted by militant groups in the province.

According to family sources, Mr Akram, 25, from Yasin Valley in Gilgit-Baltistan, left home on Aug 21 in search of employment. He later contacted a travel agent from Gopar as part of a plan to cross the Pakistan-Iran border and reach Italy illegally via Iraq.

Mr Akram, along with two compatriots from Punjab, departed for Baltistan. However, Yousaf Ali, told Dawn the family last heard from Mr Akram on the morning of Aug 25, when he called from Dushanbe in Tajikistan.

Since then, all contact has been lost. A video, released the same day, reportedly shows Mr Akram and his compatriots at an unknown location, raising fears that they have been abducted.

Protests demanding Mr Akram's release have been held in Yasin

and outside the Gilgit Press Club. Members of the Yasin Youth Organisation, political activists and concerned citizens have joined these demonstrations, demanding that the government take immediate steps to secure the release of Mr Akram and his colleagues.

Ehsan Ali, chairman of the Awami Action Committee, and other political leaders, including Aslam Ingatlal, spoke at the protest. They urged the government to act swiftly to locate the missing youth. They expressed fears that militant groups may have abducted Mr Akram and may exploit him for terrorist activities or ransom.

Spokesmen noted that several militant organisations, including the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA), are active in the region. These groups often target individuals for forced recruitment or ransom, the speakers said, adding that these militant forces worm into their ranks, blackmailing families through obscene videos.

Mr Akram's family has filed FIRs with various police stations and urged the Army chief, the prime minister and the Balochistan government to intervene.

'Proposed' amendments

Continued from Page 1

in the petition.

It said members of the National Assembly and Senate, who have the power to make laws, have not been made parties to the petition.

The federal government and provincial governments, principal secretaries to the president and prime minister, listed as respondents, are not members of parliament.

The principal secretaries to the PM and president cannot be made parties to a petition as they have immunity under Article 248 of the Constitution.

The said article states: "The President, a Governor, the Prime Minister, a Federal Minister, a Minister of State, the Chief Minister and a Provincial Minister shall not be answerable to any court for the exercise of powers and performance of functions of their respective offices or for any act done or purported to be done in the exercise of those powers and performance of those functions."

The registrar also said the petitioners mentioned themselves as advocates and members of the Pakistan Bar Council (PBC), whereas the Legal Practitioners and Bar Councils Act stipulates that lawyers should not become parties in any matter.

If the petitioners have a grievance, they should first approach their respective lawyers' bodies for authorisation to represent them in the case.

PBC expresses concern

On Thursday, the PBC expressed serious concerns over the government's attempts to modify the Constitution.

A meeting of the PBC executive committee presided over by its vice chairman, Farooq Hamid Nisar, suggested that the outcry surrounding the legislation could be construed as "a blatant violation of the norms of parliamentary practices, rule of law and democratic values".

Such acts terminally reputational of parliament and its members who are the chosen representatives of people, the PBC executive committee members said.

The meeting also discussed the proposed amendments and made some changes to the draft before delivering the matter till its next meeting fixed on September 25.

The PBC, along with provincial bar councils and associations have unanimously voted against what they called attempts to change the basic structure of the Constitution and vowed to resist any such move.

New CPEC phase will transform the country's economy: PM

Continued from Page 1

agriculture, information technology, mining and minerals and many other important areas of mutual interest," PM Sharif said.

The prime minister also acknowledged China's critical role during the negotiations with the International Monetary Fund.

He reiterated that the ongoing partnership not only fosters regional development and peace but also contributes to global stability and progress, aligning with President Xi Jinping's vision. He also reaffirmed Pakistan's support for China's position on international issues, including those related to Hong Kong and Taiwan.

PM Sharif said the government was eager to welcome the Chinese prime minister who will participate in the upcoming Shanghai

Cooperation Organisation Council of Heads of Government (SCO) meeting to be held in Islamabad.

In his remarks, President Zardari said that October 1 marked the rebirth of a strong, united China, achieved through the heroic struggle of the Chinese people under the visionary leadership of the Communist Party.

PM to attend LNGA meeting

On Thursday, the Foreign Office spokesperson told reporters about Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's engagement during his visit to New York to attend the 78th United Nations General Assembly session.

The PM will "reaffirm Pakistan's commitment to multilateralism and call for addressing long-standing disputes, particularly the Palestine and Kashmir con-

flicts, which pose significant threats to global peace and security".

He will be accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishfaq Dar and senior officials, the spokesperson said.

On the occasion's sidelines, the prime minister will attend a session on "Existential Threats posed by San-serif Risks" and a UN Security Council's debate on "Leadership for Peace".

He will meet with world leaders, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, and UN General Assembly President Philipo Piccato.

Meanwhile, Deputy PM Dar will represent Pakistan at the "Summit of the Future" convened by the UN secretary-general, and other meetings, including the OIC Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers and the G20 & China ministerial meeting.

'Ready to discuss concerns'

Continued from Page 1

important issues that have served both Pakistan and India well over the last several decades. We believe it is the gold standard of bilateral treaties on water-sharing, and Pakistan is fully committed to its implementation. We expect India to also remain committed to the treaty," Mr Baloch stated.

She said the commission is the "appropriate forum" for discussing and addressing all issues related to the treaty.

Lebanon attack

The Foreign Office spokesperson also condemned the detonation of a car and other explosives devices in Lebanon, calling it a "repulsive act of terrorism".

The official reiterated Pakistan's stand against terrorism and offered condolences to the victims' families, the people, and the government of Lebanon.

The repeated attacks, Mr Baloch said, are a manifestation of Israel's "allowing adventurism" in the region.

The spokesperson reaffirmed support for Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity, emphasising the need

for the international community to hold Israel accountable for its actions. She called for the implementation of the International Court of Justice's July advisory, which called Israel's occupation of Palestinian territories illegal and pressed the international community to uphold Palestinians' right to self-determination.

Action against Afghan diplomat

Mr Baloch also said that action against the Afghan consul general for "disrespectful" Pakistan's national anthem was still on the cards.

PFI had already lodged a formal protest with the Afghan embassy and sought an explanation for the conduct of Hafiz Mohammad Shakir, who remained seated as the national anthem was played during an event in Peshawar earlier this week.

"We have conveyed our very strong protest with the Afghan authorities, and decisions will be taken after internal deliberations and after the conclusion of consultations with the Afghan government," he said, adding that Pakistan reserved the right to take action in accordance with diplomatic norms and practices.

Balochistan health minister replaced

QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister Sarwar Bhutto has replaced the provincial health minister, according to an official notification issued on Thursday.

The portfolio has been taken from PPP's Kandharwala Fayaz Jaijali and assigned to

Levies man killed in Quetta

By Saeem Shahid

QUETTA: A Levies official lost his life in Quetta on Thursday night, while separate incidents of violence were reported in two areas of Balochistan.

Officials said unknown armed men opened fire at the Larjan official guest house Chaman post. He was martyred on the spot.

The victim was identified as Karim Baloch.

Meanwhile, unidentified attackers fired three rockets at a security agency's office in Noshki, but they landed and exploded away from the target, causing no damage.

In separate incident, a grenade attack targeted the Motorway Police office in Mastung, exploding in the backyard.

The blast shattered windows and shattered doors and windows. No casualties were reported.

Slow pace of work on highways irks BHC

QUETTA: The Balochistan High Court on Thursday expressed annoyance over the slow pace of work on the Khuzdar-Karachi and Quetta-Chaman dual carriage-way projects despite provision of required funds to the department concerned.

A BHC division bench, comprising Justice Abdullah Baloch and Justice Ejaz Ahmed Kasi, expressed concern over the delay while hearing the case about the construction of the two carriageways.

During the hearing, Syed Rashed Hussain, the National Highway Authority (NHA) minister from Balochistan, informed the court that 40 per cent of the work on the N25-Khuzdar-Kachhi dual-carriageway has been completed. The officials also confirmed that all required funds have been provided to the NHA.

The bench that despite the provision of funds, the work on the dual carriageway is progressing extremely slowly. The court instructed the Planning Commission representative to ensure that all necessary funds allocated in budget are provided to the NHA.

The additional attorney general informed the court that he would discuss the issue with senior government officials. The court was also informed that the Haji River bridge will be completed this month.

The Planning Commission and NHA provided details to the court about the funds released so far for the two carriageways. The bench was assured that there would be no negligence in the construction of N25 and it would be completed on time. The NHA and other parties were also instructed to repair the Sarsar-Gwadar CPEC road.

Principal, warden held for 'child abuse'

DERA MURAD JAMAL: Police have arrested the principal and head warden of a private school in Jaffarabad on charges of child abuse, and conducting raids to apprehend another accused involved in the scandal.

The buildings of school and hostel have been sealed by local authorities and principal Nasreen Ahmed and head warden Muhammad Rehman taken into custody.

Efforts are underway to arrest the principal's brother who was also allegedly involved in the crime.

"Five children aged 5-12 were sexually abused in the school's hostel," Jaffarabad SSP Attiaullah Tararwai said, adding that sexual abuse has been confirmed in medical examination.—Ali Jan Manqri

Pakistan warns UN

Continued from Page 1

terrorist attacks against Pakistan with full support and protection of the Afghan interim government and supporters of Pakistan's major adversary," the statement said. Mr Akram was saying.

Islamabad has repeatedly conveyed its concerns to the Afghan government over the presence of terror outfits, including the TTP, inside Afghanistan, saying that the militants have consistently used Afghan soil to launch cross-border attacks inside Pakistani territory. Kabul denied the allegations.

Indicating the TTP's potential to cause regional destabilisation, Ambassador Akram said the terrorist group was "fast emerging as an umbrella organisation that is now coordinating with ascendant groups such as Majlis Brigades".

"And, given its long association with Al Qaeda, it will not be long before the TTP becomes the spearhead for Al Qaeda's planned regional and global terrorist goals," he warned, calling upon the world to be concerned about the threat a strengthened TTP poses in the region and future.

Mr Akram said Pakistan was ready to cooperate with regional and international organisations to eliminate the TTP threat and will continue to take national actions against the terrorist organisation.

Lawmakers can't join 'PTI' under new law: speaker

Continued from Page 1

consideration," Mr Sadig told the ECP chief while referring to Sections 66 and 104-A.

"Furthermore, Section 103 of the amended Elections Act categorically states that the said amendments will have retrospective effect from 2017 when the Elections Act 2017 was passed," he said. "No alteration can now be made by the ECP without applying the amended Elections Act to the former."

The speaker stressed that the top court's judgment was based on pre-amendment law and thus should not be implemented, as the amended Act "will prevail and supersede the prior ruling".

The Amended Election Act is in the field; therefore, it is the statutory obligation of the ECP to honour the laws made by parliament and uphold the principles of democracy and parliamentary supervi-

sion," he wrote.

An ECP source told Dawn that both Speaker Sadig's letter and the PML-N motion were received after Thursday's meeting and are likely to be discussed in today's session. He said the possibility of taking up the petition for hearing before a final decision is reached could not be ruled out.

Milestone in parliamentary history!

Meanwhile, Information Minister Arsalan Ishaq handed Speaker Asad Shafiq's letter, calling it a "milestone in the country's parliamentary history".

"There are specific questions over the Supreme Court's verdict about the reserved seat, which need to be duly considered and re-examined," Mr Ishaq told reporters. He insisted that the Constitution clearly states that parliament holds the exclusive power to legislate and amend laws.

The minister also pointed to an existing

provision in the Election Act 2017, which requires independent candidates to join a political party within 48 hours of an election. "How can the check be carried back, allowing those independent MNAs who had already joined the Senate Standing Council (SSC) to join another political party?" he questioned.

Mr Ishaq also criticised the Supreme Court's interpretation of Article 63-A, regarding its role in the dismissal of the Hamid Sharif-led government in Punjab's Punjab Assembly speaker.

Punjab Assembly Speaker Malik Mohammad Ahmed Khan also followed the lead of the National Assembly speaker by writing to the ECP, urging it to keep in view the amended Elections Act 2018 when deciding on the reserved motions.

In a communication sent to the Chief Election Commissioner and other ECP

members on Thursday, Speaker Khan stressed that the ECP must adhere to the revised election law, which was amended to address political affiliations of MPAs elected independently following the Supreme Court's July 12 verdict.

"The amended Election Act supersedes the previous legal position, and it is this new framework that must guide the allocation of reserved seats and other related matters," the speaker said, adding that the apex court, in its consistent jurisprudence, has upheld that newly elected laws take precedence over prior judgments when applicable.

Petitions against PPI's eligibility

The petition filed by two PML-N members from Rawalpindi argued that independent candidates who have declared their affiliation with a particular political party and cannot be affiliated to another party should be deemed to be considered as an independent candidate and not a candidate of a particular party," the petition said.

The petition cited Section 104-A of the Elections Act, stating that once a returned candidate submits a declaration of affiliation showing party affiliation, it is irreconcilable under the amended law.

Arsalan Ishaq in Lahore also contributed to this report.

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What now?

THE Election Commission of Pakistan appears to be in no mood to obey the Supreme Court, and, continuing a pattern observed over the last year, the federal government seems eager to provide it political cover. It emerged on Wednesday that the ECP would, instead of implementing the Supreme Court's verdict in the reserved seats case, seek further opinion from "legal experts" on the matter. This, despite being warned by the court not to delay any further. As it turns out, it did not need legal counsel: on Thursday, the National Assembly Speaker himself came to the ECP's rescue, informing the Commission that since a new law — bulldozed last month through parliament to prevent the reserved seats from being given to the PTI — had come into effect, it need not heed the Supreme Court's order. Unexpected, though the move was, it was not the first time that the ruling set-up had come to the ECP's aid against the courts.

Last year, the ECP had similarly refused to obey the apex court when it made it clear it would not hold elections to the Punjab Assembly despite what the court ordered. The then PDM government had endorsed the ECP's stance, even though it had been in clear violation of the timelines for polls provided in the Constitution. Emboldened, the ECP has continued to thwart the courts since, be it in the matter of election tribunals or, as recently seen, in the case pertaining to the PTI's reserved seats. It may be recalled that the Commission's last attempt to delay implementation of the Supreme Court's verdict in the reserved seats matter was officially condemned as "dilatory tactics, adopted to delay, defeat and obstruct implementation of the decision of the court". The ECP was also warned that continuing on this path "may expose the Commission" to legal action in terms of the Constitution and the law, it had zero effect.

Now, the government's actions could turn this into a major clash between institutions. It is a risky and unfortunate escalation. Any confrontation on this issue is a direct challenge to the separation of powers as enshrined in the Constitution. The incident underlines that, despite its repeated claims to institutional "supremacy" derived from democratic ideals, this government seems to have little interest in, or understanding of, democracy's core principles. The fact that it is relying on tailor-made legislation, moved after a court verdict, to thwart its implementation will be seen as defiance against the judiciary. The situation is made worse by the Speaker of the National Assembly stepping in and endorsing the Commission's position. The separation of powers must be respected and no institution should overstep its bounds. At this critical juncture, all state institutions must remain within their mandates to prevent further erosion of democratic values.

IHK election farce

WHILE India will be keen to trumpet the holding of elections in held Kashmir as a return to "normalcy", things are quite complex in this regard. The multi-stage electoral process in IHK began on Wednesday, and results are expected next month. This is the first time elections are being held to elect representatives to the occupied territory's state assembly after New Delhi scrapped IHK's limited autonomy in 2019. While the turnout has been respectable in the first stage, this should not be seen as a ringing endorsement of the BJP-led regime's brutal policies in the held region. Rather, Kashmiris are likely stepping out to vote to prevent the BJP from capturing their land and wiping out its unique identity, while a protest vote against the scrapping of Article 370, too, cannot be ruled out. It is also true that the polls will hardly be free and fair. Former IHK chief minister Omar Abdullah, a prominent pro-India voice, has said that in Kashmir, "we are all political prisoners of Delhi". Moreover, Amnesty International India has called upon New Delhi to "end [its] campaign of harassment and intimidation against dissenting voices" in the disputed area. Some local leaders say that up to 2,000 Kashmiris remain in detention. Many have been held on flimsy terror charges, while others have been detained for social media posts. These are certainly not the conditions that allow people to freely express themselves in a democratic exercise.

The Indian establishment can hold all the elections it wants in held Kashmir, but this does not change the ground reality that the region's people are sick of New Delhi's high-handedness, and yearn for real freedom. It would not be wrong to say that most Kashmiris are participating in the polls to send the message to India that they are dissatisfied with the status quo. Yet India's ruling elite has shown an amazing stubbornness where the Kashmir issue is concerned. Last month, the Indian foreign minister remarked that Article 370 "is done", implying that the internationally recognised Kashmir dispute had been resolved — in India's favour. This is akin to manufacturing new "facts" on the ground. The Indian approach to Kashmir is divorced from reality. The only long-lasting solution is a tripartite agreement involving Pakistan, India and the Kashmiris — one that is acceptable to all three parties. Anything less would be a farce.

Donating organs

CErtain philanthropic practices require a more scientific temperament than ours to flourish. Deceased organ donation in Pakistan needs to become a part of political campaigns as well as the public conversation. In the modern world, medical science and collective dialogue have evolved exponentially, making cadaveric donation a routine remedy. Policymakers must move towards innovative methods for greater awareness about relevant legislation and its implementation to create acceptance, and partner with celebrities from various fields who lead by example by signing up as donors. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's recent scheme is a heartening step.

On International Identity Card Day, the PM launched a national programme to foster organ donation, including a special logo on the identity cards of donors, and called on citizens to "participate in this initiative and become part of a life-saving community". So far, despite being a charitable people, Pakistanis have adopted an unresponsive stance towards cadaveric organ donation largely due to the dearth of information about it. The state should start with underscoring the fact that Muslim countries, including Iran and Saudi Arabia, perform these transplantsations, which reduces the doubts associated with it. In poor countries such as Pakistan, shunning the procedure provides oxygen to the organ trade black market where corrupt practitioners exploit the poor for affluent patients. But the onus is not on society alone. Even organs obtained from a deceased donor are often unusable by the time they reach a potential recipient. While organs begin to decay when blood supply ceases, some, like corneas, remain functional for longer. Thus, ventilator-supported cardiac function is mandatory for organ preservation. To ensure a fresh lease of life for citizens, lawmakers ought to focus on the timely transport of organs, build more hospitals in remote areas and control financial gifting. Lastly, once the criteria for donated organs are met, families should be committed to honour a deceased donor's commitment.

OPINION

BY ZAFAR MIRZA



PPPs for UHC

Health is too important a matter to be left to governments.

THE state's role in health and healthcare is fundamental to health being a fundamental human right. The WHO, of which Pakistan has been a member since the beginning, says in its constitution: "Governments have a responsibility for the health of their peoples which can be fulfilled only by the provision of adequate health and social measures." Governments are the stewards of the health sector. Health policymaking, financing, human resource development, laying health infrastructure, disease surveillance for prevention and control, setting quality standards, regulation, health information, addressing the social and environmental determinants of health, and health service provision are some of the established and exclusive responsibility of governments in the health sector. However, health service provision is not governments' exclusive responsibility.

Due to a number of reasons, there is a growing trend in low- and middle-income countries to look in the private health sector in service provision. Most governments in LMICs have not really spent enough on healthcare. Historically, healthcare provision through the public sector has been both inadequate and of low quality. Another major reason is that, of whatever little is being spent on health by governments, a major part goes on tertiary healthcare, very little is spent on primary healthcare where the bulk of healthcare is needed, where disease can be prevented and managed at an early stage, and which is much more cost-effective. PHC is the foundation of universal health coverage (UHC).

As a result of the short supply of healthcare services by governments, a parallel private health sector has evolved purely as a function of market demand, and in many cases, induced demand. Provision of healthcare by private providers is underpinned by established market failures in health, coupled with weak regulatory capacity. Nevertheless, due to a general demand elasticity in healthcare, the private health sector continues to grow and thrive. In Pakistan, for example, around 60 per cent of the total health expenditure is made by healthcare consumers in the private sector out of pocket. According to surveys, around 70pc of all outdoor health

consultations take place in the private sector.

So, when governments are not able to provide sufficient healthcare of sufficient quality and when people buy services out of pocket from private providers, can the public and private health sectors join hands to improve access to and quality of health services and serve the people better? This is the question which shapes different forms of public-private partnerships (PPPs) in health.

Before proceeding further, it is important to establish the private health sector's monolithic nature. Diverse and vibrant, it is for profit and not for profit. At some point, governments themselves start realising that they alone cannot do it. The idea of UHC, also as an SDG Goal 3 commitment, has reinforced the thinking that if all people have to be provided with essential healthcare, along with financial protection to those who cannot afford it, then governments on their own cannot achieve UHC and have to engage the private health sector. The terms of engagement, however, make all the difference between different forms and shapes of PPPs.

I was walking in the beautiful building of a large tertiary-level hospital on the outskirts of Muzaffargarh, a relatively poor district of south Punjab, with more than 50pc of its people living in multidimensional poverty. One of the administrators was telling me that when Turkish leader Recep Tayyip Erdogan gifted this hospital to Pakistan, the then Punjab chief minister in 2014 handed it over to the Indian Hospital and Health Network (IHIN), a large and ever-growing non-profit organisation, for its operational management. The Punjab government continues to provide financial assistance to billions of rupees on a yearly basis. IHIN has full responsibility of managing the hospital, which provides quality health care completely free of cost to around 30,000 patients every month and has all the specialities. This is a great example of PPP in healthcare. IHIN is managing a number of such health facilities across the country.

ChildLife Foundation, another Pakistani not-for-profit, started in 2010 with managing the children's emergency room at Civil Hospital Karachi. By 2024, ChildLife has expanded to 313 government hospitals in all tehsils in Sindh, all districts in Balochistan, all DHQs and THQs in Punjab and three districts in Azad Kashmir, making emergency care for children accessible to 80pc of Pakistan's population within 30 minutes. ChildLife is set to treat two million children annually in emergency rooms for public sector hospitals at no cost, with survival rates for critical cases quadrupling under their care. It is funded by government grants and philanthropic contributions — another great example of a PPP in healthcare at scale.

The Sanaa Nishtar programme, which is state-financed health insurance currently only for hospitalisation, is managed at one stage around 1,200 predominantly for-profit private sector hospitals across Pakistan. In this case, the government is purchasing predefined health services from private providers for its citizens. This is also a kind of PPP in which both sectors are engaged to serve the citizens better — especially those who cannot afford to pay.

There are other interfaces between the public and private sector for diagnosis, medicine, health technology, IT, public health programmes, including family planning, and others. There are many other shades of PPPs in healthcare, in which both kinds of private health sectors are engaged with the public sector, are becoming ubiquitous not only in Pakistan but also many other LMICs. This is the future of healthcare if these countries have to advance towards UHC as a sustainable measure.

Some may argue that this is absolving the state of its responsibility towards healthcare for the people. The counter argument is that PPPs are a means to strengthen quality healthcare and expand it to a maximum number of people through a stronger stewardship role for the state; more specifically, its contract management capacity. Done well, it can be a win-win solution. In the coming articles, I will expand on this subject, through examples and the potential of PPPs to help Pakistan realize its pace towards UHC.

The writer is a former health minister, currently a professor of health systems & population health at Sir Syed-Tamgha-e-Millat University.
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Pakistan's PARTNERSHIP DOESN'T PREVENT SANCTIONS US



BY ASHRAF JEHANGIR QAZI



Truth to power

Afghan president Ashraf Ghani's 'true nation job': The best plan is a word of truth to a cynical ruler — Hashim Sharif

As a senior citizen, I have a duty to express my view at a life-threatening time for my much-abused country. The cumulative effect of corruption and ineffective governance, far more than the lack of competent governance, explains the worst-ever crisis in Pakistan today. So, what is good governance?

Policies comprising good governance are generally well known. Basically, it is a matter of governing better as perceived by the people. They cannot be fooled forever, as Abraham Lincoln famously said.

Indicators determine the extent to which policies comprising good governance are implemented. For Pakistan, given the present political situation, they will also determine whether or not the country survives. By almost every measure, Pakistan is becoming a failed state. Nevertheless, for its ruling élites, avoiding state failure is apparently not a priority.

A colonial administration may provide good administration. It cannot provide good governance. An elected government often provides corrupt governance, which does not become good governance because it is indigenous and freely chosen. Constitutional governance may be in accordance with the law, and yet not fulfil the conditions of good governance.

Pakistan adopted the Western political model of having a Constitution that requires a government to be elected by the people in an independently and credibly conducted, monitored and certified free and fair election, to be legitimate. The people of Pakistan, accordingly, made their choice on Feb 8, 2024. Their choice was fairly satisfied from them. Instead, a government was manufactured by a constitutionally subordinate institution whose duty is to defend the country, not rule and ruin it.

No religious law, ethical code, or political ideology endorses such malfeasance. Accordingly, force and deception have been resorted to, most recently in Sindh and Balochistan, to suppress a violated and outraged people. This merely exacerbates the malfeasance.

Accordingly, the government that was installed after the Feb 8 election is representative of the power that installed it rather than of the people. That power mimics a colonial administration which can neither command the people's loyalty

nor provide good governance. It treats the people as an adversary to be controlled, outwitted and subduced.

The Prophet (PBUH) said the quality of actions depends on the quality of intentions. Intentions cannot be hidden by诡计 or subtlety. This applies to governance as much as it does to any other individual or collective human activity.

So where do we go from here? We can only go towards good governance as the indispensable condition for national survival. This is also always a question of national activity.

In comprising the rule of law, accountability, transparency; strong rights protections; free or low-cost quality education, healthcare and housing; creating more confidence, innovation and productive citizens through a belief in STEM careers, futuristic logic, engineering, mathematics, SMEs, exports, music, art, literature, and HERP (history, ethics, religion, philosophy) approach to learning; developing class consciousness and solidarity among workers and farmers; comprehensive land and industrial reforms, including cooperative farming and worker ownership of factories; progressive taxation to reduce deficit financing; progressive taxation to reduce deficit financing;

Why would any Pakistani not support such a nation-saving process?

indirect taxation and gross economic dispositions; reducing military budgets to create fiscal space for development expenditures; financing a Pakistan green deal; exiting the intensive care unit of the IMF; etc.

This vast scope of "Good Governance" it will have to be a "whole of the nation" learning process guided by a dedicated, people-friendly leadership to break the faithless unbreakable bogey bowl. South Asia is among the world's poorest regions and, within it, Pakistan arguably has the worst Gini Coefficient and Multiple Poverty Index, indicating the utter unrepresentativeness of its governance. This mandates radical political and socioeconomic change and comprehensive technology upgrades. The elites will oppose such empowerment of the people.

Apart from the Western concept of good governance, there are Islamic and eastern traditions which emphasize the community rather

than the individual as the criterion for good governance. Nevertheless, good governance in any tradition has one uncontrollable quality: when the people have it, they know they do, and when they don't, they know that too.

Whenever the voice of the people has a following in the corridors of power, there is no good governance. Such hearing must be taken, even if the ruling élites insist whatever they do constitutes good governance. Their camp follows, in much of the middle class intelligentsia, including media intellectuals, who are educated, articulate and well paid, confine their "criticisms" within limits set by the establishment. They become, despite their cultivated image of dissidence on behalf of the people, collaborators against the people.

In Pakistan, around five per cent of the population, or 10-12 million, live very reasonably comfortably. Moving increasingly around the poverty line are the so-called "precariat" of the lower middle and working classes of around 20pc of the population. The remaining 75pc are more or less caught within their variables, but by and large hopeless, situations.

Should they perish quietly? How long can they be securely staged within their existing conditions with contempt of patience, false promises, enticing prospects in the hereafter and, meanwhile, brutal repression? Charles Dickens answered on behalf of today's élites: "ask me no questions, and I'll tell no lies!"

Accordingly, good governance can never be won by a merely unbroken, quiet living and protesting people, although that is an essential start. It can only emerge from sustained strength and sacrifice by an informed and organised people, supported by a government committed to radical reform, and led by elected and educated servants of the people. Why would any Pakistani not support such a nation-saving process?

Tragically, there are the ruling élites who do not, indeed, they seek to smother the Constitution. They should assault their conscience and desist from dismantling democratic governance. Otherwise, revolution will be the only way forward. Why should the people be subjected to such an ordeal? Unfortunately, far too many comfortable Pakistani are impervious to such an appeal. The ruling élites bank on their treacherous indifference towards the memory of elite betrayal. ■

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OPINION

BY ZUBEIDA MUSTAFA



Father of man

AUG 31 was Dr Maria Montessori's birthday. The Pakistani Montessori Association had planned to honour its icons that day, starting with its legendary founder-educator and followed by her famous successors in Pakistan — Mrs Gool Mizwaan and others. Special tribute was to be paid to Farida Akbar, whose contribution as a 'mother of teachers' is unparalleled. Cyclone Aman disrupted the programme. The event was held a week later.

The storm was nature's revenge for the excess committed by humankind. This was a warning to us not to tamper with nature's ways. The same also holds true for the child's education. When excessively managed, our school system causes 'destruction' — a term used by Dr Montessori — in the child.

I quote from *The Absorbent Mind* to show how misinterpreted our children are. "Education is not what the teacher gives [it] is a natural process spontaneously carried out by the human individual. It is acquired not by listening to words [of a teacher], but by [gaining] experiences from the environment."

The goal of the Montessori philosophy is that the child 'constructs' itself and by doing so it constructs the man / woman it will grow up to be. The teacher's role is to facilitate the child in this self-construction process. She prepares the environment from where the child gains its experiences. Montessori's emphasis is on the psychic development of the child that begins at birth.

This is an autonomous process. It must be fully respected. Every child is born with diverse 'talents', strengths and weaknesses. The child must be encouraged to explore its self-learning instincts. Any attempt to control the child in the name of discipline and uniformity in self-learning. The 'brain-jacking' of children destroys their interest in education itself.

Farida Akbar would always remind her students: "Follow the child." It sounded so exciting. I would wonder, can't we make our early childhood education more child-friendly by adopting some basic principles of the Montessori philosophy?

In March 2023, I decided to experiment with 10 children from a low-income community. Having acquired a classroom from a neighbouring school for two hours in the afternoon three a week, I launched my 'Save Kharalai Market' (Come Let's Play Central). My friend Hina Mohamed, an excellent teacher-trainer who acquired her expertise from renowned institutions, readily agreed to join me in my venture for six months. Above all, it was a privilege to have Farida Akbar as our mentor and

guide. I had requested her to brief Hina about her relationship vis-à-vis the children. Hina says that time she spent with Mrs Akbar was a unique learning experience. "She enriched my understanding of a child. Her passion for her work was remarkable. She visited the centre whenever she felt her presence was needed."

We collected a lot of teaching material, including many colourful picture books, flash cards and stationery for the children. The basic principle Hina followed was to ensure that every child had the freedom of choice of the activity that interested it. Other do's and don'ts for Hina included: speak softly; don't order the child, just do yourself whatever needs to be done and the child will imitate you; do not say 'no' to a child if it has to be stopped, just distract it with something more attractive. Being a gentle person herself, Hina was quick on the uptake.

How fast the children oriented themselves to their surroundings and pace of work was amazing. They showed a remarkable sense of timing. They started recognising their names written in Urdu and were attracted by books which they picked up themselves for Hina to read out to them. The most significant of all was their immense interest in whatever they chose to do. Each of them sat and worked with great concentration without being asked to. Above all, they became very articulate as we always spoke in Urdu, the language they spoke at home.

We gave nature time to do its work as there was no hurry. We had been told that when a child's finger muscles and hand-eye coordination are ready, it will begin to write without being shown how to. We never made the children competitive or rewarded them for their good work. But we ensured that they were always happy and did what they wanted to do in a carefully planned environment. Thus, they derived satisfaction from accomplishing their work. This satisfaction was their own reward.

Now understand why our present system is flawed. We push the child too much and create competitiveness. That has made us what we are: ambitious, greedy and willing to cut corners to get what we want. Give the child time and it will turn out to be nature's best specimen in a world of diversity. ■

www.zubeida-mustafa.com

BY ASAD RAHIM KHAN



Dogar Courts

AFTER hearing the case his life would be known for, Muhammad Manir returned to his private quarters, where he collapsed on the sofa.

We know this because another (famous) chief justice, Nasim Hassan Shah, was there. "I saw a heartbreaking scene. Here was this man, who half an hour earlier had been presiding over all the majesty of his office at the Federal Court, now lying prostrate," an other apoplectic writer on his face. "Obviously," writes the author, "he had been physically and emotionally drained by the proceedings."

That was gracious of him; the decision in Federation vs Taimuddin not only derailed democracy for good, it also delivered the courts to the deep state.

In the decades since, the executive carried on tightening its grip — most of those and notes will echo today Bhutto amending the Constitution to extend a favorite chief justice, Zia's PCC, a gauge for any other gauge, burying judicial independence for years.

With the rise of Pervez Musharraf, the Dogar Courts were brought in to dry-clean emergency rule — the price of serving on them was to betray the Constitution. Through it all, it would be fair to say the house usually won, that there were old judges and there were bold judges, but almost no old, bold judges.

It may be time to make that choice again. Recount the 26th Amendment — what's been leaked — is an all-out assault on the Constitution. Lawyers across the spectrum have dubbed it a scandal, a sciolistic pose, a mere PCC, and with reason: this is, in 77 years, the most corrosive solution to the institution's major checks (the endowed judges).

For starters, it hollows out the Supreme Court of its main function — interpreting the Constitution — and sets up a brand new federal court to do it. Short of its purpose, the elevated Supreme Court shall now concern itself with civil lawsuits, land disputes, maybe the odd Buffalo wandering into a stranger's rice paddy.

Not to mention with asking him to lord over the nation, the Supreme Court's chief justice will be chosen by a crew of MNAs dominated by the ruling party. This not only reverses age-old gains made for independent appointments since at least 1996, it encourages hopefuls to audition for their role as power's number one favorite.

Things get even worse for High Court judges, who can now be transferred from province to province in the manner of common bureaucrats. Imagine it: at the first sign of resistance, the centre keeps piling pouncing courageous judges between Quetta and Karachi; would the integrity of the Islamabad High Court remain intact if the

state could have dispersed the six law-signing judges over four units? Or if their jurisdiction had no code to "national security"?

All of which brings us to the new Dogar benches as proposed: this federal constitutional court, or "FCC", will have its first chief justice handpicked by the prime minister! Unless the FCC stands for Fully Controlled Chaperones, this is no less than extraordinary. Plus, if our history around the term "constitutional" is anything to go by, then that same chief justice will go on to pick his fellow judges.

Not least, Pakistan is a common law jurisdiction, hence its reliance on interpretation, on hundreds of years of precedents. We already have a constitutional court: the high courts and Supreme Court. A separate constitutional court from civil law countries — think France or Germany — one that's alien to our legal system.

In sum, the Supreme Court is being destroyed and replaced by a brandnew, even-more-supreme court, just one that's junior to the PM. If this sounds like the end of the independence of the judiciary, that's because it is: the third branch will be saved off and become a support branch.

And the next victim will be the ordinary litigant as the JUI-F's senator, Kamran Mumtaz, has already revealed (and opposed, one last-right draft was all set to water down Article 8 — the protection of fundamental rights).

That this journey began with the trademark law that was the Practice and Procedure Act is now plain — those poised its constitution committee overlook the fact that the new method still results in mostly "recommendations"; that it appeals process has mainly managed freezing out the ordinary trials case; and that it has opened the door to a setup Assembly managing the Constitution to punish the judges.

But the road must end there: this amendment cannot stand. If the idea was to reduce backlog, all it does is throw up another needless forum. If the idea was to honor the Charter of Democracy, the same charter calls for FCC judges to be appointed by a judicial commission (and not the PM's speed dial).

And if the idea was the chief justice's extension, that won't work either. On Oct 26, Justice Syed Mumtaz Ali Shah will be chief justice of Pakistan. Best to act accordingly. ■

The writer is a lawyer.

FROM THE PAST PAGES OF DAWN

1974 | Fifty years ago

K.P.T. strike

KARACHI: The Federal Labour Minister Mr Mohammad Usman, yesterday (Sept 19) asked the KPT workers to call off the illegal strike, resume duty, and restore the atmosphere of understanding ... as a pre-condition to sympathetic consideration of their genuine grievances, if any, by the Government. At the same time, the Minister warned, "political opportunity to keep their hands off the workers and absent from 'showing'" the atmosphere adding that the Government was "mainly aiming a close watch over the situation and was prepared to move against anybody ... who tried to capitalise" [and] the situation.

Saying that the Government "always preferred interests of its employees to all other considerations" ... he said the statements of certain Opposition circles had further confirmed that the strike was "politically motivated, aiming at crippling the national economy, disrupting industrial peace and creating lawlessness in the country".

Meanwhile, Pakistan will have to wait for the right to fly over India before deciding to start its air services to Nepal, it was officially stated. ... Meanwhile, officials stated that the Royal Nepalese Airlines will start a direct Kathmandu-Karachi service sometime in December.

1949 | Seventy-five years ago

State Bank progress

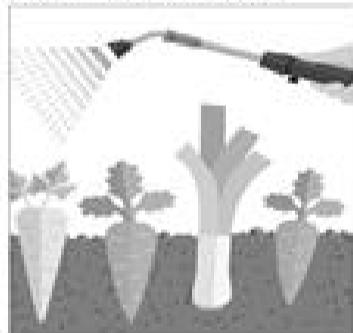
KARACHI: "The Bank may well be proud of the progress it has made during the year. It has weathered all storms and grown from strength to strength," states the first report of the Central Board of Directors of the State Bank of Pakistan on the working of the Bank during the period from July 1, 1948, to June 30, 1949. The report adds: "During the year the Bank has accomplished the not-too-easy task of the withdrawal of India notes circulating in Pakistan and has in part received Pakistan's share of the assets of the Reserve Bank of India.

The Bank has ... hosted the second series of the Central Government's Loan; it has completed the work of the Share Issue; it has issued its own two rupee notes; it has maintained the external and internal value of the Pakistani currency; it has developed a market for securities and ... kept a constant vigil over the activities of banks operating in the country." The Board notes a warning ... when it refers to the corrosive effect of corruption on Government's administrative machinery. ... The report mentions that Pakistan applied for membership of the IMF during the last year....

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters may be edited for purposes of clarity and space. All letters should carry the writer's address, CNIC and phone numbers.

Drugs, pesticides and health risks



IN recent years, the increased use of antibiotics in chicken farming, and pesticides in agriculture has raised concerns about their impact on human health, animal welfare, and the environment. While these substances are commonly used to increase production and prevent diseases, their hidden dangers include serious risks that need to be thoroughly examined.

As a matter of fact, antibiotics are commonly used in chicken farming to treat infections and promote weight gain. However, their excessive use creates some worrisome and dangerous issues that have proven extremely harmful.

At such, the biggest health risk is the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria, also known as 'superbugs'. Antibiotics used in animal farming can enter the environment through animal waste. This can contaminate soil, water sources and crops, leading to the further spread of resistant bacteria.

Alarmingly, these resistant bacteria can reach humans through contaminated meat, direct contact with animals, or the environment, such as runoff from farms. Infections caused by resistant bacteria are harder to treat, require longer hospital stays, and can result in higher mortality rates.

If not properly regulated, antibiotic residues can remain in meat products. Some people may be allergic to these antibiotic residues. Allergic reactions to antibiotics can range from mild skin irritation to severe anaphylactic shock, posing immediate health risks to individuals.

The consumption of antibiotic-treated food can also disrupt the balance of gut bacteria, potentially leading to digestive issues, reduced immune function, and possibly contributing to conditions such as obesity and metabolic disorders.

Moreover, the excessive use of certain antibiotics in farming is contributing to

the decreased effectiveness of these drugs in treating human diseases, limiting the options available for treating illnesses. The lack of effective antibiotic increases the risk of treatment failure, longer illness duration, and the spread of infections. This threat could potentially lead to a return to an era where common infections as well as minor surgeries could become life-threatening.

Besides, pesticides are commonly used in agriculture to protect crops from harmful pests and diseases. However, their misuse or overuse can have further harmful effects on both health and the environment.

The misuse or overuse of pesticides can spread into the environment, contaminating air, water, and soil. This can pose threats to wildlife and humans, such as the destruction of aquatic life in contaminated water bodies, reduced soil fertility, and the killing of beneficial organisms that help maintain the balance of the agricultural ecosystem.

Pesticide residues can remain in crops and food, leading to human exposure. This can cause various health complications, including allergies, cancer, neurological diseases, and other serious problems.

Apart from this, the presence of these pesticides in the environment, particularly when they reach water sources, poses health risks to humans, including the potential for birth defects in children born to mothers who consume contaminated water.

On the other hand, the overuse of pesticides can weaken natural resistance to diseases, increasing the risk of disease spread among humans. Exposure to certain pesticides can weaken the immune system, affecting the body's natural defense mechanism against diseases.

Without proper regulation and control, these risks could become even more severe in the future, necessitating strong policies for public health and environmental protection.

Through such policies and measures, we can make farming and agricultural practices healthier and environment-friendly, ensuring the safety and health of the public.

Abdullah Memon
Lahore

Unethical practice

AS the saying goes, when asked what had made him a tyrant, Pharaoh said: "No one stopped me." This is precisely what explains why powerful people and corporate entities in our society tend to be exploitative. Nobody is in a position of authority to stop them. Simple, you see.

A petrochemical company in Bahawalpur has been in business for all the wrong reasons over the years. The recent one is the explosion of well 4 in the rural areas of Bahawalpur, where the company is really displaying of the poisonous industrial

wastewater in the nearby agrarian lands, causing severe health issues in the community.

This practice is causing economic loss to the already deprived locals by making their agrarian land barren. As per the law, the company has to dispose of such wastewater keeping in mind the safety protocols.

However, the company is not showing any iota of care for the regulations, and is only making it follow the protocol.

Similar to the situation in Balochistan, the gas from the areas turns the organs of inhabitants across the country, but those living in the neighbourhood of these gas wells still have to use firewood to prepare food.

This old practice of dealing with a few feudal lords instead of the whole community needs to come to an immediate end. This is the reason, digitized age and people are aware of their fundamental rights.

AB Akbari
Daharki

Post-monsoon woes

THE recent monsoon rains, which were not as heavy as feared this year, yet again exposed the inefficiency of the system and the failure of those running the system. Dysfunctional drainage and broken roads — vanished roads, as usual — have left people moving like stranded wanderers of ancient times.

According to the World Population-Housing, Karachi is the 12th most populated city in the world, playing host to about 17.5 million people. The infrastructural damage seems to be good enough to host half as many, maybe even less. It is no wonder that this city was declared the fifth worst city to live in by the Economic Intelligence Unit's Livability Index.

Despite the fact that Karachi produces 50 per cent of the country's revenue, the city is left abandoned by the stakeholders. The people of Karachi are forced to live under horrendous conditions, while powerless residents continue生活在 among all pollutants of all slums and houses.

It is imperative that the people speak for themselves and hold the authorities concerned accountable, reminding them of their duties towards the metropolitan city. The authorities need to wake up.

Fatima Firdaus
Karachi

Forex grey market

THIS refers to the report 'Re-emergence of grey market brings back memories of 2021' (Aug 7) which stated that the grey market in cash foreign currencies had re-emerged due to the smuggling of

dollars to the neighbouring countries.

This is only part of the story. The primary reason for the continuing existence of the grey market has been the mismanagement of the cash/foreign currency market in recent years.

In response to the collapse in the rupee's value, draconian conditions were introduced in 2021 and 2022 on the purchase by individuals of foreign currencies from exchange companies, including biometric verification, permanent bans, use of banking channels, and stringent documentation requirements.

In a country where lawlessness and corruption are the norm and even several professionals, such as doctors and lawyers, deal in cash to evade taxes, protecting buyers and sellers of foreign currencies to follow these onerous requirements immediately was nothing short of a folly.

Therefore, the move ended up developing a separate market for foreign currencies. Of course, this 'service' comes at a cost, and accounts for the higher rates prevalent in the grey market.

Furthermore, in late 2023, shortly after the dollar's value in the open market saw a spike, the license of over a dozen exchange companies were cancelled on account of insufficient compliance with rules and regulations.

The entire market was selling the greenback at the same rate, but official action was directed against some of them. This selective decision unwittingly created a countrywide pool of illegal foreign currency dealers.

If the authorities concerned are really serious about eradicating the grey market in

External Obaidullah

Karachi

NON-FUNCTIONAL SCHOOLS

According to the provincial Education Department, 3,500 schools in Balochistan are non-functional due to shortage of teachers. Additionally, 542 schools have been closed since the government announced closure last year. The most affected areas with a number of non-functional schools in Balochistan are Pishin (254), Khuzdar (253), Kalat (179), Qila Saibullah (175), Barkhan (174), Awaran (161) and Quetta (152). Unfortunately, the province of Balochistan has been grappling with multiple challenges due to shortage of 26,000 teachers. Education is essential for the country's proper and develop. It must not be ignored by the authorities. *Javed Niaz Saeed Ahmed*

Turbat

► DEFENDING MOTHERLY: This is with reference to the editorial 'Disgraceful remarks' (Sept 1), which expressed concern over the uncensored former prime minister's defence of the controversial remarks against women professionals made by the sitting chief minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). The former went on to say that those who had apologized for the latter's remarks were actually cowards. Why should

Public prosecutors go on indefinite strike

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Public prosecutors on Thursday started a province-wide strike for acceptance of their demands including setting up of an independent prosecution department and office of prosecutor general on the pattern of other provinces.

The indefinite strike call was given by the Prosecution Officers Welfare Association (Poowa), Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, in a provincial conference of prosecutors on a day earlier.

The prosecutors mostly stayed away from official work and didn't appear in cases on behalf of the government before courts.

The association has put forward a nine-point charter of demands to the government stating that early this year the government had made commitment that their demands would be fulfilled but so far the matter was being delayed.

The officer-bureau of the association including its president Sangeen Shah, general secretary Jawed Ali Mohamed, Wahidullah Zulfiqar Ali and others visited offices of prosecutors in their respective districts.

The protesting prosecutors had also displayed placards in their offices inscribed with their demands.

Sangeen Shah said that their major demands included provision of 1.5-month basic pay or equivalent special allowance on the pattern of judiciary and police; residential facilities for regional directors at divisional level and district public prosecutors at district level; offices for all prosecution officers especially females including washrooms and prayer rooms; establishment of the office of prosecutor general; official vehicles for all regional directors, district public prosecutors and prosecutors of anti-terrorism courts and other special courts; provision of prosecution and utility allowances to supporting staff on pattern of Punjab and Balochistan; and application of four-tier service structure formula to prosecutors.

Man, three sons shot dead in Charsadda

By Our Correspondent

CHARSADDA: A man and his three sons were shot dead by rivals over an old enmity in Kotak area of Shabqadar tehsil here on Thursday.

Jawad son of deceased Fauz registered an FIR in Battagram police station against the accused.

He reported that he along with his brother Fauz Khan of Kot Jelhar area and brothers Haemat Bilal, Inamullah, and Baitullah were returning to their village in a rickshaw after appearance in a case in Peshawar High Court when accused Majid and his sons Nizam and Musawwar opened indiscriminate fire on them in Kotak area.

As a result, his father Fauz and brothers Haemat Bilal, Inamullah, and Baitullah died on the spot, while he (Jawad) narrowly escaped while rickshaw driver Saheedullah also got serious injuries and was shifted to Lady Reading Hospital in Peshawar in precarious condition.

The bodies were shifted to TMO Hospital Shabqadar for autopsy. The police personnel reached the spot, collected evidence and started a search for the accused.

The police said that the accused Majid had an old enmity with his brother Fauz. Battagram police have registered a case and started investigation.



WOMEN align in queues to receive financial aid under the Benazir Income Support Programme in Peshawar on Thursday.—AFP

KP Lawmakers insist only a few people responsible for 'political anarchy'

Complain about military's interference in politics

By Umair Farooq

PESHAWAR: Members of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly on Thursday complained about the military's interference in politics and insisted that only few individuals were responsible for the country's "political anarchy" in the country.

During a session chaired by Iftikhar Khanak from the panel of chairpersons, the lawmakers who vowed to contest the federal government's proposed amendments to the Constitution.

"There is anarchy in the country just because of few individuals, who are part of the armed forces and the judiciary and want to篡夺 the system according to their will but we won't allow them to do so," said parliamentarian affairs minister Afzal Ahmad Afridi at the house.

He said the Constitution clearly defined the word "state" but had no mention of the "establishment."

The minister said the PTI had

engaged the current system of governance.

"The entire game of the owner of former prime minister Imran Khan was played by those who called themselves establishment," he said.

Mr Afridi alleged that on May 9, a crook was invited by intelligence agency's agents to violence in Kohat and the people who shared its video faced threats.

He said the PTI leaders were detained and presented to leave former Khan and join former chief minister Pervez Khattak's party, but most of them refused and preferred to face consequences.

The minister praised the province's judiciary for dispensing justice to those political detainees.

He said there was no doubt that the country required a strong military for its defense, but it should confine itself to the constitutional role. Mr Afridi alleged that most of the businesses run by the Pakistani Army reached billions of rupees worth of taxes every year.

Iftikhar Masnawi, another treasury member, contrasted the death of the Inter-Services Public Relations director-general about the army's involvement in politics and insisted that he was pressured by the establishment to quit the PTI.

The minister denied attacking milit

ary installations but there was evidence of its involvement in violence.

The lawmaker warned that participants of the upcoming PTI public meeting in Lahore would face serious consequences.

He alleged that the legislation done by the provincial assembly in the last 12 years benefited individuals.

Another opposition member, Nasir Hussain of the ANP, said parliamentarians had been interfering in the country's politics since 1947 and not for the last two years.

PMI-N MPA Shehla Ibari said the lawmakers, who were currently speaking against a state institution, used to call former ISI chief retired General Faiz Hussain an asset and former army chief retired General Qamar Javed Bajwa a champion of democracy.

She said the PTI activists shouldn't expect a red carpet treatment after destroying and attacking military memorials and crystallizations.

The lawmaker also blamed Afghan diplomats for remaining seated during the placing of Pakistan's wreath during a ceremony, declaring their act against diplomatic norms.

Gandapur urges lawmakers to ensure maximum participation of workers in Lahore rally

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chapter on Thursday finalized preparations for its Sept 21 public meeting in Lahore.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amro Khan Gandapur, who is also the PTI's president in the province, and provincial general secretary Ali Asghar Khan held four meetings with the party's regional chapters, including Malakand, Hangu, southern and central regions.

The meetings were attended by members of the provincial and national assemblies and the party's district presidents and other leadership, according to a party statement issued here.

Mr Gandapur held separate meetings with the PTI's regional chapters and other leadership.

The participants discussed the party's upcoming public meeting in Lahore. Party leaders from the province were assigned duties regarding Lahore's public meeting.

Mr Gandapur told meetings that the public meeting would be a mass-participated show. He said party lawmakers should ensure the maximum participation of workers and activists in that meeting.

In a video message shared on social media platforms, Mr Gandapur said the party was going to hold a public meeting at Minar-i-Pakistan, Lahore, for Lahore's Anandi.

He said that their forefathers lost their lives and properties to secure an inde-

pendent state and now the time has come for them to get them from mandate thieves, mafias and chieftains.

"Every one of you needs to come out of your houses and the entire Pakistan will be on roads on September 21," he said.

Mr Gandapur asked the people of KP to participate in the meeting with and Mr Gandapur said that he will himself lead the rally from the front.

"KP rally will leave for Punjab early on September 21. The time has come to decide whether we want freedom for our future generation or hand them future to mafias and corrupt people," he said.

The chief minister said the PTI would stand with Imran Khan and would strive to get him freed

from jail.

A PTI leader told Dawn that the leadership had assigned every MMA and MP to bring 500 people to the rally.

He said party workers from across the province would gather at the Ravi on Saturday and leave for Lahore at around 2pm.

The party leader said workers were also directed to bring masks, handkerchiefs and water bottles to better protect themselves in case of a crackdown by the Punjab police.

The tenders will close at 1300 hours and will be opened in public at 1400 hours, on the dates mentioned against each Tender in Gantt Chart, 1st Floor, 21-Karim ul Rehman Road Lahore. Tender documents can be purchased, upto a day before opening date of each tender, from 1000 to 1200 hours on any working day. Local manufacturers/suppliers desirous of quoting for above tenders are requested to provide a copy of valid Sales Tax registration, Income Tax, Latest Professional Tax Certificates and Evidence of being on Active Taxpayers List (ATL) along with their request for purchase of tender documents. For further information in International Tenders please contact Mr. Shahzad Khanum at telephone # 042-99251449 and Mr. Asif Mahmood for Local Tenders at telephone # 042-99445526. Tender fee is Rs.2,500/- (non-refundable) each in shape of Pay Order/Demand Draft in favor of DGPT. Amount of bid Security is 2% (including GST) of estimated value as mentioned in the tender documents. Tender Notice is also available at www.gptt.org.pk & www.mangold.com.pk.

EXTENSIONS

B. The closing dates of following tender acquire have been extended:

| Tender Registry No. | Description | Extended Closing Date |
|---------------------|--|-----------------------|
| SD-400-124 | Gas Control Meter | 21 Oct 24 |
| SD-400-053 | Filter for Water Purification | 21 Oct 24 |
| SD-400-124 | Filter for Logging Vehicles | 21 Oct 24 |
| SD-347724 | Electric Volume Corrector with Accessories | 21 Oct 24 |
| SD-248102 | Oil Meter Rotory Type | 22 Oct 24 |
| SD-420304 | Transmitter for SCADA Systems | 22 Oct 24 |

Mobile phone service to remain suspended near MDCAT centres

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has decided to keep mobile phone service off between transparency in Medical Dental College Admission Test (MDCAT) scheduled for September 22 to 10 cities of the province.

Mobile phone service will remain suspended near examination centres. According to Pakistan Medical and Dental Council, 42,227 candidates including 23,284 male and 18,943 female will take test in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Khyber Medical University, which will conduct the test, has finalised arrangements in collaboration with

provincial government institutions to ensure transparent, peaceful and successful examination.

In this connection, a high level meeting was held at Civil Secretariat with Chief Secretary Mohammad Abid Majid in the chair. Besides other measures, the meeting decided to suspend mobile phone service on the day of test. The chief secretary ordered all relevant institutions to extend full support to KMU to conduct the test in fair manner.

The meeting was attended by Higher Education Secretary Kamran Afridi, Health Secretary Afzal Shah, KMU Vice-chancellor Prof Ziaul Haq, MDCAT coordi-

nator Prof Jawad Ahmed, KMU Registrar Ismailullah Khan Wali and all divisional commissioners.

The meeting decided imposition of Section 144 to maintain law and order and put in place Nadra's biometric verification to ensure accurate identification of candidates taking the test.

It decided that students would be allowed to enter examination centres after checking their roll number slip and identification through either national identity card or POFR. Violations including possession of prohibited items during the test will lead to disqualification for two years, with registration of police cases.

The meeting was informed that special CCTV cameras would monitor test centres, and mobile phone jammers would be installed to prevent signal interferences.

A three-stage search process, including body search and metal detectors, will be in place.

Women police personnel and lady health workers will be deployed at the centres to assist in body search of female candidates.

Candidates will not be allowed to bring mobile, calculators, pens, pencils, jewelry, examination papers or ATM cards to centres. Bringing these items to the test centres will result in legal action under KMU's written memo (UFM) regulations.

Aspirants caught cheating or causing disorder will face a three-year disqualification from the test and may be banned from future educational programmes as well.

The chief secretary was informed that a special traffic plan was devised to manage traffic flow around the centres and additional two-way BRT buses would operate on the day of the test for convenience of students.

Candidiates will be provided with medical centre, juice, biscuits, boiled eggs and mineral water at all the centres. Additionally, rest facilities, first aid stations and medical teams of Remote 1122 and health department will be available. Ambulance services will be stationed on each centre in case of emergencies.

The chief secretary emphasised the importance of providing a supportive environment to students. He said that the future of many talented students depended on the outcome of the test. He praised KMU for its efforts and directed all agencies to ensure that additional facilities were extended to candidates.

Prof Ziaul Haq reassured the participants of the meeting that all arrangements were made for the smooth and transparent conduct of MDCAT 2024-25 with the support of provincial government.—Abdul Yousafzai

NATIONAL TEXTILE UNIVERSITY, FAISALABAD
Federally Chartered Public Sector University
Tender Notice # K-24/09-01
Hiring of Security Services for NTU Karachi Campus
1. Tender will be processed through PMS in the Acquisition & Disposal System, www.pms.gov.pk, otherwise, Tender will not be accepted.
2. National Textile University, Karachi Campus invites offers to hire security services in sealed envelopes located at Karungi Industrial Area, Technical & Financial Office, 42,227 candidates including 23,284 male and 18,943 female will take test in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
3. Tender Document may be downloaded from the official website of NTU (www.ntu.edu.pk) or may be obtained from the office of Convener Purchase.
The fee of Tender Document is non-refundable Rs. 1,000/- (One Thousand Only). The tender document fee will be accepted in shape of Pay Order/Cashier Draft issued in favour of "National Textile University, Faisalabad".
4. Bidders must submit their bids along with earnest money (Rs.100/-) in sealed envelope at National Textile University, Faisalabad, drawn on Faisalabad.
5. Date, Time and Venue: Sealed bids should reach in the office of Convener Purchase by or before 02:00 pm on 04-10-2024. Bids received within the stipulated time and date will be opened by the Purchasing Committee in the Meeting Room of NTU Faisalabad on the same day at 03:00 pm in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives.
6. The names of contact persons for any technical queries are given in tender document.

Convener Purchase
National Textile University, Shalimar Road, Faisalabad, Ph: 041-920001-48 (Ext. 113, 281), www.ntu.edu.pk

BUSINESS

Yield on three-year bond cut by 335bps

Govt raises just Rs83bn against an auction target of Rs200bn

By Shabir Iqbal

KARACHI: The auction of Pakistan Investment Bonds (PIBs) saw a significant 335 basis points drop in the cut-off yield for the three-year tenor, while the government borrowed less than 50 per cent of the target on Thursday.

The sharp reduction in the interest rates amid receding inflation has changed the scenario. The government rejected all bids for treasury bills auction just a day before. This was a clear signal to the financial

market that the government was trying to reduce the cost of borrowing, which was up the entire tax revenue collection in curbing its massive debt.

The interbank market was enveloped after the rejection of all bids for T-bills.

The State Bank of Pakistan reported that the government raised Rs83.3 billion in Thursday's fixed local currency bond PIB auction against the target of Rs200bn. Returns on the three-year bond was cut by 335bps to 12.3pc.

"This clearly shows that the government is improving liquidity position," said Topline Securities.

Interestingly, the cut-off yields on three-year bonds plunged to 12.3pc from 25pc, 10-year bonds to 13.4pc from 18pc, and 10-year to 13.2pc from 18pc in one year.

The long-term borrowing would provide

short-term relief to the government as it would not need to pay more next year; however, in the long term, it would create a massive burden on the economy. The PIBs are the largest part of the government's domestic borrowing.

"It's important to have a robust yield curve for the local market. Rejecting yesterday's T-bills auction had a good effect on the market. The surplus liquidity and expectations of rapidly declining yields induced a decent amount in longer tenors with some semblance of a yield curve," said Faizal Mamnoon, CEO of Toseenark.

Governments have been accumulating long-term PIBs to avoid immediate payments, which has resulted in huge PIBs as part of domestic debts.

Up to July, the total domestic debt of the central government was Rs47.7 trillion

while the PIBs constituted Rs28.15trn.

"Yields declined significantly in today's auction, with the three-year tenor witnessing a cut-off reduction of 40bps, reaching 12.3pc lowest since March 2022 and the 10-year tenor seeing a reduction of 190bps, settling at 13.4pc (lowest after November 2022)," said a report of Arif Habib Ltd. Thursday's auction also offered a two-year PIB with a cut-off yield of 13.59pc.

The financial market was more interested in seeing a trend in the next T-bills auction after a drastic reduction in the PIB rates and the recent interest rate cut.

The SSB has cut its policy rate from 15pc to 12.5pc in three reviews since June.

However, the business community is demanding another immediate cut of 300bps to revive economic activities, but the central bank remains cautious.

Biopharma JV plans to double exports

LAHORE: A leading biopharmaceutical research focusing joint venture plans to double its exports in a phased manner after it succeeded in establishing a modern European standard plant designed in line with the guidelines of respective international regulatory authorities.

Under certain export certifications, the JV also plans to obtain registrations for various global markets.

"We have accomplished expansion of our plant and now plan to move ahead to double our exports," BPL Biosciences (BPLB) Chief Operating Officer Muhammad Farhan said while talking to DAWN on Thursday.

"In the first year, we will increase exports of our medicines to 10-15 million," he said.

"The economy has been evolving broadly as we expected," he said. "If that continues, we should be able to enhance sales gradually over time, but it's vital that inflation stays low."

Borrowing costs in November, while Badley signalled that more easing was on the way.

"The economy has been evolving broadly as we expected," he said. "If that continues, we should be able to enhance sales gradually over time, but it's vital that inflation stays low."

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Pro-Hasina student leader beaten to death on campus

DHAKA: A Bangladeshi student leader was beaten to death at his university campus in an apparent reprisal for attacks on protesters during the uprising that ousted ex-prime minister Sheikh Hasina last month.

Soham Ahmed was enrolled at Jahangirnagar University in the capital Dhaka, and was a top member of the student wing of Hasina's Awami League party, police officer Abu Bakkar said.

Bakkar said Ahmed was beaten by unknown assailants on Wednesday night for leading an attack on student demonstrators at the campus in mid-July, when protests demanding Hasina's removal from office were gathering momentum.

"We took him to the Comilla Shishu Hospital, where he later died," the officer added.

Staff at the hospital confirmed that Ahmed had died after being brought in with multiple injuries. Ahmed is at least the second leader of the Awami League's student wing to be killed this month.

Former leader Abdurahman Al Mamun died hours after being beaten by a mob in the northern city of Rajshahi on Sept. 8, according to local media reports.

He had also been accused of marshalling counter-demonstrations against the student-led uprising against Hasina, who fled the country in early August moments before protesters stormed her Dhaka palace.

Hasina's government was accused of widespread abuses, including the mass detention and extrajudicial killing of political rivals. More than 450 people were killed in the weeks of violence leading up to the authoritarian leader's toppling.

Since her departure for exile in neighbouring India, cabinet ministers and other senior members of Hasina's party have been arrested, and her government's appointees have been purged from courts and the central bank.

At least 25 journalists seen as close to Hasina's regime have also been taken into custody since her ouster and replacement with an interim government led by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Mohammad Yunus.—AFP

Unknown Mozart string trio discovered in Germany

LEIPZIG: A previously unknown piece of music composed by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart when he was probably in his early teens has been uncovered in a library in Germany, researchers said on Thursday.

The piece dates to the mid-to-late-1780s and consists of seven string movements for a string trio lasting around 12 minutes, the Leipzig Municipal Library said in a statement. Born in 1756, Mozart was a child prodigy and began composing at a very early age under his father's guidance.

Researchers discovered the work at the city's music library while compiling the

latest edition of the so-called Kochel catalogue, the definitive archive of Mozart's musical works.

The newly discovered manuscript was not penned by Mozart himself but is believed to be a copy made in around 1780.

The research team said the piece was performed by a string trio at the unveiling of the new Kochel catalogue in the Austrian city of Salzburg on Thursday. It will receive its German premiere at the Leipzig Opera on Saturday.

The piece is referred to as "Gute kleine Nachtmusik" in the new Kochel catalogue, according to the Leipzig Library.

The piece was the first of its kind in years and dealt a forceful

Al Qaeda-linked fighters target military police school and an airport complex

DAMAKO: An attack in the Malian capital targeting a military police training camp and airport left more than 70 people dead and 200 wounded, one of the highest tolls suffered by the security forces in recent years.

A security source said that 77 people had been killed and 255 wounded in Tuesday's attacks in Bamako. An authenticated confidential official document put the toll at around 100, naming 81 victims.

Thursday's edition of Le Soir daily reported that the funeral of around 50 military police students would take place that day. Mali's military-led authorities have so far not released a precise death toll from the attacks, claimed by the Al Qaeda-linked Group to Support Islam and Muslims (JNIM).

The operation was the first of its

kind in the rising juntas, experts say.

The Malian capital is normally spared the sort of attacks that occur almost daily in some parts of the West African country. The general staff admitted that "some losses have been lost", mostly personnel at the military police centre.

JNIM claimed that a few dozen of its fighters had killed and wounded "hundreds" from the opposing ranks, including members of the Russian paramilitary group Wagner.

The attack came a day after jettisoned Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso marked a year since the creation of their breakaway grouping, the Alliance of Sahel States (ASS).

The trio, which have been under military rule following a string of coups since 2020, have broken ties with former colonial ruler France and turned militarily and politically towards other partners including Russia.

The Sahel states in January said they were turning their backs on regional body the Economic Community of West African

States (ECOWAS). Mali has since 2012 been ravaged by different factions affiliated to Al Qaeda and the militant Islamic State group.

Condolence

JNIM fighters attacked a military police school and stormed part of the nearby airport complex, where a military facility adjoins the civilian one.

The jihadists broadcast images showing fighters scurrying around and firing randomly into the windows of the presidential hangar and destroying aircraft.

Bamako has not seen such an operation since 2014, when gunmen attacked a hotel housing the former European training mission of the Malian army, with no cause other reported among the mission staff.

The flow of information is restricted under the ruling junta and details on how Tuesday's attack was carried out and its targets are sketchy.

Mali's neighbour Senegal and African Union Commission Chairman Moussa Faki Mahamat on Thursday condemned the attack.—AFP

AI development cannot be left to market whim, UN experts warn

Alarm raised over lack of global governance and exclusion of developing countries from debate about technology's future

UNITED NATIONS: The development of artificial intelligence should not be guided by market forces alone, UN experts warned on Thursday, calling for the creation of rules for global cooperation. But they held back from suggesting the creation of a muscular worldwide governing body to

oversee the rollout and evolution of a technology, the proliferation of which raised fears around biases, misuse and dependence.

The panel of around 40 experts from the fields of technology, law and data protection was established by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres in October.

Their report, published days before the start of a high-profile "Summit of the Future," raises the alarm over the lack of global governance of AI as well as the effective regulation of developing countries from debates about the technology's future.

Of the UN's 193 members, just seven are part of the seven major initiatives linked to AI, while 118 are entirely absent — mostly

nations of the global south. "There is, today, a global governance deficit with respect to AI," which by its nature is cross-border, the experts warn in their report.

"AI must serve humanity equitably and safely," Guterres said this week. "Left unchecked, the dangers posed by artificial intelligence could have serious implications for democracy, peace, and stability."

'Too late'

To the backdrop of his alarm call, the experts called on UN members to put in place mechanisms to grease the wheels of global cooperation on the issue, as well as to prevent unintended proliferation. "The development, deployment and use of such a

technology cannot be left to the whims of markets alone," the report says.

It called firmly for the creation of a group of scientific experts on AI modelled on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) forum of experts, whose reports are the last word on the issue of climate change.

The panel would brief the international community on emerging risks, identify research needs as well as how it could be used to alleviate hunger, poverty, and gender inequality, among other goals.

That proposal is included in the draft Global Digital Compact, still under discussion, which is due to be adopted Sunday at the "Summit of the Future." The report

endorses setting up a light-touch "coordination" structure within the UN secretariat.

But it stops short of a fully-fledged international governance body — like that sought by Guterres — based on the model of the UN's nuclear watchdog, the IAEA.

"If the risks of AI become more serious, and more concentrated, it might become necessary for Member States to consider a more robust international institution with monitoring, reporting, verification, and enforcement powers," the report said.

The authors acknowledge that owing to the wargamed of change in AI, it would be pointless to attempt to draw up a comprehensive list of dangers presented by the ever-evolving technology.—AFP



BAIAO (Portugal): A view of oranges on a burnt tree after a wildfire, on Thursday. Improving weather conditions have raised hopes that firefighters would be able to extinguish the last of the blazes this week. The fires have killed five people, four of them firefighters.—AFP



TOKYO: A woman uses a hand fan to keep cool while walking along a street, on Thursday.—AFP

NEWSMAKERS



A WORKER stands along a canal in Caen peninsula, north-western France.—AFP

Vast French project abandoned over fears of sea level rise

CARON: An ambitious housing project in the northwestern French city of Caen has been abandoned over worries that rising waters driven by climate change could make the area uninhabitable within the century.

Conceived in the early 2010s, the development was to transform a strip of industrial wasteland between the River Orne and the canal linking Caen to the sea into 2,500 homes, as well as tens of thousands of square metres of office space.

But the construction "will not happen", said Thibault Therivel, director general of the "Caen Peninsula" planning agency in charge of the "Normandie Basse" (Lower Basin) project.

In any case, the agency's authorisations to start work on the project had been obtained, Therivel was alerted by a group of experts tasked with determining the

impact of climate change on the Normandy region. This group's findings were stark enough to convince then-Caen mayor Joel Bouzou to end the development.

"In 2017, the estimated rise in sea level was 20 centimetres (eight inches) by 2100," Therivel recalled of the data. "But in 2020 it was 60 centimetres, and in 2023 it was one metre".

The UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) projects a "likely" sea level rise of 40 to 80 centimetres by 2100. But it also notes this estimate does not take into account poorly understood drivers that could push sea levels significantly higher, such as the rapid disintegration of the polar ice sheets.

In any case, the IPCC advises that urban planners in coastal cities "may wish to consider global-mean sea-level rise above the assessed likely range".—AFP



SAINT-PARDON (France): People ride a tidal bore on surfboards and paddleboards along the Dordogne river, south-western France. The tidal bore is a phenomenon in which the leading edge of an incoming tide forms a wave of water that travels up a river or narrow bay.—AFP



LA RESTINGA (Spain): Migrants wait to disembark from a Spanish rescue vessel after three boats carrying around 800 persons arrived on the Canary island of El Hierro, on Thursday. A steep rise in the number of migrant arrivals in Spain's Canary Islands from Africa has fuelled a fierce debate in the country over how to tackle illegal immigration.—AFP

Israel violated global child rights treaty in Gaza: UN

GENEVA: A UN committee on Thursday accused Israel of severe breaches of a global treaty protecting children's rights, saying its military actions in Gaza had "catastrophically" impacted on them and are among the worst violations in recent history.

Palestinian health authorities say 41,000 people have been killed in Gaza since Israel launched its military campaign.

Of those killed in Gaza, at least 13,355 are children, Palestinian data shows, and thousands more are injured.

"The outrageous death of children is almost horrifically unique. This is an extremely dark place in history," David Gutfreund, vice-chair of the committee, told reporters.

"I don't think we have seen before, a violation that is so massive, as we are seeing in Gaza now... These are extremely grave violations that we do not often see," he said.

The 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child — a widely-adopted treaty that protects them from violence and other abuses.

In its conclusions, it called on Israel to provide urgent assistance to thousands of children maimed or injured by the war, provide support for orphans and allow more medical evacuations from Gaza.

The UN body has no means of enforcing its recommendations, although countries generally aim to comply. During the hearings, the UN experts also asked many questions about Israeli children, including details about those taken prisoner by Hamas to which Israel's delegation gave evasive responses.

Sabina Tariq, the mother of a 17-year-old boy shot dead in the Qods 7 raid, addressed the UN hearings and said child survivors were traumatized. —Reuters

Spanish PM, Palestinian leader urge Mideast de-escalation

Abbas seeks peace conference modelled on the 1991 Madrid talks that led to the 1993 Oslo accords

MADRID: Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez on Thursday called for a de-escalation of the conflict in the Middle East, as Lebanon said 17 people had been killed by Israeli-trapped roadside devices.

"Today the risk of escalation is once more increasing in a dangerous way" in Lebanon, Sanchez told a news conference in Madrid after more than a dozen of talks with visiting Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas.

"So we must again make a fresh appeal for restraint, for a de-escalation and for peaceful coexistence between countries, in the name of peace," he added.

Abbas also called for a new peace conference in the Spanish capital aimed at ending the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, modelled on the 1991 Madrid talks that led to the 1993 Oslo accords.

Urging a two-state solution, long a cornerstone of international attempts to end the decades-long conflict, Sanchez said a Palestinian nation "living side by side with the state of Israel" was the only way to "bring stability to the region".

Abbas's visit was his first to Spain since Madrid took the decision to recognise a Palestinian state on May 28. Ireland and Norway took the same decision in May.

"Why is this a good thing? Because Palestine exists and has the right to have its own state," Sanchez said.

Abbas expressed his thanks for Sanchez's support and Spain's recognition, urging "all states that have not yet recognised us to do so". Neither Sanchez nor Abbas referred directly to the explosions of elec-

tronic devices that rocked Lebanon on Tuesday and Wednesday in the latest escalation of tensions.

Palestinian state recognition

Even before that stunning set of apparent setbacks, tensions were running high in the Middle East, in large part due to the conflict between Israel and Hamas in the Gaza Strip. Since the conflict began, Sanchez has positioned himself as a champion of the Palestinian cause within the European Union.

His socialist government has increasingly taken highly critical positions towards Israel's conduct of its campaign against Hamas, rival to Abbas's own Fatah party which controls the Palestinian Authority in the occupied West Bank.

"The international community and Europe cannot remain impactive in the face of the suffering of thousands of innocents, largely women and children," he added. —AFP



SPAIN'S Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez embraces Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas at Moncloa Palace in Madrid, on Thursday.—Reuters

Israel arrests citizen in alleged Iran plot to kill Netanyahu

JERUSALEM: Israeli police have arrested a citizen on suspicion of having been recruited by Iran to plot the assassination of top officials, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the force said on Thursday.

"An Israeli citizen was recruited by Iranian intelligence to promote assassinations of Israeli figures. He was approached twice into Iran and received payment for carrying out missions," the police said in a joint statement with the Shin Bet domestic security service.

Among the alleged targets were Netanyahu, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, and Shin Bet chief Ronen Bar, the statement said.

Israeli media identified the man as Mordechai Maman of Ashdod and said he was born in 1952, without specifying his birth

date. The suspect will be held in custody since August 23.

The joint statement from the police and Shin Bet said he was "a businessman who lived in Turkey for an extended period" and maintained connections with Turks and Iranians who introduced him by phone to an Iranian business man called Eddie.

It said the suspect first visited Iran in May to meet Eddie, after Eddie had "staying leaving Iran."

He also met someone called Haggai, who was introduced as an Iranian security operative, the statement said.

The suspect was asked during this trip to carry out security missions in Israel, including transferring "money or a gun", taking pictures of crowded public places

and threatening other Israelis recruited by Tehran, the statement alleged. In August, he was smuggled to Iran by Syria for another visit.

While there, "he met additional Iranian intelligence agents and was asked by them to carry out terrorist activities for Iran on Israeli soil, including promoting assassination attacks", the statement alleged.

Some of the proposed assassinations were characterized as revenge for the killing of Iranian political leader Israel Hayyim in Tel Aviv in July, the statement said.

Iran and Hamas have accused Israel of being behind Hayyim's death. Israel has not commented on the killing.

The suspect was also asked to perform additional tasks, includ-

ing recruiting members of Israel's Mossad spy agency to be double agents, the statement said.

After asking for a \$1 million advance, the suspect was given \$3,000 euros for taking part in the meetings and told he would be recruited in the future, it alleged.

"This is a very serious case that exemplifies the enormous efforts of Iranian intelligence agents to recruit Israeli citizens to promote terrorist activities in Israel," a senior Shin Bet official was quoted as saying.

The Times of Israel quoted Maman's lawyer as saying he made "an error of judgment" and was cooperating with the investigation. "It's good that you arrested me, I don't know where it could have gone," Israeli media quoted Maman as saying. —AFP

Cathay Airbus fault could have caused major damage

HONG KONG: An engine defect in the Airbus A350 plane that led to the cancellation of dozens of Cathay Pacific flights this month could have escalated into "extensive damage", according to the results of a Hong Kong probe released on Thursday.

Hong Kong-based Cathay briefly grounded its fleet of A350s for inspections and repairs after a Zurich-bound plane was forced to

turn around and head back to the Chinese city on Sept 2.

The inspections found that components on 15 of the 48 planes in the fleet of A350s, powered by engines from the British manufacturer Rolls Royce, had to be replaced.

In Thursday's report, the Hong Kong investigators said a post-flight examination of the Zurich-bound plane found that a fuel

line had ruptured, as evidenced by a "discernible hole", burn marks and "black soot" observed on the aft section of the core engine.

The fuel could have leaked through the ruptured line and resulted in a fire that would have spread to surrounding areas, said the report released by the Air Accident Investigation Authority. —AFP

Blasphemy suspect

Continued from Page 1

to the University District Headquarters Hospital in MS, Dr Shah Nawaz was a dedicated doctor, who went "missing" on September 12, which could be due to a "psychotic episode".

It may be noted that the situation had turned tenser in Umerkot following protests against the alleged incident of blasphemy. A large crowd of enraged protesters gathered in front of the press club on Wednesday demanding the immediate arrest of the doctor. They also set fire to a police mobile.

"Body buried"

After the "encounter", the body was handed over to the family, who brought it to Jaffarwala—the native village of the suspect—for burial. However, they had to escape after a mob descended on them to smash the body.

The family fled to Naseem Thor, where they were pursued by relatives who did not let them bury the slain suspect. However, upon returning to Jaffarwala with the body hidden in a car, a mob managed to smash the corpse and set it on fire. The slain man is survived three sons, a daughter, and his widow.

According to his family and locals, Dr Shah Nawaz was struggling with a mental disorder and had been under treatment for four years. His nephew, Dr Shahid, a psychiatrist in the UK, used to treat him and had also prescribed medication at regular intervals.

Dr Murtaza Mirza, working as a family physician in Ireland, told DAWN that Dr Shah Nawaz was a "deeply religious person".

"Academically, he was among the top ten in his class—an intelligent, dedicated nationalist with a strong spiritual side, at least during his periods of mental clarity," he added.

Despite several attempts, the SSP Mirpurkhas and other police officers could not be reached for comment.



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Nasrallah vows revenge amid Israeli bombing

Panic-stricken citizens toss power banks, mobile phones following carnage of paper blasts

BEIRUT: Israel bombed Lebanon on Thursday, after two waves of explosions targeted its communications systems, killing at least 37 people across the country.

On Thursday, the Israeli military claimed it struck six Hezbollah "infrastructure sites" and a weapons storage facility overnight in southern Lebanon.

Lebanon's National News Agency also reported Israeli strikes and shelling on several towns in the south.

Meanwhile, panic-stricken Lebanese have tossed power banks, or sleep with mobile phones in another room after hand-held devices used by Hezbollah operatives detonated two days in a row.

Stories of carnage circulating on social media, which shocked many in Lebanon, showed injured, bloodied people lying in the street or falling to the ground after explosions in shops.

Doctors in Lebanon told AFP of horrific eye injuries and finger amputations caused by the blasts.

On Thursday, Lebanese authorities prohibited passengers travelling from Beirut airport from "transporting any paper or materials device allowed planes".

Schools and universities were closed on Wednesday following the initial blast, but they reopened on Thursday, with people on edge.

In his first speech since the attacks, Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah said his group had suffered an "unprecedented" blow,

Pakistan elected as IAEA board member

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan was elected a member of the board of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for the 21st time since becoming a member of the agency.

The 68th General Conference (GC) brought many laurels and honours for the South East Asian country that are very significant in nature.

Earlier, Nuclear Medicine, Oncology and Radiotherapy Institute (NORI), a PAK-CRC hospital in Islamabad, earned accolades when its contribution to cancer diagnosis, treatment and sharing of expertise with regional member states, was acknowledged by IAEA Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi.

On this occasion, Mr Grossi recalled his visit to the hospital during his tour of Pakistan last year. He said he was very impressed with state-of-the-art facilities at the hospital.

Speaking on this occasion, Chairman of PAEC Dr Raja Ali Raza Awan said: "It is indeed a great pleasure for me to address a community which is keen to adopt nuclear science and technology for socio-economic uplift of their countries."

"PAEC enjoys a long-standing and mutually beneficial partnership with the IAEA. Cancer is one of the major contributors to non-communicable diseases, causing the death of 0.18 million people annually in Pakistan."

Analysts said explosives had likely been placed in the papers before they were delivered to Hezbollah.

The preliminary findings of a Lebanese investigation found the papers had been booby-trapped, a security official said.

"Data indicates the devices were pre-programmed to detonate and contained explosive materials planned next to the factory," the official said, requesting anonymity to discuss sensitive matters.—AFP

Pakistan, Russia sign MoU for cooperation in multiple sectors

PM says improving ties with Moscow 'a priority'

By Basir Sejed Syed

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Russia on Thursday formalised their commitment to deepening bilateral ties with the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for expanding cooperation across multiple sectors.

The agreement, signed by Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexei Overchuk and Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister Shahzad Dar, was set the stage for enhancing cooperation in key sectors including trade, energy, connectivity and defense.

The signing followed a meeting between Mr Overchuk and Prime



RUSSIAN Deputy Prime Minister Alexei Overchuk exchanges MoUs with his Pakistani counterpart, Shahzad Dar, at the PM House, on Thursday.—White Star

Minister Shahzad Sharif, where both sides reaffirmed the importance of expanding their relationship across multiple domains.

Mr Sharif, while talking to the Russian delegation, reiterated the government's stance that strengthening

relations with Russia was a priority for Pakistan's foreign policy.

Mr Sharif said he looks forward to welcoming Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin in

February next month for the Shanghai

Cooperation Organization's Council of Heads of Government meeting.

Trade, energy cooperation

The MoU builds on talks held between the two countries during delegation-level discussions at Pakistan's Foreign Office a day earlier, where both sides explored avenues for boosting trade and overcoming logistical hurdles in the face of international sanctions on Russia.

A notable outcome of the discussions at the Foreign Office was Russia's offer to explore a free trade agreement between Pakistan and the Eurasian Economic Union.

The discussions, during Mr Overchuk's visit, also focused on cultural and educational exchanges, with both countries seeking to deepen people-to-people ties.

Ties with Pakistan vital for global stability: Biden

By Asmar Iqbal

WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden has emphasised that an enduring partnership between Pakistan and the United States is crucial for global and regional stability.

Biden highlighted this key aspect of the bilateral relationship while accepting the letter of credence from Pakistan's new envoy, Saeed Sheikh on Wednesday, marking the start of his tenure as the country's 38th ambassador to the United States.

The formal ceremony took place at the president's official residence, the Blair House, with notable attendance from diplomatic and US administration officials.

"The enduring partnership between our countries is crucial for global and regional stability," Biden said in his brief remarks. He reaffirmed the US's commit-

ment to working with Pakistan to address major challenges such as climate change, security threats, and health issues.

Biden also commended US-Pakistan cooperation in countering terrorism and stressed the importance of building on their shared interests in security, trade, investment, and economic growth.

This commitment to strengthening and advancing the bilateral relationship comes in the wake of US sanctions imposed on three Chinese and Pakistani firms for allegedly assisting Pakistan's missile programme. On Tuesday, the US State Department defended the decision, asserting that the partnership could not prevent such sanctions.

In his address, Ambassador Sheikh extended greetings from Pakistan's president, prime minister and citizens, emphasising the deepened cooperation between the two nations. He underscored ongoing investments in their bilat-

eral relationship, particularly in areas such as climate change, energy, health, trade, and investment.

"Pakistan-US economic partnership is central to our engagement. The United States remains the largest destination for Pakistani exports," Sheikh stated.

He also expressed Pakistan's commitment to expand its economic ties with the US by welcoming investments in alternative energy, green technology, industry, digital platforms, and higher education.

Biden highlighted the pivotal role of the Pakistani diaspora in the US as a vital link between the two countries and called for structured dialogue to enhance cooperation in both security and non-security areas.

The ceremony represents a renewed focus on deepening ties and addressing mutual challenges through increased collaboration and strategic dialogue.

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Second seed Samsonova exits Korea Open

SEOUL: Number two seed Liudmila Samsonova crashed out of the Korea Open on Wednesday after a 6-4, 6-2 loss to fellow Russian Veronika Kudermetova in the last 16.

Playing in her first match in Seoul after recently suffering an upper-gastrointestinal bye, Samsonova made several unforced errors as Kudermetova wrapped up the victory in the 15th.

Samsonova's loss leaves top seed Daria Kasatkina as the clear favorite in a field already depleted by a string of last-minute walkovers, including world number one Iga Świątek, US Open runner-up Jessica Pegula, and former Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina.

Kudermetova, who has seen her world ranking drop from 16 at the start of the year to her current position of 44, will face either American Amanda Anisimova or Bulgaria's Viktorija Tomic in the quarter-finals.

"It was a really tough match," said Kudermetova.

"It's always not easy to play against Liudmila but I'm really happy that I managed to win this match."

Kudermetova made the decisive break midway through the first set and then started the second with another break of serve.

The 22-year-old struggled to press home the advantage at times but finally came good when Samsonova dropped a shot into the net on match point.

"We prepared for that match," Kudermetova said of the initial conditions in Seoul. "I just focused on my game and my play that's it."

Number seven seed Ekaterina Alexandrova also made an early exit after losing 6-2, 7-5 to world number 163 Polina Kudermetova.

Russia's number four seed Diana Skarlicka made it through to the quarter-finals with a 6-3, 6-3 win over Canada's Carol Zhao.

Ukraine's number five seed Marta Kostyuk also reached the last eight with a 6-2, 6-2 win over Britain's Heather Watson.—AFP

Gauff splits with Gilbert as coach

NEW YORK: Coco Gauff, last year's US Open champion, and coach Brad Gilbert announced on Wednesday they have split after 14 months together.

The move comes after the 20-year-old American was ousted in the round of 16 at Wimbledon, the Paris Olympics, the WTA Toronto event and the US Open, and in her first match at Cincinnati in her last Open tuneup.

"Thank you @bigbradgilbert for all your support and I wish you all the best in the future!" Gauff posted on X, formerly known as Twitter.

Sixth-ranked Gauff won last year at Washington and Cincinnati before capturing her first Grand Slam title at the US Open, becoming the first teen champion in New York since Serena Williams in 1999.

Gauff reached the Australian and French Open semi-finals earlier this year but could not approach her 2023 success.—AFP



PARIS: Girona goalkeeper Pepe Gachonga misses the ball as Paris St-Germain's Nuno Mendes (R) scores during the Champions League match at Parc des Princes.—Reuters

City held by Inter as PSG pinch victory

PARIS: Manchester City made a sluggish start to their Champions League campaign as they drew 0-0 against Inter Milan on Wednesday, while Paris St Germain needed a last-minute goal to beat basement劲旅Girona.

PSG's side have won all four of their Premier League games this season but failed to break down Italian champions Inter in a repeat of the 2023 final won by City.

City lost Kevin De Bruyne to injury at half-time and Phil Foden fired straight at Inter goalkeeper Yann Sommer with their best chance as Erling Haaland was kept quiet on a night he was chasing his 100th goal for the English club.

"It was a very intense game against a strong opponent. We knew what was coming, they are a top team as well and they are used to winning, so we were not going to have an easy job," City defender Ruben Dias told TNT Sports.

However, a goalkeeping blunder from Pepe Gachonga in the 90th minute gifted the Ligue 1 champions a 1-0 victory at the Parc des Princes.

"We won't get to where we want to overnight," Girona coach Michel said. "It requires hard work."

PSG defender Nuno Mendes aside away down the left and sent across a low ball that deflected off the outstretched leg of substitute Alejandro Fernández before squeezing through the arms and body of Gachonga for an ungoal to

give the home side's blusher.

"It was a difficult game, they're a team that plays well with the ball," Mendes told Canal Plus. "I was surprised [by the goal]. The goalkeeper was there and it got through."

SUPERMUNDIALITO PROPELS DORTMUND

Last season's runners-up Borussia Dortmund, beaten by Real in the final, had English winger Jamie Otton to thank as the 20-year-old came off the bench and scored twice in a 3-0 win at Club Brugge.

Otton's hat-trick added a stoppage-time penalty for his first Dortmund goal since arriving in the summer from Stuttgart.

Dortmund's defense had a Champions League-best six clean sheets last season on its way to the final, where Real lined two late goals to take the title.

Similarly, goalkeeper Gregor Kehl kept out Brugge despite the goal attempts including a close-range shot by Hugo Verlinen that rattled the cross

bar in the 12th minute. Verlinen's effort ended a series of four shots in a matter of seconds from a corner including a diving save by Kehl.

The Switzerland keeper's first saves meant Dortmund did not pay for their own wastefulness in front of goal until taking the lead in the 76th from a Götze shot that deflected off two defenders before looping past Simon Magoski into the Brugge net.

Götze followed it up with a free kick after an impressive step-over and Götze added a third for the North Schürn side.

Celtic began in style by thrashing Slovan Bratislava 5-1 in Glasgow, winning their opening game in the Champions League for the first time in 13 attempts.

Liam Sweeney's powerful header put Celtic ahead and the hosts struck again through Kyogo Furuhashi early in the second half before Arne Slot's converted a penalty for 3-0.

Kevin Wimmer pulled one back with a fine strike for the Slovak champions, who came through four rounds of qualifying, but Celtic put away with further goals from Deniz Mengen and Adam Idah.

"It's a fantastic night," Celtic captain Callum McGregor told TNT Sports. "The fans enjoyed it because the managers and players did."

This is the next level for the group in terms of growth and development."

Brugge drew 0-0 at home to Shakhtar Donetsk in the Italian team's first ever Champions League match. Lukasz Skorupski earned an early penalty from Shakhtar's Cleverson Santos.

Sports Prague swept Red Bull Salzburg aside 3-0 with goals from Koen Karreman, Victor Oshoju and Karim Laci, as the Czech champions won for the first time in the competition proper since 2003.—Agencies



MANCHESTER: Inter Milan's Henrikh Mkhitaryan (L) shoots but fails to score against Manchester City during their Champions League match at the Etihad Stadium.—AFP

Italy to face Argentina in Davis Cup Final 8 opener

LONDON: Reigning champions Italy will face Argentina in the Davis Cup Final 8 knockout in Malaga in November with the United States set for a blockbuster clash against Australia.

The top eight nations qualified from the Group Finals and will play to a

British in the Spanish coastal city.

Host Spain will face the Netherlands while Canada are up against Germany in their opening.

They will consist of two singles and a doubles decider.

Italy were without

world number one Jannik Sinner for the Group

Finals but the 32-times Davis Cup champion could call on some of their big guns in Malaga where they will

attempt to get past Australia, the second most successful nation with 28 titles.

Italy and Spain are on

opposite sides of the Group Finals but the

draw means a potential final showdown between Sinner and third-ranked Carlos Alcaraz.

The Final 8 knockout round takes place between Nov 19-24 in the Palacio de Deportes José María Martín Carpena.—Reuters

draw meaning a potential final showdown between Sinner and third-ranked Carlos Alcaraz.

The Final 8 knockout round takes place between Nov 19-24 in the Palacio de Deportes José María Martín Carpena.—Reuters

draw meaning a potential final showdown between Sinner and third-ranked Carlos Alcaraz.

Alcaraz will play doubles alongside German Alexander Zverev for Team Europe at the tournament, with their first clash coming against Americans Taylor Fritz and Ben Shelton for Team World.

Preparing to play on home soil, Zverev said of Alcaraz: "It's a privilege to share the court with a legend of our sport already."

The two have clashed three times in 2024, including in the French Open final, which Alcaraz won in five sets.

"I think it's amazing to hear my teammates call me a tennis legend, but I try not to

think about it," said Alcaraz.

"Above all, what makes you a legend is tennis in what you contribute to the sport and how you try and take tennis to the top, to be heard in every corner of the world."

"To attract the largest possible audience, to people who have never seen tennis in their lives, thanks to you they watch it on TV or start to play, that makes you a legend, apart from the tournaments you have won and the success you have."

Tenns Europe won the first four Laver Cups, starting in 2017, but Team World have won the past two.

Alcaraz has the most Grand

Slam titles of any current player besides Nadal and Novak Djokovic.

Team World captain John McEnroe, who this week called Alcaraz "the biggest breath of fresh air we've had in the sport in 10 years," said Thursday that emergence of a new generation of talent meant the men's game was in good hands.

"We were just watching the three generations players who ever lived," McEnroe said.

"We thought what's gonna happen? And suddenly things seem to be doing OK. We've got some energy in our sport and this event helps with it."—AFP

Playing Nadal is 'kind of a nightmare', says Alcaraz



SPAIN'S Carlos Alcaraz in action during a practice session at the Utz Arena on Thursday.—Reuters

BERLIN: Carlos Alcaraz admitted to being starstruck when he first faced Rafael Nadal, saying that facing the 22-time Grand Slam champion was "kind of a nightmare".

Speaking in Berlin on Thursday ahead of the Laver Cup, the 21-year-old Alcaraz reflected on his on-court battles with fellow Spaniard Nadal.

"It was a huge thing when I played him for the first time," said the world number three. "The other times for me were kind of a nightmare."

Alcaraz already has four Grand Slam titles, winning his first at the 2022 US Open in the

same year Nadal won his most recent major at the French Open.

Nadal, 38, was set to take the court alongside Alcaraz in Berlin, but pulled out due to his continued struggles with injury.

"Playing against Rafa is always tough. Every time for me it's a privilege to share the court with a legend of our sport already."

There was speculation

Nadal may retire from the sport at the Laver Cup, as great rival Roger Federer had done two years ago, but he is

set to continue.

Alcaraz will play doubles alongside German Alexander Zverev for Team Europe at the tournament, with their first clash coming against Americans Taylor Fritz and Ben Shelton for Team World.

Preparing to play on home

soil, Zverev said of Alcaraz: "It's a privilege to share the court with a legend of our sport already."

The two have clashed three

times in 2024, including in the French Open final, which Alcaraz won in five sets.

"I think it's amazing to hear my teammates call me a tennis legend, but I try not to

Spurs late show saves Postecoglou blushes at Coventry

COVENTRY: Tottenham Hotspur needed two goals from Dijel Spasojevic and Brennan Johnson to beat second-tier Coventry City 2-1 and avoid a shock League Cup exit on Wednesday.

Spurs were headed to a third consecutive defeat when Brandon Thomas-Asante fired the Championship side into a deserved lead after 63 minutes.

Tottenham boss Ange Postecoglou had responded to criticism after Sunday's 1-0 defeat to Arsenal in the north London derby by insisting he will continue his record of winning silverware in his second season at multiple clubs.

However, the former Australia boss was met with a backlash from his own supporters, who forced the decision to replace Spanish striker Lucas Berezny early in the second half.

Coventry nearly shocked Manchester United in the FA Cup semi-finals last season and were serving an upset when Norman Brookes produced a superb cross for Thomas-Asante to slot in.

Postecoglou was facing up to a second consecutive early exit in this competition, his blunders were spared when Dijel Spasojevic equalised in the 87th minute.

Tottenham seized their moment and in the second minute of stoppage time Rodriguez Bressana placed in Johnson, who rolled home the winner.

In the night's other third-round clash, Brighton & Hove Albion beat Premier League rivals Wolverhampton Wanderers 3-2 on the south coast.

Carlo Baldo opened his account with the Seagulls on 14 minutes and Simon Adingra slotbed for the second goal in the 33rd.

Consequently, Baldo equalled one for the visitors before the break with a deflected side-footed shot before Jordi Rangel made it 3-1 in the 84th on the rebound.

Tommy Doyle then lashed home off the underside of the bar in stoppage time for a nervous finish.

The remaining third-round ties will be played next week, with holders Liverpool at home to Premier League rivals West Ham United on Sept 25.—Agencies



COVENTRY: Tottenham Hotspur's Brennan Johnson (R) scores past Coventry City goalkeeper Ben Wilson during their League Cup third-round match at the Coventry Building Society Arena.—AFP

Five athletes failed doping tests at Paris Olympics

PARIS: Around a third of Olympic athletes were doped during the Paris Games this year, with only five positive results, the International Testing Agency (ITA) said on Thursday.

That is one fewer than the Tokyo Games in 2021, although those tested represented a 4% increase on the previous Games and 10% higher than Rio in 2016.

The ITA, which was in charge of testing during the Games, said 4,730 athletes — 39 per cent of the total — had samples of their urine, blood and dried blood analysed during the July 26-August 11 event.

ITA said it was the highest proportion of athletes ever tested, which followed intensive screening during 2024 which meant 70 per cent of competitors were analysed at least once before the Games.

The agency added the greatest number of tests were implemented on athletes from the largest participating delegations: the United States, France, China and Australia.

"Sports such as athletics, aquatics, cycling, running and wrestling saw the highest number of doping controls," read their statement.

The five athletes who tested positive in Paris were judokas Sagid Ghaniyebekov from Iraq and Mohammad Samini, Farid from Afghanistan, as well as Nigerian boxer Cynthia Tomoriye, Ugandese sprinter Dominique Lwanga Mwamba and Belgian swimmer Marie-José Robert-Pierron.

The quartet may not be the last to be exposed as the ITA said the last phase of its anti-doping programme in the long-term storage and re-analysis of samples collected prior to and during the Games.—AFP

KARACHI
Sunset 06:33 pm
Sunrise (tomorrow) 06:16 am
NEXT 24 HRS
Minimum 27°C
Maximum 39°C
Humidity 73%
Outlook Sunny



Centurion Ashwin lifts India to 339-6 against Bangladesh

Pg. 20 SPORT

Man jailed for marrying underage girl

By Sumair Abdullah

KARACHI: A sessions court has sentenced a man to two years in prison for marrying an underage girl.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Asif Hussain Khawaja, who is also a presiding officer of Gender-Based Trial Court (South), found Asif Ali Lakshmi, guilty of marrying a 16-year-old girl under Section 3 of the Sindh Child Restraint Marriage Act, 2013.

After pronouncing the judgement, the court directed police to take the convict into custody and cancelled the custody bond of the convict, who appeared in court on bail.

It also imposed a fine of Rs100,000, on default the convict would undergo an additional three-month imprisonment.

According to state prosecutor Iftikhar Qadri, the complainant informed the police that he had hired a tutor (he accused) for his daughter, who was a middle grade student. However, after four months, he dismissed the tutor as his daughter was not progressing in her Sindhi language studies.

In March 2019, while the complainant was in Lahore for work, he received a call from his wife informing him that their daughter was missing. After returning to Karachi, he initially tried to find her himself. When he failed, he approached the police and lodged a complaint. The father alleged that his daughter had abducted her without consent and committed rape. He also alleged that the accused also stole gold ornaments, mobile phones, documents and cash from their house.

Later, the police apprehended the accused and recovered the girl.

In their testimony, the victim stated that the accused — said to be father of four children — had been her school teacher and also came to her home to teach her in Sindhi studies. However, she added that he began discussing personal matters with her and offered to help her pass the examination if she agreed to talk to him over the phone.

The victim further claimed that the accused proposed her to marry him and instructed her to take gold ornaments and other valuables, as well as her B-form and passport from her house where she had to leave. She claimed that when the accused learned her father was out of the city, he asked her to leave the house as he was coming to pick her up.

The court noted that in her statement, the victim advised she had left her parents' house and reported the accused of her own free will in Sakkur.



COMMUTERS are caught in a snarl-up on Pready Street after Liners Area residents blocked both tracks of the thoroughfare in protest over power outages, on Thursday. The protest that continued for over two hours near Shahabuddin Market caused serious traffic jams on nearby busy arteries. —Online

'Under-fire' KE chief dares govt to manage power supply on its own

- Moenis appears before PA's committee on loadshedding, highlights challenges
- MPAs take up issue of unannounced, prolonged outages in Karachi

By Tahir Siddiqui

KARACHI: Chief Executive Officer of the K-Electric, the city's sole power utility, on Thursday finally appeared before the Sindh Assembly's Special Committee on loadshedding and excessive cutting and categorically told the provincial government to get the company's license cancelled and supply electricity itself.

Informal sources said that KE CEO Moini Ali appeared to be an "opposition

ated person" and took an "aggressive stance" from the outset of the meeting, denying any prolonged loadshedding and excessive cutting in Karachi.

While the special committee members took up the issue of unannounced and prolonged power disruption in parts of the city, the CEO categorically told the committee that "no loadshedding was carried out late at night", adding that around "70 per cent of the network is loadshedding free", while remaining 10 per cent of the network faced issues.

As for the settlement of dues with the provincial government, he made it clear that the power utility wouldn't make any payment unless the circumstances against the provincial government were cleared.

He said that the KE did not fix electricity prices and added that the government could start supply electricity by cancelling their licence.

Jamiat-i-Islami member Muhammad Farooq told the KE CEO that their last meeting was held in a good atmosphere, but the matters decided in the meeting were not

implemented.

He brought into his notice that there was 18-hour loadshedding in water pumping station of Karachi Water and Sewerage Corporation in Dhaabat which provided water to three districts. "Is there any pumping station in Mazar-e-Quaid where loadshedding is carried out?" he asked and added that there were all problems where the water went to civilian areas.

Parliamentary Leader of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Shaukat Sharif told the KE chief that the power utility resorted to loadshedding and presented its justification for power theft.

"You have institutions to stop electricity theft, but put the burden of electricity theft on the people," he said, adding that the power utility seemed "not to be accountable to anyone".

MPA Saleem Baloch of Pakistan Peoples Party said that the power utility could not

Continued on Page 14

PA urges Centre to retain Mohenjo Daro image on currency note

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: The Sindh Assembly on Thursday demanded that the image of Sindh's historical heritage, Mohenjo Daro, be retained on currency notes and not removed.

The resolution was tabled by Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan's Riazul Ali, who said that Mohenjo Daro was a historical heritage of the province and the country but its image was being removed from the currency notes.

Following that, the House unanimously demanded from the federal government not to remove the image of historical site.

Except for the MQM-P law-

maker's resolution, none of the other resolutions tabled by the opposition members on the Private Members Day in the House were passed as the treasury benches, as per their traditions, voted against the opposition members' resolution.

One of the resolution moved by Jamiat-i-Islami's lone member Muhammad Farooq was rejected by majority vote.

In the resolution, he had demanded a thorough investigation into the affairs of administrators appointed by the provincial government in cooperative sector. He had also demanded for the formation of a committee comprising serving judges and lawmakers in this regard.

He said that the motions were being taken over by appointing

the administrators of the societies in the city.

Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Ziaul Haq Laiqa opposed the resolution, saying that the bill was as if a petition was being filed in the high court.

He asked the JP member to re-write his resolution and present it in the House afresh.

Similarly, a resolution of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf-backed Sanaei Baloch Council member Sajid Ali against the expropriation of forest land in the province was also rejected by the House.

During the proceedings of the House, an adjournment motion regarding the handing over of the National Museum from the federal government to the provin-

cial government was presented by PPP lawmaker Jam Shah.

The debate on the adjournment motion was deferred with the consent of the mover.

The assembly also welcomed Tabassum Lughari, a teacher from Government Girls High School in Sujawal, who secured the first position in global competition organised by Unesco, and paid rich tributes to her.

Education Minister Saeed Sarwar Shah said that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation had recently organised an online competition on how to advance education using modern scientific foundations.

The education minister said that Ms Lughari secured the first position in this global competition.

arrived in 1908. He mentioned Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah's charge of anti-Arab sentiment enabling him to become synonymous with Muslims. He had an alluring vision. He was a magnetic orator, had a mass galvanisation and was a box office superstar. Remarking on the subject of Pakistan after its inception, he reflected upon the 1971 tragic tragedy and said that from 1972-1977-2024 it could be seen as a five-act play with the following ramifications, resilience, renewal, resurgence and regression. He also spoke about Z.A. Bhutto and Benazir Bhutto and their attire.

Mr Jabbas said religious forces strongly opposed the creation of Pakistan but since 1949 they claim the ideological custody of the state. However, in the 11 general elections held, religious forces have never received majority votes.

He said today performing arts are struggling to survive wherever political circuits are thriving. Performing arts need substantive increase in state funding and support by the private sector.

Concluding his talk, he said performing arts should not change and political crafts are also unlikely to change. The two will have a happy ever-after.

With reference to Pakistan's tremendous potential, he added, Pakistan has produced the likes of Zia Modych, Nasir Fateh Ali Khan, Shaukat Ali and Aslam Abbasi.

'Pakistan's existence is like a continuously improvised play'

By Peerzada Salman

KARACHI: Former federal minister and retired Justice Javed Jabbar gave an insightful talk on Performing Arts and Political Crafts — A Symbiotic Relation: Origins, Present and Future at the National Academy of Performing Arts (Napa) on Thursday evening.

Mr Jabbar began his presentation by saying that the question made in the title of the lecture could have been placed in front of 'origins' because conventionally the future is thought of as uncertain and mysterious, but history is the greatest mystery. The more one explores alternative views of history the more mysterious it gets. "For 50,000 years we have been having conflicts. Agriculture was invented only about 10,000 years back." Yet there are many unanswered questions, such as how did the heavy stones on Easter Island arrive. Therefore, history is a mystery and Pakistan's history is still worth exploring.

Drawing comparisons of similarities between political crafts and performing arts, Mr Jabbar quoted from Shakespeare's play *As You Like It* in which a character utters the following lines:

All the world's a stage,
And all the men and women merely players;

They have their exits and their entrances;
And one man in his time plays many parts,

His acts being seven ages — Iohn, Fyfth, Sixt, Seveth,
Eighth, Nint, Tenth, And now the world's end,

And therefore now is second childishness,
And thinnesse of spirit, and roundness in the bosome,

And fatness, and fleshe, and double cheekes,
And wavy haire, and lippes that paue,

And shew the boordre of the world unto them,
The which is no better than a peare of shooles,

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Rallies held across Sindh against proposed amendments to Irsa Act

Dawn Report

KARACHI: Rallies and demonstrations were held under the title of "Nalay Daryo Bachayo Tehreek (Save Indus River Movement)" in almost all cities and towns of Sindh on Thursday in response to a call given by the Grand Democratic Alliance (GDA) — a conglomerate of 11 political, religious and nationalist entities — against proposed amendments to the Indus River System Authority (Irsa) Act, 1992.

GDA termed the proposed amendments "death warrant for Sindh", and totally rejected all moves in this regard.

GDA General Secretary Dr Saffar Abbas led a big rally held in Larkana city. He told the participants that the proposed amendments tantamount to "death warrant for Sindh" and asked the government to shelve its plan.

The participants, carrying flags of their respective parties, banners and placards started their march from the Labour regulator of the Indus Canal and marched through main roads in the city raising slogans against the plan. They finally converged outside the Larkana Press Club, where their leaders spoke to them.

Dr Saffar Abbas, JUI-F Larkana district Amir Maslana Nasir Mohamed Soomro, Sindh United Party's Dr Maslina Mehmood, Shabbar Akbari, PTF's Comrade Rauf Koral, ISM's Asrar Soomro and other leaders also spoke to the media and explained GDA's position.

They alleged that the federal government in connivance with the leadership of the Pakistan People's Party had hatched a conspiracy to turn Sindh barren. After raising Sindh under different conspiracies, they were now contemplating to amend the Irsa Act to rob away Sindh's water share.

The leaders pointed out that the PPP-led Sindh government dolted out 12,60,000 acres of land under different tags and had now given its go-ahead to build six more canals over the Indus. This was bound to turn Sindh's fertile lands barren and facilitate cultivation of other

provinces' lands, they said, and warned that the new canals would deal a severe blow to Sindh's agricultural sector. They said that the people of Sindh would resist the plan tooth and nail.

Workers of JUI-F, PTF, PMI, Functional, PPP Workers, JI, Ansar Jamhoor Party, SUP, JSM, Qasmi Ansar Tehreek and various nationalist groups participated in the rally.

In Karachi, GDA Information Secretary Sardar Abdoel Rahim of PML-F, PTF's Advocate Ali Pathan, JUI-F's Qasim Usman, JI's Muslim Pervez, SUP's Munir Haider Shah, QAT's Ashiq Chaudhry, AJP's Ghulam Qader Hajaro, JSM's Wasir Ahmed Sheikh and STP's Khair Mohammad Magro, along with Nasrullah Jaffri of the Karachi Bar Association, Arshad Suleman Baloch, Naja Arifur and others led a big rally outside the local press club.

They described the proposed amendments to the Irsa Act as anti-Sindh plan and accused the PPP of clandestinely supporting it.

"The entire province — right from Karachi to Kandhar — is protesting against the proposed amendments and the project of creating new canals over the Indus.

This movement will continue until these projects are stopped," they said.

They said PPP's double dealing and hypocritical policies would not be tolerated.

Sardar Rahim or Sindh President Asif Ali Zardari for his doleful role in the issue and his PPP for always acting against Sindh's interests. He said PPP government had the track record of selling Indus' interests, and vowed to rid the masses of the PPP rule very soon with the unity of all other parties as demonstrated on this day.

JPI's Muslim Pervez warned that the amendments would have disastrous consequences.

SUP's Munir Haider Shah accused Asif Ali Zardari of having sold away Sindh on July 8 to save his rule and then bargaining over the river, threat and even Zulfiqarabad.

Addressing a rally outside the Hyderabad Press Club, STP chairman Dr Qasim Magro also accused PPP of always bargaining over Sindh's rights while it had been in power.

The rally started from Hyderi Chowk and culminated at press club after passing through various roads.

Dr Magro said that three canals were built over the Indus during Z.A. Bhutto's rule and six more canals had now been planned when Asif Ali Zardari was in the previous.

He said that by destroying Sindh, Punjab could not execute the "Green Parjat Initiative". "The Indus River is the lifeline of Sindh and if its flows are stopped, then those in power will lose their rule," he recited.

IN THE COURT OF SPECIAL JUDGE ANTI-TERRORISM SHIKARPUR

Special Case No. 73 of 2024

State
Versus

Masood & Masood & others.....Accused

Case No. 18/2024
Police Station Dehradoon
District Jacobabad
Uts: 2024-2025-407-3699
402, 1401/14/PFO & 407/404

WHEREAS, the accused namely, 1. Noor Hassan Soh Shahnawaz B/C Saboor R/o Ghorehali District Kashmore, 2. Zulfiqar & Bhutto Soh Guzar & Gila B/C Bangla R/o Tengwani Taluka Tengwani District Kashmore and 3. Hadiya Soh Nooran B/C Hindwani both R/o Ghorehali Mari Taluka Tengwani District Kashmore are shown as absconders in the above cited case.

AND WHEREAS, non-bailable warrant was issued by this Court for the arrest of above named accused, which remained unexecuted with report of police that the accused have absconded and are not traceable.

NOW, THEREFORE, Proclamation u/s 67 C-P.C read with section 10(10) of Anti-Terrorism Act 1997 is issued with direction to the above named accused persons to appear before this Court at Judicial Complex District & Sessions Court Shikarpur within seven days after publication of this notice, failing which the date will be proceeded in their absence.

Given under my hand & seal of the Court.
This the 14th day of September, 2024.

(Muhammad Hashim Soomro)
Special Judge
Anti-Terrorism Court
Shikarpur

Ref ID: 1109-19-0-2024

SHAH ABDUL LATIF UNIVERSITY, KHAIRPUR
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR FINANCE

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited on prescribed tender form the well reputed firms registered with state Income Tax and Sindh Revenue Board (SRIB) regarding the Printing, Stationery & IT Equipments for Annual Examinations 2023, Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur.

| S.No. | Description | Estimate Cost | Earnest Money | Tender |
|-------|--|---------------|---------------|--------|
| 1 | Printing, Stationery & IT Equipments for Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur | Rs. 50.00/- | 2% | 3000/- |

Eligibility:

- 1. Income Tax, SRIB/GST Registration Firms
- 2. Three Years Work Experience
- 3. Turn over at least 50 Million last three years
- 4. Affidavit that person/Contractor/Firm have never been blacklisted

Method:

Single Stage one Envelope.

Bidding Documents:

- 1. Document will be issued from 25-09-2024 to 10-10-2024 9:00am to 12:00 Noon
- 2. Opened on 10-10-2024 time 1:00 pm before Procurement committee in presence of bidder or Tender authorized representative
- 3. If the tender(s) remained unresponded on the above dates the same will be issued again w.e.f. 11-10-2024 to 28-10-2024 and received on 12:00 Noon and opened on 1:00 PM.

Venue:

Place of issuance submission & opening in office of the Director Finance of SALU, Khairpur.

Unforeseen Situation:

In case of such situation resulting in closure of office on the date of opening or Government declares Holiday the Tender shall be submitted opened on the next working day.

Terms & Conditions:

- 1. Conditional & Telegraph bid/Tender bid not accompanied by bid Security of required amount and form, bid received after specified date and time black listed firms.
- 2. Item wise, part wise rates are acceptable.

Bid Validity:

90 days extendable on mutual understanding procuring Agency reserves the right to reject all or any bid subject to the relevant Provision Sindh Public Procurement Act 2010, Amended 2013.

Tender documents can be obtained from office of the Secretary procurement and available on SPPIA Website: Website: www.sindhprocurement.gov.pk and www.sal.edu.pk/tender.aspx.

Director Finance
Toll: 0246-9290002

SEIP leader Roshan Soomro said this rally "rejects the conspiracy hatched on July 8 at the presidency in the shape of the proposed amendments".

"The so-called project is more dangerous than Kalabagh dam," he remarked.

He said Asif Zardari did what Zia or Musharraf failed to do.

SPQM leader Dr Nasir Kalati, AJP's Aslam Shah, JUI-F's Maslana Taj Mohamed Naqvi, Sindh Sharif Tehreek's Zainur Rehman, PML-F's Rafiq Maqsood and Mardan Ali, JI's Abdul Wahab Qureshi and other leaders also spoke.

A big procession was taken out from Shahzad Allah Bahadur Square Park in Jacobabad on Thursday to strongly condemn the proposed amendments to the law.

In response to GDA's call for processions protest leaders and activists of various political, religious and nationalist parties joined in the procession, which ended outside the Jacobabad Press Club.

Addressing the participants, STP leaders Abdur Raheem Jagani, Abdur Raheem Lashari, Majid Sankhi and Nasir Masroor, JI's Firdousi president Dr A.C. Ansari, PTF's Noor Mohammad Mangro, PML-F's Maula Baloch Khan, QAT's GM Soomro, SUP's Masroof Ahmed Lashari, SPQM's Ammar Ali Sarker, PTF's Sadiq Hussain Khan and Mohammad Sharif Maighani deplored that the federal government was trying to steal Sindh's water through the amendments. They rejected the move and also warned that the people of Sindh would never accept the six-canal project at any cost.

Similar rallies were taken out in different cities and towns of Kandhar, Kandhar, Shikarpur and Cholistan districts.

Leaders, activists and supporters of GDA component parties took part in various protest rallies and demonstrations held in different cities and towns of Shahdadkot, Nasirabad, Nasirabad Forest, Sanghar, Marriposh and Badin districts on Thursday.

At a demonstration in Nasirabad, SPQM leader Syed Zain Shah, JI's A.Q. Qureshi, SPQM's Ali Haider Khanbhai, STP's Nasir Keerwani, PTF's Comrade Ali Jani Rind, PML-F's Abdul Sattar Dahri and Sindh Adabti Sangat's

Sattar Nasir and Rukhsar Begum voiced their strong opposition to the proposed amendments to the law.

The participants, raising slogans against the amendments and several planks, started their march from OBI Naka and assembled outside the local press club after passing through various thoroughfares.

TENDER NOTICE

TB-242500192833 Paper: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of SPPIA GOB. The EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PROVINCIAL BAR DISTRICT CADAR INVITES Bidders for execution of following work for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2024 on Percentage Rate. Tender file No. 1000 and Bid security 2%.

By No. Name of Works E/Cert

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | CONSTRUCTION OF 1 KM MET ROAD FROM NAWI | 20,000,000 |
| 2 | PAPER CRICKET GROUND NAWI | AC OFFICE DISTRICT PASHI PSOP No. 1273/2024 |
| 3 | Procurements shall be made under the Sindh Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Pay List. The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. Bidding Authority Registration is required. The bidder must have completed 3 assignments of similar nature of work. Turn-over of at least 10,000,000 PKR. Amount in 3 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm. Completed 3 Projects. Cost must not be less than 100% of estimated cost (Road Works Only). Projects Cost Must not be less than 100% of estimated cost (Road Works Only). 3 Projects Cost Must not be less than 100% of estimated cost (Road Works Only). Project Cost must not be less than 100% of estimated cost (Road Works Only). The bidder must have completed 3 assignments of similar nature of work. Turn-over of at least 10,000,000 PKR. Bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the undersigned from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the undersigned from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 04 October, 2024 during office hours on working days. Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 04 October, 2024 at 11:00 AM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day of the issue of the undersigned at 12:00 PM. Address: Main GT Road at BARI Check-Point. Phone no: 9294216544 Fax no: 9294216544 Email: antigender@gmail.com | |

Executive Engineer Roads
Communication Works PPAH,
Department District Cadar
www.sindhspnia.gov.pk

PRQ No. 1109-19-0-2024

Ex-Jamshoro DC among 12 convicted in land fraud case

By Our Staff Correspondent

HYDERABAD: The Accountability Court of Hyderabad on Thursday awarded five-year imprisonment to 12 accused, including a former deputy commissioner of Jamshoro and two former assistant commissioners, in a case of illegal alienation of 731 acres of state-owned land in the DHA City.

Judge Nasimul Jalal Soomro directed the Defense Housing Authority to hand over vacant peaceful possession of 731-28 acres in Dha Bahar Band, Tariq Haffiz Bal, as the director general of the National Accountability Bureau within six days.

The NAU would then hand over possession of the land to Sindh government through the chief secretary, the judge ruled.

According to NAU prosecutor Janan Khan, the reference was filed against a total of 18 suspects. The accused were also fined Rs 1m each, he said. Two private persons were awarded 10-year imprisonment and Rs 750m fine each, he added.

The convicts included former Jamshoro DC Sohail Adeeb Bachani, executive commissioners Javed Soomro and Mumtaz Chishti and former marketmaster Idris Karim.

The land in question was situated in Thana Bala Khan, Jamshoro district, where an encroachment of Rs 2.84m was committed, according to the reference. Four of the suspects had earlier opted for plea bargain and two others have since died.

The reference OA 01/2019 was filed against Mohammad Hafeez Lashari and 17 others. According to facts of case, some source informed that fraudulent sale of the government land to DHA Karachi in 2015 was given to NAU.

Investigation was authorised on Jan 19, 2017 which revealed that Hafeez Lashari in connivance with eight revenue officials managed / presented fake false and fabricated revenue entries in favour of six private agents, and one deceased, Mian Khan Patli, in record of rights and survey record and claimed heavy losses to the government exchequer.

The revenue officials played roles in presenting false entries in the name of fake landowners and kept fresh entries in compromised data register while one suspect signed fake and fabricated revenue entries in back date.

The reference revealed that an official processed fake and fabricated ghamza forms containing fake survey numbers, 301 to 408, pertaining to the said land.

Two suspects admitted guilt in writing for the purpose of pardon.

Two other suspects failed to exercise authority in preventing land fraud. It revealed that DHA Karachi, being affected by the scam purchased the land in good faith after due diligence and 10 tentatively assessed market price of plot files at approximately Rs 2.84m whereas according to him, as mentioned in reference, government ascribed value of 731-28 acres of land is approximately Rs 445.3m.

The judge sentenced former DC Jamshoro Sohail Adeeb Bachani, Javed Ahmed Soomro, Mumtaz Chishti, Ghulam Mustafa Darvach and Ghulam Muhammad Memori to rigorous imprisonment for five years and imposed a fine of Rs 2.5m each. In case of default on fine payment, the same should be recovered as arrears of land revenue. Terms of sentence provided under Section 33-E of the NAU, 1999, the order said.

BARSI

Kindly recite Fatiha for eternal peace of our beloved

Mrs Tauqeer Aejaaz Hussain (Shahana)

Wife Late S.M. Aejaaz Hussain (ex-SDC)

who passed away peacefully on 26th September 2020

Sadia & Irfan Aulia

PAK-ARAB REFINERY LIMITED
A Pakistan Abu Dhabi Joint Venture

CORRIGENDUM
Tender Inquiry #000000000001
Solicitation of 13 Nos. PAKCO Microwave Stations
in Sindh and Punjab

Please refer to the press advertisement of PAKCO, published on 18 August 2024, in Daily Jang and Dawn newspapers and on PAKCO website, for the above mentioned subject. Please be informed that the Tender Response Date has been extended to 27 September 2024 till 11:00 Hrs, and Bid Submission has been extended to 11 October 2024 till 10:00 Hrs. Bid Opening shall be held on 15 October 2024 at 10:00 hrs. All other terms and conditions will remain the same.

Any party interested to participate may send its request for the Tender documents through PAKCO Portal Link:
<https://tender.pakco.com.pk/tender/000000000001> Manager Materials

PUBLIC NOTICE

ATTENTION TO ALL OWNERS OF QIEDA

This notice is directed to all owners of Qieder Industrial Estate Development Authority (QIEDA-Karachi) who have delayed their payments for the allotted plots despite repeated submissions, public notices, and final payment warnings, many allottees have still not made the required payments for their respective industrial and commercial plots. All such allottees are now being given a final reminder to settle their outstanding dues promptly. Failure to do so will result in the cancellation of their agreements without any further notice. Official Address: New Town Phased House No. 32, Block M, Peer/Pakistan Court, Gujranwala.

Tel: 042-3210000-3200-4210811

MANAGING DIRECTOR
QIWAQAS INDUSTRIAL ESTATES
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

AB No. 307116-09-2024

PAK-ARAB REFINERY LIMITED
A Pakistan Abu Dhabi Joint Venture

Tender Notice

Bids are invited from the reputable parties for the following:

| Item Description | Requirements | Bid Submission / Operating Basis & Time |
|---|--|---|
| Tender # 0000000008 CIGOL TAKOON MARCAL AWARDS FOR PLATE QAS FEDERATION INTEREST PRODUCT OF PAKCO-KACI MANUFACTURER | Registration with PEC in Oil & above category with Category Marketing Bidding Fees Bidding Period | 1st Submission through PAK-Arabs 18, 10:00 AM till 11:00 Hrs. Bid Opening 08, 10:2024 at 10:00 Hrs. |
| Tender Response Date & Tender Fee | PAK-Arabs Portal Link | |
| Tender Response Through PAK-Arabs 00-08-2024 to 00-09-2024 Fee of One | https://tender.pakco.com.pk/tender/0000000008 | |

Any party interested to participate may send its request for the Tender documents through PAK-Arabs Portal Link by submitting the required documents.

The Services Provider should be registered with the Federal Income Tax authority and must mention its status as an authorized tax agent with those tax authorities before rendering services to PAKCO.

This advertisement is also available on PAKCO website: <https://www.pakco.com.pk/tender/0000000008> & PAK-Arabs.

Further Information may be obtained from: Mr. Aslam Chaudhary Attn: Tel: 0300-200012000000 Ext: 2802, 8-2019, and e-mail for tender interested at: tenders@paco.com.pk.

PAKCO reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to cancel the entire bidding process without assigning any reason whatsoever before or after the Bid Opening.

Manager Materials

SUKKUR IBA UNIVERSITY
www.su-iba.edu.pk

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (THROUGH EPADS)
Tender Proc/EPADS/G1/24-25

Sukkur IBA University invites bids electronically through (EPADS) on single stage two envelopes procedure from well reputed, eligible and experienced security services firms registered with SIBU and FISD departments for providing following services on contract basis at Sukkur IBA University, its campuses and community colleges & schools. Manual bids will not be considered.

SAFETY
01. HIRING OF SECURITY SERVICES COMPANY

Tender Schedule - Date and Time

| From | To | Submission | Opening |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---|---|
| September 18, 2024 | October 04, 2024 | 04-10-2024 03:00 PM Through EPADS | 04-10-2024 03:30 PM Through EPADS |

Bidding documents can be obtained and shall be submitted through EPADS in per above schedule. Bidders are requested to give their Best and Final Price in "No Negotiations" is permitted. Bidding Documents containing detailed terms and conditions can be downloaded from following website & submitted electronically through EPADS: <http://sibu.su-iba.edu.pk>

Bid Security (1% of Bid Cost in shape of one order) should be in favor of Sukkur IBA University.

Procuring agency reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids prior to the acceptance of a bid as per PPP Rules 2010 (Amended to date).

Please visit our website for more information.

SUKKUR IBA UNIVERSITY
Nisar Ahmed Siddiqui Road, Sukkur
Ph: 071-5044142, 5044158 Fax: 071-5044119

PAKISTAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY (PCAA)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR

HIRING OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR REVIEWING & DEVELOPING GUIDANCE MATERIAL AND ACCEPTANCE MEANS OF COMPLIANCE

Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority invites the proposals for hiring of Consultancy Services to assist Flight Standards, for reviewing & developing guidance material and acceptable means of compliance from reputed consulting firms. An individual consultant possessing relevant experience for a period One (01) year extendable by another one (01) year with mutual agreement's consent of both the parties and satisfactory performance of the consultant.

| Tender Fee | Date of Bid Documents | Bid Submission Date / Time | Tender Opening Date / Time |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Rs. 5,000/- (NON-REFUNDABLE) | 1 st October, 2024 | 07 th October, 2024 at 11:00 Hours | 07 th October, 2024 at 12:00 Hours |

1. Detailed qualification & technical criteria is available in RFP document.

2. RFP documents containing detailed instructions, Terms & Conditions can be obtained from the office of Additional Director HR, HQs PCAA by or before 11:00 Hours on 07th October, 2024.

3. Technical Proposal Envelope shall be opened on the same day (at 12:00 hrs) in the office of Additional Director HR, HQs PCAA in the presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives, who wish to attend.

4. The Envelope of "Financial Proposal" of only Technically Responsive and Qualified Firms will be opened in the presence of their respective representatives at the date and time to be determined and communicated later.

5. The Authority reserves all rights to reject any or all proposals / bids for sufficient cogent reasons which may be communicated to the bidder without being liable to any claim / compensation of any nature as per applicable Government procurement rules.

ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR HUMAN RESOURCES
HEADQUARTERS PAKISTAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY,
13-16, KDA SCHEME-1 KARSAZ, KARACHI.
Tel: 021-32821367 (Ext.2118)

www.pcaa.gov.pk

INVITATION TO E-BID
THROUGH SAP-ARIBA DISCOVERY

E-Bids are invited through SAP-Ariba Discovery for the service/material given below under competitive bidding procedure as per Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) rules:

| SR # | TENDER NUMBER | DESCRIPTION | CLOSING DATE & TIME |
|------|---|--|----------------------------|
| 1. | ODGCL-SOM-SERVICES-CB-PO-PR00-2405211504-2024 | HIRING OF BALLET PROOF VEHICLES THROUGH OPEN AND CLOSE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT | 07-10-2024 AT 10:00 Hrs |
| 2. | ODGCL-SOM-SERVICES-CB-CHESS-601-195-1-26491080-2024 | CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR DESIGNING OF EXTENSION OF UCH AIR STRIP AT UCH GAS FIELD, DISTRICT CHA BIJULI, BALUCHISTAN PROVINCE | 07-10-2024 AT 10:00 Hrs |
| 3. | ODGCL-SOM-SERVICES-CB-PROD-264657992-2024 | HIRING OF PVT ANALYSIS SERVICES | 08-10-2024 AT 10:00 Hrs |

- All bids will be opened 30 minutes after the bids closing date/time.
- Tender Notice/ detailed instructions are available on PPRA website at www.ppra.org.pk.
- Tender documents are available online and bids are also required to be submitted online through e-procurement portal at <https://logitb.com/sap-ariba-tenders-or-discovery.ariba.com/profile/AN91362899621> for details see "Instruction for Bidders Section" of the tender documents.
- ODGCL reserves the right to accept or reject any bid and to cancel the bidding process and reject all the bids as per Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) Rule-33.

**GENERAL MANAGER
(SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT)**
OIL & GAS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED
OICED, HOUSE JINNAH AVENUE, ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN
PHONE NO: 92-51-92002854/9798

PUBLIC ALERT

Beware of Non-Recognised Universities/Institutions/ Affiliated Colleges

As per the HEC Institutional Affiliation Policy 2024, effective from January 9, 2024, vide clause 21 (g), all existing and prospective affiliated colleges must apply for recognition through their parent public sector university via the HEC online portal.

- The Higher Education Commission (HEC) has already issued an advisory during the first quarter of 2024 for students, parents, and other stakeholders to avoid admissions in non-recognised universities/institutions/affiliated colleges.
- To safeguard the interests of students, HEC has published a list of recognised affiliated colleges on its official website (<https://www.hec.gov.pk/site/RAC>). Parents and students are requested to verify the legitimacy of their chosen institutions before applying.
- HEC emphasises that any degree awarded through a non-recognised University/Institution/Affiliated College which is not listed on the HEC official website will not be recognised.
- It is also emphasised that as per Institutional Affiliation Policy 2024, the private sector higher education institutions (HEIs) are not authorized to grant affiliations.

For your prospective future, it is advised to avoid colleges/institutions which are under HEC ban due to irregularities.

PLEASE VISIT THE HEC WEBSITE FOR DETAILS.

www.hec.gov.pk

Higher Education Commission, Pakistan
Sector H-9, Islamabad
E-mail: recognition@hec.gov.pk

DAWN DISCLAIMER

Disclaimer and conditions to be observed by bidders including service providers and manufacturers before participating in the bidding process and tendering bids for the award of contracts and/or supplies. This disclaimer and conditions are intended to serve as a general guide for bidders and manufacturers. It is not intended to cover all aspects of the bidding process and tendering bids for the award of contracts and/or supplies. It is the responsibility of the bidder and manufacturer to read and understand the specific requirements of the tender documents and the bidding process. It is the responsibility of the bidder and manufacturer to ensure that they are fully aware of the requirements and conditions set out in the tender documents and the bidding process. It is the responsibility of the bidder and manufacturer to ensure that they are fully aware of the requirements and conditions set out in the tender documents and the bidding process.

Procurement notice from

Port Qasim Electric Power Company (Private) Limited.

PPRA is seeking to receive three sets of tender notice documents from suppliers interested in participating in the tender process and submit the following documents by 17:00 on September 26, 2024 to power-eptd@portqasim.com.pk:

- Valid company operating documents. Ensure that your business license and operational certificates are up-to-date.
 - Financial reports from the past three years. Provide proof of your company's financial standing.
 - Customer references and transportation capabilities. Evidence of your capacity for independent customer delivery and transportation.
 - Blank statement of account from statement.
 - A declaration for customer service references. Signed by the seller or agent, the manufacturer must be from DuPont, Textron, or an equivalent brand.
- Once these documents are reviewed and the supplier meets the specification requirements, they will be entered into the qualified supplier database. If a supplier is already listed in the database, they are automatically considered part of the bidding process.

Contact Details: Muhammad Bilal +92333-60002977

NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER REGULATORY AUTHORITY (NEPRA)

HEARING REGARDING FUEL CHARGES ADJUSTMENT FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2024 FOR EX-WAPDA DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES

1. Pursuant to Section 3(17) of the NEPRA Act (XL of 1997) and the mechanism for monthly fuel price adjustment prescribed by the Authority in the tariff determinations of Ex-WAPDA Distribution Companies, the Authority may on-monthly basis make adjustments in the approved tariff on account of any variations in the fuel charges and policy guidelines as the Federal Government may issue and notify the tariff so adjusted in the official Gazette.

2. Based on the information provided by the Central Power Purchasing Agency Guarantee Limited (CPPA-G), the actual fuel charges for the Ex-WAPDA Distribution Companies for the month of August 2024 requested by CPPA-G is as under:-

| August 2024 | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------|--------------------|
| Generation Source | GWh | % | Miles, Rs. Rs./kWh |
| Hydro | 5,362 | 40.62% | - |
| Coal - Local | 1,306 | 9.91% | 16,074 1.2,2738 |
| Coal - Imported | 681 | 5.17% | 10,777 15,8290 |
| HSID | - | 0.00% | - |
| RNG | 6 | 0.04% | 172 30,3188 |
| Gas | 930 | 7.21% | 12,715 13,3810 |
| RLNG | 3,100 | 15.98% | 54,358 25,7579 |
| Natural | 2,190 | 16.62% | 3,267 1.4915 |
| Import Gas | 36 | 0.27% | 975 27,2457 |
| Mixed | - | 0.00% | - |
| Wind | 398 | 3.02% | - |
| Biomass | 47 | 0.39% | 583 12,4788 |
| Solar | 98 | 0.75% | - |
| Energy Generated | 13,179 | 100.00% | 98,759 7,4930 |
| Previous Adjustment | (2,660) | <0.00% | 15,639 1,1867 |
| Sale to IPPs | (31,495) | >0.24% | (2,013) 63,0237 |
| Transmission Losses | (394,740) | >0.00% | - 10,2646 |
| Net Delivered to DISCOs | 12,782 | 96.70% | 112,3778 8,8122 |

3. On the basis of the above data, a decrease of (Rs.0.5793/kWh) over the reference fuel charges as per the notified Annex-IV of the decision of the Authority for KWDCOs i.e. Rs. 18777/kWh, has been requested by CPPA-G for the month of August 2024. In this regard, a hearing to consider the proposed adjustment is scheduled as under:

Date: September 26, 2024
Time: 02:00 PM
Venue: NEPRA Tower and Online

- Following link may be used for participation in the hearing through Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84330688478>
Meeting ID: 843 3068 8478
- All the interested/affected parties are invited to raise written/oral objections as permissible under the law at the public hearing. Copies of the Act, Rules, Regulation, Codes, determinations of the Authority and the request filed by CPPA-G are available at NEPRA website: www.nepra.org.pk

Registrar NEPRA

NEPRA Tower, Attarck Avenue (East), G-5/1, Islamabad
Phone: 051-2013200 Fax: 051-2600021
E-mail: registrar@nepra.org.pk

FAX: 051-2600021

TELE: 051-

**PLANNING COMMISSION
MINISTRY OF PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT &
SPECIAL INITIATIVES
YOUNG DEVELOPMENT FELLOWS**

ADDENDUM

With Reference to Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives advertisement for the position of Young Development Fellows (YDF) published in National Gazette on 27-04-2024. Additional potential candidates who have applied recently are invited to submit applications for the positions of YDF on 26-06-2024. Candidates can apply through online portal ydf.mospi.gov.in or by sending their ydf@mospi.gov.in e-mailing address to the Ministry. Other processes of the previous advertisement will remain the same. Candidates who have already applied are not required to apply.

**Project Director
Capacity Building and Institutional
Development**

Room No. A401, Block-P, PGI Administrative Building,
Sector 16, Chandigarh - 160016, India

MAKE YOUR BUSINESS GROW.
ADVERTISE IN

INDUSTRY SUPPLEMENTS

| MEDICAL & DENTAL COLLEGE ADMISSION TEST (MDCAT)-2024 | | | | | |
|--|---|---|------------------|-----------|--------|
| PUBLIC NOTICE | | | | | |
| DETAIL OF ROLL NUMBER RANGES AND RESPECTIVE CENTRES | | | | | |
| <p>1. The University of Health Sciences (UHS), Lahore, shall conduct the Medical & Dental College Admission Test (MDCAT)-2024, on behalf of the Government of Punjab on Sunday, 22nd September 2024. The exams shall start at 10:00 A.M. sharp and conclude at 01:30 P.M.</p> <p>2. Entry shall be for candidates in 08:00 AM. All centres shall be closed/recessed at 09:00 A.M. No candidate shall be allowed to enter the centre after that. All candidates are advised to identify exact location of their centres a day earlier.</p> <p>3. The candidates having already been issued Admissions Cards bearing their Roll Numbers and Test Centres, Roll Number wise distribution of candidates at each centre is being advertised for the convenience of candidates.</p> | | | | | |
| City | Centre Name & Address | Block/Department | Roll Number From | To | Gender |
| LAHORE | COMSATS University, Lahore Address: 1-5 KM Defence Hs, off Hassan Road, Lahore Divisional Public School, Tassanwiz Lahore, Address: Block 4, Sector A-3, Tassanwiz, Lahore | G Block (Ground & First Floor) G Block (Second & Third Floor) M Block (Ground & First Floor) Boys Wing, Ground & First Floor Girls Wing, First Floor | 101100001 | 101100000 | Female |
| | Kharti Graduate College for Women, Gulberg Lahore Address: Park View Street, Block C3, Gulberg II, Lahore | Chemistry Department - Main Chemistry Department (Second Floor) & Biochemistry Lab (First Floor) Chemistry Department - Upper Chemistry Lab (First Floor) & BSC Examination Block (Ground Floor) Chemistry Department - BSC Examination Block (Second Floor), & Mass 101 Under Block (First Floor) & Mass 101 Block (Principal Office) | 101120001 | 101120000 | Female |
| | Kart, Islamic Graduate College for Women Lahore Cantt. Address: Tufail Rd, near Rasheed ul Haq Campus, Police Officers Colony, Lahore | General & First Floor (Units) G-Block (Ground, First & Second Floor), G-Block (Ground & First Floor) E-Block (Ground & First Floors) | 101140001 | 101140000 | Female |
| | Lahore College for Women University, Lahore Address: Jinnah Road Lahore Waterloo Rd, Queen-e-Azam Campus, Lahore | Wahid ul Maqam Building (Ground, First & Second Floor) Princess Building, (First Floor) Sadiq Sabzwari Block, (Ground, First & Second, A, Third Floor) | 101160001 | 101160000 | Female |
| | University of the Punjab, Lahore Address: Tassanwiz Hall, Waterloo Rd, Queen-e-Azam Campus, Lahore | General Floor (1st Examination Hall First Floor (1st Examination Hall First Floor (2nd Examination Hall Supior Floor (1st Examination Hall Boys Wing, (Ground, First & Second Floor) | 101180001 | 101180000 | Male |
| | Divisional Public School, Model Town Lahore Address: Circular Rd, Block H, Model Town, Lahore | Old Building (Ground & First Floor) Old Building (Ground & Second & Third Floor), Boys Wing (Ground & First Floor) Boys Wing (Second Semester, Wings 1 and Floor 1), Hall Girls' Semester Wing Prize Girls' Wing (Ground & First Floor) Tawheed College, Ground & First Floor | 101200001 | 101200000 | Male |
| | University of Education, Tassanwiz Lahore Address: College Road, Tassanwiz, Lahore | Old Building (Ground & First Floor) Education Department, (Ground & First & Second Floor) Maja Academic Block, (Ground, First & Second Floor) | 101220001 | 101220000 | Male |
| | Quaid-e-Azam Divisional Public School & College, Gharmanwala, Gharmanwala Colony, Lahore Park, G-1 Block, Gharmanwala | G-Block (Ground, First Floor), T-1 Block (Ground, First Floor) Justice School (Ground Floor) & T-200 Section (Ground & First Floor) T-200 VT Model Academic Cluster 20 | 101240001 | 101240000 | Female |
| | University of the Punjab Rasheed ul Haq Campus Address: Near Al Farid Chowk, Rawalpindi bypass, Rawalpindi | Old Building (Department of IT, Examination Hall & Department of Business, Finance, Hotel Building Department of Law, Chest Room) | 101260001 | 101260000 | Male |
| | Government College Women University, Sialkot Address: Kuthayri Road, Sialkot | Rajput Block (Ground, First Floor) Rajput Block (1st Block, Second Floor) Kings Block (Ground, First & Second Floor), University Block Al Farid ul Haq (Ground, First & Second Floor) | 101280001 | 101280000 | Female |
| MULTAN | University of Sargodha Address: Jallianwala Jallianwala Road, Sargodha | Sarai Block (Ground, First & Second Floor) Sarai Block (1st Block, Second Floor) Al Khawarizmi (1-BLOCK) (Ground, First & Second Floor) | 101300001 | 101300000 | Male |
| | Divisional Public School (DPS), Multan Address: Medical college Road, Near Johnson University, Multan | Dr. Sh. Block (Ground & First Floor) Dr. Sh. Block (Ground, First Floor) Guru Nanak Dev (Ground & First Floor) Adrian Block, (First Floor), Computer Sciences, (Ground, First & Second Floor), Bio Sciences, (Ground, First Floor) | 101320001 | 101320000 | Male |
| | Government College University Faisalabad Address: Commissioner Road, Near East Line, Near Igloo Stadium Faisalabad | Vidya Block (Ground, First & Second Floor) Vidya Block (Second, First & Second Floor) Zain Block (Ground, First & Second Floor) M. Ali Block (Ground, First & Second Floor) M. Ali Block (Ground, First & Second Floor) M. Ali Block (Ground, First & Second Floor) | 101340001 | 201350000 | Female |
| | Divisional Public School & College, Faisalabad Address: Commissioner Road, Near East Line, Near Igloo Stadium Faisalabad | Tata Block Mian Building (First & Second Floor) Mahmud Hassan Block (Ground & First Floor) | 201360001 | 201360000 | Male |
| | University of Sargodha, Sargodha Address: University Road, Sargodha | Department of Zoology (First Floor), Interdisciplinary Research (Ground Floor), Botany (Ground & First Floor) Maha Feroze Khan Naseem Business School (Ground & First Floor), Economics (Ground & First Floor) Department of Biotechnology (Second Floor), Education Department (Ground Floor) Department of Psychology (First Floor), Department of Civil and First Floor Block A-1 (Ground & First Floor) Block A-2 (Second & First Floor) Block A-3 (Ground & First Floor) Block A-4 (Ground & First Floor) Block A-5 (Ground & First Floor) | 201380001 | 201380000 | Male |
| | Institute of Southern Punjab (ISP), Multan Address: 1 KM, Seven Road Multan | Department of Food Processing, Food Sciences & Technology, Agricultural Engineering, Microbiology Sciences, Lab 1 Hall Department of Food Sciences, Technology of Soil, Department of Plant Breeding & Biotechnology, Agriculture Classes, Conservation Agriculture, Soil Science, Environmental Sciences & Conservation of Water Department of Agriculture (100), Second Floor (Section-A), First Floor First Floor (Section-B), First Floor Second Floor (Section-C), Third Floor (Section-D) | 201400001 | 201400000 | Male |
| | Multan University of Science and Technology (MUST), Multan Address: 1 KM, Seven Road Southern Expressway, Multan, Mianwali District | Institution of Plant Protection, Food Sciences & Technology, Agricultural Engineering, Microbiology Sciences, Lab 1 Hall Department of Food Sciences, Technology of Soil, Department of Plant Breeding & Biotechnology, Agriculture Classes, Conservation Agriculture, Soil Science, Environmental Sciences & Conservation of Water Department of Agriculture (100), Second Floor (Section-A), First Floor First Floor (Section-B), First Floor Second Floor (Section-C), Third Floor (Section-D) | 201420001 | 201420000 | Male |
| ISLAMABAD | Multan University of Science and Technology (MUST), Multan Address: 1 KM, Seven Road Southern Expressway, Multan, Mianwali District | Institution of Plant Protection, Food Sciences & Technology, Agricultural Engineering, Microbiology Sciences, Lab 1 Hall Department of Food Sciences, Technology of Soil, Department of Plant Breeding & Biotechnology, Agriculture Classes, Conservation Agriculture, Soil Science, Environmental Sciences & Conservation of Water Department of Agriculture (100), Second Floor (Section-A), First Floor First Floor (Section-B), First Floor Second Floor (Section-C), Third Floor (Section-D) | 201440001 | 201440000 | Male |
| | Institute of Southern Punjab (ISP), Multan Address: 1 KM, Seven Road Multan | Faculty of Computing, (Ground Floor, Left & Right Corridor) Faculty of Computing, (First Floor, Left & Right Corridor) Department of Mathematics, Competitive Exams and Aptitude Tests Faculty of Management Sciences (Ground Floor, Left & Right Corridor) Faculty of Management Sciences (First Floor, Left & Right Corridor) | 201460001 | 201460000 | Female |
| | Pir Mehr Ali Shah, Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi Address: Islamabad, Rawalpindi Rawalpindi | Environmental Sciences (First Floor), Agric inst (Second Floor) OBC Block (Ground & First Floor) OBC Block (Ground & First Floor) OBC Block (Ground & First Floor) | 201480001 | 201480000 | Female |
| | Islamia University of Bahawalpur Bhagyalakshmi Campus (BMC) Address: Hassan Road, Bahawalpur | University Institute of Information Technology & Media Studies, University Institute of Management Sciences, (Ground Floor) | 201500001 | 201500000 | Male |
| RAWALPINDI | Pir Mehr Ali Shah, Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi Address: Islamabad, Rawalpindi Rawalpindi | Teaching Block Building, Ground Floor Project, Library Wing, First Floor (Right Wing) Teaching Block Building, First Floor (Left Wing) | 121100001 | 121100000 | Female |
| | Islamia University of Engineering & Technology Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Address: Dera Ghazi Khan | Fauzia Block, Ground Floor (Classrooms A, Labs, Ahmed Block (Ground & First Floor), Library Tower Block, (1st Floor, Ground Floor), Library Block (Ground & First Floor)) All Block Separate Building, Centralized Public College (Ground & First Floor) | 121120001 | 121120000 | Female |
| JELLINE | Divisional Public School & College, Dera Ghazi Khan Address: Dera Ghazi Khan | Qasim Block (Ground, First, Second & Third Floor) | 121140001 | 121140000 | Male |
| | Centre of Excellence (COE), Dera Ghazi Khan Address: Jelline Road, Dera Ghazi Khan | Qasim Block (Ground, First, Second & Third Floor) | 121160001 | 121160000 | Male |
| KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA | Prof. Dr. Ahsan Waheed Rathore | Visa Chancellerie University of Health Sciences, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, Lahore 51000 Pk: 042-99231300-09 | | | |

ISLAMABAD
Sunset 05:15pm
Sunrise (Tomorrow) 05:46am
NEXT 24 HRS
Minimum 22°C
Maximum 33°C
Globock: Mostly Sunny



Centurion Ashwin lifts India to 339-6 against Bangladesh

Pg. 20 SPORT



SHOPKEEPERS have parked their vehicles on both sides of College Road in Rawalpindi, causing disruption in traffic flow. — Online

IHC restores Jahangiri-led election tribunal

Court rules in favour of PTI runners-up, asks ECP to review decision about tribunal

By Murtaza Asad

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday set aside the decision of the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) regarding the formation of a fresh election tribunal led by a former judge and restored the tribunal headed by IHC Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri.

IHC Chief Justice Aamer Parveez, while deciding the petition of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) runners-up candidates from Islamabad, also asked the ECP to review its decision of

appointing a retired judge, Abdul Shakoor Paracha, as the presiding officer of the election tribunal constituted after the amendments to the Elections Act.

PTI's Shaukat Shahzad, Mohammad Ali Balkhi and Amir Masood Maghal had challenged the appointment of Mr Paracha as the presiding officer and requested the court to set aside the amendments to the election law. The amendments to the Election Act through an ordinance promulgated in May this year allowed retired judges to preside over election tribunals without the consultation of the respective chief justice.

The plea also questioned the authority of the ECP to entertain the writ application against Justice Jahangiri, who was heading the poll tribunal for the federal capital. The identical petition challenged the vires of Section 151 of the Elections Act 2017 and the Ordinance V of 2024, namely the

Elections (Amendment) Ordinance 2024, promulgated on May 27, 2024. The petitioners termed them ultra vires to Article 4, 9, 10-A, 25 and 175(3) of the Constitution.

Advocate Syed Ashfaq Hussain Nasri contended that as per Form 45, his client Ali Balkhi had won the elections with a huge margin but due to alleged manipulation in the election results, the PTI candidate was defeated.

The petition stated that following the installation of the election tribunal for Islamabad, the candidate filed an election petition before the tribunal appointed under Section 140 of the Elections Act 2017.

It went on to state that on the first day of the hearing, the tribunal issued notices to the ECP, returning candidate, and the returning officers and directed them to file original Form 45 and Form 46 vide order May 2, 2024. On May 20, the ECP and some of the respondents

appeared and the tribunal directed them to file their replies and original documents.

According to the petition, the returned candidate filed applications under Section 145(3) of the Elections Act 2017, for summary dismissal of the election petition on the ground that the same was time-barred. The tribunal after hearing preliminary arguments issued notices to the petitioners with a direction to file a reply by giving an advance copy to the other side, and adjourned the case.

Against the backdrop of these developments, the Elections (Amendment) Ordinance 2024 was issued on May 27 which amended Section 140 of the Elections Act and allowed for retired judges to be appointed to the election tribunals and that too without the consultation of the chief justice.

According to the petition, there was no legal remedy left to the petitioner other than approaching the IHC.

Rawalpindi reports highest single-day surge in dengue cases

By Asim Yasin

RAWALPINDI: Since the start of the dengue season along with the onset of the monsoon rains a few months ago, the Rawalpindi district has reported its highest tally of dengue patients as 53 individuals tested positive for the mosquito-borne disease on Thursday.

Of these patients, 26 dengue patients were admitted to Holy Family Hospital in Satellite Town, 23 served at Banarsi Bhatty Hospital on Maroof Road, and four patients were admitted to the Rawalpindi District Headquarters Hospital in Kala Bazaar.

Rawalpindi Medical University (RMU) itself of the

infection disease department, Dr Majid Khan said 115 patients on Thursday arrived in the various patient departments (OPD) and 55 out of them tested positive for dengue. According to Dr Majid, people with high fever mostly tested positive for dengue upon their arrival.

Hospital Director Hospital Superintendent Dr Tahir Ravi told Dawn that the number of patients in dengue wards was on the rise. He said that more than 35 per cent of patients at RMU belonged to Islamabad while above 40% of the patients in Holy Family Hospital also belonged to the capital territory. He said since the first week of September, the number of dengue patients in the

garrison city was on the rise. According to the data collected from three government-run hospitals including Holy Family Hospital, Banarsi Bhatty Hospital and District Headquarters Hospital, currently 573 patients are admitted to three hospitals in Rawalpindi after 52 patients were discharged after treatment on Thursday.

This year, 6,000 patients arrived in the OPD of the three hospitals. 3,143 people were admitted and out of them, 234 had turned out to be dengue patients.

No doubt, the city has reported four deaths due to dengue. Two deaths were reported at Holy Family Hospital, one each at Banarsi Bhatty Hospital and Fauji Foundation Hospital in

Rawalpindi. District Health Authority Chief Executive Officer Dr Asif Arbab Naqvi said September was the peak month for dengue. At a press conference in his office, he said 493 people were diagnosed with dengue during the ongoing season and four deaths occurred due to dengue during one month.

"Most dengue patients arrived from Chak Jalloh, Chaklala Colony, Chotian Khan Head from Lahore High Court, Rawalpindi Bench in Chaklala, Sarganwala, Islamabad, and Chaklala康乐委员会," he said.

No Naqvi said emergency measures were being taken to contain dengue in Rawalpindi. "As many as 70 cases were reported from Chak Jalloh. The staff of

RWMC are engaged in cleaning works while the patients are being treated on a daily basis," he said.

He said staff had been trained by the healthcare commission to combat dengue and spraying and flogging was also undertaken. Dengue teams are checking houses from house to house. In addition, adding the Punjab dengue report was also being uploaded on a daily basis.

Similarly, special wards for dengue have been set up in all four parts of Rawalpindi, he added.

He said spraying and flogging were underway in the areas where dengue cases had been reported, adding that the Punjab government was diligently monitoring the dengue situation.

Pakistan, Russia to strengthen educational cooperation

By Kashif Abbasi

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Russia on Thursday have committed to enhancing their educational cooperation, with a focus on boosting collaboration between Pakistani and Russian universities, especially in emerging technologies.

This development was confirmed during a meeting held in Islamabad.

A high-level Russian delegation, led by Andrey Korovin, State Secretary and Deputy Minister of Education of the Russian Federation, and Konstantin Mozhaisky, Deputy Minister of Science and Higher Education, visited the Federal Ministry of Education and Professional Training.

The delegation also included the Consulat of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Russia, an Associate Professor from Ural

State Pedagogical University, and officials from the Russian Embassy in Pakistan.

Federal Secretary for the Ministry of Education & Professional Training, Mulyekhan Ahmad Wani, briefed the delegation on Pakistan's educational achievements and challenges. The discussions focused on deepening educational cooperation and cultural exchanges between the two countries.

According to an official press release, the meeting reviewed the full spectrum of bilateral educational cooperation and ways to enhance it.

Both sides expressed a strong commitment to enhancing collaboration, particularly in emerging technologies.

The Pakistani side emphasized a desire to increase university partnerships, while the Russian Deputy Minister highlighted efforts to promote the Russian language in Pakistan and strengthen educational links.

The delegation also included the Consulat of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Russia, an Associate Professor from Ural



TRADE Pk cast their votes during ICCI Elections for 2024-25 in Islamabad on Thursday. — Online

Inter-city fares cut by 5pc

By Our Staff Reporter

RAWALPINDI: Deputy Commissioner Dr Hassan Waqar Cheema on Thursday announced 5 percent cut in inter-city public transport fares after decrease in petroleum prices.

The decision was made at a meeting of transporters and bus stand owners held under the chairmanship of secretary Regional Transport Authority.

During the meeting, after the decrease in petroleum prices, reduction in fares and clearing of the bus stand were reviewed. The deputy commissioner said that after the decrease in petroleum prices, the fares have been reduced by 5 percent on all routes from Rawalpindi to other cities.

He directed the Secretary Regional Transport Authority (RTA) to display the list of prominent places at all bus stands, form a special squad to check whether the fares fixed by the government or not being charged or not on a daily basis.

He said that banners and posters highlighting new fares should be displayed at bus stands. He said that a cell should be established in the office of secretary RTA to where citizens can register their complaints about overcharging by transporters.

He said that after the decrease in petroleum prices, people have to get benefit directly. He further said that special attention should be paid to the cleanliness of the bus stand.

Regional Transport Authority (RTA) Secretary Raftab Ali told Dawn that the provincial government issued the notification and it had been handed over to the transporters. He said that the RTA would take action against those transporters who failed to implement the fares.

In response to a query, he said that the petroleum prices reduced four consecutive times in last two months and total reduction is recorded as five percent so, the government asked to reduce the fare by five percent.

Founder Group sweeps ICCI executive body elections

ISLAMABAD: The Founder Group of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry won all the seats of the Executive Committee with a huge majority in chamber's elections for the year 2024-25 on Thursday.

According to a press release issued by ICCI, Nasir Mansur Qureshi, Sardar Tahir Mahmood, Mohammed Zakaria A. Zia, Ali Naseer, Amir Rahim Qureshi, Atiqur Rehman Khan, Faisal Muhammed, Malik Aqeel Ahmed, Mohammad Kalermann, Mohammad Naeemullah, Malik Raja Naveed, Akhter Satti, Samiullah Khan, Usman Alaudin Naseer and Umer Hussain Malik were elected for Founder Group's CM chair.

For the Am Class, Abdur Rehman Siddiqui, Nasir Mahmood Chaudhry, Ch. Mohammad Wasay, Malik Mohsin Khalid, Tahir Ayub, Mohammad Irfan Chaudhry, Mohammad Ishaq Sial, Mohammad Zulmaini Abbott, Rehail Anwer Butt, Umer Khayyam Abbott, Atta Ahmed Gujjar, Ch. Nadeem Ahmed, Malik Abdul Aziz and Mohammad Imran were elected. — APP

PRAYER

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Fajr | 04:33 |
| Zohar | 12:06 |
| Aza | 04:27 |
| Maghrib | 06:12 |
| Isha | 07:36 |
| Iftari time is estimated | |

REFLECTIONS

CC A SENSIBLE MAN ACQUIRES EDUCATION AND CULTURE THROUGH ADVICE WHILE BRUTES AND BEASTS ALWAYS IMPROVE THROUGH PUNISHMENT.

— HAZRAT ALI (A.S.)

TRANSLATE

Rawalpindi traffic police enforces helmet rule

By Our Staff Reporter

RAWALPINDI: In a bid to address the widespread issue of motorcycle riders not wearing helmets, the City Traffic Police has mandated that enforcement show their helmet to any traffic or ticketing officer when submitting a ticket. If the helmet is not displayed, the motorcycle will not be released.

A City Traffic Police spokesman said that the crackdown on motorcycle riders without helmets has begun. Riders will now have to present their helmets to the traffic or ticketing officer when submitting a ticket. If the helmet is not displayed, the motorcycle will not be released.

CTO Rawalpindi officials stated that, in addition to issuing challans to riders without helmets, their motorcycles are also being locked in nearby police stations. To retrieve their bikes or documents, citizens must present their helmets to the traffic or ticketing officer. If the helmet is not produced, the bike will not be returned.

The CTO emphasised that this initiative aims to enhance road safety and maintain order. The urged citizens to comply with traffic rules, wear helmets, and support the City Traffic Police's efforts for safer roads.

She announced that the Cato during school hours have been fully renovated and now operates in two shifts, including a fully lit night running track. The school serves the Sufat, Cato, and Rawalpindi areas.

Additionally, the district police, in collaboration with the City Traffic Police, have conducted rigorous checks on the fitness, route permits, and licenses of public service vehicles. In the last 25 days, 4,850 public service vehicles were checked and 60% impounded.

According to the police spokesperson, fines amounting to Rs 54 lac and 55 thousand were imposed for traffic violations. Legal action was taken against 422 drivers for driving with out license, and 27 drivers had their license canceled for negligence while 30 cases were registered against drivers and owners of public service vehicles.

The police have committed to legal action against those endangering public safety. Many public service vehicles were also found operating with blacked-out windows and unspecified registration plates.

Second batch of AJK anti-riots police commissioned after specialised training



THE newly trained riot police advance towards a stone-throwing mob during a mock drill at their passing out ceremony in Muzaffarabad on Thursday. — Dawn

By Tariq Naqash

MUZAFFARABAD: The second batch of Azad Jammu and Kashmir's (AJK) newly formed anti-riot police was officially commissioned on Thursday following the completion of their training under the guidance of highly skilled master trainers from the Punjab police, marking a significant step towards strengthening law and order capabilities in the region.

In June, AJK's Inspector General of Police (IGP) Rana Abdul Jabbar had announced

the formation of a special anti-riot force designed to manage volatile situations using modern techniques, equipment, and methods. The newly formed force comprises 500 officials aged between 20 and 30, drawn from the existing police ranks.

The passing out ceremony was held at Police Lines Barr, with IGP's chief secretary Daudan Muhammad Barakat, who also happens to be the AJK's home secretary, presiding as the chief guest.

Speaking at the event, IGP Jabbar informed the audience that the training of the first

more strict measures against encroachments, unauthorized constructions, and illegal commercial activities. The RDA also urged the public to take moral responsibility by rejecting any form of encroachment to avoid further penalties and losses. — Staff Reporter

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
ICT EMPLOYEES SOCIAL SECURITY INSTITUTION (DESS)
PLLOT NO. 144, STREET NO. 04, 5-102 ISLAMABAD

EXTENSION NOTICE

The last date for submission and opening of the "Tender Notice" regarding purchase of medicines etc., for ICT Employees Social Security Institution (DESS) Islamabad, was 18-09-2024 at 11:00 AM & 11:30 AM respectively. As per PPRA instructions, the process of procurement through EPADS is in hand. Accordingly, the last date for submission and opening of bids will be intimated through the said process.

Dr. Ali Abdullah
Medical Advisor
DESS
Tel: 051-9259047

FIRIN: 01/1984/24

For more information on the development of a healthy healthy & sustainable society,
DIRECTORATE GENERAL SPORTS
HYDERABAD SPORTS COMPLEX, PAKISTAN CAMP, PH: 4101297, 4101298, Fax: 4101299

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Directorate General of Sports (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa) invites tenders from eligible firms responsive to incorporate items with Security Electroline Corporation of Pakistan and IFCI for Inter Regional Courses (2025) on delivery basis in accordance with KPPRA procurement Rules, 2014 "Single Stage- Two Envelope Bidding Procedure".

| Description | Date / Quantity | Last Date / Date of receipt of Tender | Date / Time of opening of Tender |
|--|-----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Uniform, Shirts, Books, Staff for Remote Camps for male players, Badminton rackets, Badminton shuttle Cock, Table Tennis Rackets, Table Tennis Ball, Squash Rackets, Squash Ball, Athletics gears, Volleyball, Karate Queen, Football/Hockey/Cricket, Dresswear, Coat, Coat Bagging, Windbreakers, Coat, Coat Bagging, Coat, Cricket, Queen, Cricket, Queen, Hockey Ball, Hockey stick, Supplies, Medicals and sheets. | As per, BQX | 07-10-2024 at 11:00 AM | 07-10-2024 at 11:30 AM |

Not documents containing detailed terms and conditions, method of assessment procedures for submission of bid, bid security, bid validity, opening of bid etc. are available for the interested bidders of Directorate-General of Sports (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa) before closing time of bid.

The bids, prepared in accordance with the instructions in the bidding documents, must reach at above address by October 07, 2024 at 11:00 PM at the Office of Assistant Director Accounts.

DIRECTOR GENERAL

Phone: 091-9212987

www.pakpost.gov.pk

PAKISTAN SPORTS BOARD
Srinagar Highway, Aabpara, Islamabad
TENDER NOTICE

Pakistan Sports Board, an autonomous body working under the administrative control of Ministry of Inter-Provincial Coordination, Government of Pakistan invites bids/offers for "Supply of Food/Grocery Commodities to PSB Hostels at PSB (HQ) Islamabad, PSB Coaching Centres Lahore, Karachi, Quetta and Peshawar for one Year".

2. Interested firm(s) registered with income tax, sales tax authorities and active on taxpayer lists, may submit their bids/offers along-with required bid money on the basis of single stage two envelope procedures on PPRA-e-Procurement EPADS System up-to 1100 hours on 7th October, 2024.

3. Documents containing detailed Tender Terms and Conditions can be downloaded and uploaded from PSB's Website (www.sports.gov.pk) as well as PPRA's website (www.ppra.org.pk) till 11:00 hours on 7th October, 2024 and opened on the same date at 11:30 hrs. Bid must be supported with bid security amounting to Rs. 1,000,000/- as shown in the bidding document (Refundable) in the shape of Bank Draft in favor Pakistan Sports Board. The bidder will submit a scanned copy of bid security online on EPADS system and original will submit to PSB before the opening of tender otherwise the bid(s) will be declared as non-responsive.

4. PSB reserves the right to accept/reject any or all offers wholly or partially as per PPRA rules.

PID (I) 1995/24

(Ishar Ahmed Khan)
Assistant Director (Procurement)
Phone: 051-9249121



www.pakpost.gov.pk

China keen to boost collaboration in various sectors

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Shi Yueming, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Chinese Embassy, announced on Thursday China's readiness to enhance collaboration with Pakistan in several fields, including information technology (IT), new energy, and space exploration. He stated that this cooperation aims to secure a prosperous future for Pakistan.

At a seminar titled "People-Centric Governance System: A Case Study of China," hosted by the Institute of Regional Studies (IRS) in partnership with the Asian Institute of Ecological, Research and Development (AIEDR), Shi highlighted the strengthening ties between China and Pakistan under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

"This year marks the beginning of the second golden decade of BRI and CPEC," Shi said. He noted that CPEC has significantly contributed to Pakistan through investment and job creation, particularly in infrastructure and energy sectors, laying a solid foundation for the country's ongoing economic and social progress.

A statement issued here said that highlighting China's ongoing commitment, Shi detailed upcoming projects, including the second phase of the Karakorum Highway and the Askari-Hydropower project, expected to become operational later this year. He also mentioned efforts to ensure smooth accessibility of the Khunjerab Pass and support for the development of Gwadar, including the opening of its new international airport.

Additionally, according to Shi, China is eager to enhance cooperation in agriculture and mining, increase imports of high-quality Pakistani agricultural products, and explore oil and gas development partnerships. "We are prepared to help Pakistan maximize its development potential through these collaborative efforts," Shi added.

Foreign Minister Alain, Prime Minister's Coordinator on Climate Change and Chairperson of the Pakistan-China Parliamentary Friendship Group, praised the long-standing relationship between the two countries and highlighted the lessons Pakistani can learn from China's advancements in sustainable development. Shi underscored the importance of people-centric governance and expressed appreciation for the collaborative opportunities with China.

"China's approach to poverty reduction and sustainable development has set a powerful example," she said, referring to the Global Development Initiative (GDI) that has lifted millions out of poverty. Alain also noted Pakistan's climate action efforts, including the Green Pakistan Programme and the Recharge Pakistan project.

Former Inspector General of Police (IGP) Dr Syed Kalimuddin Iqbal commended China's people-centric governance model, which focuses on transparency, efficiency, and long-term planning, and encouraged Pakistan to adopt similar strategies to improve governance and reduce poverty.



Mansoor Javed
1939 - 2015

Can't forget someone who gave so much to remember.

May Allah rest his soul in peace.
Ameen

METROPOLITAN CORPORATION ISLAMABAD PUBLIC NOTICE

It is notified for the awareness of general public that 5% tax rebate will be offered on payment of your Commercial and Residential Property tax Bills before **30th September, 2024**.

Dear consumers Property Tax bills have already been issued at your premises. You can contact on the following MCI Landline Numbers for further information during office hours. Owner/occupants may also download duplicate bills from CDA's website using their Property Tax consumer number. Valued consumers who have not cleared their outstanding dues of Property Tax are requested to clear their dues to avoid further levy of non-waivable surcharge on arrears.

Kashif Mirza
Director Revenue, MCI
Residential Area: Plot # 851-8252331
Tel: 051-9252823, 9253887
Commercial Area: Tel: 051- 8252498, 8252481
www.cda.gov.pk

Capital Development Authority PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTS AGREEMENTS TENDER NOTICE

The Capital Development Authority invites bids, from firms registered with SMC, who can prove their eligibility and qualification as mentioned in the RFP/Inviting Documents for the following contract.

| S. No | NAME OF WORK | RISK SECURITY | DATES AND TIME OF SUBMISSION OF TENDERS | DATES AND TIME OF OPENING OF TECHNICAL PROPOSAL |
|-------|---|----------------------|---|---|
| 1 | Mining of Service Provider for Ticketing Operations, Fare Collection, And Supervision of ITS & Bus Operations Under the Project titled Integrated Public Transport Network in Islamabad | Rs. Ten (10) Million | 06th October, 2024 at 02:00 PM | 06th October, 2024 at 02:30 PM |

- The bidding shall be conducted in line with the Rule 28 (D) Bidding Stage Two Envelope procedure prescribed under Public Procurement Rules 2004, e-Pak Procurement Regulations, 2023 and is open to all potential bidders registered in the e-Pak Acquisition & Contract System (e-PACS).
- Technical Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Security duly generated from firm's own account should be in the form of Pay order/CDRs in favor of CDA (P&C), CDA. The prospective bidders shall upload scanned copy of Bid Security on e-PACS.
- Project related information may be sought from the office of Project Director Metro Bus Operations located in Block-M, Room No. 26, Wing-B CDA Secretariat G-7/M, Islamabad (Phone: 051-53-966888). The classification Pre-Bid meeting shall be held by the Employer on 1st October, 2024 in the main CDA, Conference Room (M02) informed at 01:00 PM. All queries related to project must reach the office of Project Director Metro Bus Operations on or before 30th September, 2024.
- The prospective bidders are required to submit their bids online through e-PACS of Capital Development Authority gov pk and as per instructions contained in Clause 1.1.1.10 of RFP Documentation or notice BB-18-2024 up-to-02:00 PM.
- The Technical Bid will be opened by using e-PACS publicly on the same day at 02:30 PM in the presence of the Procurement Committee & Readers. Authorized Representatives who choose to attend the opening session is to be held at the office of Director (P&C)-II, Room No 30, Block M, P&C Wing, CDA Secretariat Sector G-7/M, Islamabad.

Dr. Director E&M (P&C-II), CDA
Block No M, Room No. 21
CDA Secretariat, Sector G-7/M Islamabad
Ph: 051-9252412
Email: dd-hp@cdaindia.gov.pk

Three police officials sacked for illegal activities

Action taken by police authorities on complaints of citizens

By Munawar Azam

ISLAMABAD: Three officials of the capital police were found involved in illegal activities, including setting up a network to extort money from citizens, kidnapping for ransom, supporting illicit business like drug peddling and detaining people to mint money from them.

Police officers told Dawn that the three officials were sacked after they were found guilty of the illegal activities in an inquiry. The three officials were stationed in the Rawal Zone of the capital.

The inquiry was ordered in response to complaints submitted by residents to senior officers. The complainants alleged that the personnel deployed in Rawal Zone were operating criminal gangs and were hands in glove with criminals.

Show cause notice issued to the officials stated that it had come into the notice of the authority through surveillance that they were involved in illegal activities and had set their own network for extorting money from the pol-

ice. They were also accused of supporting illicit business through their nests. Furthermore, they detained individuals and demanded bribe for releasing them.

"It shows their sheer negligence, inefficiency and lack of professional approach towards discharging their official responsibilities, obligations which make them guilty under the relevant rules," the dismissal order said, adding that a regular departmental inquiry into the matter was conducted through a superintendent of police, which found them guilty of gross professional misconduct and recommended the major punishment against them.

When the allegations proved in the inquiry, the officials submitted their written reply in their defense but the authority was not satisfied with it. The police officers said that illegal activities of the officials brought the department into disrepute and also depressed their male-fate intentions of abusing official authority.

"An optimum level of deterrence is imperative for discipline," the order issued by the police said, adding that their action in the capital police was against the interest of the general public as well as the department.

"Therefore, finding them guilty of gross misconduct and abusing official position in the light of recommendation of inquiry report, the major punishment of dismissal from service was awarded.

to them with immediate effect under Punjab Police (E&D) Rules 1975 duly adopted by the ICP police.

The officers said it was also under consideration to register cases against the officials and initiate legal proceedings.

In this regard, approval was sought from the senior hierarchy. However, they were found reluctant as the involvement of the officials in illegal activities also raised question over their poor supervision and command, they added.

Two policemen booked for harassing woman

Two police officials allegedly sexually harassed a woman in the presence of her husband, Dausan has learnt.

Over the incident, a case has been registered against the officials at the Bhara Kaho police station under section 509 (Penetration for unnatural intention) and 509 (Sexual assault or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) of the PPC, 25-D (Penalty for causing emergency), Telegraph Act and 156-D (infliction of violence to any person in his custody) of Police Order 2002.

The case was registered after the woman approached the deputy inspector general (DIG) and lodged a complaint against the two officials.

In response, an inquiry was ordered to establish the facts and its responsible

ity, they added.

In her complaint, the woman stated that police personnel riding an official vehicle intercepted her at Shabdar Road when she was travelling along with her husband in a car. Two police personnel descended from the official vehicle and approached them and asked the couple to produce their Nikahnam (marriage certificate), it added.

The policemen demanded money from the couple whom the latter failed to produce the certificate as they were not carrying it, the FIR said. However, the couple refused to pay the money.

In response, the personnel forced the man to move away from the car. The policemen then took the woman to their official car, and one of them snatched her mobile phone.

"He continuously touched different parts of her body and also got her and her family members' phone numbers from her mobile phone," stated the FIR.

The personnel threatened her with dire consequences, and sexually harassed her, the FIR said, adding the suspect also threatened that they would abduct her in case she complained to anyone.

The FIR said one of the suspects had been continuously calling her since then and asking for physical relations, adding the official also threatened to kill her if she did not fulfill his demand.

The woman demanded legal action against the police officials.

Census of private educational institutions launched

By Our Staff Correspondent

MUZAFFARABAD: For the first time in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), an online census of private educational institutions has been launched to gather comprehensive data on teacher and student numbers, as well as available facilities.

This was announced by Syed Saleem Gardner, Chairman of the AJK Private Educational Institutions Registration and Regulation Authority, in a press release on Thursday.

Mr Gardner, who also serves as the Senior Additional Secretary of the Elementary and Secondary Education, highlighted that AJK had the distinction of being the first administrative unit in the country to both implement its own educational policy and initiate a census of private educational institutions.

"The availability of accurate and reliable statistics is essential for policy formulation, decision-making, infrastructural development, and resource distribution, especially in the education sector," he said.

While the census of state-run schools is conducted every year, with reports published accordingly, a comprehensive survey of private educational institutions has never been carried out—until now, and in order to address the gap the Authority has taken the initiative in collaboration with the

Directorate of Education Management Information System (EMIS), he added.

In order to assist in the process, instructional videos, tutorials, and other relevant materials had been made available on the official website of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (www.eesjkpk.gov.pk). Mr Gardner said, adding, registered institutions had already been provided with usernames and passwords, while unregistered institutions could obtain logins credentials from closest district focal persons.

Mr Gardner expressed optimism that all stakeholders—including the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Private Schools and Colleges Association, Rural Foundation, Citizens Foundation, Education Foundation, Skuffa, Mustafa, Naseem, Hinda, Misnagh, Qureshi School Systems, and other organizations—would fully cooperate to ensure the success of this groundbreaking census.

Two killed, two injured in separate incidents

TAXILA: Two people were killed, and two others were injured in separate incidents within the limits of Taxila and Wali Canttment police stations on Thursday, according to police and rescue sources.

In the first incident, a woman was killed and two others injured when a speeding cruiser, driven recklessly by an unidentified driver, rammed into a motorcyclist within the limits of the Taxila police station. The woman and her two family members were on the motorcycle when the cruiser collided with them, crushing her under its wheels. She died immediately, while her two male companions sustained injuries. Taxila police have registered a case against the driver who fled and have launched a hunt to arrest him.

Separately, a man was fatally stabbed by his brother following a domestic dispute in the Garhi area, under Wali Canttment police station. According to police, Javed Khan had a heated argument with his brother, Nadeem Khan, in a fit of rage. Nadeem stabbed Javed to death before fleeing the scene. The body was shifted to Toliya Hospital Taxila, for an autopsy. Respective police registered two separate cases and launched a hunt to arrest the fleeing suspect.

11 suspects arrested in police crackdown

Police in a crackdown against gangsters involved in criminal activities in three different districts in Rawalpindi, Islamabad and Faisalabad, busted three distinct gang and arrested eleven members. The authorities also recovered stolen bags and weapons utilized in various crimes.

Addressing a press conference at the district police office, District Police Officer Arrocks Dr Ghazi Gill said that the recovery of stolen property valued at Rs 7 million, including over Rs 2 million in cash, one car, nine motor vehicles, several mobile phones, and various weapons.

He further stated that Haro police dismantled a six-member gang comprising of Waqar, Zahir, Wasif, Umar, Sabir, and Aslam, who confessed to their involvement in thirteen robbery and snatching incidents across rural and urban areas. In Potohar, police arrested three gang members, Arif, Muzamil, and Ehsan, connected to multiple robberies.

Meanwhile, Islamabad police busted two gang members, Saif and Dildar, who admitted to involvement in seven thefts, robbery, and snatching cases —Correspondent

NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF MINOR MINERALS LEASE OF DISTRICT DIR LOWER



The District Auction Committee of District Dir Lower invites applications from registered contractors of Minor Minerals for participation in auction and grant of Minor Minerals lease of the following blocks in District Dir Lower under the provision of section 28 subsection (3) of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mines & Minerals Act 2007 for a period of one year mining lease on the basis of "as is where is" against reserve price and call deposit given against each block in the Office of Deputy Commissioner Dir Lower at 11:00 AM. In case of non-auction due to any reason, next date of auction will be 10/09/2024 at 11:00 AM. Further in case of non-auction on above mentioned dates due to any reason, next date will be decided by the District Auction Committee.

| S. NO | Block Name | Average | Location | Reserve Price | Call Deposit |
|-----------------------|------------|------------------|---|---------------|--------------|
| River Pothohar | | | | | |
| 1 | Block-1 | 12.27 Acres | Near Akhigram | 10,00,000/- | 2,50,000/- |
| 2 | Block-2 | 92.38 Acres | Near Malak Akbar Bridge to Malakzai Bridge | 32,00,000/- | 8,00,000/- |
| 3 | Block-3 | 99.99 Acres | Near Shahzai Wooden Bridge to Khali Bazar RCC Bridge | 32,00,000/- | 8,00,000/- |
| 4 | Block-6 | 82.79 Acres | Near Koto Dara to Manjai RCC Bridge | 26,00,000/- | 6,50,000/- |
| 5 | Block-7 | 47.62 Acres | Near Mumajid RCC Bridge to Ashan Gari/Odighram Suspension Bridge | 26,00,000/- | 6,50,000/- |
| 6 | Block-8 | 82.78 Acres | Near Ashan Gari/Odighram Suspension Bridge to Zawal Ballo Suspension Bridge | 26,00,000/- | 7,00,000/- |
| River Jhelum | | | | | |
| 7 | Block-17 | 47.52 Acres | Near Roopnagar Dheri Khati | 12,00,000/- | 3,00,000/- |
| 8 | Block-18 | 21.33 Acres | Near Kambal RCC Bridge to Smartbagh | 14,00,000/- | 3,50,000/- |
| 9 | Block-19 | 26.15 Acres | Near Simeri Bagh to Chamanatali Kandian | 18,00,000/- | 4,50,000/- |
| 10 | Block-20 | 77.20 Acres | Near Chamanatali Bridge to Mayar Bridge | 11,00,000/- | 2,75,000/- |
| 11 | Block-21 | 119.75 Acres | Near Kothi to Zantai Banda | 14,00,000/- | 3,50,000/- |
| 12 | Block-22 | 66.26 Acres | Near Mayar Bridge to Grid Station / Tora Camp | 13,00,000/- | 3,25,000/- |
| 13 | Block-23 | 68.72 Acres | Near Tora Camp to Mumtaz Bazar Bridge | 13,00,000/- | 3,25,000/- |
| 14 | Block-24 | 43.46 Acres | Near Mumtaz Bazar Bridge to Gosaik | 18,00,000/- | 4,50,000/- |
| 15 | Block-25 | 71.34 Acres | Near Gosaik to Matkao RCC Bridge | 15,00,000/- | 3,75,000/- |
| 16 | Block-26 | 140.39 Acres</td | | | |

LAHORE
 Sunsat 06:00 AM
 Sunsat (Tomorrow) 05:48 AM
NEXT 24 HRS
 Minimum 26.0°C
 Maximum 37.0°C
 Outdoor Mainly Sunny
AQI
 Maximum (Yesterday) 97.3

Alvi meets JI
emir to 'enlist
support' for
power show

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Former president Asif Alvi met Jamiat-Islami (JI) Emir Hafiz Nasrullah Rehman on Thursday, two days prior to planned and rescheduled public meeting by the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf in a bid to enlist latter's numerical support for it.

A JI insider, however, said neither the former president directly asked for it, nor the Jamiat promised. However, both sides know the larger political picture and the critical importance of public support for the PTI and its cause.

Both sides claimed to have spent much time on the government's proposed constitutional package and the current political situation in the meeting at Manzoor and later spoke to the media waiting outside where Hafiz Nasrullah Rehman freely rejected the proposed amendment and urged all opposition parties to get involved and do the same.

He criticised the government's handling of the case, stating that this is not the appropriate time for such amendments, and that the government lacks the public mandate to make decisions of such gravity.

He said if judicial commissions were to investigate election rigging, more than half of the sitting members of the assembly would likely to lose their seats. He said the government was making attempts to create a new constitutional crisis by using questionable tactics related to the age and number of Supreme Court judges, particularly as a retired justice is about to take office.

Rehman emphasised that the JI and PTI have

Continued on Page 14

**Online bike
rider flees with
cash, grocery**

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The bike driver of an online company allegedly took away cash and valuable of a woman in Kot Lakhpat area on Thursday.

The woman filed the complaint with the police that she booked the ride to deliver grocery and Rs 10,000 cash to her relative at the given location. A few hours later her relative told her the bike rider had not reached his house.

The complainant said when she contacted the rider, he threatened her with dire consequences and switched off the phone.

The woman lodged a complaint with the police which was trying to reach the company to know whereabouts of the rider.

PTI lawyers spurn constitutional package

**Senator Hamid Khan
terms it an attempt to
undermine judiciary**

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: A Pakistani Tehreek-e-Insaf-backed lawyers' convention held here on Thursday rejected the 'constitutional package' proposed by the PMI-led coalition government, demanding that a constitution for the appointment of Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah as the next chief justice of Pakistan (CJP) be issued without any delay.

The convention hosted by the Lahore High Court Bar Association (LHCBA), passed a declaration that the next CJP should also be appointed on the basis of seniority principle.

It says the current National Assembly did not have any justification to introduce amendments to the Constitution.



CLERKS protest in front of the Civil Secretariat against inflation. — White Star

Surrender of policewoman to Centre withdrawn abruptly

**SSP Dr Anoosh
transferred and
repatriated against
laid-down procedure**

By Asif Chaudhry

LAHORE: To many surprises to many PSPs, the Punjab government withdrew the order of repatriation of 'first woman SSP' investigation Lahore' Dr Anoosh Masood Chaudhry within 24 hours of surrendering her services to the Establishment Division Islamabad 'under mysterious circumstances.'

The gold medalist in MBBS from King Edward Medical University (KEMU), Dr Anoosh was transferred to the CID Islamabad late on Wednesday night on the order of the Punjab

government.

An interesting part of the development was that Punjab Chief Secretary Zahid Akbar Zamani had addressed all issues relevant to the transfer of Dr Anoosh in 'just one notification of her repatriation' earlier following the laid-down procedure.

A senior official said according to the procedure the government used to issue a notification of a grade B police officer related to his/her transfer from the position he/she was serving and direct him/her to report to the Central Police Office (CPO).

In case, he said, higher authorities were not required further for the process, the government would issue a separate notification/order of the in-charge officer, releasing him/her of duties from the province and repatriation as well.

Surprisingly, in this particular transfer case, the Punjab govern-

ment addressed all the issues in one notification.

'The services of Dr Anoosh Masood Ch, currently awaiting posting in Central Police Office Punjab are hereby repatriated to the Establishment Division Islamabad. She is released of her duties in the government of Punjab, Islamabad', reads the notification.

The official further said the notification contained the words 'currently awaiting posting', which again confused the police officers who declared it an 'absolutely unusual happening' in the transfer/posting practices.

He said the confusion deepened when the chief secretary issued another notification within 24 hours and announced withdrawal of the earlier notification of her repatriation.

The department's notification regarding repatriation of Dr Anoosh Masood, currently await-

ing posting, in Central Police Office is 'very willfully omitted in the notification' reads the second notification issued late on Thursday night.

There were reports that some senior police officers suggested to Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz to review her decision of repatriation of Dr Anoosh to Islamabad keeping in view her 'risky' job she performed and the services she rendered in the wake of the investigations into May 9 cases.

The official said a 'secret holiday' of the PSPs serving in Punjab was not 'comfortable' with her since she assumed the charge as SSP and led the investigations into high-profile May 9 cases.

The lobby had made some serious attempts in the past to replace her with the police officer of choice but the Punjab CM had

Continued on Page 14

Court summons civil top brass on PTI's pleas for rally

By Our Staff Reporter

Akmal Khan

The lawyers and the district government did not permit the petitioners to hold their party's rally at Minar-i-Pakistan. They pointed out that the EC had been delaying a decision on the application filed by the petitioners for a rally.

The lawyers argued that holding a peaceful rally was a constitutional right of every political party, and no one can be deprived of their fundamental rights.

They asked the court to order the government to permit the PTI rally at Minar-i-Pakistan and also restrain the police from harassing and arresting the workers of the party.

Headed by Justice Farooq

Haidar, the full bench directed a few officers to ensure personal appearance of the respondent authorities in the court on Friday (today). The bench also summoned Advocate General of Punjab Khawaja Ishaq.

Justice Tariq Mehmood and Justice Ali Zia Rajwa were other members of the bench.

The same full bench disposed of a petition seeking to block PTI rally in Punjab, declaring it unconstitutionality.

The bench expressed displeasure with the petitioner's lawyer, questioning the validity of such a request.

Justice Rajwa questioned,

"What kind of petition is this, and

how can such a petition be filed?"

Advocate Nasiruddin Saeed, the petitioner's counsel, argued that the petition was filed to highlight violation of fundamental rights. He said an open rally could be held without permission by the authorities.

However, Justice Rajwa observed that the petition should be dismissed with a fine of Rs 100,000.

The lawyer was given the option to either withdraw the petition or the court should decide it on merits.

The counsel chose to withdraw the petition and the bench

Continued on Page 14



Centurion Ashwin lifts
India to 339-6 against
Bangladesh

Pg.22 SPORT

Truck kills four wedding guests, injures eight

TOBA TEK SINGH: Four women died and at least eight were injured when a truck laden with cement bags ran over a group of people walking by the roadside at Okarwala Road near Chak 407-JB, Ayodhya, on the Gajra-Jhang Road at night.

Police 1122 said the mishap occurred on one Maneria Chak, a incident of Chak 406-JB, Gajra, was taking place and a number of people were going to participate in it when the incident happened. They were crossing the road when the truck driver lost control of his vehicle due to speeding and hit another truck coming from the opposite direction in an attempt to save the people before running them over. The Gajra-bound truck was coming from Jhang.

The incident left at least a dozen people injured, out of them four women died on impact while eight other persons were shifted to the Gajra Tehsil Headquarters Hospital.

The deceased women were identified as Asma Bibi (36) and Neela Yousaf (11), residents of Chak 407-JB, Yarmal of Chak 430-JB and Nema Ashraf (2) of Lyallpur. The eight wounded who were shifted to hospital included Farzana (22) and Yasmin (23), of Ayodhya Puri, Asim (13), Nasim Bibi (30) and Sana Aslam, of Jhang. Muhammad Hassan (12), Jawed (24) and Fakhsana Bibi (11) of different villages. — Correspondent

Girl tortured, humiliated over trifle

TOBA TEK SINGH: A teenage girl was tortured, harassed, humiliated and was forced to pierce in the street with a blackened face over a trifles at Chak 558-KB, Tewaliwala, in Faisalabad.

Complaintant Hina alleged in the FIR registered with Mianwali police that his daughter Sami Bibi (13) had quarrelled with neighbours over a child's front three days back. On Thursday, Khalid Sultan and six others, including three women of his family, attacked his house, pulled Sami into the street, tortured her, cut her hair, painted her face black with engine oil and forced her to parade in the street.

GPO Kennedy Asif claimed that two main suspects, Khalid Sultan and Sultan Zafar, had been arrested and trials were being conducted to arrest the others. — Correspondent

Governor sees corruption in VCs selection

LAHORE: A conflict has started brewing between the Punjab government and the governor/chancellor regarding appointment of VCs in public sector universities of the province.

Governor Sardar Saeed Haider Khan raised concerns over corruption allegations involving top candidates for VC positions while Punjab Information Minister Amna Bokhari reminded him of his 'limited role' in the selection process. Twenty-five public universities have been working without regular VCs for the last two-and-a-half years.

In an interview with a private TV channel, the governor expressed serious doubts over the transparency of the ongoing hiring process. He said he had received information from sources that the search committee did not follow the transparent process as better candidates were not in the top three candidates while those who had secured top positions were facing corruption allegations. He claimed that he had documentary proofs of allegations and wondered what would happen if he made those proofs public. He said he was not satisfied with the summaries sent to him and he would decide the fate of these recommendations on merit.

Mr Khan said he would get legal opinion on the matter before issuing the notification.

"We did not have any names to be appointed as VCs or demand (the government) to appoint anyone as VC but we were asking (it) to discuss the matter with us and the VCs should be appointed on merit through proper discussion," he said.

Ms Bokhari refuted the allegations of the governor, stressing that his role was only to endorse the decisions made by the Punjab Assembly and the provincial cabinet. She stressed that the governor had no authority to overturn cabinet decisions.

"The selection committee was formed by the cabinet and it has carried out interviews of all aspiring candidates. The committee recommended senior, eligible and experienced educationists for the positions of VCs," Ms Bokhari said in response to the governor's allegations. — Imran Gabol

PRAYER

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| Page | 4.27 |
| June | 1.09 |
| Asr | 4.20 |
| Maghrib | 6.05 |
| Isha | 7.24 |
| Meeting time in Isha | |

REFLECTIONS

CCA SENNIBLE MAN
ACQUIRED EDUCATION AND CULTURE
THROUGH ADVICE
WHILE DEUTON AND
BEASTS ALWAYS
IMPROVE THROUGH
PUNISHMENT 3/3
— HAZRAT ALI (AS)
(78A1427)

Obituary

LAHORE: Services Akbar Faridh Khan, leader Chaudhry Nasir Ahmad, the father of former president of Lahore Akbar Faridh Khan, passed away on Thursday. His funeral prayers were held at Bagh-e-Jannah. Quaid-i-Azam will be held after Friday prayer on Isha, at Pataudi House, GOR-I.

Surrender of...

Continued from Page 13

surrender her next following her services.

Dr Assoos had supervised a majority of the May 9 cases registered under anti-terrorism charges against former prime minister Imran Khan and PTI's other senior leaders and workers.

The said team facing strong criticism for making arrest of the PTI's founder in anti-terrorism cases lodged against former prime minister Imran Khan and PTI's other senior leaders and workers.

The official sources said Lahore police had lodged a total 46 cases in the wake of the May 9 meadow.

On them, 14 PTIs were registered under anti-terrorism charges against Imran Khan, senior leaders and workers of the PTI while 49 others were lodged under other charges.

He said the machine transfer and repatriation of Dr Assoos late on Wednesday at a time when he was supervising the May 9 cases investigations raised many an eyebrows in police circles.

An SSP investigation Lahore, who remained in the limelight when she made her appearance on post here on Thursday,

national and social media and claimed to have substantial evidence against the PTI founder and senior party leaders, the official said.

He said she had also faced strong criticism when she appeared in the higher courts to defend the state and the findings of the investigations.

Acknowledging her efforts, Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz had proposed her name for her posting in CM secretariat but the inability in Punjab police managed to get a male police officer transferred there.

Similarly, IG of the Human Affairs and Lahore Capital City Police Officer Riaz Sadiq Khan Kamyana had issued letters of appreciation to acknowledge her services which were assessed based on the Chief Minister's Governance Initiatives for Police Performance Evaluation through Key Performance Indicators.

The Punjab government has transferred Assistant Inspector General (AIG) Finance Mohammad Nasrullah and posted him as new SSP Investigation Lahore, who remained in the limelight when she made her appearance on post here on Thursday.

Court summons civil top...

Continued from Page 13

disposed it of being withdrawn.

A citizen, Maria Waheed Rafiq, filed the petition citing 'bias' approached by the PTI leaders at a previous rally held in Islamabad.

Earlier, Justice Haider took up the petitions related to the PTI rally in single bench and recommended the chief justice to form a larger bench to decide the matter.

Later, Chief Justice Asif Naeem constituted the full bench headed by Justice Haider, which heard the petitions.

SALMAN AKRAM RAJA: The Lahore High Court on Thursday restrained Punjab police from arresting PTI's leader Advocate Salman Akram Raja until Sept 23.

RASSAWALPUR: Ludhian police claimed on Thursday to have arrested a suspect who allegedly raped an M.Phil student at Qadrian village. According to the final information report, suspect "S" had been raping the girl on the pretense of marrying her. She alleged that about 10 days ago, he took her to a Lahorepur restaurant where he raped her and threatened to kill her if she disclosed it to anyone. According to investigation officer (IO), the suspect has been arrested. — Correspondent

PUNJAB HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Jawab wali - Jay wali

TENDER NOTICE

The tenders for the following schemes are invited from Engineering firms/contractors as per PPRA E-Tendering System. All the firms/contractors can participate in tendering process with the following terms and conditions:

1. The intending contractors/firms who have been registered with Pakistan Engineering Council in the relevant category/grades may participate.
2. The contractors/firms have to be registered on Punjab PPRA website (www.punjabppra.gov.pk). Any information/procedure regarding registration can be ascertained from website ppra.punjab.gov.pk/e-procurement.
3. All intending contractors/firms have to upload the earnest money in the form of CDR in favour of the Executive Engineer Highway Division Khawasseel @2% of the estimated cost and submit bids on the same website upto half hour before the opening date and time of opening of tender. However, original CDR has to be submitted to the Tender Opening Committee on the same day, half hour before the opening of bids; otherwise, the firm/contractor will be disqualified in presence of Tender Opening Committee.
4. After filing the bids on website, the contractors will attend the office of Commissioner Motor Division Multan on 09/10/2024 at 11:30 AM, where all bids will be reviewed and quoted rate successful bidder will be announced in presence of Tender Opening Committee.

5. In case of submission of any fake information/document such as CDR/receipt, the contractor/firms will be disqualified from the current tendering procedure and will be disallowed to participate in any tendering process of C&W Department. Further, the recommendation by PPRA and PEC will also be made against such firm/contractor for appropriate action/backsliding.

6. The Procuring Agency may reject all bids or proposals at any time prior to acceptance of a bid or proposal under PPRA Rule-35 (Rejection of Bid).
7. Road pavement shall be laid by using concrete batching plant and concrete paving machine.
8. TBT/BST/Surfacing shall be executed by mechanized system.
9. Recovery against credit of old material will be adjusted manually and accordingly the bids will be evaluated.

| # | Name of Work | T.S. No. & Date | Estimated Period | Estimated Cost/Contract Money | Opening Date & Time |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| PAHALA RESTORATION PROJECT/LAHORE (Lahore) | | | | | |
| 1 | Pahala Restorations Project/Lahore (Lahore) | C.E.C. No. 359/PLD dated 16/08/2024 | 16/08/2024 | Rs. 14,80,000/- | 11:30 AM |
| 2 | Executive Engineer Lahore Division CEDC Lahore | | | | 11:30 AM |

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PAKISTAN SPORTS BOARD

Srinagar Highway, Aabpara, Islamabad

TENDER NOTICE

Pakistan Sports Board, an autonomous body working under the administrative control of Ministry of Inter-Provincial Coordination, Government of Pakistan invites bidders for "Supply of Food/Grocery Commodities to PSB Hostels at PSB (HQ) Islamabad, PSB Coaching Centres Lahore, Karachi, Quetta and Peshawar for one Year".

2. Interested firm(s) registered with income tax, sales tax authorities and active on taxpayer lists, may submit their bid/offers along-with required bid money on the basis of single stage two envelope procedures on PPRA-e-Procurement EPADS System up-to 1100 hours on 7th October, 2024.

3. Documents containing detailed Tender Terms and Conditions can be downloaded and uploaded from PSB's Website (www.sports.gov.pk) as well as PPRA's website (www.ppra.org.pk) till 1100 hours on 7th October, 2024 and opened on the same date at 11:00 hrs. Bid must be supported with bid security amounting to Rs. 1,000,000/- as shown in the bidding document (Refundable) in the shape of Bank Draft in favor Pakistan Sports Board. The bidder will submit a scanned copy of bid security online on EPADS system and original will submit to PSB before the opening of tender otherwise the bid(s) will be declared as non-responsive.

4. PSB reserves the right to accept/reject any or all offers wholly or partially as per PPRA rules.

PID (I) 1995/24

(Izhar Ahmed Khan)
Assistant Director (Procurement)
Phone: 051-9249121



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ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND
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GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB



PESHAWAR

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Sunset | 05:18pm |
| Sundown (Tomorrow) | 05:36am |
| NEXT 24 HRS | |
| Minimum | 24°C |
| Maximum | 37°C |
| Clouds | Scattered |



Centurion Ashwin lifts India to 339-6 against Bangladesh

Pg. 20 SPORT



WOMEN align in queues to receive financial aid under the Benazir Income Support Programme in Peshawar on Thursday. — AFP

Lawmakers insist only a few people responsible for 'political anarchy'

Complain about military's interference in politics

By Umar Farooq

PESHAWAR: Members of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly on Thursday complained about the military's interference in politics and insisted that only a few individuals were responsible for the current "political anarchy" in the country.

During a session chaired by Iftikhar Khatri from the panel of chairpersons, the lawmakers vowed to contest the federal government's proposed amendments into the Constitution.

"There is anarchy in the country just because of a few individuals, who are part of the armed forces and the judiciary and want to run the system according to their will. We won't allow them to do so," law and parliamentary affairs minister Afzal Afridi told the house.

He said the Constitution clearly defined the word "state" but lacked mention of the "establishment."

The minister said the PTI had

engaged in the current system of governance. "The entire game of the ousted former prime minister Imran Khan was played by those who called themselves establishment," he said.

Mr Afridi alleged that on May 9, a crowd was incited by intelligence agency agents to violence in Kohat and the people who started it faced threats.

He said the PTI leaders were detained and pressured to leave Imran Khan and join former chief minister Pervez Khattak's party, but most of them refused and preferred to face consequences.

The minister praised the province's judiciary for dispensing justice to those political detainees.

He said there was no doubt that the country required a strong military for its defence, but it should confine itself to the constitutional role. Mr Afridi alleged that most of the businesses run by the Pakistan Army created billions of rupees worth of taxes every year.

Iftikhar Khatri, another treasury member, contrasted the conduct of the Inter-Services Public Relations director-general about the army's involvement in politics and claimed that he was pressured by the establishment to quit the PTI.

"After being called by a major, I stayed in Nowshera for two nights before being shifted to Peshawar where the ISI sector commander asked me to choose between the state and the PTI. I replied that I stood with both. The sector commander asked me to choose the state to prevent creation like PTI founder Imran Khan, but I went for the PTI," he said.

MPA Munir Hussain Laghman said the Constitution was being tampered, so all parliamentarians should get together for protection.

Lawmaker Ahsan Khan said he thought parliament was the supreme institution, but 10 MNAs, who represented 30 million people, were picked up by masked men from inside parliament.

"People are losing trust in the system, so frequent institutions work on improving law and order situation and controlling militancy in Balochistan," he said.

He urged authorities to produce footage of the May 9 violence for the identification of culprits. Member of the opposition PML-N Sobia Shahid said the army was called for help in recent elections and even if "something bad happens here, the army will come to our protection and not the police."

She said the PTI claimed attacking mil-

tary installations but there was evidence of its involvement in violence.

The lawmaker warned that participants of the upcoming PTI public meeting in Lahore would face serious consequences.

She alleged that the legislation done by the provincial assembly in the last 12 years benefited individuals.

Another opposition member, Nasar Baig of the ANP, said undemocratic forces had been interfering in the country's politics since 1947 and not for the last two years.

PML-N MPA Shabila Khan said the lawmakers, who were currently speaking against a state institution, used to call for senior ISI chief retired General Faiz Hussain an asset and former army chief retired General Qamar Javed Bajwa a champion of democracy.

She said the PTI activists should expect a red carpet treatment after demonstrating and attacking military memorials and installations.

The lawmaker also flagged Afghan diplomats for remaining seated during the playing of Pakistan's anthem during a ceremony, declaring their act against diplomatic norms.

Gandapur urges lawmakers to ensure maximum participation of workers in Lahore rally

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chapter on Thursday finalized preparations for its Step 21 public meeting in Lahore.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Khan Gandapur, who is also the PTI's president in the province, and provincial general secretary Ali Asghar Khan held four meetings with the party's regional chapters, including Multan, Hangu, Swabi and central

regions.

The meetings were attended by members of the provincial and national assemblies and the party's district presidents and other leadership, according to a party statement issued here.

Mr Gandapur held separate meetings with the PTI's regional chapters and other leadership.

The participants discussed the party's upcoming public meeting in Lahore. Party leaders from the province were assigned duties regarding Lahore's public meeting.

Mr Gandapur told meetings that the public meeting would be a mammoth gathering where the entire Pakistan will be on roads on September 21, he said.

Mr Gandapur asked the people of KP to participate in the meeting with zeal. Mr Gandapur said that he will himself lead the rally from the front.

"KP rally will begin from Pariyal early on September 21.

The time has come to decide whether we want freedom for our future generations or hand their future to mafias and corrupt people," he said.

The chief minister said the

lawyers, media and others.

"Every one of you needs to come out of your houses and the entire Pakistan will be on roads on September 21," he said.

Mr Gandapur asked the people of KP to participate in the meeting with zeal. Mr Gandapur said that he will himself lead the rally from the front.

"KP rally will begin from Pariyal early on September 21.

The time has come to decide whether we want freedom for our future generations or hand their future to mafias and corrupt people," he said.

The chief minister said the

PTI would stand with Imam Khan and would strive to get him freed from jail.

A PTI leader told DAWN that the leadership had assigned every MNA and MPAs to bring 500 people to the rally.

He said party workers from across the province would gather at the Swalley on Saturday and leave for Lahore at noon.

The party leader said workers were also directed to bring mafias, banditry and other leaders to better protect them selves in case of a crackdown by the Punjab police.

High court suspends PGMI chief's termination

Seeks govt's reply to petition on matter

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: The Peshawar High Court has suspended the provincial government's order for terminating the services of the chief executive officer of the Post Graduate Medical Institute Peshawar and directed it to maintain status quo on the matter.

A bench consisting of Justice Ijaz Aswar and Justice Syed Mohammad Attoor Shah issued notices to the provincial chief secretary and health and finance secretaries giving them a 10-day right to respond to the petition of PGMI CEO Prof Sabahuddin Mahmood Noor against his removal and disciplinary action against him.

It observed that after the examination of records, it seemed that additional seats of trainee medical officers (TMOs) were created by the caretaker government following protests by the Young Doctors Association (YDA), and that nothing appeared to have been initiated by the petitioners for the creation of those seats.

The petitioner requested the court to declare illegal and unconstitutional the Aug 29, 2024, decision of the provincial cabinet and the subsequent order for his removal on Sept 5, 2024.

He also sought the court's orders for the government to quash the recommendations made in the cabinet meeting of Aug 29 against him, and for his restoration as the PGMI's chief for the remaining term of his service.

Advocate Khawid Mohammadi appeared for the petitioner and said that his client was a leading doctor, who also served as the professor of dermatology at

Peshawar's Lady Reading Hospital.

He said the petitioner was posted CEO to the PGMI through an order on Dec 1, 2022, for two years and his performance remained up to the mark thereafter.

The court said that the PGMI issued an induction order of the MBBS/BDS degree holders in various specialties for the session 2024 on Jan 10, 2024, and included 172 doctors for postgraduate training on merit.

He added that scores of candidates didn't get the induction opportunity.

Mr Mohammadi said that the before caretaker started protests, prompting the then caretaker chief minister to constitute a committee for finding out ways and means for them.

He added that the committee recommended to the chief minister that induction of those doctors was in the "best interest of the people."

The lawyer said that the Young Doctors Association also agreed that

those doctors wouldn't claim any stipend, so their induction won't have any financial implications.

He argued that a cabinet meeting on Feb 22, 2024, gave approval for the creation of 194 more slots of TMOs on the payment of basic stipend without accommodation allowance and workshop fee.

Mr Mohammadi said that the PGMI induced 196 more TMOs for training but those doctors later started agitation for stipend. The lawyer said that the PGMI requested the finance department to provide funds for the purpose, but to no avail.

He contended that the cabinet meeting took notice of the matter on Aug 29 and put the entire blame of creating 190 positions on the petitioner and recommended termination of his remaining employment period as the CEO and disciplinary action against him.

Mr Mohammadi argued that the decision about those TMO slots was taken by the government and not himself.

Public prosecutors go on indefinite strike

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Public prosecutors on Thursday started a province-wide strike for acceptance of their demands including setting up of an independent prosecution department and office of prosecutor general on the pattern of other provinces.

The indefinite strike call was given by the Prosecution Officers Welfare Association (POWA), Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, in a provincial convention of prosecutors a day earlier.

The prosecutors mostly stayed away from official work and didn't appear in cases on behalf of the government before courts.

The association has put forward a nine-point charter of demands to the government stating that early this year the government had made commitment that their demands would be fulfilled but so far the matter was being delayed.

The officers' bearings of the association including its president Sangeen Shah, general secretary Jawed Ali Mohammad, Wahidullah, Zulfiqar Ali and others visited offices of prosecutors in their respective districts.

The protesting prosecutors had also displayed placards in their offices inscribed with their demands.

Sangeen Shah said that their major demands included provision of 1.5 times basic pay or equivalent special allowance on the pattern of judiciary and police; residential facilities for regional directors at divisional level and district public prosecutors at district level; offices for all prosecution officers especially females including washrooms and prayer rooms; establishment of the office of prosecutor general; official vehicles for all regional directors; district public prosecutors and prosecutors of anti-terrorism courts and other special courts; provision of prosecution and utility allowances to supporting staff on pattern of Punjab and Balochistan; and application of four-tier service structure formula to prosecutors.

Man, three sons shot dead in Charsadda

CHARSADDA: A man and his three sons were shot dead by rebels over an old enmity in Kotkai area of Charsadda town on Thursday.

Javed son of deceased Fauzia registered on FIR in Battagram police station against the accused. He reported that he along with his father Fauzia Khan of Kotkai area and brothers Hazrat, Iftikhar, Inamullah, and Baitullah were returning to their village in arickshaw after appearance in a case in Peshawar High Court when accused Majid and his sons Niaz and Muawiyah opened indiscriminate fire on them in Kotkai area.

He said as a result, his father Fauzia and brothers Hazrat, Inamullah, and Baitullah died on the spot, while Javed narrowly escaped while rickshaw driver Baitullah also got serious injuries and was shifted to Lady Reading Hospital in Peshawar in precarious condition.

The bodies were shifted to TQ Hospital Shabqadar for autopsy. The police personnel reached the spot, collected evidence and started a search for the accused. The police said that the accused Majid had an old enmity with his brother Fauzia, Battagram police have registered a case and started investigation. — Correspondent

Another dengue case sets off alarm bells in Lakki

LAKKI MARwat: A spike in the dengue virus cases set off alarm bells after another case was confirmed here on Thursday.

Janeeb Khan, an entomologist in the district health office, said that the fresh case was reported from the Umar Tikkhali area of the district.

He said Niazullah, 45, was diagnosed with carrying the virus when his blood sample was examined at a laboratory in the District Headquarters Complex, Tippu.

The patient, who is a contractor by profession, had arrived in his native area from Islamabad, he maintained. He said the health staffers carried out fumigation in the area and anti-dengue spray inside the house of the victim.

"Surveillance of other inmates of the house was also conducted and they were also given mosquito nets," he added.

With the emergence of a fresh case, the number of positive cases has risen to six in the ongoing month, prompting the health authorities to improve surveillance and implement dengue control and prevention plan in letter and spirit. — Correspondent

CM's adviser calls for enhancing capacity of KP Bureau of Statistics

By Mubarak Zeb Khan

KIATAMARA: Adviser to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister on Finance Mohammad Aslam has stressed the need for enhancing the capacity of provincial Bureau of Statistics and leveraging data and digitization to improve service delivery.

He was addressing the inaugural meeting of Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI)-led National Network of Economic Thinkanks (NNET) Advisory Committee for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chapter.

Highlighting KPT's goals of increasing tax and non-tax revenue, Mr Aslam reiterated the commitment of the government to bolster provincial resources, particularly towards the education and health sectors.

He stressed the importance of that inclusive network as a government watchdog and accountability mechanism at local level. He also highlighted the government's focus on public-private partnership-based solutions to support the sector.

Making KP an attractive investment destination through incentive economic policies was also a key focus of his address. Former provincial minister for revenue Aslam Jafri echoed Mr Aslam's sentiments, advocating for the digitalisation of government departments to standardise operations.

The provincial chief of Small and Medium Enterprise Development Authority (SMEA), Rashid Ansari, called for future policy research to align with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) package, supplemented by comprehensive impact assessments at both federal and provincial levels.

He stressed the need for evaluating the impact of 18th Amendment and development of district-level profiles and take actions linked to global networks.

He talked about the significance of academic-industry linkages and referred to successful collaborations between University of Swabi and Health Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He highlighted the need for industry mentorship in institutions to enhance outcomes.

The managing director of KP Information Technology Board (KPI-ITB), Dr Adil Khan, detailed focus areas of the board including digital governance, IT industry ecosystem development, export and digital literacy. He talked about ongoing initiatives such as training in gaming and artificial intelligence, fortifying digital payment and fintech strategy and launch of KPI open data portal.

The project director of National Resettlement Centre, Asim Ishaq, stressed the high potential of information technology sector, advocating for regulatory reforms to support export-oriented businesses, improved digital infrastructure and enhanced digital literacy. He emphasised the importance of integrating digital solutions into other economic sectors to reduce waste.

The representative of Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Peshawar division, highlighted the challenges faced by women entrepreneurs, noting a 60 per cent decline in formal women-led businesses over the past four years due to regulatory hurdles.



**Mansoor Javed
1939 - 2015**

Can't forget someone who gave so much to remember.

May Allah rest his soul in peace.
Ameen



METROPOLITAN CORPORATION ISLAMABAD

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is notified for the awareness of general public that 5% tax rebate will be offered on payment of your Commercial and Residential Property tax Bills before **30th September, 2024**.

Dear consumers Property Tax bills have already been issued at your premises. You can contact on the following MCI Landline Numbers for further information during office hours. Owner/occupants may also download duplicate bills from CDA's website using their Property Tax consumer number. Valued consumers who have not cleared their outstanding dues of Property Tax are requested to clear their dues to avoid further levy of non-waivable surcharge on arrears.

Rashid Ali

Director Revenue, MCI

Residential Area: Tel: 051-9252823, 9253887

Commercial Area: Tel: 051- 9232498, 9252481

www.cda.gov.pk



Capital Development Authority

PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTS AGREEMENTS

TENDER NOTICE

The Capital Development Authority invites bids, from firms registered with SDP, who can prove their eligibility and qualification as mentioned in the RFP/Inviting Documents for the following contract.

| S. No | NAME OF WORK | END SECURITY | DATES AND TIME OF SUBMISSION OF TENDERS | DATES AND TIME OF OPENING OF TECHNICAL PROPOSAL |
|-------|--|----------------------|---|---|
| 1 | Mining of Service Provider for Ticketing Operations, Fare Collection, And Supervision of PTS & Bus Operations Under the Project Total Integrated Public Transport Network in Islamabad | Rs. Ten (10) Million | 06th October, 2024 at 02:00 PM | 06th October, 2024 at 02:30 PM |

- The bidding shall be conducted in line with the Rule 28 (B) Single Stage Two Envelope procedure prescribed under Public Procurement Rules 2004, e-Pak Procurement Regulations, 2023 and is open to all potential bidders registered in the e-Pak Acquisition & Contract System (e-PACS).
- Technical Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security duly generated from firm's own account should be in the form of Pay order/CDRs in favor of CDA (P&C), CDA. The prospective bidders shall upload scanned copy of Bid Security on e-PACS.
- Project related information may be sought from the office of Project Director Metro Bus Operations located in Block-V, Room No. 26, Wing-B CDA Secretariat G-7M, Islamabad (Phone: 051-9252888). The clarification Pre-Bid meeting shall be held by the Employer on 1st October, 2024 in the main CDA Conference Room (H02) commencing at 01:00 PM. All queries related to project must reach the office of Project Director Metro Bus Operations on or before 30th September, 2024.
- The prospective bidders are required to submit their bids online through e-PACS at <http://www.cda.gov.pk> as per instructions contained in Clause 1.1.10 of RFP Documentation or notice RE: 18-2024 up-to-02:00 PM.
- The Technical Bids will be opened by using e-PAC publicly on the same day at 02:30 PM in the presence of the Procurement Committee & Readers. Authorized Representatives who choose to attend the opening session is to be held at the office of Director (P&C)-II, Room No 30, Block-V, P&C Wing, CDA Secretariat Sector G-7M, Islamabad.

Dr. Director E&M (P&C-II), CDA
Block No VI, Room No. 21
CDA Secretariat, Sector G-7M Islamabad
Ph: 051-9252412
Email: dr.eam@cdaindia.gov.pk

Mobile phone service to remain suspended near MDCAT centres

Test for admission to medical colleges will be held in 10 cities on Sept 22

By Asifq Yousafzai

PIRELAUW: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has decided to keep mobile phone service off to ensure transparency in Medical Dental College Admission Test (MDCAT) scheduled for September 22 in 10 cities of the province.

Mobile phone service will remain suspended near examination centres. According to Higher Education Secretary Kamran Afridi, Health Secretary Asif Shah, KNU Vice-chancellor Prof Zulfiqar Haq, MDCAT coordinator Prof Javed Ahmed, KNU Registrar Imranullah Khan Wazir and all relevant institutions involved will support to KNU to conduct the test in fair manner.

The meeting was attended by Higher Education Secretary Kamran Afridi, Health Secretary Asif Shah, KNU Vice-chancellor Prof Zulfiqar Haq, MDCAT coordinator Prof Javed Ahmed, KNU Registrar Imranullah Khan Wazir and all relevant institutions involved will support to KNU to conduct the test in fair manner.

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