

SC rejects PTI's gripes with bench hearing 63A case

- Justice Mandokhail wonders how bench could 'win over' judge refusing to hear review of verdict he wrote
- CJP asks govt to facilitate Ali Zafar-Imran meeting
- Lawyer censured for making 'uncalled for' remarks

By Nadeem Khalil

ISLAMABAD: As a handful of lawyers outside the Supreme Court cheered slogans against Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudhry, a five-judge bench hearing a review petition against the top court's judgement on Article 63A, rejected objections raised by PTI lawyer Ali Zafar about the composition of the bench.

CJP has, however, asked the Federal government to arrange a meeting between incarcerated PTI leader Imran Khan and Ali Zafar. The discussion was held after the court said it needed to consult his views to get jurisdiction on how to develop his arguments in the case.

Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail — a member of the bench — however, asked would a judge be violating his oath if he refused to sit on the bench hearing the review against a judgement they had authored?

Should we take a 'jig' to bring around a judge who did not want to join the bench despite requests, Justice Mandokhail inquired. He was specifically referring to Justice Mansoor Ali Khan, who refused to become part of

the five-member bench led by Justice Iftikhar. It may be noted that Justice Mansoor Ali Khan also received a request by the CJP to join the bench, after which Justice Nasim Akhtar Agha was assigned.

Verdict apart

The bench also took objection to a lawyer, who appeared at the session and termed the present bench "unconstitutional" in that article of the constitution. At that time, Ali Zafar was standing at the rostrum.

Judicial infighting: Editorial on Page 5

The lawyer first approached Ali Zafar, at which the CJP inquired why the lawyer was disturbing the court.

In the involvement of Ali Zafar, Minister Kamal Khan took the matter close and questioned what the PTI was the registered party, how come the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) had become involved in the present matter?

Since the lawyer was speaking without permission, CJP has asked him to take his seat. The lawyer ignored him and continued with his speech. On his persistence, the CJP observed that he should

be removed from the courtroom by police.

"Go ahead, call the police, this is what you always do," the lawyer responded in an uncouth manner while leaving the courtroom.

He also said what was being done in the courtroom was "all final". "There are some four hundred lawyers outside the court building and we will see how an adverse decision comes against the party," the lawyer said.

At the time, scores of lawyers belonging to the PTI were shouting slogans against the CJP outside the court premises.

"The very hostile attitude to liberation etc," the CJP registered. "We will not accept this when courts are hurried to us," the top judge added.

Justice Mandokhail, while pointing towards Ali Zafar, registered that this impudent crowd had stolen any sympathy left with us" for the party, adding that his party intended to destroy every institution in the country.

CJP has remarked that his only task was that he tolerated everything, otherwise, he would have sent people to jail like ex-CJP Saeed Khan, if he had not tolerated their membership. Ali

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ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister (Imran Khan) speaks to President Ayman Oufat, upon his arrival on a three-day official visit on Wednesday. — AFP

Imran trying to 'provoke clash' between Punjab and KP: Nawaz

By Zulqarnain Tahir

LAHORE: Former prime minister Nawaz Sharif on Wednesday claimed PTI leader Imran Khan, who is incarcerated in Dhoke Jails, wanted to provoke a clash between the people of Punjab led by the PML-N and the PTI-led Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Speaking at a ceremony in Lahore about the provincial government's industrial housing project, the PML-N president used an analogy of 'Central Asian invasions' to make his point, but he did not name the PTI leader. According to the elder Sharif, the PTI leader was perpetually believing like the Central Asian invader who used to attack Punjab to capture lands.

"You want to provoke a clash between KP and Punjab. You are behaving like the invader from

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Eight Israeli soldiers killed as Hezbollah 'repels' infiltration

- Fighting turns south Beirut into ghost town
- Tehran, Tel Aviv issue dire warnings to each other
- Pakistan calls for de-escalation

BEIRUT: Heavily armed and repelled an Israeli infiltration into southern Lebanon on Wednesday, an Israeli reported eight soldiers were killed in the first hours since launching offensive against the work.

The clashes came hours after Iran launched an largest missile attack on Israel, warning that it would step up its response if Israel retaliates.

US President Joe Biden said on

Wednesday he would not support a strike by Israel against an Iranian nuclear facilities in retaliation for its latest missile attack.

Imran solves: Editorial on Page 6

"We'll be discussing with the Israeli what they're going to do," he said, adding that all G7 members agree Israel has "a right to

respond, but they should respond in proportion."

Meanwhile, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi said Israel's attack was a "strategic" mistake, though he stressed Iran was "not holding its breath".

At the UN, meanwhile, both Israel and Iran on Wednesday threatened each other with further acts of violence, as the United

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Why Pakistan cricket is still 'hobbling at the crease'

- Babar Azam's resignation latest symptom of rot that permeates sport's affairs
- Board not getting the message, despite embarrassing losses to US, Bangladesh
- Insiders say 'revolving door' at PCB means players, coaches only cure for own jobs

By Mir Shabir Ali in Karachi

FOR the second time in 11 months, Babar Azam has resigned as Pakistan's captain. The over-30-year-old captain's departure will see him stepping down from the One-Day International and T20 positions, if every goes well.

However, resignation has shown that this is within the case in Pakistan cricket.

Since taking charge as T20 skipper in October 2023, before he was handed the reins of the Test and One-Day International series, Babar's stint as skipper — which lasted a total of four years, four weeks and a day, before his first resignation last in November last year — was probably the least stable thing in Pakistan cricket.

Despite his resignation as the limited overs captain in March this year, fractures in the team were evident. A few months later, Pakistan suffered perhaps their most shocking defeat in international cricket at

Chance to play well: Editorial on Page 6

PCB starts search for next white-ball captain following Babar's resignation: Page 22

the hands of virtual newcomers.

On a rainy June afternoon, the United States of America had registered their maiden victory over the T20 World Cup tournament. It was, undoubtedly, Pakistan

cricket's worst ever moment. The defeat was widely followed by reports of rifts between players, who were said to have formed separate groups within the dressing room.

A year later, despite all its failures and the subsequent criticism levelled against it, had at least united under Babar Azam, named to be coming again at the scene.

This was not an isolated incident, being preceded and followed by other headlining defeats, which eventually prompted the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) to hold a 'Commitment Camp' last month, aimed at restoring team unity. Babar's resignation came days after that camp, with the star batsman saying he now wanted to focus on contributing to the team as a player.

The shock in Dallas had come some months after another "wow-er", with Afghanistan sensationally making history against Pakistan in Chennai during the ODI World Cup. This defeat came amid reports that then-PCB chief Zaheer Abbas had been ignoring Babar's phone calls and messages in an apparent attempt to break the skipper's power hold.

"What the players do as a reflection of what happens in the PCB," a member of the Pakistan dressing room during the World Cup in India told Dawn when asked what makes following captains players with a recurring phenomenon.

"For such things to not happen, the PCB needs to be a more stable organisation. It has to have a vision a long-term plan to

improve, but they should respond in proportion."

Meanwhile, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi said Israel's attack was a "strategic" mistake, though he stressed Iran was "not holding its breath".

At the UN, meanwhile, both Israel and Iran on Wednesday threatened each other with further acts of violence, as the United

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'Curfew-like situation' created to foil protests, claims PTI

By Mansoor Malik and Dawn Justice

ISLAMABAD: AMARAH Deygovern PTI on Wednesday alleged that the Punjab government had created a curfew-like situation in Bahawalpur, Faisalabad and Multan following an announcement to hold protests against inflation and the independence of judiciary and system of justice under Imran Khan.

Talking to media persons at Bahawal

Quater, PTI lawmakers vow to attend B-Chowk rally 'ir all costs': Page 8

Faisalabad, party's central Information Secretary Muzahim Wajid Akram claimed that PTI will be protesting but Pakistan's government which is trying to suppress the nation.

He said the government had already evicted the B-Chowk in the Bahawalpur and was taking similar measures in other cities to stop PTI workers from holding protests and

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ON OTHER PAGES



Govt pushes for ML-1 funding deal

The government is pushing to finalise the financing agreement for the Multan-1 railway track, from Peshawar to Faisalabad, ahead of Chinese PM Li Qiang's visit to Islamabad by the SCO summit. During a meeting on the CPCC, Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal urged the relevant ministries to conclude the financing terms with the Chinese side within the next few days. Page 9

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Cattle trader kidnapped on way back from Katcha area

LAHORE: Some suspects allegedly kidnapped two cattle traders of Ferozshah Headworks area near Islamabad in Ghung police limits on Wednesday and later released one of them... Reports said Naseem and Fatima were on their way back from Katcha area after buying animals by a small pack-up...

Khawar Maneka, two sons indicted in ACE case

SRAWAL: Special Judge of the Anti-Corruption Establishment (ACE) Aziz Ishaq Khan issued a charge sheet against Khawar Maneka, three trustees of Bhusra BSI, and his sons Musa Maneka and Ibrahim Maneka in a Rs11.2-million corruption case registered by OGRA ACE on Aug 11, 2022... The case arose from allegations that Khawar and his two sons allegedly converted graveyard land and a piece of state land into commercial property...

Wildlife dept seizes 'marsh crocodile'

LAHORE: The Punjab Wildlife Department has seized a rare marsh crocodile measuring seven feet in length in Kasur... The crocodile, valued worth millions in the international market, was recovered from illegal possession... A date against the suspect was registered and the crocodile shifted to Wildlife Breeding Centre...



LAHORE: Rescue workers show their skills during the national rescue challenge of Ticker Foot Bag—Wafa Media

Province-wide reshuffle in polio teams ahead of upcoming drive

Poor performance being cited as reason behind the move

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Punjab Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) has ordered reshuffling of polio team members deployed in various provinces to 16 districts of the province... A tough message delivered to the chief health management team in the province, the coordinator and head of the polio programme in Punjab, Khizer Ahmad, expressed his frustration over consistent poor performance shown by the deputy district health officers and some senior management officers... The EOC coordinator instructed the provincial EOC officials to prepare a list of workers and supervisors in the polio teams...

their positions for a longer period of time and ordered their redeployment in the upcoming national inoculation campaign planned in October... However, in the department on the site to reshuffle polio teams references is made of maintaining efficiency during campaigns and turning the officials out of their teams... There are many of the redeployment will take place in Lahore and Rawalpindi, where polio teams consistently have been deployed based on their linkages with top district health officials... Meanwhile, the Punjab EOC coordinator has expressed his strong displeasure over the inefficiency of the district health officers... In some cases, he says, the district officials refuse to go to the field and perform their duties as per their job description, compromising the quality of polio campaigns... More than 200,000 polio doses

will be involved in the upcoming polio drive including 150,000 (DHD), 4,000 (UCMR) and 10,000 (DHD) doses... As per the plan, the EOCs, the UCMRs and some larger working in school, UC and area level will be shut, but their positions or may be shown the door... In a correspondence to the districts, the EOC head expressed his concern about team changes including Lahore and Rawalpindi, calling upon the district teams to ensure that days of missed child days from the last campaign is regular and made available... The sender's warning that if any official was found to have skipped the team training, strict disciplinary action will be taken against him... Giving instructions, the EOC coordinator stressed that chief executive officers needed to look into the team's composition... Maximum number of government personnel should be made part of polio teams. Any team member with contractor's

optimal performance would be included from the campaign, Ahmad warned... The understanding that the CEO will be responsible for improving district team performance and 100 per cent of polio doses must be included by the EOCs, instructed by the EOC head... He underlined that days are needed to keep from pain mistakes and any negligence of attention like repeated related issues will not go unreported... The EOC monitoring job team of national efficiency of polio teams as the EOCs, asking them to make sure every day right from the starting assembly till evening... Mr Ahmad urged the district officials to ensure that local administrators, political leaders and key influencers are engaged in the campaign inauguration... He reiterated that the department and government were committed to eradicate polio and it was a shared responsibility of the programme by top leadership including Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz...

Ad hocism mars mega cardiac institute PIC head refuses to continue with additional charge of ED post

By Aali Chaudhry

LAHORE: Punjab Institute of Cardiology (PIC) Lahore head Prof Dr Asim Jafar has refused to continue with an executive director (ED) of the institute as an 'additional charge' basis, after expressing his strong reservations over the 'mode of governance', internal politics and financial and administrative issues in his long letter... In a letter addressed to the Specialised Healthcare & Medical Education Department (SH&MED), Professor of Cardiac Surgery Dr Asim Jafar requested that he be relieved of the additional charge of the post of executive director, after nearly a year of appointment, as per the period expired on Sept 15... The PIC head's refusal to hold additional charge has deepened... An official reply to the development says in the third such request submitted by Prof Asim Jafar to the health department, as the higher authorities have been showing a 'non-responsive attitude with regard to resolving the administrative crisis being faced by the 50-bed cardiac institute facility... Jafar, he says, Prof Jafar had in different departmental meetings requested the higher health authorities to relieve him of the additional charge of the PIC top site, but to no avail...

The continuation of my previous letter, it is submitted that my (former) tenure of additional charge as executive director of the PIC (Lahore) ended on Sept 15 and I do not want to continue with this position, says Prof Jafar's letter... He further wrote that the intention for the appointment of an executive director of the PIC have been completely, suggesting to the government to appoint a regular head of the institute... The official says a high-powered search committee, comprising both health ministers, health secretary, several top executives of medical universities and some retired principals, had interviewed two senior doctors... PIC Professor of Cardiology Dr Musammat Nazim and Prof Bilal Malik... in August, 2023, for the position... However, the process of appointment of a regular PIC head was delayed as both provincial health ministers and the provincial secretary's wanted Prof Jafar to continue as PIC executive director on ad hoc basis... The official says that Prof Jafar is being retained on the post on additional charge basis for the last six months to re-think the fact that he is at the top of the list of senior cardiac surgeons in Punjab... Previously, he says, Prof Jafar was serving as regular head of the Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology (RIC), however, he was transferred from the RIC without being taken on board and was assigned additional charge of the PIC Lahore... During his posting as PIC Lahore, he was 'forced' to handle the principal post on ad hoc basis instead of being

Beneficiaries of Apna Ghar get cheques

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Punjab government officially launched its 'Apna Ghar, Apna Ghar' (Own Home, Own Future) project on Wednesday, with Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz distributing cheques to beneficiaries... This initiative, valued at Rs790 billion, aims to construct 500,000 homes over the next five years... During the launch, the chief minister announced that up to 500,000 applications had already been submitted under the programme... The government plans to extend loans to all eligible applicants... Traditionally, obtaining loans can be a challenging process, but the chief minister had asked her government to go for a more accessible approach... To secure a loan, applicants will only need to provide their identity card and electricity bills... We will offer loans of Rs100,000 per year through a transparent revolving fund... I have instructed that the monthly loan instalments for the Apna Ghar programme should not exceed Rs4,000, she stated... The programme features zero interest on loans, meaning that borrowers will not have to pay any interest fees... This zero-interest feature, with a three-month grace period before the first instalment is due... Mr Nawaz said, "While a timely loan is crucial, it is not enough, I have directed the authorities to treat the people... She said the design of the houses had been standardised to ensure uniformity... We will try to increase the number of loans of Apna Ghar, Apna Ghar programme as we have to spend the hard money of the people on their welfare as parents feel concerned about their children... Nawaz Sharif and Maryam are worried about the studies and loans of their children... PM-N President Nawaz Sharif also praised her daughter for advocacy of this project...

Punjab to have 13 more model bazaars

By Mansoor Malik

LAHORE: The Punjab government has decided to establish 13 more model bazaars in different cities to accelerate public welfare by offering essential commodities at prices lower than government-subsidized rates... This project is a priority for the government, and we aim to make Punjab the welfare bazaar of the world... Model Bazaars CEO Naveed Raftan said ministers of H of the new bazaars had already been technically vetted by the chief

and works department... We are fully prepared and committed to launching the comprehensive process on the surface... Model Bazaars CEO Naveed Raftan said ministers of H of the new bazaars had already been technically vetted by the chief

PUBLIC AUCTION BEFORE MR. ASHRAF NAZKAT, JUDGE IN THE PUNJAB COURT NO. 11, JAMSHED ROAD... Lot 1: 1000 sq ft of land... Lot 2: 500 sq ft of land... Lot 3: 2000 sq ft of land... Lot 4: 1500 sq ft of land...

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL POLICE RECRUIT TRAINING CENTRE JAM HAWAZ ALI... CORRIGENDUM... It is informed to all concerns / collectors that Tender issued vide this office N.E.T No. RTC /Aqtr/ 2024 dated 29.09.2024 and also published in various daily newspapers is, Daily Kawkab, Daily Express, Daily DAWN... (ASGHAR ALI JATT SP. PRINCIPAL POLICE RECRUIT TRAINING CENTER JAM HAWAZ ALI CHAIRMAN PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE)

Food aid to Gaza falls as Israel sets new aid rule

GAZA: Food supplies to Gaza have fallen sharply in recent weeks because Israeli authorities have introduced a new customs rule on some humanitarian aid and are reportedly blocking some deliveries organized by Palestinians, people involved in getting goods to Gaza said.

The new customs rule applies to trucks carrying charity food by the United Nations to take aid from Jordan to Gaza via Israel, seven people familiar with the matter said. Under the rule, individuals from relief organizations sending aid must complete a form providing passport details, and accept liability for any false information on a shipment, the people said.

As a result, shipments have not been getting through the Jordan route — a key channel to Gaza supplies — for two weeks.

In a parallel move, Israeli authorities have restricted commercial food shipments to Gaza. UN data shows that in September, deliveries of food and aid sank to their lowest for 31 months.

The new customs rule, which has not been previously reported, have triggered concerns among aid workers that commercial food supplies will account for the 2.3 million Gazans trapped in the occupied Palestinian territory. "Lack of food is one of the worst it's been during the war, these past weeks especially," Khaled Al-Jumayl, a donor who works in north-west Gaza, said by phone.

"We thought we'd been able to get a hold on it, but it's got worse. My three-year-old children a day for various issues, injuries and illness. On average 15 of those are malnourished."

The number of trucks carrying food and other goods to Gaza fell to around 110 per day on average in September, according to Gaza statistics. That is below about 150 recorded over the beginning of the conflict, and far off the 600 trucks a day that the UN Agency for International Development says are required to address the threat of famine in winter.

Food insecurity has been one of many fraught issues of the conflict that began after Oct 7 raid. In May, International Criminal Court (ICC) prosecutors asked the court to issue an arrest warrant against Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, saying they suspected Israeli authorities had used "the starvation of civilians as a method of warfare."



DAMMASCUS: Emergency services personnel and residents gather at the site of an Israeli strike in Syria's capital on Wednesday. The Israeli air force killed three people in Damascus — the second strike in its three days on a neighbourhood that is home to security headquarters and embassies. — AFP

Blasts, shooting around Israeli embassies in Nordic capitals

Sweden's intelligence agency accuses Iran of recruiting gangs as proxies to commit 'acts of violence'

It's too early to say if there is a link between the blasts and the Israeli embassy, Danish police spokesman Jakob Hansen said of the incidents.

Swedish police said in a statement that information indicated the Israeli embassy bombing in Stockholm had been planned for days on Tuesday evening. "We're made finds that indicate a shooting at Israel's embassy, but we don't have enough evidence to say that's the case."

COPENHAGEN: Police in Denmark and Sweden said on Wednesday they were probing explosions and gunfire around Israeli embassies in their capitals which took place amid spreading Middle East tensions.

Writing on X, Israel's ambassador to Denmark David Akin said he was "shocked by the appalling incident near the embassy."

Swedish public broadcaster SVT reported on Wednesday that the Swedish gang leader ordered the attacks on the Israeli embassies in Copenhagen and Stockholm, using sophisticated methods.

In Denmark, police said three Swedish nationals had been arrested after two blasts, likely from Israel grenades in the "terrorist proximity" of the Israeli embassy in Copenhagen.

Swedish police said the Israeli embassy in Stockholm had been targeted in a shooting on Tuesday just before 8pm. No injuries were reported from the incidents but both cases amid heightened international focus on Iran-led militias at Israel which has vowed to respond to the attacks.

Since the outbreak of the Israeli-Hamas conflict in Oct 2023, several incidents seemingly targeting Israeli interests in Sweden have been reported. In February, police found a grenade in the Jewish embassy compound grounds, which the spokesman said was an attempted attack.

Two explosions occurred in 15min at the Israeli embassy. It is our preliminary assessment that it was due to two hand grenades," Jens Jepsen, an Copenhagen police told a press conference.

Swedish intelligence agency says in May accused Iran of recruiting Swedish gang members as proxies to commit 'acts of violence' against Israel, which Tehran denied. At the time, Swedish counter-jihad agency said the agency "observed" a system that Iranian leader Ebrahim Raisi used to

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Four Iraqi troops killed in IS ambush

BAGHDAD: Four Iraqi soldiers were killed and three wounded Wednesday in an ambush by fighters of the militant Islamic State group in Kirkuk province in the north, the interior ministry said.

They declared victory over IS in 2017, but remnants of the group remain active in Iraq and continue to launch sporadic attacks against the army and police, particularly in remote desert of mountain areas.

At 11am on Wednesday, "an intelligence unit... was carrying out a security and reconnaissance mission" in a valley around 45 kilometers (28 miles) south of Kirkuk, when a "two individuals by fighters from the terrorist organization (IS)", military spokesman General Mughal Mar said, using the Arabic acronym for IS.

Four soldiers were killed and three suffered "light to moderate wounds".

A security source said a fourth person was lightly wounded as the fighting between the troops and the jihadists. IS did not immediately claim the attack.

The Iraqis' two soldiers were killed and four men wounded in a fourth explosion in nearby province. A few days before, Iraq sent US forces to the east of the country launched a large-scale joint operation against the jihadists. — AFP

Mozambique elections certain to extend ruling party's grip on power

JOHANNESBURG: Mozambique will vote in presidential and legislative elections on Oct 28 but are almost certain to extend the ruling Frelimo party's half century in power, as it faces a long-term energy shortage in one of Africa's largest gas fields.

Energy party candidate Daniel Chapo, a former radio announcer and law lecturer, is widely expected to replace Filipe Nyusi as president of the southeast African nation.

Another LNG project led by ExxonMobil and its partner Eni was also delayed. Exxon expects a final investment decision by the end of 2025.

Having run some key issues facing one of the world's poorest countries and its people — more than 11 million people — as it heads to polls.

Before the wave of insurgent attacks, gas projects worth over \$50 billion were earmarked for development. The projects were aimed at turning the country into a major liquid natural gas (LNG) producer.

Another LNG project led by ExxonMobil and its partner Eni was also delayed. Exxon expects a final investment decision by the end of 2025.

The militant Islamic State group declared an emergency in the southern gas-rich province of Cabo Delgado in 2017, killing thousands of civilians, destroying livelihoods and internally displacing hundreds of thousands.

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Houthis claim missile attack on Israel

SANA: Yemen's Houthis claim on Wednesday they had fired cruise missiles "deep inside" Israel, although there was no confirmation from Israeli authorities.

The statement by the Houthi armed forces came after Iran launched a barrage of missiles at Israel late on Tuesday, deepening the conflict in the region.

The missile force of the Yemeni Armed Forces carried out a military operation targeting military assets deep inside the Israeli territory (Israel) as occupied Palestine with three Quds Service missiles," the statement said.

The missiles were able to successfully reach their targets and the Israeli missile defence system was unable to intercept them.

The timing of the Houthi claimer attack was not clear. The Houthis, backed by Iran, have repeatedly fired missiles and drones at Israel in what they say is solidarity with Palestinians, since the Gaza conflict on Oct 7.

The group said the statement is based on intel from the United States and the United Kingdom and that they intend to continue their "We will not be silent and we will continue our military operations against the Israeli army and who is behind it until the aggression against Gaza and Lebanon ends," Karim added. — Agencies

Netflix war epic to open Asia's largest film festival

BUNNAN: A Netflix period war drama produced by South Korean filmmaker Park Chan-wook opened Asia's largest film festival on Wednesday, the film is a war epic set in the final days of the war.

The film has attracted significant attention ahead of its world premiere thanks largely to the involvement of Park Chan-wook for its production of the 2019 film "Old Boy", which played a key role in bringing South Korean cinema to the global forefront.

The director, joint winner of the Best Director award at the Cannes Film Festival, said the film is a war epic set in the final days of the war.



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(LEFT) In right) South Korean director Kim Sang-man, actors Park Jeong-min, Jung Sung-il, Jin Baek-ho, Cha Seung-won, Kim Shin-rok and Gwang Gwang-won on the red carpet during the opening ceremony of the 20th Busan International Film Festival on Wednesday. — AFP

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Netflix's industry platform, the Asian Content and Film Market, will host a similar event focused on the integration of AI in content production — a critical but often overlooked area in Hollywood. — AFP

SPORT

Arsenal sink PSG as Dortmund hit seven past Celtic

PARIS Arsenal beat Paris St Germain 2-0 in their highly-anticipated clash on Tuesday, while Karim Adeyemi started as first scorer.

The clash between Arsenal and French champions PSG in London was the big game of the day as the second round of matches in the new format of European football's elite club competition got underway.

Mikel Arteta's Arsenal set themselves on course to win with Kai Havertz and Bukayo Saka scoring in the first half for the Gunners as PSG coach Luis Enrique's gamble on leaving Christian Eriksen out did not pay off.

The Gunners were superb winners with Havertz leading in from a Lassana Traoré cross to open the scoring on 23 minutes and Saka doubling their lead before half time as his freekick delivery from the right cracked everybody on its way in.



BARCELONA: Switzerland's Hugo Marchet (right) scores during the Champions League match against Young Boys at Stade Olympic Luis Compaans. —AFP

There's no such thing as a perfect game, but it was very, very good," said Carr. "This has to be the standard we set as we go forward."

Barcelona's Hugo Marchet scored twice in the first half as the Swiss side took a 2-0 lead over Young Boys at Stade Olympic Luis Compaans.

There, she led to City in the first 10 minutes of the second half, but she was not able to score.

Germany's Bayern Munich got their second straight win in this season's competition as a well-worked move headed by Yussuf Kulkarni early in the second half allowed them to beat AC Milan 1-0.

Mattéo Carniti and Mathias Perera both scored the first goals in the space of 10 seconds in the early stages.

PSV Eindhoven and Sporting Lisbon also drew 1-1, with PSV's Joao Pedro scoring the first goal.

Arsenal scored a first-half hat-trick as Dortmund goal Celtic a brutal reality check with an emphatic 7-1 win in Germany. It was the second leg win from a European game in the competition after Bayern Munich's 9-2 beating of Borussia Dortmund in the first round.

Robert Lewandowski got Barcelona on the mark as the Spanish giants scored on a 1-0 home win over Bayer Leverkusen. Bayern, who led the former team to the title, dominated for 60% of the 90 minutes as they followed a 3-0 win in their first game by trouncing Scottish champions Celtic in Germany.

Dortmund were 3-1 ahead at half time. Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang scored from the penalty spot before Erling Haaland equalised, but Dortmund then took control.

Diamond League to start in China next season

PARIS The 2025 Diamond League series will begin in Xiamen in April 2025, organisers said on Wednesday, in a season in which it faces a challenge from a rival series.

Diamond League organisers have already offered the prize money on offer for next season, partly in response to the plans announced by the host country's Grand Slam Track series backed by Olympic legend Michael Johnson.

Johnson has promised to bring together "the best of the best" in track-and-field athletes and Grand Slam Track has already signed up a number of champions from the Paris Olympics including women's 400m finalist winner Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone.



BRATISLAVA: Borussia Dortmund's Erling Haaland (2) runs for the ball before scoring during the match against FC Bayern Munich. —AFP

Newcastle struggle past fourth-tier Wimbledon in League Cup

LONDON Newcastle United needed a penalty from Fabian Schuster to beat fourth-tier Wimbledon 1-0 on Tuesday and set up League Cup fourth round clash with Chelsea.

The tie had been stretched to 90 minutes after the League Cup tie's first half was severely disrupted by flooding last week.

Navy, Customs, Army and Punjab Red make semis

By Our Sports Reporter
DELAHABAD Navy is a thrilling season for Wapda to qualify for the semi-final of the 37th National Junior Hockey Championship held at the National Hockey Stadium on Wednesday.

In a close quarter-final Navy edged past Wapda 4-3. For Navy, Mohammad Waqar scored a brace while Sarfaraz Ali and Waheed Afridi added one each. Amir Nadeem, Mohammad Hassan and Ahsan Ali were among the scorers.

Marinos put Asian CL campaign back on track with Ulsan thrashing

KUAGA LUMPIER Yokoyama F Marinos beat Ulsan HD of South Korea 4-0 thrashing in Japan on Wednesday to put their Asian Champions League Elite campaign back on track.

Army, Sindh join Wapda in national badminton finals

LAHORE Wapda dominated the semi-finals of the 45th National Badminton Championship, advancing to both the men's and women's final rounds at the Wapda Sports Complex on Wednesday.

Pakistan rugby squad reaches Nepal

LAHORE The Pakistan squad in Wellington reached Nepal to participate in the Asian Rugby Sevens Trophy in Kathmandu.

Battling Alcaraz outlasts Sinner in thriller to win China Open

BEIJING Carlos Alcaraz started back from a set down to beat world number one Jannik Sinner in a thriller and win his first China Open title on Wednesday.

The 19-year-old Spaniard defeated the Italian in a five-set thriller, 6-4, 3-6, 7-6(5), 6-4, 6-3. Alcaraz's victory marks his first ATP crown of the year and 10th overall.

Alcaraz, who is set to return to number two in the world behind Sinner, was 1-0 down in the final as he broke only to fight back and win in three hours, 25 minutes.

The dramatic triumph ended Sinner's run of 18 victories in a row and saw him dropped as the Beijing champion after an unimpressive flight.

When I see what the year's been like, it's unbelievable," Alcaraz told Sinner at the victory presentation. "I respect you as a player, but even more as a person."

Sinner, who has never lost a set, had been playing in Beijing under fresh scrutiny.

The Italian has admitted to sleeping tablets over his doping case, which was cleared in the weekend when the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) said it had accepted the decision to clear him.

In front of a packed house at the Chinese capital, the two youngsters were surety with both players under tremendous pressure as their service games.

Sinner, 21, was the first to break, with unorthodox Alcaraz breaking for a 111 ball and collaborating with a first pump.

The Spaniard held early for 41 and had his opponent uncharacteristically hit back. Alcaraz, 21, served for the set but US Open champion Sinner grabbed the break back when he needed it most.

Sinner then served but gave up his own serve to lose the tie break and the match.

Alcaraz had been felled inside the area was enough to book their place in the last 16.

The duo's trip to the north-east and north-west (Sinner's clash with Ugo) are the toughest in the tournament.

Alcaraz's victory marks his first ATP crown of the year and 10th overall.



BEIJING Carlos Alcaraz (L) and Jannik Sinner of Italy pose with their respective trophies after the China Open final on Wednesday. —AFP

METRO South

KARACHI
Times: 06:18 pm
Sunrise (Tomorrow): 06:24 am
NEXT 24 HRS
Minimum: 28°C
Maximum: 33°C
Humidity: 79%
Outlook: Sunny



Pakistan eye winning start to Women's T20 World Cup
Pg.22 SPORT

Library threatened by Malir Expressway gets heritage status

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI A library and institute for Baluch language and literature in Malir has been declared a cultural heritage and given protected status.
The Baluch Sahitya Library was under threat of demolition to pave the way for the construction of an interchange for Malir Expressway. However, local society and political parties had staged diverse protests to save the library.

The decision to declare the library a cultural heritage was taken in a meeting of the advisory committee of the National Cultural Heritage Commission. Chief Secretary and Mayor Shah presided over the meeting which was also attended by Hassan Hussain, Kamran Khan and representatives of the Baluch Building Control Authority (BBCA).
The meeting reviewed various of buildings and places of historical and cultural importance and observed that the BBCA should control the urban department before declaring any building endangered.

The committee also approved protection heritage status for many other buildings across the province.
According to a statement, Kotra-i-Qadir, the ancestral home of the Khattak community in Qambar district, the Quaid-e-Azam office in North Nazimabad, the old office of the former Inspector General in East Karachi, Government Quarters and Karachi's first business compound, which include Jahangir Kohli Hall and Karachi Swimming Bath have been approved for grant of protected heritage status.



PEOPLE take part in protest organised by the Palestine Foundation against Israel aggression in Gaza and Lebanon, on Wednesday. — Online

SHC restricts authorities from cutting down trees across Sindh

- Bench asks Mayor Wahab to ensure no trees are felled in Karachi 'unless absolutely necessary'
• Orders forest dept to conduct survey of trees in Karachi
• Over 3,800 trees cut down for Red Line project, Sepa tells court.

By Jafar Tareel

KARACHI Restraining the provincial authorities from felling any tree across the province, the Sindh High Court has observed that cutting down trees, especially in urban areas like Karachi, will have disastrous environmental consequences.
In a landmark order pronounced on Wednesday, a two-judge bench comprising Justice Razaullah Khan and Justice Ahsan Ali Khan also ordered that in case of any projects, the tree removal must be subjected to an appropriate location and preservation of the removal of any tree must be obtained from the relevant department of the relevant district.
The bench also specifically directed Karachi Mayor Muhammad Wahab to ensure that no tree was felled within the metropolis unless absolutely necessary.

regarding plantation policy.

The bench was hearing a petition filed in 2022 by two lawyers who had submitted that the track of proposed 26-lane Red Line Transit (RLT) Red Line project was being laid down in the cost of cutting down "50,000 trees".
At the outset of hearing, the secretary of the forest department appeared in court and filed some documents while one of the petitioners also filed a statement, which was taken on record.
The bench in its order stated that the Sindh Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) had granted approval to the project on the condition that the contractor would plant five trees for every single tree felled.
The details submitted by Sepa indicated that 3,802 trees were cut down in the course of the project and as per the stipulated policy, the contractor was obligated to plant five trees for each removed tree, but it came to the court's attention that this obligation was not fulfilled by the contractor, it added.

Global warming.

The bench observed that the impact of global warming was concerning for countries like Pakistan, which were highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change despite contributing relatively little to global emissions.
Pakistan is already in a state of severe consequences, including unpredictable weather patterns, rising temperatures and frequent droughts particularly in urban areas like Karachi and across the Sindh province while deterioration of surrounding areas and settlements have significantly contributed to increase in temperatures and air pollution levels, it noted.
The court also observed that the cities like Karachi, where dense urbanisation had resulted in limited green cover, were particularly at risk and the provincial metropolis

Concerns raised over rising religious intolerance, extremism in country

SZABIST organises screening of documentary on forced conversions

By Waqas Ali

KARACHI Educators and rights activists have said that extremism and religious intolerance are rising in the country, and it is necessary to take steps to control this menace.
They expressed these concerns during a panel discussion held after the screening of a documentary film about forced conversions in Pakistan.
The screening of the documentary, titled 'Neighbors—Their Story', followed by the panel discussion, was organised by the Centre for Social Justice in collaboration with SZABIST University at its

campus here on Wednesday.
The film portrayed stories of forced conversions in Pakistan, including the case of an underage Christian girl from Lahore. She was kidnapped by a man who forcibly converted her to Islam and married her.
The girl's father, a sanitary worker, approached the police, but instead of helping him, the officials harassed him, calling him "Ghar Ghar" and "Sweep", and refused to help and/or. However, one of his Muslim neighbours, upon witnessing the injustice, came forward to help him fight his case. Ultimately, they approached the court and were able to get an FIR registered by the police. Following this, the kidnapper was forced to return the minor girl.
The documentary, apart from highlighting the injustice faced by minorities in the country, also showed the everyday lives of victims, especially girls, living in fear and being harassed.

Following the documentary, a panel discussion was held, with representatives of religious minorities and rights activists participating.
Speaking on the occasion, SZABIST's Dean Faculty of Social Sciences Dr. Raza Shabbir expressed concern over the increasing conversions to society and the issue of people being killed on charges of blasphemy.
He said religious intolerance is rising in Pakistan and referred to a recent incident in Ujwal, where a doctor was killed in a staged encounter by the police.
He mentioned that the victim, Dr. Shabbir Ahmad, was killed based on bogus blasphemy accusations. He further emphasised that the most negative role was played by the law enforcers, who instead of upholding the law, became accomplices to the criminals and took the law into their own hands. He stressed that rising extremism and intolerance need to be controlled.
Educator Saadia Zaidi of Aga

Khan University said that hate content proliferating on the country's social media, leading to such incidents, she called for the removal of such harmful content from online and advocated for the prosecution of blasphemous and intolerant.
Representing Hindu Parliament, Dr. Jagjit Paul said the discrimination faced by minorities in the country's political system, where they are kept away from higher government positions. He demanded an end to this discrimination.
Dr. Anuraj Prasad from the Women's Action Forum discussed the discrimination of the Hindu community, especially in Uttar Pradesh, where they are being systematically targeted in various forms, including harassment and rape, demands aimed at displacing them.
William Rasky from the Centre for Social Justice also spoke at the event, which was moderated by Imran Khan.

Woman's body found on JPMC premises

KARACHI A woman was found dead on the premises of the Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (JPMC) on Wednesday.

The Sindh police said in a statement that the body of a woman, 40, was found from the New CPD Complex near Jamia Masjid at JPMC.
The body bore injury marks on the head and neck, the police said, adding that it was possible that woman was suffocated to death.
However, they said that they were working for forensic to establish the exact cause of her death.
Later, the victim was identified as Sobia Khatoon, who lived in Gulistan-i-Jadid. Her family approached the police and told them that they would lodge a murder FIR.
The police examined CCTV footage of the area and came to know that a motorcyclist brought her to the hospital. — Staff Reporter

Sindh has agreed to National Finance Pact, says Murad

CM claims finance minister assured him of addressing province's concerns over the document

By Tahira Ishtiaq

KARACHI Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Tuesday said that Federal Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb had assured him that all concerns expressed by the Sindh government over certain provisions of the National Finance Pact (NFP) would be addressed.
Speaking to the media at the Karachi Press Club, he, however, said that the Sindh government had agreed to the National

Finance Pact in order to fulfil a key condition set by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for financing the \$1 billion Extended Fund Facility for Pakistan.
When asked whether his government remained in the proposal adoption of agriculture support price and equal agricultural income tax in the four provinces under the NFP, the chief minister said that the provincial government had forwarded its suggestions on certain conditions of the pact to the federal government.
"If you don't take care of these concerns in the country, you know what will happen," he said, without elaborating further.
Responding to another question, he said that the NFP would "not have any adverse effect" on the distribution of resources among provinces under the National Finance Commission (NFC) award.
"The distribution of funds among the

provinces under NFP would be more instead of being decreased," he added.
Talking about the electricity crisis in the city, he asked the media to raise the issue that the provincial government, representing the people of Karachi, should be included in the K-Electric board.
He said that the establishment of the constitutional court was a part of the 2024 manifesto of the PPP.
"The judicial reform that PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari is talking about at this time are part of National DNA's vision," he said.
The chief minister recalled that Benazir Bhutto had talked about constitutional reform in 2008.
Referring to the opposition to the constitutional court, he asked if anyone had raised any objection to this a year ago.

He claimed that the economy of the country was plagued with during the tenure of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf government and it took two years for the country to "recover" from the "damage" the previous government had caused to the economy.
Referring to a question, the chief minister said that it was good that the government was active.
He said that the provincial police had investigated the murder case of Dr. Shabbir Ahmad and told the nation's hero that if they did not file an FIR, the state would do so itself.
The chief minister said that the provincial police chief had been asked to conduct the psychological examination of the six candidates at sensitive places.
He assured all those who were present



CM Murad Ali Shah speaks at the Karachi Press Club, on Wednesday. — PTI

PRAYER: Fajr 5:08, Zuhar 12:21, Asr 4:21, Maghreb 6:19, Isha 7:35. REFLECTIONS: EC PROTESTING: EVE FEELS AS LONG AS POSSIBLE: REMIND ME I CAN SMILE THEM WHENEVER YOU SO DESIRE: CHIN WHY HURRY IN COMMITTING THEM: 35

SHC CJ enforces new policy to evaluate judges' performance

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: The Sindh High Court on Wednesday said that a new strict monitoring policy for judges of subordinate judiciary of Sindh, which has been directed to evaluate their performance, came into effect on Oct 1 and the priority and efficiency of dispensation of justice was guided by such policy.

The policy is related to awarding cases to the judges of lower judiciary for deciding cases and administrative work of judicial officers.

According to a statement issued by the SHC, Chief Justice SHC Muhammad Saif-ud-Din has directed to take up assignments of office in the evaluation of the policy to come for the month of July.

"Timely adjudication of disputes is the primary responsibility of the judiciary, but it is imperative that disposal be substantive and in order to achieve such goal, the Chief Justice had laid a strategy with all the District & Sessions Judges of Sindh and all the lower courts were made to

the timely disposal, reflection of persistence and observance of punctuality," it added.

The statement said that effective administration must also require streamlining of alternative dispute resolution, including mediation, and the commission was also entrusted with the administrative supervision in this regard and thereafter, a new strict award policy was directed.

The salient features of the new policy include award of a case for referral to mediation and award of five cases if the matter is resolved through mediation, extra units are available for timely disposal of cases, it added.

"However, disposition of cases is envisaged if matters remain pending beyond the prescribed time, adjudication of contested matters on merit leads to higher award, however, the earlier appointments for withdrawal and dismissal at default have become a hindrance, priority of criminal & civil appeals, domestic violence proceedings, family matters, inheritance, tax, etc. shall, local acquisition, inheritance, testamentary and contested matters have been recognised," it concluded.

PTI-backed lawyers stage rally against proposed constitutional court

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: The lawyers wing of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on Wednesday took out a rally against the proposed constitutional court and asked the federal government to immediately nullify the apex court's earlier proposed judge Justice Justice Asif Khattar from the bench.

The lawyers condemned the proposal of the Supreme Court (Provisional and Transitional) and requested the government to immediately nullify the apex court's earlier proposed judge Justice Justice Asif Khattar from the bench. The lawyers also demanded that the Supreme Court Karachi registry from the Sindh High Court to record their protest. ILC Karachi president

Kabir Mehmood said that CJF Qazi Faez Isa was set to retire on Oct 25, but a notification for Justice Khattar as next chief justice had not been issued yet.

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National Finance Pact

Continued from Page 13

there that the government would conduct a complete inquiry into the pact. "It is the job of the courts to punish the corrupt," he added.

Responding to another question, he said that Sindh would remain united till democracy.

During his visit to the KPC, he also said that the KPC body and advised that the problems of districts have to be solved.

Senior Minister Wahajud Din Mirani, Local Government Minister Saad Qureshi, Energy Minister Saad Nadeem Hussain Shah, Minister Waqar Majeed, Information Secretary Nadeem Mirani, and others were also present at the meeting.

KPC president Saad Karbaj, secretary Saad Ahmed and members of the governing body welcomed the chief minister on his arrival at the club.

Theatre workshop for SMU students held

KARACHI: Sindh Madaniyat Islam University's Directorate of Welfare Affairs and Counselling organised a virtual theatre workshop in collaboration with the Pakistan Arts Council Karachi at its Youth Development Centre on Wednesday.

Rahmatul Mahboob, the artistic director of the National Theatre of Karachi, conducted the workshop. The event was designed to engage students in creative expression that emphasizes teamwork, problem-solving, and leadership through virtual experiences.—APP

SHC restricts authorities from cutting down trees across Sindh

Continued from Page 13

had suffered from various hurricanes to recent years resulting in loss of life and severe impact on public health. It said these plants play a vital role in regulating the earth's temperature by absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

"The government's forests, including the mangrove ecosystems along its coastline, are being depleted due to human activities, further increasing environmental problems. Cutting down trees, especially in urban centres like Karachi and other parts of Sindh, leads to deterioration of

environmental consequences," it added.

The Sindh Justice noted that in the previous hearing, directives were issued to the mayor to submit the policy regarding tree plantation particularly in connection to activities conducted over the last five years in the city, but he had failed to appear without a prior notice and also requested to submit the requested report.

Consequently, a show-cause notice was issued to the mayor of Karachi for non-compliance with the court's directions. The court noted that the need for tree plantation in Karachi and Sindh was undeniable due to severe impacts of

global warming and climate change on the region and in the light of the current environmental challenges, immediate action was required to ensure sustainable and resilient future.

"In light of the above-mentioned facts, it is hereby ordered that no trees shall be cut down in the future within the province of Sindh. The Mayor of Karachi is specifically directed to ensure that no trees are felled within the city of Karachi unless absolutely necessary. In case of such necessity, the concerned tree must be relocated to an appropriate location," it added.

The bench is in order also said that the secretary of forest department must ensure that no trees are cut down without prior approval and conduct a regular survey of the trees within the city. "It is further emphasized that this responsibility lies solely with the Forest Department and shall not be assumed by the Local Government. Should the removal of any tree be deemed necessary, permission must be obtained from the Sessions Judge of the relevant District, who is serving as the head of the Committee in compliance with the orders of the Honorable Supreme Court," the order concluded.

GOVERNMENT OF SINDH CULTURE, TOURISM, ANTIQUITIES & ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT, MONITORING & IMPLEMENTATION CELL. NOTICE CANCELLATION OF NOTICE INVITING TENDER. EXECUTIVE ENGINEER POMAI CELL.

BEFORE MR. SAJIDUL RAZVI (JUDGE I) IN THE BANKING COURT NO. 1 AT KARACHI. SUIT NO. 244 OF 2024. PLAINTIFF: M/S. SAJIDUL RAZVI. DEFENDANT: M/S. SAJIDUL RAZVI.

BEFORE MR. MUHAMMAD SAAD QURESHI (JUDGE I) IN THE BANKING COURT NO. 1 AT KARACHI. SUIT NO. 245 OF 2024. PLAINTIFF: M/S. MUHAMMAD SAAD QURESHI. DEFENDANT: M/S. MUHAMMAD SAAD QURESHI.

BEFORE MR. MUHAMMAD SAAD QURESHI (JUDGE I) IN THE BANKING COURT NO. 1 AT KARACHI. SUIT NO. 246 OF 2024. PLAINTIFF: M/S. MUHAMMAD SAAD QURESHI. DEFENDANT: M/S. MUHAMMAD SAAD QURESHI.

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OIL & GAS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 27th Annual General Meeting of Oil and Gas Development Company Limited will be held at OGDCL Head Office, Islamabad on 25 October 2024, at 9:00 a.m. to transact the following business:

ORDINARY BUSINESS

- To confirm the minutes of 13th Extraordinary General Meeting held on 30 November 2022.
- To confirm the minutes of 26th Annual General Meeting held on 30 October 2023.
- To receive, consider and adopt the audited accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 June 2024 together with the Directors' and Auditors' Reports thereon.
- To approve the final cash dividend @ 40% i.e. Rs 4.00/- per share for the year ended 30 June 2024 as recommended by the Board of Directors. This is in addition to the interim cash dividends totaling to 61% i.e. Rs 6.10/- per share already paid during the year.
- To appoint Auditors for the year 2024-25 and fix their remuneration. The present auditors M/s KPMG Taseer Hadi & Co., Chartered Accountants and M/s A.F. Ferguson & Co., Chartered Accountants will stand retired on the conclusion of this meeting.
- To transact any other business with the permission of chair.

By order of the Board

(Wasim Ahmad)
Company Secretary

Islamabad
3 October 2024

NOTES

1- Participation in the Annual General Meeting

A member entitled to attend and vote at this meeting is entitled to appoint another person as his / her proxy to attend and vote. Proxies in order to be effective must be received at the Registered Office of the Company duly stamped and signed not less than 48 hours before the meeting.

2- CDC Account Holders will further have to follow the under mentioned guidelines:

a. For attending the meeting

In case of individuals, the account holder or sub-account holder and / or the person whose securities are in group account and their registration details are uploaded as per regulations, shall authenticate his / her identity by showing his / her original Computerized National Identity Card (CNIC) original passport at the time of attending the meeting.

In the case of corporate entities, the Board of Directors' resolution / power of attorney with specimen signature of the nominee shall be produced (unless it has been provided earlier) at the time of the meeting.

b. For appointing proxies

- In case of individuals, the account holder or sub-account holder and / or the person whose securities are in group account and their registration details are uploaded as per regulations, shall submit the proxy form as per the above requirement.
- The proxy form shall be witnessed by two persons whose names, addresses and CNIC number shall be mentioned on the form.
- Attested copies for CNIC or the passport of the beneficial owners and of the proxy shall be furnished with the proxy form.
- The proxy shall produce his / her original CNIC or original passport at the time of the meeting.
- In the case of a corporate entity, the Board of Directors' resolution / power of attorney with specimen signature of the person nominated to represent and vote on behalf of the corporate entity shall be submitted (unless it has been provided earlier) along with proxy form to the Company.

3- Video Conference Facility

In accordance with Section 132(2) of the Companies Act, 2017 if the Company receives consent from members holding in aggregate 10% or more shareholding residing in a geographical location to participate in the meeting through video conference at least 7 days prior to the date of Annual General Meeting, the Company will arrange video conference facility in that city subject to availability of such facility in that city. To avail this facility please submit such request to the Company Secretary on the following address:

Company Secretary, Oil and Gas Development Company Limited, OGDCL House Plot No. 3, F-5/G-5, Jinnah Avenue, Blue Area, Islamabad.

4- Closure of Share Transfer Books

The share transfer books of the Company will remain closed and no transfer of shares will be accepted for registration from 18 October 2024 to 25 October 2024 (both days inclusive). Transfers received in order at the Share Registrar's office by the close of business on 17 October 2024 will be treated in time for the purpose of attending the AGM and payment of final cash dividend, if approved by the Shareholders.

5- Change in Address

Members are requested to promptly notify any change in their address.

6- Dividend Payments through Electronic Mode

In order to receive the future dividends through electronic mode as per the requirements of Section 242 of the Companies Act, 2017, shareholders are requested to provide the following detail:

CDC A/C/Folio No.	
Title of Bank Account:	
Bank Account (IBAN) Number:	
Bank's Name:	
Branch Name and Address:	
CNIC Number of the Shareholder:	
Cell Number of the Shareholder:	
Landline No. of the Shareholder (if any):	

7- Transmission of Annual Reports through E-Mail

SECP vide S.R.O 389(I)/2023 dated 21 March 2023 and shareholders in their Annual General Meeting held on 30 October 2023 have authorized the Company to circulate annual audited financial statements through QR enabled code and weblink instead of circulating the same through CD/DVD/USB.

The Annual Audited Financial Statements along with the reports and Notice of AGM are being sent to members who have provided their email addresses. Physical copy of the Annual Report will be provided to the members on demand.

8- Availability of Audited Financial Statements on the Company's Website

The audited financial statements of the Company for the year ended 30 June 2024 in addition to annual and quarterly financial statements for the prior years have been made available on the Company's website. The same can be accessed/downloaded from the following link and QR code:

<https://ogdc.com/all-financial-reports>



9- Mandatory Registration Details of Physical Shareholders

According to section 119 of the Companies Act, 2017 and regulation 47 of the Companies Regulations 2024, all physical shareholders are advised to provide their mandatory information such as CNIC numbers, address, email, contact mobile/telephone number, international bank account number (IBAN), etc. to our share registrar at their below address immediately to avoid non-compliance of law or any inconvenience in future.

CDC Share Registrar Services Limited,
CDC House, 99-B, Block B, S.M.C.H.S., Main Shahrak-e-Faisal,
Karachi- 74400 | Tel: +92 21 111 111 500
Fax: + 92 21 34326053 | Website: www.cdcsrsl.com
Email: info@cdcsrsl.com

10- Conversion of Physical Shares into CDC Account

As per Section 72 of the Companies Act, 2017 every existing listed company shall be required to replace its physical shares with book-entry form in a manner as may be specified and from the date notified by the Commission, within a period not exceeding four years from the commencement of this Act, i.e., 30 May 2017. The Shareholders having physical shareholding are encouraged to open CDC sub-account with any of the brokers or Investor Account directly with CDC to place their physical shares into scrip less form, this will facilitate them in many ways, including safe custody and sale of shares, any time they want, as the trading of physical shares is not permitted as per existing regulations of the Pakistan Stock Exchange.

11- Unclaimed Dividends and Share Certificates

The Company has previously discharged its responsibility under Section 244 of the Companies Act, 2017 whereby the Company approached the shareholders to claim their unclaimed dividends and undelivered share certificates in accordance with the law. Shareholders, whose dividends and share certificates are still unclaimed/undelivered, are hereby once again requested to approach the company and claim outstanding dividend amounts and/or undelivered share certificates. Unclaimed shares and dividend details are available on company's website.

12- Virtual Participation in the AGM

Members interested to participate in the AGM proceedings via video link are required to provide following details at agm2024@ogdcl.com

Name of Shareholders	CNIC No.	Folio No./CDC Account No.	No. of Shares	Contact No.	Email Address

Video link to join the AGM will be shared with only those Members whose emails, containing all the required particulars, are received at the above email address by the end of business on 24 October 2024. Login facility shall remain open till conclusion of the meeting on 25 October 2024.

13- Deduction of Income Tax from Dividend and Exemptions from Deduction

The current prescribed rates for the deduction of withholding tax under Section 150 of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001 from payment of dividend by the companies are as under:

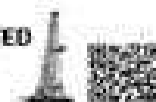
For filers of income tax returns: 15% For non-filers of income tax returns: 30%

The income tax is deducted from the payment of dividend according to the Active Tax-Payers List (ATL) provided on the website of FBR. All those shareholders who are filers of income tax returns are therefore advised to ensure that their names are entered into ATL to enable the Company to withhold income tax from payment of cash dividend @ 15% instead of 30%.

The shareholders, who want to avail exemption u/s 150 of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001, must provide valid Tax Exemption Certificate to our Shares Registrar before commencement of book closure otherwise tax will be deducted on dividend as per applicable rates.



OIL & GAS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED
OGDCL House, Jinnah Avenue, Islamabad, Pakistan.
Phone No. 92-51-920023540/3795



MISCELLANEOUS

GHANDHARA AUTOMOBILES LIMITED
Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given to all the members of GHANDHARA AUTOMOBILES LIMITED ("the Company") that the Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 09:30 AM at F-3, Hub Charki Road, S.I.T.E., Karachi as well as through electronic means to transact the following business:

1. To receive the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21st October, 2023.
2. To receive, consider and adopt the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Company for the year ended 30th June, 2024 together with Directors' and Auditors' Reports thereon and the Dividend Warrant of the Company.

3. To receive the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21st October, 2023.
4. To receive, consider and adopt the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Company for the year ended 30th June, 2024 together with Directors' and Auditors' Reports thereon and the Dividend Warrant of the Company.

5. To receive the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21st October, 2023.
6. To receive, consider and adopt the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Company for the year ended 30th June, 2024 together with Directors' and Auditors' Reports thereon and the Dividend Warrant of the Company.

7. To consider and approve the proposed amendments to the Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association of the Company.
8. To consider and approve the proposed amendments to the Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association of the Company.

9. To consider and approve the proposed amendments to the Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association of the Company.
10. To consider and approve the proposed amendments to the Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association of the Company.

GHANDHARA AUTOMOBILES LIMITED
POSTAL BALLOT PAPER
The meeting through proxy for the Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held on Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 09:30 AM at F-3, Hub Charki Road, S.I.T.E., Karachi, the Registered Office of the Company.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY
MANAGING DIRECTOR/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Ready to scale new heights? Lead our team, drive our growth, and be the force behind our next big leap.
A leading public sector entity is seeking a strategic visionary of Pakistani origin to assume the role of Managing Director/CEO. We welcome candidates with a background in the Oil and Gas E&P sector as well as those with diverse industry expertise.

UNIVERSITY OF TURBAT
TRADITION-INNOVATION-EXCELLENCE
Advertisement No. UoT-10/2024
ADMISSIONS OPEN FOR SPRING 2025
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS
• BBA 4 years
• B Ed 4 years
• BS (Balochi) 4 years
• BS (Computer Science) 4 years
• BS (Biochemistry) 4 years
• LLB 5 years

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DAWN
the complete newspaper

SUDOKU ALPHA

QUICK A4839 TRICKY B4839

Two 9x9 Sudoku grids for 'QUICK' and 'TRICKY' puzzles.

To solve this puzzle each 3x3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9. While the rules may be simple, there are numerical strategies to help you solve sudoku. For hints and information visit www.sudoku.org.uk

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
1 Remember (6)
7 Laboured (8)
9 Temple (7)
10 Golf pegs (4)
12 Dookie (3)
13 Have the intended effect (3,4)
14 Scarlet (3)
15 Natural flow (4)
17 Spray can (7)
19 Removes dirt (8)
20 Wreck once (imag) (9)

Crossword grid with letters filled in.

- DOWN
1 Sell or using language effectively (9)
2 Sea eagle (4)
3 Baby's bed (3)
4 Engage in conflict (4,5)
5 Stay under the radar (3,3)
6 Step (3)
8 Balls out a goal in football (8)
11 Run naked in public (8)
12 Expression of greeting (3)
16 Flow out slowly (4)
18 Knight's title (3)

CHESS

Chessboard diagram showing a game in progress.

WHITE TO PLAY
Hint: win the queen
used up so waste a slight (one)
(over 5 10MG) 1 11 11 10MG
(10MG) 2 10MG 10 10MG

TARGET

Word game grid containing letters like R, E, B, C, N, R, A, R, Y.

HOW many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters shown in the grid? Today's target is Good (11).

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS
BUCKETFUL
How thick bucket BUCKETS, bucket, bucket, blue, blue, blue, blue, blue, blue, blue, blue, blue, blue, blue, blue, blue, blue.

THE METRO FUNNIES

Comic strip 'BIG NATE 1' by Lincoln Peirce with four panels of dialogue.

Comic strip 'THE WIZARD OF ID 1' by Brant Parker and Johnny Hart with three panels.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns for location, time, and weather conditions.

HELP

- EMERGENCIES
Police 999
Fire 999
Ambulance 999
Hospital 999

- HOSPITALS
All Saints Hospital
City General Hospital
St. Mary's Hospital

- BLOOD BANK
Blood donor information and contact details.

WORD GAME
TODAY'S WORD LEGHORN
Average mark 21 words. Time limit 30 minutes. Can you find 15 or more words in LEGHORN?

- SOLUTIONS
1. Words must be at least 3 letters.
2. Words that require four letters to the addition of 'n'...

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS
ACROSS
1 Backpack
2 Archer
3 Boat
4 Hit
5 Behind
6 Objective
7 Listed
8 Hit
9 Cart
10 Details
11 Amusement
DOWN
1 Reflected
2 Amnesia
3 Used
4 Precognitive
5 Abox
6 Coral
7 Prognosis
8 Crevices
9 Juice
10 Lanes
11 Thin

METRO EVENTS

PLAY: Play your heart into it, a play by Nick... SEMINAR: A seminar on... REPORT: A report on... TEACHERS' DAY: To mark the World Teachers' Day... CONTEST: An all-round contest...

HOROSCOPE

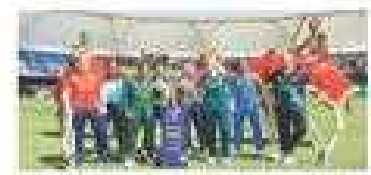
Horoscope section with readings for Aries, Libra, Cancer, and others.

CONTRACT BRIDGE

A word about probabilities. East starts, South is declarer. Game plan and explanation of probabilities.

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTIONS
Grid showing the solution to the previous day's puzzle.

METRO North



Pakistan eye winning start to Women's T20 World Cup

Page 22 SPORT

ISLAMABAD
 Sunset 05:54pm
 Sunrise (Tomorrow) 06:09am
NEXT 24 HRS
 Minimum 22°C
 Maximum 34°C
 Outlook Sunny

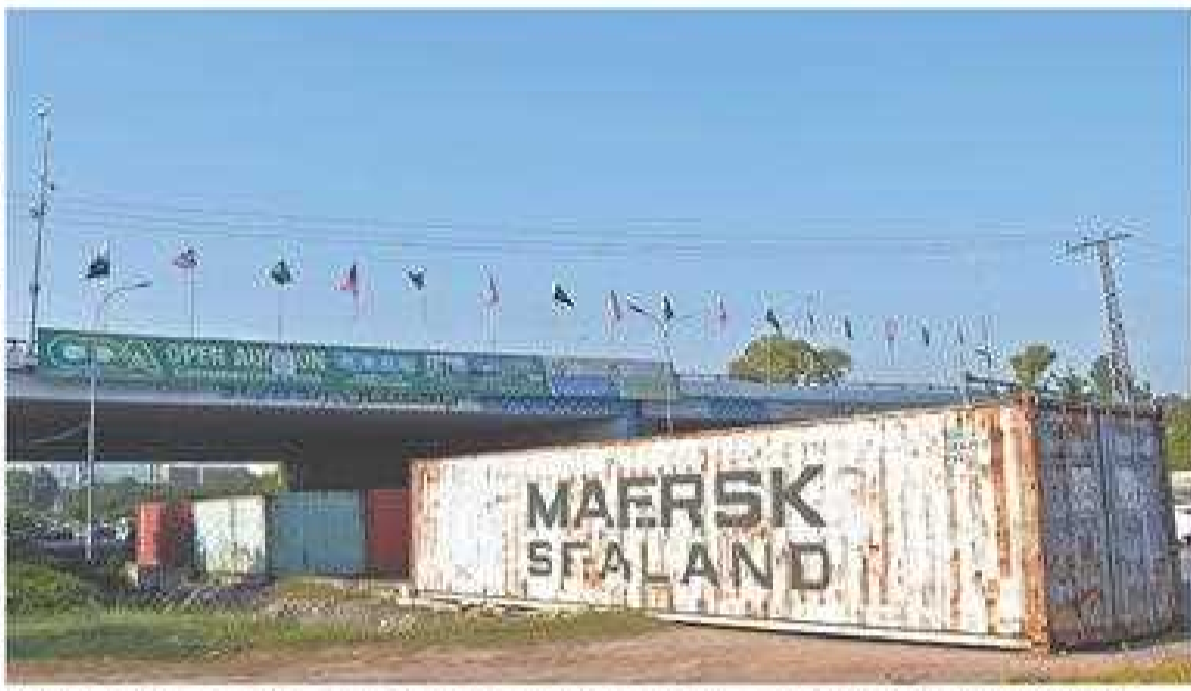
Section 144 enforced in Islamabad

ISLAMABAD The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) police has enforced Section 144 and the Public Order Act across the federal capital, prohibiting gatherings and processions in restricted areas as part of heightened security measures.

According to a police statement, the high security zone, Red Zone and surrounding areas have been designated as restricted, with strict enforcement of the law.

It said the capital police were committed to safeguarding lives and property of citizens, adding that any case involving illegal activities would be held accountable.

The statement further said citizens were requested not to engage in any unlawful gathering, adding that legal action would be taken against those who attempted to disturb peace and order. — AFP



CONTAINERS have been placed along Islamabad Expressway near Zero Point interchange ahead of PTI's protest on Friday. — Online

CDA's 'top priority' projects move on to next phase

One firm fails to meet criteria, two left in the race for Serena, PTCL, chowk projects

By Kashif Akbar

ISLAMABAD The Capital Development Authority (CDA) has approved the technical bids for two mega projects, Serena and PTCL chowk tower changes, paving the way for financial bids next week to award the contracts.

Source said that out of three firms, one had been disqualified. The projects are likely to cost Rs1 billion and the civic agency will fund them through its funds.

The CDA had opened technical bids for the "top priority" projects on August 12 after introducing strict criteria. At the time, the civic body said it wanted to

start these projects at the earliest to complete them in the shortest possible time.

In response to asking that contained unacceptably tough criteria, only three construction firms, Miankhan, Habib Construction Company, and a joint venture of Maghool and Colson submitted their bids. According to sources, Maghool and Colson were disqualified because it could not meet the criteria during the evaluation of the technical bids.

It is in the same year, various top get contracts for the Royal Doms interchange, Korang Bridge and the DWD underpass in 2025, but failed to complete them on time. It subsequently left the work halfway after the contracts were terminated. The remaining work was completed by the contractor Frontier Works Organisation.

With two firms in the race, the financial bids will likely be opened next week after CDA Chairman Muhammad Ali Raza Khan approved the recommendations of the bid evaluation committee

and on Wednesday directed the engineering wing of the CDA to open financial bids for the remaining two contracts.

Previously, the CDA had around two months to approve the technical bids received on August 12 for its "top priority projects". The CDA had introduced stringent criteria in these bids to discourage those contractors that had no record of completing such mega projects in a short period of time. But, the CDA had wasted 50 days in the approval of the technical bids.

Rs1 billion projects

Recently, the CDA approved PTCL for two mega projects worth over Rs1 billion. Underpass on Stronagar Highway and Ringroad (Suburban) as well as three bays will cost Rs1.56 billion, whereas the construction of an underpass and bridge at the junction of Jinnah Avenue and 5th Avenue near F-8 (PTCL Chowk) will cost Rs1.9 billion.

Both projects, according to the PTCL, will be completed in six months.

It is relevant to note that these two sites are major of constant traffic jams, particularly during rush hours. The CDA has been making arrangements for several years to resolve this problem but the current management a few months ago decided to start these two projects.

The Serena International project was set to begin last year but at the current time, three projects involving Redford Street (during the PMD government) failed to materialize. He had sought the credentials of Raza Khan, which had won the project because of its lowest bid of Rs2.8 billion. Now, the PTCL of the new project is worth Rs1.5 billion along with a new design and additional works.

The officials said that the civic agency had allocated funds for these two projects in the budget for this fiscal year, and would execute these projects through its funding.

Chinese housemaid 'escapes' with millions of rupees

By Munawar Anam

ISLAMABAD A Chinese housemaid stole million of rupees from the house of her employer, who also hailed from China, and disappeared, police said on Wednesday.

A case was registered with the Margalla police against the housemaid in response to a complaint lodged by her employer, Xu Guangyan.

Mr Guangyan, who is associated with the China Pakistan Economic Corridor, and resides in F-8 sector, told the police that he had hired a housemaid from his native country for cooking and carrying out other household work.

The complainant said the suspect, Zhao Yongxin, arrived in Islamabad about 10 days ago and started staying at his residence.

However, he claimed that all of a sudden she left the house last Saturday without any notice.

He said he searched for her all around Islamabad but could not track her, adding that on suspicion, he checked his belongings and found \$11,000, Chinese Yuan 12,700 and Rs170,000 cash missing along with four boxes of imported Chinese cosmetics worth Rs130,000.

Mr Guangyan requested the police to search for the housemaid and recover his belongings.

When contacted, a police officer said after registering the case, investigation had been launched and assistance from the State City Authority was being taken to trace the woman's whereabouts.

Besides, he said the immigration department had also been approached with the request to provide the suspect's travel history in order to establish whether she had flown out of the country or was still inside Pakistan.

In another incident, burglars stole valuables worth over Rs4 million from a house in DHA-6, police said.

A case has been registered with Hunza police station in response to a complaint lodged by Mansa Nisar.

The police said police burglars broke into the house when the residents were away. Upon returning home, they found the house ransacked and a box worth Rs1.5 million, two Gold watches worth Rs200,000, jewellery set worth Rs1 million, an iPad and a laptop stolen.

Bailiff recovers two PTI activists from police custody

By Our Staff Reporter

RAWALPINDI The bailiff of an additional sessions judge conducted a raid on Civil Lines police station and recovered two activists of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on Wednesday.

The bailiff's raid was conducted in the wake of a petition filed by the families of two political activists, Usman Azeem Tahir and Usman Yousaf, in the court of Additional Sessions Judge Farhat Javed Bhatt for their recovery.

Ramzan Murtaza Sahib advocate appeared before the court and pleaded that the Civil Lines police had detained Usman and Usman Yousaf illegally.

The court directed a bailiff for the recovery of both persons from the Civil Lines police custody and later produced them before the court of the additional sessions judge.

Later, the station house officer

(SHO) of Civil Lines police station appeared before the court.

The court expressed displeasure over the illegal detention of the two and also directed the city police officer to register an FIR against the SHO Civil Lines and submit a report in the court.

On the other hand, police are conducting raids in different parts of the district and have detained at least 10 PTI workers.

Following PTI's protest on Saturday, police had already registered an case against over 125 PTI leaders and workers on various charges including violating law in protest, raising slogans against government and institutions, damaging police vehicles, possessing weapons and inciting some police officials.

Two cases were registered with the City police station and one each with the New Town, Wazir Khan, M.A. Road and Civil Lines police stations.



PEOPLE have pool fishing in Kotang Nullah in Islamabad on Wednesday. — Photo by Mohammad Asim

6.6pc women of reproductive age had abortion in 2023: study

17.3pc women report unmet need for family planning; abortion-related complications declined to 11.7 per 1,000

By Ahsan Javed

ISLAMABAD An survey on 65 women of reproductive age (15-49) per 1,000 had an induced abortion in 2023, leading to complications in at least 21.50 per cent of those women that showed serious gaps in care and safety.

Likewise, women living in rural areas are disproportionately exposed to such problems compared to their wealthier counterparts or those living in urban areas. About 17.3 per cent have reported an unmet need

for family planning, contributing to a higher rate of unintended pregnancies, many of which can result in unsafe abortions. These are the findings of a study titled 'Safeguarding Women's Health: Needs, Demands, and Opportunities in Pakistan's Abortion and Post-Abortion Care Services' launched on Wednesday.

The study involved findings from a national study by the Population Council, in partnership with the Government of Punjab, highlighting the state of women's reproductive health in Pakistan, with a focus on abortion and post-abortion care.

On the occasion, Coordinator to the Prime Minister on National Health Services, Dr Malik Mukhtar Ahmed Bhavesh said, "The government is fully committed to enhancing healthcare access, especially for women in marginalised and underserved regions. We are working towards a system where every woman can

reach the healthcare she needs, free from stigma or fear."

Dr Malik emphasized that with maternal mortality of 186 deaths per 100,000 live births, the research underscored the need for comprehensive reforms in reproductive healthcare. He also stressed the importance of balancing population and resources, reaffirming the government's commitment to achieving this through policies and improved access to family planning services.

The government plans to implement the report's recommendations by investing in infrastructure, capacity building, and an enhanced referral system to improve emergency response capabilities, strengthening reproductive health services nationwide, he said.

The Women's Health Study is the third in a series of national assessments following similar studies in 2012 and 2017. It

comes at a pivotal time as Pakistan grapples with significant reproductive health challenges.

According to the study, the rate of abortion-related complications has declined from 11.9 per 1,000 women in 2012 to 11.7 per 1,000 in 2023, but significant inequities persist.

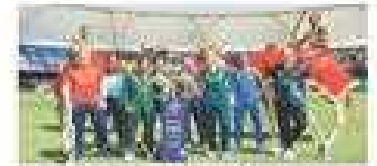
The study is an eye-opener when the country's unmet need for family planning remains high, with 17.3 per cent of women reporting an unmet need for family planning, contributing to high rates of unintended pregnancies, many of which result in unsafe abortions.

Dr Zahra Nadeem, country director for the Population Council, emphasized the importance of the report. "Pakistan has made strides in improving healthcare, but this report reminds us that there is still much work to be done, especially in ensuring

that women have access to family planning and safe reproductive health services."

She emphasized women's empowerment through access to family planning and safe healthcare services is fundamental to achieving broader social and economic goals, contributing to a more just and equitable society.

Speaking at the event, Usman Azeem, deputy head of mission at the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Islamabad, expressed Norway's support for the initiative. "It is no time that ignores not just the health of women, but the overall well-being and development of society. Norway is proud to support efforts that ensure access to reproductive health services in Pakistan." The event featured an expert panel discussion on 'Safeguarding Women's Health in Pakistan' moderated by Dr Lacey Statham, UNFPA country representative.



Pakistan eye winning start to Women's T20 World Cup

Page 22 SPORT

LAHORE
Sunset 05:48 PM
Sunrise (Tomorrow) 06:56 AM
NEXT 24 HRS
Minimum 23.0°C
Maximum 31.0°C
Weather Sunny
AQI
Maximum (Overcast) 203

METRO Central



PROBUC workers show their skills during the national violence challenge at Thoker Bazar Bag. — White Star

Province-wide reshuffle in polio teams ahead of upcoming drive

Poor performance being cited as reason behind the move

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Punjab Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) has ordered reshuffling of polio team members...

These positions for a longer period of time and ordered their reshuffling in the upcoming national violence challenge...

As per the plan, the DHOs, the UNMOs and area in-charges working at school, DC and area levels will be shuffled...

The EOC coordinator said that the EOC will be responsible for improving district micro-plans quality and 100 per cent of micro-plans must be validated by the DHOs...

Beneficiaries of Apna Ghar get cheques

LAHORE: The Punjab government has officially launched its Apna Ghar project...

Punjab to have 13 more model bazaars
LAHORE: The Punjab government has decided to establish 13 more model bazaars in different cities...

This project is a priority for the government, and we aim to establish these model bazaars at the earliest to benefit the public...

The model bazaars are not just markets but economic engines, transforming local communities by creating sustainable, inclusive growth across the province...

Ad hocism mars mega cardiac institute PIC head refuses to continue with additional charge of ED post

By Aash Chaudhry

LAHORE: Punjab-based mega Cardiac Institute of Pakistan (PIC) Lahore head Prof Dr Arshad Jaleel has refused to accept an executive director's (ED) offer to continue with an additional charge...

of the PIC have been conducted, suggesting to the government to appoint a regular head of the institute...

ing as regular head of the Karachi-based Institute of Cardiology (IKC). However, he was transferred from the IKC to head being taken over by Prof Dr Arshad Jaleel...

high against the "interference" in the PIC affairs and the "lack of transparency" in the institute's management...

Cattle trader kidnapped on way back from Katcha area

By Our Correspondent

LAHORE: A cattle trader was reportedly kidnapped on his way back from Katcha area after buying animals by a small pick-up...

Khawar Maneka, two sons indicted in ACE case

By Our Correspondent

SARWAL: Special Judge of the Anti-Corruption Establishment (ACE) Ash Bashir has issued a charge sheet against Khawar Maneka, the ex-husband of Bushra BQI...

FIR against 11 for killing seven over land dispute

By Our Correspondent

NAHRAWAL: A first information report was registered on Wednesday against 11 people, including a man and four women, for the murder of seven people in Shikohi.

Muhammad Akram, of Meer, Kalan village in Shikohi, Shikohi, filed a complaint with the police that his brother Muhammad Bahar and several others were returning to their village from Bhatin on Tuesday when they were stopped by a group of men near Manjra Bhatin, killing seven people.

Milkman who 'blackmailed' his customer arrested

JOHA TER, SIKHOI: Johar, Kotwali police station in Joha, arrested a milkman who had allegedly extorted a woman in the milk he supplied to a customer and after his family fell unconscious, made a video of a young girl and used it to blackmail her father.

The suspect later threatened to upload the video on social media if the girl's father did not pay him Rs200,000.

PTI distances itself from MNA 'in hiding'

By Shafiq Butt

NAHRAWAL: The district leadership of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf has distanced itself from the conduct of MNA Chaudhry Usman Ali, who won the NA-142 (Shikohi II) in July 19 general election as an independent candidate backed by PTI.

Chaudhry Usman Ali has been absent from PTI's gathering and press conferences in recent weeks. He stayed away from Islamabad after his arrest in London.

Revamp project funds stoppage Closure of BVH surgical complex irks patients

By Majeed Gill

RAHAWALPURI: The closure of the main Operation Theatre Complex (OTC) of the Bahawal Victoria Hospital (BVH) for the last four months has deprived thousands of poor patients visiting the facility for different medical procedures.

The complex comprising 12 operation theatres was closed when the Punjab government started a "revamping programme" for renovation and repairs of the facility financed by the four million of Dollars development loan.

Due to closure of the complex, the BVH administration shifted the major surgeries to the Government Lady, Manjeer Hospital on Jhangwala Road, but that too failed to cope with the increasing number of patients awaiting surgeries.

Patients have also learnt that even after the funds release which is set to begin in at least two months it would be required for the completion of the work at the OTC, which also includes renovation of lifts and conduct the operations.

Dr Asrar Bukhari says that in the absence of the main operation theatre complex, only minor operations are being conducted in the emergency operation theatre of the hospital.



BALOKOT: A woman buys pebbles from a roadside vendor. — AFP

Education ex-CEO, two officials booked for graft

By Our Correspondent

MUZAFFARGARH: The anti-graft investigation unit on Wednesday registered a case against former chief executive officer of district education authority and two officials for alleged misappropriation of Rs55 million.

The case was filed under sections 524F and 499 of PCA in Muzaffargarh on the complaint of Circle Officer Kamran Muzaffargarh.

The accused ex-CEO of education department, Deputy Commissioner Manoj Kumar Mehta and two officials were charged with misappropriation of public funds.

Social media account hacker arrested in blasphemy case

By Our Correspondent

RAHAWAL: The police arrested a man in the Chishtwana District case, who allegedly hacked the Facebook account of a man who is in police custody and posted blasphemous comments on Sept 20.

Punjab to have 13...

Continued from Page 13

Chief Minister of the construction and works department.

DUA

It is with deep sorrow we announce the demise of our beloved

Mahmood Sadiq Khan

who passed away in Lahore after a brief illness. A cherished husband, father, brother and uncle, and a devoted friend, who has left behind a legacy of warmth and kindness.

He will forever be remembered fondly by all those who knew him.

Please remember him and us in your prayers.

Due will be held on Friday, Oct 4 between Aar and Maghrib at Canal View, Lahore.

RSVP:

Usman Mahmood Khan 03426482099

Amna Khan

Sarah Usman

Amna Khan

Astakh Mir Khan

پنجاب کی تاریخ میں پہلی بار

وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب کی بدایا سہیلر

ہمت کارڈ کا اجرا

صوبہ بھر میں آسان طریقہ کھریں

شفافیت اور میرٹ کمیشن ہمت کارڈ

وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب ہمت کارڈ فراہم کرنے جارہے ہیں

ہمت کارڈ رکھنے والے افراد پر کم سے کم 85 ہزار سے زائد لوگ اپنا نام منظم و سہل طریقے سے دیں

حکومت سوشل ویلفیئر اینڈ ہیلتھ سروسٹ ایجنسی

30 روزہ ہمت کارڈ

10,500 روپے

خاصی افراد کے حقوق کی مشمولہ ہمت کارڈ

ہمت کارڈ کیلئے اپیل

1312

41



Pakistan eye winning start to Women's T20 World Cup

Page 22 SPORT

PESHAWAR
Sunset 05:38PM
Sunrise (Tomorrow) 06:05AM
NEXT 24 HRS
Minimum 22°C
Maximum 35°C
Outlook Sunny



YOUNGS girls present traditional dance at the opening ceremony of Waziristan Sports Festival in Wana on Wednesday. — Dawn

Gandapur, PTI lawmakers vow to attend D-Chowk rally 'at all costs'

Warn they'll retaliate if force used against them

By Muhammad Ashfaq

PESHAWAR Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amir Khan... Gandapur, PTI lawmakers... D-Chowk rally... 'at all costs'

Islamabad Peshawar Movement after the protest failed to allow them to advance... A participant of Wednesday's PTI meeting... 'at all costs'

leadership to use the Great Expressions to join the main procession in Swabi... He added that the PTI's objective... 'at all costs'

Sports festival kicks off in S. Waziristan

By Adnan Khan Wasti

SOUTH WAZIRISTAN A thrilling sports festival kicked off here on Wednesday to mark a significant milestone in the volatile Lower South Waziristan district's journey towards peace and prosperity... 'at all costs'

Jirga threatens to forcibly stop work on Dasu project

By Our Correspondent

MANCHEERA Kohistan Mushkida Jirga on Wednesday gave a three-day deadline to Wapda to accept their major demand... 'at all costs'

Girls schools in ex-Fata being made functional

By Our Correspondent

PESHAWAR Minister for elementary and secondary education Farid Khaw Tarabul on Wednesday said education will be the worst affected sector in all the merged districts due to military... 'at all costs'

Police escape attack in Bannu

By Our Correspondent

LAKKI MABWAT A police party narrowly escaped an attack by militants in the Jamshel area of Bannu district on Wednesday... 'at all costs'

providing they near Waziristan, Swat/Kabul area... 'at all costs'

employees of local municipal administrations held a demonstration in Bannu city on Wednesday against non-payment of their pay... 'at all costs'

Police uproot PTM camp in Khyber, fire teargas shells at resisting workers

KP govt spokesperson says action ordered by chief secretary on centre's directives

By Ibrahim Shivan/Lamar Farooq

KHYBERPESHAWAR Police in Khyber tribal district on Wednesday uprooted a Pakistan Taliban Movement (PTM) camp during multiple clashes... 'at all costs'

They said that police also uprooted camps of the PTM activists, who reported the action... 'at all costs'

we have announced our 11-member Armed Action, starting on October 11... 'at all costs'

institutions also announced their full support to the PTM... 'at all costs'

"In light of the above and considering that any... 'at all costs'

PRAYER
Page 04:45
Zohar 12:00
Aar 04:15
Maghrib 05:43
Isha 07:20

Govt stopped from executing umbrella ADP schemes

PHC seeks reply to opposition MPAs' plea against the projects

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Peshawar High Court on Wednesday stopped Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government from initiating umbrella ADP schemes for execution of umbrella schemes in Annual Development Programme (ADP).

A bench comprising of PHC Chief Justice Iftikhar Durrani and Justice Waqar Ahmad directed the government to submit reply within three days in a petition of opposition members of the provincial assembly against the umbrella schemes in ADP. The bench fixed Oct 10 for next hearing of the petition against the government.

ation MPAs claimed that the act of the government was in violation of superior courts judgements.

The leader of opposition in provincial assembly, Imadullah Khan, MPA Aftab Waqar Khan and 17 other opposition lawmakers have filed a joint petition, requesting the high court to declare it illegal and also not to allow the schemes included in ADP under umbrella or block allocations.

They also prayed the court to set aside all directions issued by the chief minister regarding umbrella schemes after the passage of 2024-25 annual budget.

The petitioners sought court's orders for the government to refrain from implementation and diversion of developmental schemes and release funds for them in line with the law, rules, guidelines and superior courts' judgements.

They also requested the court to order restoration of its jurisdiction against them and sought interim

relief in the form of suspension of a chief minister's orders for umbrella schemes until the petition was decided.

The petitioners including opposition parties including Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz, Jamiat Uloomul Islam Part, Pakistan Peoples Party, Parliamentarians, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, Parliamentarians and Awami National Party.

The respondents in the petition are the KP government through its chief secretary, chief minister, two provincial secretaries, additional chief secretary and the secretary of Finance, communication and works, irrigation, planning and development and public health engineering departments.

Lawyer Sultan Mohammad Khan and Balbir Khan Yousafzai appeared for the petitioners and insisted that the 'illegal' schemes of the respondents clearly violated the Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Resolution and Council of Ministers

Rules, 1988, and KP Government Rules of Business, 1985, as well as the policy guidelines issued by the government in contemplation of a high court judgement.

They said that the chief minister under the name of 'UM Divisions' was doing the public funds in his political discretion despite the fact that such practice of arbitrary manner discretionary power had been declared constitutionally illegal by superior courts including PHC.

The respondents contended that a total of 15 of the umbrella schemes had been sanctioned related to appreciation and rehabilitation of roads, small drinking water supply, construction of flood protection, irrigation channels and installation of solar tubewells, district development

4000 for Peshawar, Charsadda, Mandera, Nowshera, Swat, Shangha, Buner, Upper and Lower Dir, Upper and Lower Chitral, Kohat, Bannu,

Dera Ismail Khan and Bannu divisions.

They stated that the ADP for the year 2024-25 was presented and passed in the assembly by virtue of about 60 per cent majority of the government in the province.

They said that umbrella schemes were distinguishable from the projects that were presented and approved with the required details and particulars, so they were illegal.

When the bench requested from an additional advocate general appearing for the provincial government why the government had made block allocations in the ADP when it was prohibited by the superior courts, he requested for some time for filing comments in the court.

The bench decided to put off hearing of the matter with the direction that for the time being funds should not be utilized for execution of umbrella schemes.

Over 36,000 power theft cases registered in one year: Pesco

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Peshawar Electric Supply Company (Pesco) announced its campaign against power thieves and delinquent users. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and get registered criminal cases against 36,000 people for having illegal electricity connections.

According to annual report of the power company, arrears of more than Rs100 billion had been collected from the delinquents. A Pesco spokesman said from an investigation that during the last one year there, more than 67,000 illegal connections had been removed.

Of the arrested persons, 53 were employees of Pesco, who had been found guilty of violating the electricity laws. He said 10,000 people were arrested on the spot for electricity theft and non-payment of bills.

The Pesco spokesman said they had a long list of delinquents in both private and public sector-related entities. Of them, 6000 delinquents, he said. Technical Manager Administration (TMA) says 2

Peshawar had to clear Rs75.24 million arrears of water bills. TMA said Peshawar need Rs10.24 million for account of streetlights and health department had to pay an outstanding amount of Rs10.04 million to the company.

He said that Pesco made all possible efforts to facilitate its customers but there was still space for those involved in taking illegal power connections and dragging assets of the power company.

The official implemented tagging of grid stations and installation of power transmission systems by water transfer systems in different areas of the province. He warned that those found involved in illegal power connections would have to face the legal action for taking law into their hands.

The Pesco official appealed to the citizens to extend cooperation to the fielding parties against the power thieves to help improve the power transmission system. — Bureau Report

Pre-marriage screening stressed to prevent genetic disorder

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Health experts have urged the government to stress pre-marriage screening to prevent genetic disorders and protect the people to undergo premarriage screening to ensure marriages in our society are healthy and safe.

They were speaking at a seminar organized by the Foundation of Khyber Medical University here on Wednesday, according to a press release.

Special secretary, Health, Saad Akmal Chaudhry Shah, who leads the health department, emphasized that genetic disorders are a serious health concern that can be prevented through premarriage screening. He said that such screening can help identify potential genetic risks early on, allowing couples to make informed decisions about their reproductive choices.

Mr. Shah said the health department was already taking steps to tackle the challenges posed by genetic disorders and encouraged the participants that the seminar's recommendations would be shared with the relevant stakeholders for approval. On the occasion, Khyber Medical University Vice-Chancellor Prof. Jamil Haq said that they had been increasingly addressing the need for genetic screening and awareness about genetic disorders for several years. He said that these efforts had yielded positive results in the provincial government's health and welfare programs.

He said that genetic disorders were a leading cause of genetic diseases, significantly increasing the risk of conditions like thalassemia in children. He called for a shift in societal attitudes and a greater focus on pre-marriage screening, which can help identify potential genetic risks early on, allowing couples to make informed decisions about their reproductive choices.

An interdisciplinary approach is required to combat genetic disorders, he said, but they must be approached effectively. Pre-marriage tests and public awareness campaigns are essential steps toward addressing this issue, Prof. Haq emphasized.

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