

Independent

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Ph: 2841470/2841473 Vol: XVI No. 84, Muharramul Haram 19, 1445 AH Monday August 07, 2023, Pages 08, Price Rs.15



NAWABSHAH: A large number of people gathered at the accident site following the derailment of a Hazara Express in Nawabshah

President, PM express grief over loss of lives Over 30 killed, scores injured as 10 bogies of Hazara Express derail near Nawabshah

Railways minister hints at possible sabotage, says accident could be result of a mechanical fault or the fault may have been 'created'

NAWABSHAH (INP): Over 30 people were killed and dozens others injured when ten bogies of Havelian bound Hazara Express derailed near the Sarhari Railway Station close to Nawabshah on Sunday. Local people, rescue personnel, railway officials, Pakistan Army, FC and officials of district management reached the scene and joined the rescue operation. Talking to media at People's Medical College Hospital in Benazirabad,

Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah confirmed the death toll. He said that the injured could be shifted to Karachi if needed and directed the local administration and health officials to expedite relief and rescue efforts. According to Railways and Aviation Minister Khawaja Saad Rafique, the accident occurred at 1:18pm and around 1,000 passengers were travelling in the Hazara Express. During rescue opera-

tion, dozens of cars, tractors, rickshaws and motorcycles were seen parked on a road that runs alongside the track at the site of accident. Volunteers were witnessed through a canal that separates the road from the railway line to help, and lifting the injured to get them assistance. Some passenger compartments were upright but off the tracks, while others lay on their side, mangled steel from the undercarriage

twisted and buckled. There were chaotic scenes at the Nawabshah Trauma Centre as ambulances and private cars ferried the injured for treatment. Talking to media in Lahore, Minister for Railways Khawaja Saad Rafique said that initial investigation showed that the train was travelling at a "reasonable" speed, adding that officials had reached the scene and an emergency was imposed in hospitals in Sukkur and Nawabshah.

Nawaz Sharif to be next PM if voted to power: PM

KASUR (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Sunday said Nawaz Sharif would be the next prime minister of Pakistan and would change destiny of the country by initiating projects in the sectors of agriculture, industry and infrastructure. He was speaking at a public meeting here after laying foundation stone for Taray Garh interchange on the Lahore-Bahawalnagar motorway and Rai Mansab Ali Khan interchange on the Abdul Hakim motorway on the Bucheki-Nankana road. "Nawaz Sharif will serve the people of Pakistan as prime minister for another term if voted to power. He considers the

whole of Pakistan as his family and in the past selflessly served the people," he remarked. He said Rs 263 billion would be spent on the construction of motorway from Lahore to Bahawalnagar and on other projects. He recalled that in the past, Pakistan suffered from load-shedding of 20 hours every day and then Nawaz Sharif came in 2013 and he removed the darkness caused by power shortages by setting up power projects, revived industry and agriculture and brought the CPEC project of \$30 billion with the collaboration of China. He said their govern-

ment provided laptops worth billions of rupees to millions of students, adding he was unfairly criticised for delivering laptops to youth who were now using modern tools of communication and earning livelihoods. He noted that Nawaz Sharif initiated the project of Diamer Bhasha and Dasu dams and made Pakistan a nuclear state by conducting six nuclear explosions in response to five explosions by India. He reminded that Nawaz Sharif rejected the offer of \$ five billion by the then US President Bill Clinton and went on with the nuclear explosions while ignoring pressure.

Seven girls drowned to death in local stream of Turbat

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QUETTA: Seven girls were drowned to death in a local stream located in Kalag area of Turbat of Kech district on Sunday evening.

According to the reports reaching here, two other girls were saved in the incident and shifted to the local hospital in unconscious condition.

The reports suggested that at least nine girls aged between 10-17 went to the local stream of Kalag for picnic where they were trapped in the deep water and thus drowned.

The local people rushed to the spot and at-

tempted to save them, however, seven of them were drowned and died before they were taken out of the stream. The bodies of deceased girls were retrieved from the stream after hectic efforts.

Two of nine girls, however, were saved by the local dwellers and shifted to the Turbat hospital. Later, the bodies of ill-fated girls were also removed to the hospital. Afterwards, the bodies were handed over to the heirs. Moving scenes were witnessed on the occasion when bodies of the girls were brought to their homes.

Pakistan cricket team gets go-ahead to travel to India for ICC World Cup

Govt, however, has deep concerns about security of its cricket team: Foreign Office

ISLAMABAD (Online): Pakistan has consistently maintained that sports should not be mixed with politics and therefore, decided to send its Cricket Team to India to participate in the upcoming ICC Cricket World Cup 2023.

Pakistan believes that the state of bilateral relations with India should not stand in the way of fulfilling its international sports-related obligations. Pakistan's decision shows its constructive and responsible approach vis-à-vis India's intransigent attitude, as the latter had refused to send its Cricket Team to Pakistan for the Asia Cup. Pakistan, however, has deep concerns about the security of its Cricket Team. We are conveying these concerns to the International Cricket Council and the Indian authorities. We expect that full safety and security of Pakistan Cricket Team will be ensured during its visit to India, said authorities.



QUETTA: Balochistan Governor Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar presenting best performance shield to PRO Provincial Ombudsman Riaz ud Din Bangulzai.

Asghar Achakzai, other ANP leaders assert: Deduction in population of Balochistan would not be acceptable anyway

By Sardar Khandoi

CHAMAN: The Provincial President of ANP and parliamentary leader, Asghar Khan Achakzai and other senior leaders of the party have asserted that we would not be accepting any cut on the population census of the province at any cost. In this regard, we would raise forceful voice along with the like-minded and nationalist forces. This and similar other views were expressed by the Provincial President of ANP, Asghar Khan Achakzai and other senior leaders of the party including Ubaidullah Abid, Mabat Kaka, Asghar Ali Tareen and other leaders while addressing the inaugural ceremony of the Intra-party membership held at the Chaman Model High School Hall the other day.

The event was also in connection with preparations for the upcoming "peace seminar" to be held in memory of the martyrs

of August 8, 2016 in Quetta. On the occasion, Nazir Jan Hasnzai also announced to join ANP along with his companions and leaders of the Pashtoon Students Federation. Welcoming the new joiners in the party's fold, Asghar Khan Achakzai and others said that it is a good omen that the like-minded political activists are joining the party. They strongly condemned the incidents of terrorism on the Pashtoon land saying that terrorism is not product of our country, rather it has been imposed on us. The terrorism has devastated everything, whether it is Majid Ali Khyber or Peshawar's police line or Jamiat workers' convention in Bajor or it is in form of the target killing of police and levies personnel. They on the occasion also criticized the western route of CPEC saying that it is not a viable project.



Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif addressing a public gathering in Kasur.

Cases against Imran Khan is Pak internal matter: US

WASHINGTON (Online): American state departments spokesperson termed arrest of former prime minister Imran Khan's arrest an internal matter of Pakistan.

On Sunday United States reaction came out on Chairman Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Imran Khan's arrest and he declared it Pakistan's internal matter.

He said cases against Imran Khan and other politician's is Pakistan's internal matter.

Further he said we ask Pakistan and the whole world to respect democratic norms and rule of law.

Flour price up by Rs15 per kg in Quetta

QUETTA (INP): The price of flour has increased by Rs15 per kg in Quetta, Balochistan.

According to details, the price of flour after an increase of Rs15 per kg has reached Rs150 in Quetta, adding misery to the already inflation-hit people.

It revealed that the price of 20 kg of flour has increased from Rs2,800 to more than Rs 3,000. According to the member of flour mills, wheat from Balochistan is smuggling to other provinces, it is not possible to stabilize prices until wheat smuggling is stopped.

A few days ago, data was released from PBS, according to which Karachi's citizens are buying the most expensive flour in the country where 20kg bag is being sold at Rs3200

Asadullah Baloch vows to record protest against cut in population of Balochistan

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QUETTA: The central leader and Provincial Minister said that the population of province is more than 20 million, but it is being shown as 14.2 million in the current population census.

He pointed out that the people of Balochistan had not known the importance of population census. He said that Punjab is benefiting from the distribution of resources on the basis of population.

He said that while the province's actual population was more than 20 million in the recently conducted population and housing census, but it was deducted at least up to 7 million in the meeting of council of common interests (CCI) on Saturday. He mentioned that there was no deduction in the population of other provinces in the CCU's meeting.

He said that strong protest would be lodged against the injustice done with the province in population census.

National Party-Awami (BNP-A) and Provincial Minister for Agriculture, Mir Asadullah Baloch has stated that injustice has been done with people of the province by reducing the population of the province.

He said that we would be recording protest against this highhandedness in and outside the provincial assembly.

Mir Asadullah Baloch was addressing a hurriedly called press conference here on Sunday night.



SANGHAR: Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety & Chairperson, Benazir Income Support Programme Ms. Shazia Marri distributing ownership (Sanad) of houses built by Sindh Government to the deserving people during the ceremony Distribution of Land Title to Flood Affectees.

Senate passes amended 'Official Secrets Bill 2023' amidst controversy

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Senate on Sunday successfully passed 'The Official Secrets (Amendment) Bill, 2023', marking a pivotal moment in the legislative landscape.

The bill, which had faced staunch opposition from various quarters, underwent crucial modifications before achieving passage.

Minister for Law and Justice, Azam Nazir Tarar, presented the bill on behalf of Minister for Interior, Rana Sanaullah Khan, in the house. Notably, the revised

version of the bill omitted certain provisions that had granted intelligence agencies the authority to carry out warrantless arrests or searches.

He emphasized that the revised legislation empowers the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) to conduct investigations into individuals suspected of violating the Official Secrets Act.

He highlighted that the bill no longer includes the amendment labelling an individual as an "enemy" for engaging with foreign

agents, a provision that had sparked extensive debates.

Simultaneously, the Senate Standing Committee on Cabinet, chaired by Senator Rana Maqbool Ahmed, presented its comprehensive report on 'The Official Secrets (Amendment) Bill, 2023'. The committee's report underscored the urgency to amend the antiquated Official Secrets Act of 1923, considering the evolving social context and the necessity to safeguard official documents.



KARACHI: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Marriyum Aurangzeb addresses to media persons during meet the press program held at Karachi press club.

Imran's arrest not political Cases cannot be avoided by dodging law, attacking institutions: Marriyum

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb has said that cases cannot be avoided by dodging the law, evading the courts and attacking national institutions.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chairman Imran Khan's arrest has nothing to do with politics, nor it was an act of political vendetta, she said during an exclusive interview with BBC World.

"Peaceful protest is a democratic right of any political party or worker, but no protesters came out on the arrest of chairman PTI as people cannot be fooled every time, courts are there".

The minister said that the legal procedures were completed in the Tosha Khana case against Chairman PTI, and on the

completion of his trial, the court announced a verdict on which he was arrested.

She said that Chairman PTI failed to present evidence in his defense, he was accused of abuse of power, but he could not answer questions when asked about state gifts.

She said apart from this, four more cases of theft of 190 million British pounds, cipher, May 9 tragedy and foreign funding case are also in the trial courts against Imran.

In response to a question, the minister said that no one can be given impunity for misuse of powers.

She said that the arrest of Imran Khan has nothing to do with the elections, he was arrested on the order of the court.



HUB: Activists of National Party are holding protest demonstration against massive unemployment, increasing price of daily use products and inflation price hiking, in Hub.

