

# Independent

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## Youm-e-Takbeer, a day of nation's remarkable journey towards credible minimum deterrence: PM

Armed forces pay rich tribute to brilliant scientists, engineers on Youm-e-Takbeer: ISPR

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday said that Youm-e-Takbeer was not just a day but a story of the nation's challenging and remarkable journey towards establishing credible minimum deterrence.

The prime minister on his Twitter handle said that on that day, Pakistan set a redline for its defence and laid down rules of the game for peace and stability in the region.

"On the Silver Jubilee of Youm-e-Takbeer, I pay rich tributes to the political & military leadership, scientists, engineers and all those who remained

associated with our nuclear programme," he said in a tweet as the nation celebrates the 25th anniversary of Youm-e-Takbeer on Sunday.

The prime minister further said that their hard work, commitment and determination made it possible for the people to guard their independence from any physical threat.

"The day represents how the consensus between all elements of national power achieved what once looked like an uphill task," he posted in a tweet.

The prime minister said Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was a visionary

leader who initiated the nuclear programme, adding in a show of bold leadership, his leader Mian Nawaz Sharif firmly rejected the policy of stick and carrot and made sure that the country became nuclear.

"All along, our armed forces remained a guardian & protector of the programme in the face of malign intentions of our enemies," he said.

RAWALPINDI (APP): The armed forces on Sunday paid rich tribute to the brilliant minds who conceived and achieved credible minimum nuclear deterrence accomplishment under daunting challenges.



KARACHI: Members of Pak Bangali Community are holding rally in support of Pakistan Armed Forces, at Karachi press club.

## Imran reveals Sanaullah's 'plot to cover up horror stories'

"Women have never been so mistreated and harassed by the state as they have been by this fascist govt," PTI chief says

LAHORE (INP): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan has lambasted Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah for trying to terrorise the nation by revealing a sham plot against women to "cover up horror stories about to break in the media."

In his tweet on Sunday, the former prime minister uploaded a clip from the press conference of Sanaullah in which he talked about intercepting a phone call. The conversation was about an alleged plot to stage rape and blame law enforcement officials for the heinous crime to get global backing for human rights violation. Imran wrote in his tweet that "if

there were no doubts about women being mistreated in jails, this press conference from this certified criminal should remove all such doubts.

"He is so obviously trying to cover up and preempt the horror stories about to break in the media. Women have never been so mistreated and harassed by the state as they have been by this fascist govt when they were exercising their right to protest peacefully," it may be recalled that the law enforcement agencies' personnel's gross misbehavior with the women of PTI leaders has been reported by the media.

## Marrivum says: Youm-e-Takbeer declaration of Pakistan's invincible defence

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Information and Broadcasting Aurangzeb said on Sunday that Youm-e-Takbeer was the declaration that Pakistan's defence was invincible.

Thanking Almighty Allah, the minister congratulated all Pakistanis at home and abroad and thanked all friends and benefactors, she said in a tweet.

"This day is the day of no compromise on the patriotism, bravery, insight and national interest by (PML-N) Quaid Nawaz Sharif," she maintained.

The minister saluted the entire team including the scientists who sacrificed for the country and made the defence invincible for future generations 25 years ago.

## Bilawal greets nation on silver jubilee of country's nuclear tests

KARACHI (APP): Chairman Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has extended greetings to the nation on the silver jubilee of the country's nuclear tests and saluted all the people, including scientists, who played their role in making Pakistan the first nuclear nation in the Islamic world.

According to the statement issued by media cell Bilawal House, Chairman PPP said that the nuclear programme of the country is indeed a great gift of the Qauid-e-Awam Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto to the nation.

He said that the first elected Prime Minister of the country, Shaheed Bhutto, had said that if we have to eat grass, we will do so, but we will make Pakistan a nuclear power at any cost. "Making Pakistan a nuclear power was the mission of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto," he added.

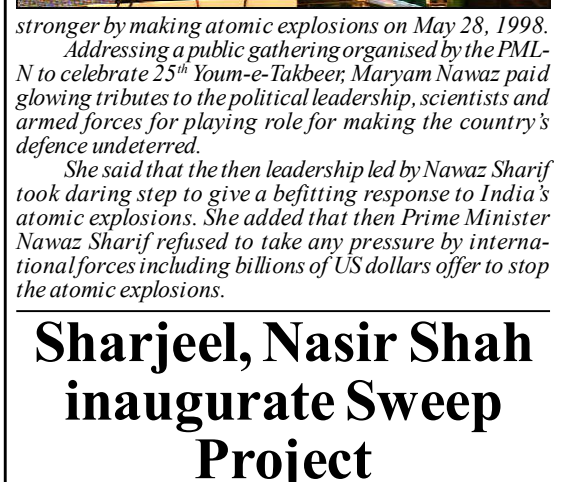
Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said that Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto shielded and advanced the country's nuclear programme as Prime Minister. He pointed out that in 1998, when India carried out nuclear tests, then Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto stood firm as the leader of the opposition and demanded that the government should also immediately carry out nuclear tests, adding that even though Shaheed Bibi was in the opposition, she fully supported the Mian Nawaz Sharif government on this issue.

## Nawaz's decision of atomic explosion made country's defence stronger: Maryam

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) Chief Organiser Maryam Nawaz on Sunday said that the unwavering commitment and dedication of Nawaz Sharif towards the nation made the country's defence more stronger by making atomic explosions on May 28, 1998.

Addressing a public gathering organised by the PML-N to celebrate 25th Youm-e-Takbeer, Maryam Nawaz paid glowing tributes to the political leadership, scientists and armed forces for playing role for making the country's defence undeterred.

She said that the then leadership led by Nawaz Sharif took daring step to give a befitting response to India's atomic explosions. She added that then Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif refused to take any pressure by international forces including billions of US dollars offer to stop the atomic explosions.



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## Sharjeel, Nasir Shah inaugurate Sweep Project

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Ministers Syed Nasir Hussain Shah and Sharjeel Inam Memon on Sunday inaugurated a web series regarding Sindh Solid Waste Management Board Vice Zee K Films Director Zeeshan Khan, actor Ahsan Khan, actress Kanza Hashmi and other dignitaries were present in the ceremony.

A large number of dignitaries and media representatives attended the event.

KARACHI: Minister Information Sindh Sharjeel Inam Memon addressing during a press conference.

## Youm-e-Takbeer observed across country today

ISLAMABAD (Online): The nation is fervently celebrating 25th anniversary of Pakistan's nuclear tests conducted on May 28, 1998 which was a historic day that led to achievement of invincible defence capabilities and ensured regional stability through power equilibrium.

The day brought a revival for the entire Pakistani nation and became a moment of pride for the Muslim Ummah.

The day, now remembered as Youm-e-Takbeer is being celebrated every year across the country as a day of national pride and thanksgivings which made Pakistan the seventh nuclear nation of the world and the first Muslim state, having the nuclear arsenal in its defence stockpile to exercise maximum deterrence for peaceful purposes.

The tests not only demonstrated the resolve of the Pakistani nation to safeguard Pakistan's territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty, but also the desire to preserve strategic balance in South Asia.

The historic statement of former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto that they would starve but transform the country into a nuclear power, led to achievement of this milestone.

On that day, the Pakistani leadership, notwithstanding external pressures and Indian hegemonic designs to tilt power balance through its nuclear tests, opted courageously in 1998 to respond, and restored the power balance in South Asia by conducting nuclear tests.



KARACHI: Governor Sindh, Kamran Tessori talking to media persons during the Textile Expo (TEXPO) 2023 held at Expo Centre in Karachi.

## Intelligence agencies unearth PTI's plan to malign govt, LAEs: Rana Sanaullah

FAISALABAD (APP): Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah on Saturday said the intelligence agencies had intercepted a telephonic conversation about a staged police attack on one of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)'s leaders, killing its occupants, and then blaming law enforcement agencies for the act.

Addressing a hurriedly called press conference here late night, the minister said the second plan revealed in the intercepted audio involved staging incidents of firing and disgracing women with the intention of portraying it as the work of intelligence and law enforcement agencies and also highlighting it as a human right

## CS Sindh grieves over death of Dr. Semi Jamali

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Secretary (CS) Dr. Mohammed Sohail Rajput has expressed his grief and sorrow over the death of former executive director of JPMC Dr Semi Jamali.

He also condoled with the bereaved family members.

He said that Dr Semi Jamali's services to the field of health would be remembered. He prayed for a higher place of the departed soul in Jannah.

## 6-magnitude earthquake rocks parts of country

ISLAMABAD (Online): A strong earthquake of 6.0 magnitude jolted parts of Pakistan, confirmed the National Seismic Monitoring Centre (NSMC) on Sunday, with no loss of life so far. The tremors were felt across Rawalpindi, Islamabad, Attock and parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Kashmir, prompting people to rush out of their homes and high-rise buildings in panic.

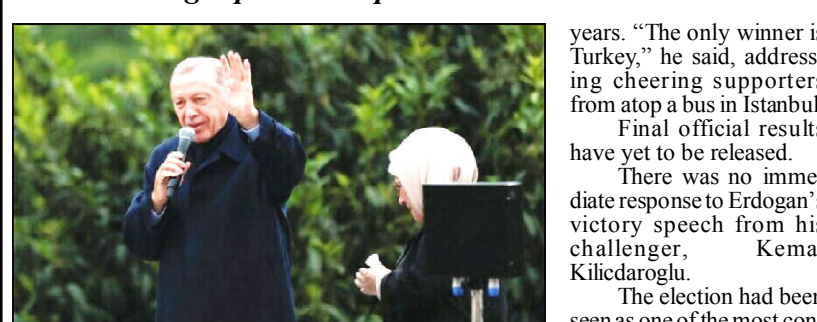
The seismic waves spread to Punjab's Lahore, Jhelum and Chakwal as well. As per the US Geological Survey, the quake's magnitude was 5.2. However, NSMC confirmed it was 6.0. Details reveal that earthquake occurred at 10:50am and the epicentre of the earthquake was located in the border region between Afghanistan and Tajikistan. Meanwhile, the depth of the quake was 223km deep, which is why it was felt in several countries including Pakistan, China, Afghanistan and India.



FAISALABAD: Federal Interior Minister Rana Sana Ullah Khan is leading a public rally taken out from his public secretariat on the eve of Youm-e-Takbeer.

## Erdogan claims victory in Turkey's presidential election

Final official results have yet to be released; PM Shehbaz congratulates Erdogan, looks keenly forward to deepening strategic partnership between both countries.



Monitoring Desk ISTANBUL: President Tayyip Erdogan claimed victory in Turkey's presidential election on Sunday, a win that would steer his increasingly authoritarian rule into a third decade.

Addressing supporters, Erdogan said voters had given him the responsibility to rule for the next five years. "The only winner is Turkey," he said, addressing cheering supporters from atop a bus in Istanbul.

Final official results have yet to be released.

There was no immediate response to Erdogan's victory speech from his challenger, Kemal Kilicdaroglu.

The election had been seen as one of the most consequential yet for Turkey, with the opposition believing it had a strong chance of unseating Erdogan after his popularity was hit by a cost-of-living crisis.

## Khawaja Asif says Nawaz Sharif made country's defence invincible by achieving nuclear deterrence

SIALKOT (APP): Minister for Defence, Khawaja Muhammad Asif on Sunday said 25 years ago on May 28th, Pakistan became a nuclear power and our leader, former Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, made the country's defence invincible by detonating nuclear weapons.

"Our defence has become very strong due to achieving nuclear deterrence," he expressed while addressing the ninth convocation of a private college in Sialkot as the chief guest.

Khawaja Asif said that it was a matter of pride that the daughters of our nation were going ahead to start their working life after completing their educational degrees. "I heartily congratulate all these daughters and their parents for their success. I do and pray that May Allah bless them with many successes in the future," the Minister said.

He said that it should not be the goal to get only BA, MA degree, adding, "but I advise all students to get a purposeful education because only getting a purposeful education can help us to move forward. We can deal with the challenges we are facing." The minister said that in the present era, getting purposeful education including IT was very important because development was not possible without it.

## Pakistan Navy seizes drugs worth \$65.1m in joint operation with ANF

KARACHI (INP): Pakistan Navy (PN) and Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) seized a huge quantity of narcotics in Counter Narcotics Operation.

Pakistan Navy troops and ANF personnel in a joint Intelligence Based Counter Narcotics Operation in the North Arabian Sea seized approximately 4,020 Kgs of narcotics (Hashish) worth approximately US\$ 65.148 Million in the international market, a Pakistan Navy news release said.

The successful counter-narcotics operation by Pakistan Navy reaffirms Pakistan Navy's resolve to deny illegal activities at sea as well as along the coast.



SIALKOT: Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif addressing the 9th Convocation of Shadab Girls College.



## Daily Voice of Masses Independent

### Celebrating silver jubilee of Youm-e-Takbeer

It is great to see the whole nation observing Youm-e-Takbeer with national zeal and fervour to commemorate the historic nuclear tests at Chagai, Balochistan, the same day of May 28, in 1998. On this day, Pakistan became the seventh nuclear power of the world with a demonstration of nuclear capabilities and the first in the Muslim world after conducting nuclear tests at Chagai in Balochistan on 28<sup>th</sup> May 1998 as a response to India's nuclear bomb tests on 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> May of the same year at Pokhran in the Rajasthan state of India.

Undoubtedly, the successful tests made Pakistan's defense invincible. Different programmes and ceremonies were arranged to mark the celebrations of the historic day. Special prayers were offered in the morning for the progress and prosperity of Pakistan, the supremacy of the constitution, and the eradication of terrorism.

In his message on Youm-e-Takbeer, the Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif said the nation would have to move ahead with the same spirit to attain economic sovereignty and self-dependence.

He expressed the determination that with unity, hard work and staunch faith, we would turn Pakistan into an economic power.

The Prime Minister said twenty-five years ago today, the people of Pakistan announced the invincibility of their defence by detonating five nuclear explosions in response to India's nuclear explosions.

Moreover, the armed Forces of Pakistan have paid a rich tribute to the brilliant minds that conceived and achieved this accomplishment under daunting challenges.

In a statement, the Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) said entire Pakistani nation celebrates the Silver Jubilee of Youm-e-Takbir today and commemorates the remarkable achievement of establishing Credible Minimum Deterrence.

The program was started though with limited resources but insurmountable will and passion to ensure that the country becomes a sovereign and strong state unable to be bullied by the hostile powers.

Dreams of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto as well as the nation came true in 1998 when the then Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif stood firm against all threats to include Pakistan in the nuclear club by detonating device at Chagai. It was the will and determination of our nation and the leadership that removed all hurdles on way to achieving this milestone.

President Ziaul Haq was also less to none in taking forward the nuclear program initiated by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and despite all reservations, the nation cannot ignore his contribution.

The nation is also indebted to Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the founder of Pakistan's nuclear programme and also pays rich tributes to Benazir Bhutto Shaheed who, as an opposition leader backed prime minister Nawaz Sharif's decision of nuclear tests in 1998. The armed forces of the country had rendered valuable services for the country's nuclear programme which had been a golden chapter in its history. Credit of the indigenous nuclear programme also goes to Dr Abdul Qadir Khan, (Mohsin e Pakistan), all scientists, engineers and other individuals who contributed to Pakistan's atomic programme. The mountains of Chagai still echoed with the same resolve, and Balochistan province still bore distinction with regard to defence of the country.



Muna Khan

I don't know how old I was, or where I was, when I read Are You There God? It's Me Margaret by Judy Blume but I do remember feeling understood. The novel's protagonist, Margaret, moves to a new town and is keen to fit in; she joins a 'secret club' where the 12-year-old girls talk about things like crushes, their developing bodies and getting their first periods. But there's also pressure for Margaret, an interfaith child, to choose which parent's religion to follow. She's too nervous to admit to her friends she talks to God about her fears and concerns, and her crushes. "Are you there, God? It's me, Margaret. I just did an exercise to help me grow. Have you thought about it, God? About my growing, I mean," she asks.

While I did not speak to God, like many kids who grew up reading Blume, I could relate to Margaret, even though she was a white girl in suburban US. Margaret was grappling with a host of issues that adolescence brings — feelings of inadequacy, not feeling seen or heard, not knowing who to talk about puberty.

I was reminded of all these forgotten feelings in the documentary Forever Judy Blume available to stream in Pakistan. The beloved author, now 85, has written 29 books and sold 90 million copies in 39 languages. Her work is finding a resurgence of sorts as a few of her books are being adapted to the big and small screen.

## Forever young

Blume is "one of the most frequently challenged authors of the 21<sup>st</sup> century", writes The Guardian; her books have been targeted for removal since the 1980s, including earlier in March in a Florida school. And it's easy to understand why because she talks about puberty and sex to the very people who had no one to turn to. This made conservatives and parents (not always the same) very uncomfortable. While it is normal for teens to be curious about sexuality, conservatives see it as the source of all evil and doom, irrespective of one's nationality or religion. But Blume understood what young folks were going through and tried to help them through this awkward phase with stories wherein they saw themselves — and felt normal.

The power of any storytelling is its endurance. I don't know how long a copy of Forever had been passed around in a paper bag at my school before I got it. It was like a rite of passage — in this case a story about first love and a first relationship. It helped youngsters find their place in the world. Blume says she wrote the book for her daughter who asked why she couldn't read stories about young intimate relationships where no one dies. Compare this to romances in Pakistan where someone has to be beaten up or killed for honour or slut shamed.

Blume knew growing up was a serious matter but didn't talk down to her readers. It is no wonder to learn that she became an unofficial agony aunt and confidante of sorts for the thousands of children who wrote to her and she often wrote back to some of them. At one point, Blume was getting 2,000 letters a month. She

has kept them in her garage and reads through many in the documentary. It is the most poignant part of Judy Blume Forever because you see just how comfortable kids were to tell her their secrets, feelings of confusion, isolation and other serious problems they faced. Blume responded to many in a non-judgmental, caring manner.

All parents can learn from Blume's advocacy for children; to see things from their perspective, to let them read books they want without fear of them turning away; to let them grow into their weird wonderful selves. And especially talk to them about adolescence and puberty in an honest manner that ensures they grow up to have healthy relationships.

My experience, based on conversations with university students, is that such topics are deemed too taboo to discuss openly, or worse, cloaked in shame. This leads to increased frustration, feelings of isolation, and a terrible understanding of intimacy. According to a 2014 study in the Journal of Early Adolescence, many teens watch porn out of curiosity and a lack of understanding about sexuality. There's plenty of research to show how watching porn can be disruptive to 'normal' activities like sports, even socialising, and worse, it can desensitize boys, who may seek more aggressive pornographic images.

Wouldn't it be better to take the reins and hold healthy conversations about puberty with your older kids so they feel less alone and less insecure about fitting in? The Blume documentary offers some insight into how those conversations can be held in her usual candour style of storytelling. -- Courtesy Dawn

## Economic architecture



Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry

The US is having second thoughts about the Washington Consensus it had evolved in the 1990s. At that time, the Cold War with the Soviet Union had just ended, and the world had moved into the phase of globalisation and interdependence. It seemed then that the Western governance model of liberal democracy and market economies had prevailed. The Washington Consensus proposed a policy prescription of 'deregulation, privatisation, and free trade' as a recipe for the economic modernisation of a globalised order. Nearly three decades later, the US is questioning the assumptions underlying the Washington Consensus. Speaking at the Brookings Institution last month, US National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan explained how no assumption had delivered the desired results for the US, and had, instead, benefited China. Sullivan argued that the first assumption: 'markets know best' undermined the US industrial base as manufacturing and supply chains of strategic goods moved overseas to China along with jobs.

The second assumption, 'all growth was good growth', distracted the US from critical areas of economy such as infrastructure and semiconductors. The third assumption, 'economic integration would make nations more responsible', had also not worked well because China, according to Sullivan, was using its economic wealth to nurture its military ambitions.

The US now wants to replace the Washington

Consensus with a new international economic architecture, some features of which were identified by Sullivan: the US would rebuild its industrial base, especially for semiconductors and green technologies; work with 'like-minded' partners to build a cutting-edge technological industrial base; remodel trade policies to develop diversified supply chains (to reduce reliance on China-centred supply chains); and transition towards clean energy and a digital economy. It also wants to create an alternative to China's Belt and Road Initiative by mobilising investments in emerging economies. Clearly, alongside the Indo-Pacific Strategy to contain China, the US wants to re-establish its primacy in global trade and finance.

And yet, indications are that the US is not seeking to 'decouple' its economy from that of China, but only 'de-risking' it to the extent that its national security does not face challenges from China's dominance of the world economy. Speaking at the Johns Hopkins University last month, US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen confirmed that US President Joe Biden believes that China and the US can manage their economic ties "responsibly".

China is disturbed about America's protectionist measures against Chinese firms and its attempts to replace the prevailing international economic order with its hegemonic rules. However, Beijing's reaction has been moderate as it wants to continue its peaceful rise to achieve the centenary goal of making China a fully developed society by 2049. At the G20 Bali summit last November, Chinese President Xi Jinping called for "a more inclusive, universally beneficial and resilient global development". This message has resonated. Indonesia's president

cautioned that "we must not let the world fall into another Cold War". The French president expressed the hope of working with China in the "spirit of mutual respect, equality and reciprocity". The IMF managing director counselled against allowing protectionism "to take root" and the "world to drift into separate blocs".

The critical difference in the economic diplomacy of the US and China is that while the US wants to work with "like-minded" countries to protect critical technologies and supply chains, China wants an inclusive world economic order. Its Global Development Initiative engages over 100 countries and international organisations to provide funding for projects in the developing world. It has also launched a Global Security Initiative to champion the principle of peaceful settlement of disputes.

One silver lining of the two exclusive thoughts on what the new global economic architecture should look like is that Biden and Xi have agreed to maintain bilateral communication. Their high-level officials met in January 2023 to exchange views on the macroeconomic situation, supply chains and the climate. Despite tensions over the downing of a Chinese high-altitude balloon by the US in February 2023, both sides wish to stay connected. It would be important for the minds of Pakistan's economy to closely watch the evolving global economic architecture. A welcome development is that neither the US nor China are ready to decouple their economies given their enormous economic interdependence. Pakistan has important economic linkages with both states. It makes perfect sense for it to maintain strong ties, pivoted on its economic interests, with both superpowers. - Courtesy Dawn

## Commerce News

### "E-commerce drives Pakistan's furniture industry growth: CEO

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief Executive Officer of Pakistan Furniture Council, Mian Kashif Ashfaq on Sunday said that the e-commerce sector in Pakistan continues to grow at an unprecedented rate, with furniture manufacturers and retailers experiencing a significant boost in sales. Speaking to a delegation of Furniture Manufacturers led by Nabeel Arain he said through online marketplaces and home decor websites, manufacturers have been able to expand their reach and tap into new markets,

leading to a surge in demand for Pakistani furniture, said a press release.

Kashif said the furniture industry in Pakistan has been experiencing steady growth over the past few years with a large population, increasing urbanization, and a growing middle class, which are all positive symptoms for the furniture market.

He said additionally the rise in disposable income and changing lifestyles have contributed to the increased demand for modern and stylish furniture.

Real estate and construction activities in Pakistan have also fueled the demand for furniture adding that as more housing projects, commercial buildings, and offices are being developed, the need for furnishing and interior design services has risen.

This presents opportunities for furniture manufacturers, retailers, and interior design companies, he said.

Kashif Ashfaq said, however, there are also some challenges faced by the furniture industry in Pakistan which include a lack of skilled labor.

### Anjum Nisar stresses for exploring untapped trade potential in SAARC region

LAHORE (INP): Chairman FPCCI's Businessmen Panel (BMP) Mian Anjum Nisar has said the intra-trade among SAARC countries continues to remain in the low range of just 5% of the total trade of the region while this trade in NAFTA region is over 40%, 68% in EU and 27% in ASEAN, laying emphasis on exploring the vast untapped trade potential in SAARC region.

SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI), he said that South Asia with its diversified resources and skilled workforce has tremendous potential to be the fastest-growing exporting region to the globe.

Anjum Nisar said that other regional associations like EU, ASEAN, NAFTA are doing very well and they are getting regional benefits but it's still unfortunate for us, that we couldn't utilise SAARC till now.



KARACHI: Youngsters gather surround the goats at Peoples Churangi as such scene will be seen common for the upcoming Eid-ul-Adha in Provincial Capital.

### Chairman SECP calls on Finance Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) Akif Saeed Sunday called on the Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar.

Chairman SECP and Mohammad Ishaq Dar discussed the arrangements of the first international conference on the Islamic Capital Market to be held in Islamabad from tomorrow, said a press release.

### WCCI Sargodha holds event

SARGODHA (APP): The Women Chamber of Commerce and Industries Sargodha on Sunday organized an event regarding women empowerment.

The purpose of the event was to highlight problems and issues faced by the women and the role of the woman chamber to resolve their issues.

In this regard, the women chamber was imparting skills to women for running their businesses and enable them to earn themselves and their families.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman SECP Mr. Akif Saeed called on Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar at Finance Division.

### Direct flights between Karachi, Kuala Lumpur soon, says Malaysian HC

PESHAWAR (APP): Malaysian High Commissioner (HC) to Pakistan Mohammad Azhar Mazlan has said that the direct flight between Kuala Lumpur and Karachi would be started soon to strengthen the economic and people to people contacts between Pakistan and Malaysia.

Mohammad Azhar Mazlan said this during the meeting with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Minister for Industries,

Commerce and Technical Education, Mr Adnan Jalil here in the HC of Malaysia at Islamabad, the other day, said a press release issued here on Sunday.

He said, "After the restoration of direct air flight connectivity will make economic, trade and social integration between both countries stronger and more sustainable. Similarly, bilateral cooperation and development in the field of tourism between both friendly countries will also increase."

The ambassador said, "Direct flights are currently operating between Lahore and Malaysia and in the near future, direct flights will be extended to other countries." "Various sectors including direct flights between Malaysia and Pakistan were affected due to Covid-19, which will be restored once again." The Malaysian envoy said, "The current development of Malaysia is due to the long and medium economic plan.

### Oil imports from Russia; a ray of hope for cheaper fuel

ISLAMABAD (APP): Fluctuating global oil prices, devaluation of the currency, taxation on oil imports and very low local oil exploration put a heavy strain on the fragile economy of a country like Pakistan which heavily relies on oil import for power generation industrial production and transportation.

The soaring prices of petroleum products have a trickle-down effect on each and every segment of society from a daily wage to a farmer, and from a government servant to a businessman.

When petroleum prices are increased, the cost of transportation rises, taking the rates of daily-use items to a new height, thus affecting

the buying power of consumers which has already gone down a lot in recent years.

Similarly, the majority being run on oil, the power plants generate high-cost electricity which ultimately put a burden not only on consumers but also affects industrial production costs bringing a new wave of inflation.

Recognizing the magnitude of this challenge, the incumbent government took some measures to alleviate the impact such as providing subsidies to public transportation and food producers. However, it was clear that these measures alone were insufficient to fully mitigate the effects of the price hike. Then, in a

game-changing move, the government struck a deal with one of the biggest oil exporters, Russia, not only to alleviate people's suffering but also to stimulate national economic growth and expansion. The deal aims at ensuring a continuous supply of crude oil from Russia at discounted rates.

"The first shipment of discounted oil from Russia is on its way and is expected to dock at the Karachi Port sometime in May," this encouraging news was shared by State Minister for Petroleum Dr Musadik Malik, during a press conference here on May 18. In April, he informed the media that Pakistan had placed its initial order for discounted Russian oil as part

### Textile sector's revival to boost export oriented activities in country

FAISALABAD (APP): Amidst ongoing economic recession and population hovering around 230 million, the country direly needs to promote revenue-earning sectors like agriculture and textile industry.

As Pakistan was in urgent need of foreign exchange to stabilize its economy, textile promotion and subsequently enhancing exports of agriculture and textile item can help a lot in employment generation as well as socio-economic uplift of the people.

Once known as the backbone of the national economy, the textile sector of Pakistan in recent

decades declined due to multiple reasons including global and domestic inflation, rise in cost coupled with the inability of industrialists to upgrade their units and produce innovative products.

There was a time when Pakistan was the second most dependent country on textile with respect to exports after Bangladesh due to high global demand and availability of raw material in abundance but these exports witnessed a prominent decline in recent years. The share of textile exports also declined to 45 percent of the total exports of the country from 65 percent.



LAHORE: Peoples busy in purchasing vegetables from Wahdat road model Bazar.

of a signed deal with Moscow.

The announcement of the agreement provided a ray of hope for the masses, who had been grappling with inflation and increased oil prices since the ouster of Nawaz Sharif from the government in July 2017.

The development also started off debates with some arguing that importing crude oil from Russia would not benefit Pakistan due to the lack of refineries here, but they were unaware that the petroleum ministry and the Prime Minister (PM) office had already addressed this issue.

On April 29, after confirming Pakistan's first order of discounted Russian crude oil on April 20, Dr

Musadik revealed that PM Shehbaz Sharif had approved the construction of an oil refinery worth \$10 to \$14 billion.

Faheem Khawaja, an Economics professor, believed that the current government's efforts to obtain Russian oil would play a significant role in putting the country back on track. He emphasized the pivotal role energy, especially petroleum products, play in fostering socio-economic development in any country and regarded Pakistan's decision to turn to Russia for meeting its oil demands as a much-needed step and a victory for the present regime. Shahzad Paracha, a business reporter and analyst.



## Naqvi assures LHC Bar delegation to resolve their problems on priority basis

**Independent Report**  
LAHORE: A delegation headed by the President Lahore High Court Bar Association Rana Intizar Hussain met with the Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi at CM Office in which the delegation apprised him about the problems being faced by the lawyers community. Caretaker CM Mohsin Naqvi assured to resolve the problems of lawyers community on preferential basis.

Mohsin Naqvi stated that treatment facilities in the hospital will be improved being established for the lawyers community. Mohsin Naqvi remarked that he will himself visit the hospital soon. Mohsin Naqvi stated that we will review to build a parking plaza outside Aiwan-e-Adal to resolve traffic and parking problems.

Caretaker CM Mohsin Naqvi directed Deputy Commissioner to allocate a land for the parking plaza and assured that we will do whatever we can for the lawyers community. The delegation comprised Senior Vice President Asif Amin Goraya, Vice President Nadeem Anjum Khan, Vice President Model Town

Courts Hadi Hussain Bhatti, Vice President Cantt Courts Farrukh Ahmad Khan, Secretary General Malik Kafeel Khokhar, Secretary Omar Waqas Warriach and others.



**GILGIT:** Chief Minister Gilgit-Batistan Khalid Khurshid Khan meeting with the injured persons of Shounter Astore incident at DHQ Astore.

## IGP says: Police protection centers playing key role in society

LAHORE (APP): Inspector General of Police (IGP) Punjab Dr. Usman Anwar on Sunday said that police protection centers were role models for other provinces as these were guarantors of protection of the rights of all the deprived sections, including transgenders, who become victims of social injustice.

Addressing a one-day interactive session and workshop here, he said that protection centers was a project of Punjab police to help women suffering from domestic violence, violation of women's rights, women suffering from insecurity, homeless children, special persons with mental disabilities, who have been suffering from social problems.

## Nine killed, 1,142 injured in 1,094 accidents in Punjab

LAHORE (APP): At least nine people were killed while 1,142 injured in 1,094 accidents in Punjab during the last 24 hours. A spokesman for Rescue 1122 on Sunday said 561 drivers, 42 underage drivers, 133 pedestrians and 457 passengers were among the victims of these traffic crashes.

## S. Punjab in need of more health facilities, improved infrastructure

MULTAN (APP): Health and education are considered to be the two major factors for putting a country on the path of progress and prosperity worldwide because no country can make headways without focusing on them.

The quality of life index of a country for its citizens can be gauged from the quality of education and health being provided and how much the subsequent government is spending on these two sectors.

Punjab being the biggest province in term of population, needs more health facilities to cater its growing population. Its southern part is home to Institute of Kidney Diseases (MIKD), Shehbaz Sharif Hospital, Pak Italian Modern Burn Unit, Fatima Jinnah Hospital and some town hospitals in the public sector for catering patients from across the region.

Preventive Services (Immunization) Ultrasound, OTP sites and schoolchildren screening services were available. As far as health infrastructure in rural South Punjab is concerned, the region has 578 BHUs, 112 RHCs and 380 dispensaries.

Cardiology in DG Khan will also facilitate cardiac patients in future. Lak maintained that the Punjab government had injected billions of rupees for improving health infrastructure in the region especially after establishment of South Punjab Secretariat and added that modern machinery and provision of medicines were the top priority.

## CTP wipes out encroachment during operation

RAWALPINDI (APP): On the special directives of DIG Traffic Punjab Mirza Faran Baig, City Traffic Police (CTP) jointly with Municipal Corporation Rawalpindi conducted a grand operation against encroachment aiming to maintain traffic flow.

The statistics showed that 244 accidents were reported in Lahore which affected 239 persons placing the provincial capital top of the list followed by 70 in Faisalabad with 72 victims and third Gujranwalawith 68 accidents and 69 victims.

Besides Tertiary Care Teaching Hospitals in major cities, it has District Headquarter, Tehsil Headquarter Hospitals, Basic Health Units (BHUs), Rural Health Centres (RHCs) and dispensaries to cater its rural population.

Multan being the centre of South Punjab, has Nistar Hospital, the biggest health facility with 1700 beds, Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi Institute of Cardiology (CPEIC), Children Complex, Multan

Patients not only from South Punjab, but Balochistan and KPK pour into Nistar Hospital as it is the only general hospital in Multan and geographically located in the middle of the country.

Secondary Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department South Punjab, Mahar Hayat Lak said that BHUs were working round the clock wherein Out Patients Department (OPD), Emergency,

Victoria Hospital Bahawalpur has also been serving masses of the area since long and 200 bedded Sardar Fateh Muhammad Khan Buzdar Institute of

Facilitation of people at their doorsteps, monitoring and evaluation of service delivery mechanism.



**PESHAWAR:** Former Governor KP Zafar Iqbal Jhagara, Former Chief Minister Pir Sabir Shah and Provincial President PkMAP Muhammad Ali meeting with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Haji Ghulam Ali.

## CM KP felicitates nation on eve of Youm-e-Takbeer

PESHAWAR (APP): Caretaker Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Muhammad Azam Khan on the occasion of Youm-e-Takbeer (Day of Greatness), conveyed his felicitations to the entire nation, highlighting the significance of the day.

The chief minister emphasized the importance of Pakistan's nuclear capability in the country's current global standing. The esteemed position and stature Pakistan holds today in the world is largely due to its nuclear capability, he said.

for all individuals and institutions involved in Pakistan's nuclear program, recognizing their significant role in achieving this milestone. Now, it is our responsibility to not only maintain this international prestige and honor but also lead the country towards further success, he added.

## Govt to provide relief to people in upcoming budget: KP Governor

PESHAWAR (APP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali has said that the country is facing a serious financial crisis at the moment, adding the policies of the previous government have brought the financial affairs of the province to the verge of collapse. Talking to former chief ministers, Chairman Qaumi Watan Party (QWP), Aftab Ahmad Khan Sherpao, Pir Sabir Shah, provincial chairman QWP Sikandar Hayat Khan Sherpao, provincial president Pakhtunkhwa Milli Awami Party (PMAP), Mohammad Ali, former Governor, Iqbal Zafar Jhagra and others at

Governor's House, he said that the current caretaker government and the federal government despite economic crisis are sincere to provide relief to the people of the province at newly merged districts in the upcoming annual budget.



**HYDERABAD:** Members of Pakistan Zindabad Peoples Welfare Organization are holding rally in support of Pakistan Armed Forces, at Hyderabad press club.

## US, Saudi Arabia call for warring sides in Sudan to extend 'imperfect' cease-fire

CAIRO: The United States and Saudi Arabia called on warring sides in Sudan to extend a fragile cease-fire due to expire Monday, as weeks of fighting reached a stalemate in the capital and elsewhere in the African country.

The Sudanese army and a rival paramilitary force, battling for control of Sudan since mid-April, had agreed last week to the weeklong truce, brokered by the U.S. and the Saudis. However, the cease-fire, like others before it, did not stop the

fighting in the capital of Khartoum and elsewhere in the country. In a joint statement early Sunday, the U.S. and Saudi Arabia called for an extension of the current truce which expires at 9:45 p.m. local time Monday.

The fighting broke out in mid-April between the military and the powerful RSF. Both military chief Gen. Abdel-Fattah Burhan and RSF leader Gen. Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo led the 2021 coup that removed the Western-backed government of Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok.

The conflict has killed hundreds of people, wounded thousands and pushed the country to near collapse.

## India prime minister Narendra Modi carries a royal golden sceptre to be installed it near the chair of the speaker during the start of the inaugural ceremony of the new parliament building, in New Delhi, India.



**Indian prime minister Narendra Modi carries a royal golden sceptre to be installed it near the chair of the speaker during the start of the inaugural ceremony of the new parliament building, in New Delhi, India.**

## US state corrects 'miscarriage of justice' done 400 years ago

NEW YORK: The US state of Connecticut has exonerated 12 people convicted of witchcraft in colonial America almost 400 years ago following a campaign to clear their names. Eleven of the accused witches were hanged after trials in the northeastern state of Connecticut in the mid-1600s, with one receiving a reprieve.

condemning the deaths of the nine women and two men as a "miscarriage of justice." It followed a campaign by the CT Witch Trial Exoneration Project, a group that includes descendants of some of those killed. The group said in a statement that it was "ecstatic, pleased, and appreciative" of the senators who voted 33-1 in favor of the move. They noted that the decision came on the eve of 376th anniversary of the first witch-hanging in New England — that of Alice Young.

The statement also urged Sudan's military government and the rival Rapid Support Forces to continue negotiations to reach an agreement on extending the cease-fire.

## Iraq announces plans for \$17 billion transportation project linking Asia to Europe

Monitoring Desk  
IRBIL: Iraq's prime minister on Saturday announced plans for a \$17 billion regional transportation project intended to facilitate the flow of goods from Asia to Europe.

ment Road project would facilitate the movement of goods from the Gulf to Europe by way of the Grand Faw Port in Basra, in southern Iraq, which would be connected to Turkey, then to Europe, through a network of railways and highways. A centerpiece of the project will be the development of the Grand Faw Port and a "smart industrial city" adjacent to it, al-Sudani said.



**A woman holding a poster depicting Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan waits in the queue at the Maiden's Tower, in Istanbul.**

## Mercenary Prigozhin says Kremlin blanking him on state media will provoke backlash

Monitoring Desk  
MOSCOW: Russia's most powerful mercenary said on Sunday he was convinced that senior Kremlin officials had banned reporting about him on state media, cautioning that such a misleading approach would lead to a backlash from the Russian people within months.

Yevgeny Prigozhin, founder of the Wagner mercenary group, is the most striking member of President Vladimir Putin's circle to gain widespread notoriety in the 15-month war in Ukraine. Prigozhin, a restaurateur who quipped last week that his nickname should be "Putin's butcher" rather than "Putin's chef", took the Ukrainian city of Bakhmut earlier this month but his role in the victory was played down on state television. The 61-year-old has made a name for himself by imposing brutal discipline on his mercenaries and by using obscene language and prison slang to insult Putin's top military brass including Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu.

## Guterres shocked by Sudan army chief's letter

Monitoring Desk  
NEW YORK: United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres has said he is "shocked" by a letter from Sudanese army chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, reportedly requesting the replacement of special envoy Volker Perthes amid a brutal war with paramilitaries.

he received from General Al-Burhan," currently at war with his former deputy Mohamed Hamdan Daglo, who commands RSF. Neither the army nor the UN released official copies of Burhan's letter, which reportedly requested the dismissal of Perthes as Guterres' envoy to Sudan.



**People line up in front of a bakery during a cease-fire in Khartoum.**

## EgyptAir flight from Cairo blows tire during landing in Saudi Arabia

Monitoring Desk  
CAIRO: An EgyptAir jetliner blew out a tire but made a safe landing at its destination early Sunday in Saudi Arabia, Egypt's national carrier said. No casualties were reported.

Flight MS643 took off from Cairo international airport early Sunday and one of its tires burst during landing at King Abdulaziz International Airport in the Saudi coastal city of Jeddah, EgyptAir said in a statement.

The Boeing 738 made a safe landing on the runway and all passengers have disembarked the airplane with no injuries reported, the statement said. The airline didn't elaborate on what caused the problem, and said an examination and maintenance of the plane were underway.

## 10 Lebanese detained in UAE to return home

Monitoring Desk  
KYIV: President Volodymyr Zelensky asked the Ukrainian parliament to impose additional sanctions against Iran for 50 years, according to the draft resolution following the National Security and Defense Council decision. The draft includes a complete ban on trade with Iran, investments, and transferring technologies, as well as stopping Iranian transit across the Ukrainian territory, and preventing the withdrawal of Iranian assets from Ukraine. Ukraine's parliament must approve the bill for it to become law.

## US state corrects 'miscarriage of justice' done 400 years ago

Monitoring Desk  
NEW YORK: The US state of Connecticut has exonerated 12 people convicted of witchcraft in colonial America almost 400 years ago following a campaign to clear their names. Eleven of the accused witches were hanged after trials in the northeastern state of Connecticut in the mid-1600s, with one receiving a reprieve.

condemning the deaths of the nine women and two men as a "miscarriage of justice." It followed a campaign by the CT Witch Trial Exoneration Project, a group that includes descendants of some of those killed. The group said in a statement that it was "ecstatic, pleased, and appreciative" of the senators who voted 33-1 in favor of the move. They noted that the decision came on the eve of 376th anniversary of the first witch-hanging in New England — that of Alice Young.



## PUC terms May 9 black day, categorizes attackers as terrorists, national criminals

GUJRANWALA (APP): The Pakistan Ulema Council (PUC) on Sunday convened the 'Stability of Pakistan, Ulema-Mashaykh Convention' witnessing the participation of leaders from various political organizations and religious scholars representing different schools of thought.

In a joint declaration, the attendees unanimously denounced the events of May 9 as a black day for the Pakistani nation, categorizing the attackers of military, national, and civilian installations, as well as memorials of martyrs, as terrorists and national criminals.

The political and religious leadership further called upon Chief Justice of Pakistan, Umar Atta Bandial, Prime Minister

Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, and Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir to ensure the expeditious trials of the criminals and their prompt punishment.

Emphasizing the nation's desire for justice, the joint declaration expressed the need to identify and punish the guilty while ensuring the release of the innocent individuals involved. The leaders also applauded the directives issued by Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and COAS General Syed Asim Munir, instructing authorities not to wrongfully accuse any innocent person.

PUC Chairman and Prime Minister's Special Representative on Interfaith Harmony and Middle East

Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi, presided over the convention, which saw the participation of prominent political and religious figures, including Maulana Muhammad Ayub Safdar, Qari Muhammad Sharif Cheema, Maulana Nouman Hashir, Maulana Muhammad Shafi Qasmi and Maulana Asadullah Farooq, among others.

In the joint declaration, the convention expressed its condemnation of the events that occurred on May 9, highlighting the premeditated nature of the tragedy. It pointed out that a systematic campaign against the Pakistan Army and the country's security agencies had been underway for the past year, resulting in the indoctrination of the youth.



Chief of Royal Malaysian Navy being briefed onboard PNS SHAHJAHAN by Commanding Officer PNS SHAHJAHAN during PNS SHAHJAHAN visit Port Langkawi, Malaysia.

## Attack on Jinnah House and sensitive installations, assault on Pakistan: Saad

LAHORE (APP): Minister for Railways and Aviation Khawaja Saad Rafique has termed the attack on Jinnah House (Corps Commander House) and other sensitive installations as attack on the country which was unable to be spared.

Talking to media after visiting the Jinnah House here on Sunday, he said that it was a great tragedy that a special place, having an historical background and attached to the leader of the nation Quaid-e-Azam (RA) was attacked, looted and burnt.

The minister said that several things of Quaid were preserved here including his sleeping room, piano, Achkan, pen, writing pad and cap, adding that everything was burnt to ash

by the miscreants led by the leadership of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). He added that the place was also the house of head of soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the protection of the people and the country.

It was unfortunate that the family members of the soldiers were insulted by the miscreants and attackers, he said and added that there could be differences but, other parties, having any difference, never ever thought of even insulting or attacking on the houses or sensitive installations. Unfortunately, hatred was injected in the innocent minds of the educated youth against the institutions of the country, he regretted.

## SFA fines Rs 0.3 mln on restaurants, bakeries over poor cleanliness conditions

KARACHI (APP): A joint team comprising of Sindh Food Authority officials and students of Karachi University visited more than 30 restaurants, bakeries and other food centres and imposed a fine of Rs 300000 on restaurants, and bakeries over poor cleanliness conditions.

The joint team was formed on special directives of the Director General, Sindh Food Authority, Agha Fakhar Hussain. The team asked these restaurants, bakeries and other food centres to get license from SFA within 15 days.

Meanwhile, Agha Fakhar Hussain had said that no compromise would be made on the quality of food.

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## Dar addresses conference of PML-N overseas office-bearers

ISLAMABAD (APP): Finance Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Sunday addressed the conference of Pakistan Muslim League-N overseas office-bearers virtually and exchanged felicitations to the nation on the silver jubilee of Yaum-e-Takbeer.

Finance ministry tweeted that Finance Minister vowed to set the economy of the country on growth just as the PML-N leadership made the country impregnable by nuclear explosions on May 28, 1998.

## Fawad replaces Imran's photo on twitter account

ISLAMABAD (APP): Former PTI leader and ex federal minister Fawad Chaudhary after departing ways with Imran Khan has also removed his photo from twitter account.

He changed the cover of his social media account early graced with Imran Khan's photo and replaced it with a saying of US writer. The US writer says, "Let Perseverance be your engine and hope your fuel."

## 4 children drown in Khairpur fish pond

KHAIRPUR (APP): Four little girls drowned in a fish pond at Tandimasti's Mian Waris Ujjan village near Khairpur on Sunday, a private TV channel reported.

The dead were identified as five-year-old Dania, 10-year-old Suhana, five-year-old Ravina, and six-year-old Muskan.

Families of the deceased said the girls were playing near the pond when they slipped and fell into it. Locals fished the bodies out of the pond.

## Police arrest two suspected outlaws in injured condition after encounter

HYDERABAD (APP): The Bhitai Nagar police arrested 2 suspected outlaws in injured condition after an alleged encounter with 5 suspects near the water filtration plant on Jamshoro road.

The police spokesman informed here on Sunday that a police mobile patrolling in that area signaled 5 persons riding on 2 motorbikes to stop but they tried to escape and opened fire on the police.

However, he added, in the exchange of fire Munawar Sial and Asad Sial sustained gunshot to their legs and were arrested but their accomplices escaped on another motorbike.

Both the injured were shifted to Liaquat University Hospital for surgery of their bullet wounds.

## PNS Shahjahan participates in LIMA expo at Malaysia

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Navy Ship (PNS) Shahjahan on Sunday visited Port Langkawi, Malaysia and participated in Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition (LIMA) 2023.

The visit of PN Ship is aimed to strengthen bilateral ties and enhance interoperability between participating navies, a Pakistan Navy news release said. Upon the arrival at Port Langkawi, the ship was warmly welcomed by the official of Malaysia Navy and Defence attaché of Pakistan at Malaysia.

During meetings with Malaysian officials, the Commanding Officer of the ship conveyed well wishes from Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi for the people of Malaysia in general and Malaysian Navy in particular. The matters of mutual interest, bilateral collaboration and PN contribution towards regional peace and maritime security were discussed.

PNS Shahjahan participated in International Fleet Review at Langkawi which was witnessed by Malaysian Prime Minister. Concurrently, Ship's officers and crew participated in various conferences, Table Top Discussions and knowledge sharing sessions on Maritime Interdiction Operations. On completion of harbour activities, the ship participated in LIMA Sea Exercise along with warships from Brunei, China, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, US and other navies. The visit of PNS Shahjahan to Malaysia contributed significantly towards promoting naval collaboration between various maritime nations to improve interoperability while strengthening bilateral associations and existing bonds of friendship with Malaysia.



KARACHI: Famous businessman Tariq Bulani presenting buckets to Governor Sindh kamran Khan Tessori.

## Condemnation Day of Traitors of Pakistan rallies across country

People paid homage to martyrs; condemned May 9 riots

ISLAMABAD (APP): Rallies were organised on Sunday in various districts of the country to mark the Condemnation Day of Traitors of Pakistan.

People in different parts of the country came out on the streets to strongly condemn the events that took place on May 9 in the country and the elements involved in them. Moreover, people also paid homage to the martyrs. Rallies were held in different districts of Balochistan, Quetta, Jafarabad, Naseerabad, Usta Muhammad, Noshki, Dalbadin, Khuzdar, Kohlu and Dera Murad Jamali.

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (K-P), rallies were held at various places in Karak, Kurram, Swat, Chitral, Shangla, Buner, Dir, Bannu, Waziristan, Dera Ismail Khan, Haripur, Mansehra, Abbottabad, Khyber, Mohmand, Peshawar, Mardan and Kohat districts.

In several cities of Punjab, Bishol Chiniot, Sarai Alamgir, Kharian, Narowal, Dera Ghazi Khan and Gujranwala, roads and highways were decorated with banners and rallies were taken out in different cities.

## PML-N will reap tomorrow what it is sowing today: Rashid

LAHORE (APP): Awami Muslim League chief Sheikh Rashid on Sunday warned that the ruling party (PML-N) would reap the harvest tomorrow of what they were sowing currently.

In a series of tweets, the former interior minister, who is still standing by PTI Chairman Imran despite many of his own close aides leaving the party after the May 9 episode, remarked that any political party was not a sugar factory and it remained in the masses' hearts. "The [biryani] public meeting in Kasur [held by the PML-N] cannot damage Lal Haveli anyway," he quipped.

About the Youm-e-Takbeer celebrated every year on May 28 in connection with the nuclear tests conducted in 1998, Rashid gave credit to Raja Zafarul Haq, Gohar Ayub and himself for the move. He further claimed the rest of the cabinet, including the then prime minister Nawaz Sharif were against the nuclear tests. The former minister said he would live and die in Pakistan but his name had been placed on the exit control list (ECL) while diplomatic passports were issued to the convicted persons living abroad having their assets and children also there.



HYDERABAD: Residents of Kandhkot are holding protest demonstration for recovery of missing 3 years old boy, at Hyderabad

## Pakistani peacekeepers playing important role in accomplishing UN mission

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistani peacekeeping forces were playing an important role in accomplishing the mission of the United Nations.

Ever since Pakistan became a part of the United Nations, Pakistani troops serving peacekeeping missions have rendered services with their bravery and responsibility in almost all the wars of the world.

The world is celebrating the International Day of UN Peacekeepers on Sunday as it is celebrating 75 years of UN peacekeeping forces working for world peace.

Over the past 75 years, United Nations Peacekeepers have saved countless precious lives for global peace and security.

This day commemorates the efforts of the United Nations to maintain peace, eliminate human suffering, establish a situation of lasting peace and order in countries armed with wars and internal conflicts reflects global determination.



NEW YORK: Pakistani American Diaspora gathering Times Squares to Express Solidarity with Pakistan and Pak Army.

## PPP not in favour of banning political parties, says Kaira

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan People's Party (PPP) is not in favor of banning any political party, said SAPM Qamar Zaman Kaira on Sunday.

In his interview with private TV news channel, Qamar Zaman Kaira said the dismantling of political parties is not in favour of democracy's stability in the country.

PPP stands on its principle stand against banning PTI. "Banning political parties is not the solution to the problem," Kaira said and added if PML-N is thinking of banning PTI, it is their wish.

## Police raided my home, stole vehicle: Omar Ayub

ISLAMABAD (APP): PTI leader and newly-appointed secretary general Omar Ayub Khan has said the Islamabad police raided his house on early Sunday and took away his vehicle.

"Islamabad police from Shalimar police station raided my house again at approx 12.30am without a search warrant and stole my parked Toyota Hi Lux Twin Cabin Model 2011. Islamabad police is indulging in illegal searches and now vehicle thefts," Khan said in a tweet.

On his Twitter handle, the former federal minister said, "Members of the judiciary, civil servants and diplomats should take care of their vehicles as the police has resorted to stealing vehicles to top up their salaries in these super high inflationary times."

## Burger seller dies in firing of robbers

KARACHI (APP): A burger seller died in firing of robbers during dacoity in Manzoor Colony area of the metropolis on Sunday, police said.

According to details, four armed robbers riding motorcycles were engaged in looting citizens at Ghazali road near Khizra Mosque when they subjected to fire over resistance.

A 30-year burger seller identified as Adeel Ahmed s/o Shakeel Ahmed stated to be father of three children died in firing of the robbers.

Body of the deceased was shifted to Jinnah Hospital through Chhipa ambulance. The police have registered a case into the incident and started an investigation.

## Mushaal urges govt of Pakistan to raise voice for Yasin Malik's safe release

ISLAMABAD (APP): Mushaal Hussein Mullick, the Chairperson of Peace and Culture Organisation and wife of jailed Kashmiri leader, Muhammad Yasin Malik, has urged upon the government of Pakistan to raise the issue of senior Hurriyat leader Yasin Malik's detention at all fora globally because the notorious Narendra Modi fascist regime is hell-bent to silence the most powerful voice of Kashmir freedom movement forever.

Mushaal, after visiting Jinnah House, Lahore, in a media talk expressed alarm that the fascist government would eliminate Yasin Malik, chief of Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), as India's infamous National Investigation Agency (NIA) again sought the death sentence for him, after he was given life in prison in a concocted and politically motivated case on May 25 last year for his crime to raise voice for right to self-determination of Kashmiris, Kashmir Media Service reported.



LAHORE: Hurriyat Leader Mishal Malik interacting with journalists during Meet the Press event at Press club in Provincial Capital.

## AJK PM felicitates nation on silver jubilee celebrations of nuclear tests

MIRPUR (APP): Azad Jammu and Kashmir Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq, while congratulating the nation on the silver jubilee of nuclear tests, has said that the Youm-e-Takbeer was bearing testimony to the fact that Pakistan's defense was impregnable. "On this day (28 May 1998), Pakistan got the honour of becoming the first nuclear power among Islamic countries and the seventh nuclear power in the world", the PM said in a statement issued on Sunday.

Haq paid great tribute to the founder of the nuclear program and ex-Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, former Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, political and military leadership, scientists and engineers who played a key role in accomplishing the historic feat. The AJK prime minister in his special message said that many countries, including the United States, had offered huge economic concessions in return for not carrying out nuclear explosions, but the political leadership of Pakistan kept Pakistan's dignity.

## Administrator DMC East Syed Shakeel Ahmed inspects development works in 13C Gulshan-e-Iqbal

Says as long as I am administrator, I will continue to serve the people of District East

**Independent Report**  
KARACHI: Administrator DMC East, Syed Shakeel Ahmed said that as long as the Administrator in DMC East, he will continue to serve the people of District East.

He expressed these views while inspecting the road work being constructed by Click at block 13C, Gulshan-e-Iqbal.

He said that there is cooperation of other agencies in the development works, due to which works are going on in different areas of district east, work is also being done to remove the long-standing problems of sewerage, the process of development works in district east is not being stopped. We are very grateful to the civic bodies because their cooperation is helping in resolving many long-standing problems, DMC East is carrying out day-to-day activities in which fumigation, debris removal and other works are being carried out daily. He directed the anti-encroachment department to ensure removal of encroachments from the vicinity before the construction of the road.

He was accompanied by Assistant Executive Engineer Rashid Fayyaz, Sub Engineer Muhammad Dawood and other officers.



## Talha personally monitoring Hajj operation to ensure flawless execution

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood said that he was personally overseeing the entire Hajj operation, ensuring its smooth execution through various channels.

Speaking at the final training session of Moavineen-e-Hujjaj (Pilgrims' Assistants) held at the Haji Camp Islamabad the other day, the minister informed attendees that he had taken proactive steps to address any concerns or complaints from the pilgrims.

To facilitate efficient communication, Senator Talha had distributed a WhatsApp number to all intending pilgrims, encouraging them to register any complaints they may have at any point during their spiritual journey.

Additionally, he revealed that he had personally funded the establishment of an online portal to receive and manage these complaints effectively.



KARACHI: Women are shouting slogans during protest in the favor of their demands outside press club in Provincial Capital.

## PML-N organizes programme to observe Silver Jubilee anniversary of Youm-e-Takbeer

HYDERABAD (APP): The silver jubilee anniversary of "Youm-e-Takbeer" was observed here in Hyderabad like other cities of the country on Sunday.

A programme was organized by Pakistan Muslim League (N) to pay homage to the civil and military leadership that played their part in declaring Pakistan an Atomic power in the world.

A function was held at the residence of PML-N leader Muhammad Hanif Siddiqui which was attended by a large number of party workers. Addressing the event, PML-N leader Muhammad Hanif Siddiqui said former Prime minister Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was the pioneer of Pakistan's Atomic program while Mian Nawaz Sharif ordered the Atomic explosion and made Pakistan as an Atomic power.

He also paid tribute to the military leadership and Atomic scientists for making Pakistan's defence impregnable.

Engr. Mushtaq Sangi said PML-N's government was the only party that dared to respond to Indian nuclear explosions by conducting Atomic explosions on May 28, 1998.