

Daily Voice of Masses Independent

Legal questions

When the Supreme Court decided to take up multiple petitions against the court martial of civilians...

It had been a long-running complaint of critics of the current chief justice that he had actively excluded Justice Isa from important benches.

The decision to court-martial civilians is no frivolous matter. It merits a detailed review under the laws of the land, preferably by as many of the best legal minds the country has in its service as possible.

The petitioners were not wrong when they pleaded with Justice Isa to reconsider, arguing that they had already risked much to bring the matter to court.

Lastly, a word to some of our elected lawmakers, who lately seem inclined to see a conspiracy in everything the Supreme Court does. It was unbecoming of two cabinet ministers to launch into ugly tirades against the superior judiciary on the floor of the National Assembly simply for taking up the relevant petitions.

There is little point, therefore, of fomenting controversy over whether or not the Supreme Court should hear this case. Instead, it would be best if both critics and proponents of military courts decide to test the strength of their arguments before the court.

A pressing need



Muna Khan

While I don't tire of writing about journalism, recently, I have been wondering whether I will witness its demise and if there will be takers for my news media literacy classes — 10 years from now.

While Facebook remains a top used platform, it has shifted away from news and faces tough competition from TikTok, which reaches 44 per cent of 18-24s across markets and 20pc for news.

The only positive takeaway was that public media organisations had the highest trust in the Global North — because they "likely see them as important personally and for society" — but younger viewers are not consuming it.

For journalism to remain relevant, news organisations need to find genuine, new ways to connect with younger audiences. And I don't mean copy/pasting their content on TikTok.

Organisations also have to figure out how to attract this generation into the fold. When I began working in the mid-1990s, journalism was considered a worthy pursuit. Today, the field offers low wages, uncertainty and too often people end up doing tasks on the job they did not sign up for.

One way to make journalism a worthy pursuit is to teach people about the journalists who made it such. My work in audio — interviewing journalists about their experiences working under various forms of press censorship — is a small attempt at doing that.

While the Newseum was never able to break even, it does not mean such an idea is unfeasible in Pakistan. There are plenty of examples of successful public-private partnerships that can provide inspiration for a press museum.

Yet, India is not prepared to sacrifice its long-time ties with Russia. India did not condemn Russia for its aggression against Ukraine, and also started buying Russian oil, which helped Russia redress the deleterious impact of Western sanctions.



Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry

Narendra Modi has come a long way from the time he was denied a US visa for his role in the Gujarat pogrom. Times have changed. He is now the prime minister of a country that the US wants to build as a counterweight to rising China.

The Indian leadership appreciates that the US is still the most eminent military and economic power, and that India has much to gain in terms of defence deals and technologies. Indian military capabilities have already been bolstered by bilateral agreements allowing the use of each other's military logistics (LEMOA), compatibility of encrypted communication equipment (COMCASA), and exchange of geospatial intelligence (BECA).

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Bonhomie?

wants to deal with China on its own terms and not on behalf of the US, despite serious India-China border issues. India has also maintained its trade and economic relations with China and cooperates closely with China on BRICS, SCO, AIIB and other forums.

For its part, the US recognises there are limits to what India can, or would, do to counter China or Russia. Yet, it is continuing to invest in India as the country is central to America's plans to situate an arc of containment against China.

So, are both countries misreading each other? Can the high-flying visit of an Indian prime minister to Washington address the mismatch of mutual expectations? There are two broad foundations for the close partnership that India and the US are seeking to establish: geopolitical interests in the Indo-Pacific region, and shared democratic values.

Intriguingly, the joint statement after Modi's visit does not explicitly mention China or Russia, but makes a negative reference to Pakistan in the context of cross-border terrorism even though Pakistan fought against terrorism and actually achieved results. The US knows well that fighting terrorism is a joint responsibility of the international community, and should not have signed on to this reference, which is a violation of the norms of bilateralism.

Commerce News

Pak-China collaborate to promote Pakistan pharma development

BEIJING (APP): China has equalized or surpassed the developed nations' pharma standards over a period of time. "With 30 years of experience in cooperation with China, our progress is accompanied by the dividend of the development of China's pharmaceutical industry," highlighted Waheed Ahmed, Chief Executive of Shaigan Pharmaceuticals Pvt Ltd at the CPPI & PMEC China.

industry sectors along the pharmaceutical supply chain including APIs, excipients, finished dosage, natural extracts, biopharma & CDMOs, animal health & feed, medical supplies, etc." China Economic Net (CEN) reported.

Waheed, who has been attending the expo since 1995, noted, "CPPI China is becoming more and more informative due to the major R&D work being carried out in China. China, Pakistan's largest trading partner and the largest producer of API attaches importance to investing in chemical labs and training scientists."

"China's key technologies are developing rapidly, and the quality of pharmaceutical and mechanical products is reliable," he explained. "This time I am exploring future technologies and newly developed products, especially in biosimilars and new drug delivery systems," Waheed mentioned.

"Meeting my over 15 collaborative partners who are all old friends at the expo and witnessing their growth is always a pleasure and an opportunity to tap new business ranges."

Government urged for encouraging furniture Industry

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief Executive Officer Pakistan Furniture Council (PFC) Mian Kashif Ashfaq Sunday urged the government to encourage investments and create a favorable business environment for furniture manufacturers.

the global market with effective marketing with the right combination of factors, including export potential, design and innovation, technology adoption, and skill development. Chairing the PFC executive committee meeting, he said Pakistan has a skilled labor force and a rich heritage of craftsmanship in furniture making.



RAWALPINDI: All Pakistan Mobile Phones Association are shouting slogans during protest in the favor of their demands at Sadr area in City.

Cantt Boards advise taxpayers to pay taxes by June 28

RAWALPINDI (APP): Rawalpindi and Chaklala Cantonment Boards have advised the taxpayers to pay their property taxes, conservancy taxes, and water charges for the current year by June 28 and receive a 10 percent discount. The property owners failing to pay the taxes and other charges by the deadline would be facing monetary penalties. According to an RCB spokesman, "The board have sent all the outstanding bills to its taxpayers."



LAHORE: Caretaker Minister of Livestock and Dairy Development Ibrahim Hassan Murad in a photo with a delegation of Chinese livestock experts under the leadership of Vice President Royal Group of China Mr. Teng Cuijin.

Murtaza Abbasi says: Establishment of HESCO to be game changer for development of Hazara

HAVELIAN (APP): Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Murtaza Javed Abbasi Sunday inaugurated the Sui gas provision project in the villages of Batolni, Mujahath, Termuchia, Slawala and Sirila of Tehsil Havelian with an estimated cost of 548.982 million. While addressing a huge public gathering in the village of Batolni Murta, he said that this initiative was

aimed to provide affordable access to natural gas to the rural communities in the region, heralding a new era of progress and development. Murtaza Javed Abbasi expressed his delight over the approval of the board of directors for Hazara Electric Supply Company (HESCO) and emphasized that the establishment of this company would

effectively eliminate the long-standing deprivation faced by the people of Hazara. "Today, we have taken a significant step towards the advancement of Hazara", this multimillion project undertaken by the PML-N and Prime Minister Mian Shabbaz Sharif will prove to be a game-changer for the region, the minister declared.

Promotion of agro-based industry stressed

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Rice Research and Development Board Punjab Shahzad Ali Malik Sunday stressed the urgent need for the promotion of an agro-based industry that's of immense importance to the country's economy. He said agro-industry contributes to GDP, earns foreign exchange through exports, promotes rural development, ensures food security, and adds value to agricultural products.

of progressive farmers led Dr Muhammad Arshad Javed, he said a strong and vibrant agro-based industry is crucial for sustainable economic growth, poverty reduction and overall development, says a press release. He said the agro-based industry is crucial for ensuring food security in Pakistan. With a growing population, it is essential to have a robust agricultural sector that can produce an adequate quantity of food.

Govt transfers Rs.3billion to railway account for Salaries of June

FAISALABAD (Online): Federal minister of Railway Saad Rafique personnel interest and timely action to pay the salaries of month of June on the demand of 'Pakistan Railway Prem Union' government transferred the amount of 3 billion Pkr to railway ministry account. Salaries has also been transferred to salaries accounts of Railway employees.

Efforts afoot to expand tax network, growth rate: Kiyani

ISLAMABAD (APP): Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Economic and Energy Affairs Bilal Azhar Kayani on Saturday said the incumbent government under the leadership of PM Shehbaz Sharif, has taken extensive measures to expand the tax network and growth rate. An amount of 466 billion rupees has been allocated for BISP to help under privilege groups of people, he said while talking to a private television channel. The government in the current budget has also increased

the allocation for BISP to facilitate maximum beneficiaries, he informed. He said the Pakistan Muslim League-N, with the help of coalition partners, had protected the country from falling into the default line. He blamed Pakistan Tehreek e Insaaf (PTI) government for the current economic situation, saying that it had created mistrust with IMF. He said the government was making all-out efforts to dispel the impression created by the PTI chief during his tenure.



QUETTA: A vendor arrange the fresh vegetables to attract customers.

ICCI for further strengthening trade ties with Japan

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari on Sunday urged the need for further strengthening bilateral economic relations between Pakistan and Japan to attain sustainable growth and development in the country. Japan is the third largest economy in the world with a GDP of \$4,940.9 billion and bilateral relations between Pakistan and Japan has a history, he said this while talking to Economic Minister designated for Japan, Dr Irfan Abbas Shah during his visit to ICCI.

improving trade relations between the two countries, adding that there are vast opportunities for Japanese investors to invest in different sectors of the national economy including dairy and automobile. He said that the role of the embassy is very important to promote and develop diplomatic, trade and economic relations between both countries. President ICCI urged the need to impart skill training to youth to fulfill the increasing labor demand of Japanese markets and urged the government to take SMEDA and other concerned institutions into confidence and form a comprehensive policy in this regard.

Largest Hajj pilgrimage in history' begins in Saudi Arabia

MAKKAH (Online): Vast crowds of robed Muslim pilgrims walked solemnly around the Kaaba, the black cube at Makkah's Grand Mosque, on Sunday as the biggest Hajj pilgrimage in several years began in the heat of the Saudi summer.

Islam's holiest site is expected to host more than two million worshippers from 160 countries during the annual rites that could break attendance records, with 1.6 million foreigners already there by late Friday.

"This year, we will

witness the largest Hajj pilgrimage in history," if things go according to plan, predicted an official with the Saudi Ministry of Haj and Umrah.

"The numbers will exceed 2.5 million pilgrims," added the official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he is not authorised to speak with the press.

The Haj began early on Sunday with the "tawaf" — the circumambulation of the Kaaba, the large cubic structure draped in black cloth with gold trimmings that millions of Mus-

lims pray towards every day.

"I am living the most beautiful days of my life," said Abdel-Azim, a 65-year-old Egyptian, as he performed the ritual.

"The dream has come true," added the retiree, who had saved up for 20 years to pay the \$6,000 fee to take part.

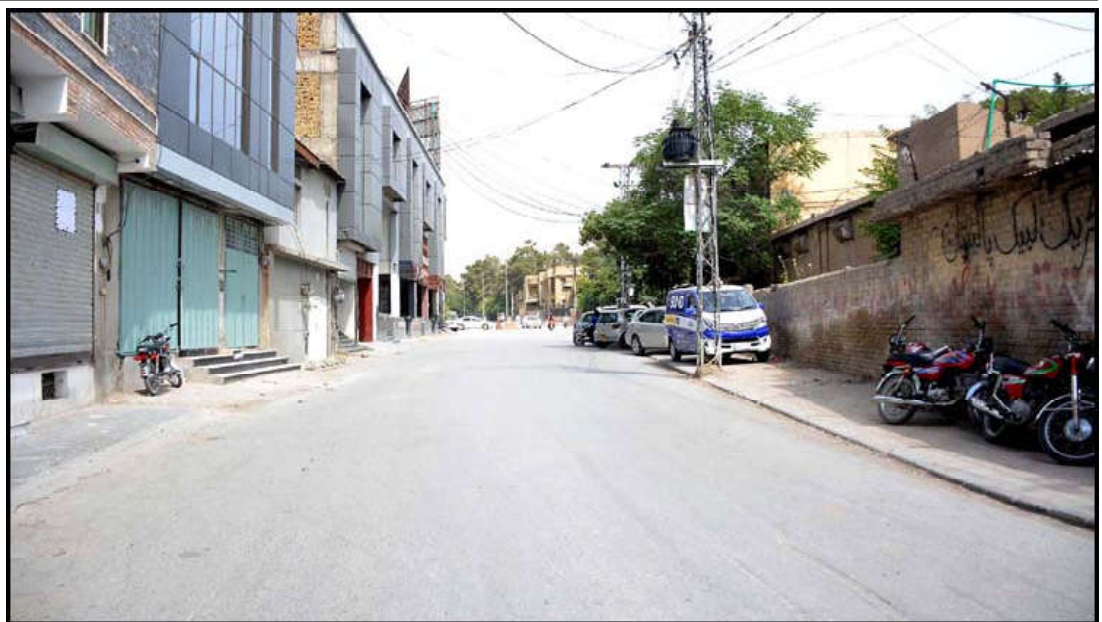
The Haj is one of the five pillars of Islam and must be undertaken at least once by all Muslims with the means.

A series of rites are completed over four days in Makkah and its sur-

roundings in the west of oil-rich Saudi Arabia.

On Sunday night, pilgrims will start moving to Mina, about five kilometres (three miles) from the Grand Mosque, ahead of the Haj's climax at Mount Arafat, where the Prophet Mohammed (SAW) is believed to have delivered his final sermon.

Mina, the world's largest tent city, readied to receive the influx of pilgrims on Sunday, with food supplies brought in and security forces deployed around the area.



QUETTA: A view of deserted look of markets and streets due to heat waves across the country.



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar condoling with Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani on sad demise of his aunt

Balochistan CM directs secretaries to attend budget meeting

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenji has directed the secretaries of all provincial government departments to ensure their presence in the budget session of provincial assembly continued these days in Quetta.

In this regard, the Chief Minister has issued directives to all the secretaries through Chief Secretary to take the budget session serious.

He said that the budget session used to be an important phase for approval of the budget, as such all the secretaries

NA approves 15 excess demands for grants for FY 2021-22

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Assembly on Sunday approved 15 excess demands for grants for the fiscal year 2021-22 after voice voting in the House.

Minister for Finance and Revenue Ishaq Dar presented these supplementary demands for grants which were approved after voting. The demands were in respect of the Intelligence Bureau; Airports Security Force; Pakistan Post Office Department;

Federal Government Educational Institutions in Cantonments and Garrisons; Defence Services; Housing and Works division; other expenditure of Interior division, Combined Civil Armed Forces; Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan division; Law and Justice Division, National Accountability Bureau; Overseas Pakistanis.

DG Levies orders "forced retirement" of two Levies personals

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Director General levies force Balochistan, Naseebullah Khan has issued order of forced retirement of two Levies personals of Zhob with immediate effect.

According to an official hand out issued here on Sunday, the order of forced retirement of Levies Dafadar Bahar Khan and Risaldar Zaman Khan was issued by the Director General on recommendation of the Inquiry Officer conducting inquiry into the alleged interference in the recruitment process of Levies in Zhob district.

The Levies personals

Special counter to be set up for aged persons at NADRA center Zhob

Independent Report

QUETTA: Two new counters would be set up at the NADRA center Zhob. This was announced by the Director Operation NADRA, Syed Shahabath during his visit to NADRA center the other day.

During the visit, the Director Operations reviewed the issues being faced by the people particularly the elderly persons at the center.

He listened the problems of the people seeking the CNUCs at the Zhob NADRA center.

He directed the concerned staff to resolve the issues ensuring transparency in all the related affairs.

Speaking on the occasion, Director Operation said that the NADRA is determined to provide relief to the masses. He also said that it is the top priority of NADRA to resolve the public issues so that they may benefit from its services.



QUETTA: Sacrificial animals are being selling at a roadside for the upcoming festival Eid-ul-Azha, at Jail road.

If Europe can unite why can't Asia region as it's now or never: Romina

ISLAMABAD (APP): Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) and Convener National SDGs taskforce Romina Khrushid Alam has said that if Europe can unite why can't Asia region. It's now or it's never as Asia is facing multifaceted challenges like climate change.

"We need to not only strengthen rather stand with each other," the SAPM underlined.

She was speaking as Chief Guest at an international dialogue jointly hosted by the Asian Institute of Eco-Civilization R & D, Schiller Institute USA/Germany and BRIX Institute, Sweden organised International Forum on Xinjiang Modernisation from Global Perspective held here.

SAPM, Romina Khrushid Alam in her remarks said the friendship between China and Pakistan is very close to the heart of every Pakistani. "China believes in peace and prac-

Govt contacts Interpol to bring back Ex-Chairman NAB, 2 others

ISLAMABAD (Online): Expanding the scope of investigation in 'Broad-sheet Case' federal govt has contacted interpol to bring back three people including former chairman NAB Naveed Hassan.

These people are alleged of \$28 million illegal payment.

Scope of investigation of broadsheet case was expanded after the approval of federal cabinet. Letter has been written to Interpol regard hand over former Chairman National Accountability Bureau (NAB) and two other people.

Federal government will bring back these people via Interpol.

NAB's former position holder woman is also wanted in this case.

Federal Investigation Agency will carry this case to logical conclusion.

Asad Mehmood calls for review of FATA merger

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Communication, Asad Mehmood, on Sunday urged the government to thoroughly review the merger of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) in light of the ongoing challenges faced by the region.

Speaking on the floor of the National Assembly, the minister emphasized the need to ascertain the desires of the people of FATA through a referendum.

Minister Mehmood highlighted that although progress has been observed in the FATA areas, it is crucial to obtain firsthand information about the issues faced by the local population.

He urged government officials to personally visit the area and assess the ground realities to gain a

Only Imran responsible for all May 9 tragic incidents: Kh Asif

SIALKOT (APP): Federal Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif has said that the mastermind, planner and inventor of the May-9 incident was only Imran Khan.

Addressing a dinner reception, given in his honour by members of the Cantt Board Sialkot, he regretted that it was former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman who challenged the state writ and the state institutions. He said the state is like a mother to its citizens, but this person ended that relationship in lust for power.

He said the lesson he (Imran Khan) imparted to



QUETTA: Provincial Minister Mir Sikandar Umrani and Parliamentary Secretary Khalil George meeting with Deputy Speaker Balochistan Assembly Sardar Babar Khan Musakhail

Pak-Kazakh BPC in Astana to review entire spectrum of bilateral ties

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Second Round of Bilateral Political Consultations (BPC) between Pakistan and Kazakhstan will be held in Astana, Kazakhstan on June 26 in which the two sides would review the entire spectrum of bilateral relations.

Additional Secretary (Afghanistan & West Asia) Syed Ahsan Raza Shah will lead Pakistan side while Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kanat Tumyst will lead the

Three-day NYS draws students from Balochistan, rest of country

QUETTA (APP): A three-day National Youth Summit (NYS) was organized here in which a large number of students belonging to Balochistan province and different districts of Pakistan, participated.

The event was arranged under the theme "Harnessing Youth Potential for Resilient Future, Navigating Challenges, Driving Change" at the Balochistan University of Engineering and Management Sciences (BUTEMS), a press release on Sunday said.

On the occasion different speakers including Balochistan Minister for

Talha personally pays 14,350 Saudi Riyals for Hajj expenses

MAKKAH MUKARMA (APP): Minister of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Talha Mahmood has personally covered the expenses for his visits to the holy cities of Makkah and Madinah.

"Talha Mahmood, personally paid an amount of 14,350 Saudi Riyals to the Accounts Officer at Pakistan House from his own expenses," said the spokesman Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony in a statement. Giving details of the expenses he said an amount of 10,000 riyals was allocated for accommodation, while transportation expenses accounted for 4,200 riyals in Makkah.



QUETTA: Provincial Minister Mir Asadullah Baloch giving away wheel chair to a disabled person

Budget process in NA witnesses active participation of MPs

ISLAMABAD (INP): In a highly productive 51st session, the National Assembly (NA) successfully approved the federal budget for the fiscal year 2023-24.

Commencing on March 27, the session witnessed the presentation of the Finance Bill, 2023 on June 9, 2023, sparking a thorough and engaging debate on the budget.

The House, after incorporating numerous recommendations from the Senate, passed the Finance Bill, 2023, alongside the adoption of four resolutions addressing significant issues. The formal budget debate commenced on June 12, with the Leader of the Opposition initiating discussions on the federal budget in accordance with parliamentary tradition.

According to the data compiled through the website of NA and observation of proceedings, a substantial number of lawmakers actively participated in the debate, with around 86 out of 174 NA members lending their voices to the discussions—a significant increase compared to previous years.

It is noteworthy that the incumbent 15th NA



QUETTA: Activists of BNP-Mengal hold protest in favor of their demands in front of the Quetta Press Club.

27-men AJK Cabinet sworn in

MIRPUR (AJK) (APP): Newly-appointed 27-member Azad Jammu and Kashmir Cabinet sworn in on Thursday.

Azad Jammu and Kashmir President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry administered oath to the newly inducted ministers at a special ceremony held in the State metropolis.

The oath taking ceremony, hosted at the New Prime Minister's House, was attended, among others, by Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq, Speaker Legislative Assembly Chaudhry Latif Akbar, Senior Minister Colonel Retired Waqar Ahmad Noor, Government Minister Faisal Mumtaz Rathore, and several others.

On this occasion, Secretary Services and General

Zia grieved over death of aunty of Sanjrani

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Home and Tribal Affairs, Mir Ziaullah Langove has expressed grief and sorrow over the death of aunty of Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani. In a condolence statement issued here on Sunday, Mir Ziaullah Langove prayed that may Allah Almighty rest the departed soul into its eternal peace and give patience.



QUETTA: Regional Head Federal Ombudsman Ghulam Sardar Barohi addressing an Open Kutchery organized by National Party in Mariabad