



**\*SOS Call for Help from Raziyah Sultana, Daughter of Mohammad Yasin Malik, Kashmiri Hurriyat Leader and Nelson Mandela of Kashmir's Freedom Struggle\***



**One journalist killed every four days in 2022-23, most cases unpunished: UN**  
Between 2006 and 2024, over 1,700 journalists have been killed around the world, and around 85 percent of the cases did not make it to court, according to a report by UNESCO. The dangers faced by journalists, including risks to their lives, are highlighted each year on the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists, which falls on 2 November.

**Meeting**

ISLAMABAD: Mr. Justice Yahya Afridi Chief Justice of Pakistan/Chairman LJCP in a meeting with other stakeholders on jail reforms on Saturday.



Photo: PID

**CJP Yahya Afridi summons first meeting of JCP on November 5**

**Naveed Ahmad Khan**

ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice of Pakistan Yahya Afridi convened the first meeting of the Judicial Commission on November 5 following the 26th Constitutional Amendment that changed the body's formation. As the head of the commission, CJP Afridi would preside over the meeting. Attendants would include justices Mansoor Ali Shah, Munib Akhtar, and Ameen Uddin. Attorney General for Pakistan Mansoor Usman Awan, Federal Law Minister

Azam Nazeer Tarar, Pakistan Bar Council representative Akhtar Hussain, PPP Senator Farooq H Naek, PML-N's Sheikh Aftab Ahmed, PTI's Omar Ayub and Shibli Faraz, as well as female member Roshan Khurshid, are also expected to participate. The government narrowly passed constitutional amendments on October 21 giving lawmakers more power to appoint top judges, who have issued a series of recent decisions favouring opposition chief Imran Khan. Earlier in the day, National

Assembly Speaker Ayaz Sadiq nominated five members for the formation of a JCP for the appointment of judges in the higher judiciary. He wrote a letter to the Supreme Judicial Commission regarding forming a judicial commission to appoint judges in the higher judiciary. According to the 26th Amendment, five members of Parliament are to be included in the judicial commission. The nomination of names from Parliament is on the basis of equal representation from both the government and the opposition. The Supreme Court

has received all nominations. Sadiq forwarded names after consulting Senate Chairman Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani and all the parliamentary parties. The female member, Roshan Khurshid Bharucha, of the commission hails from Balochistan and is a former senator. These nominations were made by the Speaker of the National Assembly as per sub-paragraph (viii) of clause (2) of Article 175A of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, which permits the Speaker NA to nominate a woman or a non-Muslim to the

Judicial Commission. "The new face of JCP will have CJP, four senior-most SC judges, four parliamentarians - two each from Senate and the National Assembly [one each from treasury and opposition], law minister, and the AGP. NA speaker will nominate people from marginalised communities outside of parliament. Those who are qualified as technocrats for the Senate. The civil society has been made part of it. The PBC is already part of it," Law Minister Azam Nazeer Tarar said when the cabinet approved the amendment on October 20.

**PM for bringing Israel to justice for killing journalists in Gaza**



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday called upon the international community and various organizations to bring Israel to justice for the massacre of journalists in Gaza. Despite international conventions, dozens of journalists in Gaza were deliberately killed to obstruct the truth, the prime minister said in his message on the occasion of International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists. He emphasized that journalists from across the world including Pakistan work day and night to keep the world informed. "Unfortunately, journalists have to endure various dangers, hardships, and difficulties in pursuit of truth," he regretted. Besides working in peace, he said the journalists also risked their lives reporting even in

conflict zones and during wars. The prime minister said Pakistani journalists had made immense sacrifices for democracy, adherence to the Constitution, and the rule of law. "The Journalist and Media Workers Protection Act 2021 was passed to protect journalists and media workers." PM Shehbaz said health insurance for journalists was also an important initiative of the federal government for their protection. "We are committed to preventing crimes against journalists, ensuring punishment for perpetrators, and safeguarding journalists in Pakistan," the prime minister assured. He emphasized that the Constitution of Pakistan guaranteed freedom of expression, freedom of the press, and access to information, and the government of Pakistan was dedicated to ensuring these rights.

**Planning minister highlights importance of prioritizing development**

**Commerce Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Professor Ahsan Iqbal, while addressing the 36th Senior Management Course officers here Saturday, highlighted the importance of prioritizing country's development and modernizing civil service. He said the lack of export-based economy has hindered the country's progress over the past 77 years, resulting in an imbalance in exports and imports. He noted that the government was working to promote exports under the "5Es Framework." He stressed the need to modernize the system, highlighting that every government official was working hard



in their place, however there was need to modernize the system. He said the motorways and metro buses were also essential components of any country's basic infrastructure, adding that developed countries do not compromise on connectivity. The minister said that the development budget has decreased from 12-14 percent to 4 percent. He said the Hyder-

abad-Sukkur Motorway is a government priority while Public-private partnerships are also being encouraged in development projects. Ahsan Iqbal emphasized the importance of political stability for economic growth, stating that economic development and political stability were deeply connected. Political stability boosts investors' and businessmen's confidence, essential for a strong economy. Without stability, government policies and development projects often face delays or discontinuity, impacting the country's economic growth. A stable political environment promotes domestic and international investment, creating job opportunities and strengthens economy, he added.

**Bushra Bibi's bail in Toshakhana-II case challenged in SC**

**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Investigation Authority (FIA) has challenged Bushra Bibi wife of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan, bail in the Toshakhana-II case in the Supreme Court. As per details, the FIA stated in its plea that bail was granted in Islamabad High Court judge's chamber and it violates Supreme Court guidelines. The FIA also claimed that Bushra Bibi was involved in the case along with her husband Imran Khan. The development came after the Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Tuesday granted bail to Bushra Bibi in the Toshakhana-II case. IHC Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb accepted the post-arrest bail plea of Bushra Bibi against Rs1 million surety bonds.

**Four khwarij sent to hell after intelligence-based operation in South Waziristan**

**City Desk**

RAWALPINDI: In the early hours of 02 November 2024, Security Forces conducted an intelligence based operation in general area Sarwakai, South Waziristan District on reported presence of khwarij. During the conduct of operation, khwarij's location was effectively engaged by own troops, as a result of which, four khwarij were sent to hell. Sanitization operation is being carried out to elimi-



nate any other Kharji found in the area as the Security Forces of Pakistan are determined to wipe-out the menace of terrorism from the country.

**LHC Bar challenges 26th Amendment in Supreme Court**



**Bureau Report**

ISLAMABAD: The Lahore High Court Bar has challenged the 26th Constitutional Amendment in Supreme Court. Hamid Khan has filed a constitutional petition of the LHC Bar in the apex court seeking the court to declare various clauses of the 26th Amendment as unconstitu-

tional. Petitioner pleads to the court to declare section 7,9,10,12,13,14, as well as section 16,17 and 21 as unconstitutional. The petitioner has also requested to the court to declare the steps taken under various sections of the said constitutional amendment as unconstitutional. It has also been pleaded to the court that the judicial commission and other steps should be restrained until the petition has been pending. The federation, judicial commission, the National Assembly, Senate, Speaker National Assembly and the President have been made respondents in the petition.

**PTI to give 'final call' for protest in Swabi, says KP CM Gandapur**

**Bureau Report**

PESHAWAR: The 'final call' for PTI's protests for the former prime minister Imran Khan's release would be made in Swabi, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur said on Saturday. "We will gather at the Swabi Interchange on November 9, where the future course of action will be revealed," he told reporters outside the Adiala Jail. "The final call for the protests will be made in Swabi." Sources within the PTI said that Khan's party was considering the establishment of

a tent village in Swabi, with an announcement regarding the date expected to be made soon. Gandapur has already warned of shutting down the country if demands are not met. The PTI has been running an anti-government campaign to "reclaim" its mandate. "Inform your family before leaving, so that if you don't return, they can perform your funeral. We will drive the final nail into the coffin of this government. We have endured a lot while remaining peaceful, but on November 9, we will gather in Swabi instead of holding the rally in Peshawar,"

he said. Gandapur called for "freeing" the country of the incumbent government and alleged that the Constitution had been violated and the rule of law was absent. "We have to get rid of the 'Form 47 government.' Now we will march with our heads wrapped in shrouds." He warned all "decision-makers" against blocking their movement, stating that the party's goal is to achieve "Haqqeqi Azadi" in the country and "reclaim" their mandate. In response to a question about his potential involvement in the release of Bushra



Bibi, he said: "If I play any role in her release, I will let it be known myself. I fear no one, and everyone knows who played a role in this matter." Gandapur expressed concerns over the legal challenges faced by the PTI leadership, stating that while many leaders were imprisoned, he alone was facing vandalism charges across eight districts. "In one hour, eight cases of vandalism were filed against me."

# Governor Punjab hail's role of lawyers in securing justice in Attock

Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: Governor Punjab, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan, attended a seminar organized by the District Bar Association Attock as the chief guest, where he praised the role of lawyers in upholding the constitution and law in Pakistan. The seminar, supervised by the People's Lawyers Forum, was themed "The Role of Lawyers in Pakistan's Social Development." In his speech, the Governor expressed his close association with the District Bar Association Attock, stating that he has always served the people of Attock, with the bar playing a significant role in strengthening the foundation of the association. He reminisced about Attock's golden era (2008-2012) under the leadership of Syed Azmat Ali Bukhari, during which developmental work was done for the District Bar. Sardar Saleem Haider Khan highlighted the importance of a strong relationship between the bar and the



bench for the swift delivery of justice and emphasized the significance of the 26th Constitutional Amendment, which aims to expedite case resolutions. The Governor appealed to the

lawyers to assist the underprivileged in accessing justice. The event was also attended by District and Sessions Judge Chaudhry Zafar Iqbal, District Bar Association President Rizwana Raja,

senior lawyers, and other distinguished guests, who shared their views. Certificates were distributed to the lawyers who completed their vocational training at the end of the ceremony.



Muhammad Kashif Chaudhry, President of the Central Organization of Traders of Pakistan and President of Pakistan Business Forum is presenting an honorary souvenir to Raja Nasir Ali Khan, Minister of Planning, Gilgit-Baltistan along with Senior Vice President of Pakistan Business Forum, Zia Ahmed Raja.

## MQM MPA grave concerns over the rising incidents of theft and robbery

Abdul Ghafoor Sarohi

HYDERABAD: MQM Haq Parast members of the Sindh Assembly have expressed grave concerns over the rising incidents of theft and robbery in Hyderabad, which are causing citizens to feel increasingly insecure. The members highlighted a recent incident in which three individuals were injured during a motorcycle robbery in the Preetabad area, calling it one of many such troubling cases in the city. They noted that incidents of theft, such as stealing electric meters, household items, and shopkeepers' goods, have been rising, leaving residents vulnerable to losing valuable belongings, including motorcycles.

The members also voiced concerns about the increasing use of drugs among the youth, especially in educational institutions, which they believe is causing severe harm to the younger generation and distress for their families. They emphasized that law enforcement and other concerned agencies have failed to address this crisis, allowing the open sale of drugs throughout the city, which, in turn, is fueling theft and robbery as youth turn to crime to support their addiction.

The MQM Haq Parast members demanded that Hyderabad police take effective action to curb theft and robbery incidents, strictly enforce restrictions on celebratory firing and fireworks at weddings, and increase police patrols at night to ensure the safety and security of the city's residents.

## Sufizam soothes the heart: Alhaj Naseer Vohra



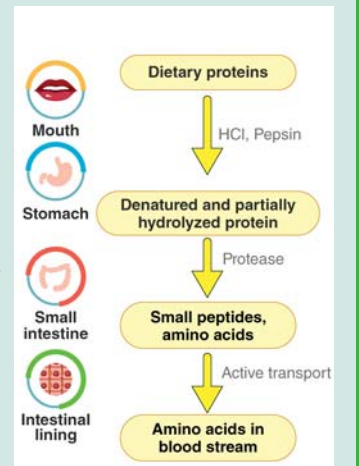
Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Qawal Zain Rahat Ali and Hamnawa performed their art in Sufi izam program Qawali Night organized by Punjab Council of the Art Faisalabad. Chief Guest of this Qawali Night was Central President Cloth Board Etihad Group Pakistan Alhaj Naseer Yousuf Vohra. While chaired by Shafiq Butt and Dr. Majida Butt, Vice President Peace Council, the guests of honor were the couple of Faisalabad Begum and LM Nasir. Chairman Mirza Dawood Ibrahim and Organizer Jameel Bobby thanked all the guests, Simeon, audience and Assistant Director Programs Punjab Council of the art faisalabad Asad Hayat Noel. Alhaj Naseer Yousuf Vohra and the audience who were present in the hall applauded the Qawals and appreciated their art.

## Understanding Nutrient Digestion and Absorption

Naeem Sarwar

Digesting and absorbing nutrients is a vital process that fuels our bodies. Carbohydrates, proteins, and fats each follow unique pathways of digestion and absorption. Understanding these processes can help in dietary planning and managing various health conditions.



Carbohydrate digestion begins in the mouth, where salivary amylase starts breaking down starch into dextrins and oligosaccharides. In the small intestine, pancreatic amylase further reduces these carbohydrates into simpler sugars: lactose, maltose, and sucrose. Brush-border enzymes (lactase, maltase, sucrase) then convert these sugars into monosaccharides—glucose, galactose, and fructose. These monosaccharides are absorbed by capillaries in the villi and transported to the liver via the hepatic portal vein.

Protein digestion starts in the stomach, where pepsin (activated by hydrochloric acid) begins breaking down proteins into proteases and peptones. In the small intestine, pancreatic enzymes such as trypsin, chymotrypsin, and carboxypeptidase continue breaking down proteins into smaller peptides and dipeptides. Brush-border enzymes, including aminopeptidases and dipeptidases, further break these down into amino acids. These amino acids are then absorbed by capillaries in the villi and transported to the liver through the hepatic portal vein.

Fat digestion occurs mainly in the small intestine, where unemulsified fats are broken down by bile salts, lecithin, cholesterol, and pancreatic lipases into monoglycerides, fatty acids, and glycerol. Monoglycerides and fatty acids are absorbed by lacteals in the villi, entering the lymphatic system and eventually the systemic venous circulation. Glycerol and some fatty acids are absorbed by capillaries and transported to the liver via the hepatic portal vein.

Each macronutrient follows a distinct digestion and absorption process, ensuring that our body receives the necessary nutrients to function efficiently. Understanding these pathways can aid in making informed dietary choices and managing health conditions effectively.

Writer is PhD scholar, Department of Human Nutrition and Dietetics, BZU

## Prayers

KARACHI: A Christian family pray beside the grave of a family member on All Souls' Day in Provincial Capital, on November 2, 2024. The day honors the dead as friends and families gather in cemeteries to decorate graves of loved ones with candles and flowers and offer prayers.



Photo: Online

# U. S. Consul General hails 150 graduates from English Works program

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: U. S. Consul General in Lahore Kristin Hawkins welcomed 150 students in Vehari to the U. S.-funded English Works program.

The English language program, implemented in partnership with COMSATS, offers youth the opportunity to strengthen their English language, entrepreneurial, and leadership skills. "These skills will empower young Pakistanis to achieve economic success and to become leaders in their communities. Council General Kristin Hawkins stated.

Since 2015, more than 6,000 Paki-



stani students have graduated from this program. The U. S. Mission in Pakistan currently sponsors various English language programs in six cities across Punjab – Lahore, Faisalabad, Multan, Sialkot, Vehari and DG Khan – and looks forward to continuing educational partnerships across Pakistan in the years to come.

Graduates of U. S. sponsored English language and other exchange programs work in every profession – government, science, business, arts, and many others. These programs help foster people-to-people ties, which are at the heart of the U. S.-Pakistan relationship.

# A Champion Muslim Leader Sir Sultan Muhammad Shah Aga Khan

Kamran Khamiso Khawaja

KARACHI: November 2 marks 147th Birth Anniversary of Sir Sultan Muhammad Shah Aga Khan, an active Muslim leader during the pre-independence era who played a crucial role in the independence movement. His unparalleled affiliation with Sir Syed Ahmed Khan inspired him to work for the betterment of the Muslims of the Subcontinent and he joined the politics of subcontinent at a very young age. The dynamic Muslim leader Sir Sultan Muhammad Shah Aga Khan was born on 2 November 1877 to Aga Shah Ali Shah an eminent religious figure of the Subcontinent and 47th Spiritual leader of Shia Imami Ismaili Muslims. After the death of his father he succeeded him as the 49th spiritual leader of the Ismaili sect at a young age of 7 years. Sir Aga Khan, with his vast experience and personality

of international stature, proved to be a responsible and productive mediator between the western world and the leaders of the subcontinent.

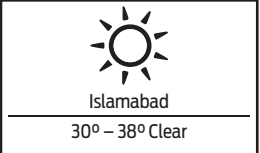
At the age of 25 he was appointed as a member of the Imperial Legislative Council. As an advocate of Muslims' rights at the global level, he worked to improve the quality of life of Muslims in the subcontinent. He brought political awareness among Muslims by leading the Simla deputation and later on being instrumental in forming the All India Muslim League and was unanimously appointed its first president. As a farsighted and devoted leader he was able to detect the key reasons of Hindu dominance in the subcontinent and downfall of Muslims. He believed as a leader that education and unity would change the fate of Muslims of the subcontinent and for that he took resolute efforts to establish Aligarh Muslim University and



was unanimously appointed its first Chancellor. Addressing the annual session of the Muslims Educational Conference in 1904 in Bombay, he said: "The far-sighted among the Muslims of India desire a university where the standard of learning should be the highest and where alongside scientific training there shall be moral education, that serves as the constant reminder of the

eternal difference between right and wrong, which is the soul of education. I earnestly beg of you that the cause of University should not be forgotten in the shouts of the marketplace that daily rise among us." In 1911, the Aga Khan was nominated as the Chairman of the Funds Collection Committee and he took upon himself the task of collecting funds to establish the University. He announced a personal donation of Rs 100,000, and the committee headed by him visited many cities of India, collecting funds for the University. His abilities as a political figure were also recognised in the western world and he was admired by noted leaders of the world. Keeping in view his vast political experience he was elected President of the leagues of Nation. Sir Sultan Muhammad Shah vividly advocated voting rights of Muslim women and campaigned for their education. During the

20th century he noted a sizable amount of money for opening the department of Islamic studies and research in various western Universities. After independence when the language crisis was sprouting he proposed that Arabic should be made the national language of Pakistan because it would strengthen our ties with Muslim countries and the issue of Language would be resolved once for all. In the initial days, Pakistan was under an acute crisis, but at that time Sir Sultan Mohammad Shah paid a sizable amount of money to the Pakistan Government for procuring Gwadar port that Oman was going to sell to India in case of Pakistan's denial to purchase it. He passed away on 11th July 1957. Decades after his death his Grandson Prince Karim Aga Khan and his family continue to serve Muslim countries including Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Indonesia.



**SERVICES**

**Namaz Timings**

Fajr ..... 5:03 am  
Zohr ..... 11:51 am  
Asr ..... 3:36 pm  
Maghrib ..... 5:14 pm  
Isha ..... 6:39 pm

**EMERGENCY**

Rescue (Police) ..... 15  
Bomb Disposal ..... 15  
Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad ..... 1122 & 116  
Emergency Ambulance ..... 1122 & 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

**IMS Alumni Association Meets with BZU Vice Chancellor**

**City Desk**

MULTAN: The IMS Alumni Association met with BZU Vice Chancellor Dr. Zubair Iqbal. In the meeting, IMS Director Dr. Hassan Bacha and senior IMS faculty briefed the Vice Chancellor on the history and achievements of the IMS Alumni Association. The Vice Chancellor praised the efforts of IMS and the Alumni Association, emphasizing the importance of giving back to the institution.

He highlighted initiatives such as endowment funds, internship programs, and leadership programs to support the growth of new students. The vice chancellor also emphasised that the products should be designed to be sold to philanthropist. In this meeting The President of the IMS Alumni Association, Khawaja Usman, former President Sheikh Saqib Raheem, Mahmood Group Director Khawaja Muhammad Qasim, along with other alumni officials and city dignitaries, were also present at the event.

**Climate Financing for Developing Countries should be a priority at COP 29: Sherry Rehman**

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: Speaking at the Institute of Regional Studies (IRS) pre-COP29 panel discussion titled 'Bridging the Gap: Humanitarian/Development Agencies and Climate Adaptation in Pakistan' Senator Sherry Rehman underlined the critical role of development organizations in fostering climate resilience through providing adequate funding.

Chairperson of the Senate Standing Committee on Climate Change, also underscored the need for local climate action backed by robust international financing. Advocating proactive measures in flood-prone areas to prevent escalating climate impacts, she urged major emitters to honour their Internationally Determined Contributions (IDCs) and called for a Global Goal on Adaptation that prioritises funding for on-ground initiatives.

In his remarks on the occasion,

Amb. Jauhar Saleem, President of the Institute of Regional Studies (IRS) highlighted the potential role of COP29 in advancing climate adaptation efforts and ensuring essential funding.

Dr Altaf Abro, Head of Mission for Secours Islamique France (SIF) Pakistan, emphasized the importance of linking development funds with humanitarian resources to enhance adaptation efforts and enable more effective resilience strategies.

Dr Samuel Rizk, Resident Representative of UNDP Pakistan, stressed the need for coordinated government action in addressing climate change.

Bilal Anwar, CEO of the National Disaster Risk Management Fund (NDRMF), accentuated the need for transformative adaptation initiatives to meet the mounting challenges of climate change.

Dr. Rizwan Naseer, Senior Research Fellow at IRS, under-

scored the importance of aligning humanitarian responses with development strategies to create a more integrated approach.

Muhammad Arif Goheer, Executive Director of the Global Climate Change Impact Study Centre (GCISC), brought out the urgency for effective adaptation strategies in Pakistan's agricultural sector.

Isabel Bogorinsky, Head of Programs at Welthungerhilfe (WHH) Pakistan, highlighted the threat that climate change poses to food security and emphasized upon the vital role of government organisations.

Ahmed Kamal, former Chairman of the Federal Flood Commission (FFC), discussed government-led disaster risk reduction initiatives, including the 10-year National Flood Protection Plan and advancements in flood forecasting systems.

Hassan Hayat, Programme Producer at PTV Home, under-



scored the impact of documentaries in effectively communicating the severe consequences of climate change. The event brought together a range of national and international experts, policymakers, heads of development & humanitarian organizations.

**Photo Exhibition**

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Portugal Frederico Silva visiting a Wildlife Photo exhibition in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

**Ziauddin University Concludes Breast Cancer Awareness Month with Poster Competition**

**City Desk**

KARACHI: Ziauddin University organized a compelling event to conclude a month-long awareness campaign on breast cancer through a poster competition. This initiative aimed to engage students and faculty in a creative dialogue surrounding the challenges and stigmas associated with this critical health issue.

The event sought to break the taboos surrounding breast cancer and emphasize the need for open conversations to encourage timely medical



intervention, early detection, and screening. By fostering a supportive environment, the university aimed to empower individuals to seek help and discuss their health concerns without fear or stigma, ultimately leading to improved outcomes for those affected.

While encouraging the students and admiring the vibrant awareness posters, Prof. Dr. Abbas Zafar, Acting Vice Chancellor of Ziauddin University, highlighted the significance of collective efforts, saying, "I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone involved

in this month-long breast cancer awareness campaign; your dedication is inspiring.

The judges carefully evaluated the entries, ultimately awarding cash prizes to these standout participants. The panel of judges included Xenab Ansari, Founder of The Power Circle and Empower Yourself; Nomaan Bhatti, Assistant Professor of Communication Design at Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture; and Mathew Fitzpatrick, International Faculty & Principal of the College of Podiatric Medicine at Ziauddin University.

**Abdul Jabbar: A Beacon of Integrity and Catalyst for Systemic Reform**

**Zain-ul-Abidin Abid**

MULTAN: In life, everyone encounters individuals whose character, behavior, and knowledge leave a profound impact on the heart and mind. We had the opportunity to meet with a person—a government officer in Multan—whose honesty, simplicity, and wisdom left us deeply impressed. This officer not only understands the significance of his role but is also fully aware of the responsibilities associated with public service. His words reflected unwavering truth and integrity.

During our conversation, I asked, "A patwari or a police officer often posts guards at their doors. You are an Additional Commissioner, yet there is no police officer or guard outside your office. Why is that?"

He responded: "When a government



officer is honest, there is no need for a guard at his office gate, nor does he need to isolate himself behind closed doors for protection. He is constantly watched over by two guardians on his shoulders—fear of God and his conscience. These protectors keep him away from bribery and compel him to treat the public with justice."

He further added that an honest officer never fears facing journalists because his decisions are transparent, and there is nothing in his actions that needs to be concealed. He follows the principle of self-accountability and does not shy away from being answerable to the public.

This insight is profoundly meaningful. An honest officer neither engages

in corruption nor forces people to visit offices repeatedly. His priority is to serve the public, setting aside personal interests for the greater good. Such officers not only enhance the reputation of their departments but also become role models for the entire system.

According to him, when an officer works with faith and integrity, his reputation naturally strengthens, and the public's trust in him grows. People trust such officers and are happy to cooperate with them, which leads to improvements in governance.

His honesty and simplicity made us reflect on how, if every public official adhered to these principles, governance would become more transparent and just, and public trust in institutions would be restored. Officers like him are a shining example for our society, inspiring others to follow the path of truth and integrity.

**SOT Events 2024 Kicks Off in Karachi**



**City Desk**

KARACHI: The seventeenth edition of SOT Events, organised by Beaconhouse, opened at the Beach Luxury Hotel in Karachi. This year's event, titled 'Guardians of the Future: Shaping Tomorrow with Generative AI', is a future-oriented two-day event.

For the past 24 years, SOT Events has been at the forefront of conversations that shape the future of society. The 16th edition in 2023, was about the transformative power of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its far-reaching impact on the world. This year, SOT explores AI's expanding role further, from reshaping industries and redefining creativity to challenging traditional notions of ownership and responsibility.

The event commenced with a keynote speech by Oscar-winning filmmaker, Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy. Other participants included Sanam Saeed, Mohib Mirza, Vaneza Ahmad, Dr Pervez Hoodbhoy, Zoraz Lashari, Nafisa Shah, Mohsin Naveed Ranjha, and, and Tapu Javeri.

With over 30 thought-provoking sessions across two days, SOT 2024 features more than 100 influential speakers including social media influencers like Mooro and Faiza Saleem; media personalities such as Tina Sani and Nadeem Baig; distinguished educationists Dr Sohail Naqvi and Dr Arfa Sayeda Zehra; renowned journalists Wusat Ullah Khan and Amber Rahim Shamsi; celebrated athletes Haider Ali and Faiqa Riaz; and IT experts Dr Basit Riaz Sheikh and Jazib Zahir, among many others. This year's event also features an immersive science exhibition, developed with MagnifiScience, offering attendees an interactive, hands-on experience.

Speaking about the event, Kasim Kasuri, Chair SOT Events and CEO Beaconhouse School System, said, "As we navigate shifts in AI, the core theme of SOT, Guardians of the Future, takes on new meaning,

**AKU-EB Celebrates "Roots of Hope"**



**City Desk**

KARACHI: The Aga Khan University Examination Board (AKU-EB) celebrated its annual High Achievers Ceremony with a powerful theme, Roots of Hope, recognizing outstanding students from Punjab and Sindh at the AKU Auditorium. This celebration comes shortly after a similar event in Gilgit-Baltistan, marking a unified moment of pride and accomplishment across Pakistan.

Recognising and thanking school leaders, teachers, parents, and students for embracing the Board's mission, AKU President Dr. Sulaiman Shahabuddin said, "From the shores of Karachi to the northern peaks near the Afghan border, schools affiliated with AKU-EB are delivering an education of the highest quality—one that cultivates lifelong learners prepared for a rapidly changing world."

Dr Naveed Yousuf, CEO of AKU Examination Board, welcomed the high achievers and their families, emphasising AKU-EB's commitment to nurturing students to be resilient, critical thinkers, and ethically grounded leaders. "Our goal is to empower students to not only excel academically but to think critically and act ethically in a complex world," Dr Yousuf said.

A highlight of the ceremony was the address by national high achiever, Sadia Shafi from Aga Khan Higher Secondary School, Hyderabad who has already secured admission to the AKU Faculty of Arts and Sciences programme. Sadia reflected on her journey, saying, "We proudly carry the identity of a system defined by trust, quality, credibility, and excellence. These are not just words—they represent who we are. AKU-EB's strong connection with its affiliated schools ensures that no matter where we go, we are prepared to excel."

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# South Punjab needs sustainable practices for well-being of inhabitants

Afshan Malik

**R**apid urbanization and massive population influx to urban areas posed multiple challenges to city managers in sustaining populace load and ensuring uninterrupted provision of civic amenities to residents.

Over the period urbanization emerged as a global phenomenon with cities swelling and swelling thus resulting in shrinking facilities and overburdened civic departments with Pakistan also not being an exception to this tendency.

Many cultural regions and cities are fast losing their vitality with even preserved heritage under extreme pressure of urbanization besides usage of rich agricultural land for abruptly erecting housing societies and residential colonies.

Urban growth also poses challenges like pollution and waste generation, cleanliness and hygiene, social inequities and above all infrastructure development as witnessed in the South Punjab region. But, when it is a planned growth with areas properly developed, the situation is entirely different.

Rich in cultural heritage and natural resources, this region faces multiple social, geographical and economic challenges urgently needing sustainable practices for well-being of inhabitants as abrupt urbanization brings with it a glut of hardships.

Composing Multan, Bahawalpur and Dera Ghazi Khan divisions' South Punjab is home to a diverse population but unchecked urbanization has shrunk its resources and urban centers suffer poor infrastructure, lack of public transport

systems, inefficient waste management, water scarcity, air pollution and overall environmental degradation.

"Urbanization in Pakistan is accelerating rapidly with projections that urban population could surpass 50% by 2025," stated Qaswar Abbas, Director Urban Planning, Multan Development Authority (MDA). "It is a serious challenge as rapid growth affects infrastructure, develops slums, enhances traffic load, overburdens the sewerage system and finally makes the living conditions unhygienic."

He said this phenomenon also results in inequalities putting social stability at risk, creating water and sanitation crises and spreading diseases.

The World Cities Report 2021 by UN-Habitat highlights sustainable urbanization in shaping resilient, inclusive and prosperous cities as the global shift towards urban living reckons that over 56% of the world's population will be living in cities by 2020.

Highlighting opportunities and risks associated with rapid urbanization, the UN-Habitat report encourages governments and stakeholders to pursue inclusive urban planning, invest in green infrastructure and enhance social safety nets to foster equitable and sustainable cities. It also calls for urgent global cooperation to address challenges of urbanization and ensure that cities are centers of innovation, equality and sustainability.

The Urban Development Overview 2020 by the World Bank also outlines the importance of sustainable urbanization in fostering economic growth, reducing poverty and improving living standards.

Seeing in other perspective, rapid urbanization particularly in developing

countries like Pakistan is both a driver of economic opportunities and a source of challenges. Therefore, if there is proper planning, the challenges can be converted into opportunities.

"As far as environmental degradation due to urbanization is concerned, there are immense opportunities to enhance biodiversity and contribute to residents' physical and mental health," remarked Director General, Pakistan Horticulture Authority (PHA), Asif Rauf Khan.

"Green infrastructure like parks, urban forests and wetlands can mitigate environmental degradation occurring due to urbanization," he said. "Green spaces reduce urban heat and pollution, improve biodiversity and contribute to residents' wellbeing."

He emphasizes cities' inclusiveness with a green environment and pollution control leading to a better quality of life. "Partnerships between governments, private sector and communities are crucial for successful urban development."

Several cities around the globe offer valuable lessons in sustainable urban planning like Curitiba in Brazil for developing bus rapid transit to reduce pollution and load on infrastructure and Singapore for water conservation practices.

Therefore, initiatives like desalination, wastewater treatment and rainwater harvesting can contribute much in sustainable urban planning if our city managers have workable solutions in their minds.

"Wastewater recycling and efficient irrigation techniques can help save water. Cities like Multan and Bahawalpur should prioritize water-sensitive urban designs to minimize runoff and encourage water

conservation," stated Arif Abbas, Director Works, Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA) Multan.

He said WASA has launched water and sanitation schemes worth millions of rupees here in Multan through funding of Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the situation would improve in near future.

Amidst all these challenges, the top city managers hope better days ahead as for them the establishment of South Punjab Secretariat was a leap forward for addressing the region's problems.

"Financial and administrative autonomy of South Punjab is helping us in making effective and responsive decisions at local level," remarked Fawad Hashmi, Additional Chief Secretary at South Punjab Secretariat. "We are working on the region's development under a comprehensive program. We have no shortage of emerging opportunities for growth and development."

It is imperative to mention that past follies of the city planners aggravated our problems as licenses and authorities were issued blindly to housing societies' developers least bothered by the planning and amenities they were going to offer to their residents.

Moreover, they were not asked to develop connecting infrastructure for their societies and consequently, they earned billions of rupees but roads and other infrastructure was left for respective governments to construct.

Therefore, the federal and provincial have an onus now to tighten the noose around them and ask to contribute in infrastructure development instead of spending precious tax money on poor people for their benefit.



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

## "Social Media's Impact on US Presidential Elections"

Muhammad Haroon

advertising policies by failing to disclose sponsors and using misleading labels. PragerU's ads continued to run on the platform, reaching millions of viewers. This incident underscores the need for more robust and transparent mechanisms for regulating political advertising and ensuring accountability.

The evolving regulatory landscape has forced political campaigns to adapt and find new ways to connect with voters. One emerging trend is the use of "micro-influencers," individuals with smaller but highly engaged followings on platforms like TikTok and Instagram. These influencers often have a more personal and authentic connection with their audience, making them effective messengers for political campaigns. By partnering with micro-influencers, candidates can bypass the restrictions imposed by social media companies on targeted advertising and reach niche demographics with tailored messaging.

Another notable shift is the increasing use of live streaming and podcasts by political candidates. These platforms offer a less filtered and more interactive format for candidates to engage with voters, allowing them to bypass traditional media outlets and control their messaging. The rise of "podcast campaigners," as highlighted in a recent Time magazine article, demonstrates the growing importance of these platforms in reaching wider audiences and bypassing the limitations of traditional media.

However, the reliance on influencers and live streaming also presents risks for political campaigns. Influencers are not always reliable messengers, and their

personal opinions or controversies can overshadow the candidate's message. Furthermore, the unfiltered nature of live streaming can lead to gaffes or misstatements that can be amplified and distorted on social media. The 2020 Biden campaign's partnership with liberal TikTok influencers, which resulted in backlash and accusations of "selling out," illustrates the potential pitfalls of this strategy.

The increasing polarization of American politics further complicates the role of social media in elections. Conservative media outlets have successfully leveraged platforms like Facebook and YouTube to reach and mobilize their base, while liberal campaigns have struggled to replicate this success. This disparity has contributed to a growing information divide, where voters are increasingly exposed to partisan content and perspectives that reinforce their existing beliefs.

As the 2024 presidential election approaches, social media will undoubtedly play a central role in shaping the narrative and influencing the outcome. Candidates will continue to experiment with new tactics and strategies to connect with voters in this increasingly complex and fragmented media landscape. The challenge for voters will be to navigate this information overload critically and make informed decisions based on facts and evidence, rather than emotions and algorithms. The future of American democracy may depend on it.

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According to the World Health Organization, flu symptoms include a sudden spike in temperature, a cough that is typically dry, headaches, muscle and joint pain, severe malaise (feeling poorly), sore throats, and runny noses. The cough may be rather acute and persist for at least two weeks.

Fever and other symptoms usually go away in a week or less without the need

## Flu and Antibiotics: Dispelling a Common Misconception in Pakistan

Ahamd Tahir

For medical intervention. However, influenza can, particularly in high-risk individuals, result in serious illness or even death. Other chronic conditions' symptoms may get worse due to influenza. Sepsis and pneumonia can result from influenza in extreme situations. Individuals who experience severe symptoms or other medical conditions should contact a doctor.

Antibiotics treat the flu? It's necessary to understand that viruses, which are minute organisms that proliferate quickly, cause the flu. Conversely, antibiotics target and eradicate bacteria, which are a distinct class of microorganism. Here's a breakdown of the differences between viruses and bacteria:

**Viruses:** Examples include flu, common cold, measles, chickenpox, and HIV.

**Bacteria:** Examples include strep throat, urinary tract infections, and tuberculosis.

Viruses lack the complex cellular machinery that antibiotics target. Using antibiotics for viral infections, like the flu, has no effect on the virus itself and can lead to unnecessary exposure to these medications, potentially contributing to antibiotic resistance. Viruses also have a protective protein coating and no cell walls, making them further resistant to antibiotic attacks.

Understanding the differences between viruses and bacteria is crucial in determining the appropriate treatment for illnesses. It is important to consult a healthcare professional for proper diagnosis and treatment.

**Antibiotic Resistance's Risks:** Antibiotic resistance (ABR) in bacteria can result from antibiotic abuse and overuse.

This implies that germs become resistant to the medicines that are currently on the market, making infections harder to cure.

How is the flu actually treated? Most patients will heal from their sickness on their own, according to the World Health Organization. If someone has serious symptoms or other health problems, they should visit a doctor.

Individuals experiencing mild symptoms ought to: remain at home to prevent spreading the illness to others; rest; stay hydrated; address any additional symptoms, such as fever; and seek medical attention if symptoms worsen.

Getting vaccinated is the best defense against the flu. Over 60 years have passed since the development of safe and effective vaccines. Nonetheless, annual vaccination is advised because immunity from immunization diminishes with time. Even though the vaccination may not be as effective in older persons, it can still minimize the risk and lessen the severity of sickness.

What are preventive measures to be taken? There are some additional measures by WHO to prevent influenza, including: washing and drying your hands frequently; covering your mouth and nose while coughing or sneezing; properly disposing of tissues; remaining at home when ill; avoiding close contact with sick individuals; and avoiding touching your mouth, nose, or eyes.

By knowing the limitations of antibiotics and adopting preventive measures, we may minimize the impact of the flu and assure the continuous effectiveness of medications against bacterial diseases.

*Writer is analyst and he can be reached at Email: Ahmad-tahir7062@gmail.com*

# Algerian Embassy marks 70th National Day in Islamabad

By Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Embassy of peoples democratic republic of Algeria in Pakistan arranged a diplomatic reception in Islamabad to celebrate the 70th anniversary of national day. Chief Guest was Minister of State for Information Technology And Telecommunication of Pakistan Shaza Fatima Khawaja.

Prominent representatives of the authorities, members of the diplomatic corps, businessmen and civilians took part in the reception and admired the decor of the event. Dean of Diplomatic Corps & Ambassador of Turkmenistan Atadjan Movlamov also present on the occasion. National anthem of Bulgaria and Pakistan were played and a cake was also cut by the European Union ambassadors collectively.

On the occasion H. E. Mr. Ibrahim Romani, Ambassador of Algeria said

that I Welcome to ceremony of the Algerian glorious National Day, commemorating the seventieth anniversary of the first of November 1954 Revolution, in which the Algerian people offered the greatest heroism and the most precious sacrifices, one and a half million martyrs to achieve freedom, on 5 July 1962.

We note with pride and appreciation, that Pakistan was among the earliest supporters of our liberation revolution in international forums, and recognized the provisional government of the revolution in 1958, and established a representative office in Karachi.

A long history of solidarity and cooperation between our two nations. Algeria and Pakistan continue to work together in coordination, consultation, and mutual support, within regional and international organizations, affirming their firm positions in



defending just causes, particularly the Palestinian cause.

Algeria is a non-permanent member in the international Security Council from 2024 to 2025, congratulations for Pakistan to be elected as a non-permanent member in Security Council from 2025 to 2026, wishing all success in its tenure, it will be opportunity to consolidate and intensify our collaboration for the just causes in all over the world, for the freedom, the justice, the multipolar world.

Algeria has a strategic location, in North Africa opposite Europe, bordered by five countries to the south, linking it to the regions of West Africa and the Sahara Sahel, making it the gateway to the continent, and a bridge of communication and cooperation between Africa and Europe across the Mediterranean, and between Asia and Africa via the Arabian Sea and the Suez Canal. Algeria is the largest country in terms of area in Africa, the Arab world and the Mediterranean region, with about 2 million and 400 thousand square km, the third economy in Africa this year, in addition to being a country rich in human and natural agricultural competencies, it is an energy country par excellence, oil, gas and various minerals.

Algeria is the first African exporter of gas to Europe, with over 40 billion cubic meters annually. Algeria is marking a rapid renaissance under the leadership of the President of the Republic, Mr. Abdelmadjid Tebboune, who was elected for a second term on the last 7 September, recording a growth rate of



4.1%, without external debts, increasing agricultural and industrial activities.

A new investment law adopted in 2022, that grants Algerians and foreigners the same rights and privileges, with significant tax exemptions, which made (the Algerian Agency for Investment Promotion) register in just two years about 9400 investment projects, including large foreign projects, Arab, European and Asian.

Algerian diplomacy respecting the charter and values of United Nations, working all time for peace and multilateralism, defending a freedom and a self-determination of peoples, supporting just causes in the world, especially in Palestine and Western Sahara, the last colony in Africa.

My country is keen to diversify economic partnerships, with various countries and regions, including the South of Asia, in which Pakistan is a

pivotal country, a brotherly and friendly country.

Our bilateral relations have been framed by the Political Consultations Committee, and the Joint Committee for Technical, Commercial and Economic Cooperation, the two countries have signed many cooperation agreements in different fields.

We celebrated in the last year, the sixtieth anniversary of diplomatic relations between Algeria and Pakistan, it's a source for inspiration and motivation to go on, working together, more and more, to enhance our understanding, to promote our coordination, and to develop our cooperation for our common benefit.

In the economic diplomacy, the Algerian Embassy in Islamabad is working to activate bilateral relations, and promote economic cooperation, by encouraging the participation of

businessmen in economic exhibitions held in both countries, which has led to over 200 Pakistani business representatives, visiting Algeria in the past two years, and more than 30 Pakistani businessmen and women attending Algiers International Fair this year, and organizing the first Algerian-Pakistani Economic Forum.

These a few positive indicators, promising a bright future for economic and technical cooperation between Algeria and Pakistan, both of which are pivotal nations in their respective regions, possessing considerable economic potential, and high expertise to facilitate fruitful partnerships, that will benefit the two brotherly countries.

Finally, I would like to thank Serena hotel, Mr. Nadim and his staff to organize this beautiful ceremony. Photos by Ramazan Mughal / Sultan Bashir



## Tashkent will host the next meeting of Uzbekistan-Pakistan Intergovernmental Joint Commission

By Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The 9th meeting of the Uzbekistan-Pakistan Intergovernmental Joint Commission will be held in Tashkent on 3-4 November 2024.

A delegation headed by the co-chairman of the Joint Commission - Minister of Commerce of Pakistan Jam Kamal Khan will visit Uzbekistan to participate in this meeting. The delegation will be accompanied by representatives of more than 30 Pakistani business circles, which are active in food, textile, pharmaceutical, automotive, electrical and chemical industries, transport and logis-



tics sphere. Minister of Investment, Industry and Trade of Uzbekistan Laziz Kudratov will co-chair the meeting of the Joint Commission from the Uzbek side.

At the end of the event, a package of documents is expected to be signed.

The heads of delegations will also participate and deliver a speech at Uzbekistan-Pakistan Business Forum, and attend "G2B" meeting.

The program of the visit includes several meetings of the Minister of Commerce of Pakistan with the heads of ministries and authorities of Uzbekistan.

## AJK University approves annual budget of 2 billion forty-two crore rupees for year 2024-25

By Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: The 54th Syndicate meeting of Azad Jammu and Kashmir University was held here with President Azad Kashmir and Chancellor of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Universities Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry in the chair. The meeting was attended by Vice Chancellor Azad Jammu and Kashmir University Professor Dr. Muhammad Kaleem Abbasi, Secretary Presidential Affairs Dr. Muhammad Idris Abbasi, Representative Chairman Higher Education Commission Professor Dr. Mahmoodul Hasan Butt, former Secretary to Government Sardar Muhammad Nawaz Khan, former Secretary to Government Chaudhry



Muhammad Munir, Dean Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Dr. Nadeem Haider Bukhari, Dean Faculty of Sciences Azad Jammu and Kashmir University Prof. Dr. Muhammad Rafiq, Registrar University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Dr. Ghulam Murtaza and

others. On this occasion, Vice Chancellor University of Azad Kashmir Professor Dr. Muhammad Kaleem Abbasi gave a detailed briefing to the President about the ongoing projects and problems faced by the university. Prof. Abbasi also apprised the president of the administrative

issues of the varsity. On this occasion, the syndicate meeting approved annual budget worth 2 billion forty two crore rupees for the financial year 2024-25 for the university, out of which a grant of 201 million rupees has been given by the government of Azad Kashmir. Speaking on the occasion, President Azad Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry, who is also the Chancellor of the university directed the VC and relevant authorities to take all possible measures to improve the quality of education in the university. "The university should be adapted to the requirements of the new age and the teaching process should be promoted in accordance with the international standards", he added.

## JKLF expresses its grave concern over the health condition Yasin Malik

By Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The incarcerated Chairman Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) Mr. Muhammad Yasin Malik in custody has once again started an indefinite hunger strike from Friday, 1st November against the inappropriate and insufficient medical facilities provided to him by the Delhi Tihar Jail authorities. Illegally imprisoned and the most favorite pro-independence political leader of Jammu Kashmir has been the worst victim of political vendetta by Mr. Narinder Modi led an extremist and fascist government of India. This was stated by the chief spokesman of JKLF Muhammad Rafiq Dar in a statement issued today from the party's central information office.

According to the statement the spokesman said that a person like Yasin Malik who believes in nonviolent peaceful struggle for the cause of national liberation of his motherland Jammu Kashmir, and who not only supported but promoted dialogue process for its resolution, can in no way be victimized for his political belief. Peaceful political struggle and asking for the right to self-determination of the people of the State of Jammu Kashmir supported overwhelmingly by the masses, can in no way be treated and taken as a crime to be dealt with inhumanely and undemocratically, he explained.

Muhammad Rafiq Dar said that it is worth mentioning here that the incarcerated JKLF Chairman Mr. Muhammad Yasin Malik is a chronic heart patient. After diagnosing a severe Aortic Heart Valve disease, his valve was replaced with a metallic Heart Valve during a surgery in 1992

and his surgeons put him on life-long anticoagulant and advised regular INR test to keep vigil at the functioning of his heart, blood coagulation process etc. He has suffered a facial nerve paralysis in 1990 which is still active, left hydronephrosis in 2016 and for the past 25 years now he is suffering with intermittent Coagulopathy along with recurrent renal stones and renal cortical cyst for which he had to go through five different surgeries during the last twenty years, the spokesman said.

Ailing Chairman JKLF Mr. Muhammad Yasin Malik, despite court orders of relevant petitions filed by his family in the recent past and the numerous verbal assurances, especially the assurance given recently while ending his last protest in jail, just two months ago, has not been provide with proper and necessary



medical treatment based on his renewed medical examinations, the spokesman informed. He said that this deliberate negligence by Tihar jail authorities has put the precious life of the most popular pro-freedom people's political leader in extreme danger.

The Indian rulers, Indian political leadership, the judiciary and the security agen-

cies along with the Indian civil society are well aware of his peaceful political struggle and sacrifices Yasin Malik has gone through in promoting non-violence but petty political and economic interests, and at times their uncalled for bias is stopping them from speaking the truth and providing justice to this epitome of steadfastness, sacrifices, promoter of non-violence and the people's representative, the statement read.

The spokesman while expressing his grave concern over the deteriorating health condition of Yasin Malik in jail said that the deprivation of proper medical care to a towering political prisoner of his stature by government of India is a serious human rights violation that need to be taken a serious note of by the world bodies especially the human rights organization and

the human rights defenders. Rafiq Dar in his statement made an appeal to the world leaders, human rights organizations and saner elements in India to intervene in saving the precious life of Yasin Malik.

JKLF leadership especially Raja Haq Nawaz Khan (Acting Chairman), Hafiz M. Anwar Samavi (Vice Chairman), Saleem Haroon (Vice Chairman), Khawaja Saifuddin (Vice Chairman), Sardar Zahid Hussain (Vice Chairman), Prof. Raja Zafar Khan (Head of Diplomatic Bureau), Sabir Gul (Central Chief Organizer), Khawaja Manzoor A. Chishti (Central Sec. Finance), Javed Hanif (Central Dy. Sec. Gen), Sardar M. Anwar (Central Dy. Chief Organizer), Hafiz Mumtaz Ahmed (Central Dy. Sec. Finance) and Zonal presidents including Sajid Mehmood (AJK-GB), Liaquat

Ali Lone (UK), M. Haleem Khan (USA), Malik Mushtaq Pasha (Europe) and Waseem Iftikhar Durrani (Middle East) has warned government of India of dire consequences if any untoward happens with Yasin Malik, and demanded government of India to accept his just demand of proper and sufficient medical care that as a prisoner he is entitled to.

Rafiq Dar on behalf of the entire party leadership has appealed to the entire Kashmiri nation living across the ceasefire line of the State of Jammu Kashmir and abroad including Yasin Malik's friends and well-wishers spread worldwide to pray for his early release and speedy recovery. The spokesman further said that the party leadership is keeping a close vigil on the situation for future strategy to follow.

**Bull & Bears**  
PSX 100-Share  
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
90,859.85	88,966.76
Day's High	Day's Low
91,133.28	88,852.68
Index Value	Change
18,264,341,311	+1893.09
Percentage	Time
+2.13%	1 Nov, 2024 5:00 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
8,177.15	+67.05
Percentage	Time
+0.83%	1 Nov, 4:35 pm GMT+1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
42,203.19	+439.73
Percentage	Time
+1.05%	1 Nov, 1:24 pm GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
38,053.67	-1,027.58
Percentage	Time
-2.63%	1 Nov, 3:15 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	182.29	184.54
Bahrain Dinar	731.21	739.21
Canadian Dollar	200.60	203.00
China Yuan	38.88	39.28
Danish Krone	39.82	40.22
Euro	299.90	302.65
Hong Kong Dollar	35.36	35.71
Indian Rupee	3.34	3.45
Japanese Yen	1.92	1.98
Kuwaiti Dinar	897.37	906.87
Malaysian Ringgit	63.34	63.94
New Zealand \$	165.23	167.23
Norwegians Krone	24.98	25.28
Omani Riyal	715.71	724.21
Qatari Riyal	75.54	76.24
Saudi Riyal	73.65	74.20
Singapore Dollar	208.64	210.64
Swedish Korona	25.82	26.12
Swiss Franc	320.15	322.95
Thai Bhat	8.18	8.33
U.A.E Dirham	75.35	76.00
UK Pound Sterling	355.55	359.05
US Dollar	277.25	278.75

# Federal Minister for Commerce arrives in Tashkent for crucial bilateral engagements

**Spokesman Report**

TASHKENT: Federal Minister for Commerce, Mr. Jam Kamal Khan, landed in Tashkent on Saturday evening, marking the start of his official three-day visit to Uzbekistan. He was welcomed at Tashkent International Airport by Mr. Gulamov Shohrux Xasanovich, Deputy Minister at the Ministry of Investment, Industry, and Trade, along with Pakistan's Ambassador to Uzbekistan, Mr. Ahmad Farooq.

The visit, which underscores the strengthening bilateral ties between Pakistan and Uzbekistan, will feature the 9th Session of the Pakistan-Uzbekistan Inter-Governmental Commission (IGC) on Trade-Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation, and the 4th Uzbekistan-Pakistan Business Forum. The



session, co-chaired by Mr. Jam Kamal Khan and Uzbekistan's Minister of Investment, Industry, and Trade, Mr. Laziz Kudratov, will convene on November 4, 2024.

Key agenda items include strategic meetings with top Uzbek officials such as Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Jamshed Khujayev and Transport Minister Mr. Ilkhom Makhkamov to discuss pivotal projects in trade, investment, and logistics. The Business Forum will host 33 Pakistani business delegates across various sectors for B2B meetings aimed at fostering new partnerships and enhancing trade.

The minister's visit reflects both nations' dedication to deepening economic and technical collaborations and supporting mutual goals, including Uzbekistan's ongoing WTO accession.

## Signing Ceremony

ISLAMABAD: Secretary Economic Affairs Dr. Kazim Niaz and Director of the German Development Bank (KfW) Easter Gravenkotter signing the second phase of Billion Tree Afforestation Project on Saturday.



Photo: PID

## Danish foreign minister will arrive on Nov12: Qaiser Sheikh



**Commerce Desk**

KARACHI: Minister for Maritime Affairs, Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh, led a performance review meeting at PNSC Building on Saturday to evaluate the progress of key maritime organizations, including the Port Qasim Authority (PQA), Karachi Port Trust (KPT), and Pakistan Marine Academy (PMA).

The meeting highlighted monthly performance metrics, while addressing challenges and identifying areas for improvement. Key topics included strategies to enhance efficiency, productivity, and overall service delivery within the maritime sector. The meeting

concluded with a pledge to implement the recommendations and action plans aimed at fostering growth and development within the maritime sector.

While talking to the media, the Minister for Maritime Affairs, Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh said that the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Denmark will come on November 12, during his visit there will be agreements with Maersk. He further said that there is a need to promote technical education for job vacancies and advancement of the country, for which the present federal government is working. The Economy is improving, coming days will prove better.

## CM Punjab Maryam urges father Nawaz to buy PIA

**Spokesman Report**

NEW YORK: Maryam Nawaz hugs her father Nawaz Sharif after returning to Pakistan on October 21, 2023 that ended his four years in self-imposed exile in London, United Kingdom. Photo via Facebook/PML-N

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz has urged her father and former prime minister Nawaz Sharif to purchase the Pakistan International Airlines after the country attracted a minimal bid for the national flag carrier.

"Maryam said that we should buy PIA and name it 'Air Punjab' after making it the best airline," Nawaz told reporters in New York on Saturday.

This comes a day after the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government expressed its desire to purchase the PIA through a bid exceeding Rs10 billion.

In a letter to the privatisation ministry on Friday, the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Board of Investment stated their interest in participating in the privatisation process of the PIA.

The Privatisation Commission decided



on Thursday to again conduct the bidding process for the PIA after attracting only a Rs10 billion bid for the national flag carrier against the valuation of Rs85 billion from a single bidder, Blue World City Consortium.

Cash-strapped Pakistan is looking to offload a 51-100% stake in debt-ridden PIA to raise funds and reform bleeding state-owned enterprises as envisaged under a \$7 billion International Monetary Fund programme.

Initially, the commission had deemed six bidders eligible, allowing them to participate in the bidding for the loss-making national carrier. But five of such bidders

have opted out of the process.

While speaking to the Pakistani community in New York, PML-N President Nawaz Sharif stated that Maryam Nawaz wishes to buy the national flag carrier.

Nawaz mentioned that he advised Maryam that she could start a new airline that would serve destinations all over the world. "I believe discussions have taken place regarding this matter."

The PML-N president has expressed deep sadness over the decline of PIA, noting that he arrived in the US after changing flights. He mentioned that Maryam is contemplating the PIA's purchase or the establishment of a new airline.

Nawaz accused the PTI of damaging the PIA during its time in power, recalling a statement made by one of their ministers in the assembly, claiming that the "educational qualifications of their pilots were insufficient."

He added: "There are those among us who have ruined PIA. The person who raised concerns about licences is now hiding. Even if the pilots did not have licences, was that an acceptable comment to make?"

## Fresh St Adds 'Consumer Icon Award' To Its Name

**Commerce Desk**

KARACHI: Continuing the tradition, Pakistan's leading frozen foods brand, Fresh ST, was the recipient of the "Consumer Icon Award" in the Frozen Vegetables & Fries category, at a ceremony held in Karachi, organized by the Consumer Association of Pakistan (CAP). The chief guest for the occasion, honorable provincial minister for Industries & Commerce, Jam Ikramullah Khan Dharejo, presented the award and certificate to Ms. Samrah Munsub, Founder Samrah Enterprises, in presence of Mr. Kaukab Iqbal, Chairman Consumer Association of Pakistan, and Mirza Ikhtiar Baig, Member National Assembly and renowned industrialist, among other dignitaries.

Commenting on the occasion, Ms. Samrah Munsub, Founder Samrah Enterprises, stated: "We are honored to receive the Consumer Icon Award at this



recognition highlights our commitment to delivering high-quality, nutritious frozen products and reinforces our dedication to excellence in the frozen food sector."

The Consumer Choice Award, in its 18th year of recognition, is adjudicated by a renowned jury, comprised of leading professionals from all walks of life.

## Ahsan Bakhtawari, highlights need for business to be empowered in current economic situation



**Commerce Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Member of the Central Core Committee of the United Business Group (UBG), the ruling group in the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI), Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, emphasized that, in the current economic situation, the business community's challenges can only be addressed through mutual cooperation and a well-organized strategy. He expressed these views while speaking at a dinner hosted in his honor by former Senior Minister of Azad Kashmir and prominent businessman Raja Muhammad Yaseen here in Islamabad. Present at the event were Zafar Bakhtawari, newly elected ICCI President Nasir Qureshi, Chaudhry Nasir, Asad Aziz, Raja Javed Iqbal, Asim Abbasi, Abdul Rahman Siddiqui, and other

notable attendees.

In his address to the distinguished business community and honored guests at the dinner, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari highlighted UBG (FPCCI)'s vision, stating that the group's core mission is to uplift the business community and effectively present their voice at the government level. He further added that UBG (FPCCI) is actively working on addressing challenges faced by traders and industrialists, particularly in areas like the energy crisis, high-interest rates, and instability in the business environment.

Newly elected ICCI President Nasir Qureshi praised Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari's contributions to the business community, recognizing his presence in UBG (FPCCI) as a positive development for the business sector. Qureshi stated that Bakhtawari has consistently played an exemplary role in bringing the issues of traders and industrialists to the government's attention. Raja Muhammad Yaseen lauded Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari's leadership, persistence, and commitment, noting that his leadership has not only elevated the chamber's reputation but also fostered confidence and solidarity within the business community.

## Kaspersky and Transworld Pakistan join hands to provide parents with cybersecurity solution for child safety



**Commerce Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Kaspersky, a global cybersecurity and digital privacy company, has announced a strategic partnership with Transworld, a leading internet and TV service provider in Pakistan, to offer Kaspersky Safe Kids — a cutting-edge parental control and child safety application. This joint venture aims to deliver enhanced online safety for children while providing parents with peace of mind as they monitor and manage their children's digital activities. The service will be available to Transworld customers through a flexible monthly subscription model, ensuring an affordable price point.

Muneeb Rabbani, IT Director at Transworld Pakistan, commented: "Partnering with a global cybersecurity leader like Kaspersky allows us to offer a robust and user-friendly solution for parents who want to protect their children from the risks of the online world. It is part of our commitment to provide world-class services that enhance the digital experience of the customers."

"We are thrilled to join forces with Transworld Pakistan to bring our top-notch parental control software to their customers, and hope it's a start of fruitful long-term cooperation. We believe Kaspersky Safe Kids will help Pakistani parents make their children's online activities safe and positive," said Rashed Al Momani, General Manager in the Middle East and Pakistan at Kaspersky.

## Waziristan Sports Festival concludes in Wana

Wazir club Wins football final match, takes trophy

Adam Khan Wazir

**SOUTH WAZIRISTAN:** A month-long sports festival organized by FC South Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the Sports Department concluded on Saturday in Wana FC Stadium, Lower South Waziristan district. The festival included various sports competitions such as football, volleyball, tug-of-war, traditional dance, and cricket matches.

The final football match was played between Lower South Waziristan and Upper South Waziristan at Wana FC Scouts ground, Wazir club won the match by four goals, taking the lead against Shaheen Club.

Security officials said, FC South Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provided playing opportunities to local youth, and various sports competitions were held. The festival aimed to promote sports in Lower South Waziristan and Upper South Waziristan, but also provided a platform for young talent to shine.

Commandant South Waziristan Scouts Wana Muhammad Tahir was the chief guest, accompanied by Tehsil Wana Chairman Maulana Muhammad Saleh Wazir and tribal elders along with a large number of youths who participated in the Sports festival.



Tehsil Wana Chairman Maulana Saleh Wazir praised the festival, saying it sends a good message to the world. He emphasized the need for such festivals to continue, showcasing the talent among Waziristan's youth.

Tribal elders and youths thanked FC South Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for organizing the festival, stating that such positive activities bring prosperity and development to the region.

They acknowledged the abundance of talent among Waziristan's youth but lamented the lack of facilities compared to other districts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

A large number of fans attended the sports events, enjoying the finals and praising the organizers.

Players emphasized the importance of sports activities in sending a message to the world about the talent

in Waziristan.

In the final match, Chief Guest Commandant South Waziristan Scouts Force Muhammad Tahir and Tehsil Chairman Wana Maulana Saleh Wazir distributed cash prizes and trophies to the winner and runner teams' players.

The South Waziristan Sports Festival was a resounding success, promoting sports and providing a platform for young talent. The festival's continuation is crucial for the region's development and showcasing Waziristan's potential.

Local community said that every year, the continuation of sports activities like the Waziristan Sports Festival sends a powerful message to the world, the people of Waziristan are peaceful, and their youth are brimming with talent. However, due to the lack of sports facilities, this talent is being suppressed, and the local youth are suffering.

Local further said, this series of events showcases the potential of Waziristan's youth, emphasizing the need for better sports infrastructure to nurture their skills and bring prosperity to the region, by continuing this tradition, Waziristan can proudly declare to the world that its people are peaceful and its youth are talented, deserving of recognition and support.

## Larkana in Action Cricket Tournament concluded



Qayoom Sarohi

**LARKANA:** The "Larkana in Action Cricket Tournament" was organized for two days at the PCB Ground in Larkana by Digital We Creative (DWC) and the Sports and Youth Affairs Department, Government of Sindh, specifically for youth.

Four teams participated in the cricket tournament, and in the final match, there was a tough competition between the teams of Sachal Green and Larkana Borders. The Larkana Borders team emerged victorious, winning the trophy and a cash prize. Trophies and prizes were also distributed among the participating players.

The concluding ceremony's chief guest was the President of the District Cricket Association, Larkana, Barrister Kazim Ali Abbasi. Other notable guests included District Sports Officer, Sports and Youth Affairs Department, Government of Sindh, Mehboob Makani; Advocate Fasihah Noor Soomro; Syed Liaquat Ali Shah; and teacher Asrar Taniao.

Chief guest Kazim Ali Abbasi inaugurated the festival and, while speaking to the media, stated that encouraging players boosts their morale. He also expressed appreciation for (DWC) Team Syed Saqlain Shah (CEO), Samir Khoso (General Secretary), Shah Mansoor (Sports Officer), Syed Hassan Raza (Sports Manager), and the entire DWC team for organizing this event, ensuring that they will fully support them in all future events.

## Zone-VI Whites win in Touchme Trophy U-15 Inter Zonal Cricket Tournament

Darain Faraz declared Medicam Man of Match



Sports Desk

**KARACHI:** Zone-VI Whites defeated Zone-VII Green by 10 Wickets at KCCA Stadium in the Touchme Trophy Under-15 Inter Zonal Cricket Tournament.

The highlights of the days play was deadly bowling by off Spinner Darain Faraz 4/28.

The Tournament is being organized by Regional Cricket Association Karachi with the collaboration of Medicam Group of Companies.

Scores in Brief:  
Zone-VII Green 83 all out in 29.4 overs. Amanullah Sher 21, Aaish Malik 21. Darain Faraz (ob) 4/28, Durrani (rlb) 3/13.

In reply Zone-VI Whites 84/0 in 11.4 overs. Muhammad Naveed 44 5x4, Aaish Malik 34 both not out.

After the end of the Match Mazhar Ali Awan President Zone-VII given Medicam Man of the Match Award to Darain Fraz of Zone-VI Whites.

## Pak Shaheen Club qualifies for 2 Final

Sports Desk

**RAWALPINDI:** Interesting matches in Salem Farani Memorial Football Tournament are continued at the Municipal Stadium. In a qualifying round match on Saturday, Pak Shaheen Club defeated Regal Club with 3-1 goals.

According to the details, in a first pre-quarter final match of the tournament was played, both the teams initially tried to maintain their ball possession at the start of the first half. Pak Shaheen Club showing better game plan took a 2-0 lead. In the second half, both teams scored one goal, thus Pak Shaheen Club won the match by three goals to one and qualified for the quarter finals. Faisal scored two goals for the winning team.

The tournament is being organized by the District Football Association, Rawalpindi.

## Khelta Punjab Games Lahore district Inter-Club Kabaddi tournament starts

Tahir Amin Malik

Khelta Punjab Games Lahore district Inter-Club Kabaddi tournament got under way at Cricket Stadium Ashiana Housing Scheme, Kamahana Road near Ring Road on Saturday.

Ganjan Sandhu kabaddi team defeated Nasheman team by 43-37 margin in the first match of Khelta Punjab Games.

Following are the results of other matches.

Tayyab kabaddi Club bt Ijaz Kabaddi club by 29-24.

Lidher Model High School bt APS Model High school by 15-7

Naeem Sandhu kabaddi Club bt Khalid Bhatti Kabaddi club by 37-27

Govt High school Jaman bt Govt High school Township by 27-18

Raja Bhola High school bt Lidher High school by



28-19  
Haji Shahid club bt Minhala High school by

23-18  
Khalid Ghuman club bt Sher e Punjab club by

19-7  
Karbath club bt Raja Bhola club by 33-23.

## Hasan, Nusratullah star in Islamabad's victory

Sports Desk

**ISLAMABAD:** A maiden first-class century by Hasan Nawaz and a second five-wicket haul in an as many matches by fast bowler Nusratullah handed Islamabad an innings and 107 runs victory over Larkana on the second day of the second round of Quaid-e-Azam Trophy match played at the Diamond Cricket Ground here Saturday.

Hasan Nawaz, starting at the overnight score of 75 in Islamabad's 186 for four while replying to Larkana's 140, was dismissed for 169 that lifted his side to 343. With 203 runs first innings lead in the bag, Nusratullah returned figures of 8-1-33-5 and Shayyan Sheikh bagged three wickets for one run to dismiss Larkana for 96 in 20.5 overs.

This was Islamabad's second successive victory, courtesy a 251-ball knock by



Hasan, whose innings was laced with 21 fours and a six. This was Hasan's eight first-class match, while Nusratullah also had an impressive match after claiming a five-fer on his debut last week. The other eight matches were also heading for exciting finishes.

In Sheikhupura, Mohammad Sarwar Afridi scored an unbeaten 138 and Mohammad Usman scored 100 to help FATA post 448 all-out against Dera Murad Jamali, who were bowled out for 170 on Friday, while Rawalpindi were on top of AJK in Rawalpindi with the latter

still trailing by 201 runs and five wickets remaining. In reply to AJK's 82, Rawalpindi posted 375 that revolved around Umar Amin's 96 and Shadab Khan's 84. In AJK's second innings, Shadab Khan and Mohammad Faizan equally shared four wickets between them to leave the visitors tottering at 92 for five.

Elsewhere, fast bowler Niaz Khan returned figures of 23.5-3-97-6 helped Peshawar secure a slender 22-run first innings lead. While replying to Peshawar's 301, Bahawalpur were bowled out for 279. Peshawar, in their second innings were 57 for two to lead by 79 runs. At Islamabad's Marghar Cricket Ground, Hyderabad's Mohammad Suleman scored 90 to help his side take a 73-run first innings lead against Lahore Whites, who were 162 for five when stumps were drawn on Saturday.

At the National Ground in Islamabad, Abbottabad team was in control against Faisalabad when they scored 405 in their first innings and then limited their opponents to 189 for nine, while Multan were also on top of Karachi Whites in Charsadda after claiming 90 runs first innings lead - thanks to five for 47 by Mohammad Akram Jnr. When play ended, Multan were 62 for two to lead by 152 runs with eight wickets standing.

Sialkot's Abdul Rehman scored 113 and Azam Awais contributed 78 to guide their team to 306 for four in reply to Quetta's 263. In Lahore, Imran Butt of Lahore Blues scored 111 but Karachi's Tabish Khan took four for 66 to restrict the home side's first innings lead to only four runs. At the draw of stumps, the visitors were 30 for one to lead Lahore by 26 runs.

## 'Wouldn't like to be a coach': Lionel Messi says on retirement plans



Legendary footballer Lionel Messi says he does not want to be a coach when he bids adieu to the sport.

In an interview with Fabrizio Romano for 433, Messi said: "I wouldn't like to be a coach, but I'm still not sure what I'd like to do in the future. I value much more than before everything I do on a day-to-day basis, so I just think about playing, training and having fun."

Interestingly, the megastar is also unsure if he will play the FIFA World Cup 2026 or not. "The truth is that I don't know, I've been asked several times, especially in Argentina. I hope to have a good end of the season and then a good pre-season, something I didn't have last season because of all the travelling we did," the Argentine footballer said as quoted by MARCA.

Speaking further, the eight time recipient of the Ballon d'Or shed light on how he want people and fans to remember him saying that he wants them to remember him "as they want".

## Punjab Colleges win intercollegiate Volleyball Championship

Sports Desk

**RAWALPINDI:** The final match of the intercollegiate volleyball championship organized by Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education Rawalpindi was played between Govt College Satellite Town and Punjab College in which Punjab College beat the opposing team and won the final match.

The championship was held at Government College Rahmatabad in which Government College Rahmatabad, Government College Satellite Town, Divisional Public School and College, Punjab College of Information Technology and Punjab College D9 teams participated.



In the first semi-final of the tournament, Punjab College D9 won against Punjab College of Information Technology and reached the final, while in the second semi-final, Government College Satellite Town defeated Divisional Public School & College and qualified for the final.

In the decisive final match, Punjab College D9 Satellite Town defending the title by defeating Government College Satellite Town easily by 0-3.

Areeb Qasim, Uzair Najeed, Saad Rabbani and Sufyan Abbasi showed excellent performances from the winning team.

## Pak cueists win matches in World Snooker C'ship

Sports Desk

**ISLAMABAD:** Pakistani cueists Awais Muneer, Muhammad Naseem Akhtar, Asjad Iqbal and Muhammad Asif earned victories in the IBSF World Snooker Championship 2024 at Doha, Qatar.

According to details, the World Championship kicked off on Saturday with 48 players divided into 12 groups. From each group two players will qualify for knockout round.

On Day 1, Awais beat Kritsanut Lertsattayathorn (Thailand) 4-2 (6-103(52), 100(68)-00, 77(83-12, 97-00, 36-77(76), 82(76)-27); Naseem downed Mhanaa Alobaidli (Qatar) 4-0 (73-06, 94(52)-30, 65(54)-06, 74-14);



Asjad outplayed Darryl Hill (Isle of Man) 4-1 (87-15, 100(84)-01, 79-00, 42-59, 114(66)-19, 01-56, 77(52)-41, 72(63)-16).

Kamal Chawla (India) 4-1 135(100)-00, 114(66)-19, 01-56, 77(52)-41, 72(63)-16).

## Posting

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi in a meeting with Police Officers from 49th Common who have been recently posted in Frontier Constabulary on Saturday.



Photo: PID

## Mohsin Naqvi meets newly appointed Frontier Constabulary Officers

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Saturday met with the 49th Common Police Officers appointed to the Frontier Constabulary, extending his best wishes as they embarked on their new assignments within the force.

Minister Naqvi highlighted the essential role that the Frontier Constabulary played in maintaining peace and security across Pakistan, especially in the ongoing battle against terrorism.

In his address, Naqvi praised the dedication of the Frontier Constabulary, stating, "The role of the Frontier Constabulary in ensuring peace and security is of utmost importance."

He commended the force for its collaboration with other law enforcement agencies in combating terrorism, noting, "In the fight against terrorism, the Frontier Constabulary is battling alongside other law enforcement agencies."

Referring to the recent sacrifice of ten FC soldiers in DI Khan, Naqvi honored their courage and commitment to the nation, saying, "Ten brave FC soldiers sacrificed their lives for the nation, setting a high standard of dedication."

He expressed that such sacrifices further strengthen Pakistan's resolve in the fight against terrorism.

"The martyrs of FC are our valuable asset, and the nation holds their unparalleled sacrifices in high esteem," Naqvi

stated.

Naqvi also highlighted advancements in the Frontier Constabulary, sharing that the force was being equipped with modern technology and tools to enhance its capabilities.

Addressing the young officers, he emphasized the significance of integrity and ethical standards in law enforcement, urging them to fulfill their duties with the highest standards of discipline.

Federal Secretary of Interior Khurram Ali Agha and Frontier Constabulary Commandant Riaz Nazir Ghara were also in attendance, underscoring the government's support for the Frontier Constabulary's critical mission in maintaining national security.

## Speaker writes letter to SJC, with Parliament names for Commission

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Speaker Ayaz Sadiq has written letter about the Parliament's nominees for constitution of the judicial commission.

The National Assembly's Speaker in his letter to the Supreme Judicial Commission has nominated the Leader of Opposition Omar Ayub and PML-N's Shaikh Aftab from the NA, while Farooq Naik and Shibli Faraz from the Senate for the commission that will appoint the judges.

The Speaker has nominated former



senator Roshan Khurshid Barrucha on the women's seat.

"All nominations have been forwarded to the Secretary Judicial Commission," a spokesperson of the National Assembly said.

"Five members of the Parliament have been added to the judicial commission after passage of the 26th Amendment," spokesman said. "An equal representation has been given to the government and the opposition in the names from the parliament to the commission."

"The nominations have been received to the Supreme Court."

"The Speaker has forwarded the names after consultations with the Senate Chairman Yousaf Raza Gillani and all parliamentary parties," NA spokesman added.

## Hindu community celebrated 'Dewali'

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Like other parts of the world the country Hindu and Sikh Community celebrated "Dewali" here on Saturday.

Despite its deep religious significance, Diwali today is also a cultural festival observed by people regardless of faith.

According to information, Hindus, Sikhs, Jains and Buddhists around the world are celebrating Diwali, the festival of lights.

Diwali, also called Deepavali, is one of the biggest festivals in India. It's also widely celebrated in Nepal, Malaysia, Fiji and other countries with large South Asian diasporas. Homes, businesses and public spaces are lit up with diyas, or oil lamps made from clay, and fireworks displays abound. People gather with their families, eat sweets and exchange gifts.

The festival gets its name from the row (avali) of clay lamps (deepa) that Indians



light outside their homes to symbolize the inner light that protects from spiritual darkness. This festival is as important to Hindus as the Christmas holiday is to Christians.

Over the centuries, Diwali has become a national festival that's also enjoyed by

non-Hindu communities. For instance, in Jainism, Diwali marks the nirvana, or spiritual awakening, of Lord Mahavira on October 15, 527 B.C.; in Sikhism, it honors the day that Guru Hargobind Ji, the Sixth Sikh Guru, was freed from imprisonment. Buddhists in India celebrate Diwali as well.

## 34 Afghan nationals traveling on fake Pakistani passports arrested

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has arrested 34 Afghan nationals attempting to travel abroad using fake Pakistani passports.

As per details, the suspects had allegedly entered Pakistan illegally through the Chaman border and were caught in Peshawar.

Additional director of FIA said Rizwan Shah said that the FIA raided a hostel in Peshawar, arresting two foreign nationals, which led to the discovery of 32 more Afghan nationals residing there.

He said that the investigation revealed that the suspects had obtained fake Pakistani identity cards and passports through agents.

Earlier, the Federal Investigation Agency arrested three more accused allegedly involved in the issuance of fake Pakistani passports to Afghan citizens.

According to the details, FIA's anti-corruption wing nabbed three agents from Attock on the identification of the already arrested accused named Dost Mohammad.

The FIA said that the arrested accused persons were operating as 'agents' and preparing fake documentation for the issuance of passports in connivance with officials of the National Database Regulatory Authority (NADRA).

## Acting President urges global community to hold Israel accountable for its crimes against journalists



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Acting President Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani on Saturday urged the international community to hold Israel accountable for its crimes against journalists.

Highlighting the recent bombings in Gaza, where a significant number of journalists lost their lives due to Israeli attacks, the acting president

said according to the United Nations, over 130 journalists had been killed in Gaza to date.

In his message in connection with the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists, he said that freedom of the press was not possible without ensuring safety of the journalists.

He said the journalists work in challenging conditions especially while reporting in conflict zones and during wars.

The acting president said that in such dangerous environments, journalists faced various risks, including censorship, violence, threats, abduction, and even murder.

In Pakistan, steps have been taken to ensure the safety of journalists and media workers, Yousaf Raza Gilani said adding that the constitution of Pakistan gives the right of access to information, freedom of expression and freedom of the press.

## Federal Minister Presided Meeting of Focal Group



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: A high level meeting of the Focal Group formed by the Prime Minister for the progress of Industrial Zones held here headed by Federal Minister for Board of Investment, Privatization & Communications Abdul Aleem Khan. This group reviewed the development on Free Economic Zones across the country and the problems being faced there while different proposals came under discussion to resolve the issues.

Federal Secretaries for Energy, Industry and Investment and other senior officers also participated in the meeting of the Focal Group and briefed the Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan regarding update on industrial zones. He said that including to declare the Karachi Industrial Park as a model we have to finalize many steps including to handover one Special Economic Zone to China on trial basis as desired by the Prime Minister. Federal Minister for Board of Investment

Abdul Aleem Khan said that Industrial Zones was wonderful option to promote industries in the country which should have been fully benefited but unfortunately for the last several years industrial zones across the country have been neglected badly and these centers are suffering from various difficulties and problems to deal with which measures have to be taken on an emergency basis.

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### رکشہ ڈرائیورز متوجہ ہوں

لرنر پرمٹ اور کمرشل ٹیسٹ کی سہولت

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