



CJP Isa criticises clarification from judges on reserved seats

Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa has expressed his discontent for the second time regarding a clarification issued by eight judges related to the reserved seats case. This clarification asserts that amendments to the Elections Act 2017 do not affect the Supreme Court's ruling from July 12 concerning reserved seats. In an official note, the CJP conveyed his regret over the issuance of this clarification.



Salman expresses reluctance to return to Big Boss after Baba Siddique's killing

Bollywood actor Salman Khan has said that he did not want to come back to the reality TV show Big Boss 18 after the killing of his close friend and Nationalist Congress Party leader Baba Siddique. The Muslim politician was shot dead in Mumbai on October 19, weeks ahead of key state elections, with police probing the role of a notorious crime gang. Baba Siddique was shot multiple times in the chest outside his son's office in Mumbai.

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Meeting

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting of the Federal Cabinet on Sunday.



Photo: PID

Federal Cabinet approves draft of 26th Constitutional Amendment

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The federal cabinet on Sunday approved the draft of the 26th Constitutional Amendment proposed by the government allied parties including the Pakistan Peoples Party.

During the cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Minister of Law and Justice, Azam Nazeer Tarar provided a detailed briefing on the amendment.

Addressing the cabinet, PM Shehbaz Sharif hailed the decision as a major achievement for Pakistan's development and progress. "The cabinet has made an excellent decision for the development, prosperity and the betterment of the country's overall situation", he said.

The prime minister congratulated the nation on the approval of the 26th Amendment, emphasizing that it was made in the larger national

interest. He reiterated the government's commitment to public welfare and the constitutional integrity of the country. "By the grace of Allah, after stabilizing the economy, we have now crossed a milestone for constitutional stability and the rule of law in Pakistan," he said.

Looking ahead, the prime minister assured that the government would continue working diligently for the country's development, prosperity, and stability in line with the promises made to the people.

He also expressed gratitude to the heads of the government's allied parties for their support, particularly acknowledging the contributions of PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, Interior Minister Mohsin Raza Naqvi, Adviser to the Prime Minister Rana Sanaulah, and Minister of Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar.

Senate passes 26th constitutional amendment with two-thirds majority

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: The federal government finally tabled the 26th constitutional amendment in the Senate on Sunday.

Law Minister Azam Nazir Tarar presented the bill in the Senate. The draft was approved by the federal cabinet earlier on Sunday.

The bill was voted clause by clause, with members rising in their seats to show their assent.

The first clause was passed by a majority of 65 to four votes, hence constituting two-thirds majority. The House then proceeded to pass all clauses one by one.

After a clause-by-clause approval, a third reading was carried out which once again

showed the same 65-4 majority.

The Law Minister stated that the 18th Amendment altered the process of appointing judges to the higher judiciary. He claimed the 19th Amendment disrupted the balance of the constitution and was passed hastily. He alleged that the Judicial Commission, established under the 18th Amendment, was coerced into approving the 19th Amendment, and its inclination towards a particular institution reduced the authority of the parliamentary committee.

He noted that bar associations across Pakistan criticized this, demanding the restoration of the original spirit of the 18th Amendment, a demand echoed by the Supreme Court and the



Pakistan Bar Council.

According to the Law Minister, a new structure for the parliamentary commission has been deemed appropriate and will be presented today. This new commission will include four

senior-most judges along with four parliamentary leaders.

The proposed Judicial Commission will comprise: the Chief Justice of Pakistan, the judge heading the constitutional bench, three senior-

most Supreme Court judges, the Federal Law Minister, the Attorney General of Pakistan, a minimum of one lawyer with 15 years of experience nominated by the Pakistan Bar Council for a two-year term, and two members each from the government and opposition from both houses of parliament (if the National Assembly is dissolved, the members will be from the Senate).

Azam Nazir Tarar stated that propaganda was spread against Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa. He had three official meetings with Chief Justice Isa, in all of which the Chief Justice clarified that he would not seek an extension of his term. Any rules framed by the government will apply after the current Chief Justice's tenure.

Govt introduces constitutional amendment in NA, while still 5 members short of magic number

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The federal government tabled the constitutional amendment in the National Assembly on Sunday.

Law Minister Azam Nazeer Tarar introduced the amendment bill in the National Assembly.

Nawaz Sharif, PM Shehbaz Sharif, Maulana Fazlur Rehman and Bilawal Bhutto Zardari were all present in the Assembly when the bill was introduced.

The session was adjourned just before midnight for around 10 minutes, to reconvene at 12:05 am.

Govt still 5 members short

The ruling coalition in the National Assembly needs 224 votes to pass the constitutional amendment, but currently holds only 211 seats.

This includes: 111 PML-N, 69 PPP, 22 MQM, 5 Q-League, 4 IPP, and one each from PML-Zia, Balochistan Awami Party, and the National Party.

With three coalition members facing references, the total is 211. Including the support of 8 JUI members, the total rises to 219, leaving the government needing an additional 5 votes to pass the amendment.

The opposition holds 80 seats from the Sunni Ittehad Council, 8 PTI-supported independents, and one each from the Balochistan National Party, Majlis Wahdat-e-Muslimeen, and the Pakhtunkhwa Milli Awami Party.

Therefore, the government needs 2 additional votes from the opposition to secure passage of the amendment.

Tarar calls constitutional package a milestone for parliamentary supremacy



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Sunday said that it was a historic day and a milestone for the state and people of Pakistan as the supremacy of Parliament was established.

Talking to media outside Parliament House,

along with Minister for Law and Justice Azam Nazeer Tarar here, he said

He said that consultation with all political parties was the beauty of the democratic process and no political party has been left out in this process. He said that prolonged but constructive consultations were held on the constitutional package and no urgency had been shown in this regard.

The minister said that the constitutional package was an important step towards speedy delivery of justice in the country.

He said that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif thanked all coalition parties especially PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, President Asif Zardari, Naveed Qamar and Sherry Rehman for their positive role.

He said the amendments to the package being introduced on Sunday were originally envisaged in the Charter of Democracy signed between Shaheed Benazir Bhutto and Nawaz Sharif in 2006.

PM Shehbaz likely to skip Commonwealth leaders summit

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: In light of the political situation arising from the 26th constitutional amendment, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is unlikely to attend the upcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Samoa.

As a result, sources said that Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar is expected to depart for Samoa on Sunday night. But his departure for the Pacific Island of Samoa is contingent on any positive developments regarding the legislation.

Indian Foreign Minister S Jaishankar is also expected to attend the Commonwealth summit. If Dar departs, it will mark another occasion for the foreign ministers of Pakistan and India to meet in Samoa.

According to the Commonwealth's website, government heads meet

every two years for the CHOGM, hosted by different member countries on a rotating basis. The 2022 meeting was held in Rwanda, whereas this year, Samoa will host the event, which will run from October 21-26.

Last month, PM Shehbaz received a phone call from King Charles III of Great Britain, inviting him to attend the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Samoa this October.

The premier accepted the invitation, highlighting the significance of the summit as it will be the first one chaired by King Charles since he assumed leadership of the Commonwealth in September 2022.

The statement also noted that PM Shehbaz reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to the Commonwealth and the values outlined in the Commonwealth Charter.

PTI says it will not vote for constitutional amendment

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) understands this gravity. He said that every decision is made in consultation with the PTI founder, who stated yesterday that further consultation is needed. The PTI has taken a principled stance and condemns the manner in which the bill was presented and the way members were treated.

Barrister Gohar further stated that their alliance with Maulana [Fazl-ur-Rehman] will continue, but they will not vote in favor of the constitutional amendment. They will participate in the process, but will abstain from voting.

On this occasion, Maulana Fazl-ur-Rehman expressed gratitude towards the PTI, stating that they had "broken the fangs of the black snake" (a metaphorical expression signifying thwarting a dangerous plan).

PTI sources have also claimed that it is unable to establish contact with 11 of its members of parliament.

The list of parliamentarians who are inaccessible includes nine MNAs and two Senators. Barrister Gohar stated that

Finance Minister Mujtaba Shuja opens Retail Summit and Expo

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: The Chainstore Association of Pakistan (CAP) on Sunday announced the successful conclusion of the 4th 'Future of Retail Business Summit and Expo' held here at a hotel. In collaboration with TerraBiz, this year's event attracted over 500 retail participants, featuring 30 distinguished expert speakers, 30 exhibitors, and two exclusive masterclasses led by international experts.

The summit was hosted by the esteemed leadership of CAP, including Patron-in-Chief Rana Tariq Mehboob, Chairman Asfandiyar Farrukh, Senior Vice Chairman Ahsan Mehmood, Vice Chairman Altaf Hashwani, Secretary General Malik Asim Dogar, CAP Executive Committee in association with the founder of Terra Biz, Hamza Hashmi, and his dedicated team. The main event partners included IMARAT, TCS, Stylo, Bank Alfalah,



The Grand Central Mall Faisalabad, Capcon, Dolmen Mall and many others including leading retail brands of Pakistan.

The event was graced by Chief Guest Mian Mujtaba Shuja-ur-Rehman, Provincial Minister of the Finance Department of Punjab. Special guests included Shaikh Muhammad Tanveer, former Minister of Commerce & Indus-

tries Punjab, Zaki Aijaz, Regional Chairman of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry and Engr. Khalid Usman, Senior Vice President of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

This year's summit was a remarkable success, highlighting the evolving landscape of retail in Pakistan and its potential for the domestic economy as well as

exports. Participants engaged in meaningful discussions about the future of retail, technological advancements, and innovative solutions. The event provided a platform for networking and collaboration, fostering relationships between local and international stakeholders.

The CAP extends heartfelt gratitude to its international guests, including Alex Andarakis, Odiseas Trikaliotis, and Raffaella Campagnoli, along with home-grown pioneers and experts, whose insights enriched the discussions. Additionally, a special thanks goes to the sponsors and all individuals whose hard work contributed to the event's success.

The Chainstore Association of Pakistan remains committed to transforming the retail sector and is hopeful to continue organizing this pivotal event in the coming years in collaboration with the entire business ecosystem IN SHA ALLAH.

Muhammad Bin Qasim Blind Center best educational institute for blinds



Kiran Asim

MULTAN: President of Inner Wheel Midtown 343 Club Multan, Mrs. Shamim Akhtar has said Muhammad Bin Qasim Blind Center Multan is the Best Educational institute For Blind in Pakistan she further Said that if the welfare institutions, district administration and philanthropists guide the blind people, there is no reason why they should not play their role in the development of the country together with the sighted people. Allah Almighty has placed immense abilities in them, they only need to be encouraged. Educational institution for the blind. She said the occasion of distributing 70 white sticks to the blind people, on this occasion prominent social workers Mrs. Tahira Najam and Hina Chaughtai said that we all have to encourage the blind students and students together. The director of Muhammad Bin Qasim Blind Center said that there are many Hafiz Quran reciters, Naat reciters who have won numerous prizes in various competitions of Pakistan. He thanked Inner wheel Midtown and finally distributed white sticks to 70 students.

UK plastic surgery team praised for helping children with cleft lips and palates

Anwar Chuhan

GUJRAT: Former Governor of Gilgit-Baltistan, Chaudhry Qamar Zaman Kaira, praised the institutions serving humanity in Pakistan, stating that the cleft hospital in Gujrat, which provides free plastic surgery for children with cleft lips and palates at an international level, is an exemplary humanitarian service. He was speaking at a dinner hosted by Chairman of Skyways Group of Companies, Chaudhry Zia Mohiuddin, in honor of the UK plastic surgery team. He mentioned that he would discuss the promotion and support of this institution with the federal government. He specifically thanked the foreign cleft surgeons' team, who visit Pakistan twice a year to perform free surgeries for children with cleft lip and palate issues. He added that this service does not only transform the life of a single child but turns the despair of the entire family into smiles, describing it as a great mission.

Chairman of Skyways Group, Chaudhry Zia Mohiuddin, said he had been associated with the hospital for a year and wished that all his friends visit the hospital and meet the children before deciding whether to support the institution or not. He expressed confidence that they would not be able to refuse. Amir Mushtaq Shani thanked Aziz-ur-Rehman Mujahid and Dr. Ijaz Bashir for introducing them to this noble cause and allowing them to be a part of it. He pledged that they would all continue working together to improve the institution.

Aziz-ur-Rehman Mujahid appealed to Chaudhry Qamar Zaman Kaira to nominate Dr. Ijaz Bashir for the Presidential Award for his service in providing free treatment to 27,000 children with cleft lip and palate issues. The hospital's founder, Dr. Ijaz Bashir, briefed attendees about the facilities and future plans of the hospital. The foreign surgeons also addressed the gathering.

Need of A Medical City

Arisha Irshad Ali Mohbani

Pakistan's healthcare system grapples with numerous challenges, exacerbated by a rapidly growing population and limited resources, creating a critical situation that demands urgent attention. To address these challenges and ensure accessible, affordable, and high-quality healthcare for all citizens, we propose establishing specialized medical cities.

These cities would house state-of-the-art hospitals, research centers, medical schools, and ancillary facilities, catering to specific areas of expertise, such as pediatrics, oncology, and gynecology. By centralizing specialized care, we can improve efficiency, reduce patient wait times, and attract top medical talent from within and outside Pakistan.

The establishment of specialized medical cities would offer numerous benefits. Firstly, it would alleviate the burden on existing healthcare facilities, reducing overcrowding and improving care quality. Secondly, patients would gain access to specialized treatments and expertise currently limited or unavailable in many parts of the country. Thirdly, new job opportunities and economic growth would emerge in regions hosting these medical cities.

Investing in healthcare infrastructure and human capital would position Pakistan as a regional hub for medical tourism, attracting patients and revenue from neighboring countries and contributing to the nation's economic prosperity. Pakistani healthcare professionals would also gain international experience and expertise.

However, establishing specialized medical cities requires significant investment and careful planning. Government agencies, private sector partners, and international organizations should collaborate to develop comprehensive strategies and secure necessary funding. Ensuring accessibility to people from all socioeconomic backgrounds is essential.

In conclusion, establishing specialized medical cities is crucial to revitalizing Pakistan's healthcare system. Addressing overcrowding, limited access to specialized care, and economic constraints can create a world-class, accessible healthcare system. This initiative can improve millions of Pakistanis' quality of life and contribute to the nation's development.

Bullock race

ISLAMABAD: Contestants are trying to outdo each other in bull race held in Sector I-15 in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Sindh Agriculture University and Breathe Green Launch 1 million tree plantation drive

Abdul Ghafoor Sarohi

HYDERABAD: In a significant effort to combat climate change, Sindh Agriculture University (SAU) Tandojam, in collaboration with the Breathe Green organization, launched a large-scale tree plantation drive at Isra University Hyderabad and along Hala Naka Road. This event marked the commencement of the "1 Million Tree Plantation Drive," an ambitious campaign announced by SAU Vice Chancellor Dr. Fateh Marri.

Vice Chancellor Dr. Fateh Marri, former Vice Chancellor Dr. A. Q. Mughal, and students from both SAU and Isra University participated actively in the drive, planting over 200 trees of various species. The initiative aims to address critical environmental challenges such as climate change, promote biodiversity, and foster stronger community engagement.



Dr. Fateh Marri emphasized the importance of the initiative, noting that the 1 Million Tree Plantation Drive will continue across various areas of Sindh Province. He remarked, "Every

tree planted today is a step towards a greener and more sustainable future. It is essential for mitigating the negative impacts of climate change." Former SAU Vice Chancellor Dr. A.

Q. Mughal echoed these sentiments, stating, "Tree planting is crucial for ensuring environmental sustainability for future generations."

Prof. Dr. Ismail Kumbhar, Director of University Advancement and Financial Assistance at SAU, highlighted the environmental benefits of the initiative, adding, "This drive not only enhances ecosystem services but also fosters a deeper sense of community responsibility toward environmental conservation."

The event garnered strong support from SAU students, faculty members, and key figures, including Prof. Suresh Kumar Wadhvani, Dr. Dost Muhammad Balouch, Dr. Panjwani, Dr. Haroon Iqbal, and Dr. Aijaz Ali Khooharo. Their collective efforts underscored the power of community action in addressing environmental challenges and promoting sustainability.



Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: A business leader said on Friday that the leadership's failure to implement the appropriate policies and ensure merit has turned the FPCCI's capital office into a hub of conspiracies and a battlefield for rival vice presidents and unelected officials.

According to Mirza Abdul Rehman, the founder President of the Attock Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the top leaders of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry

DGTO should intervene to streamline operations of Apex chamber

(FPCCI) and United Business Group (UBG) have developed a tendency to use different slots as a political tool and prefer unelected people over real representatives of the business community.

This negative tendency creates serious issues within FPCCI and for the business community, which thinks that FPCCI leadership should take some pain to resolve their problems.

He continued by saying that the power struggle between vice presidents and unelected blue-eyed individuals has significantly impacted the atmosphere in the FPCCI's Islamabad office, where conspirators are in charge, and that nothing has

changed since the UBG finally came to power in the FPCCI after a five-year gap.

A few years ago, the FPCCI Capital Office only had one Chairman Coordination position. However, numerous new positions that are not legal under any circumstances are burdening the FPCCI's resources.

Mirza Abdul Rehman stated that the staff's lives have become increasingly miserable due to the leadership of FPCCI's ongoing violations of rules and regulations and their promotion of leg-pulling, altercations, and displays of power.

He claims that this has led to assigning significant tasks to people who cannot interact

with diplomats, bureaucrats, and dignitaries from other countries, leaving a powerful negative impression.

Mirza Abdul Rehman noted that office politics in the FPCCI are at an all-time high. Everyone wants to advance his goals and improve his status, even if it hurts others.

He stated that the FPCCI's poor performance over the past nine and a half months could be attributed to these informal or unofficial measures that serve a self-serving purpose.

Most FPCCI members are more interested in honing their political talents to exploit others than fulfilling their duties, he informed.

Mirza Abdul Rehman asserts

that the individuals in charge of the FPCCI Capital Office are highly politicized. They were not elected to their positions but selected to perform various essential tasks. He underlined that politically driven individuals aim to acquire rewards, influence decisions, and enhance their benefits.

Mirza Abdul Rehman asserted that the FPCCI lacks a clear chain of command, and if it sometimes does, the blue-eyed regularly circumvents it, negatively impacting the Apex Chamber's reputation.

He asked the DGTO to note the current state of affairs in the FPCCI and remove the unelected individuals from all FPCCI offices.



TMO Jehangira KPK Shahana Sikandar visiting the different polling stations in Nowshera Local body By Election



Islamabad
30° - 38° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 4:54 am
Zohr 11:53 am
Asr 3:49 pm
Maghrib 5:28 pm
Isha 6:51 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
Potohar Town 9209224
Rawal Town 5773343

COMPLAINTS

Water Tanker Service
E-7, F-10 & F-11 9204654
G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8, 9203883
G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 9266316
Wapda Islamabad 9217579-80
Sui Gas Complaint 119, 9272249
Wasa Water Tank
Rawalpindi 0331-5022125

Senate passes Societies Registration (Amendment) Bill, 2024 unanimously



ISLAMABAD: The Senate on Sunday passed the Societies Registration (Amendment) Bill, 2024 unanimously, paving way to register Deeni Madaris under an enactment to check their activities in appropriate manner. Minister for Law and Justice Azam Nazeer Tarar moved the bill to amend the Societies Registration Act, 1860 [The Societies Registration (Amendment) Bill, 2024] in the House. The statement of objects and reasons of the bills says that Deeni Madaris play a pivotal role in imparting religious education to every Muslim. At the same time, such Deeni Madaris are required to register under an enactment to check their activities in appropriate manner. However, certain serious issues have been noticed in registration of Deeni Madaris in the absence of proper legislation. Therefore, it is expedient to provide for registration of the Deeni Madaris under the umbrella of an enactment.

Senator Samina Zehri, PM's aide Romina Khurshid agree to promote climate justice agenda

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Chairperson of Senate Standing Committee on Human Rights, Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri and Coordinator to Prime Minister on Climate Change, Romina Khurshid Alam have reached a consensus to advocate for the integration of human rights into climate change policies in Pakistan. During a bilateral meeting with PM's aide Ms Romina Khurshid here on Sunday, both sides also agreed to jointly work to roll out a viable action-plan to ensure that climate actions not only address environmental issues but also uphold and protect the rights of vulnerable communities affected by climate change in the country, especially in the highly climate vulnerable Balochistan province. "Integrating human rights into climate change policy is essential to ensure that actions to tackle

climate risks do not exacerbate existing inequalities or infringe upon basic human rights," Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri highlighted during the meeting with the PM's climate aide. She said that climate change also 'significantly undermines' fundamental human rights, including the right to life, health, food, and water," reflecting an increasing awareness of these pressing issues. The Senator Ms. Zehri remarked, "I personally believe as various studies show that managing human rights into climate risk management action plans and discourse is crucial for creating and promoting a more just and equitable approach to tackle the climate crisis, particularly for resource-poor and marginalized communities in the vulnerable areas in Balochistan." The region's vulnerability is aggravated more due to its

dependence on agriculture, water scarcity, limited and shabby infrastructure, making it highly sensitive to adverse climate risks, particularly devastating hill torrents, flash floods, cyclones, sea-level rise, heatwaves, declining rainfalls and droughts, the Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri added. She called for strategies that prioritise equity and justice in confronting this critical challenge of climate change for both mitigating adverse fallouts of climate change and promoting a fairer society with access to equitable access to resources required for climate resilience building. Senator Zehri urged for well-coordinated and cooperated national efforts that uphold and protect these rights, noting that human activities not only contribute to climate change but also threaten basic human rights. Marginalized groups such



as women, children, and economically disadvantaged communities, are particularly vulnerable, often lacking the means to adapt to climate impacts and facing greater

obstacles in accessing their rights, she added. Zehri remarked that "climate justice" highlights how those least responsible for climate change

frequently endure its most severe consequences. She called for fair distribution of resources and support for at-risk communities to address these inequities.

Risky

ISLAMABAD: A motorcyclist carrying mattress at risk of life at Srinagar Highway in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Asma Butt blasts 'propaganda' of 'antagonist' group over fabricated rumor

City Desk

RAWALPINDI: Representative of art & culture and female politician of Pakistan Muslim League-N Asma Butt said that the youth are the future of the nation. Innocent students were used to serve their personal goals. Lifetime ban should be imposed on the founder and party of the anarchist movement, who snatched the pen and book from the hands of the students and handed them sticks and stones. Dear parents, save your children from Imran Khan, who is sitting in jail and practicing anarchist politics. The people have pride and confidence in the effective strategy and wisdom of the first woman Chief Minister of Punjab, Ms. Maryam Nawaz, who preferred to serve the people instead of politics, took timely measures and averted a big chaos. Exposed the evil conspirators by inciting the children of the nation.



Asma Butt slammed the anarchist group for inciting misogyny by justifying a fabricated rumor in a private educational institution. And said that the young students should not get involved in negative activities. It is not wise, it is less rational to set fire to our country and educational institutions, and to become a seal for the fulfillment of their nefarious purposes under the

guise of false rumors of anti-national elements. She said that parents and teachers spend their whole lives in making the young generation a capable and successful citizen by working hard day and night. But it was sad to hear that children were shouting slogans on the streets that what we want is freedom. I wonder what more freedom can be given to you than that you broke the windows of the branches of a certain private institution across Punjab, which you were supposed to protect. Belongings were set on fire, stone pelted, used abusive language, but no strict action was taken against them. Asma Butt appealed to the parents to save their innocent children from this chaotic gang. Are parents paying fees of lacs of rupees so that tomorrow their children will riot? Law enforcement agencies were forced to take legal action against the children, because they were not ready to listen to anyone.

Pak-Korea Cultural Week 2024 to be observed from Oct 23



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Prime Minister's Youth Program (PMYP) in collaboration with the Embassy of the Republic of Korea, Islamabad, will observe the Korea-Pakistan Cultural Week 2024. According to the PMYP office, the vibrant celebration will showcase the rich cultural heritage of both nations, strengthening their friendship and cultural exchange. The event will feature two exciting programs including the Korea-Pakistan Cultural Gala on October 23 at Liaquat Gymnasium which will showcase mesmerizing music, dance, and art performances from Korea and Pakistan. Additionally, the Korea-Pakistan Movie Day will screen four critically acclaimed films from October 24 to 27 at PNCA, Islamabad. Korean movies "Ode to My Father" and "The Himalayas" would be showcased alongside Pakistani hits "Nayab" and "Superstar." These films would highlight the diversity and creativity of both countries' cinema. Regarding the occasion, Chairman Prime Minister's Youth Program Rana Mashhood said "We are thrilled to partner with the Embassy of the Republic of Korea to bring this cultural extravaganza to Pakistan. This event embodies the spirit of friendship and cooperation between two countries." The Korea-Pakistan Cultural Week 2024 underscores the growing bilateral relations between Korea and Pakistan and promises to attract a diverse audience, including dignitaries, cultural enthusiasts, and students.

An emergency meeting of the OIC should be convened in Islamabad: Qayyum League

City Desk



ISLAMABAD: Central Deputy Information Secretary of PML Qayyum Faisal Anwar Bhatti said that Israel has so far killed forty two thousand innocent Muslims in Gaza. After which Israel's evil eyes have been fixed on Lebanon. He said that Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu is on the verge of erasing Muslims from the face of humanity, which is not possible in the presence of Pakistan. Faisal Anwar Bhatti said that we ask where is the coalition army formed by Islamic countries, whose first purpose was to protect Muslim countries from the terrorism of terrorist countries. He said that IMCTC (Islamic Military Counter Terrorism Coalition) has also failed in its purpose like OIC (Organization of Islamic Cooperation). The Central Deputy Information Secretary of Muslim League Qayyum said that the war frenzy of America's illegitimate child Israel is increasing day by day. He said that if the governments of Islamic countries do not have the courage to stop Israel, then declare jihad against Israel, the people will become a lead wall in front of the Zionist army.

DC directs wholesalers to follow notified price list

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Commissioner Islamabad Irfan Nawaz Memon on Sunday directed the authorities concerned to take indiscriminate actions against wholesalers, who were not following the notified price list. According to Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Spokesperson, the Deputy Commissioner urged the citizens to pay the price of food items as per the rate list. On the special directives of Irfan Nawaz Memon, the ICT administration arrested eight shopkeepers from the Sunday markets of the G-10 and G-11 sectors for not implementing the notified price list. It is pertinent to mention here that action against shopkeepers selling food items at high prices to the citizens was taken on a regular basis.

Government to convene meetings with IPPs on contract changes

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The government is set to begin summoning the heads of 18 independent power producers (IPPs) established under the power generation policies of 1994 and 2002 next week. The aim is to discuss options for converting their operational contracts from a "take or pay" model to a "take and pay" model, Business Recorder reported while citing sources. The government has previously claimed that terminating the power

purchase agreements (PPAs) of five IPPs has resulted in savings of Rs411 billion for the national exchequer. The cabinet approved the termination of such agreements and a final settlement on October 10, 2024, although the final documents have yet to be signed. The IPPs slated for conversion have already completed their internal assessments regarding the potential financial impacts and are preparing their positions for meetings with the task force led by the power minister. But it appears that other

"key personnel may be influencing the negotiations behind the scenes." The PPAs for several IPPs targeted for conversion to a "take and pay" model have expiry dates exceeding 15 years. In the negotiations, short-term tariff relief is expected to range from Rs8 to Rs10 per unit. The financial impact from discussions with various plants is projected to be between Rs3 and Rs3.50 per unit. Moreover, re-profiling is anticipated to have an impact of Rs3.75 per unit while waivers from provin-

cial electricity duty could contribute Rs0.65 per unit. Other factors include a reduction of Rs0.16 per unit from PTV Free and some relief from decreases in sales tax and income tax. Power Minister Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan Leghari noted that the reduction in Return on Equity and profits from the government's own power plants could amount to up to Rs1.50 per unit. Similarly, the agreements for IPPs established under the 2002 power generation policy are expected to have a financial impact of Rs1.50 per unit.

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26th Constitutional Amendment: A Step Toward or Away from Democracy?

Today marks a significant moment in Pakistan's legislative history with the passing of the 26th Constitutional Amendment by the Senate, with a narrow margin of just one vote. The PTI, labeling the process illegal and unconstitutional, abstained from voting and predicted the bill's eventual reversal. While the Senate's approval is an important step, the amendment now faces a rigorous test in the National Assembly, where the government has gained strategic leverage by bringing Maulana Fazlur Rehman on board, effectively distancing him from PTI's opposition. In a calculated move, the government presented the bill first in the Senate, deviating from the usual practice of introducing it in the National Assembly. This strategy allowed the government to control the legislative agenda and limit the scope of debate in the Assembly, where opposition forces might have been more effective. By securing Senate approval, the government created momentum and exerted pressure on Assembly members, making it more challenging for opposition parties to mount resistance. The passage of the bill in the Senate also provides an opportunity to amend and address concerns before it reaches the National Assembly, thus improving its chances of success.

lished democracies can offer insight, but the broader implications will unfold in practice.

The new Article 191 provides the creation of a Constitutional Bench in Pakistan aims to enhance regional representation by appointing judges from all provinces. This could increase public trust in the judiciary by ensuring that various communities feel represented. Comparatively, established democracies like Canada and Australia emphasize diversity in judicial appointments, while India incorporates regional representation through judges from various High Courts, though its opaque appointment process faces criticism. In Bangladesh, while there is no formal requirement for regional representation, political influence in appointments raises concerns about judicial independence.

The proposed amendments to Article 177, which bars foreign nationality holders from becoming judges, and Article 179, which changes the Chief Justice's term to three years while keeping the retirement age at 65, have significant implications for Pakistan's judiciary. The bar on foreign nationality holders aims to enhance public confidence by ensuring judges have a strong connection to Pakistan. Changing the Chief Justice's term introduces accountability, yet the shorter duration could undermine stability and continuity in leadership. In comparison, established democracies like the U.S. and Canada have no term limits for Supreme Court justices, promoting judicial independence, while India and Bangladesh

maintain a retirement age of 65 and 67, respectively, without term limits.

The proposed constitutional amendments in Pakistan, particularly regarding Article 200, the establishment of a Federal Constitutional Court, and changes to Articles 17, 48, 81, and 184, introduce significant changes to the judicial structure. These amendments aim to strengthen judicial independence by requiring judges' consent for transfers between High Courts and creating a specialized Federal Constitutional Court to handle political party disputes and inter-governmental issues, similar to Germany's Federal Constitutional Court. Compared to India and Bangladesh, where such matters are dealt with by the Supreme Court, Pakistan's model offers specialization but also raises concerns about judicial accountability and potential political interference.

The proposed constitutional amendments to Articles 48, 63-A, and 177 in Pakistan bring important changes that reflect practices in other democracies. The amendment to Article 48, granting the Prime Minister immunity from judicial scrutiny over advice sent to the President, mirrors systems in countries like India, where executive advice is protected, though global trends emphasize judicial oversight to balance power.

The change to Article 63-A, allowing votes cast against party lines to be counted, shifts away from strict anti-defection rules seen in India and moves toward models like the U.K. and U.S., promoting independent decision-making in Parliament but potentially weakening party unity.

The amendment to Article 177, barring foreign nationality holders from becoming judges, aligns with common practices in democracies such as the U.S., India, and the U.K., where judicial positions are reserved for citizens to safeguard national interests and judicial integrity.

In conclusion, the 26th Constitutional Amendment in Pakistan, while controversial, has the potential to bring about several positive impacts if implemented with careful attention to transparency, accountability, and judicial independence. The introduction of a Federal Constitutional Court could ensure specialized handling of political and inter-governmental disputes, thereby depoliticizing the judiciary and improving the efficiency of the legal process. The changes to judicial appointments, with greater representation and scrutiny, may foster a more balanced and transparent system, ensuring that appointments reflect democratic values. Additionally, amendments like barring foreign nationality holders from judicial positions and redefining terms for the Chief Justice aim to strengthen national integrity and accountability within the judiciary. While concerns about the potential for political interference remain, the amendments offer a framework for enhancing the independence of the judiciary, promoting democratic oversight, and ensuring more inclusive representation in key institutions. The true measure of success, however, will depend on the commitment to upholding these reforms in practice, ensuring they contribute to a more balanced and transparent democratic system in Pakistan.

The writer is Former Press Secretary to the President, Former Press Minister to the Embassy of Pakistan to France, Former MD, SRBC and CEO, ATV



Analysis

Qamar Bashir

Israel's preparations for attack on Iran

Two highly classified U.S. intelligence documents detailing Israel's preparations for an attack on Iran were leaked online on Saturday, The New York Times reported.

The documents, from the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency (NGA), responsible for analyzing images and information collected by US spy satellites, provide information on Israeli military exercises and the operational readiness.

Marked top secret, the documents were posted online to Telegram, an instant messaging (IM) service, and then reported widely by American print and electronic media.

"We are looking into these reports," a senior U.S. defence official told ABC News, when the American television network asked about the purported intelligence documents.

The documents provide detailed analysis of satellite images showing Israeli military exercises, which appear to be in preparation for an attack on Iran.

One of the documents is titled Israel: Air Force Continues Preparations to Strike Iran and describes recent Israeli exercises that appear to rehearse a possible military operation against Iran. These preparations reportedly include air-to-air refueling operations, search and rescue missions and the repositioning of missile systems in anticipation of possible Iranian attacks.

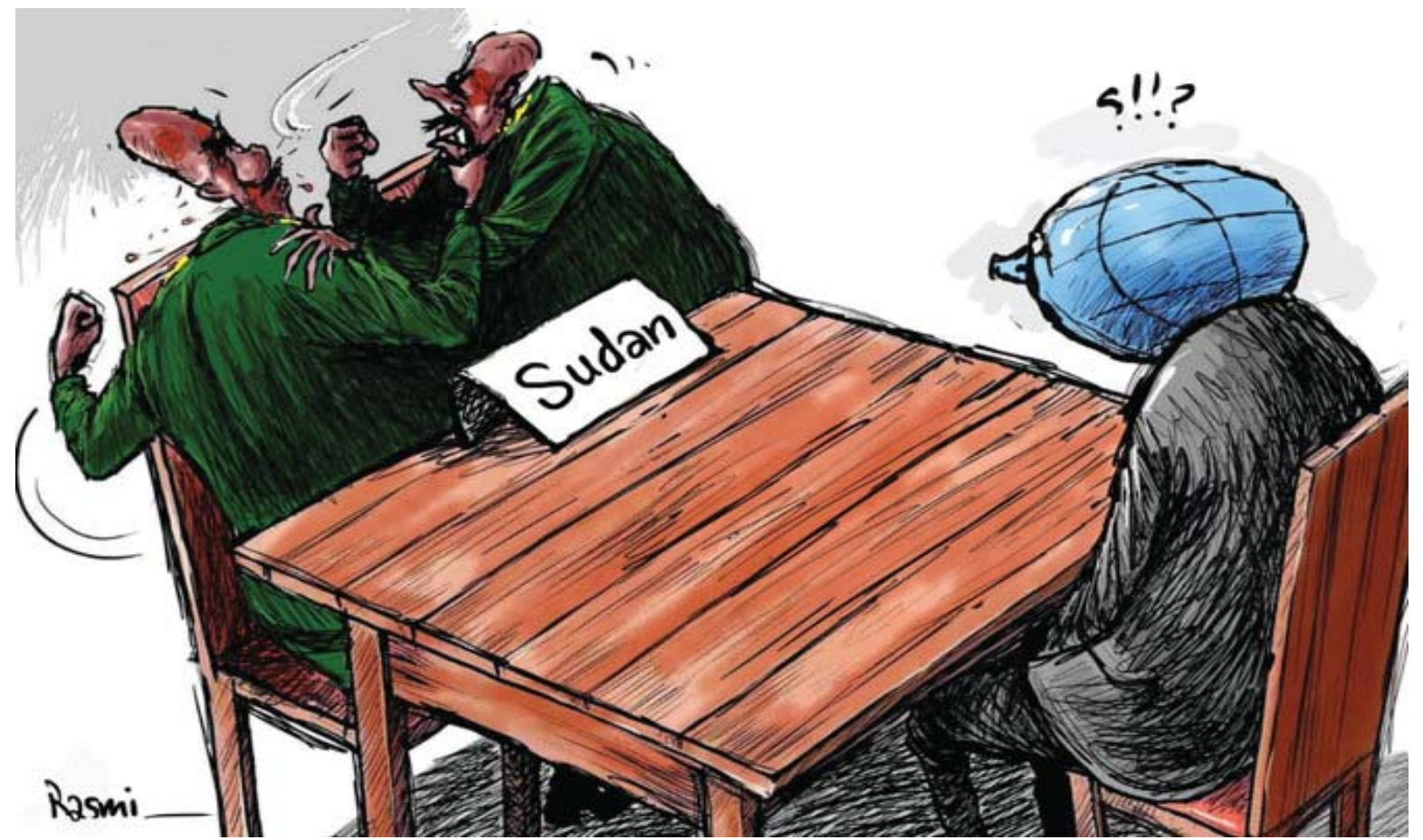
The second document reveals Israeli efforts to move munitions and other military assets to strategic locations.

While the documents describe Israeli military movements and exercises, they do not provide satellite imagery. US intelligence gathered from these images suggests that Israel is preparing for an attack, but it is unclear whether these documents reveal the full extent of Israel plans for Iran.

The leaks have reportedly raised immediate concern within the US government. US officials are divided over the severity of the leak, with some downplaying its impact as the documents do not reveal new US capabilities. Others, however, are alarmed by the exposure of Israel sensitive military plans, especially at a time of heightened tensions in the Middle East.

President Joe Biden, when asked during a recent trip to Germany if he was aware of Israel planned attack on Iran and its targets, responded with a curt Yes and yes, but declined to give further details.

Although the exact source of the leak is unknown, early indications suggest that the documents may have been taken by a low-level US government employee. A joint investigation by the Pentagon, US intelligence agencies and the FBI is underway to determine how the information was leaked and whether more documents might follow.



Cartoon by Amjad Rasmi. (Courtesy of Ashraf Al-Azcat)

The Tale Of Devastations: A struggling nation in the search of stability - I

What is the charm of a peaceful life, perhaps Pakistani nation can hardly experience this charm compared to developed nations around the globe. The governments in the developed countries ensure the consistent provision of welfare services, including access to education, healthcare, justice, and fair earning opportunities. Even during global recessions, these governments rarely compromise on services provided to the public. USA, UK, Canada, Australia, Germany, France, Norway, Sweden and many other countries, especially in Europe guarantee the protection of citizens' fundamental rights. The chance to live a quality life in a peaceful atmosphere coupled with ample earning opportunities, allure millions to migrate to these countries every year.

The countries governed by monarchs like Saudi Arabia, UAE or those with non-democratic regimes like China, Russia also safeguard the public's fundamental rights with the exception of offering full freedom of speech. When people have access to education, health, and justice along with opportunities of earning in these countries, many appear willing to compromise on free speech in exchange for these benefits. Without inclusion of India, comparison remains partial. Indian democracy with hundreds of objections is far better than Pakistan. Socially they have many fractures but as a nation they are united and their economic growth is remarkable. Indian health and education sectors have earned global recognition and overall infrastructure throughout the country presents a

positive image of the country. As the world's largest democracy, India's presence in every sphere of global activity reinforces the notion of "Shining India."

Comparatively the question remains, where does Pakistan stand today? Except for an elite class, the nation's journey of descent is getting pace every passing year. Tireless struggle for access to education, health, justice and earning is the story of every common Pakistani. Society is highly polarized; we are not united as a nation rather we are happier to be identified as Sindhi, Punjabi, Pashtun and Balochi. Social values have almost vanished, tolerance gone to level zero, acceptance to opposite voices has become a rare phenomenon. Religion, once seen as a unifying force, has now become a dangerous tool in the modern age.

The story of devastation begins with our education system, which remains fractured and inequitable. Firstly, we have failed to introduce a standardized education system with an adequate structure for all. Government has miserably failed to establish a systematic framework on check and balance to ensure "quality" which apparently seems just a "word" in the existing system. The curriculum is outdated to deliver knowledge and best match with market and global needs. Pedagogy is an art while in government schools we deal with it as a job and in private schools, it's a trick to earn money. Colleges and universities of public and private sectors have transformed into corporate entities to mint the money in the name of education. In the development of any nation, education is considered a key factor. Research and development in educational institutes enabling the advanced coun-

tries to shine on global horizons with their creational wonders in the fields of science and technologies. According to a recent report by the World Population Review, published in 2024 and covering the period from 1980 to 2022, Japan is leading the inventions global ranking followed by the United States, China, South Korea, Germany, Russia, France, UK, Switzerland and Netherland in the top ten. In the overall list of 193 countries, Pakistan is lower than war-hit Syria. According to Stanford University's rankings, only 144 Pakistani scientists were recognized globally, compared to 5,352 Indian scientists. This disparity highlights the lack of government support for R&D, which is crucial for modern-day innovation. Contrarily, our governments have infantile behavior to understand the need and importance of modern day research. The pettiness did not end here as according to a World Bank report, over one-third of school-age children across Pakistan were found to be out of school. The Higher Education Commission (HEC), the regulatory body for higher education in Pakistan has also a very shabby role in the promulgation of tangible research culture in higher educational institutes in the country. The commission introduced research policy encircled with promotion and perks rather directing researchers for quality research to bring glory for Pakistan at international level. The felony with education is a continuous process with no ray of hope to change the landscape towards a positive direction. Government orders to shut the educational institute so comfortably in case of any political agitation without fearing of students' loss. This growing tendency is becoming the new normal in Pakistan which obviously will have serious consequences in future.

To be continued

Hidden Agendas behind Protests - I

Political power struggles often drive protests in Pakistan, where leaders may exploit public discontent to undermine rivals or distract from their own failures. For example, protests initially focused on issues like inflation or governance can quickly become platforms for political rivalry. This manipulation tends to shift the narrative, diverting attention from genuine grievances to political maneuvering. In the lead-up to elections, protests may be strategically organized or supported by political parties to rally support. Politicians might exploit social issues to mobilize specific voter bases, framing protests as efforts to champion the rights of marginalized groups. However, once the electoral goal is achieved, their commitment to these issues may diminish, leading to disillusionment among the constituents who initially rallied for change.

More recently, the violent protests and repeated calls for demonstrations by the Awami Action Committee in AJK also appear aimed at fostering negativity and hate. The Awami Action Committee has transformed into a pressure group focused more on political interests than on representing public concerns. Its agenda appears self-centered, emphasizing personal gain and self-promotion. Reports indicate that one leader of the Awami Action Committee, arrested on charges of robbery, was attempted to be forcibly released by its leadership without going through the proper legal channels. This incident illustrates how the Awami Action Committee seems intent on masking its misdeeds behind a facade of activism. Similarly, the leadership of PTI in Pakistan also seems disconnected from the

country's real issues and the needs of its citizens. They are desperate to gain power by any means, showing little concern for the harm they may cause to the country in pursuit of their selfish goals. PTI's first sit-in in 2014 aimed to disrupt the visit of the Chinese president to Pakistan, while more recently, they planned to attack Islamabad during the SCO Summit, diverting attention from the significance of this event for Pakistan. The SCO is a crucial forum for international cooperation and a platform to raise awareness about the Kashmir issue globally. By choosing to protest during such an important time, they appear to align themselves with the agendas of those opposed to Pakistan, potentially undermining the Kashmir liberation movement.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), established in 2001, focuses on political, economic, and security cooperation in the Eurasian region. Pakistan became a full member in 2017, making the SCO a vital platform for Islamabad, offering numerous opportunities. Membership strengthens Pakistan's ties with key regional players like China, Russia, and Central Asian nations, which is crucial for countering Western influence.

By engaging with the SCO, Pakistan can align more closely with countries that share its strategic interests, enhancing its diplomatic leverage. The SCO promotes regional connectivity through initiatives like the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the broader Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which improve infrastructure and trade routes, facilitating economic integration and establishing Pakistan as a regional hub for trade and investment.

To be continued



Analysis

Amjad Mehmood



Analysis

Abdul Basit Alvi

87 people killed or missing in northern Gaza's Beit Lahiya, health ministry says

Reuters

CAIRO: A total of 87 people were killed or missing under the rubble after an Israeli attack on Saturday on northern Gaza's town of Beit Lahiya, the Palestinian enclave's health ministry said in a statement on Sunday.

More than 40 others were injured, it added.

Medics said they targeted a multi-floor building and damaged several houses nearby.

The Israeli military said they were checking the report.

Palestinian health officials said rescue operations were being hampered by the cut-off of telecommunication and Internet services for a second day. Earlier in the day, the Gaza health ministry said Israeli military strikes killed 35 Palestinians across the enclave.

Highlights

- Israeli strike kills 73 people in Beit Lahiya
- Israel says checking the reports, casts doubts on death toll by Hamas media office
- Israeli strikes kill 108 people across Gaza, medics say
- Israel tightens siege around hospitals

in north, medics say

"This is a war of genocide and ethnic cleansing. The occupation has conducted a horrifying massacre in Beit Lahiya," the Hamas media office said.

Residents and medics said Israeli forces had tightened their siege on Jabalia, the largest of the enclave's eight historic camps, which it encircled by also sending tanks to the nearby towns of Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya and issuing evacuation orders to residents.

Israeli officials said evacuation orders were aimed at separating Hamas fighters from civilians and denied there was any systematic plan to clear civilians out of Jabalia or other northern areas.

In Jabalia, residents said Israeli forces besieged several shelters housing displaced families before they stormed them and detained dozens of men. Footage on social media, which Reuters could not immediately verify, showed dozens of Palestinian men sitting on the ground next to a tank, while others were led by a soldier to a gathering site.

Residents and medical officials said Israeli forces were bombing houses and besieging hospitals, preventing medical

and food supplies from entering to force them to leave the camp.

Health officials said they refused orders by the Israeli army to evacuate the hospital or leave the patients, many in critical condition, unattended.

"Hospitals in northern Gaza suffer from stark shortages of medical supplies and manpower and are overwhelmed by the number of casualties," said Hussam Abu Safiya.

"We are now trying to decide who among the wounded we needed to attend to first, and several wounded died because we could not deal with them," he said.

Sinwar Leaflets

Earlier on Saturday, Israeli planes dropped leaflets over southern Gaza on Saturday showing a picture of the dead Hamas chief Yahya Sinwar with the message "Hamas will no longer rule Gaza," echoing language used by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The move came as Israeli military strikes killed at least 108 people across the Gaza Strip on Saturday, Palestinian health officials said.

"Whoever drops the weapon and hands over the hostages will be allowed to leave and live in peace," read the



Displaced Palestinians, ordered by the Israeli army to leave the school in Beit Lahiya where they were sheltered, rest as they arrive in Gaza City on October 19, 2024. Gaza's civil defence agency said on October 19, more than 400 Palestinians were killed in the north of the territory over the past two weeks during an ongoing Israeli military assault which has displaced tens of thousands. (AFP)

leaflet, written in Arabic, according to residents of the southern city of Khan Younis and images circulating online.

The leaflet's wording was from a statement by Netanyahu on Thursday after Sinwar was killed by Israeli soldiers operating in Rafah, in the south near the Egyptian border, on

Wednesday.

The Oct. 7 attack Sinwar planned on Israeli communities a year ago killed around 1,200 people, with another 253 dragged back to Gaza as hostages, according to Israeli tallies.

Israel's subsequent war has devastated Gaza, killing more than 42,603

Palestinians, with another 10,000 unaccounted dead thought to lie under the rubble, Gaza health authorities say.

In the central Gaza Strip camp of Al-Maghazi, an Israeli strike on a house killed 11 people, while another strike at the nearby camp of Nuseirat killed four others.

Five other people were killed in two separate strikes in the south Gaza cities of Khan Younis and Rafah, medics said, while seven Palestinians were killed in the Shati camp in the northern Gaza Strip.

Later on Saturday, an Israeli strike killed three Palestinians in Nuseirat, medics said.

Late on Friday, medics said 33 people, mostly women and children, were killed and 85 others were wounded in Israeli strikes that destroyed at least three houses in Jabalia.

The Israeli military said it was unaware of that incident.

It said forces were continuing operations against Hamas across the enclave, killing several gunmen in Rafah and Jabalia and dismantling military infrastructure. Palestinian medics said five people were killed in Jabalia on Saturday.

The Rise of South Korean Literature: Celebrating Han Kang and Beyond:

A New Era Marked by Han Kang's Nobel Prize Win

Tanzeela Jaffar

Not only is Han Kang the first South Korean writer to receive the Nobel Prize in Literature, but the field of South Korean literature as a whole is seeing a historic moment with her acknowledgment. This accomplishment draws attention to a literary heritage that has been receiving praise from readers all across the world and highlights the deep stories and avant-garde writing that characterize modern Korean authors. This article examines the surge in popularity of South Korean literature and features five internationally recognized writers whose works have transcended boundaries and captured the attention of readers all across the world.

The Significance of Han Kang's Nobel Prize:

Han Kang received the Nobel Prize in Literature on October 10, 2024, a distinguished honor that highlights both her literary accomplishments and South Korea's cultural relevance on the international literary landscape. Her "intense poetic prose that confronts historical trauma and exposes the fragility of human life" was lauded by the Swedish Academy. This honor is especially significant because it highlights how writing can speak to readers from all backgrounds and address both societal concerns and personal challenges.

Poetry was Han Kang's first literary medium, and it had a big impact on her prose. Drawing inspiration from historical occurrences like as the Gwangju Uprising, her paintings frequently delve into issues of violence, identity, and the human condition. Her works of fiction, such as *The Vegetarian* and *Human Acts*, have been translated into other languages and have received critical praise, making her voice more widely known.

Literary Accomplishments:

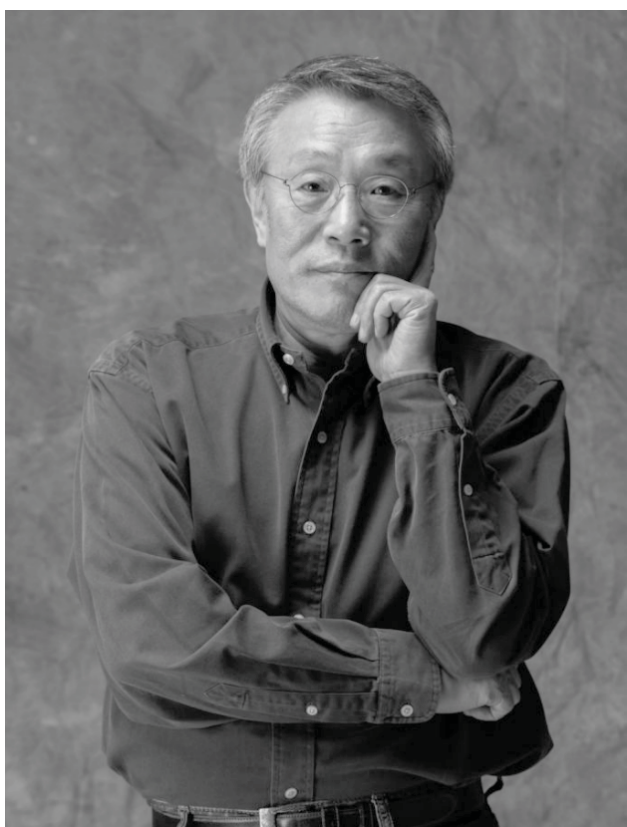
Han Kang's literary works are distinguished by their poetic language and in-depth examination of significant subjects including trauma, identity, and the human predicament. Among her most renowned creations are:

The Vegetarian (2007)

The protagonist of this book is a lady named Yeong-hye, who resolves to give up meat after having a scary dream. Her choice has far-reaching effects on both her family and herself. The book looks with individual disobedience, society expectations, and the psychological effects of trauma. It propelled Kang into international prominence in 2016 when it was awarded the International Booker Prize.

Human Acts (2014)

This terrifying account explores the circumstances underlying the 1980 Gwangju Uprising, a violent and oppressive turning point in South Korean history. Kang examines issues of pain, grief, and resiliency from a variety of angles. Readers all across the world are drawn to the book because of its historical



relevance and emotional depth.

The White Book (2016):

This work examines loss and remembrance through the prism of color symbolism. It is a meditation on life and death conveyed via a series of introspective essays. The contemplative tone of the book demonstrates Kang's skill at fusing beautiful language with deep philosophical questions.

Influence on Literary Works:

Because of Han Kang's ability to write across cultural divides, readers from a variety of backgrounds may relate to her topics. Her examination of human frailty and historical pain has established her as a major figure in modern writing. Her unique accomplishments are acknowledged by the Nobel Prize, which also raises the profile of South Korean literature internationally.

South Korean Literature's Ascension:

In recent years, South Korean literature has undergone a rebirth, garnering acclaim on a global scale thanks to a number of writers who have challenged convention and tackled difficult subjects. There are several reasons for this increase:

Cultural Context:

Korea's turbulent past, which included colonization, conflict, and tyranny, has influenced the country's literary scene. These historical traumas frequently cause writers to suffer, leading them to create novels that mirror both personal experiences and societal difficulties.

Globalization:

K-pop and Korean films have spurred a growing interest in Korean culture, which has made it easier for literary works to be seen internationally. These

stories are now widely available to readers throughout the world thanks in large part to translations.

Creative Storytelling:

Modern South Korean writers are renowned for their avant-garde writing styles and openness to investigating unusual subjects. This novel approach has drawn many people who are looking for new literary viewpoints.

Cho Nam-joo: Challenging Gender Norms:

Literary Achievements:
Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982 (2016)
Cho Nam-joo's debut novel, *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982* (2016), established her as a prominent literary voice in South Korea.

This revolutionary work recounts the life of Kim Jiyoung, an average lady who represents the challenges that many Korean women experience in a patriarchal culture. The story explores gender disparity via Jiyoung's experiences as she navigates social expectations and personal goals. It has sold over a million copies and been translated into other languages, sparking extensive discussion about feminism

in Korea.

The Last Woman (2020)

In this thought-provoking novel, Cho explores themes of motherhood and societal pressures through the lens of a woman's life journey. The narrative challenges traditional notions of femininity while highlighting the complexities faced by women in contemporary society.

Tangerine Green (2020)

This coming-of-age story focuses on four friends navigating adolescence while grappling with their own insecurities and familial pressures. Cho's ability to capture nuanced emotions resonates with young adult readers.

Influence on Literary World:

The literary world of South Korea has witnessed the significant amplification of female voices thanks to the works of Cho Nam-joo. Through her direct discussion of gender problems, she challenges readers to question social standards and push for reform. A new generation of writers has been motivated to tackle related issues in their writing by her popularity.

Other Prominent Writers from

South Korea:

1. Han Kang:
Notable Works: The Vegetarian, Human Acts, Greek Lessons

The secret of Han Kang's creative genius is her ability to combine rich emotional depth with beautiful language. In her book *The Vegetarian*, Yeong-hye, a lady who has unsettling nightmares, makes the decision to give up meat. The ramifications of this choice upend her family's relationships and society expectations. The book examines themes of trauma and resistance while questioning accepted ideas of identity and autonomy.

In *Human Acts*, Kang uses interwoven stories that give voice to victims of violence to address the horrific reality of the Gwangju Uprising. The novel is a potent commentary on historical trauma because of its beautiful style, which conveys both the horror and humanity present in moments of despair.

2. Kim Young-ha:
Notable Works: I Have the Right to Destroy Myself, Your Republic Is Calling You, The Emissary

Kim Young-ha is renowned for his investigations of alienation, identity, and the intricacies of contemporary South Korean society. *I Have the Right to Destroy Myself*, his debut book, explores existentialist and self-destruction topics from the eyes of an anonymous narrator who helps people commit suicide.

Kim explores the life of a North Korean spy operating clandestinely in South Korea in *Your Republic Is Calling You*. This book interrogates national boundaries and interpersonal relationships while highlighting difficulties related to identity and loyalty.

3. Hwang Sok-yong:
Notable Works: The Guest, Familiar Things, Princess Bari

One of Korea's most well-known writers, Hwang Sok-yong is renowned for his dedication to historical awareness and social justice. In his book *The Guest*, a young man who has fought in Vietnam returns home to examine the effects of war on both people and society.

Hwang tackles environmental concerns in *Familiar Things* by showing a village that is being uprooted by industrial growth. His art frequently highlights human endurance in the face of hardship while reflecting on Korea's sociopolitical environment.

4. Bae Suah:
Notable Works: Nowhere to Be Found, The Essayist, Recitation

Bae Suah is well-known for her reflective stories that frequently straddle the boundaries of fact and fiction. She examines issues of dislocation and loneliness in *Nowhere to Be Found* by telling the tale of a lady adjusting to life in a foreign city.

Her writing is distinguished by its philosophical overtones and poetic nature, which encourage readers to consider memory and identity while thinking back on their own experiences.

5. Bora Chung:
Notable Works: Cursed Bunny, The

Last Train Home

Cursed Bunny, a collection of short stories by Bora Chung, has won praise from readers all over the world for its creative storytelling and examination of dark subjects including trauma, violence, and social conventions. In Chung's stories, fantasy and realism frequently coexist to create bizarre worlds that defy readers' expectations.

Her work tackles bigger topics of power relations and cultural expectations while reflecting on current difficulties encountered by women in society.

Breaking Barriers: The Impact on Global Literature:

The emergence of South Korean literature is a celebration of its writers as well as an acknowledgment of the shared cultural background that influences their stories. These authors advance our knowledge of the variety of voices found in world literature as they become more well-known on a worldwide scale.

Dispelling Myths:

The popularity of writers such as Han Kang dispels the myth that Asian literature is homogenous or limited to conventional subjects. Rather, these authors depict intricate individuals who navigate many realities influenced by historical settings.

Promoting Cultural Interchange:

Readers throughout the world are exposed to distinct viewpoints that promote cultural interchange as translations proliferate. By appreciating ethnic diversity and bringing attention to common human experiences, this exposure enhances literary conversation.

Empowering Voices:

In literary groups that have historically been dominated by male voices, the acceptance of female authors such as Han Kang represents a change toward inclusion. More women authors are inspired to express their experiences and viewpoints as a result of this empowerment.

Conclusion:

The Nobel Prize victory of Han Kang is a noteworthy turning point in South Korean literature, highlighting both its rich history and modern advancements. South Korean literature has gained international recognition via the work of this and other notable writers by embracing inventive storytelling approaches and delving into intricate historical subjects.

Readers are drawn into worlds that subvert expectations, spark thinking, and elicit strong emotional reactions as they continue to explore these stories. South Korean literature appears to have a bright future as it continues to shatter stereotypes and influence authors throughout the globe.

As we celebrate this literary renaissance, we honor not just the accomplishments of individual writers but also the storytelling medium's collective strength, which has the ability to bridge cultural divides and create understanding.

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Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
85,250.09	85,585.43
Day's High	Day's Low
85,773.82	85,120.90
Index Value	Change
11,039,929,870	-335.34
Percentage	Time
-0.39%	18 Oct, 2024 5:00 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
8,358.25	-26.88
Percentage	Time
-0.32%	18 Oct, 4:35 pm GMT+1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
43,290.77	+51.72
Percentage	Time
+0.12%	18 Oct, 2:41 pm GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
38,981.75	+70.56
Percentage	Time
+0.18%	18 Oct, 3:15 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	185.25	187.50
Bahrain Dinar	730.70	738.70
Canadian Dollar	201.65	204.05
China Yuan	38.88	39.28
Danish Krone	40.29	40.69
Euro	300.95	303.70
Hong Kong Dollar	35.37	35.72
Indian Rupee	3.34	3.45
Japanese Yen	1.92	1.98
Kuwaiti Dinar	896.87	906.37
Malaysian Ringgit	64.13	64.73
New Zealand \$	170.21	178.21
Norwegians Krone	25.65	25.95
Omani Riyal	715.20	723.70
Qatari Riyal	76.24	76.94
Saudi Riyal	73.55	74.10
Singapore Dollar	210.75	212.75
Swedish Korona	26.46	26.76
Swiss Franc	318.90	321.70
Thai Bhat	8.18	8.33
U.A.E Dirham	75.25	75.90
UK Pound Sterling	360.40	363.9
US Dollar	277.75	279.25

Public pinning high hopes on Army Chief: Dr. Shahid Butt

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Business leader and former President of the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), Dr. Shahid Rasheed Butt, said on Sunday that the people who are suffering from inflation and unemployment have high expectations from Army Chief General Syed Asim Munir.

He said the actions of the Chief of Army Staff (COAS) have changed the direction of the economy, which is improving the situation. He added that the confidence of the public and the business community is increasing, and Pakistan's reputation at the global level is improving.

Shahid Rasheed Butt said in a statement issued here today that the economy is improving due to a host of initiatives. Still, it



will never grow as it should unless the circular debt issue is resolved. Expensive electricity is a direct result of

circular debt, which has reached 2.26 trillion rupees. This debt is increasing at the rate of 66 billion rupees per month and may reach three trillion rupees by December.

The business leader said that this debt results from corruption, mismanagement, and incompetence of the concerned authorities, while ordinary citizens have to bear the consequences.

Due to the high cost of electricity, its use is constantly decreasing, but installing new IPPs is also continuing.

Shahid Rasheed Butt informed that a one percent reduction in electricity price leads to an increase in its consumption by 0.3 percent, which provides relief to the public while increasing economic activity.

Therefore, he said, it is necessary to make electricity cheaper, but the circular debt

problem has to be solved.

The Prime Minister of China signed the MoUs, which proved that the incidents of terrorism against the Chinese have not affected their intentions, he observed.

After ten years, the Indian Foreign Minister visited Pakistan and spoke with our Foreign Minister, Ishaq Dar. Nawaz Sharif also made a delightful statement that can melt the ice between the two countries, which is important for both neighbours.

Former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif emphasised the need for Pakistan and India to "bury" the past to move beyond their historical conflicts and focus on building better future relations.

He made these remarks to Indian journalists, praising Indian Foreign Minister S Jaishankar's recent visit to Islamabad as a positive step.

Winter food

RAWALPINDI: A vendor displayed fish on his pushcart attraction for customers alongside a road, in the city.



Photo: Online

Pakistan shines at SIAL Paris 2024



Spokesman Report-

PARIS: Pakistan made a remarkable impact at Europe's leading food fair SIAL Paris 2024.

34 exhibitors under TDAP's Pakistan Pavilion and 14 other exhibitors participated in diverse products from rice, corn and sesame seeds to processed

food, spices, frozen food, fruit juices, candies and snacks.

Ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmad inaugurated the Pakistan Pavilion and interacted with the participating business groups who shared their feedback and exchanged views on enhancing Pakistan's exports in the food sector.

PIAF Chairman asks overseas businessmen to invest in Pakistan



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Chairman of the Pakistan Industrial and Traders Associations Front (PIAF), Fahimur Rehman Saigol, has departed for a business trip abroad. Upon arriving in Taiwan, Muhammad Mujahid, the President of the Pakistan Business Community, warmly welcomed him along with a delegation. The delegation from the Pakistan Business Community included Muhammad Mujahid, Shaban Mujahid, Amjad Zafar, Asif Tano-

li, Shehzad Khan, Raja Akhtar, Saif Sandhu, Mohammad Mushtaq, Umar Khan, and others.

According to PIAF, Fahim Saigol is on a private visit to China, Taiwan, and other countries, where he will discuss bilateral issues and meet with traders and investors. He will also share insights about the improving economic situation in Pakistan and inform them about the government's new investment and energy-friendly policies.

While talking to various trade groups,

PIAF chief said that with its unique geo-strategic location, vast human resources and a huge untapped growth potential, Pakistan provides attractive incentives and liberal policies for investment in all sectors of the economy for foreign and local investors.

The traditional as well as non-traditional sectors of our economy offer the business community great opportunities to invest in the country and to have maximum dividends on their investments, he added.

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: As the exports from Pakistan during Sept 2024 amounted to Rs790.12 billion against Rs769.4 billion in Aug 2024, showing a nominal increase of 2.69 percent the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry's Businessmen Panel (BMP) stressed the need for putting the economy on a sustainable growth trajectory by providing incentives to the industry, lamenting that the economy is facing multiple challenges of low growth in exports, with fiscal accounts

under immense pressure due to heavy interest payments.

FPCCI former president and Businessmen Panel (BMP) Chairman Mian Anjum Nisar lamented that the present situation shows the government would find it difficult to achieve the industrial growth and high export target, leading to pressure on foreign exchange reserves of the country. He asked the government to address the underlying structural vulnerabilities through smooth energy supply at competitive rates, as the country's overall export proceeds continued to shrink.

India to temporarily set aside its issues with Pakistan to restore SAARC: Iftikhar Ali Malik

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Former President of the SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry, former President of FPCCI, and former Chairman of the United Business Group, Iftikhar Ali Malik, has commended the recent statement by Dr. Muhammad Yunus, the Chief Advisor of Bangladesh's interim government. In his statement, Dr. Yunus called on India to temporarily set aside its issues with Pakistan to restore SAARC as a credible organization.

In his own statement, Iftikhar Ali Malik praised Dr. Yunus's call and emphasized the importance of regional cooperation for the economic prosperity of all SAARC



nations. He pointed out that political differences between India and Pakistan have long kept the organization inactive, resulting in a negative impact on trade, connectivity, and development across

South Asia.

Highlighting the importance of unity within SAARC, Malik stated that reopening dialogue and fostering cooperation could lead to unprecedented regional growth. He emphasized that SAARC has the full potential to address common challenges such as poverty, unemployment, and underdevelopment. Multilateral cooperation could not only help reduce bilateral tensions but also strengthen social and cultural ties among the member countries.

Malik urged all SAARC members, especially India and Pakistan, to heed Dr. Yunus's advice and work together for the collective benefit of the region.

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue integrated 160 additional large retailers into its point of sales (POS) system in October 2024, bringing the total number of registered Tier-I retailers to 9,290, Business Recorder reported.

As of September 2024, the FBR had registered 9,130 retailers in the POS system, primarily targeting transactions from Tier-I establishments such as hotels and restaurants.

According to the FBR's data compiled by October 17, 2024, among the 9,290 large retailers using the POS system, 676 are restaurants, and 507 are retailers in the leather and textile sectors.

Moreover, approximately 64,000 traders are registered under the Tajir Dost Scheme. But tax payments remain low, with only 575 traders contributing less than Rs 1.3 million in total.



In August, the FBR amended an SRO about the Tajir Dost Scheme two days before the traders' nationwide strike against new taxes and exorbitant electricity bills.

Tajir Dost Scheme Chief Coordinator Naem Mir had said that the authority would not "fight for non-filers under any circumstances, as the burden is borne by the salaried class."

Security Breakdown in Hayatabad: Rising Crime and Illegal Taxis Create Chaos: Ghulam Bilal Javid



Commerce Desk

PESHAWAR: Ghulam Bilal Javid, President of the Peshawar Traders Chamber, has voiced serious concerns over the deteriorating security situation in Hayatabad, calling attention to the increasing criminal activities and unchecked operation of illegal taxis in the area. He emphasized the urgent need for immediate action to protect residents and restore order.

Javid highlighted the alarming rise in theft and snatching incidents, stating that citizens now feel unsafe even in this upscale locality. He expressed particular concern over the security conditions along Hayatabad Medical Complex Road, which serves as a critical route for thousands of patients and their families. Despite its importance, the road remains inadequately secured, with minimal police presence and poor lighting, making it an easy target for criminal activity.

To address these issues, Javid proposed that the empty plot near Masjid Muhammad on the HMC Road be designated as an official taxi stand by the PDA and traffic authorities. This would help regulate taxi operations and ease traffic congestion. He also urged the administration and police to increase security personnel on the road and take strict action against illegal taxis.

In closing, Javid called for immediate intervention from the authorities to ensure the safety and well-being of Hayatabad's residents.

Girls' Sports Carnival concludes

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: The three-day Girls Sports Carnival came to a thrilling conclusion here at the Liaquat Gymnasium of Pakistan Sports Complex on Sunday, featuring an energetic and colorful closing ceremony. Organized by the Federal Ministry of Education in collaboration with the Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education and the Federal Directorate of Education Islamabad, the event brought together approximately 4,000 female athletes from across Pakistan, including Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan.

Federal Secretary for Education Mohyuddin Ahmad Wani, dignitaries, officials, and a large number of sports enthusiasts attended the event, showcasing their support for the carnival.

On the occasion, Wani who was the special guest, thanked all the participants and said he was very happy to see such a large crowd present to cheer for the successful festival organized for girls.

Chairman Federal Board Syed Junaid Akhlaq, said the board is not only at the forefront in the field of education but also playing an active role in the field of sports.

Meanwhile, the Ambassador of Austria to Pakistan, Andrea Wiecek, visited all the stalls at the carnival and appreciated the efforts.

Parliamentary Secretary Farah Naz Akbar, Army Public School System Rawalpindi Brigadier Dr. Muhammad Naveed, Federal Board and Federal Directorate Directors were also present.

The carnival was aimed to empower



young girls through sports, providing a platform for them to showcase their athletic talents in various disciplines such as athletics, basketball, football, volleyball, table tennis, badminton, tennis, performances on cultural and sports national songs.

Sana Javed, a 14-year-old athlete from AJK said, "Participating in this prestigious event was a thrill. After months of dedication and hard work, I'm proud to be a part of this carnival. Initiatives like this empower girls like me to push beyond our limits and chase our passions."

Similarly, 15-year-old athlete Aneela, while sharing her thoughts said, "Participating in the Carnival has been an unforgettable experience. It's crucial we have more platforms like this to showcase that girls can excel in any sport, matching their counterparts in skill and determination."

Yasim, a 16-year-old athlete from GB, said, "The journey to this carnival has been challenging, but seeing so many talented athletes come together has been truly inspiring. This event demonstrates that, with the right support, girls can achieve greatness in sports."

Parents also expressed their pride and joy in seeing their daughters participate. Zoya Aslam, a proud parent, beamed with joy as she watched her daughter take to the court. "Seeing my daughter compete and excel is an absolute delight. Events like these are vital, as they foster confidence and promote healthy lifestyles among girls, setting them up for lifelong success."

The final day of the carnival included an award ceremony to celebrate the achievements of the young athletes, encouraging more girls to participate in sports and exhibit their skills and talent.

Pakistani Boxer Wins British Title with Support from Hanif Gohar

Sports Desk

KARACHI: With the support of renowned Pakistani builder, Chairman of Gohar Group of Companies, former Senior Vice President of FPCCI, and former Chairman of ABAD, Muhammad Hanif Gohar, a young Pakistani boxer, Hamid Khan Swati, has won another accolade for the country by claiming the British boxing title. Hamid Khan Swati triumphed in the middleweight title fight held in Birmingham, UK, bringing international recognition to Pakistan.

Hamid Khan Swati stated that if the government sponsors him, he can win more titles for the country. The young boxer from Mansehra, Pakistan, achieved something that thousands of aspiring boxers dream of: he won a title that is coveted by youth involved in boxing worldwide. Despite limited resources, Hamid Khan, a resident of Dhodial in Mansehra, managed to secure the title, a feat many can only aspire to.

He was eager to participate in the British boxing tournament, but his father, being poor, could not afford the



tournament fees. However, Hanif Gohar, Chairman of Gohar Group of Companies, provided all the necessary financial support, enabling Hamid Khan to travel to the UK, participate in the British title fight, and ultimately win the tournament by defeating Harrison Grant in the final to claim the British title.

After winning the British title, Hamid Khan remarked that it wasn't an easy achievement, but if the government provides resources, he would dedicate himself entirely to raising Pakistan's name on the world stage. Commenting on Hamid Khan's victory, Hanif Gohar expressed his immense happiness,

stating that the young man he supported not only made the nation proud but also won a significant title. Gohar urged the government to provide consistent support to young athletes so that their passion for victory continues to grow, enabling them to win major titles for the country.

Virender Sehwag urges Babar Azam to 'play domestic cricket' to regain form

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Former Indian cricketer Virender Sehwag has offered some advice to Pakistan's star batter Babar Azam, suggesting him to play domestic cricket in order to rediscover his top form.

Babar has been under tight scrutiny due to his below-par performances recently. He crashed out of the top ten list in the ICC Test Batting Rankings last month after a forgettable home Test series against Bangladesh, where he managed a meagre 64 runs in four innings.

Meanwhile, in the first Test



against England, he scored 35 runs in two innings after which he was dropped from the squad for the remainder of the series.

In Babar's absence, the Shan Masood-led team defeated

England by 152 runs to level the three-match series and claim their first Test victory at home since February 2021.

Virender Sehwag, during an appearance on former Pakistan

pacer Shoab Akhtar's YouTube channel, opened up on Babar Azam's recent struggles and advised him to regain his form by playing domestic cricket.

"Babar Azam should play domestic cricket now. He should work on his fitness, he should spend some time with family, then come back to international cricket as a physically fitter and mentally stronger player," said Sehwag.

The former Indian all-rounder expressed the view that Babar's mental state has been influenced by the expectations of fans and his role as captain, which in turn has had

an impact on his individual performance.

"With expectations from Babar decreasing and his resignation from captaincy, it seems he has been more impacted mentally than in terms of technique," he added.

Sehwag also conveyed his belief in Babar's exceptional talent and expressed optimism that Babar would be able to make a strong comeback as long as he remains mentally resilient.

"He needs to stay mentally strong. He's a talented player, and players like him tend to bounce back quickly," he concluded.

Iqra University easily defeated Sindh Madressatul Islam University by 10 wickets



Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: In the first match of the PCB-HEC Inter-University Cricket Championship 2024 (Zone L, Pool B), Iqra University won the toss and invited Sindh Madressatul Islam University to bat first. Sindh Madressatul Islam was bowled out for 80 runs in 27.5 overs, with Syed Maudood scoring 26 and Abdul Rafay 20 runs. Iqra University's bowlers performed impressively, with Saim Sohail taking 5 wickets, while Umar Sultan and Taha Waqar claimed 2 wickets each. Iqra University's batsmen chased down the target of 81 runs in just 7.3 overs, with Muhammad Junaid scoring 35 and captain Huzaifa Hassan adding 34 runs, securing a 10-wicket victory. Present at the match were Karachi University's Sports Director Rashid Qureshi, Iqra University Sports Director Dr. Shiraz-ul-Hassan Mohani, Tahseen Ahmed, Imran Javed, Kashif Ahmed Farooqi, Muhammad Rafiq, and Sindh Madressatul Islam's Sports Coordinator Muhammad Kashif, among others. Umpires Aqeel Adil, Muhammad Asghar, and Syed Mustajab Alam performed the scoring duties.

PCB Regional Inter Club Cricket Tournament (Karachi Region) begins today

Sports Desk

KARACHI: PCB Regional Inter Club Cricket Tournament (Karachi Region) begins from Monday (today), 21st October.

In which Seven Zonal Champion Teams who are Winning the PCB Zonal Tournaments they are Zone-I Air Port Gymkhana, Zone-II Dawood Sports, Zone-III Muhammad Hussain CC, Zone-IV Faisal Gymkhana, Zone-V Bilal Friends, Zone-VI Pakistan Cricket Club and Zone-VII Nazimabad Gymkhana Blues.

According to Schedule On Monday 21st October Dawood Sports vs Bilal Friends at KCCA Stadium,

22 October) 1-Air Port Gymkhana vs Nazimabad Gymkhana Blues at KCCA Stadium) 2-Muhammad Hussain Cricket Club vs Faisal Gymkhana at Naya Nazimabad, First Semi will be played on 23 at KCCA Stadium 2nd Semi Final on 24th October at Naya Nazimabad. Final will be played on 29th October at KCCA Stadium.

Pakistan pacer names Mohammad Rizwan as his favourite cricketer of all-time



Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan pacer Ihsanullah has recently surprised everyone with the revelation that his favourite cricketer is wicket-keeper Mohammad Rizwan.

Ihsanullah, who has featured for Pakistan in one ODI and four T20Is, suffered an elbow injury and has been away from international cricket since playing for Pakistan in the ODI series against New Zealand at home last year in April.

During a recent appearance at a local podcast, Ihsanullah was initially asked about his favourite player from the Indian cricket team. He responded that he does not have any favourite player in the Indian team.

The host was surprised by this response and asked Ihsanullah if he admired any of the current or former Indian players, mentioning legends like Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly, Rahul Dravid, VVS Laxman, Gautam Gambhir, and Yuvraj Singh.

However, the fast bowler remained firm in his stance and reiterated his previous response, while revealing that his favourite player is Mohammad Rizwan.

"No, I don't have a favourite Indian player. My favourite player is Mohammad Rizwan, whether current or from the past. He is my favourite player in the world," said Ihsanullah.

It's worth noting that Ihsanullah played under Rizwan during his time with Multan Sultans in the Pakistan Super League (PSL) before his injury.

New Zealand beat South Africa to clinch maiden Women's T20 World Cup title

Sports Desk

DUBAI: New Zealand captain Amelia Kerr led from the front to guide her team to their maiden ICC Women's T20 World Cup title by defeating South Africa in the final here at Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Sunday.

South Africa, the runners-up of the 2023 edition, once again failed to win the trophy as they could not chase the 159-run target.

Amelia Kerr put on a stellar performance, earning the Player of the Match award. She showcased her all-round capabilities by scoring 43 runs off 38 balls and taking 3 wickets for 24 runs.

While chasing 159, South Africa got off to a flying start with

a 51-run opening stand between skipper Laura Wolvaardt and Tazmin Brits.

However, Fran Jonas provided the breakthrough with the wicket of Brits, who scored 17 off 18 to disrupt South Africa's momentum.

Laura Wolvaardt top-scored with 33 off 27 before falling prey to her counterpart Amelia Kerr, leaving South Africa reeling at 59-2.

New Zealand bowlers did not allow South Africa to make a comeback and restricted them to 126-9 courtesy of timely wickets.

Apart from the opening batters, only Chloe Tryon (14) and Annerie Dercksen (10) managed to reach double figures for South Africa.

For New Zealand, Rosemary

Mair also took three wickets along with Kerr, while Jonas, Eden Carson and Brooke Halliday managed one wicket each.

Earlier, South Africa invited New Zealand to bat first in the final of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024 and earned an early breakthrough in the second over.

Ayabonga Khaka dismissed Georgia Plimmer (9) before Suzie Bates and Amelia Kerr joined hands to construct a cautious partnership of 37 runs.

Nonkululeko Mlaba broke the budding partnership, removing Bates, who was playing at 32 off 31 with the help of three boundaries.

New Zealand captain Sophie Devine could not add much to the total, falling victim to Nadine

de Klerk after scoring 6.

Brooke Halliday joined settled Amelia Kerr and together they added 57 runs for the fourth wicket from 44 balls to push the team's total to 127.

Chloe Tryon halted New Zealand's momentum as she ended Halliday's entertaining knock of 38 runs from 28 balls, which featured three boundaries.

Meanwhile, Amelia Kerr fell prey to Mlaba in the next over after playing a 43-run knock, which conceded 38 balls and included four boundaries.

Maddy Green then struck an unbeaten 12 off 6 to take the team's total to 158-5 in their allocated 20 overs.

Nonkululeko Mlaba led South Africa's bowling with the figures



of 2-31, while Ayabonga Khaka, Chloe Tryon and Nadine de Klerk bagged one wicket each.

PLAYING XIS
New Zealand: Suzie Bates, Georgia Plimmer, Amelia Kerr,

Sophie Devine (c), Brooke Halliday, Maddy Green, Isabella Gaze (wk), Lea Tahuhu, Rosemary Mair, Eden Carson, Fran Jonas

South Africa: Laura

Wolvaardt (c), Tazmin Brits, Anneke Bosch, Marizanne Kapp, Sune Luus, Chloe Tryon, Annerie Dercksen, Nadine de Klerk, Sinalo Jafta, Nonkululeko Mlaba, Ayabonga Khaka.

Sports Carnival 2024

ISLAMABAD: Austrian ambassador to Pakistan, Andrea Wicke visits Sports Carnival 2024 under the auspices of Ministry Of Federal Education and Professional Training at Pakistan Sports Board, Liaquat Gymnasium, in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Senior Israeli commander killed in Gaza

Colonel Ehsan Daksa is the highest ranking officer to be killed so far

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Colonel Ehsan Daksa, commander of the IDF's 401st Armored Brigade, was killed in the northern Gaza Strip on Sunday, making him the highest-ranking officer to die since Israel's ground operation began in the area. He was 41 years old.

The Israeli military reported that Colonel Daksa's tank



struck an explosive device while operating in the city of Jabaliya. Investigations are underway to determine if anti-tank fire was also involved in the incident.

A native of Daliat el-Carmel and a member of the Druze community, Daksa was highly respected as one of the IDF's leading field commanders. Throughout his career, he held various command positions in armored units and had significant strategic responsi-

bilities in the IDF's Northern Command.

In response to the incident, the IDF announced that the situation at the scene is now under operational control, with Brigadier General Itzik Cohen, commander of the 162nd Division, taking personal command of ground operations.

Since the conflict began on October 7, five Israeli colonels have been reported killed in the ongoing fighting.

How two Senators made a 'surprise appearance' to pass the constitutional amendment

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a house of 96 members, the government needed at least 64 members to achieve two-thirds majority to allow the 26th constitutional amendment to be passed.

The government was all but assured of receiving 63 votes for its much hyped amendment after it reached a consensus with the Jamiat-e-Ulema Islam. This number included the following:

PPP: 24 members
PMLN: 19 members
JUI: 5 members
BAP: 4 members
MQM: 3 members
PMLQ: 1 member
Independents: 4 members

The four independents who voted for the amendment included Faisal Vawda, Abdul Qadir, Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar and Mohsin Naqvi.



However, just as the Senate session began, Senators Muhammad Qasim Rojhan and Senator Naseema Ehsan, both belonging to the Balochistan National Party, arrived in the Parliament House in white vehicles.

BNP chief Akhtar Mengal had

named both of these Senators in a post on X on October 16 where he revealed that his apartment in parliament lodges had been raided.

Mengal had claimed that Ehsan's son had been 'abducted' and she was confined to her apartment. He had

also claimed that Rojhan had been 'untraceable' since he went for a dialysis appointment.

Ehsan had appeared in the Senate on October 17 to state, in a clearly emotional voice, that better ways must be found to do things.

As late as Sunday afternoon, Mengal told reporters that he had no idea where both of his Senators were.

Both Senators were hounded by reporters as they disembarked from their cars at the Parliament House.

While Rojhan, visibly weakened and supporting himself with a cane was helped into a wheelchair, Ehsan just strode forward trying to escape reporters. As they eventually caught up to her, she simply responded that she would not have been in the parliament if she was abducted.

With Ehsan and Rojhan's votes counted, the government took its tally to 65, gaining two-thirds majority for the passage of the amendments.

Finance Minister Aurangzeb to 'seek financial aid' for energy projects in US visit

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb is expected to seek financial assistance for various energy projects during his visit to the United States.

The finance czar is set to meet US Assistant Secretary of State for Energy Resources Geoffrey Ross Pyatt during his upcoming trip to Washington. The discussions will focus on issues within the energy sector.

Earlier this week, US Ambassador Donald Blome called on Finance Minister Aurangzeb where they discussed economic matters, including the performance of Pakistan's energy sector.

Sources said that the US envoy requested details regarding the proposed re-profiling of Chinese power sector debts and its overall impact on Pakistan's economy. The finance minister replied that China



and Pakistan had engaged consultants to finalise agreeable terms for the debt re-profiling over the coming years.

Although Pakistan and China were prepared to begin signing re-pro-

filing agreements during the recent visit of the Chinese prime minister, the process has been put on hold following the Karachi airport attack where Chinese nationals were killed. Aurangzeb is scheduled to be in

Washington from October 21 to 26 to attend the annual IMF-World Bank meetings.

He is expected to discuss ongoing issues related to five wind power projects established by the US International Development Finance Corporation as both parties have yet to reach a mutually agreed resolution.

In a meeting last May, the US ambassador "made it clear" that the DFC would refrain from investing in Pakistan until the issues regarding these wind power projects were resolved. The Pakistan Embassy in Washington has also informed Islamabad that "Washington is serious about resolving these matters" to facilitate future investments in the energy sector.

The Iran-Pakistan Gas Pipeline and the import of petroleum products through informal channels are "significant concerns" for Washington, according to sources.

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Pakistan Navy Ship seizes narcotics at sea



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: An intelligence-based counter narcotics operation was conducted by Pakistan Navy and ANF in North Arabian Sea in which approximately 2000 Kgs of Hashish, 370 Kgs of Ice and 50 Kgs of Heroin were seized by Pakistan Navy Ship HUNAIN. The consignment includes one hundred thousand illegal Indian made pills used as drug which was to be transported via sea to international destination.

Value of narcotics in international market is approximately US\$ 145 million. The seized items have been handed over to ANF for further legal proceedings.

Successful operation by Pakistan Navy and ANF resulting in seizure of large quantity of drugs is a testament of PN resolve to fight against illegal activities as a national obligation. Pakistan Navy will continue to shoulder its national obligations and responsibility to establish lawful order at sea.

Bilawal lauds Fazl's efforts in facilitating passage of 26th Constitutional amendment package



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan People's Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Monday praised the efforts of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (F) chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman in facilitating the smooth passage of the 26th Constitutional Amendment package.

Speaking in National Assembly, Bilawal said Maulana Fazl played pivotal role in bringing together different political factions and ensuring the successful approval of the crucial Constitutional amendments. He lauded PML-N leadership especially former Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif and allied parties for making possible

the passage of amendments.

He stated that the key achievement in judicial reforms was restoring Parliament's role in regaining the power to appoint judges to the superior judiciary.

He also acknowledged the role of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) in opposing the bill, stating that it was their constitutional right to do so.

Bilawal Bhutto Zardari acknowledged that Fazl had been instrumental in the success of the 26th Amendment package passage in Parliament. He said following his praise for President Asif Ali Zardari, he acknowledges Maulana Fazl-ur-Rehman's contributions in upholding the sanctity of the Constitution.

Israeli government responsible for genocide in northern Gaza Strip: Ministry of Foreign Affairs



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates affirms that the international failure to stop the war of extermination and displacement against our people has become a cover that the Israeli government exploits to continue implementing more deadly and genocidal episodes against our people, as is clear in the northern Gaza Strip, where the meaning of genocide is most clearly embodied in the eyes and ears of the world, through siege, starvation, displacement, destruction and demolition of buildings, airstrikes, targeting of all health centers, and

committing more horrific massacres, as happened recently in the Beit Lahia project. The occupation army also imposes on citizens in the north either displacement under bombardment or individual and collective killing, in what resembles a certain circle of death in both cases.

At the same time, the Ministry warns against enabling Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to continue marketing the logic of military arrogance as an alternative to political solutions to the current crisis and the conflict as a whole, especially on what remains of the credibility of international legitimacy, its institutions and its decisions.