



Unprecedented relief given to Imran questionable: Kh Asif

Federal Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif has said that unprecedented relief given to Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan has raised questions about impartiality of courts.



Shavkat Mirziyoyev nominated as a presidential candidate from UzLiDeP

On 12 May, the Political Council of the Liberal Democratic Party of Uzbekistan (UzLiDeP) approved the candidacy of Shavkat Mirziyoyev for consideration at the upcoming congress to nominate a candidate for the post of President of Uzbekistan.

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Visit

PESHAWAR: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir addressing the officers during a visit to the Corps Headquarters Peshawar on Saturday.



Photo: ISPR

COAS Asim Munir vows to bring planners of May 9 vandalism to justice

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir on Saturday said that "all the planners, abettors, instigators and executors of vandalism" on May 9 will be brought to justice.

The army chief made these remarks while addressing the officers during a visit to the Corps Headquarters Peshawar on Saturday, according to Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR).

COAS Asim Munir warned that the armed forces "will not tolerate any further attempt of violating the sanctity and security of its installations or vandalism" as it resolved to bring to justice all the "planners, abettors, instigators and executors of vandalism on the Black Day of 9th May".

"We shall continue with our endeavors of peace and stability and there will be no room for spoilers of the process," he said.

The statement added that Gen Munir gave a detailed briefing on the ongoing counter-terrorism efforts and the prevailing security situation.

"He appreciated the professional competence, performance, and achievements of law enforcement agencies in the ongoing fight against terrorism."

"COAS also sensitised about challenges of information warfare and efforts to create misperceptions. He highlighted that a concerted effort is being made maliciously by inimical elements to target the Armed Forces."

Gen Munir pledged to foil such nefarious attempts with the support of the people, added the statement.

Earlier on arrival, the COAS was received by the Peshawar corps commander.

PM directs immediate arrest of elements involved in vandalism

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday directed the concerned authorities to immediately arrest all those elements who were involved in different abhorrent and unpardonable incidents of vandalism, attacks and arson of May 9, inflicting massive damages to public and private properties across Punjab province.

Addressing a meeting during his visit to Punjab Safe Cities Authority, the prime minister set a deadline of 72 hours for the law enforcement agencies to arrest all those people involved in setting on fire different buildings and infrastructure including the historic Jinnah (Corps Commander) House.

The prime minister said that the whole nation was in an utter state of grief over such painful incidents except Imran Niazi and his armed followers who had acted no less than the enemies of Pakistan as no Pakistani could ever think of such action or planning.

He said these people should be arrested and made to face the law in accordance with the relevant legal and constitutional provisions.



The prime minister also desired the enhancement of the number of anti-terrorism courts in the province where the legal proceedings against all these culprits should commence swiftly.

He further maintained that during a meeting in Islamabad the other day, he had already issued clear directives that all those people who were involved, planned, abetted and facilitated the terrible attacks across the country should be dealt with iron hand.

They would have to stand trials in the anti-terrorism courts and he had already instructed the law minister to increase the number of these courts, he added.

"It is time to do or die or now or never. The real culprits who showed this kind of enmity against the motherland should be arrested and produced in anti-terrorism courts under the relevant laws. These elements should be arrested immediately, without fear or favour," he added.

The meeting was attended by Caretaker Chief Minister of Punjab Syed Moshin Naqvi and other relevant officials. The prime minister said on May 9, terrible incidents occurred in the history of Pakistan. The Corps Commander (Jinnah House) was completely destroyed which was a painful sight.

Those who made plans and armed their rioters with weapons and batons to attack the law enforcement personnel and buildings would be dealt with iron hands, "so that they could become a permanent example for all that those who might act against Pakistan," added.

fight against terrorism in which about 80,000 Pakistani lost their lives, including the armed forces officers, personnel, police, paramilitary forces and every member of society had sacrificed which led to crushing the scourge of terrorism.

"They have protected the motherland with their blood while leaving behind their bereaved families," he said, adding the PTI rioters also defiled the 'shuhada' and attacked their monuments.

He said such were the heart-wrenching scenes and had not been witnessed in the past, adding that those armed groups should be made an example so that no one could dare to cast an evil eye on these institutions.

He said about Rs. 12 billion were spent on safe cities authority and it was the latest and biggest institution in the entire South Asia which was established during his tenure as Khadim-e-Ala Punjab under Nawaz Sharif's leadership.

But in the last five years of PTI's rule, cameras had been lying dysfunctional, showing the sorry state of affairs of the past government which also reflected the criminal negligence.

Bilawal vows to root out politics of hatred, divide from country



Bureau Report

KARACHI: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) chairman and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said that they have rooted out the politics of hatred and division in the country.

As per details, the PPP chairman thanked the people of Sindh for making them win the LG election across the province. He said PPP will be in government from Karachi to Kashmir.

He said that the LG election in Sindh was just a trailer. PPP has kicked out Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) from Sindh and they will win the next elections too, Bilawal Bhutto added.

Bilawal Bhutto lambasted the PTI chief Imran Khan and said that they have faced all the selected they have countered the MQM head, Altaf Hussain, Imran is nothing in front of them. He will also be kicked out like them, Bilawal claimed.

He further said that the PTI chief has not spent even one night in jail and has not seen the real power of opposition yet. Bilawal claimed that Imran Khan has still some facilitators in every corner of the country.

The former prime minister Imran Khan attacked the military installations out of fear of getting jailed for a week. They have burned down the public building, people bus service and other important military instalments.

Imran Khan urges Supreme Court to launch probe into May 9 violence

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan has urged Supreme Court (SC) of Pakistan to launch an investigation into May 9 violence, emerged following his arrest in Al-Qadir Trust case.

Addressing the party workers and supporters, the PTI chief urged them to come out of their homes and gather at a spot in their neighbourhood from 5:30pm to 6:30pm tomorrow (Sunday) with a placard inscribed with "Save Constitution, save country".

The PTI chief noted that the police stopped him for leaving the Islamabad High Court (IHC) premises despite the court granted bail in multiple cases. "The police wanted to arrest me under MPO [Maintenance of Public Order] outside the courtroom," he added.

"The country's democracy is hanging by a thin thread", Imran Khan said, lauding the judiciary for 'saving democracy'. He urged the people of Pakistan to stand by judiciary, saying that the 'mafia was threatening and attacking the courts'.

He further said that 'the mafia was



attacking the judiciary' as it was the only obstacle in their 'corruption'.

Khan pointed out that Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supreme Nawaz Sharif had ordered attack on Supreme Court (SC) and kicked out the then Chief Justice. "In the past, Nawaz Sharif destroyed the independent judiciary for the sake of power", he alleged.

He noted that the country's freedom ends when independent judiciary is compromised, adding that the latter protects fundamental rights of the citizens. "The only reason Pakistan has not progressed because there is no rule of law," he added.

Imran Khan went to say that the 145 cases filed against him are 'bogus', praising the higher judiciary for 'saving him

from being jailed in fake cases.

During his address, the PTI chairman maintained that his supporters had always maintained peacefulness during their 27-year struggle.

He said he could never forget May 25 when the state unleashed violence on PTI supporters and activists.

The former premier alleged that the policemen told them that they received orders 'from the above'. He further said that he wanted to avert violence which is why he called off sit-in in Islamabad after May 25 state brutality.

He recalled that if they had instigated violence after his arrest, it would have occurred following the assassination attempt on him in Wazirabad last year. "Those who want to have elections would never want anarchy," he added.

He recalled how the police launched an attack on his house in Lahore when he went to Islamabad for a court appearance. "The same day, another assassination attempt at the Islamabad Judicial Complex was foiled," he claimed.

The PTI chief once again condemned the manner in which he was arrested from the Islamabad High Court (IHC).

Maryam Nawaz to lead PML-N in PDM's sit-in outside SC: Info Minister

City Report

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Maryam Nawaz Aurangzeb on Saturday said Vice President and Chief Organizer of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Maryam Nawaz Sharif had arrived in Islamabad to participate in the sit-in to be staged by the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) outside the Supreme Court on Monday.

"On the instructions of Quaid Muhammad Nawaz Sharif and Party's President Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Maryam Nawaz Sharif will represent the Muslim League (N) in the PDM sit-in on Monday," the minister said in a news statement.

The PML-N would participate in the sit-in under the leadership of Maryam Nawaz Sharif, she added.

Houses, defence installations burnt on Imran's directives: Rana Sanaullah

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah Khan Saturday said for the last several years, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief Imran Khan had been training "terrorists" who actually took part in the arson and vandalism of May 9 after his arrest.

Addressing a news conference, he said the goons of Imran Khan burnt houses and defence installations on directives of Imran Khan who had instructed them to create violence and spread chaos and anarchy following his arrest.

The minister said Imran Khan told his goons beforehand how to react to his arrest. It was not the nation's reaction, instead, it was the reaction of a group who got training and instructions from Imran Khan, he said.



The minister said that during the three days, only 40,000 to 45,000 people had participated in the protest against the arrest of Imran Khan across the country.

Sharing the numbers of the protesters, he said, protests were staged at 12 spots in Islamabad on May 9, during which 650 to 700 people participated. Moreover, he added, during protests staged at 221 spots in Punjab on May 9, 15,000 to 18,000 people participated.

Meeting

LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting on Wheat Procurement in the Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Saturday.



Photo: PID

Unprecedented relief given to Imran questionable: Kh Asif

Bureau Report

SIKOT: Federal Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif has said that unprecedented relief given to Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan has raised questions about impartiality of courts.

Addressing to a press conference at his residence here on Saturday, he said the judiciary should act according to the constitution and law, instead of personal liking and disliking. He said facilitation provided to Imran Khan by

the courts of law was highly questionable.

He said when a judge would tell an accused that he was happy to see him, what justice could be expected from him. He wondered where were such judges when verdicts were being given against Nawaz Sharif and his family members. KhAsif alleged that the establishment and the judiciary had facilitated ouster of Nawaz Sharif from the government, and attempted to eliminate him from politics. However, he added, Nawaz Sharif could



not be eliminated from politics, but all characters, who were involved in the conspiracy, had been exposed now.

KhAsif thanked God that Nawaz Sharif's younger brother, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, is still the prime

minister of Pakistan.

The defence minister expressed deep sorrow over the heavy damage inflicted on the public property by the PTI activists. He said had the army and police reacted during the attack, the state would have suffered. But, in such a situation, ulterior motives of Imran Khan would have been fulfilled, he added. The minister said the whole nation saw what the PTI leaders were telling their supporters. Imran's lust for power would destroy the peaceful environment of the country, he added.

IHC issues written orders regarding bails of Imran Khan in multiple cases

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Saturday issued written orders regarding the bails of Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf (PTI) chief Imran Khan in all cases against him including Al-Qadir Trust.

A two-judge bench comprising Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb and Justice Saman Rafat Imtiaz issued the written order in Al-Qadir Trust case.

The court said that the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) could file a case for bail cancellation of Imran

Khan if he didn't cooperate with the investigation.

It said that Imran Khan would have to appear before the NAB whenever it was required by the investigation officer. The order further said that advocate general and additional attorney general had adopted the stance that Imran Khan couldn't get relief after imposition of article-245 of the constitution. The stance meant that they wanted to seize the basic rights of the citizens.

The court served notices to attorney general of Pakistan for assistance on the point of access to the court during the imposition of article 245.

It said that the additional attorney general also raised the objection on the maintainability of the case as the accountability court was the right forum.

The order said that Imran Khan was produced before the IHC on the directives of the top court, adding that the said objection was not maintainable. The high court was authorized to hear the case under section-561A of code of criminal proceeding, it said.

Meanwhile, Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb also issued a four pages judgment refraining the authorities from arresting Imran Khan till May

17, in any case registered in federal capital after May 9. It said that as per the petitioner's lawyer, Imran Khan was arrested from the court premises at the time when he was confirming his biometric.

The lawyer had stated that Imran Khan was produced before the high court on directives of the top court.

The order said that Imran Khan should be provided foolproof security as former prime minister in light of the judgment of the superior court. It said that Imran Khan wouldn't be arrested in any case which was registered after May 9.

The court also instructed advocate general Islamabad to produce the details on next hearing regarding total cases registered against PTI's chief.

Similarly, a single member bench comprising Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri issued written order regarding the protective bail of Imran Khan in Zille Shah murder case.

The order said that the court had accepted the protective bail of Imran Khan till May 22, against surety bonds worth Rs 50,000. The court instructed PTI's chairman to approach the relevant court for the relief during the said time period.

PM AJK thanks federal government for the release of funds

**Abdul Majeed Tahir**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Anwar ul Haq has thanked the federal government for the release of funds to the government of Azad Kashmir in terms of annual development programme.

During a meeting with Federal Finance Minister senator Ishaq Dar here on Saturday, the AJK premier apprised the finance minister of wide ranging issues including ongoing

development projects in the state Azad Kashmir.

Besides discussing the financial matters of the state he also exchanged views on issues of mutual interest.

On the occasion, the Federal Minister Ishaq Dar assured the full support of the federal government for the construction and development of Azad Jammu and Kashmir. He said that the development of the people of Azad Kashmir was the first priority of the government he added.

Six terrorists killed as security forces complete operation at Balochistan FC camp: ISPR

**Spokesman Report**

RAWALPINDI: The clearance operation at FC Compound Muslim Bagh in Northern Balochistan, which had commenced on Friday evening after repulsing the initial onslaught of terrorists, has been completed, the military's media wing said on Saturday.

"The complex clearance operation involved hostage rescue operation as well to save three families from a residential block. The terrorists had not even spared children of their horrendous approach," the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said in a statement.

It added that necessary intelligence follow-up will continue to trace their linkages and arrest facilitators and expose their sponsors.

While in the process of clearance operation, seven sons of the soil including a civilian have embraced Shahadat while another six individuals including a woman have been

injured, the statement said.

ISPR said that security forces, in step with the nation, remain determined to thwart all attempts at sabotaging the peace, stability, and progress of Balochistan.

Hoshab attack
Meanwhile, security forces have repulsed a terrorist attack on a check post in Hoshab - Balochistan, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) on Friday.

Terrorists attacked a security check post in the general area of Hoshab - Balochistan. The security forces successfully repulsed the distant fire raid.

The escaping terrorists were pursued into the nearby mountains of Balore, using aerial surveillance means, the ISPR said.

During the skirmish, five terrorists were killed and a cache of arms and ammunition was recovered. The operation, however, continues to track a few fleeing terrorists into adjoining areas, it concluded.

Türkiye Presidential Elections 2023

No quake can hit political will in democratic states

Amjad Mehmood

ISLAMABAD: On February 6, 2023, a devastating earthquake of 7.8 magnitude jolted the southern and central parts of Türkiye. Earlier quakes of similar magnitudes in 1668 at North Anatolia and in 1939 at Erzincan in Türkiye have shocked the country at mass scale. Over 50 thousand people have lost their lives in the recent deadliest quake and about 1.5 million people were left homeless. Overall 350,000 km² area was dented with an estimated hit of 16% of the total population. The United Nations development experts have estimated an overall US\$104 billion financial loss to Türkiye.

Despite the huge financial loss, damaged infrastructure, disrupted communication systems, medical emergencies, and emotionally devastated nation, Türkiye is ready to undergo the presidential election 2023 announced earlier to be held in the month of May in two rounds. The first round's voting is scheduled today (May,14) while the second round is scheduled on May 28. The last general elections took place in 2018 in Türkiye. Through a constitutional referendum in 2017, Türkiye made the transition from a parliamentary system to a presidential system and the office of the Prime Minister was abolished in July 2018. A candidate running for the president's slot is required to obtain an absolute majority or more than 50 percent of the nationwide vote and if no candidate can secure a majority; the winner is decided in a

run-off between the two most voted-for candidates from the first ballot. A Turkish citizen who is at least 40 years old and has completed higher education, a bachelor's degree in any field is eligible to run in the contest for presidency.

Turkish citizens will vote to elect 600 members of The Grand National Assembly known as the country's parliament which represents 87 electoral districts in 81 Turkish provinces. To obtain a simple majority, a party is required to win at least 301

seats. The Supreme Electoral Council (YSK) announces the results nationally once all votes are counted per the system. YSK is the supreme authority to manage free and fair elections in the country.

President Erdogan soon after the vilest hits of this natural calamity said, "There were shortcomings, disruptions, and delays", however, the government was "not hiding behind excuses". Earlier, due to severe damage in the country, there were serious doubts about the ability of election officials to set up and secure accessible polling locations in the hardest-hit regions of Türkiye.

Incumbent President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's AK Party seeking another victory at the ballot box while the opposition picked Kemal Kilicdaroglu, leader of the CHP, as its presidential candidate. Presidential elections 2023 are expected to be toughest for



been completed and about 1.8 million Turkish living in different parts of the world have cast their votes. While the nation will use their democratic right of voting today to elect their future leader for the following term.

In contrast, one can review the status of democratic values in Pakistan as the nation is witnessing a melodrama on elections in two of the dissolved provincial assemblies of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK).

The Election Commission announced it would hold elections in October by sharing its inability to manage the early elections. The PDM coalition government endorsed the idea while PTI wants early elections as per a legitimate timeframe of 90 days after the dissolution of assemblies. The Election Commission, government, opposition, and the judiciary are key stakeholders and everyone has their own definition of relevant rules. In the name of democracy, the political parties and judiciary are setting ever worse examples and causing political chaos, social unrest, and economic turmoil.

Democracy has unique values where people are important to decide the fate of the country and democratic states ensure that people's rights remain intact.

All state organs provide unconditional support like in quake-hit Türkiye, the government and state institutions are ensuring their legitimate responsibilities. The condition is altogether different in Pakistan, and democracy itself 'seeks' justice from the democratic and legal forces.

Shavkat Mirziyoyev nominated as a presidential candidate from UzLiDeP

**News Desk**

TASHKENT: On 12 May, the Political Council of the Liberal Democratic Party of Uzbekistan (UzLiDeP) approved the candidacy of Shavkat Mirziyoyev for consideration at the upcoming congress to nominate a candidate for the post of President of Uzbekistan. This was reported by the press service of the party.

Earlier, the Ecological Party nominates its leader Abdushukur Khamzaev as a candidate for the post of President of Uzbekistan, the People's Democratic Party - Ulugbek Inoyatov, the Social Democratic Party "Adolat" - Robakhon Makhmudova.

The Milliy Tiklanish party has not yet announced its candidate.

On 8 May, President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev announced the holding of early elections of the head of state of Uzbekistan. Elections will be held on 9 July 2023.

PTI'S Yasmin Rashid shifted to hospital after health deteriorates

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Dr Yasmin Rashid was shifted to hospital after her health deteriorates in Kot Lakhpat Jail.

According to details, the former Punjab minister was rushed to Services Hospital today as she found difficulty breathing.

Yasmin, who was still waiting for her release from Kot Lakhpat Jail, experienced a rapid deterioration in her health. The PTI leader was rushed to the Services Hospital in Lahore where her treatment is underway.

It is pertinent to mention here that the Lahore High Court ordered the immediate release of 17 PTI women workers, including former Punjab health minister Dr Yasmin Rashid.

LHC judge Justice Saifdar Saleem Shahid announced the ruling on petition filed against the detention of the PTI workers and leaders.

Hearing a petition, the court ordered her release if she is not "required in any criminal case".

The petition maintained that Rashid was not named in a first information report filed at the Sarwar Road police station and her arrest was "illegal".

PTI Central Punjab President Yasmin Rashid was taken into custody under section three of the Maintenance of Public Order (MPO).

No retreat of coalition govt on Imran Khan's violence against state: Sherry Rehman

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Climate Change, Senator Sherry Rehman on Saturday said the coalition government was not going to retreat on Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)'s violence against the state.

In a news conference flanked by Minister of State for Poverty Alleviation Faisal Karim Kundi here, she said that due process would be observed against IK and his supporters for jeopardizing country's peace and security for the sake of his ego.

The minister alleged that Imran Khan wanted to bring the law of the jungle into the country and turn it into a battle zone.

Senator Rehman said Khan was compromising the pride, prestige and honour of the country.

She accused Khan of singling out the Army Chief in his contestation for regaining power. It was condemnable but rather the matter has transcended the level of condemnation, she added.

The Minister said Imran Khan came in a lavish car to the Court, whereas her party leaders were presented before the courts in armoured vehicles used for prisoners.

She queried Imran Khan that had he forgotten about what happened to women during his rule. How Faryal Talpur was arrested from the hospital at night?

She alleged that Imran Khan considered himself above the courts and the state, whereas he did a pre-planned arson and siege of government and state installations in various cities across the country.

Senator Rehman underlined that after the judicial murder of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and the martyrdom of Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) never attacked the military installations but rather resisted the martial laws in a political manner.

She added that after the burial of Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir

Bhutto, former President Asif Ali Zardari held a press conference and raised the 'Pakistan Khape' (We want Pakistan).

PTI, she said, had turned into a movement of violence, adding, "He is clearly saying if I go down, everything should go down."

"Imran Khan cannot threaten the government and state and no government will allow this."

Amid the evident economic crisis, he wanted to create instability in the country, she said.

"He is wanting a national reconciliation ordinance (NRO-first issued by former President General Pervez Musharraf that provided an amnesty to politicians, political workers and bureaucrats involved in corruption, embezzlement, money laundering and terrorism from 1986-2007)," she added.

Senator Rehman mentioned whosoever was arrested, in this case, would be trialled with proper evidence and all the proofs would be presented before the court.

She added that Imran Khan



did not bother that the country's enemy state blew trumpet on all the violence perpetrated against the state.

She said the PTI protestors did not spare the Edhi ambulances, flared up markets, livestock, government and state installa-

tions etc. The government would have to take action to restore peace in the country, she added.

Imran Khan, she said, had been given blanket relief in nine cases, whereas he did not want to appear before the courts and

demand a VIP protocol.

The minister alleged that Imran Khan was not ready to condemn the losses incurred to state installations in the court.

He used to keep his ego superior to that of the nation and everything else and he was resisting the

human, citizen and social rights of the nation, she said.

Senator Rehman said Imran Khan was accused in an open and shut case of Rs60 billion corruption but no probe was being initiated against him.

Responding to media queries, she said the government in the Monday session of the National Assembly would decide concrete steps against Imran Khan through mutual consultation of the House.

To another query, she said Former President Asif Ali Zardari gave his arrest to the police teams in a dignified manner at Zardari House as part of decent political norms.

She replied to another query that PTI had no standards while PPP was unmatched.

"Incitement of violence against the state was not allowed anywhere in the world, like in the UK prompt arrests were made against the perpetrators."

"Imran Khan had no policy in the past and also in the future," she added.

Gathering

KARACHI: A large number of the people participating in the public gathering of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) at I.I Chundrigar Road in Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

PTI movement for rule of law will be written in the history: Arif Naqvi

Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: Pakistan Origin American PTI's leader Syed Mohammad Arif Naqvi while expressing is considered views over the release of former Prime Minister Imran Khan on the decision of Supreme Court of Pakistan and subsequent orders of Islamabad High Court has said that the struggles of PTI movement for rule of law will be written in the history with golden words. He was addressing a public gathering held at Al-Abas agro farm Attock with the remarks that the majority people of the country

are stand by PTI leadership Imran Khan to bring revolution for protection of their fundamental rights as per the manifesto of their party.

On his occasion, staunch leaders ex-federal minister for environment Syed Wajid Hussain Bokhari and former provincial minister Punjab Syed Yawar Bokhari while lashing on the anti-democratic policies of PDM alliance Government have said that the inordinate delay in the conduct of general elections will be proved a political death of the imported government. Among others, the meeting was also attend-

ed by former MPA Attock Syed Ejaz Hussain Bokhari, bankers Ch. Ifthikhar Ahmed, Admn Zulfi Bokhari media team led by Farhat Abbas, Sufi Ishfaq Ahmed Advocate, prominent journalists Qamar Abbas Jaffri, Chairman, CUJ Attock Rana Shaikat Ali, Chairman Traders Association Attock Sheikh Javed Iqbal and large numbers of elites of the district.

Speaking on the occasion, Syed Wajid Bokhari further said that the imported government of PDM is manipulating to engineer the general elections by using their evasive tactics as they

are afraid of their sure defeat due to the increasing popularity of PTI leadership Iman Khan in the masses. The former provincial minister Punjab Syed Yawar Bokhari his addressed has said that the imported government is wasting public funds to restrain the elections instead of incurring the well fare of its people who are hungry of a single bite of bread. He said that export of 30 million dollars and 32 million dollars o were concealed in the foreign bank accounts by the corrupt rulers of Pakistan transmitted through money laundering.

Operation clean-up started across the city before Eid-ul-Adha

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Under the direction of Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir, operation clean-up for zero waste has been started across the city before Eid-ul-Adha. Yesterday, the waste management company staff washed and scraped the central squares and highways, while in the densely populated union councils including the inner city. Garbage was transferred by heavy machinery. Chief Executive Officer Shahid Yaqoob has also assigned the responsibility of monitoring to the company officers to make the cleaning campaign successful. Shahid Yaqoob said that the company managers will conduct cleanliness inspections in all union councils daily.

Ration and cash package distributed in Abbottabad by Ehsas-e-Khalq Scotland

News Desk

ABBOTTABAD: Around 950 families in rural areas of Abbottabad were provided with Ramadan food packages and cash.

Ehsas-e-Khalq Scotland provided food and cash to those in need in BandiMaira, Cham Rajput, Maira, Chatharnath, Thaathi, Palakian, Chahaan, Bagh, saryia, Riya, Trada, Dana and other surrounding areas

On direction of the Chairman of Ehsas-e-Khalq, Raja Javed, instructed the committee comprising of: Chairman Raja Zeeshan v/c BandiMaira and Raja Amjid with team to provide door to door food packages and cash to those in need. Around 950 under-



privileged and poverty-stricken families were those that received help during the blessed month of Ramadan.

Residents from the areas were greatly humbled and appreciated the actions of Ehsas-e-Khalq and said this gesture from the team is highly commendable and a sigh of relief in this difficult time

Others in the villages also expressed their heartfelt gratitude for these actions and said that such initiatives taken by Raja Javed and the team for the deprived are a testament to their sincere and genuine commitment to their area.

They even thanked the people of Scotland who took part in this act of kindness and expressed hope that in the future Ehsas-e-Khalq Scotland will continue to help and perform its duties with the same spirit of service.

Guest Lecture Series kickoff in IHMRS, Jamshoro

Zainab Hyder

KARACHI: On the Directives of Vice Chancellor LUMHS, Prof. Ikram Din Ujjan, Executive MBA (EMBA) Health Management Program, Institute of Health Management & Research Sciences, Jamshoro invited guest speaker to share best practices and invaluable experience and knowledge in its Guest Lecture Series.

These lectures provide students with an opportunity to learn from industry professionals, gain insights into the latest trends and developments in business, and network with other professionals in the field.

Today, EMBA Program invited Dr. Rahim Bux Bhatti, founder of Pir Abdul Qadir Shah Jeelani Institute of Medical Sciences Gambat Khairpur Mirs, who shared his views on "Challenges of Health Delivery in Rural Sindh". The session was attended by students, faculty members, and staff of the Executive MBA (Health Management) Program. Dr. Bhatti delivered a knowledgeable and informative session, sharing his insights on the unique challenges faced by healthcare professionals in rural areas of Sindh. Dr. Bhatti also apprised the participants about the timeline of development and major milestones achieved by Gambat Institute of Medical Sciences.

The event was interactive and included a question-answer session where students were able to engage in dialogue with the guest speaker and clarify their doubts on the topic.

Dr. Shafaq Akhtar - The new face for Pakistan's Representation in Pageants

News Desk

LAHORE: In 2022, Lahore's city was buzzing with beauty queens as more titles were introduced by Sonia Ahmed, the founder of Pakistan's Pageant Industry. The pageant industry was founded out of Pakistan from 2002-2019 and then during Covid-19, the Miss Pakistan Pageants were moved to Lahore, Pakistan. In 2022, new titles were introduced to accommodate more international representation of Pakistan. Miss Pakistan Universal, Miss Pakistan Global, Miss Pakistan Supreme and Miss Pakistan National were a few titles to name. Mrs. Pakistan and Mr. Pakistan titles were also awarded to the contestants in Lahore in 2022.

Dr. Shafaq Akhtar the newly crowned Miss Pakistan Universal was the first Christian girl to be crowned Miss Pakistan Universal 2022 and was the first doctor. Without being affiliated with the modelling world, Dr. Shafaq started concentrating on representing Pakistan on international platforms. A patriot, she made waves in the pageant industry by participating in Miss Aura International, Miss Planet and currently Miss Elite. She brought back the first winning titles to Pakistan. She won Miss Rixos Sungle in Miss Aura International in Turkey, and Miss Humanity in Miss Planet in Cambodia. Two winning titles were brought back to Pakistan.

When asked as to why pageantry interested her, she said, "I always saw many countries represented in pageants, and I really wanted to represent Pakistan and when I spoke to the President of Miss Pakistan, Sonia Ahmed, she told me that one does not have to be a model and that its open to all girls of all ages.

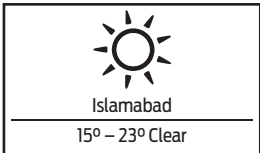
DC Umar Jahangir and CPO Mansoorul Haq Rana visited SOS Village

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir and CPO Mansoorul Haq Rana visited SOS Village yesterday. Deputy Commissioner and CPO reviewed the security and arrangements of SOS Village. On this occasion, Assistant Commissioner City Samil Mushtaq. And representatives of district departments were also present. Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir said that SOS Village is providing exemplary support to homeless children. The district administration is providing full support for the upgradation of SOS Village. The Deputy Commissioner said that the project of new houses in SOS Village will be completed and inaugurated soon. Earlier, CPO Mansoorul Haq Rana also directed more measures regarding the security arrangements. He said that the SOS Village administration will complete Will support.



Arts Council of Pakistan President Muhammad Ahmad Shah inaugurating the art exhibition of students and artists of Art School of Arts Council Karachi (ACICA) at Full Circle Gallery.



SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 3:34 am
Zohr 12:04 pm
Asr 4:57 pm
Maghrib 7:00 pm
Isha 8:36 pm

EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police) 15
Bomb Disposal 15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad 1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance 1122 &
& Rescue Services 4451122
Motorway Police 9266044
Motorway Police 9270601-20

Women Police Stations

Islamabad 9222596
Rawalpindi 9270601-20

ENQUIRY

Edhi Ambulance 115
PIA Flight Info 114
PIA Cargo 9280979
Railway Inquiry 117
Railway Exchange 9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi 5555489
CAA 9281092

HOSPITALS

CMH 561111
MH 561116
MH 561116
Cantt Hospital 9270907-11
DHQ 5556311-4
RGH 9290301-7
Holy Family 9290322-7
PIMS 9261170-79
Polyclinic 9218300-09
Shifa International 4603666

DEPARTMENTS

CDA 9221334-43
CDA 9208301-04
Met Office 9250360-6
RDA 5555864
TMA 5770886
Cantonment Board 9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan Corporation 9209224

Peshawar awaits positive change as Ashfaq Anwar takes charge as new CCPO

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: The long-standing cries for justice from the people of Peshawar have finally been heard as the government takes swift action against corrupt officials. Reports have surfaced that the former CCPO, Ijaz Khan, had amassed a staggering amount of one billion rupees through corrupt means during his tenure. It has been alleged that his cousin, an ex MPA, had played a role in securing his posting and that he had brought in officers from his native district, resulting in a surge of crime and illegal activities in Peshawar. The situation had become dire as even the excise and taxation force officials were being detained for catching smugglers, while the rate of drug sales, thefts, murders, and smuggling had skyrocketed in every street. Despite numerous reports of corruption against DIG Ijaz Khan, it took the intervention of the caretaker Chief Minister Azam Khan and Governor Ghulam Ali to finally bring about a change. Enter Syed Ashfaq Anwar, a beacon of integrity and duty who had previously eradicated police corruption and crime from Swat and Bannu. His transfer to Peshawar is a ray of hope for the people who had been left in shock after his departure from Bannu, as he had left behind a legacy that would never be forgotten.

Nobody can be allowed to damage national assets: minister

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Railways and Aviation Khawaja Saad Rafique has said that nobody could be allowed to damage or destroy national assets and warned that those involved in burning of Tarnol Railway station would be brought to justice. Presiding over a meeting to review several matters held at the PR headquarters here on Saturday, he condemned the burning of Tarnol Railway station building during a protest by the PTI activists on May 09, saying that the culprits of the incident had been captured and soon they would face the punishment by the courts. The minister also condemned the blasts on the Quetta railway track and directed to arrest the culprits by chasing them. He directed the PR administration to present



the forensic report of ablaze incident of Karachi Express train as soon as possible. The minister was given briefing about the restoration of Sibbi-Harnai railway track and removal of hurdles in it. The meeting also discussed different options about the reduction of feasibility assessment of ML-1 project and auction of shops constructed on railway land. A progress report about scrap disposal was also presented to the minister. Taking the notice of the disturbance

in the booking application, the minister directed to ensure provision of the facility without any discontinuation. The minister also directed the Gawadar office to present a report about its performance and future plans. He ordered to study applicable suggestions about profit gain of sleeper-factories and other production units. He expressed his satisfaction over the popularity and number of passengers in the Shalimar Express train. The minister also directed to appoint heads of Railways Estate Department and Marketing Company (REDAMCO) and Pakistan Railways Freight Transportation Company (PRFTC) within a week. The meeting also decided restructuring of the railway divisions and a committee would present recommendations to the ministry of Railways in this regard.

Solidarity

RAWALPINDI: A view of the pictorial banners of Martyrs on poles at Murree Road are installed by the residences of City to show solidarity with Pak Army.



Photo: Online by Raja Farid

NADRA introduces new platform to identify sex offenders of child, woman

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) introduced a new platform National Sex Offenders Registry (NSOR), coupled with an SMS verification for citizens to identify sex offenders of child and woman. The NSOR service helped citizens and institutions across the country to identify and track individuals who have been convicted of sex crimes against children and women. It is a dynamic database of sexual convicts, said a news release issued here on Saturday. The links are established with various law enforcement departments and provincial governments so that updates are made in real time. This move is aimed at making the service more dynamic and responsive to the needs of the institutions and people at large in preventing sexual violence and abuse. An SMS-based verification service will alert citizens, employers and departments to beware of such culprits. "This initiative has always remained closer to my heart, which is a critical step toward safeguarding women and children from sexual violence and abuse" said



Chairman of NADRA Tariq Malik. He announced that citizens can now use this service to verify the CNIC number of individuals being hired for household chores, at mosques, colleges, universities, or any other employment to ensure they are not sexual convicts, have a clean record and can be trusted around women and children. The Chairman NADRA said, "Preventing even a single instance of child or woman from sexual abuse is not just an act of protection but also an investment in the future of our country. We owe it to the weakest of the weak, and our nation has to take this respon-

sibility seriously. We must recognize that preventing children and women from sexual abuse is not just a matter of punishing offenders, but also of creating a culture of safety and protection for the most vulnerable segments. Children and women. Only then can we ensure that the next generation has the opportunity to thrive and succeed." It is pertinent to mention that the purpose of this service is to provide common citizens and institutions with quick and easy access to information about sex offenders, particularly those who may pose a potential threat to children and women in our well-knit communities. The information can also be used to locate offenders to prevent future crimes and ensure that they are held accountable for their actions. Upon provision of CNIC by the individual being hired, the citizens of Pakistan can verify whether he is a convicted sex offender or not by sending a 13-digit CNIC number to 7000 (SMS short code). Upon verification he/she will receive a reply in Urdu: "Beware! ABC son of XYZ is a convict. Don't let him be around children and women."

Minister accuses IK of instigating rebellion disguised as protests



City Report

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister Javed Latif has claimed that the recent acts of vandalism and violence were not authentic protests, but rather a rebellion orchestrated by Imran Khan through paid miscreants. Talking to media persons, he said paid miscreants, and not workers, were the ones who resorted to violence in different parts of the country on May 9 and 10. "These individuals were deliberately hired and trained to incite unrest, rather than being peaceful demonstrators," Latif claimed. Starting on Monday, he said the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) would initiate nationwide protests and corner meetings as they find it unacceptable to depict the PTI chief as innocent while depriving Nawaz Sharif of justice. According to the minister, Imran Khan was playing in the hands of enemies of the country. "Imran Khan is responsible for instigating this rebellion, which was disguised as a protest. The accused Imran Khan, who is alleged to have embezzled Rs. 60 billion from the people, has been provided with facilities despite the harm he has caused to the country," he added. Latif said Imran Khan's blackmailing of the country's institutions had brought shame to the people. Those who facilitated him, retired or incumbent, should have been apprehended, as they were only concerned about Imran's welfare, rather than thinking about the people who are dying of hunger.

Uzma Siraj from Pakistan announced as regional winner of the 2023 Cambridge

News Desk

LAHORE : Uzma Siraj from Future World School, has been named regional winner of the 2023 Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Awards in Pakistan. Run by Cambridge University Press, the Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Awards are a global competition which celebrates the efforts of teachers around the world. This year, the competition received over 11,000 nominations from 99 countries. An increase of over 30% compared to last year's nominations.



The global competition gives students, parents and other teachers the chance to nominate a current primary or secondary teacher for something wonderful they have done. Now in its fifth year, the awards demonstrate the inspiring and positive impact of teachers across the globe and give students a platform to say, 'thank you'. This year, Uzma Siraj was named regional winner in Pakistan, winning for taking her learning into her own hands to learn Urdu, providing above and beyond support to her students and promoting charity work through organising a flood relief charity drive. Speaking on her win, Siraj said: "I've always had a passion for teaching and helping those more in need – whether that be supporting students with day-to-day tasks or providing external pick up and drop off services. To inspire students, we need to ensure they are learning in a safe and comfortable environment best suited to developing their skills. I'm incredibly proud of my students and this? recognition of the care put into my classroom activities and beyond". Matthew Walker, Publishing Director for Education at Cambridge University Press, said: "The achievements of our 2023 regional winners, plus the thousands of nominations we received for the competition, speak volumes for the value of teachers' roles and the positive impact they have on students. We hope that this recognition will continue to inspire teachers to deliver exceptional teaching and encourage the next generation of learners to aim high in their ambitions".

FUI urges party workers to join PDM's protest in Islamabad



Bureau Report

PESHAWAR : Provincial Chief of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Maulana Ataur Rahman urged the party workers to join Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) protest in Islamabad on Monday. Addressing a press conference at Mufti Mahmood Markaz here Saturday, Maulana Ataur Rahman directed the district level party heads to join them at Hakla interchange along with party's flags at 10am. Strongly condemning the damages of public and private properties by the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf workers during protest on May 10, Maulana Ataur Rehman said that we had done 15 million marches, Independent March even breaking a pot cannot prove it. He said that PTI has spread hatred against the military leadership in the protest. Our leadership had earlier said that this is a sedition which cannot be called a political party, said Maulana Ataur Rehman. Maulana raised a question that if Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan can be banned then they should be banned too. He said that our leadership had appealed to the people to reach Islamabad on May 15 at 11am, adding preparation is going on in this regard. Jamiat's volunteer force Ansar-u-Islam, Jamiat Lawyers Forum and other subsidiary organizations have also been instructed to participate in an organized manner. District organizations have been directed to bring workers in a systematic manner to remove the fear of mischief, said Maulana Ataur Rehman. The workers have also been instructed to bring goods and edibles according to the weather, Ataur Rahman said and added, they will stay there till the final order and direction by the party leadership during protest.

339 new cases of Leishmania reported in Lower SW this year 2023

Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: On the instructions of DHO Dr. Inayat Ur Rehman in District Lower South Waziristan, Pakistan Red Crescent Society arranged a seminar on Leishmania Parasites and Dengue Virus at DHO Office Wana. In which a large number of health employees/workers participated, on this occasion Additional DHO Dr. Hidayatullah, Dr. Shafiq, Dr. Asmat Ullah and Incharge of Malaria Program Allah Noor gave useful information to the forum about prevention and control measures against Leishmania parasites and dengue virus, shared with the participants and had a lively discussion on it. Pakistan Red Crescent Society District Program Officer of Lower South Waziristan Zia Ur Rehman



Wazir specially participated in the seminar. In the seminar, the in-charge of IVMP Program of DHO Office, Allah Noor, gave an insightful discussion on the situation of Leishmania parasites

and Dengue virus. He added that in South Waziristan no indigenous dengue case has been reported from any Health facility. However, indoor Larva Surveillance activities and outdoor Larva Surveillance activities are being carried out by LHWs and Paramedical staff, respectively. Incharge Allah Noor said that this year 339 cases of leishmania have been reported in Lower South Waziristan district in 2023, while a total of 2056 cases were reported in 2022. The participants present in the seminar agreed that regarding the control of leishmania parasites and dengue virus, they emphasized on conducting awareness programs in different areas, and all possible measures should be taken to remedy it.

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Lahore Office: 7-E.Samanberg, Johar Town.
Email: spokesmanislamabad@gmail.com
Whatsapp: 0346-5008408

Dying usage of art of 'Chronogram' in Urdu literature rejuvenated

The Urdu literature's history has never been deliberated in such an intense way as it was discussed, here, at the National Academy of Performing Arts (NAPA) on Saturday.

The session 'Urdu Hai Mera Naam' was moderated by Romeena Kizilbash Kurieshy, who is an Urdu Pedagogy specialist at New York University.

She was joined in by emerging Urdu scholar, poet and lecturer Jauhar Abbas who shed light on the evolution of the art of 'Chronogram,' which is a specialized art that can extract the exact date and year the poet intended to portray by just reading the Urdu couplet.

However, not every poet is aware to use the art of chronogram in their respective poetry.

To relive the memories and their technicalities, the session was organized to recall the poets who used this particular art and its related delicacies in executing this art in their form of respective poetry.

To elaborate further, Chronogram, which is viewed as a sentence in which specific letters, interpreted as numerals, stand for a particular date when rearranged. The word if loosely translated is 'time writing', derives from the Greek words chronos and gramma.

This had been the normal set of practice for the classical poets to arrange their couplets in such a way that it reflects the year and date.

For instance, one of the finest elegy poet Mirza Dabeer, while paying tribute to his other famous contemporary Mir Anees, said a couplet which when calculated transpired that Dabeer actually arranged it in such a pattern that it coincided with the Anis's year of demise. For instance he said:

Aasman Be Mah-i-Kamil Sidrah Be Ruhul Amin Toor-i-Sina Be Kalimullah Mimbar Be Anees

The experts believe that the said couplet was arranged in a way which when calculated produced a number that is 1291.

The same number if counted in terms of the Islamic calendar would reveal that then the Islamic year was 1291 Hijri, 1874 AD. Anees breathed his last on 10th December 1874.

For the aforementioned reason, this session was a breath of fresh air which conversed a rare topic and tried to rejuvenate it to register its importance.

Jauhar Abbas who has been voraciously involved in studying various poets of the contemporary era and of the past was critical that this particular art was seemingly fading away and in shambles.

In his respective address, Jauhar was wary about the students' lack of interest in deeply studying the evolution of Urdu literature and how this language had transformed with the passage of centuries.

Meanwhile, the topic was designed to highlight the value of the art of Chronogram in Urdu literature. Jauhar who did his thesis during his Masters's (2021) on the technical study of Hafeez Hoshiarpuri's chronograms cited his memories with the poet late Naseer Turabi, to whom he credited for pushing him to delve more into this domain of Urdu literature.

If not justice, then nothing

Justice demands the ground realities and real intentions behind the curtain.

When a person denies from such reality and intention & demands equitable opportunities keeping himself in an imbalanced side, certainly Judiciary would come forward to make the balance & this equitable justice & Pak. Army patience is commendable in the history of Pakistan otherwise we all were about to fall in the well & decline in the world map.

Wonderfully, PM on Conveying his disappointment towards the judiciary's biased attitude towards Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif slammed the "double standards of justice" and "extraordinary relief" relief given to his rival in corruption cases.

But here, it cannot be denied that extra-ordinary persons are given exclusive balances in their lives.

They also came to know that our PM censured the judiciary for protecting the PTI chief like an iron shield and said that the coalition government would take every step to ensure the rule of law in Pakistan. "The judiciary has become an iron shield for Imran Khan," the premier said, while addressing a cabinet meeting in Islamabad. The premier's comments came a day after Supreme Court Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial ordered the release of the PTI chairman declaring his arrest on May 9 as "illegal". Khan was arrested from the premises of the Islamabad High Court (IHC) by Rangers personnel — acting on the National Accountability Bureau's (NAB) warrant

— in the Al-Qadir Trust case. But ! A proclaimed offender is not dealt in such a way as it operated while PTI Chairman Imran Khan appeared before the court. It comprises revenge?

Here it is the need of the hour to establish a new institution which may also check the balance and imbalance among the segments of the society.

People's reaction is concrete evidence, what they have been demanding for decades.

In these circumstances, no institution could dare to deviate from equitable justice.

Country needs, nation needs, the poor & poverty needs a real patriot.

PDM must thank the Allah Almighty Who has saved Pakistan because it was being observed that the untoward situation was going to be uncontrolled despite the use of all forces.

US & NATO forces have already observed in Afghanistan that, Might is right, failed miserably after losing much.

23- Crore masses salute the Pakistan Armed forces that they have been peeping into the facts with figures behind the scene.

It is surprising that from those to

whom some elements are saying the cause of hurly burly in the state, meanwhile PTI Chairman Imran Khan is being garlanded with petals showers?

Public decisions have parallel balance with the court decisions, and there is dire need to understand the resonances ! then any third corner may plunge into accounts of untoward phenomena and realities demand your eagle eyes in all respect?

On the other hand, Maulana Fazlur Rehman will stage a Dharna despite a major part of this existing government ! Here he has felt that, where is the boat & where was the river? There may be a river but out of water this time.

Everyone and especially the PDM Chairman has the right to protest but peacefully.

You have been leading the PDM and the people have been angered by the ongoing uncomfortable conditions & comfortability is the need of time.

Would that your all efforts were for the promulgation of Islam According to the Ideology of Pakistan ! Allah Almighty says that your effort will be seen ! Sit yourself down wherever you want,

Analysis



MA Rashid

Hold a sit-in and pray continuously and ask Allah to guide us all, because guidance is with Allah, Allah can give whom He wills. There is no other command except the command of Allah Almighty.



Amjad Rasmi

Incidences-turned coincidences

Analysis

Prof. Fazal Tanha Gharshin

When the head of an institution fails to fulfill his or her assigned responsibilities and becomes unable to run the institution concerned smoothly, he or she resigns morally by admitting failures or at least transferred or deposed by higher authorities. In developed countries, politicians, government officials, and military officers are open to criticism, admit their failures and wish for betterment. Generally, politics is for public welfare, military for maintaining peace and media for awareness; while in Pakistan, politics is for offsprings' welfare, military for preserving dynasties and media for justifying these practices. In Pakistan, law is for the poor, prisons for critics, death for innocents, privileges for the rich, rewards for sycophants, and peace for rulers. In the country, there are neither revolutions nor evolutions; rather there are incidents after incidents. In the world, incidents are detected, investigated

and rooted out; while in Pakistan, incidents are predicted, condemned and turned soon into coincidences. After the large number of incidents and their sudden turning into coincidences, it can be said that the country has become home to incidences-turned coincidences.

After Imran Khan was ousted and PDM ascended to the throne, terrorism in Pakistan reached new heights. The PDM central government blamed the then IK-led KP government for boosting insurgency in the country for political interests. When Islamabad and Pindi were hit by two consecutive suicide bomb blasts, local government polls in Islamabad were deferred sine die. So, the PDM was also not in the favor of these polls. On Jan 30, 2023, a suicide bomb shook a masque in KP, leaving one hundred plus people dead and more than 150 injured, but soon after the incidence, the so-called journalists and some of the government officials foretold that general elections might be delayed at least for another year – 2024. In 2014, APS incident shook Pakistan and brought IK's 126-days long sit-in to an end. To remember it to readers that Balakot air strike had also coincided with Gen Bajwa's extension in Feb 26, 2019, and the people were told that during the war the horse is not changed. Nowadays, bomb blasts and terror-

ist attacks are at peak, and perhaps may culminate in another coincidence. When incidences turn into coincidences, then it becomes natural for questions and doubts to arise. One wonders, how every incidence is followed by a coincidence.

Like other countries in the world, Pakistan also tries its best to maintain national integrity by having common enemy; rather than by developing its human capital. Pakistan has two common enemies: terrorism and India. Terrorism in Pakistan and enmity with India are the main incentives for maintaining unity in Pakistan. Political consensus in Pakistan has always been at the cost of blood and deaths. Whenever and wherever a terrorist attack occurs, India is blamed for it. In fact, behind every incidence, there is security lapse or administrative negligence. Generally, terrorists are dealt with iron hands, but in Pakistan, terrorists are appeased, glorified and even negotiations are held with them.

When innocent citizens and security personnel are killed in terrorist attacks, government officials condemn the attack slightly and ignore the incidence only by declaring the murdered people as martyrs. In Pakistan, terrorist attacks have become the order of the day. Are we, our children and our security personnel born only to

accept martyrdom? Do mothers give birth to children only for achieving martyrdom? Has the duty of politicians left only to loot the country and take revenge from one another? Have the politicians held security institutions accountable for the ongoing insurgency in the country so far? Have any army chief, intelligence chief, corps commander or any army officer ever been criticized, transferred, replaced, punished or deposed for bad performance and failure in bringing peace? In the history of Pakistan, till date, has any army official or political leader admitted his or her failure in restoring peace? Absolutely not!

It is high time both for politicians and security officials to admit their failures and put their house in order. Pakistan cannot afford more incidences. Incidences should not be turned into coincidences any more. Security lapse and administrative negligence should be readdressed. Politicians, security institutions, judiciary and media have failed in making the country a place to live in; they must realize their real responsibilities. Otherwise, one day the people will be forced to take up arms for their own protection. Then there will be neither politics nor state; but only darkness.

Prof. Fazal Tanha Gharshin teaches at Govt Boys Degree College Pishin.

PPF express alarm over continuing acts of violence against media professionals-II

PPF research

Daily Intekhab cameraperson Alexander Kalwin shared a similar ordeal as that of the other journalists. Kalwin said other journalists and himself were standing away from the spot when the police saw that we were filming footage with the camera.

"They grabbed us and hit me with the butt of a gun and beat me with a stick on my head, and I lost consciousness," he said, adding, "I have suffered injuries, and the doctor has advised me to rest for ten days. My camera has also been broken."

Quetta Press Club and Balochistan Union of Journalists strongly condemned the incidents and staged a protest.

Quetta Press Club President Khalid Rind said that they had boycotted the coverage of the police and have also recorded a protest with the PTI leadership. The boycott will continue until the police officials apologize, Rind stated. In the Punjab province, a Geo News reporter Dua Mirza shared that police used tear gas to disperse protestors in Lahore on May 10. Mirza told PPF that many journalists were reporting from the site. However, no major injuries were reported from the province.

In another incident, a case was registered against City 49 correspondent Rafiq Sajid in Allahabad district of Kasur in Punjab, where police registered a case against 50 PTI workers. As per Sajid, he had gone to cover the protests when the police registered a case against him, mistaking him for a PTI worker.

In the country's capital Islamabad, Voice of America correspondent Salman Idris Qazi was manhandled by police outside the Islamabad High Court (IHC) on May 9. Speaking to PPF, Qazi said he was busy with coverage when police started a baton charge. Qazi said, along with other journalists as well as a colleague Ali Zaidi, was manhandled.

In Rawalpindi, Express News producer and social activist Syed Mustajab Hassan and Suno TV producer Muhammad Faizan Ashraf were manhandled by police when they started to make videos of police raiding the residence of a PTI leader Raja Nasir Mehfooz on the night of May 9, adding that they wanted to capture the incident. Speaking to PPF, Hassan said that police had attacked them in a misunderstanding and thought that they were PTI party workers.

"They did not just physically torture us but also mentally abused us. What was our fault? We were just making videos," he said, adding that this was the first time he had experienced such brutality from police officials.

"We showed them our office cards, but they did not stop beating us," Hassan shared with PPF, adding that they had informed the National Press Club and the relevant journalists' union and organization and would also register a first information report (FIR).

Suno TV producer Ashraf added: "I was mentally disturbed and traumatized after this incident. We are reputable journalists, and those police officials knew that we were journalists, but they kept on beating us."

In a statement, Islamabad National Press Club President Anwar Raza, General Secretary Khalil Raja, and Finance Secretary Nayyar Ali condemned the incident. Raza said that the approach of the police was unacceptable.

The Rawalpindi Islamabad Union of Journalists (RIUJ) President Abid Abbas, General Secretary Tariq Ali, Finance Secretary Kashaan Akmal Gul and other members also strongly condemned the incident that the actions of the Rawalpindi police could not be tolerated under any circumstance.

The Islamabad National Press Club and the RIUJ demanded that the inspector general of police and Rawalpindi regional police officer take action against the police officers involved in the incident.

Concluded

Türkiye heads to polls to choose next president, lawmakers

Spokesman Report

Three candidates will run for Türkiye's top office Sunday as more than 60 million voters will go to the polls for presidential elections. A total of 24 political parties and 151 independent candidates will compete for 600 seats.

The vote is viewed as critical both for the ruling Justice and Development Party (AK Party) and the opposition. The opposition bloc of six parties is the strongest rival incumbent President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan has faced in the more than a dozen elections he competed in the past two decades. The opposition, represented by Republican People's Party (CHP) leader Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu in the presidential election, sees it as the last chance to defeat Erdoğan, who has dominated the political landscape as prime minister and the president for years.

Apart from Kılıçdaroğlu of the Nation Alliance, Erdoğan will compete against the Ata Alliance, made up of smaller, nationalist parties who nominated academic Sinan Oğan. Muharrem İnce, the only candidate without an alliance, dropped out of the race on Thursday, though his name will remain on the

ballots cast on Sunday.

The election day also marks the anniversary of the first multiparty, truly democratic elections of the Republic of Türkiye in 1950. Since then, Türkiye weathered four major coups, including the one that ousted the Democrat Party, the winner of the 1950 elections. Ultimately, democracy prevailed as the military juntas collapsed, defeated or withdrew.

The candidates will secure a five-year term if they can gain the majority at 191,884 ballot boxes set up at polling stations across Türkiye. Overseas voting already ended earlier this week while Turkish citizens living abroad will be allowed to cast their ballots at border crossings and airports until the same deadline with voters in Türkiye.

On Sunday, more than 4.9 million people will vote for the first time. The parties and candidates strived to win the hearts of first-time voters, mostly "Generation Z," throughout their campaign period. First-timers may play a key role in influencing the outcome of the tight race.

The elections are also the first since the Feb. 6 earthquakes that hit Türkiye's southern regions. Dubbed the "disaster of the century" for the sheer scale of the destruction, the two massive earthquakes killed more than

50,000 people and affected 11 provinces. The Supreme Election Council (YSK) set up temporary polling stations in provinces affected by the disaster where the majority of the population still reside in temporary housing units while a massive reconstruction is underway.

Voters originally from the earthquake-hit provinces will be able to cast their ballots in cities and towns they resettled in, but their votes will be added to the votes of the city they currently reside, rather than the earthquake-hit provinces where they were initially registered to vote.

Some 133,000 voters from earthquake-hit provinces are now registered in other provinces.

The polls will open at 8 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. The unofficial election results are expected to be declared by the YSK in a few hours after the polls close.

This is also the first election with the possibility of a second round. If none of the candidates can secure more than 50% of the vote, a second round will be held on May 28.

Speaking to Anadolu Agency (AA) on Friday, YSK President Ahmet Yener said they took every measure to ensure a safe and smooth election. "We have all measures for a healthy



election environment in place. All measures are taken against possible power outages on the day of the election and possible cyberattacks," he assured.

Also speaking on overseas votes, Yener said they were brought to Türkiye safely under the supervision of diplomatic couriers by planes allocated solely to transportation of the

votes and under the watch of representatives of political parties. "It will be a celebration of democracy. I advise all eligible citizens to cast their votes," he said.

Milliy Tiklanish to support the candidacy of Shavkat Mirziyoyev in snap presidential elections

Spokesman Report

TASHKENT: The Milliy Tiklanish Democratic Party will not nominate its candidate for the post of President of Uzbekistan.

On 13 May, an extraordinary plenum of the Central Council of the Milliy Tiklanish Democratic Party was held. The party in the upcoming snap presidential elections will support the candidacy of Shavkat Mirziyoyev, who was previously nominated by the UzLiDeP party.

At the plenum, a corresponding decision was made to support candidate Shavkat Mirziyoyev in the presidential elections.



Trump's controversial CNN appearance raises questions about media's role

Former US President Donald Trump's contentious appearance on CNN has ignited a firestorm of criticism, as he propagated falsehoods and hurled insults.

His prime-time appearance has triggered widespread condemnation of the news network. This event serves as a poignant reminder of the persistent dilemma faced by media organisations when confronted with the task of accurately covering the Republican candidate vying to reclaim the highest office in the nation.

However, CNN defended their decision, stating their role in holding powerful individuals accountable. However, critics argued that the network provided Trump with a platform to spread debunked claims, attack a sexual abuse victim, and praise the Capitol rioters.

Raja Shabbir Kakarvi elected councilor from Kakada town

Arif Chaudhary

OLDHAM :Raja Shabbir Kakarvi, a prominent business socio-political figure of Oldham was elected unopposed as a councilor from Kakada town of Azad Jammu and Kashmir. Before that, his father late Haji Muhammad Nazir and his brother late Raja Munir Nazir were also councilors. Member of British Parliament Debbie Abraham Oldham Deputy Mayor Dr. Zahid Council Leader Arooj Shah Deputy Leader Councilor Shahid Mushtaq Councilor Naila Ibrahim Councilor Kamran Ghafoor Mayor of Rochdale Councilor Syed Ali Ahmed Prime Minister Azad Kashmir Former Coordinator Raja Maqsood Hussain-Vernath Friends Group Chairman Raja Sagheer Hussain extended his hearty congratulations.



Raja Shahbaz Khan passed away

Arif Chaudhary

OLDHAM :The authority of life and death is the authority of Allah Almighty. We cannot ignore the fact that every living thing has to taste the taste of death. Raja Shehbaz Khan, who has a very friendly, benevolent and poor-loving personality, who came to Britain from Kaji Chakwal in the 80s, left the temporary world at Team Side Hospital after a short illness and met his true creator, the young Raja Ayaz, Raja Hashim, Raja Wahab.

Father Raja Ali Raja Azhar's real brother Raja Masood Bhatti's brother relative Rana Irfan's brother in law Manchester's political social figure and former councilor Raja Faraz Bhatti's cousin brother. He was buried in the cemetery and his funeral prayer was led by Maulana Mohiuddin, the Imam of the mosque, and a large number of prominent business personalities and the local community participated in the funeral prayer. Political Social Entrepreneurs Member of British Parliament Afzal Khan Deputy Lord Mayor of Manchester Yasmin Dar Former Mayor Javed Iqbal Former Coordinator Prime Minister Azad Kashmir Raja Maqsood Hussain Kakarvi, Senior Journalist Arif Chaudhry Ejaz Afzal Sheikh, Raja Sagheer Kakarvi, Javed Iqbal Former Advisor to Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir, Raja Marwat Hussain, Deputy Leader Councilor Shahid Mushtaq, Former Mayor Atiqur Rehman, Ghazala Rana, Deputy Mayor Zahid Chauhnan, Raja Amjad Hussain, Naseem Khan Chaudhary, Ejaz Pandhir, Rana Arif Ali-Atif Riaz Chaudhary-Maullana Abdul Shkur Qadri, Councilors Muhammad Ilyas. Shoaib Akhtar, Chairman of Self-Determination Movement, Raja Najabat Hussain, Wajid Rizvi, Sajid Rizvi, Zafar Iqbal Ranjha, Syed Amjad Ali Shah, Rana Mobile offered heartfelt condolences and prayed to Allah Almighty to give the deceased a high place in Jannat al-Firdous. May Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) be blessed with the intercession and vision of Habib Kareem (Amen, then Amen).

APHC-AJK chapter strongly condemns the surge in human rights violations by Indian troops

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: APHC-AJK Convener, Mehmood Ahmad Saghar, General Secretary Sheikh Abdul Mateen and Information Secretary Imtiaz Wani in a joint statement issued in Islamabad said the Indian troops have unleashed a reign of terror by intensifying their cordon and search operations and house raids across the occupied territory.

They maintained that India wants to intimidate the Kashmiris through such cruel tactics, but the brave Kashmiris are committed to continue their



just struggle for right to self-determination and take it to its logical conclusion at all costs.

They said the Indian authorities have illegally detained thousands of innocent Kash-

miris including APHC leaders in jails to suppress the ongoing Kashmir freedom movement.

The Hurriyat leaders deplored that the occupation authorities have intensified raids and searches in the name of security measures ahead of the G-20 meeting being hosted by the Narendra Modi-led Indian government in Shrinagar due to which the hardships of the people have increased manifold.

They urged the international community to put pressure on New Delhi to stop its state terrorism in IIOJK and resolve the Kashmir dispute in accordance with the Kashmiris' aspirations for ensuring durable peace in South Asia.

Another Egyptian Tale

Egypt—a place to discover the golden horizons of ‘the land of the Pharaohs’

Munaza Kazmi

The land of the Pharaohs, famous for its huge pyramids, bandaged mummies, captive desserts, history's most beautiful woman Cleopatra and no doubt the golden treasures. How much do we really know about Egypt? Beside "The Great Pyramid", that obviously has no match, but there're some other horizons of Egypt to discover!

Egypt is the home to our Holy Moses, where he born and lived most of his live and from where we get to know about some of the greatest Pharaohs. It's the place where Almighty God speaks with Moses and had sent His 10 Commandments, today that mountain known as Mount Sinai, it is the holy land where God displayed a very minor part of His self, about which we can find references in the Holy Quran

as "Koh e Toor". Apart from history and religion, Egypt is famous for its stunning beaches and coral reefs, tasty food, glittering night life and exotic resorts. These were some of the big reasons I planned this summer for travelling Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt, that offers visa on arrival.

I get the ticket of Saudia Airlines and embarked on the journey in the first week of May, from Islamabad International Airport for Egypt by having connecting flight at Jeddah, which is really a good time to travel, since the weather is perfect, cool wind and warm waters.

Am not biased but am really disappointed with Saudia Airlines, even I have filed the complaint online, since the service was actually very poor, food was funny, my four out of four flights were delayed, moreover King Abdul Aziz Airport

was seriously very unclean, am talking about the toilets and there was no Free Wifi facility for the passengers, although Star Bucks was offering it for free and there it was like a fish market.

However, I reached Egypt two hours late, where am thankful to my guide who helped me in the visa processing, that saved much of my quality time. Afterwards, I have been transported to the resort, I picked there Grand Rotana Resort and Spa, luxury beachfront resort that is just 8 kilometers away from Sharm El Sheikh International Airport and with easy access to the major tourist locations.

The Resort itself was amazing, I would say it's a perfect holiday destination, with its 450 meters stretch private beach, a spectacular pool surrounded by a lush tropical landscape with over 2,000 palm trees, beautiful lawns packed with flowers of several colors and kind that spray

the air with flowery mist.

During my cheek-in there was a serious mistake done on the part of my travel agent, however am grateful to the management of Rotana that they upgraded my room without any extra charge. I was given "Sea View Room" with private terrace from where I had a landscape view of the mesmerizing boats dancing in the gigantic Red Sea with the background of a dark mountains, tall Palm trees who told me several tales of Egyptian Pharaohs. For dining and entertainment, I had the access to all the 10 restaurants, bars and cafes, where I was served delicious food with big smiles on faces. I loved their hospitality.

Later, in the morning my first experience of bathing in the Egyptian Sun, cool misty breeze from the shores of Red Sea calms the warm rays, makes the water temperature moderate, and let the fish swim closer to even

kiss my toes. And there I let go of myself to embrace the deep blue waters that have an eternal power to wash away all the earthy thoughts and worries, the water took me into its own paradise, habituated with creatures of its own, tiny transparent fish, colorful lively reef, some were as a living masterpiece floating with pride.

In the evening my guide took me to the nearby SOHO Square which is huge public area, occupied with several shops, cafes, and park and Old Market to experience the Egyptian culture, where I meet some kind people and have bought some souvenirs to make a show at home.

At 8pm I was back into the hotel, where I had my dinner at the lavish Ramses Restaurant, after having my dinner around 9pm I found myself on the road trip moving towards Mount Sinai in a tiny van. It was a group tour however, we were almost 10-12

people in the van, all were Russians except me, a very long and uncomfortable drive since the guide there was some sort of an arrogant and person filled with greed, he housed people more than the capacity and there I experienced discrimination and harassment from the guide. Well, I believe this world is filled with different people, some good some...whatever.

Moving forward we all reach to the entry point of the mountain that was highly crowded, but we made our way. Deserts turns extremely cold during the night I haven't any idea, believe me or not but it was freezing, but thanks to my Russian friend who gave me a shawl to deal with the weather. Then comes the Mountain climb which was challenging, it is 7,497 ft high, with narrow, dark, rocky and difficult routebut still my eyes witnessed people of different ages and backgrounds struggling with happi-

ness to reach the top as its the holy place for all the major religions, here I would urge the Egyptian authorities to at least install some network of gas of electric lamps along the way, as its deadly to climb in the dark.

Well, God remain very kind the night was of full moon hence we never had much difficulty, we reached to the top around the sunrise. After offering the prayers, we walk down the mountain and around 9 am finished the trip with a short visit at ST. Catherine's Monastery, that is said to be the oldest continuously inhabited Christian monastery in the world.

When I reached back to the resort it was 1 pm, the sleepless night, hard weather and the extremely bad condition of my feet forced me to stay next of my days in the comfort and luxury of Rotana, where I ventured the beach, eat good food and thanked my Almighty.

All of the country's institutions have become unreliable: Dr. Hanif Mughal



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek Shadbad Chairman Dr. Hanif Mughal on Saturday said during the last few days, the country has lost billions of rupees, the employment of the poor has been affected and the reputation of the country has been irreparably damaged.

Addressing a press conference, he said that if the former prime minister was innocent, why was he arrested and if he was guilty, then he was released.

Dr. Hanif Mughal said that it should be investigated that who was behind this game and responsible should be punished.

The national crisis is getting more serious with each passing day. All the important institutions and political parties have jumped into the fray promoting stupidity and ignorance.

Someone in behind this dirty game otherwise angry mobs would not have destroyed properties and blocked roads with such ease, he observed.

The way in which the leaders of a political group have expressed their views about the army and other institutions created sentiments against these institutions, so they cannot show indifference to all this vandalism, he added.

Dr. Hanif Mughal said that it seems everyone agrees on increasing anarchy and everyone disagrees on reforming the country.

The Supreme Court not only granted bail to the former prime minister in all cases but also directed not to arrest him in any case, on which the PDM announced a sit-in in front of the Supreme Court on Monday.

Differences within the establishment have thrown every institution into this fight. The federal cabinet has considered issues like banning PTI and other proposals that will lead to more chaos in the country.

The conduct of influential has made all the institutions unreliable to the masses. Two or three laws are running simultaneously in the country. One is for VIP politicians, the second is for ordinary political workers and the third is for poor people.

Pakistan could not achieve the target of textile export: says Dr. Khurram

Bureau Report.

FAISALABAD: Pakistan could not achieve the target of textile export to \$50 billion by 2027 due to the political uncertainty and lack of interest by the government in enhancing exports, said Dr. Khurram Tariq, President Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI).

He said that as per a world bank report the textile sector was fully competent to enhance the exports to \$50bn if equal opportunities and level playing field was provided. He said that the government endorsed this proposal and provided electricity at Rs. 19.99 per unit and gas at 9 dollars per MMBTU.

"This decision yielded positive results as textile exports recorded a 55% increase within a short span of two years", he said and added that Pakistani export jumped from 11.25 billion to \$19.5 billion in 2022. He said that the government was forced to withdraw the facility of regionally competitive energy tariff as the political uncertainty continued and Discos failed to check the pilferage of electricity and gas.

He said that this decision has made Pakistan a costlier country as compared to its economic competitors. He said that gas is available in Punjab at \$13.2, in India \$6.1, Bangladesh at \$7.6 and in Vietnam at \$7.8.

"The Punjab was also facing competition within the country as in Sindh gas is available at \$5 whereas it is provided at \$13.2 per mmbtu in Punjab", he said, adding that the five export sectors including textile are now getting electricity at full tariff which is around Rs. 44 per unit. "On the other hand, electricity is available in India at 7 cent, in Bangladesh at 10cent and in Vietnam at 6 cent per unit", he said and added that in garb of IMF, the government has pushed the industrial export sector towards total collapse. He said that if regionally competitive electricity tariff was not provided and theft of electricity and gas was not checked, the industrial sector would come into a grinding halt opening floodgates of unemployment and nullifying the economic progress made so far.

He further said that recovery of FESCO is 99.9% but its industrialists and consumers are forced to pay the theft of other Discos which is against the rule of justice. He said that the actual cost of electricity in FESCO is around Rs.20 per unit but they are being charged Rs. 44. He warned the government and economic managers to check this injustice otherwise the situation may become out of control. He further said that the government should not expect enhanced exports by tying the hand and foot of the exporters and industrialists.

Investors have to obtain permits from central provincial and local government: Mian Zahid

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President of Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum and President of All Karachi Industrial Alliance and former Provincial Minister Mian Zahid Hussain has said that doing business in Pakistan is almost impossible and like a gamble.

Only those foreign investors who have no other option venture into Pakistan due to a host of reasons.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that the target of the majority of foreign investors is not technological development or exports but local



consumption. Talking to the business community, he said

that only those foreign investors will invest in big projects who can get incredible returns like IPPs.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that investors who want to do business in Pakistan have to get dozens of permits and NOCs from the central government, provincial government and local government and they have to face unprecedented corruption at every step.

For this reason, foreign investment is eleven percent in Pakistan and if Chinese investors are not counted, it will remain only a few percent, while foreign investment in India is more than 29 percent and in China more than 35 percent of their GDP.

Foreign investors bring with them new ideas, new technology and modern processes while increasing the skills and productivity of the local population, but they are discouraged in every possible way resulting in skyrocketing debt.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, Baloch separatists, the lawyers' movement and the recent civil disorder have caused irreparable damage to the country's image and economy.

Investors are not feeling safe in the current toxic political environment, economic downfall and increasing instability. In this situation only senseless will consider Pakistan for investment.

Pakistan and Ethiopia ready for significant progress in economy and technology

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD : Dr. Foziya Amin, Minister of State for Innovation and Technology of Ethiopia has said that there are vast opportunities of cooperation between Ethiopia and Pakistan in various fields including business and economy. She said that the visit of Ethiopian delegation to Pakistan would contribute to further strengthen trade ties between both countries.

Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) said that Ethiopia should play its role to get an observer

state status for Pakistan in the African Union. He said that the African Union is a

visiting Ethiopian delegation.

Dr. Foziya Amin said that women have an important role in the economic development of a country and appreciated the role of Pakistani women in various fields including business and economy. She said that the visit of Ethiopian delegation to Pakistan would contribute to further strengthen trade ties between both countries.

Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) said that Ethiopia should play its role to get an observer

state status for Pakistan in the African Union. He said that the African Union is a



strong forum of the African nations and being an observer state, Pakistan can play its role in developing economic and trade relations among the African, South Asian and Central Asian countries. He said that both countries should

make joint efforts for economic integration and participation in regional and global economic and trade activities.

H.E. Jemal Beker Abdulla, Ambassador of Ethiopia to Pakistan said that the start of direct flights by the Ethiopi-

an airline with Pakistan would be helpful in improving business and investment relations between the two countries.

Engr. Azhar ul Islam Zafar, Vice President ICCI said that both countries can cooperate in textiles, agriculture, construc-

tion and many other fields. He termed the opening of a full-fledged Ethiopian embassy in Pakistan and start of direct flights as a welcome development between the two countries.

Khalid Iqbal Malik, former President and Group Leader highlighted the investment potential for Ethiopia in Pakistan's tourism sector and stressed that they should take full advantage of it.

Zafar Bakhtawari, former President & Secretary General UBG said that Ethiopia is a growing economy and start of its direct flights with Pakistan would help both countries to further strengthen economic ties.

Vegetables Market

ISLAMABAD: Traders are taking part in bidding to buy Sweet melons on whole sale prices at Fruit and Vegetables Market, in Federal Capital. ONLINE PHOTO



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

No IMF program likely before federal budget 2023 - 24

Spokesman Report

KARACHI : Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, President FPCCI, has expressed his profound concerns that the government and its economic team has not yet started the consultative process with the business community in general and the apex body FPCCI in particular. Less than a month is left in the announcement of budget as it has been slated for presentation on 9th June.

President FPCCI has invited Mr. Ishaq Dar, federal minister for finance & revenue, to meet the leaders of Pakistan's business, industry and trade community to take stock of their proposals vis-à-vis federal budget 2023 - 24 and also listen to their issues, apprehensions & recommended solutions.

Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh explained that FPCCI wants to present and discuss its propos-

als on industrial, trade, shipping & transportation; taxation, SME, agriculture, IT & ITES; monetary and fiscal policies with the government. Budget-making is the opportunity where we can have meaningful course correction - based on ground realities; regional & global business environment and national interest.

FPCCI Chief also expressed his shock that IMF has resorted to arm-twisting as it has raised - for no reason - the external funding requirement from \$6 to \$8 billion; sensing that the friendly countries have promised up to \$5 billion in funding or roll-overs to Pakistan; and, Pakistan is pretty close to fulfilling the last condition and was asking for a relaxation of only \$1 billion, when the target was \$6 billion. This is unfair and unethical; and, the international community must take notice, he added.

Exhibition on 10th anniversary of the China Belt and Road Initiative

News Desk

LAHORE: On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the China Belt and Road Initiative, an exhibition titled "Star Moon Road; China-Pakistan Contemporary Arts Exchange" organized by the University of Education, Lahore in collaboration with the Lahore Museum concluded on May 5, 2023.

The closing ceremony of the exhibition was held in the main Campus Township of the University, which was presided over by Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Talat Naseer Pasha (S.I., H.I.) while former Federal Secretary Akhlaq Ahmed Tarar was the chief guest of the ceremony. 16 famous artists from China and 2 from Pakistan participated in the exhibition.

Renowned artists like Jamal Shah and Faryal Gohar from Pakistan also graced the exhibition. During the two days, the works of artists were exhibited in the Lahore Museum along with the UE, which was much appreciated by the public and a large number of art lovers who came to see the works.

Speaking at the closing ceremony of the exhibition, Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Talat Nasir Pasha (S.I., H.I.) said that no one doubts the friendship between Pakistan and China and the



strong relations between these countries. The people of these countries have a special interest in understanding each other's culture, civilization, arts and language in order to promote cooperation.

There are currently around 12 Chinese students studying in University of Education, Lahore, which is an honor for us. The Vice-Chancellor hailed the exhibition of Chinese and Pakistani artists as the best activity and congratulated all the organizers for its successful organization. The Chief Guest, former Federal Secretary Akhlaq Ahmed Tarar, in his opening address, commended the University of Education, Lahore and its Vice

Chancellor for the successful conduct of the exhibition.

The former federal secretary said that Pakistan-China exchange programs in various fields including education and training, arts, culture are not only strengthening the relations of these countries, but it will open new ways of development and prosperity.

Nowadays, when the whole world is suffering from economic and social issues, it is very welcome for two friendly countries to stand together. Later, the chief guest visited the art pieces along with the Vice Chancellor and the Chinese guests. A large number of well-known political and

social figures of the country, vice chancellors of various universities, intellectuals, experts related to the department of culture and arts, university directors/principals and students were also present in the closing ceremony.

Meanwhile, the ongoing second two-day annual international conference on "Recent Approaches in Plant Sciences (RAPPS)" organized by the Department of Botany of the University of Education, Lahore also concluded on May 5, 2023. The closing ceremony of the international conference was held at the UE main Campus Township which was presided over by the Vice-Chancellor Prof.

Dr. Talat Nasir Pasha (S.I., H.I.) while Rector University of Lahore Professor Dr. Muhammad Ashraf (H.I., S.I.) was the chief guest.

Addressing the event, the speakers appreciated the work of researchers and experts and emphasized on benefiting from it practically. Pro Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Arshad, Director Division of Science and Technology Prof. Dr. Alam Saeed and Chairperson Department of Botany Prof. Dr. Abrar Hussain and others also spoke on this occasion. It should be noted that scientists and researchers from America, UK, China, Turkey, Africa and all over Pakistan participated in the conference.

Pakistan Shaheens hand Zimbabwe A an innings defeat

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD :Pakistan Shaheens defeated Zimbabwe A by an innings and 41 runs on the fourth day of the second four-day match at the Mutare Sports Club in Mutare, Zimbabwe on Saturday.

It took only 9.3 overs for the visitors to wrap up the innings and take the remaining three wickets as Zimbabwe A could add only 37 runs to their overnight score of 238 for seven in 76 overs, according to information made available here by Pakistan Cricket Board.

For Pakistan Shaheens, right-arm fast Mohammad Ali bagged three wickets for 49 runs. He ended up with match figures of seven for 85. Shah Nawaz Dahani and Aamir Jamal snapped two wickets apiece in the second innings.

The win means Pakistan Shaheens have completed a clean-sweep over Zimbabwe A across the two four-day matches. Shaheens won the first four-day match by the eight wickets which was played at the Kwekwe Sports Club in Kwekwe from 3-6 May.



Shaheens will now take on Zimbabwe's national side in the six-match one-day series starting from 17 May in Harare.

Scores in brief:

Pakistan Shaheens beat Zimbabwe A by an innings and 41 runs.

Zimbabwe A 163 all out, 56.4 overs

(Tadiwanashe Marumani 66, Dion Myers 50; Mohammad Ali 4-36, Mehran Mumtaz 3-36, Aamir Jamal 3-51) and 275 all out, 85.3 overs (Nyasha Mayayo 55, Tony Munyonga 43, Joylord Gumbie 42; Mohammad Ali 3-49, Shah Nawaz Dahani 2-33, Aamir Jamal 2-45)

Pakistan Shaheens 479 all out, 116 overs (Haseebullah 117, Hussain Talat 74, Omair Bin Yousuf 65, Mohammad Huraire 64, Qasim Akram 36, Aamir Jamal 35, Imran Butt 27; Victor Nyauchi 5-125, Tanaka Chivanga 3-89)

Player of the match – Mohammad Ali (Pakistan Shaheens).

Tour schedule:

3-6 May – 1st Four-day match; KSC, Kwekwe (Pakistan Shaheens won by eight wickets)

10- 13 May – 2nd Four-day match; MSC, Mutare (Pakistan Shaheens won by an innings and 41 runs)

17 May – 1st 50-over match; TSC, Harare

19 May – 2nd 50-over match; HSC, Harare

21 May – 3rd 50-over match; HSC, Harare

23 May – 4th 50-over match; OH, Harare

25 May – 5th 50-over match; HSC, Harare

27 May – 6th 50-over match; HSC, Harare

President PbOA hands over the torch of 34th National Games to Secretary Sports

Sports Desk

LAHORE: President PbOA Amir Jan hands over the torch of 34th National Games to Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Shahid Zaman and Director General Sports Punjab Dr Asif Tufail at a ceremony held at Punjab Stadium.

President Punjab Olympic Association Amir Jan handed over the torch of 34th National Games to Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Shahid Zaman and Director General Sports Punjab Dr Asif Tufail at a ceremony held at Punjab Stadium on Friday.

Secretary Pakistan Olympic Association (POA) Khalid Mehmood, Secretary Punjab Olympic Association (PbOA) Idris Haider Khawaja, President Punjab Swimming Association Women Wing Mubashra Raza, Secretary Sports Balochistan Ishaq Jamali, Olympian Shabana Akhtar, International athlete Shajar Abbas and former kabaddi captain Shafiq Chishti, Olympian Kh Junaid, Administrator Punjab Stadium Rehmatullah, Chief Sports Consultant SBP Hafeez Bhatti, and a large number of sports enthusiasts were also present on this



occasion.

Earlier, Olympian Shabana Akhtar, International athlete Shajar Abbas and former kabaddi captain Shafiq Chishti carried the torch of 34th National Games to Punjab Stadium and handed it over to President Punjab Olympic Association Amir Jan.

Addressing the ceremony, Secretary

Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Shahid Zaman said that Punjab's sports contingent of around 450 athletes will offer brilliant performance in National Games scheduled to be held at Quetta from May 22. "Our athletes are well prepared for the grand National Games event and we are quite upbeat that they will clinch more medals than all other contingents from

across the country".

Director General Sports Punjab Dr Asif Tufail on this occasion said that it would be a wonderful opportunity for young male and female athletes of the province to display their sports potential in their respective games. "Sports Board Punjab is working hard for the promotion of sports across the province".

In his address, President Punjab Olympic Association Amir Jan said that Punjab's sports contingent has been prepared with the untiring efforts of Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Shahid Zaman and Director General Sports Punjab Dr Asif Tufail. "Punjab Sports Department is taking effective measures for the promotion of sports in the province. Holding National Games is definitely a major step for the growth of sports culture across the country".

Secretary Sports Balochistan Ishaq Jamali in his address said that hosting the National Games will be a great honour for our province. "We have completed all the arrangements including best security measures for organizing 34th edition of the National Games in a befitting manner".

Shahzaib's ton aids Pakistan U19 seal one-day series win over Bangladesh

A Sports

ISLAMABAD: Shahzaib Khan's unbeaten century led Pakistan U19 to an eight-wicket win over Bangladesh U19 in the fourth one-day at the Shaheed Kamruzzaman Stadium in Rajshahi on Saturday. The win gives Pakistan U19 an unassailable 3-1 lead in the five-match series.

Chasing 200 runs to win, the opening pair of Shahzaib and Azan Awaiz provided a solid 152-run start to the innings. The left-handed Azan, who scored 105 in the second one-day match, was the first one to return back to the hut after scoring a 91-ball 52, which included seven boundaries.

Shamyl Hussain (7, 12b, 1x4) was next to join Azan as Pakistan U19 were 167 for two in 32.4 overs. At that moment,



captain Saad Baig partnered with Shahzaib to stitch an unbroken 35 runs for the third wicket to

help the side achieve the target in the 37th over.

In the partnership, Shahzaib Khan brought up his century and returned unbeaten on 105 off 105 deliveries, smashing 14 fours and one six. After being put into bat, Bangladesh U19 were dismissed for 199 in 46.4 overs. Ariful Islam top-scored for his side with a 95-ball 50, which included four fours and one six.

For Pakistan U19, right-arm fast Aimal Khan and left-arm spinner Ali Asfand bagged three wickets each.

Both sides will now feature in the fifth match of the series at the same venue on Monday, 15 May. Pakistan U19, who have earlier won the solitary four-day match by 10 wickets played at the Zahir Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chattogram, will aim to end the 50-over series 4-1.

Darren Sammy appointed West Indies' head coach ahead of World Cup

Sports Desk

ANTIGUA: The Cricket West Indies (CWI) on Friday, announced the appointments of their new head coaches – Darren Sammy and Andrey Coley – for their national men's senior team in white-ball and red-ball formats respectively.

West Indies' most successful T20I captain Sammy is up for a new role for his national side as the former all-rounder has been named the head coach of the white ball – ODIs and T20I – teams.

Meanwhile, former wicket-keeper batter Andrey Coley was named the head coach of the senior men's red-ball teams.

After assuming the new role, Darren Sammy's first assign-

ment will be the three-match ODI Series against the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in Sharjah in June.

Following this, West Indies will partake in ICC Men's World Cup qualifiers in Zimbabwe, which will feature 10 teams including West Indies, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, Ireland, Netherlands, Scotland, Oman, Nepal, USA and UAE.

Speaking on his appointment, Darren Sammy termed it a big challenge but at the same time is upbeat and looking forward to the opportunity.

"It will be a challenge but one that I'm ready for and excited about. I'm really looking forward to the opportunity, especially looking at the players we have and the impact that I



believe I can have in the dressing room.

"I will bring the same approach as I had as a player: the passion, the desire for success, and my undying love for West Indies cricket. When I look around there is

an abundance of talent, and what I saw in South Africa in the white ball matches under new captains Shai Hope and Rovman Powell and the leadership provided by Andre Coley, there is great belief that we can do well."

"I'm looking forward to imparting my knowledge, my tactical acumen, my communication skills and my man-management skills. I get excited about putting the plans together and seeing the players execute them."

It is worth mentioning here that Darren Sammy powered West Indies to two T20 World Cup triumphs in 2012 and 2016.

Following his retirement from international cricket, the all-rounder represented several teams in different franchise leagues across the world. He has also coached teams in Caribbean Premier League (CPL) and Peshawar Zalmi in the Pakistan Super League (PSL).

34th National Games: HEC and Balochistan win inaugural Softball Matches

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Higher Education Commission (HEC) defeated Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) by 15 runs while Balochistan defeated Sindh softball team by 9 runs in the opening match of the softball women's event of the ongoing 34th National Games in Quetta.

Tasmia, Iram, Samra, Ramsha and Fiza scored 21 runs for their team while Tanzeela and Manahil scored 2 runs for KPK, Sumbal scored 2 runs while Tehzeeb, Parkha, Shawal and Faryal scored 1 runs each for their team.

In the second match, Sindh scored 12 runs in their 4 innings, Tulsi Meghar and Farasha scored 3 each.

In response, the Balochistan team scored 21 runs in 4 innings and won by 9 runs.

On behalf of Balochistan, Rommel, Nayab, Amina, Arhama and Kaka played an important role in the success of their team by scoring 3 runs each.

In the matches to be played on May 14, Pakistan WAPDA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa will clash while in the second match Pakistan Army and Balochistan teams will compete.

Transparent PFF elections to kick off in days, promises NC Chairman

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a significant development, Haroon Malik, the Chairman of the Pakistan Football Federation (PFF) Normalisation Committee (NC), expressed his strong desire for fair and transparent elections in Pakistan, ensuring adherence to the PFF statutes. Following persistent efforts by the NC, the elections process is set to commence within a matter of days.

Haroon Malik, in a statement issued here on Friday, emphasized the impartiality of the Normalisation Committee, stating, "We have no favorites. We want free and fair elections to witness the genuine selection of a body that will effectively oversee the PFF affairs."

Furthermore, he revealed that the FIFA team is currently analyzing club data through the Pakistan Football Connect (PFC) platform which will also lead to fair and transparent elections of the national football body.

Reflecting on the challenging journey of the NC, Haroon Malik emphasized keeping the country's law and order situation in view and also acknowledged the numerous crises and controversies, including ongoing court cases that have plagued the committee since July 2022. However, he expressed gratitude for FIFA's unwavering support, as they have pledged their full backing to the NC's pursuit of holding elections and stressed the utmost importance of upholding the Constitution.

Additionally, the NC Chairman, Haroon Malik, assured that comprehensive support is being extended to the clubs to meet all statutory requirements, ensuring a smooth and transparent electoral process.

Sachin Tendulkar lodges complaint against 'misleading ads' using his name

A Sports

MUMBAI: Legendary Indian batter Sachin Tendulkar lodged a Police complaint at the Mumbai Crime Branch against a firm for impersonating the cricketer's attributes in an unauthorised manner.



According to the details, a website named after Sachin Tendulkar was using the batting great's name, voice and pictures to promote products to dupe people.

The complaint was filed with the Cyber Cell department for deceiving individuals into purchasing items and services online. The employees of the aforementioned business have been charged with deception, forgery, and slander.

Furthermore, the Mumbai Police Cyber Cell has filed a complaint against them under sections 426, 465, and 500 of the IPC.

The Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar (SRT) Sports Management company issued an official statement on the situation, emphasising the need of working together to ensure that people have access to legitimate products and services.

The statement also urged individuals to report any deceptive adverts they come across and to be cautious in order to avoid being scammed online.

"As digital technologies scale and empower more people, we as a society need to work together on ensuring people get access to authentic products, services, and information. At SRT Sports Management Pvt. Ltd. (SRTSM), we have noticed that there have been attempts to impersonate Mr. Sachin Tendulkar's attributes in an unauthorised manner, for selling products and services not associated with him."

"These are being done with a deliberate and malicious intention of misleading gullible citizens to buy unauthorised products and services online. We have lodged an official complaint with the Cyber Cell department and have highlighted these to social media platforms where such misleading advertisements are being broadcast. A list of partners that Mr. Sachin Tendulkar associates with can be found at <https://sachintendulkar.com>. If you come across misleading advertisements, kindly report the same. We would request citizens to be alert and do their due diligence, while shopping for products and services online," the statement read.

PCB appoints Grant Bradburn new head coach of men's team

Veteran New Zealand batter and seasoned coach Grant Bradburn has been appointed as the head coach of the national men's side following a robust recruitment process, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said on Saturday.

According to a statement by the cricket board, Bradburn will lead the team's coaching panel for the next two years.

The New Zealander also served as the head coach of the side during the recently-concluded home series against New Zealand on consultancy basis.

The Babar Azam-led side defeated the tourists 4-1 in the five-match One-Day International (ODI) series that took them to the top of the International Cricket Council (ICC) Rankings in the format. The five-match T20 International series was shared 2-2.

Having previously served as the fielding coach of the national side from 2018 to 2020, Bradburn is well-versed in the strengths and challenges of the national side.

PCB Management Committee Chairperson Najam Sethi said: "After the announcement of Mickey Arthur as team director, Bradburn's appointment is another step in our endeavours of putting together a highly-qualified coaching panel so our players can benefit from their experiences and dominate world cricket in all three formats."