

**فرمان رسول**  
بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
ہم اللہ تعالیٰ سے دعا کرتے ہیں کہ یہ ساری باتیں اور  
سے فرمائیے، توں چیزیں دین حضرت نبی صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم  
مومنین کا ہے۔ ۲۲ اڑھائی پڑھنا۔ ۳۳ سوگ کرنا،  
۳۳ تک سب پائی پانا۔ ۵۵ تا ۶۰ تک پائی پائی  
کے جوڑوں کو دوسو پانچ سے پانچ کے بال ایچیز نا،  
۸۰ تک کے نیچے کے بال موٹو نا۔ ۹۰ پائی سے  
ایچیز کرنا۔ ۱۰۰ تک پائی پائی ہیں: مصعب نے کہا میں  
دوسو چیزیں پائی پائی کرنا کرنا۔  
(عجمی)

**Barkat Rice Mills  
(Pvt) Limited**



**IT sector has potential to address Pakistan's trade imbalance: IT minister**

Caretaker Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication Dr Umar Saif on Tuesday highlighted the potential of the IT sector in addressing the country's trade imbalance. Talking to a private TV channel, the minister said that the IT sector held an almost 80 percent trade surplus... (Details on Page 8)



**Pakistan hockey team beat Japan 26-1**

The Pakistan hockey team secured a dominant victory over Japan in their initial match of the ongoing 5s Asia Cup in Salalah, Oman. In the 5s World Cup Qualifier event, Pakistan exhibited an exceptional performance, triumphing with a score of 26-1 against Japan. The Pakistani players initiated the match with remarkable speed, showcasing their prowess and ensuring a resounding victory. Waseem Feroze, Olympian and Gold Medalist in the World Hockey Cup, currently serves as the Head Coach.

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

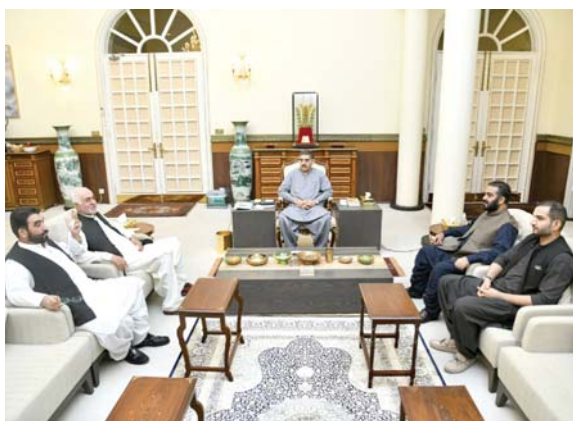
**Protest**

RAWALPINDI: Traders holds protest rally from Chamber of Commerce to Kachery Chowk against the unjust price hike of electricity and over all inflation across the country.



Photo: Online

**Delegation of Balochistan political leaders and VOA Chief South Asia calls on PM**



**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: A delegation of political leaders from Balochistan on Tuesday called on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar here. The delegation comprised Sardar Aslam Bazenjo, Mir Khalid Lango, Mir Asim Kurd Gello and Mir Waleed Bazenjo. The delegation members appreciated the prime minister for the steps taken for promotion of inter-faith harmony in the country as well as for the economic revival. Meanwhile Head of South and Central Asia Division, Voice of America, Ayesha Tanzeem on called on the Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar here and discussed matters relating to mutual interests. Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi was also present in the meeting. Head of Emerging Markets Enertech Holding Kuwait Yasser Malik also called on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar. Yasser Malik apprised the prime minister of Enertech's investment in Pakistan. The prime minister appreciated the company's investment in Pakistan and expressed the hope that the firm would enhance its investment in the country to take advantage of government's pro-business policies.

**PTI chairman to remain in Attock jail despite Toshakhana sentence suspension**

**Naveed Ahmad Khan**

ISLAMABAD: A special court in Islamabad on Tuesday ordered Attock Jail authorities — where the former premier is incarcerated — to keep the PTI chairman in judicial lockup in cipher case. The order comes hours after IHC suspended PTI Chairman Imran Khan's three-year sentence in the Toshakhana case. In a letter addressed to the Attock jail superintendent, the special court ordered jail authorities to produce Imran Khan on Aug 30 (tomorrow) in connection with the cipher case. "That accused Imran Khan Niazi s/o Ikramullah Khan Niazi r/o Zaman Park, Lahore is hereby ordered for judicial remand in case FIR mentioned above, who is already detained in district jail, Attock," the letter read. It merits here to mention that PTI chief Imran Khan and party



leader Shah Mahmood Qureshi were named in an FIR registered on August 5 under the Official Secrets Act. The verdict was reserved a day earlier after the completion of the arguments from the respondents. The IHC in its short verdict,

the cessation of his right to defense by the trial court in the Toshakhana case in the Islamabad High Court. The petitioner pleaded to the high court to declare the trial court's order void and restore his right to defence in the case. PTI chairman also requested the court to immediately take up his petition. **Toshakhana verdict** On August 5, the District and Sessions Court awarded three years jail term to the PTI chairman in Toshakhana criminal case. The court also imposed Rs 100,000 fine on the convicted chief of the PTI. The court also declared the former prime minister ineligible to hold public office for five years. The court in its verdict said that the accused had been found guilty of corrupt practices and handed the PTI chairman three years jail sentence. "Imran Khan deliberately submitted fake details [of Toshakhana gifts] to the ECP and is found guilty of corrupt practices," he stated. The court also declared the former prime minister ineligible to hold public office for five years. Suspension The much-anticipated order in the Toshakhana case was announced by an IHC division bench comprising Chief Justice Aamer Farooq and Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri on the former prime minister's appeal against his prison term. The verdict was reserved a day earlier after the completion of the arguments from the respondents. The IHC in its short verdict, ordered to release of the PTI chairman on bail from Attock Jail and remarked that it would give the reasons for the suspension of the sentence in the detailed verdict later. **Petition** The PTI chairman challenged

**ECP assures to hold 'free and fair' elections as per constitution**

**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Monday has assured to hold the next general elections 'peacefully and impartially' as per Constitution and the law. Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sikandar Sultan Raja made this assurance while chairing two separate meetings in Islamabad today. According to a statement issued by the electoral watchdog, the meetings were aimed at reviewing the preparations regarding the upcoming general election in Pakistan. Members of the Election Commission, Secretary ECP, Chief Secretary Sindh, IG Sindh, Chief Secretary Balochistan, IG Balochistan, Provincial Election Commissioner Sindh and Balochistan, and other senior officers of ECP attended the meetings. During the meeting, the Chief Secretary and IG Sindh briefed the Election Commission on preparations for the upcoming general elections and assured full cooperation. The Election Commission emphasised on the chief secretary and IG Sindh that conducting transparent and impartial elections are fundamental responsibility of ECP. In this regard, the first step is the transfer and posting of all officers and officials who are important in the perspective of impartial elections.



**Court extends interim bail of Asad Umar**

**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: A special court Tuesday extended interim bail of PTI's leader Asad Umar in cipher case registered under Official Secret Act. Special Court's Judge Abul Hasnat Zulqarnain heard the interim bail petition of former federal minister in camera. The accused appeared before the court along with his lawyer Dr. Baber Awan. The court extended the pre-arrest bail of Asad Umar and stopped the FIA from arresting him till September 14.

**IT formed to probe social media campaign against IHC chief justice**



**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Interior on Tuesday formed a joint investigation team (JIT) to probe a social media campaign against Islamabad High Court (IHC) Chief Justice Aamer Farooq. The minister has issued a notification in this regard, stating that it would comprise officials of the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), Inter Services Intelligence (ISI), Intelligence Bureau (IB) and police. A directory of FIA Cyber Crime Wing has appointed the JIT's convener. The ministry has given two weeks time to the team to submit its report on the mud-slinging campaign against the IHC chief justice.

**BoD meeting of autonomous bodies held**

**Bureau Report**

PESHAWAR: A meeting regarding Boards of Directors (BoDs) of autonomous bodies was held here at Chief Minister's House on Tuesday with Caretaker CM Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Muhammad Azam Khan in the Chair. Legal matters related to the functions of the BoDs were reviewed in the meeting with a special focus on the decisions taken in the 34th board meeting of the Provincial Housing Authority. Caretaker Provincial Minister for Law, Justice (retired) Arshad Hussain Shah, Chief Secretary Nadeem Aslam Chaudhry, Secretary Law, Advocate General and other concerned high ups were present. It was decided in the meeting to review the new policy regarding allotment of plots under PHA, and the chief minister directed the Chief Secretary Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to look into the decisions taken in the 34th Board meeting of PHA regarding the allotment of plots.

**Karachi traders to observe shutter down strike on Sept 1**

**Bureau Report**

KARACHI: The business community of Karachi has announced to observe a shutter down strike on September 1 against the inflated electricity bills and rising inflation. In a statement, Sharjeel Gopani — President of All City Traders Association — said that markets across Karachi will remain closed on Friday (September) in protest against inflated electricity bills and rising inflation. Other trade unions also backed the decision, saying that all markets of Karachi will observe a shutter down strike on September 1. Meanwhile, Rizwan Irfan — President of Karachi Electronics Dealers Association — also warned of strike if Sharjeel Gopani's pre-arrest bail expires. Moreover, All Pakistan Trade Association has announced a countrywide shutter-down strike on August 31 (Thursday) against the inflated bills.

**Pervaiz Elahi's physical remand extended in Gujrat corruption case**

**Bureau Report**

LAHORE: Accountability Court has extended the physical remand of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) president Chaudhry Parvez Elahi till September 2. As per details, the former chief minister Punjab was presented before the accountability court judge Sajid Ali Awan after completion of physical remand. Pervaiz Elahi told the court that he is 77 years old and a heart patient but not allowed to meet family and carry out therapy. Meanwhile, the NAB prosecutor urged the court to grant a 14-day physical remand to carry out an investigation of his alleged corruption in 200 development projects in Mandi Bahauddin and Gujrat.

**PTI chief 'mastermind' of May 9 vandalism: Bugti**

**Spokesman Report**



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for Interior Sarfraz Bugti on Tuesday said that Chairman Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf (PTI), was the 'mastermind' of the May 9 mayhem against security institutions. "May 9 was the black day in the history of Pakistan," he said while talking to a private television channel. Those found guilty of criminal acts against State Television, and national and security institutions would be rewarded with punishment as per law, he remarked. Commenting on delay in general elections, he said delimitation is imperative for holding transparent polls across the country. The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP), he said would announce the date for general elections after the completion of the delimitation process. In reply to a question about the resurfacing wave of terrorism, he said that terrorists have hideouts in Afghanistan. We have completed the fencing of more than 645 kilometers bordering the area with Afghanistan. About the smuggling of dollars, he said, it is a challenging task to control dollar smuggling.

## Called on

ISLAMABAD: DG Anti Narcotics Force Major General Muhammad Aniqur Rehman Malik called on Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior and Anti Narcotics Sarfraz Ahmad Bugti on Tuesday.



Photo: PID

## Caretaker govt has nothing to do with election date: Solangi

## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Tuesday said that the caretaker government had nothing to do with the election date which was a mandate of the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) under the new amendments in the Election Act. Talking to a private channel, the minister said the government was committed to assist the ECP in holding the election in line with its schedule.



It was the legal and constitutional responsibility of the caretaker government to assist the ECP in holding the election, he added. He said the ECP had issued its schedule for the delimitations of the constituencies following the

approval of a fresh census by the Council of Common Interest which was subsequently notified during the previous government's tenure. Solangi said it was imperative to give 54 days to all the political parties after delimitations for election campaigns in line with the Constitution. He said according to Article 218 (3) of the Constitution, it was the responsibility of the ECP to hold free, fair and transparent elections.

To a query, he said the Federal Cabinet today deliberated over the recommenda-

tions of the Energy Ministry on the issue related to inflated electricity bills. Some proposals were discussed during the meeting, he said, adding it was imperative to take the International Monetary Fund on board in this regard. He said Minister of Finance Shamshad Akhtar was in contact with the IMF and soon the government would be in a position to announce its decisions over the issue related to the bills. The minister said the decisions would be made after reviewing primary surplus and circular debt data.

## IT sector has potential to address Pakistan's trade imbalance: IT minister

## Commerce Report

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication Dr Umar Saif on Tuesday highlighted the potential of the IT sector in addressing the country's trade imbalance.

Talking to a private TV channel, the minister said that the IT sector held an almost 80 percent trade surplus, making it an attractive industry for boosting the country's economy.

He emphasized that the

untapped potential within the IT sector could significantly contribute to the country's economic advancement.

Dr Saif pointed out that the current value of Pakistan's IT exports stood at \$2.6 billion, providing employment opportunities for around 150,000 individuals within the sector.

He noted that software developers presently earned an annual income of approximately \$17,000 to \$18,000, whereas their Indian counterparts earned around \$30,000.

Discussing the academic landscape, the minister



revealed that Pakistani universities currently produced 20,000 to 22,000 IT graduates, of which only 2,000

to 2,200 secured jobs. He mentioned a disparity in skills, often falling short of international standards. To bridge this skill gap, he stressed the necessity of collaboration between Pakistani IT experts and universities.

Dr Saif proposed that several IT companies channel funds abroad out of which a significant amount could be repatriated to Pakistan by offering incentives to them.

According to the minister, these incentives could potentially bring an additional \$1 to \$2 billion to the country.

## Pak Envoy underlines role of canals as conduits of commerce, culture

## News Desk

BEIJING: Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque underlined the role of canals as conduits of commerce, culture and connectivity.

He made these remarks while speaking at the Opening Ceremony of World Canal Cities Forum recently at Yangzhou city in Jiangsu province of China. During the visit, the ambassador met the local leadership, interacted with various business enterprises, visited Jiangdu district and some key infrastructure and agricultural projects.

He was also shown around various cultural and scenic sites of the city, and was briefed about the city's economic and cultural landscapes.

Expressing his sentiments about the scenic landscapes and rich culture of Yangzhou, he acknowledged the



historic importance of Yangzhou as a major city along the Grand Canal. The ambassador also briefed the audience about Pakistan's canal system along the Indus River, which was among the largest in the world irrigating over 48 million acres.

He also expressed Pakistan's interest in joining the World Canal Cities Organization headquartered in the city of Yangzhou.

During his meeting with Wang Jinjian, Party Secretary of Yangzhou, and Ms. Lili Zu, Party Secretary of Jiangdu District, the ambassador expressed his deep admiration for the developmental strengths of Yangzhou and Jiangdu respectively.

## Ambassador European Union met with the Caretaker Health Minister

## City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Ambassador of European Union Rina Kivanka met with the Health Minister Dr. Nadeem Jan. They discussed the health sector and issues of mutual interest in the meeting. The Ambassador congratulated the Caretaker Health Minister on assuming the portfolio of federal minister. Ambassador EU said that "The world appreciates services of Mr. Jan in efforts to eradicate polio" Dr. Nadeem Jan values EU relations with Pakistan and said that "the European Union provided full support in the rehabilitation of the flood victims".

"The eradication of polio is the topmost priority of the caretaker government; health ministry is in contact with



Afghanistan for joint integrated strategy at the border to eliminate polio" said the federal minister.

Pakistan will soon host a high-level meeting on the Global Health Security Agenda. Experts and stakeholders from all over the world will participate in the meeting. The EU ambassador will

also be invited to participate in the Global Health Security Summit EU Ambassador appreciates practical steps on Global Health Security Agenda.

The European Union will hold a meeting with the Nutrition Cell of the Ministry of Health to cooperate in the nutrition program.

## Baloch reviews rehabilitation of roads, bridges affected by floods in Balochistan

## Bureau Report

QUETTA: On special directive of Caretaker Prime Minister of Pakistan Anwaar-ul Haq Kakar, the Provincial Secretary, Communications and Works (C&W), Ali Akbar Baloch chaired meeting regarding measures to protect the infrastructure due to rains and floods in the province and to make the flash flood water management effective.

The meeting was attended by National Highway Authority (NHA) officials, Special Secretary Irrigation Department Nadeem Sumalani and senior officials of C&W Department.

In the meeting, issues related to channelization and effective utilization of flood water by NHA and effective communication with provincial government to protect road infrastructure from floods were reviewed.

The meeting was also given a detailed briefing on the current condition of the roads and bridges affected by the recent rains and floods in the province and the progress regarding the rehabilitation.

Addressing the meeting, Secretary



Communications and Works Department Ali Akbar Baloch said that due to the recent rains and floods, all the important highways and bridges of the province have been damaged.

Due to which the connection of the province with the rest of the provinces was cut off and the economic conditions of the province and the supply of other food items also faced difficulties after damaging communication system in the area, he said.

He said that the Department of C & W along with NHA started the maintenance of highways and bridges on a timely and emergency basis.

The Secretary said that there was still a need for complete rehabilitation of the important highways of the province, on which the Department of C&W has provided all the details regarding the rehabilitation of these highways to the NHA officials.

## Religious affairs minister, Saudi ambassador discuss upcoming Hajj arrangements, mutual ties

## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Aneeq Ahmed, on Tuesday engaged in a productive meeting with Saudi Ambassador Nawaf bin Said Al-Malki and discussed imminent Hajj preparations, strengthening bilateral ties, and addressing challenges within the Muslim Ummah.

In the meeting, Secretary of Religious Affairs Aftab Akbar Durrani and Regional Director of Muslim World League Saad bin Masood al-Harsi, were also present. Minister Aneeq shed light on the shared devotion, respect, and brotherhood between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia and emphasized his commitment to enhancing the experience of Pakistani pilgrims during this Hajj season. Acknowledging the strong bond between the two nations, he expressed his confidence in the Saudi Ambassador's support and cooperation.

He revealed that the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony was organizing an 'Interfaith Harmony Conference' in Islamabad, scheduled for Wednesday, where leaders from various faiths, ambassadors, and civil society representatives would engage in dialogues. Additionally, Minister



Aneeq Ahmed disclosed plans for the upcoming National Secerat Conference, set to take place on 12 Rabi-ul-Awal. This year's theme, "Strategy of National Economic Stability in the Light of Secerat-e-Tayyaba," aimed to illuminate the world with the profound teachings of Islam, he added. Saudi Ambassador Nawaf bin Said Al-Malki, highlighting the significance of engaging the youth, shared that the Muslim World League was gearing up for a global conference focusing on contemporary challenges. He underscored the need to inspire the younger generation to actively contribute to resolving the issues faced by the Muslim Ummah. Furthermore, he reminisced about the successful visit of Saudi Minister of Hajj Dr. Tawfiq bin Fawzan Al-Rabiah to Pakistan, while also expressing anticipation for the arrival of prominent Saudi personalities in Pakistan in the near future.

In a gracious gesture, Ambassador Al-Malki extended his appreciation to Minister Aneeq Ahmed for his unwavering support and affection.

## Withdraw taxes and lower unit price of electricity: RCCI

## Commerce Desk

RAWALPINDI: Addressing a protest rally organized by the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce against electricity bills, inflation, petrol diesel price hike and anti-business policies, Chamber President Saqib Rafiq has said that due to brutal taxes and per unit price increase in electricity bills, the cost of doing business has increased manifold, industry has come to a standstill, businesses are now forced to close.

RCCI has demanded to review the electricity prices and give relief, he said that traders should not be forced to shutter down; Saqib Rafiq said that the burden of electricity theft and line losses is being borne by the masses and traders. Instead of increasing investment, the government is collecting revenue by putting taxes in the bills.

The anti-business policies will have to be stopped, he added.

He thanked the participation of markets, bazaars and Anjuman Tajrans across the city in the rally. On this occasion, the group leader Sohail Altaf said that Today's large gathering at the rally was a demonstration of merchant unity.

The dollar rate has risen above three hundred, neither importer nor exporter can do any business, the facility of free units and free petrol should be abolished, he demanded.

## UNGA adopts Pak-backed resolution declaring Jan 26 as clean energy day

## Spokesman Report

UNITED NATIONS: The UN General Assembly has adopted a Panamanian resolution, co-sponsored by Pakistan, proclaiming January 26 as the International Day of Clean Energy. The text, which was adopted without a vote, underlined the 193-member Assembly's commitment to protecting the environment. January 26 will become a platform to drive the adoption of policies and practices to promote awareness on the sustainable use of energy resources and to strengthen collaboration and cooperation to promote the global energy transition. Introducing the draft, Panamanian delegate Markova Concepcion Jaramillo said that transitioning to clean and renewable energy sources was essential to face current environmental and socio-economic challenges and guarantee human survival and well-being on the planet. The US representative said her delegation joined the consensus, as the energy sector accounts for over two-thirds of global emissions. The French representative, speaking on behalf of the European Union, voiced regret, however, that the resolution does not adequately reflect the indisputable link between energy and climate, and that it contains reference to "cleaner fossil fuel energies".

# Deteriorating political and HR situation in Occupied Kashmir is a grave concern: PM

Abdul Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has said that the international human rights organizations should take effective notice of the atrocities committed by the Indian army on civilians in Occupied Kashmir.

In a statement issued here today, the PM, while voicing his grave concern over the fast deteriorating political and human rights situation in the Indian-occupied territory of Jammu and Kashmir, said that Indian forces have crossed all limits of barbarism and savagery in Kashmir.

The Indian government, he said, had trampled the Kashmiris' fundamental



human rights of Kashmiris under the

jackboots.

He, however, maintained that despite its policy of oppression and suppression, India could not break the Kashmiris' spirit and their political will to achieve their cherished goal of freedom. While urging the international community to come up with a solid plan of action to stop bloodshed of innocent civilians at the hands of the Indian occupation forces, the PM said it was high time that the global community should influence the government of India to fulfill the promises and commitments its leaders have made vis a vis the settlement of the Kashmir dispute at the international level. He said that it was the Prime Minister of India who took the

issue of Kashmir to the United Nations.

He said that it was quite unfortunate that India has not only backtracked from its commitments but also violated the UNSC resolutions that call for holding a referendum in Kashmir. He said that Kashmiris have associated their future with Pakistan. He said that accession to Pakistan was the Kashmiris' ultimate objective, for which they have been struggling at all levels with absolute determination and dedication.

The PM hailed the supreme sacrifices rendered by the Kashmiri people during the ongoing struggle for the right to self determination. He expressed optimism that the sacrifices rendered by the people of Kashmir would soon come to fruition.

# First study into gig economy in Pakistan reveals worst practices of six firms—with a focus on pay

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Pakistan has nearly 2 percent of its labour force engaged in the gig economy through online and location-based services. An estimated 700,000 workers in the country work in the location-based platform economy, but it has been encouraging a race to the bottom regarding working conditions. Six of the most popular gig economy platforms in Pakistan have been rated according to how fairly they treat workers. None of the platforms were able to earn a score this year. The study found that all of the companies, namely, Bykea, Careem, Foodpanda, GharPar, inDrive, and Uber failed to ensure minimum standards of fair work—such as ensuring all workers earn above the national minimum wage. This is the first study of its kind in Pakistan, scoring companies on labour standards such as pay, employment conditions, contracts, management and representation.



Dr. Mahmood Khalid (Senior Research Economist, Macro Policy Lab PIDE), Zahoor Awan, Member of ILO Governing Body from Pakistan, Waqar Memon, General Secretary, Pakistan Workers Federation, Raja Faiz ul Hassan Faiz (Former Central Labour Law Advisor) and Azhar Malik (Deputy Secretary HRD,

Ministry of OP and HRD) were the panelists at the launch event of the Fairwork Report. Iftikhar Ahmad, Founder CLR and Principal Investigator of the Fairwork Pakistan said "In our second annual report, we have conducted a comprehensive analysis of companies operating in ride-hailing, food delivery,

and related sectors, focusing on their treatment of key workers. Zahida Perveen highlighted the gender imbalance in the platform economy, especially in South Asia and Pakistan, stressing the need for proactive measures to increase female participation in the gig economy. Dr. Mahmood Khalid

added that the Platform tech giants and the rise of embedded finance have shattered the old norms of business and life, rendering "business-as-usual" and "life as usual" relics of the past while fostering innovation and trust in the ever-evolving platform economy.

In acknowledging the invaluable efforts of the Centre for Labour Research, Waqar Memon, General Secretary of Pakistan Workers Federation, emphasized the vital significance of upholding Fairwork's principle of Fair representation for platform workers in the nation.

Azhar Malik ensured government's support for the draft legislation on digital platform workers. Raja Faizul Hassan praised the draft legislation for platform workers and gave recommendations. All of them praised the collaboration between the Centre for Labour Research and Fairwork and their efforts in this regard and declared it a big step in the right direction.

# Wasi Shah, presided over a meeting held at the PTDC Head Office

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The meeting was attended by Managing Director of PTDC, Aftab ur Rahman Rana, Manager (P&P)-PTDC, Sadia Nauman, President of the Alpine Club of Pakistan, Abu Zafar, Deputy Director of the Gilgit Baltistan Tourism Department, Sajid Hussain, accomplished Mountaineer and Alpine Club Member of the Investigation Committee, Rehmatullah, and distinguished Adventure/Tour Operator Qarar Haidri. Minister of State for Tourism, Wasi Shah, expressed his heartfelt condolences for the untimely

passing of Mr. Muhammad Hassan, a porter who lost his life in a tragic incident while climbing the world's second largest mountain K2.

In response to this tragedy, he has directed the authorities for the establishment of a Training Centre/Institute aimed at enhancing the capabilities of both climbers and porters. During the meeting, Managing Director, PTDC, Aftab ur Rahman Rana, provided a comprehensive brief about the incident, while President of the Alpine Club, Abu Zafar, elucidated the various facets of mountaineering.

A member of the Investigation

Committee also shed light on the rescue efforts undertaken during the course of the incident. State Minister for Tourism, Wasi Shah also emphasized the need to bridge gaps in existing rules and regulations pertaining to safety measures and, crucially, to work towards providing insurance coverage for Porters and Climbers to the tune of Rs. 3 million in case of unfortunate fatalities.

He also directed to introduce formal documentation regarding penalties and certifications for tour operators, alongside arrangements for training and short courses for guides and porters.

# Muttahida Tajran traders protest against high electricity bills in Peshawar

News Desk

PESHAWAR: Under the leadership of Muttahida Tajran Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and chief Traders Alliance Federation of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Ghulam Bilal Javed, leaders of various traders organizations, presidents of markets and traders held a protest rally at Saddar Road and held up black flags and protest banners against this cruel price hike. And expressing great anger raised slogans against the economic massacre of the people by the government and burnt electricity bills in protest. The free privileges and facilities of the elite should be abolished immediately.



# All students of 9th grade of Girls High School Ganjai Clay fail in matriculation

Tariq Khan Yousafzai

MARDAN: In the recent matriculation results of Mardan Education Board, all the students of the 9th class of Government Girls High School Ganjai Clay failed. The elected public representatives of the area expressed their grief over the poor and poor performance of the school teachers and took strict departmental action against the school teachers. Action and exchange were demanded. Due to the neglect of the government and the members of the Assembly of the area, Girls High School Ganjai and Tehsil Headquarters Hospital have become a cancer for the people of the area. Addressing a press conference at Takhtbhai Press Club, Chairman Village Council Tucker. Mushtaq Ahmed and counselors Haji Imtiaz, Qari Arshad, Usman Khan and Ashfaq Ahmed said that this year, all the students of the ninth grade of Government Girls High School Ganjai Clay have failed, which is a shame for the teachers and the education department of this school.

He said that all the staff of the school are unemployed, while despite repeated requests, the Mardan Education Department has not appointed science teachers in the school. Similarly, the teachers in this school, the concerned clerks and class fours have their own government which is the government. Despite receiving a salary of lakhs of rupees, they perform their personal work during their duty hours. He asked the higher authorities of the Education Department to immediately take strict notice of the poor educational situation of Government Girls High School, Ganjai and to all the staff of the concerned school. He demanded to change from here.

He also expressed deep regret over the bad management situation of Tehsil Headquarters Hospital Ganjai and said that hundreds of hospital staff who take huge free salaries are increasing the problems of the poor people instead of becoming the messiah of the people. X-rays and laboratory tests are not available in the hospital and the hospital staff is selling medicines for free. Due to which all the institutions in the area are being destroyed and the people are being defiled.



ISLAMABAD: Devcom Pakistan Executive Director Munir Ahmed presenting an Appreciation of Services award to Mayor Woking (Surrey) Muhammad Ilyas Raja here Tuesday at an event organized in his honour.

# Pakistani youth needs positive thinking for development of country: VC AIOU

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: "Positive thinking is such a treasure that turns the soil into gold, youth need to develop positive thinking for the development of Pakistan," said the Vice Chancellor, Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU), Prof. Dr Nasir Mahmood while addressing the contestants of Speech and Painting competitions held at AIOU. These competitions were organized amongst students from schools, colleges, and universities of Rawalpindi/Islamabad by the Directorate of Students Advisory & Counseling Services (DSACS) to pay tribute to the great leaders of the Pakistan Movement.

Dr. Nasir Mahmood emphasized youth to channel their emotions into dedication and hard work for the betterment of Pakistan. He emphasized the importance of admitting mistakes and taking responsibility for one's actions to bring positive change



into their lives. Director DSACS, Syed Ghulam Kazim Ali, expressed that the purpose of these events is to honor the efforts and sacrifices of previous generations and inspire the next generation to pursue education for the development of Pakistan.

It is pertinent to mention here that 36 students participated in the paint-

ing competition, while 40 students took part in the speech competition. Hifza Nasib, Mahnoor Nawaz, and Umm Abiha secured the first, second, and third positions respectively in the painting competition, while Muhammad Ali claimed the first position in the speech competition. Amina Adil and Mahnoor Zeib were placed

second and third respectively in the speech competition. The judges for the painting competition were Dr. Mohammad Sajjad Khan and Aqeel Solangi from National College of Arts, whereas Dr. Farrukh Abbas, Dr. Qasim Yaqub, and Dr. Rashida Imran from Allama Iqbal Open University judged the speech competition.



Islamabad  
15° - 23° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr ..... 4:12 am  
Zohr ..... 12:09 pm  
Asr ..... 4:47 pm  
Maghrib ..... 6:38 pm  
Isha ..... 8:05 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

*In Islamabad, poor suffer due to rising prices: human rights leader*



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Social and human rights leader Maryam Idris says that the rising inflation, unemployment and poverty have made it difficult for the poor to live, the prices of the necessities of life including electricity, petrol and flour are beyond the reach of the people in country. All over the country including Islamabad Lahore, Karachi, Mirpur, Poonch and Muzaffarabad Azad Kashmir, people are on the streets, burning and tearing electricity bills, some houses, some are selling ornaments of girls who have nothing, they are committing suicide, the cause of unemployment. The voice of the people should be heard. If this lava explodes, then it will be difficult to manage. The priority of the rulers is not the people but their personal interests. Social leader Maryam Idris said that due to inflation and unemployment, it has become difficult for the people to meet the needs of life. They are stumbling, a large number are going out of the country, those who make big claims and promises at the time of elections, when they reach the power houses, then they forget the problems and problems of the people, Maryam Idris says. Measures should be taken to provide relief to the people, the prices of electricity and petroleum products should be reduced and a long-term policy should be made to improve the country's economy and when the poor and middle class sell their jewels, houses and lands in this inflation.

# India using women rape as war weapon, state policy to suppress freedom struggle: Mushaal



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Caretaker Prime Minister (SAPM) on Human Rights and Women Empowerment Mushaal Hussein Mullick deplored that India was using rape of women in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) as a weapon of war and a state policy to humiliate the Kashmiris and suppress the ongoing freedom struggle against Indian slavery.

The SAPM on HR and Women Empowerment made the remarks during her address to a National Conference of Service Providers on Gender Based Violence: From Legislation to Implementation, which was jointly organized by the Government of Pakistan and UN Women here on Tuesday.

The conference was attended by various stakeholders aimed at ensuring provision of rights and justice to women and elimination of their exploitation.

She said that the use of state power, harassment and humiliation, violence and sexual abuse against women were amongst the worst war tactics the Indian brutal troops had been applying to suppress the Kashmiris' legitimate struggle to break the shackles of Indian unlawful subjugation.

Mushaal recalled that the gravity of the situation could be judged from the fact that around a hundred women were gangraped by the occupation troops during a cordon and search operation in Kunanposhpora area of Kupwara district on the night of February 23, 1991.

She stated that the horrific inhuman incident of Kunanposhpora mass rape was a blot on the face of Indian so-called democracy and the state but sadly the world and human rights organizations' inaction to bring the perpetrators of this heinous crime to book further emboldened the notorious Indian army due to which such tragic incidents of rape and violence



against women were now occurred on daily basis in the occupied valley.

Mushaal continued that as a Kashmiri she knew the hardship the people in general and women in particular were facing in the scenic valley.

Therefore, the SAPM on HR and Women Empowerment said that she decided to take up the gauntlet to become a voice for the protection of women's rights not only in the IIOJK but also in Pakistan.

Mushaal made it clear that a lot of work had been done in Pakistan pertaining to the women's rights and elimination of their exploitation; however, she added that more effective and tangible measures

were needed to be taken to put an end on the gender discrimination in the country once and for all.

She stressed the need that making related legislations was essential but ensuring their implementation must have to be ensured in their true spirit, adding that every member of the society had to play his/her role in making a conducive environment in this regard.

Mushaal went on to say that police and judiciary were the main institutions regarding the protection of women's rights, therefore, she advocated that they should have to encourage more women participation in judiciary and police, as it

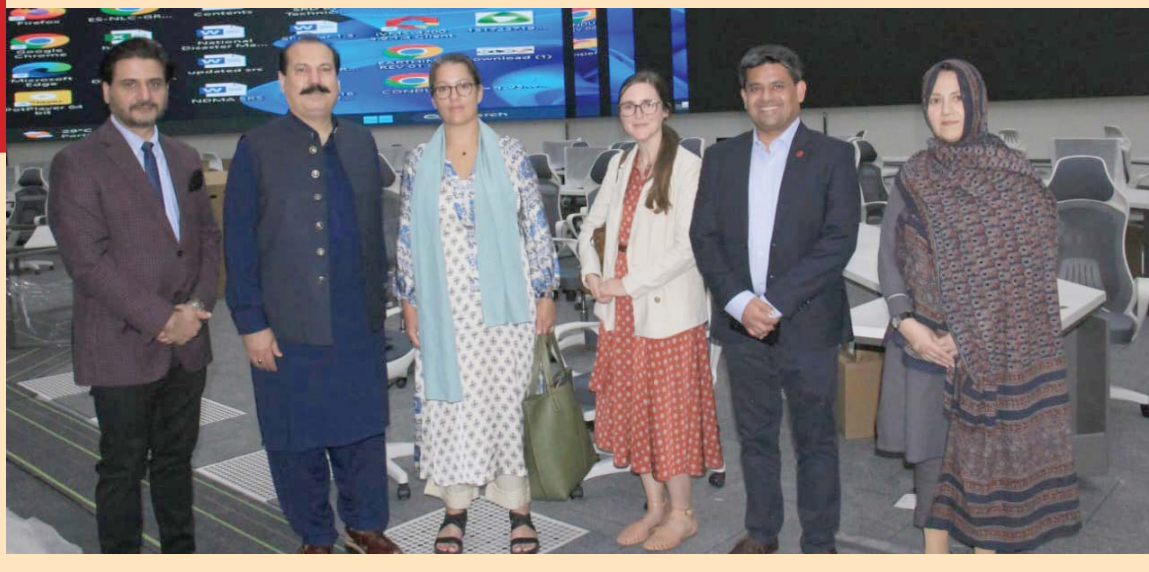
would help further empower the women and they would safeguard their rights in more effective manner.

Moreover, the SAPM on HR and Women Empowerment said that barriers to access to resources were also a major cause of women's exploitation; hence steps should be taken to minimize the gap between policy and practice, besides reducing the obstacles hampering justice for women.

Mushaal urged that the media role of a paramount importance to create awareness among the people to end gender disparity and women exploitation in the country.

Visit

ISLAMABAD: Chief Executive Officer Save the Children International, Inger Ashing along with SCI delegation visited the under-constructed National Emergency Operations Center (NEOC) at National Disaster Management Authority.



## Power distribution companies should not be privatized

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of Pakistan Economy Watch Brigadier (Retd) Muhammad Aslam Khan said on Tuesday that electricity distribution companies should not be immediately privatised by taking advantage of the chaos in the country on the issue of electricity bills.

The practice of repeating failed experiments should be abandoned, as it may be in the interests of influential elites, but it is against the country's interests, he said.

Aslam Khan said in a statement issued here today that before the privatisation of discos, the masses should know how much relief they have gotten since Karachi Electric Supply Corporation (KESC) was sold in 2005.

He said that if privatisation of (KESC) failed and the experiment with IPPs didn't work,

how can privatisation of discos succeed in such a scenario?

He said that some private power producers are earning trillions of rupees with the help of a few top politicians and bureaucrats. This plunder of resources has been going on for years, which has squeezed the people and the business community.

During the investigation against some power producers, trillions of rupees of thefts, billions of rupees of corruption, and money laundering charges have been proved, but cases have not been registered against the offenders, he added.

He said that efforts to recover stolen finds from power producers were stopped, and those who unearthed the scam and proved corruption were fired from their jobs, after which the officers of any organisation did not have the courage to lay hands on the white-collar criminals running



corrupt IPPs.

Despite this looting coming to the limelight, this sector remains a favourite of top politicians and bureaucrats, which has ruined the country's economy, he added.

People are protesting against inflated power bills across the country, and the poor are forced to commit suicide but there is no relief in sight.

According to the people monitoring the situation, some officers of WAPDA are also involved in the fraud of billions

of rupees. Still, due to their influence, no action has been taken.

They claim that IPPs' expensive power has rendered the state utility, the Water and Power Development Authority, bankrupt. It is also alleged that IPPs indulged in corruption and colluded with officials to get their signatures on contracts that allowed the procurement of expensive power, which they could not afford.

According to the officials of the Power Division capacity payments to IPPs in the current financial year stood at Rs1.3 trillion, and the dollar-to-rupee conversion rate, imported coal prices, RLNG, and Kibor were the major factors determining the capacity payments.

The current plan to privatise electricity distribution companies is nothing but an attempt to plunder the national resources, which will further increase the problems of the people, they say.

## Jawad Sohrab visited the OPF head office



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: In line with the vision of the honorable Prime Minister of Pakistan to enhance the facilitation and support for overseas Pakistanis, the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Overseas Pakistanis & Human Resource Development, Mr. Jawad Sohrab visited the Overseas Pakistanis Foundation (OPF) head office to inaugurate a state-of-the-art 24/7 Complaint Monitoring Cell. This cell aims to provide a dedicated platform for registering complaints from overseas Pakistanis around the world, ensuring that their grievances are promptly addressed and resolved; a positive step towards citizen-centric governance and service delivery.

During the visit, the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Overseas Pakistanis & Human Resource Development was briefed on various other welfare measures undertaken by OPF in the areas of education, housing, and social services. These efforts were appreciated by the SAPM for their comprehensive impact on the lives of overseas Pakistanis. OPF's commitment to improving educational opportunities, providing affordable housing solutions, and extending essential welfare services to overseas Pakistanis was acknowledged as a significant step towards enhancing their quality of life.

SAPM, OPHRD expressed his satisfaction on the establishment of the Complaint Monitoring Cell and the integration of modern communication channels to facilitate overseas Pakistanis in voicing their concerns. He emphasized that the Prime Minister's vision of ensuring the well-being of overseas Pakistanis is being pursued ardently, with practical and tangible steps being taken to make their experience fruitful and fulfilling. He emphasized that the current interim government attaches high priority to the overseas Pakistanis and is keen to promote, nurture and sustain a mutually beneficial and reciprocal relationship between Pakistan and overseas Pakistanis. We are keen to provide enhanced facilities with improved service delivery.

## Federal Minister Jamal Shah visits residences of living legends, inquires about health



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Interim Federal Minister for National Heritage and Culture Jamal Shah visited the residences of living legends Ustad Bashir Ahmed Eminent Miniature Painter and Firdous Jamal veteran actor and inquired about their health.

Jamal Shah who is also renowned actor, film producer and sculptor said "I am happy and proud of two icons who contributed a lot to the country miniature painting, film and drama industry".

Jamal Shah said that the whole nation is proud of the contributions made by Ustad Bashir Ahmed and Firdous Jamal.

Firdous Jamal is cancer survivor and undergoing treatment and Ustad Bashir Ahmed also facing health complications.

Ustad Professor Bashir Ahmed is the most prolific and significant among the miniature artists and has single handedly revised and promoted the art of miniature painting. It was because of him that miniature paintings became a major subject for specialization in National College of Arts (NCA).

He works in original Persian and Mughal miniature techniques. He has made bolder attempts to break through the conventional format in order to express the 'miniature' in terms of tone and new materials rather than surface decoration.

He is recognized worldwide for his exceptional command over traditional techniques of miniature painting.

## Seminar on 'Access to and Quality of FP & MNCH services in KP'

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: No real change is possible without active engagement of the community especially youth, said Asghar Ali, Secretary Population Welfare Department (PWD) KP. He was the Chief Guest to provincial-level closing seminar of "Family Planning" and "Maternal, Newborn and Child Health" organized by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) here today. The project aimed to improve the service delivery on family planning and maternal and child health, and create awareness by pro-active engagement through



community ambassadors.

Dr Abid Qayyum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI remarked that in current testing times improved health

of the populace is key to social development and economic stability. Strengthening the primary healthcare system significantly cuts down the economic pressure on secondary and tertiary health care, he added. He reaffirmed SDPI's commitment to on community development and improving service delivery.

Dr Muhammad Afsar Anwar, District Health Officer (DHO) Buner, underscored interconnectedness of maternal and child health (MNCH) and family planning, noting that an effective approach to the former hinged upon prudent family planning practices.

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Defaming Pak Army instead of acknowledging its Commendable Contributions - II

Shehbaz further termed the mean, evil and violent media campaigns as a result of the planning of miscreants, adding the conspirators had again become active against the political and economic stability in the country. The new media campaign was a part and parcel of that abhorrent campaign, which was launched against Shuhada, he maintained. The prime minister observed that the media drive against armed forces and its chief did not fall within the domain of freedom of expression, but it was only a conspiracy, and it was a legal responsibility to eradicate such a tendency with full strength.

est (power grab) over everything else," the PM of that time said. He reiterated that the people of Pakistan and the political parties strongly stood behind Gen Munir and the armed forces, and will thwart any attempt and conspiracy at undermining Pakistan Army's prestige, honour, and integrity.

Pak army is not an institution but a name of passion and loyalty whose soldiers have the passion to sacrifice their lives for the defense of the motherland and are always in the first line to deal with any emergency situation and help and save the lives of their fellow countrymen. While being ready at all times, the soldiers of the Pakistani army are always engaged in the service and protection of their land and the nation. It should be kept in mind that, August 22, the day when the operation to rescue the Pakistanis trapped in the chair lift of Battagram was going on by the Pakistan Army, at the same time the sons of the nation were also engaged in the operation against the terrorists in Waziristan. While the soldiers of Pakistan Army played a key role in saving eight people at the same time and for the sake of defending Pakistan six brave soldiers of Pakistan Army gave their lives while fighting with the dead. It should be remembered that those were not six military men, but are six families who sacrificed their loved ones for the sake of the country. The martyred soldiers were also someone's son, someone's brother, someone's husband, someone's father or someone's only support. Pak Army is not a defense organization but a special army given by Allah which is always ready to

deal with natural calamities and accidents from the borders. Those who criticize the army unjustifiably, have they never seen or understood that who always stands in the first line to protect them after the help of Allah? Pak army is not fond of any credit or fame, it is only the spirit of patriotism according to which Pakistan army is always present without any delay to perform its duty on the borders as well as to rescue our countrymen from any unexpected situation. In case of floods, earthquakes, storms, droughts, or any other accident, if the eyes of the whole nation are raised towards anyone that is

thinks of weakening this relationship will die their own death.

Readers, addressing the problem of misinformation and propaganda on social media requires a multi-faceted approach: Promoting critical thinking and media literacy skills can empower individuals to assess information critically, identify bias, and fact-check claims before sharing them. Social media platforms need to take responsibility for the content circulating on their platforms. Implementing stricter policies against misinformation, enhancing fact-checking mechanisms, and reducing the algorithmic amplification of false content are crucial steps in mitigating the spread of misinformation. Government, civil society organizations, and tech companies should collaborate to develop comprehensive strategies to combat misinformation and propaganda. This includes promoting transparent communication, supporting independent fact-checking organizations, and fostering partnerships to share best practices and resources. The unchecked spread of misinformation and propaganda on social media poses a significant threat to society. It is imperative that individuals, social media platforms, and policymakers work together to address this challenge effectively. By promoting media literacy, implementing responsible platform policies, and fostering collaborative efforts, we can mitigate the impact of misinformation and safeguard the integrity of public discourse, ensuring a healthier and more informed digital society. The trend of spreading fake news and propaganda against the Pak Army is not acceptable for the nation and is not in the larger interests of Pakistan. Strict actions need to be taken against those who are involved in such malicious attempts against our defenders.

Pak Army. A few ignorant, less intelligent and self-made analysts who are busy day and night in hating the army should be ashamed of inciting hatred in every case and pulling out bugs. Just like recently those blind people tried to misrepresent Battagram's rescue operation and failed miserably and Inshallah they will always fail, they should come to their senses and understand that everything is not about money or cheap fame. Do these low-minded people have an idea of what will happen to the hearts of the families of the martyrs and the young people engaged in public service with their negative and fabricated analyses? If it is not Pakistan Army, then who will be in these streets? Have you ever thought? If you don't think so, look at the condition of Muslims in Palestine, Iraq, Syria, and India. Look at the plight of Muslims in Myanmar. Anti-national and anti-army elements should keep one thing in mind that Pakistan Army is the pride of the people and the people are the crown of the Pakistan Army. Anyone who



Abdul Basit Alvi

In an elaborate statement on Twitter, the previous PM Shehbaz separately said that the PTI chief's "vile, sinister and malicious" campaign had been badly exposed. "Imran Khan continues to engage in a vile, sinister and malicious campaign against COAS General Syed Asim Munir. His trick of using proxies to threaten the Army Chief of an assassination attempt has been badly exposed," he wrote on the microblogging site. Shehbaz Sharif said that Imran Khan was desperately working to coerce his way back into power after failure in a methodically planned attack on the state symbols. He said that the PTI chief fails to realise that "the time of his politics of intimidation, violence and hatred is over." "Through such highly condemnable antics, he is only exposing himself, the core of which is defined by putting his personal inter-

Children's right to clean, healthy environment

United Nations committee has updated a key treaty designed to protect children's rights to strengthen their hand in fighting climate change, as they emerge at the forefront of the battle to protect the planet.

The 1989 treaty outlines children's rights, including life, health, clean drinking water, and survival and development.

In the document, the U. N. Committee on the Rights of the Child calls environmental degradation, including the climate crisis, "a form of structural violence against children".

It says that states should provide access to justice for children, including through "removing barriers for children to initiate proceedings themselves".

"This could definitely strengthen their hand because now there's a fully articulated set of guidance that pulls everything together in one place," said Ann Skelton, chair of the committee and a South African lawyer, adding that she also hoped businesses and policymakers would draw on the document.

Children have been at the forefront of the fight against climate change, urging governments and corporations to take action to safeguard their lives and the future, Committee member Philip Jaffé said.

"The Committee on the Rights of the Child not only echoes and amplifies children's voices but also clearly defines the rights of children in relation to the environment that States Parties should respect, protect and fulfil collectively and urgently," he added.

It specifies that States are responsible not only for protecting children's rights from immediate harm, but also for foreseeable violations of their rights in the future due to action, or inaction, today.

Furthermore, it underlines that States can be held accountable for environmental harm occurring both within their borders and beyond.

Countries that have ratified the UN Child Rights Convention are urged to take immediate action including towards phasing out fossil fuels and shifting to renewable energy sources, improving air quality, ensuring access to clean water, and protecting biodiversity.

David Boyd, UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment, called General Comment No. 26, "a vital step forward" in recognizing that every child has the right to live in a clean, healthy and sustainable world.

"Governments must now take urgent action to address the global environmental crisis in order to breathe life into these inspiring words," he said.

General Comment No. 26 is the outcome of global and intergenerational engagement, including broad consultation with UN Member States, international and regional organizations, national human rights institutions, civil society organizations, and children themselves.

Corruption in Iraq ...



Cartoon by Amjad Rasmi. (Courtesy of Ashfaq Al-Awdat)

Climate change: time to act now

Climate change is a wide word that refers to changes in Earth's climates at local, regional, and global sizes, as well as the consequences of these changes. Since the pre-Industrial period the term "climate change" has been most commonly used to describe changes in the Earth's climate caused primarily by human activity, particularly by the burning of fossil fuels and the removal of forests, resulting in a relatively rapid increase in carbon dioxide atmospheric concentrations.

As among the most significant measurements of global changes, global warming and climate change are often used interchangeably. Global warming is defined as an increase in average global temperatures that has substantial consequences for humans, wildlife, and ecosystems all across the world. Climate change is used to encompass these extra consequences since there are more reasons and impacts than just rising surface temperatures. Scientists agree that human impact has been the major driver of observed warming trends since the twentieth century, with 97 percent of regularly published climate scientists agreeing. Carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere have grown from roughly 280 parts per million (ppm) before the Industrial Revolution to 413 ppm in early 2020. This carbon dioxide concentration is unmatched in recorded history. According to scientists, in order to moderate global warming, we must return to a 'safe' amount of 350 ppm by 2100.

Climate change refers to substantial, long-term shifts in the global climate. The interrelated system of the sun, earth, and seas, wind, rain, and snow, forests, deserts, and savannas, as well as everything people do, makes up the global climate. The climate of a place, such as New York, may be defined in terms of rainfall, seasonal temperature changes, and other factors. A depiction of the global climate covers how, for example, rising Pacific temperatures feed typhoons, which blow harder, dump more rain, and do more damage, but also change global ocean currents, which melt Antarctica ice, causing sea levels to rise steadily until New York is submerged. Global climate change is both vital and challenging because of its systemic interconnectedness.

Climate change has multiple effects on numerous aspects of civilization. Drought may have a negative impact on food production and human health. Flooding may cause illness to spread and environmental and infrastructure damage. Human health problems can raise death rates, reduce food availability, and reduce labour productivity. The effects of climate change may be observed in every part of our lives. Climate change consequences, on the other hand, are unequal across the country and the globe; even within a single town, impacts might range between neighbourhoods or people. Long-standing socioeconomic

imbalances can render underserved populations more susceptible, as they are frequently the most sensitive to risks and have the fewest means to respond. Climate change-affected future scenarios are not unavoidable. Many of the issues and solutions are now well understood, and research continues to uncover new ones. Experts think that there is still time to avert the worst-case scenario by controlling warming and lowering emissions to zero as soon as feasible. Investment in new technology and infrastructure will be required to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, resulting in job growth. Furthermore, reducing emissions will have a positive influence on human health, saving countless lives and billions of dollars in medical costs.

Brief climate pollutants, such as black carbon, methane, hydrofluorocarbons, and tropospheric ozone, are significant climate forcers with many times the global warming potential of carbon dioxide. These pollutants have a considerable influence on air quality, food, water, and economic security for most of the world, both directly and indirectly through their harmful impacts on human health, agriculture, and ecosystems. Short-lived climate pollutants can be reduced by methods and technologies that are practicable, technically possible, and cost-effective. They can provide immediate climatic benefits, aid in the achievement of numerous global sustainable development goals, and enhance the health and lives of millions of people.

To avert the worst impacts of climate change, global carbon emissions must be drastically reduced. However, we must also plan for the severe and inescapable repercussions of carbon emissions, such as rising temperatures, altering precipitation patterns, ocean acidification, sea-level rise, and an increase in the severity as well as recurrence of extreme weather events. WWF collaborates with local communities, governments, and others all across the world to help environment and people prepare for the myriad effects of climate change.

We must act immediately. Delays in reducing carbon dioxide or other short-lived climate pollutants will have serious, perhaps permanent effects for global warming, increasing sea levels, food security, and public health. Because of their short lifespan in the atmosphere, which can range from a few days to a few decades, lowering short-lived climate pollutants can help to decrease the rate of global warming and complement efforts to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. To effectively react to the difficulties that climate change brings to our communities, we must talk about it directly - and in a way that encourages and welcomes a diverse range of people into the discourse. And here's the kicker: it's hard enough to start a conversation about this, but it's all-too-easy to unknowingly alienate or turn off others, or drive them to strengthen their dedication to their own, opposing viewpoints.



Muhammad Faiz-ur-Rehman

Election Dilemma

The President of Pakistan's request to the Chief Election Commissioner of Pakistan for holding general elections within 90 days and for a related meeting was subtly avoided, citing a change in law requiring the President's consultation for an election date.

Two provisions of the Constitution of Pakistan are pertinent in this matter, regulating the period for holding general elections within 90 days when the assembly is dissolved.

The first is Article 48(5), where if the President dissolves the Assembly without the Prime Minister's advice as envisioned by Article 48(1), the President will set a date for the election.

The second is Article 224, which addresses two eventualities:

(A) Under Article 224(1), elections for the national or provincial assembly shall be held within 60 days following the scheduled expiry of the assembly's term.

(B) Under Article 224(2), when the National or Provincial Assembly is dissolved, a general election shall be held within 90 days after the dissolution.

Section 57 in the Election Act 2017, which stated that the President would announce election dates after consulting the commission, has been omitted.

The Constitution's provisions clearly indicate that elections must occur within 90 days of assembly dissolution, whether under Article 48(5) or 224(2). The time frame is embedded in both articles.

Within the constitutional framework, the authority to declare general election dates lies with the election commission, responsible for ensuring a fair, transparent, and unbiased election process. The commission determines the election schedule based on legal provisions, administrative feasibility, and impartiality.

The government's head and the President, as government nominees, are excluded from the election arena to ensure fair elections' their credibility and legitimacy.

While Section 57's omission aligns with the constitution's election regulation, the fact remains that the election commission must hold elections within 90 days, despite Article 51(5) regulating seat allocation based on census results.

The assembly, as the foundation of the constitution, institutions, and laws, cannot be put on hold due to seat reallocation. Continuity of the parliamentary organ is paramount.

Amid multiple crises, especially political and economic, the country's diplomatic image is tarnished. The need for a fresh mandate is imminent; reallocation can wait, but the country's survival cannot.

Mandatory elections within the prescribed period are crucial for forming a new assembly and government. Deferring the process would

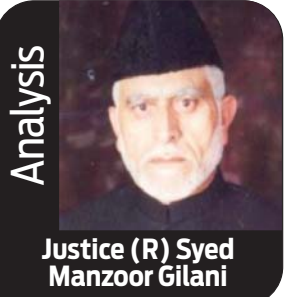
disrupt the constitutional, parliamentary, and political systems.

Assuming both as errors if not done one after other (elections and reallocation), by not undertaking them within the stipulated period, reallocation is a lesser error than deferring elections. It's better to err on the side of caution.

The Constitution has a provision to address such situations under Article 254:

"When any act or thing is required by the Constitution to be done within a particular period and it is not done within that period, the doing of the act or thing shall not be invalid or otherwise ineffective by reason only that it was not done within that period."

This article doesn't excuse inaction but allows the authorities to act subsequently, focusing first on the most urgent and indispensable actions, as in this case.



Justice (R) Syed Manzoor Gilani





# The cricket teams of Pakistan and Nepal will face each other in Multan Cricket Stadium

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Asia Cup world number one Pakistani team will compete against Nepal in the first match tomorrow

The opening match will be played on 30th August at Multan Cricket Stadium. Nepal's first participation in the Asia Cup.

The wait for the Asia Cup 2023 is over and on Wednesday the world number one Pakistan cricket team will compete against Nepal in the opening match at the Multan Cricket Stadium.

The Asia Cup is starting from Multan and this is the first time that Multan is hosting a continental tournament match.

The teams of Pakistan and Nepal are competing for the first time in the One Day International. Nepal team is participating in Asia Cup for the first time.

Multan Cricket Stadium is expected to have a great atmosphere on the occasion of this match and a huge number of fans will be present in the stadium to enjoy this match.

There will be an opening ceremony before the match and the match will start at 2:30 PM.

Pakistan cricket team last played an ODI series against West Indies in Multan in June last year which they won by 3 nil.

Pakistan team has won seven out of ten ODIs at this ground.

Captain Babar Azam says that he is happy



to play in front of the enthusiastic fans of Multan and we are all very happy to start the Asia Cup from Multan.

Babar Azam congratulated the Nepalese team for qualifying for the Asia Cup and said that their participation in this tournament will help in the promotion of cricket in Nepal. The competition with the Nepalese team will be good.

The Pakistan team is starting the Asia Cup at a time when it whitewashed Afghanistan

by 3-0 in the past few days and won the first position in the world ranking of One Day International. The Pakistan team has become the world number one for the second time. Twenty-two out of thirty-one matches in the cycle have been won.

Pakistan team's recent performance has been good in all three formats. He tied the T20I series 2-2 against New Zealand and won the ODI series 4-1. And then won both the Test matches against Sri Lanka and won

the ODI series against Afghanistan by three nil.

Babar Azam says about the added pressure after becoming the world number one, I will not say that there will be pressure but we will start this tournament with confidence. This team has achieved the top position through hard work and efforts over the past few years. The process is not over yet, we want to win the Asia Cup and then the World Cup. The coming months are very exciting and competitive and we are determined to do well for our country. Every player wants to win for his country and all the players are ready to show their best even in tough and difficult conditions. The past few months have been great and it's time to continue that momentum.

The Pakistan team will leave for Sri Lanka on August 31 where they will play the second match of Group A against India in Kandy on September 2. Kandy will also host the third match of Group A which will be played between India and Nepal on September 4.

Pakistan Squad: Babar Azam (Captain), Shadab Khan (Vice-Captain), Abdullah Shafiq, Faheem Ashraf, Fakhr Zaman, Haris Rauf, Iftikhar Ahmed, Imamul-Haq, Muhammad Haris (Wicketkeeper), Muhammad Nawaz, Muhammad Rizwan (Wicketkeeper), Muhammad Wasim Jr., Naseem Shah, Salman Ali Agha, Saud Shakeel, Shaheen Shah Afridi and Osama Mir. Traveling Reserve: Tayyab Tahir.

## 'Job not done,' Babar Azam eyes Asia Cup, World Cup glory after leading rankings

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Pakistan's all-format captain Babar Azam said Tuesday that the job is not done yet for the top-ranked ODI side as they aim to win the upcoming ACC Men's Asia Cup 2023 and ICC Men's World Cup in India.

Babar Azam-led Pakistan enter the Asia Cup with momentum on their side. They topped the ICC rankings for ODI teams on Saturday after securing a 3-0 whitewash over Afghanistan in Sri Lanka. This is the second instance of the team surmounting the chart since April. Pakistan also boast the best win/loss ratio of 2.750 with 22 wins in 31 matches since in this World Cup cycle.

Reflecting on whether there is an added pressure for being the top-ranked side, Babar Azam said, "I would not say that there is a pressure. Rather, we enter this tournament with more confidence.



"This team has put in a lot of hard work and effort over the last few years and we achieving the top spot is a testimony of it. The job, however, is not done as we want to win the Asia Cup and the World Cup. "We have some competitive and exciting next few months lined up and we are eager to do well for our

country. "Every player in this side wants to win matches for his country and raises their hand. They are always ready to put in the hard yards and never shy away from tough and difficult situations. We have had some amazing last few months and now it is time to build on the

momentum."

The much-anticipated Men's ODI Asia Cup 2023 is finally here and it begins tomorrow with Pakistan, the top-ranked One-Day International side, taking on Nepal in the Group-A clash at the Multan Cricket Stadium.

The contest marks many firsts as Nepal, as a team, and Multan, as a venue, make their debuts in the continental tournament. It is also a maiden contest between Pakistan and Nepal at the top level.

Pakistan's last outing in Multan in the format was in June last year and the home side enjoyed resounding success over the West Indies by thrashing them 3-0 in the three-match series. The team has played 10 ODIs here and won seven.

"It is always a great feeling to play in front of the passionate Multan crowd and we all are very excited that the Asia Cup is beginning from this city," Pakistan captain Babar Azam said on the eve of the contest.

"I want to congratulate Nepal for qualifying for the Asia Cup and I hope that their participation will give a boost to the development of the sport in the country. We are looking forward to playing Nepal and I am sure it will be a good contest," he added.

Pakistan will fly to Sri Lanka on 31 August to play India in the second Group-A match on 2 September at Kandy. The venue will also host the third and final match of the group between India and Nepal on 4 September.

Pakistan squad for Asia Cup 2023: Babar Azam (captain), Shadab Khan (vice-captain), Abdullah Shafique, Faheem Ashraf, Fakhr Zaman, Haris Rauf, Iftikhar Ahmed, Imam-ul-Haq, Mohammad Haris (wk), Mohammad Nawaz, Mohammad Rizwan (wk), Mohammad Wasim Jr., Naseem Shah, Salman Ali Agha, Saud Shakeel, Shaheen Afridi and Usama Mir.

## Neeraj Chopra's mother's remarks about Arshad Nadeem win hearts

A Sports

Star Indian Javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra's mother downplayed the hype of her son triumphing over Pakistani athlete Arshad Nadeem in the World Athletics Championship.

Arshad Nadeem and Neeraj Chopra on Sunday made history as they became the first to win a silver and gold medal respectively in the World Athletics Championship.

Following his sensational run to capture the silver medal, Arshad Nadeem became the first athlete from Pakistan to achieve the feat in the World Athletics Championship while Neeraj Chopra became the first

Indian to win a gold.

Arshad Nadeem secured the silver with his best throw in his third attempt which went at a distance of 87.82 meters.

His Indian counterpart Neeraj bagged India's first gold medal at the World Athletics Championship with an 88.17m throw in his second attempt.

Neeraj Chopra's remarkable achievement sent the masses across the border into immense jubilation but few of them ignited the India-Pakistan rivalry by drawing the comparison between the two athletes, who have, in many instances, displayed mutual respect.

Following her son's record-breaking



performance, Neeraj Chopra's mother was interacting with the media and in the midst was asked about her emotions regarding Neeraj triumphing over Pakistan's Arshad. "How big of an achievement it was for

Neeraj to defeat the Pakistani?" the reporter asked, to which she replied: "There is no division of countries on the field all players are equal."

"In the field, everyone is an athlete, and someone has to win; it doesn't matter if they are from Pakistan or from Haryana," Neeraj Chopra's mother said.

She further said: "It is a matter [Neeraj's victory] of joy for me and I am happy for the Pakistani athlete as well."

Neeraj Chopra's mother's befitting response to the journalist quickly went viral across social media platforms and fans from both neighbouring countries greatly admired her exceptional perspective.

## Pakistan Cycling Federation announces decision to lift ban on all cyclists



Tahir amin Malik

LAHORE: In a historic gathering held at the Lahore Coaching Centre, the General Council of the Pakistan Cycling Federation convened to make a momentous decision. Under the esteemed leadership of Chairman Kokab Nadeem Warraich, President Syed Azhar Ali Shah, and General Secretary Moazzam Khan Klair, the house overwhelmingly voted to lift the ban on all cyclists, excluding those involved in doping, across the nation.

This remarkable development marks a significant stride towards the promotion and advancement of cycling in Pakistan. Following the meeting's conclusion, members of the Pakistan Cycling Federation visited former National cyclist Chaudhary Muhammad Qasim, who is recovering from a brain hemorrhage. Despite his current inability to speak, Mr. Qasim's health is improving, evident from the joyful smile that graced his face when presented with a bouquet of flowers.

The Pakistan Cycling Federation's solidarity and support for Mr. Qasim reflect not only their commitment to the sport but also their compassion for those who have dedicated their lives to cycling. The Federation remains optimistic about his speedy recovery and eventual return to normalcy.

## Quaid Banaspati Defence Day Tennis tournament from Aug 31

Spots Desk

KARACHI: To commemorate Defense Day of Pakistan, Sindh Tennis Association / Karachi Tennis Association Sponsored by Maria Edible Oil Industries Pvt Ltd will organize Quaid Banaspati Defence Day Tennis Tournament from 31st August at Modern Club Tennis Courts.

Events are, Men's Singles, Ladies Singles, girls 17 Singles, Boys and Girls Under 8 Singles and 55 Plus Doubles. Few exclusive Karachi events are also included, namely, Juniors 17 Singles, Boys and Girls Under 15 Singles, Under 13 Singles, Under 11 Singles, Men's Doubles, 45 Plus Doubles.

Out station players shall be entitled to daily and traveling allowance only in Sindh Ranking events.

Last Date of entry is 30th August 4-00 PM.

Entries can be sent to Muhammad Khalid Rehmani (Referee) at Whatsapp number 0300 3607209.

## Nepal captain says facing world number one Pakistan will be 'tough'

Asim Tanveer



MULTAN: Rohit Paudyal, the captain of the Nepal cricket team, says that the opening match of the Asia Cup is facing the world number one team in this sense, he is planning to win the match. Addressing the pre-Asia Cup media conference at Multan Media Center last evening, he added. It is a success for our Nepal team that we are playing Asia Cup. There is a huge difference in experience between the two teams. Pakistan is an experienced team. Both teams have the best bowlers and batsmen. We have prepared a lot for success. We need to focus on our bowling. We are really enjoying hosting Pakistan. Playing in Pakistan for the first time and I think the wicket here is very good.

## Pakistan Cricket Team net practice at Multan Cricket Stadium

Spokesman Photos by Asim Tanveer



## TENDER NOTICE FOR INFOTAINMENT SYSTEM AS A SERVICE (ALONG WITH ANCILLARY SERVICES) FOR PAKISTAN RAILWAY FLEET

Sealed proposals are invited from reputed companies for licensing of the Infotainment system in all classes and Wi-Fi in all coaches of Pakistan Railways.

Further details are given as under:-

- The successful company will be required to provide Infotainment / Wi-Fi services as specified in detail in the bid documents.
- The interested firms companies can obtain the bid Documents, at a cost of Rs.3000/- (non-refundable) for licensing / Wi-Fi services, consisting of Condition of contract, evaluation criteria and format of Technical Proposals from the office of the undersigned during office hours.
- Selection of firms shall be carried out as per competitive bidding under Single stage of two envelopes procedure of PPRA rules.
- Sealed Proposals in a single package must reach the **Committee Room No.2 by 11:00 A. M on 25-09-2023.**
- All technical proposals will be opened in Committee Room No. 02 of Pakistan Railways Headquarter Office Lahore on **25-09-2023 at 11:30A. M** in the presence of bidders or their representatives who may choose to be present.
- For further details please visit Pakistan Railways Website: www.pakrail.gov.pk and PPRA website: www.ppra.org.pk.

Dy. Chief Commercial Manager (M)  
Pakistan Railways Headquarter Office,  
Empress Road, Lahore  
Phone: 042-99205701

”دیپلے لائن کو صرف ریپبلے کے اسٹیٹس سے اختیار پار کریں“