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Ex PM to remain in jail for 'cypher' hearing IHC suspends Imran Khan's sentence in Toshakhana case

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Tuesday suspended the imprisonment sentence of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chairman Imran Khan in the Toshakhana criminal case and ordered to release him on bail.

The two-judge bench comprising Chief Justice Aamer Farooq and Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri, in their eight-page judgment reserved on Monday and issued today, also ordered the former prime minister to submit surety bonds of Rs 100,000 to avail the bail.

The judgment said, "As the sentence given in the case is of short duration, the

court considers that the petitioner is entitled to suspension of sentence and release on bail. The trial court's sentence of 3 years imprisonment and a fine of Rs100,000 is suspended."

It further stated that the trial court pronounced the sentence on the complaint of the Election Commission of Pakistan under the Election Act.

The Supreme Court's Qaim Ali Shah case reference was also included in the written decision. It said that the top court had declared that it was the high court's discretion to grant or deny bail.

The order also said that by accepting the plea of the

accused, the decision of the trial court of August 5 "is suspended and the petitioner should be released on bail on filing a bond worth Rs100,000".

The IHC said the jurisdiction of the trial court and other issues for consideration were not being determined in the order. The respondents had given detailed arguments on these issues, but they would be decided in the main appeal.

The court also gave a reference of the order of the Supreme Court in an appeal against the suspension of former prime minister Nawaz Sharif's sentence in the Avenfield property case. It said that the top court had

expressed its displeasure on issuing lengthy orders in decisions pertaining to the suspension of the sentences.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Humayun Dilawar had announced a three-year jail term along with fine of Rs 100,000 to the former prime minister in the Toshakhana criminal case lodged by the Election Commission of Pakistan.

INP adds: Imran's legal team filed a fresh petition in the IHC seeking directives to refrain authorities from further "illegal and unjustified arrest" of the former premier in any case filed against him after August 5, when he was convicted in the Toshakhana case.



ISLAMABAD: Ms. Ayesha Tanzeem, Head of South & Central Asia Division, Voice of America called on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar. Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi also present in the meeting



ISLAMABAD: DG Anti-Narcotics Force Major General Muhammad Aniq Ur Rehman Malik calls on Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior and Anti-Narcotics Sarfraz Ahmad Bugti.

DG, ANF briefs Interior Minister on narcotics control

ISLAMABAD (APP): Director General (DG) Anti Narcotics Force (ANF) Major General Aneeq ur Rehman Malik Tuesday briefed caretaker Interior Minister Sarfraz Buti regarding efforts being made for narcotics control.

All departments will have to work together to save the nation from the curse of drugs, the minister said adding the role of ANF in this regard was very important.

He appreciated the recent raids of the force and

ECP assures to hold free, fair polls as per constitution

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Election Commission of Pakistan has assured to hold the upcoming elections peacefully and impartially as per Constitution and the law.

Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja gave this assurance, while chairing two separate meetings in Islamabad on Tuesday.

The meetings were aimed at reviewing the preparations regarding the upcoming general elections in the country.

Members of the Election Commission, Secretary ECP, Chief Secretary Sindh, IG Sindh, Chief Secretary Balochistan, IG Balochistan, Provincial Election Commissioner Sindh and Balochistan, and other senior officers of ECP attended the meetings.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary and IG Sindh briefed the Election Commission on preparations for the upcoming general elections and assured full cooperation in this regard.

Balochistan delegation praises PM's efforts for restoring economy

ISLAMABAD (APP): A delegation from Balochistan comprising Sardar Aslam Bizenjo, Mir Khalid Langu, Mir Asim Kurd Gello and Mir Waleed Bizenjo called on caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar in Islamabad on Tuesday.

They paid tribute to the Prime Minister for his efforts to restore economy and promote inter-faith harmony in the country.

Meanwhile Head of South and Central Asia Voice of America, Ayesha Tanzeem called on caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar in Islamabad on Tuesday.

Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi was also present in the meeting.

Ministry to hold 'Interfaith Harmony Conference' today

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony is holding an 'Interfaith Harmony Conference' on Wednesday, to bring together religious leaders and representatives from various faith communities to discuss pressing issues related to attacks on religious sites, desecration of holy scriptures, and the safety of minorities.

Presiding over by Minister for Religious Affairs, Aneeq Ahmed, the conference would promote unity and cooperation among different religious groups besides providing a platform for open dialogue and collaboration on topics crucial to fostering interfaith harmony.

The attendees would include representatives from both Muslim and Christian communities, demonstrating their shared commitment to peaceful coexistence.

The event would further witness the presence of renowned religious scholars from all schools of thought, people from various walks of life and members of diplomatic communities.

Cabinet unable to decide on relief in bills

ISLAMABAD (Online): The Cabinet government could not give any relief to the people who came out on the streets against the increase in electricity bills.

The federal cabinet meeting was held last day under the chairmanship of caretaker prime minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

Owing to the terms and conditions of the IMF agreement, a decision could not be taken to provide relief in bills to consumers in the form of subsidy. It has been decided to collect dues in six installments from the consumers using up to 400 units of electricity after IMF's consent. In the meeting, the possible relief in electricity bills for the month of July was reviewed. According to the sources, the Ministry of Finance took a stand in the meeting that it is not possible to provide relief to the people in the form of subsidy on electricity due to the IMF agreement.

The Energy Division presented various options

Govt to utilize all available resources for polio-free country: Dr. Nadeem

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Health Minister Dr Nadeem Jan said on Tuesday that the interim government was committed to actively implementing a special emergency response plan to eradicate all forms of polio in the country and reach children in remote areas.

Talking to a private news channel, he said that the polio vaccination campaign in remote areas and Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) was considered a major reason for the significant reduction in the number of polio cases in the country.

"All the provinces would ask to pay special attention to ensure that every child is reached by the polio programme," he added. He said that the Ministry of Health is actively involved in the polio program and we will ensure that the focus on polio remains unwavering.

In response to a question, he said that the present government will maintain zero tolerance regarding the provision of quality medicines to patients in government hospitals.



ISLAMABAD: EU Ambassador Dr. Riina Kionka called on caretaker Federal Minister for Health Dr. Nadeem Jan.

Bridging gap between policy, laws and practice key to lessen gender based violence: Advisor

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister's Special Assistant for Human Rights and Women Empowerment Mushaal Hussein Mullick Tuesday stressed the need for bridging gap between women empowerment laws and practice for lessening the gender discrimination and violence against them in the society. She was addressing at a national conference of service providers on gender based violence here.

Representatives of different stakeholders participated in the conference and shared their valuable views on this occasion.

Highlighting the deplorable condition of women of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), the Special

Govt meddling in judiciary affairs, says CJP Bandial

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chief Justice of Pakistan Umar Ata Bandial on Tuesday expressed concerns over attempts to meddle in the judiciary through further appeals in the Supreme Court Practice and Procedure Act.

The remarks were made during the hearing of the PTI chairman's petition against the NAB amendments, in which the Attorney General admitted to flaws in the Act.

The chief justice also referred to previous court orders related to the Act, stating that the Attorney General had informed about the Review of Orders and Judgments Act on June 1. However, despite assurances that the assembly would review the Act, no action has been taken.

Justice Bandial also questioned why the Attorney General sought time twice to review the Act,

causing delays in legal proceedings. He also expressed concerns about the government's interference in the scope of the apex court.

Justice Ijaz pointed out that the government itself admitted to the flawed legislation, which led to the suspension of proceedings under the Act by court order. He emphasised that the court could not effectively carry out proceedings under such a suspended law.

During the hearing, the chief justice welcomed the PTI's lawyer Khawaja Haris and expressed his hope to avoid being targeted for his statement. He clarified that the Supreme Court does not intend to overrule the Parliament, but the Supreme Court Practice and Procedure Act is unconstitutional and interferes with the independence of the judiciary.

The CJP declared that only the three-member bench would hear the NAB amendments case, and adjourned further hearing of the case until today.

APP adds: The Supreme Court (SC) Tuesday adjourned hearing till today in petitions challenging the amendments in National Accountability Bureau's (NAB) law.

A three-member bench headed by Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial and comprising Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan and Justice Mansoor Ali Shah heard the case filed by Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf (PTI).

At the outset of hearing, the chief justice remarked that Supreme Court Practice and Procedure Act was contradicting with the constitution, adding that it was an attempt to interfere the powers of judiciary through this act.



ISLAMABAD: Country Director Asian Development Bank (ADB) Yevgeniy Zhukov presenting a souvenir to Caretaker Federal Minister for Water Resources, Ahmad Irfan Aslam during the launching ceremony of the National Masterplan on flood telemetry at local hotel.

Caretaker Federal Minister says: Pak needs to invest more in flood management, early warning amid growing vulnerability

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Water Resources Ahmed Irfan Aslam on Tuesday said the country during the 2022 monsoon floods bore \$30 billion in economic and infrastructure losses that demanded to invest more resources in flood management and early warning systems for better disaster preparedness.

The Interim Minister delivered his keynote address at the launching ceremony of the National Master Plan on Flood Telemetry and National Consultation on Updated National Flood Protection Plan-IV which was supported by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Minister Ahmed Irfan Aslam said globally some \$2.93 trillion was lost due to natural disasters whereas during the 2022 monsoon

floods, Pakistan faced huge economic losses as mentioned above and these were staggering statistics.

He said, "If we are to grow as a nation, as an economy we need to have strategic flood management plans. Water-related natural disasters can be managed through informed forecast which is not possible without modern flood telemetry systems," he added.

Aslam said the flood-related departments were silently working without any recognition like the Federal Flood Commission (FFC) which should be acknowledged and appreciated. He also extended his gratitude to the ADB for supporting the upgradation of the National Flood Protection Plan-IV as the government had initiated the endeavour based on the lessons learned during the floods of 2022.



Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) leaders speaking during a press conference in Islamabad



ISLAMABAD: Activists of traders action committee Islamabad, chanting slogans during protest against rising electricity bills, at Aabpara.

Governor KP for collective efforts to promote country's development, prosperity, peace

PESHAWAR (APP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali on Tuesday emphasized the need for collective efforts to promote the country's development, prosperity and peace.

He said that those with intentions of weakening the state and spreading negativity, especially among the youth, cannot contribute positively.

He urged the younger generation to foster a positive mindset, uphold traditions, and promote values.

He expressed these views during a meeting at the Governor's House, where a delegation of 45 members from the district of Dir Upper, led by former provincial minister Shafiqullah Khan, convened.

The delegation included representatives from various political and social circles, such as ANP, PPP, JUI, and PTI, among others.

The delegates discussed issues concerning the region's population,

particularly related to notifications in Dir Central District, education, healthcare, gas supply, municipal representative powers, funds, and other challenges.

The delegates appreciated the Governor's receptive approach and thanked him for being a public servant focused solely on addressing citizens' concerns without bias. They highlighted that this was the first time in history that a public-serving Governor was directly accessible to the province's people for dialogue and assistance. During the conversation, the Governor underscored his commitment to resolving public issues impartially and selflessly.

He said that serving humanity was a significant form of worship and that the provision of non-discriminatory public service was a crucial aspect of his belief.

The Governor acknowledged that engaging with the people and institutions dedicated to social

service brings him immense joy.

He assured the delegates that the problems faced by local governments would be resolved soon, allowing them to initiate developmental activities in their areas.

Furthermore, Governor Ghulam Ali expressed his willingness to visit Dir shortly in response to the invitation extended by the delegation. The delegation from Peshawar Public School and College, headed by Principal Iftikhar Ahmed, also met with the Governor.

The delegation discussed matters concerning institutional improvement and exchanged ideas for enhancement.

In a separate meeting, a delegation led by former provincial assembly member Israr-ul-Haq met with the Governor. The delegation discussed local issues, reaffirming the Governor's commitment to collaborate and assist in finding solutions.



PESHAWAR: 45-members Qaumi Jirga consisting of tribal elders from Dir Bala meeting with Governor Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali.

Governor Punjab orders renaming of Bahawalpur zoo

Independent Report

LAHORE: Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman has directed concerned department to restore old name of Bahawalpur zoo and rename it as Sherbagh.

During a briefing to the Governor Punjab on Jamia Masjid Al-Sadiq, Bahawalpur Zoo and the remains of ancient civilization Ganweriwala in Cholistan at the Governor's House here on Tuesday, he said the zoo should be equipped with state of the art facilities, new animals should be brought here, and the old animals should be well taken care of.

Commissioner Bahawalpur Dr. Ehtisham Anwar, Additional Deputy Commissioner Bahawalpur Jam Aftab, Secretary Tour-

ism Asif Bilal Lodhi, Head of Archeology Islamia University Bahawalpur Dr. Khalil Ahmed, Secretary Auqaf Tahir Raza Bukhari, DG Wildlife Mubeen Elhi, Secretary Forest Mudassar Waheed Malik, Administrator Auqaf Bahawalpur Ghulam Abbas, Principal Secretary to Governor Nabeel Awan, Special Secretary to Governor Umar Saeed and DG Walled City Kamran Lashari attended the briefing.

The Governor Punjab further said that matters relating to ticketing, parking, living conditions of animals inside cages should be improved.

Balighur Rehman directed to turn Sherbagh into a modern zoo with state of the art facilities.

It was also decided that the Lal Suhanra National Park Bahawalpur will also be improved.

It was further decided excavation work regarding discovery of Ganweriwala archeology in Cholistan will be started in October.

"By discovering ancient heritage and civilization buried in Cholistan more information can be found about the ancient Indus Valley Civilization," Balighur Rehman observed.

He expressed the hope that cities as big as Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa in the ancient Indus Valley Civilization can be discovered in Cholistan, adding, it will give Pakistan international recognition and also create opportunities for tourism.

KP caretaker minister chairs meeting on tourism, culture, archaeology

PESHAWAR (APP): A meeting regarding tourism, culture, archaeology and Museum was held under the chairmanship of the Caretaker Provincial Minister for Tourism, Culture, Archaeology and Museum, and Department of Information Barrister Feroze Jamal Shah Kakakhel here on Tuesday.

Addressing the participants of the meeting, he said that new recreational parks, tourist parks, skiing, new chairlifts, new tourism tracks and other measures are being taken for the safety of tourists. The environment and trees at tourists' spots will not be harmed, he added.

Kakakhel said that a ski resort will be built at Biyun (Kalam) which will generate income to the tune of millions of dollars annually and benefit the economy. He said that the

security of the tourists is being ensured through the tourism police so that there is peace in the tourist areas. Tourists should also take care of the environment and avoid littering the tourist spots. He said that the immediate impact-oriented projects should be completed as soon as possible so that the people could benefit from them. We are here for good governance so that the people could benefit from it. Barrister Kakakhel said that a tourism helpline 1422 has also been set up for tourists to call in case of any problem.

He said that work on the preservation of archaeological sites is being carried out on various sites in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. He invited the people to visit the archaeological sites where the guides would inform them about their history.



LAHORE: Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman briefed by officers of the relevant departments in Jamia Masjid Al-Sadiq, Bahawalpur Zoo and the remains of ancient civilization Ganweriwala in Cholistan.

Mayor Karachi terms digitization of land records as major challenge

KARACHI (APP): Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab has said that the major challenge of the city is the digitization of land records, which has been started by the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC) land department.

He said this on the occasion of inaugurating the Land Management and Digital Archive System operations at the head office of KMC's Land Department.

He said that with the computerization of land records, it will not be possible to make any fabrication in this record in the future. The land department challan will be issued along with a QR code that would bring transparency in this process while the amount of challan will be credited to the KMC's ac-

count, he added.

He said this method will prevent fake works as the fake item will not be found in the database. In the future, only valid and certified challans will be issued by KMC and this initiative will benefit KMC and all the citizens living in Karachi, he added.

Municipal Commissioner Syed Afzal Zaidi, Director Land Sabah ul Islam and other officers were also present on the occasion.

Mayor Karachi said that land records are being digitized on a daily basis. Congratulations to the land department KMC for this operation. KMC is being transformed into a transparent organization, where there will be no room for fake and wrongdoings, he said.

BoD meeting of autonomous bodies held

PESHAWAR (APP): A meeting regarding Boards of Directors (BoDs) of autonomous bodies was held here at Chief Minister's House on Tuesday with Caretaker Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Muhammad Azam Khan in the Chair.

Legal matters related to the functions of the BoDs were reviewed in the meeting with a special focus on the decisions taken in the 34th board meeting of the Provincial Housing Authority.

Caretaker Provincial Minister for Law, Justice (retired) Arshad Hussain Shah, Chief Secretary Nadeem Aslam Chaudhry, Secretary Law, Advocate General and other concerned high ups were present.

LHC moved against charging taxes to consumers thru electricity bills

LAHORE (Online): Inflated electricity bills and collection of taxes through these bills have been challenged in Lahore High Court (LHC).

Petition was filed by a citizen Sheikh Muhammad Latif making chairman WAPD and Chairman NEPRA respondents. The petitioner has taken plea in the petition diverse taxes are being received from the consumers in electricity bills. FC surcharge, GST, TV fee, electricity duty and other taxes are being charged to consumers in electricity bills.

It has been said in the petition the superior courts have declared collection of different taxes of electricity illegal. Thousands of rupees is increased on the difference of one unit in bills. He prayed that unprecedented hike in electricity bills has made the life of people miserable.

ECP seeks proposals for transfer/posting of key officials in Sindh

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP), in a bid to ensure free, fair and transparent elections, on Tuesday directed the Sindh Chief Secretary and Inspector General of Police to suggest transfers/postings of key provincial government officials.

In a meeting, chaired by Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sikandar Sultan Raja, it was emphasized that ensuring transparency and impartiality in the elections was the foremost duty of Sindh government's top officials.

"As an initial measure, the transfers and appointments of crucial officials are necessary to ensure non-controversial elections. Subsequently, the process will involve the appointment of district returning officers, returning officers, assistant returning officers, and monitoring teams," it was further stressed. The Election Commission extended its full support and protection to the Sindh Chief Secretary and IGP.

Earlier, both the Chief Secretary and IGP apprised the meeting of their preparedness for the upcoming general elections.

Two more ministers included in KP caretaker cabinet

PESHAWAR (APP): The caretaker cabinet of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government was further expanded as two ministers were included in it on Tuesday.

The two new ministers Engineer Aamir Nadeem Durrani and Engineer Ahmad Jan were administered oath by the Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali here at Governor's House.

Caretaker Chief Minister Muhammad Azam Khan also attended the oath-taking ceremony.



KARACHI: Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab inaugurates the operations of Land Management & Digital Archive System computerized land record at KMC Head Office.

Dr. Jamal Nasir says: Pakistan had become fifth most populous country in the world

RAWALPINDI (APP): Caretaker Provincial Minister for Health and Population Welfare Dr. Jamal Nasir said that according to the latest census results, Pakistan had become the fifth most populous country in the world after India, China, America and Indonesia.

He was addressing as the chief guest at a seminar on "Alarming population growth rate and family planning" held in collaboration with the District Population Welfare Department Rawalpindi at the Punjab Arts Council (PAC) titled here on Tuesday.

The minister said that this year, the total popula-

tion of the world was increased by eight billion people while the current rate of population growth in Pakistan was about 2.7 percent which was very high compared to international standards. He further said that the Punjab government was taking all necessary steps to prevent overpopulation.

District Population Officer Shireen Sukhan, while speaking said that population growth was the main cause of development challenges faced by Pakistan resulting in an alarming increase in poverty, illiteracy, gender inequality, environmental pollution, maternal and child mortality.



GILGIT: Minister Law & Prosecution Gilgit-Baltistan Syed Sohail Abbas, Chief Secretary Gilgit-Baltistan Mohyuddin Ahmad Wani and IGP GB Afzal Mehmood Butt inaugurating the Public library at old Jail Kashrote.

Court extends physical remand of Parvez Elahi till Sept 2

LAHORE (APP): An accountability court on Tuesday extended physical remand of former chief minister Punjab and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) President Chaudhry Parvez Elahi till September 2 in a case of receiving kickbacks in development projects.

Earlier, the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) team produced Chaudhry Parvez Elahi before Accountability Court Judge Sajid Ali Awan on expiry of physical remand term.

A prosecutor represented the bureau and

pleaded with the court to extend physical remand of Parvez Elahi as investigation could not be completed from him. He submitted that Parvez Elahi was not cooperating with the investigation team.

However, Parvez Elahi's counsel Advocate Amjad Parvez opposed the physical remand plea besides questioning the arrest of his client by the bureau.

Subsequently, the court extended the physical remand of Parvez Elahi for another 4 days and directed for producing him on September 2.

French CG calls on Mayor Karachi

KARACHI (APP): Consul General of France in Karachi Alexis Chahtahtinsky called on the Mayor of Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab on Tuesday and discussed matters of mutual interest.

The Mayor Karachi welcomed the French Consul General at the KMC head office and informed the details regarding various civic affairs including the local government system.

He said that Pakistan and France have long friendly relations and France can help Pakistan in medical, nursing, and other fields.



HYDERABAD: Fishermen are hunting into Indus river as the water level increases due to low flood that may cause any life risk for them, near Jamshoro.

Flood-prone areas Authorities directed to safeguard schools' infrastructure

MULTAN (APP): Secretary School Education for South Punjab, Rana Saleem Ahmad Khan, directed the officials to take all possible measures to safeguard schools vulnerable to flooding in Sutlej river. He was addressing a conference at Civil Secretariat here on Tuesday. The Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of respective districts have been tasked with ensuring comprehensive protection against water-related damages by implementing robust measures.

The conference was participated by key education stakeholders, including Additional Secretary Agha Zaheer Abbas Shirazi,

Deputy Secretaries Khawaja Mazharul Haque Saifur Rahman Khan, DPI (Secondary) South Punjab Zahida Batul, DPI (Elementary) Parvez Iqbal, and other officials.

The Secretary emphasized the paramount importance of restoring damaged school structures and providing essential amenities. He underscored the necessity of proactive measures to avert flood-induced harm, highlighting effective communication with the district administrations concerned. He stressed the need for an enhanced coordination mechanism with relevant authorities to bolster preparedness.



MULTAN: Rescue workers evacuate people from the villages as water from the Sutlej River continued to inundate settlements along its banks, near Multan.

KP Relief Department, IRC sign MoU to strengthen disaster response efforts

PESHAWAR (APP): The Relief, Rehabilitation and Settlement Department (RRSD) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) on Tuesday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to enhance the disaster management and fortify the emergency response efforts.

Secretary Relief, Abdul Basit and Country Director of IRC, Shabnam Baloch signed the MoU.

This moment marked that the IRC was committed to an enhanced collaboration with RRSD-Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) across

all phases of disaster management. The collaborative initiatives encompass rapid response strategies, anticipatory actions, capacity-building projects and reinforcement of disaster preparedness programs.

The successful execution of this partnership hinges on the availability of essential resources to facilitate joint endeavors.

Throughout this collaboration, RRSD and IRC maintain their distinct missions and responsibilities, ensuring the preservation of their individual objectives.

Commenting on this development, Secretary of

Relief, Abdul Basit, stated, "By harnessing the resources at our disposal, RRSD and IRC are poised to identify shared areas of interest in aiding communities affected by disasters or conflicts through targeted program interventions."

He further added, "I strongly believe in the significance of building and strengthening local capacities in disaster preparedness and response. Additionally, he said we need to establish efficient mechanisms to streamline humanitarian efforts and prevent duplication of work during emergencies."

Senate Committee takes decisive action to reinstate over 500 daily wage teachers

Independent Report
ISLAMABAD: During a meeting held today at Parliament House, Chairman Standing Committee on Education and Vocational Training, Senator Irfan Siddiqui passionately articulated the abrupt dismissal of teachers with years of dedicated service amounts to criminal offense. Drawing a parallel, he emphasized that even a household maid, who has worked diligently for fifteen years, should not be subjected to such unfair treatment.

Senator Siddiqui continued to advocate for fairness, highlighting that long-serving teachers, deserve better than sudden terminations without proper justification.

Furthermore, Director General and Director of Federal Directorate of Education's (FDE) actions came under scrutiny for misleading the Senate Standing Committee. Consequently, the matter was referred to the Senate Privileges Committee for thorough investigation and appropriate action.

The committee's meeting was marked by Senator Irfan Siddiqui's strong assertion that the

sudden dismissal of teachers without valid reasons is an unacceptable criminal act. He passionately expressed that these actions should not be tolerated under any circumstances. He drew attention to the fact that even a domestic worker with a decade or more of service should not be subjected to such unjust treatment. The Senator also criticized the arbitrary interpretation of court decisions that led to the dismissal of over 500 teachers, a move that disregarded established legal principles.

In light of the incident, it was revealed that 551 teachers teaching in Islamabad's model colleges were instructed to cease their duties from August 10 without proper justification. Concerned about the sudden turn of events, the affected teachers sought the intervention of the committee's chairman, Senator Irfan Siddiqui. Subsequently, the matter was included in the agenda of the ongoing committee meeting.

Efforts were made by the Director General and Director of FDE to validate their actions by referring to court orders. However, they failed to provide concrete evidence supporting

their claims. The Ministry of Law's opinion was also invoked, but representatives of the Law Division clarified that it was a standard response and was not a specific query from the Ministry of Education.

The committee was informed that Secretary Education is currently attending a cabinet meeting. Committee chairman directed the ministry officials to contact the secretary. Meanwhile a brief ten-minute break was observed in the committee meeting. Education Secretary Waseem Ajmal joined the committee meeting following this brief pause. Meanwhile, committee members expressed strong dissatisfaction with the Ministry of Education's unwarranted dismissal of teachers with over fifteen years of experience.

Rabia Waheed, a female teacher representing the affected educators, provided a comprehensive account of the situation and presented relevant court decisions. After extensive deliberation, Senator Irfan Siddiqui gave a ruling in favor of the immediate reinstatement of all 551 teachers to their positions as of August 9.



Caretaker Federal Minister for Planning and Development, Muhammad Sami Saeed chairing a meeting to review social sector projects in Islamabad

Sami Saeed reviews progress made in achieving goals of education, health projects

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Planning and Development, Muhammad Sami Saeed here on Tuesday said that the project to attract out-of-school children to education was commendable, providing equal opportunities for education to deprived children was the need of the hour.

Chairing a meeting to review the progress made in achieving the goals of education, health projects

and sustainable development, the federal minister said that the Information Technology (IT) facilities in schools helped in preparing students to meet the demands of modern times and the Ministry had taken concrete steps in the field of health and education.

He said that the approved project for Islamabad Teachers Institute would play an important role in increasing the capacity of teachers. He

directed for ensuring the implementation of the decisions of the National Curriculum Council. He said a curriculum to meet the modern challenges is important to improve the mindset of students and the quality of education.

To achieve the goals of sustainable development, the Ministry of Planning should further strengthen the interconnection with the relevant ministries and departments, he added.

EU ambassador meets caretaker health minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): The ambassador of European Union Rina Kivankam met with the caretaker Minister for Health Dr. Nadeem Jan and discussed issues related to the health sector and mutual interest.

During the meeting, the ambassador congratulated the minister on assuming the portfolio of federal minister.

The ambassador EU said, "The world appreciates services of Jan in efforts to eradicate polio."

The EU ambassador appreciates practical steps on Global Health Security Agenda.

The European Union will hold a meeting with the Nutrition Cell of the Ministry of Health to cooperate in the nutrition program, the ambassador added.

Dr. Nadeem Jan said that the European Union provided full support in the rehabilitation of the flood victims.

"The eradication of polio is the top most priority of the caretaker government. Health ministry is in contact with Afghanistan for joint integrated strategy at the border to eliminate polio."

He said that Pakistan will soon host a high-level meeting on the Global Health Security Agenda. Experts and stakeholders from all over the world will participate in the meeting.

The EU ambassador will also be invited to participate in the Global Health Security Summit. The EU ambassador appreciates practical steps on Global Health Security Agenda.

AC Potohar crackdown on illegal petrol agencies in Shams Colony

ISLAMABAD (APP): On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Islamabad Irfan Nawaz Memon, Assistant Commissioner Potohar visited various areas of Potohar subdivision on Tuesday. During his visit, he inspected LPG shops, clinics, and service stations in PS Shams Colony. He also sealed two illegal petrol agencies and warned other violators of strict action, ICT Spokesman Dr Abdullah Tabasim said. The Assistant Commissioner said that the sealing of the illegal petrol agencies was part of a crackdown on illegal businesses in the area. He said that such businesses were a threat to the public safety and would not be tolerated.



ISLAMABAD: Honourable Justice Supreme Court of Pakistan, Syed Mansoor Ali Shah in a group photograph with other participants during National Conference of Service Providers Gender Based Violence: From Legislation to Implementation.

LAJA & UN Women holds National Conference of Service Providers in Justice Sector

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Legal Aid and Justice Authority (LAJA) and UN Women on Tuesday conducted the first-ever National Conference of Service Providers in Islamabad.

The event brought together a diverse network of Criminal Justice stakeholders to engage in cross-learning and exchange of best practices, with an aim to establish standards of care for survivors and to strengthen the implementation of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) laws across Pakistan, said the press note. Addressing the audience, Ehsan Sadiq, Director General of the National Police Bureau, proclaimed the importance of this collaborative effort and said, "This Conference represents a paramount stride in addressing GBV comprehensively. By connecting professionals across various domains, we are creating a robust network poised to build a more coordinated response to GBV, ensuring survivors receive the support they rightfully deserve."

Aysha Raza Farooq, Chairperson of the Special Committee on Anti-Rape Law at the Ministry of Law and Justice highlighted the transformative potential of the conference.

"Our commitment to enhancing GBV laws is intrinsically linked to improving mechanisms for

supporting survivors. This conference acts as a cornerstone in aligning our legal framework with the specific needs of survivors, driving a survivor-centric approach" she said.

This historic conference marks a significant step toward advancing the standards of services and response for survivors of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Pakistan.

Sharmela Rassool, Country Representative of UN Women, emphasized the country-wide significance of this initiative:

"Ending gender-based violence requires a united national effort, where every individual becomes a voice against silence.

Pakistan needs positive thinking for development: VC AIOU

ISLAMABAD (APP): Vice Chancellor of Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU), Dr Nasir Mahmood on Tuesday said that positive thinking is such a treasure that turns the soil into gold, youth need to develop positive thinking for the development of Pakistan.

While addressing the contestants of Speech and Painting competitions held at AIOU, he said these competitions were organized amongst students from schools, colleges, and universities of Rawalpindi/ Islamabad by the Directorate of Students Advisory & Counseling Services (DSACS) to pay tribute to the great leaders of the Pakistan Movement.

Dr. Nasir emphasized youth to channel their emotions into dedication and hard work for the betterment of Pakistan.

He emphasized the importance of admitting

mistakes and taking responsibility for one's actions to bring positive change into their lives.

Director DSACS, Syed Ghulam Kazim Ali, expressed that the purpose of these events is to honor the efforts and sacrifices of previous generations and inspire the next generation to pursue education for the development of Pakistan.

It is pertinent to mention here that 36 students participated in the painting competition, while 40 students took part in the speech competition. Hifza Nasib, Mahnoor Nawaz, and Umm Abiha secured the first, second, and third positions respectively in the painting competition, while Muhammad Ali claimed the first position in the speech competition.

Amina Adil and Mahnoor Zeib were placed second and third respectively in the speech competition.

Motorway Police recover lost cell phone, owner overjoyed

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Motorway Police on Tuesday recovered a costly mobile phone of a motorist after it fell from his car near Charsada on the Peshawar-Islamabad motorway.

According to a Motorway (North) spokesman, the commuter, identified as Omar, was travelling from Peshawar to Islamabad when he stopped to check his tire. As he got out of the car, his mobile phone fell out of his pocket where he did not realize that his phone had fallen and continued on his journey.

The Motorway Police were alerted to the lost phone and began a search. They eventually found the phone and contacted Omar. The owner was overjoyed to have his phone returned and thanked the Motorway Police for their help.

This incident is a reminder to motorists to be careful when traveling on the motorway.

DC launches crackdown, tackling price hikes, encroachments

ISLAMABAD (APP): On the instructions of Deputy Commissioner Islamabad Irfan Nawaz Memon, Assistant Commissioners on Tuesday took action against price hikes, encroachment and professional beggars in their respective areas.

As the ICT Spokesperson said, a comprehensive effort was made, involving inspections at 134 different locations to curb price hikes, while fines totalling Rs. 17,100 were levied in response to pricing violations.

He further said, the crackdown resulted in the sealing of three shops, arrest of four individuals, and the initiation of legal proceedings against them.

Moreover, 29 professional beggars were apprehended and subsequently handed over to law enforcement, while simultaneous measures were enacted against unlicensed medical facilities and outlets offering Shisha

services. Significantly, the campaign included an extensive anti-encroachment operation, leading to the apprehension of seven persons due to encroachment violations. A legal case was registered against two outlaws implicated in the encroachment incidents.

The efforts to counteract rising prices also encompassed the confiscation of over 12 kilograms of polythene bags, which are a major contributor to environmental degradation.

In a parallel endeavour, unauthorized petrol filling stations and illegal LPG facilities were targeted. A total of fourteen non-compliant petrol filling agencies were shut down, alongside the closure of three unlawful LPG filling stations. Three individuals linked to these operations were arrested and relocated to police facilities.

Fabad police chief conducts online open forum

Independent Report
ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO) Dr Akbar Nasir Khan organized an online open forum, providing residents with direct access to senior police officials and ensure the resolution of public problems.

During this interactive session, ICCPO Dr Akbar Nasir Khan personally addressed public inquiries while AIG (Operations) Saud Khan was also in attendance.

Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan attentively listened to callers' concerns and promptly directed relevant officers to find immediate solutions. Many of the issues raised by the callers were of a personal nature and related to police station matters.

Addressing the citizens, ICCPO Dr Akbar Nasir Khan underscored the police force's unwavering commitment to promptly resolve public issues. He emphasized that initiatives like this one aimed to bridge the gap between the police and the public. Residents from across the city presented their suggestions and concerns to ICCPO Dr Akbar Nasir Khan. The majority of these concerns revolved around personal matters, ongoing investigations, the expedited handling of cases, and other related issues. The Chief of Capital Police highlighted that the federal capital has witnessed a significant reduction.

Stakeholder's consultations on child domestic labour held

ISLAMABAD (APP): Group Development Pakistan (GDP) and Sustainable Social Development Organization (SSDO), in collaboration with the National Commission on the Rights of Child (NCRC), organized the 'Stakeholder's Consultations on Child Domestic Labour: The Way Forward'.

This collaborative initiative reflects an unwavering commitment to addressing the critical issue of child domestic labour and championing the rights and well-being of children across Pakistan.

Child domestic labour remains a pervasive issue that undermines the fundamental rights and well-being of children. The Stakeholder Consultations served as a platform for stakeholders to engage in meaningful dialogues, share insights, and propose actionable solutions to combat this pressing challenge.

The event marked an intensive and comprehensive discourse on strategies to overcome legislative and enforcement challenges. Participants included representatives from governmental bodies, non-governmental organizations, civil society, academia, media, and concerned citizens. Their diverse perspectives and collective expertise contributed to shaping holistic strategies that encompass legislative, policy, and grassroots initiatives to eradicate child domestic labour.

GDP and SSDO have been at the forefront of advocating for the rights of children and marginalized communities. Their collaboration with NCRC underscores a shared commitment to safeguarding the rights and dignity of every child, in alignment with international conventions and Pakistan's own legal framework.



ISLAMABAD: Aleema Khan and Uzma Khanum, sisters of Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan leaving the Islamabad High Court after attending the hearing of Imran Khan's plea seeking suspension of a three-year jail term.

IK's 3-year sentence suspended by IHC, not abolished: Tarar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Secretary General of Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N), Atta Tarar said on Tuesday that the Islamabad High Court (IHC) had suspended three-year sentence of PTI Chairman Imran Khan in the Toshakhana case, without abolishing it.

During his interaction with the media persons, he clarified that the suspension of Imran Khan's disqualification was a temporary measure, as his legal team had solely lodged an appeal for the suspension of the sentence.

He pointed out that

the decision to terminate the sentence would depend on the case's merits.

"The release of Chairman Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) appears unlikely because of his existing judicial remand in another case, and his association with events like May 9, which is a unique situation in history," he added.

He believed that Imran Khan had openly admitted to participating in purchase and sale of gifts.

This stance was backed by his lawyer's acknowledgment before the Election Commission, he added.

Water level rises to full capacity in Mangla Dam

ISLAMABAD (APP): After discharge of water from the currently fully-packed country's largest Mangla dam was stopped on Tuesday the water level in the reservoir was kept intact to the stipulated maximum 1242.00 feet capacity. After a week-long pause only up to 0.30 feet of water had been discharged till Saturday last from the country's largest water reservoir, official sources told APP on Tuesday.

Mangla dam contains minimum operating level 1050 feet, present level of 1242.00 feet against the maximum conservation level 1242 feet, live storage 7.356 MAF as recorded today.

Inflows of Jhelum river at Mangla reservoir was recorded as 20400 cusecs with outflows of same 18300 cusecs of water from the dam.

At the same time, the position of the river inflows and outflows at Tarbela, Mangla and Chashma along with the reservoirs levels and the barrages remained as under:-

Islamabad Capital Police distributed body cams to Dolphin Squad officials

Independent Report
ISLAMABAD: According to the details, following the special directions of the Islamabad Capital City Police Officer

sations during interactions with the public could be securely recorded. They were also informed that this initiative aims to reduce crime rates and monitor suspicious individuals



(ICCPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, the SSP Safe City distributed body cams among the officials of Dolphin Squad and briefed them about their usage, a public relations officer said.

He said that, the purpose of the body cams is to ensure the secure recording of conversations with the public. Residents from across the city presented their suggestions and concerns to ICCPO Dr Akbar Nasir Khan. The majority of these concerns revolved around personal matters, ongoing investigations, the expedited handling of cases, and other related issues. The Chief of Capital Police highlighted that the federal capital has witnessed a significant reduction.

Furthermore, the officials were directed that no vehicle search should be conducted without the orders of senior officers and interactions with the public should be conducted courteously as well as maintaining a respectful attitude towards them.

Islamabad Capital Police is taking all possible measures to safeguard the lives and property of the citizens. Citizens were also requested to cooperate with the police and report any suspicious activity to their respective police station or dial "Pucar-15" helpline.



ISLAMABAD: Senator Irfan-Ul-Haq Siddiqui, Chairman Senate Standing Committee On Federal Education & Professional Training presiding over a meeting of the committee at Parliament House.