

Independent

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Vol. XIII No. 269 Reg. mails-B/ ID-445 Saturday September 16, 2023, Safar 29, 1445 A.H. Ph: 2158688, 2158997 Pages 4: Rs. 12

Terminates NAB amendments SC orders restoration of corruption cases against public office holders

Former president, former PMs, over 450 MPs, bureaucrats now to face NAB once again

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) has annulled amendment to NAB laws declaring several of its clauses in conflict with law and constitution.

A three-member bench of the apex court, headed by Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial, announced the reserved verdict on PTI chief's petition challenging the amendments to the law. It was the last day of CJP Bandial in office as he is retiring today. The bench announced the verdict by 2-1 majority with third member of the bench, Justice Mansoor Ali Shah, writing a note of dissent.

SC has declared nine of 10 clauses of the NAB amendments null and void.

Following annulment of NAB amendment by SC corruption cases abolished against several politicians under several law stand restored. Toshakhana reference has been restored against Asif Ali Zardari, Nawaz Sharif and Yousuf Raza Gillani.

LNG reference against former Prime Minister (PM) Shahid Khaqan Abbasi was shifted from Accountability Court (AC). Rental power reference against speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf was returned which has now been restored. The cases against former PM Shehbaz Sharif, former PM Shaukat Aziz and former finance minister Ishaq Dar have been re-

opened now.

The beneficiaries of NAB amendment are Farzana Raja, Yousuf Raza Gillani, speaker Punjab Assembly Sabtain Khan, Anwar Majid, close aide to Asif Ali Zardari, son of Anwar Majid, former PM Shaukat Aziz, Zafar Gondal, Sadiq Imrani, Nawab Aslam Raesani, Lashkari Raesani, Asfand Yar Kakar, Arbab Alamgir, Asma Arbab Alamgir and Sher Azam Wazir.

In the perspective of this decision over 450 former parliamentarians, serving and retired officers and some private business men have come on the radar of NAB.

Almost 1800 references, investigations, in-

quiries and complaints have been reopened in the light of this decision.

Cases of 7 former Prime ministers, 14 chief ministers, 78 ministers, 176 MP and 114 officers have been reopened due to this decision.

SC has ordered to reopen thousands of corruption cases of Rs 7000 billion, investigation and inquiries.

This is to mention that SC like this had abolished former president Gen (Retd) Pervez Musharraf NRO and reopened 8000 corruption cases.

The SC in its Friday decision has declared Chairman PTI petition maintain-

able.

SC said that the petition is maintainable under article 25, 14, 19, 24 of the constitution. The cases of all public office holders are restored.

SC held 53 hearing on Chairman PTI petition.

A 3-member bench of SC presided over by CJP Umar Ata Bandial had reserved judgment on September 5.

CJP Umar Ata Bandial had said that he would announce the decision of this important case before his retirement.

The other two judges of the bench are Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan and Justice Mansoor Ali Shah.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Haq Kakar addressing a Press conference after a meeting. Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki is also present

I don't believe in small or big fish, I believe in fish of law: PM

Announcing election date beyond caretaker govt's mandate; Says he will not support any unconstitutional step; Zero tolerance for those involved in the smuggling

ISLAMABAD (Online): Care taker Prime Minister (PM) Anwar ul Haq Kakar has said he does not believe in small or big fish but he believes in the fish of law.

"Operation against hoarders and smugglers will continue indiscriminately. No pressure in this regard will be accepted. I am not a Mughal emperor that I will issue a decree of monarch that catch him and leave the other. Whatever is done will be done as per law. Why should we do an illegal work by announcing the date of election. This is mandate of Election Commission (EC). Relief has been extended to the consumers

using electricity upto 200 units soon. The installments of the electricity bills will be allowed. Price control committees are being reactivated to rein in inflation.

We are reviewing Supreme Court (SC) decision on annulment of NAB amendment. Caretaker government will take its decision following the arrival of opinion of ministry of law, he said this while addressing a press conference in PM House Friday.

PM held he has reviewed the operation against the hoarders, smugglers, power pilferers during the last one week. Provincial chief ministers, chief secretaries, IGs and other senior authorities have participated in it.

He stated we are working within our prescribed mandate. May be it PIA or any other institution what is our mandate with regard to its privatization is very clear.

We will do nothing if it does not fall in regulation. But all steps will be taken to remove the flaws. He pointed out that operation is continuing against the power pilferers, hoarders, dollar mafia, sugar mafia and fertilizer mafia all over the country and it will continue.

PPP doubles down on demand for immediate announcement of poll date

LAHORE (INP): PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari on Friday doubled down on the demand for the immediate announcement of a date and schedule for the general elections, stressing that only polls could take the country out of economic and political crises.

Concerns on the poll timing have arisen from the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) ruling out elections this year.

The electoral watchdog reasons its decision to push elections beyond November 9 on the basis of the notification of results of the new digital 2023 census and Section 17(2) of the Elections Act, which states: "The commission shall delimit

constituencies after every census is officially published."

With elections potentially just a few months away, PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has been engaging in public gatherings and organising party meetings as part of the party's electoral preparations of late. One such highly-anticipated meeting of the PPP's Central Executive Committee was held today.

Speaking to the media after the meeting, Bilawal said the announcement of an election date and schedule was the only way to dispel the "confusion and atmosphere of instability and insecurity" prevalent in the country.



ISLAMABAD: Interim Minister for Energy Mr. Muhammad Ali held a meeting with a team representing Asian Development Bank at Power Division. The bilateral cooperation, energy efficiency and resource management for reforms in the power sector were discussed.

Gwadar Port fully operational: Chinese Charge d'Affaires

Independent Report

ISLAMABAD: The Chinese Charge d'Affaires of the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan, Ms. Pang Chunxue, has stated that the progress of the Gwadar Port is satisfactory and that it is now fully operational. She made the remarks during a meeting with caretaker Information and Public Relations Minister of Balochistan, Jan Achakzai on Friday.

Ms. Pang said that the port is nearing full capacity, with work on the free zone in its initial stages.

She added that the vocational training center has

been handed over to the local community, and that the airport is scheduled to be ready by May 2024.

The Gwadar hospital is set to be completed by the end of 2023, while the desalination plant is expected to be finished this year, she added. Mr. Achakzai welcomed the news of the port's full operationalization and expressed his gratitude to the Chinese government for its support. He said that the Gwadar Port will play a major role in the economic development of Balochistan and Pakistan, and that it will help to boost trade and investment in the region.

Govt hikes petrol price by Rs26, HSD by Rs17

Monitoring Desk

ISLAMABAD: The caretaker government on Friday pushed through another hike in the prices of petrol by Rs26.02 per litre and high-speed diesel (HSD) by Rs17.34 per litre. The increase brings the price of petrol to Rs331.38 per litre while HSD is Rs329.18 per litre, the Ministry of Finance said in a post on X (formerly Twitter) after midnight.

It added that the decision was taken owing to the increasing trend of petroleum prices in the international market. No revision was specified in the rates of kerosene or light diesel oil.

The price increase comes on the heels of an already massive hike on Sept 1, when the interim government raised fuel prices by up to Rs18 per litre. That jump in petroleum prices had come after similar hikes by the interim government on Aug 15.

The price hike is based on existing tax rates and import parity prices, mainly because of currency fluctuation and a slight increase in international oil prices.

Fawad takes oath as Caretaker Federal Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Friday administered oath of Caretaker Federal Minister to Fawad Hasan Fawad.

The president administered him the oath at a ceremony here at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Torkham border opened for traffic and cargo vehicles after 9 days

KHYBER (Online): Torkham border has been reopened after 9 days with Afghanistan assurance that its territory will not be used against Pakistan.

According to sources, 2 vehicles have entered to Pakistan from Afghanistan. Traffic has also started. The opening of gates on both sides of Torkham border has caused a wave of happiness among people.

It is pertinent to say that Afghan Foreign Minister Maulvi Amir Khan Muttaqi has requested to open the border by assuring that Afghan territory would not be used against Pakistani authorities. In the backdrop of this assurance Pakistan considered re-opening the border.

Security forces kill three terrorists

QUETTA (Online): On 14 September 2023, at 1830 hours, terrorists attacked a post of security forces near Wali Tangi Quetta.

During fire exchange, 3x terrorists were sent to hell. Subedar Qaiser Raheem while fighting valiantly embraced shahadat in the line of duty whereas 1x soldier is seriously injured. Security Forces of Pakistan will continue to thwart efforts of the enemies of peace and prosperity in the country.

While reacting to the development, former interior minister Rana Sanaullah said that he hasn't read the SC's written verdict yet.

"The Supreme Court's controversial bench gave a controversial verdict," he said, adding



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior Sarfraz Ahmad Bugti and Federal Minister for Communication and Railways Shahid Ashraf Tarar during meeting of Cabinet Sub-Committee on ECL.

Economy showing signs of recovery: Finance Minister

ISLAMABAD (INP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Finance Dr Shamshad Akhtar said on Friday the country's economy was showing signs of recovery owing to the efforts made by the interim government.

"If you view the macroeconomic indicators, you may find some betterment. There are some signs of economic recovery. Even if it is just starting," the min-

ister said while addressing a press conference here. While deliberating upon the indicators showing positive development, the finance minister said the Consumer Price Index (CPI) had shortly declined from over 38 per cent in May to 27.2 per cent now (in September), adding that this was an important indicator to show betterment.

Dr Akhtar, who also holds the portfolio for Revenue, Economic Affairs and Privatisation, stated, "The caretaker setup inherited several challenges and tried to deal with them one by one. Our strategy was to prudently manage these challenges, and make efforts to control the expenditures and enhance the revenues."

She said the country had come out of some difficulties, and the situation would improve further as "we move forward". According to the minister, the production sectors witnessed betterment, including the agriculture, which is expected to yield good output in both minor and major crops that will have a positive impact on the economic growth prospectus of the country.



ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi administering the oath of office to Mr. Fawad Hasan Fawad as Caretaker Federal Minister, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Good to see you all my friends: CJP Umar Ata

ISLAMABAD (Online): "Good to see you all my friends". This was said by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial while talking to the lawyers in his last case in Supreme Court (SC).

The lawyer Mian Bilal said to the CJP When you heard your first case in high court then it was I who appeared before you. Today there is last case of yours in SC and I am appearing before you here too.

The CJP said to the counsel your case has become in-fructuous. But if you give arguments then "dil ko khush rakhne ka laye Ghalib ye khial acha ha".

The lawyer Mian Bilal said you heard us with patience always.

The CJP Umar Ata Bandial remarked it is our

obligation to hear every one with patience. Bar has always extended cooperation to us and we have got much from Bar to learn.

He further remarked by wearing black coat we consider ourselves part of bar. Justice Sahir Ali used to say bar is our mother. We will meet in bar room by grace of Allah.

He remarked I am thankful to media friends who kept me active. We welcome media criticism.

Media must criticize the decisions but it should not criticize the judges.

He observed the judges cannot defend them in response to media criticism. Before criticizing judge, it should be seen either it is based on truth or speculations. Criticism on judges should not be based on falsehood.

Governor invites foreign businessmen to invest in KP, tap natural resources potential

PESHAWAR (APP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Haji Ghulam Ali on Friday invited foreign businessmen to invest in Pakistan and utilize its abundant natural resources that are still untapped due to lack of modern machinery.

He was talking to the famous businessman of the United Arab Emirates, Suhail Muhammad Alzaruni here at Governor House. He said that utilizing KP's potential for natural resources would not only benefit foreign investors but also generate new opportunities for locals.

He said that the lack of modern equipment and needed facilities are reasons behind the slow pace of

proper exploration and use of these hidden natural resources.

Governor and Alzaruni also discussed matters of mutual interests and bringing foreign investment into the country. Alzaruni also lauded the Governor for his keen interest in developing the province and inviting foreign investors.

Meanwhile, a delegation of Upper Dir elders led by Paindamand Khan called on Governor Haji Ghulam Ali and highlighted issues confronted by people in his area.

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor assured cooperation to the delegation and said that he is not oblivious to the problems of people living

in KP and steps have been taken to resolve them. He also urged the masses to collectively work for the development of their area and said that available resources would be utilized to address the problems of Upper Dir.

He stressed avoiding negative thinking and changing of mindset to counter the narrative being propagated by certain elements against the country.

A delegation of Bajaur led by former Senator Abdul Rasheed also met with KP Governor and apprised him problems of the people. A five-member delegation led by Sheikh ul Hadees, Moulana Ata-ur-Rehman also called on the Governor and discussed matters of mutual interest.



FAISALABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Human Rights and Women Empowerment, Khalil George, distributing non food items to the Christian community in Jaranwala.

GB governor demands region's constitutional status, representation in parliament

LAHORE (APP): Gilgit-Baltistan Governor Mehdi Shah called for the region's constitutional status and representation in the National Assembly and Senate.

During a press conference outside Bilawal House here on Friday, the governor emphasized the historical significance of Gilgit-Baltistan's accession to Pakistan, underlining the need for equal representation in the country's legislative bodies akin to the four provinces. He expressed concerns that the region's citizens remain uncertain about their parliamentary seats, stressing the importance of representation.

Shah disclosed that the PPP's Central Executive Committee (CEC) meeting had focused on conducting elections under the Constitution, with unanimous support for elections to be held within 90 days. He acknowledged the support

of PPP Co-Chairman Asif Ali Zardari and the progress made in Gilgit-Baltistan but highlighted the disparity in development compared to other provinces.

Recalling Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Shaheed's efforts to conduct small-scale elections in the region, Mehdi Shah took pride in being the first Chief Minister of Gilgit-Baltistan. He expressed optimism that the Pakistan People's Party could lead the way in achieving constitutional province status. He also announced the PPP's intentions to participate in Punjab elections, recognizing Punjab's pivotal role in national politics and the formation of a caretaker government for the upcoming elections.

Despite challenges and external pressures, Shah reaffirmed his 45-year-long association with the PPP and unwavering commitment to maintaining strong ties with Pakistan.



LAHORE: Acting Consul General of China Mr. Cao Ke meeting with caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi

Dr Javed for ensuring health, well-being of children

LAHORE (APP): Punjab's third most populous nation globally by 2048.

Dr. Javed Akram emphasized the critical role parents play in ensuring the health and well-being of children in his significant address at the 8th PPA (Pakistan Pediatric Association) Punjab Annual Symposium as well as the 13th National Child Rights Conference where experts and professionals were gathered at a local hotel on Friday.

Highlighting the pressing issue of child development in Pakistan, Dr. Akram commended the organizers for tackling this vital topic. He extended a warm welcome to educators, colleagues, and guests, reflecting on his experiences serving humanity across five different countries. Notably, he projected Pakistan's trajectory as it inches towards becoming

the third most populous nation globally by 2048.

Dr. Akram expressed a visionary goal of conducting health screenings for every ninth-grade student in Punjab. He stressed the significance of nurturing the mental health of children and cited his extensive work and research during his tenure as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Health Sciences, aimed at eliminating prevalent diseases from society. The minister also called for a tangible reduction in cases of violence against children, citing recent steps taken to rehabilitate individuals like Rizwana and Ayman. The event concluded with the distribution of commemorative shields to esteemed guests.

Earlier, President PPA Punjab, Dr. Naem Zafar, elucidated the symposium's aims.

Baby with heart out of chest dies

MUZAFFARGARH (APP): The infant who was born last week with his heart out of his thorax died on Friday despite the provision of intensive care at the direction of Caretaker Punjab Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi.

Vice Chancellor Children Hospital Lahore, Dr Masood Sadiq confirmed the death of the infant, Abdullah.

According to the VC, the child fell prey to the rare disease Ectopia cordis in which the baby's heart doesn't have the typical coverage of the breastbone.

He said it was not possible to operate the baby at such a beginning of age. The child was brought to the hospital and admitted to the ICU ward where he suffered from Sepsis disease which caused his death following the intensity of the infection.

D, Commissioner Sukkur reviews arrangements for Eid Milad SAW

SUKKUR (APP): Deputy Commissioner (DC) Sukkur, Fayyaz Hussain Mahesar on Friday chaired a meeting to review the arrangements for the celebrations of Jashn-e-Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAW).

The meeting was attended by scholars and religious leaders from various schools of thought who discussed the matters relevant to the month of Rabi-ul-Awwal.

The Deputy Commissioner assured the scholars that every matter would be addressed and resolved. He emphasized that no effort would be spared to find solutions to their concerns. He directed the relevant authorities to ensure uninterrupted water supply, minimize gas load shedding, clean routes of M i l a d - u n - N a b i processions and install streetlights on time.

Man shoots dead wife over domestic dispute

HYDERABAD (APP): A man allegedly shot dead his wife at her father's residence in the Babbur Chowk area near Kotri SITE, Jamshoro district, on Friday. According to police, Sajid Solangi barged into the residence of his father-in-law and killed his 25-year-old wife Shabnum Solangi. Quoting her mother Noor Bano, the police said that Sajid used to beat his wife owing to which she often stayed with her parents.



PESHAWAR: Businessman of UAE Sohail Muhammad Al-Zorani meeting with Governor Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali.

Tackling the issue of climate change is the need of hour: Governor

LAHORE: A delegation led by Dr. Samuel Rizk, Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Program met Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman here today at the Governor House Lahore. During the meeting, other important issues including climate change were discussed.

Speaking on the occasion, Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that tackling the issue of climate change is the need of the hour. He said that Pakistan had faced the worst flood last year due to climate change. Governor Punjab said that climate change is also having adverse impact on agriculture.

He said that as the chancellor, he has formed a consortium on environment. Governor Punjab while appreciating the United Nations Development Program's commitment to eradicating poverty and its role in climate change, said that the United Nations' immediate assistance and services to the flood victims during the 2022 flood are commendable. Governor Punjab further said that there are many challenges in the field of education and health for which the government is working.

On this occasion, the Resident Representative of UNDP expressed interest in the possibility of collaboration with the Punjab Government in various projects to tackle the challenge of climate change.

PDWP approves seven developmental schemes

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Provincial Development Working Party (PDWP), in its 16th meeting of the current financial year 2023-24, approved seven developmental schemes of Agriculture and Special Healthcare and Medical Education sector with an estimated cost of Rs 22026.816 million.

Planning and Development Board Chairman Itfikhur Ali Sahoo chaired the meeting here on Friday. Secretary P&D Board Nadir Chatha were present.

Approved schemes are: Privatization of Agriculture Extension Services to enhance the service delivery at the cost of Rs 804.470 million; Program for strategic transformation/revamping of emergency department in tertiary hospitals in Bahawalpur and Sahiwal at the cost of Rs 1197.407 million; Rehabilitation/renovation of hospitals under Specialized Healthcare & Medical Education (SH&ME) Department through health council traditional mode in Lahore and Faisalabad at the cost of Rs 5033.372 million; Program for strategic transformation/revamping of old blocks of ex-DHQs (Rahim Yar Khan, Gujranwala, Sardogha, Rawalpindi) at the cost of Rs 1264.132 million; Program for provision of missing facilities in newly upgraded colleges of nursing in Punjab at the cost of Rs 2716.824 million; Provision of missing specialties for up-gradation of DHQ Hospital to Teaching Hospital, Sahiwal. (Revised) at the cost of Rs 9311.161 million.



GILGIT: Chief Minister Gilgit-Baltistan Haji Gulbar Khan chairing a cabinet meeting at CM Secretariat.

LHC dismisses plea for release of Mansha Bomb

LAHORE (APP): The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Friday dismissed a petition challenging the arrest of a land grabber.

The court dismissed the petition after declaring it meritless. The court held that the arrest of Mansha Ali Khokhar alias Mansha Bomb by the police was legal whereas investigations could not be stifled at this stage.

Justice Ali Baqar Najafi announced the reserved verdict on a petition filed by Amir Mansha, son of Mansha Ali Khokhar. The court had reserved the verdict after hearing detailed arguments of the parties earlier in the day.

In final arguments, the petitioner's counsel had pleaded with the court to order the release of Mansha Khokhar who was illegally arrested and confined by the police. He submitted that the accused was not required in any criminal case. However, the respondent, Capital City Police Officer (CCPO) Lahore, through a report, submitted that the accused was arrested on September 14.

Punjab initiates recruitment of 374 female doctors

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Minister for Primary and Secondary Healthcare Dr. Jamal Nasir announced the commencement of the recruitment process for 374 Women Medical Officers (WMO) through the Punjab Public Service Commission. The move aims to bolster healthcare services in remote and underdeveloped regions of the province. During a recent meeting held here on Friday, Minister Nasir revealed that Punjab Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi had greenlit the recruitment of WMOs. These medical officers will be assigned to Basic Health Units, Rural Health Centers, and Tehsil headquarters hospitals, with a focus on delivering quality healthcare services, especially to women in marginalized areas.

Aspiring female candidates with the required qualifications can submit their applications online through the Punjab Public Service Commission.

Baqar takes notice of inoperative forensic software

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Caretaker Chief Minister Justice (Retd) Maqbool Baqar on Friday took notice of inoperative forensic software of the forensic division.

The Caretaker Chief Minister had sought a report from IGP.

He asked how bullet shells could be tested if forensic software remained operational.

He further asked whose responsibility was to update the software of the forensic machine and whether the update of the forensic machine was reported to the government or not. Baqar directed the IGP Sindh to conduct a detailed inquiry to report the matter to him and take action against the officer's incompetence.

Building collapse: One killed, two injured in D-ground

FAISALABAD (APP): A double-storey building collapsed due to rain in D-ground area which left a person dead and two others injured, here on Friday.

According to Rescue 1122, rescue team reached the spot and carried out a search operation, pulled out the people trapped under the debris and shifted them to the Civil Hospital. District Emergency Officer Engineer Ehtesham Wahla and Emergency Officer Faisal Munir also reached the spot. Rescue team said that the building collapsed due to inundation of rain water filled in under-construction basement adjacent to the building.

The dead was identified as Naveed son of Bashir Ahmad, 55, while Ayesha daughter of Naveed Ahmed, 25, and Ahsan son of Bashir Ahmad, 27, sustained injuries. They were resident of D-ground People's Colony No. 1.

Meanwhile, Deputy Commissioner Abdullah Nayyer Sheikh reached the spot immediately after the incident. Additional Deputy Commissioner Kashif Raza Awan, AC City Uzair Khan, Chief Officer Municipal Corporation.

Caretaker CM reviews anti-narcotics measures

LAHORE: In compliance with the direction of the caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi, an organized crackdown has been initiated against the drug peddlers to save the people from this menace.

The CM chaired a meeting about drug peddling and its eradication at his office in which it was agreed to collaborate with the NGOs for rehabilitating the addicts.

IG Police Usman Anwar briefed that 18 kilograms of ice, 180 kilograms of heroin and 7,100 kilograms of charas have been seized during the last three weeks, leading to the arrest of 310 key drug dealers and the clearing of 600 hotspots. The police

have arrested 7,500 individuals along with handlers of professional beggars.

The CM ordered to intensify the crackdown further and called for comprehensive planning to establish rehabilitation centers across Punjab. He expressed the desire to rehabilitate addicts as useful citizens of society, adding that the number of beds in these centers will also be increased.

Provincial Information Minister Amir Mir, chief secretary, Addl IG (Special Branch), CCPO, commissioner, secretaries of health, information, HED & SED departments attended the meeting while RPO participated through video link.



LAHORE: Resident representative of United Nation Development Program (UNDP) Dr. Samuel Rizk meeting with Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman

Federal Ombudsman Regional office ensures justice for government employees

ABBOTTABAD (APP): The Federal Ombudsman Regional Office Abbottabad Friday resolved the pension issues of federal government employees of Pak Army and (National Engineering Services Pakistan) NESPAK who were facing administrative issues.

Regional Head of the Federal Ombudsman Abdul Ghafour Beg Abbottabad, played a vital role in ensuring compensation for retired army personnel.

According to the details Sohail Khan, a retired army employee, had lodged a complaint against the Military Pension Controller Lahore, citing delay in receiving his pension since September 2022.

Taking immediate action, a notice was issued to the Military Pension Controller Lahore, compelling the prompt release of Sohail Khan's pension. Subsequently, an amount of 329,470/- rupees was disbursed in favor of Sohail Khan, bringing relief to the retired army officer. Expressing his gratitude, Sohail Khan commended the Federal Ombudsman's institution for its unwavering commitment to ensuring justice for ordinary citizens, an appreciation rarely witnessed.

In another case through the intervention and decisions of Federal Ombudsman Ijaz Ahmed Qureshi, he facilitated the timely payment of salaries for employees of NESPAK. Faraz Mustafa, filed a complaint regarding unwarranted delays and suspensions in their salary payments by the department. Immediate action was taken by serving a notice to NESPAK, ensuring the immediate disbursement of salaries. Subsequently, NESPAK promptly released the due salaries to the complainants. In a gesture of appreciation, the affected employee expressed gratitude towards the Federal Ombudsman's office.

MoU signed to protect cultural heritage, promotion of arts

SUKKUR (APP): A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO) and Arore University of Arts, Architecture, Design and Heritage Sukkur, here on Friday to protect cultural heritage, promote arts and crafts, provide business support, offer capacity building initiatives, and empower rural women artisans in the region.

SRSO Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Mohammad Dital Kalhoro and AUAADH Vice-Chancellor (VC), Prof. Dr. Zahid Hussain Khand formalized the partnership during a ceremony held at SRSO Complex.

The aim of this partnership was to have a positive impact on the cultural and economic development of the communities whose poverty they are working to alleviate. Speaking at the event, SRSO CEO, Muhammad Dital Kalhoro said that his organization has been working for two decades to promote the products made by rural artisans women of Sindh to highlight and sell through which all the proceeds go directly to the skilled women, today not only in Pakistan but all over the world the sale of their handmade items is increasing and the demand continues to grow, he added. He said that the expert team of Arore University and SRSO will together take this work forward in a more modern way as per the requirements of modern times. On this occasion, the Vice Chancellor of Arore University Prof. Dr. Zahid Hussain Khand said in his address that the students associated with Arore University will be given internships in this field and in a regular and organized manner, arts and design will be further expanded in collaboration with SRSO. SRSO's Chief Financial Officer.



SUKKUR: SRSO Chief Executive Officer Mohammad Dital Kalhoro and AUAADH Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Zahid Hussain Khand formalized a memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO) and Arore University of Arts Architecture, Design and Heritage Sukkur.

Govt handed the petition to protect disability rights

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Government of Pakistan has received a petition with thousands of signatures calling for action to protect disability rights ahead of a major UN summit on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) this month. The petition was handed to Rafiullah Kakar, Member Social Sector, Planning Commission by Munazza Gillani, Country Director Sight Savers. It was signed by thousands of people.

Signatories include people from different walks of life and prominent personalities like Nadia Jamil, TV actress, Shabnam Baloch, Eminent Humanitarian worker, Saqib Rafique, President Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) and many others.

Community-Based Inclusive Development, National Forum of Women With Disabilities and Sight Savers' Equal World campaign jointly organised

the 'Promise in Peril' petition. The campaign is calling on world leaders to keep the SDG promise of leaving no one behind and ensure disability is specifically addressed in discussions on the SDGs.

Rafiullah Kakar, Member Social Sector, Planning Commission endorsed and appreciated Sight Savers' efforts towards ensuring the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the development process. The government of Pakistan will join other member states at the SDG Summit in New York on 18-19 September, to make new commitments and assess progress on the global goals. The outcome of the summit will be a political declaration and global and national commitments made by UN member states.

According to Munazza Gillani, Country Director of Sight Savers Pakistan Office, "As the world arrives at the half-

way point of the 2030 deadline, progress on the SDGs has derailed — they are completely off-track. People with disabilities are being hit hardest by the lack of progress on poverty and inequality. The promise to leave no one behind is in peril."

The call follows a new UN report which shows that the SDGs cannot be achieved unless urgent action is taken to include marginalised groups, including people with disabilities, but that they are being left furthest behind in global progress. For example, globally people with disabilities are up to twice as likely to be in poverty as those without disabilities.

Asim Zafar, Secretary Coordinator of Community Based Development (CBID-Network) added, "We're calling on all world leaders to speed up action on the SDGs and make sure they are inclusive of people with disabilities."



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Ambassador-designate to the Russian Federation, Mr. Muhammad Khalid Jamali calls on President Dr. Arif Alvi, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

PAF carrying out large scale flying exercises from different locations across globe

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan Air Force (PAF) is carrying out two large scale flying exercises from two different locations across the globe, marking a significant milestone in its commitment to enhancing its aerial prowess and strengthening international cooperation.

According to Spokesperson of Pakistan Air Force Friday, the participation includes PAF's J-10 C and JF-17 lead fighter aircraft, Combat Pilots, Air Defence Controllers, and technical ground crew in the Shaheen-X bilateral Air Exercise hosted by the People's Liberation Army Air Force in China, as well as the Bright Star Air Exercise held in

Egypt. The successful induction and operationalisation of the J-10C fighter jets in PAF's fighter fleet and their participation in an international exercise in an unprecedented short span of time was a remarkable achievement.

The feat has been achieved in lines with modernisation plan of Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu premised on smart inductions and focused indigenisation.

The participation of these fighter jets in Exercise Shaheen-X marks a significant milestone in PAF's journey towards a technologically advanced and formidable air force.

The rapid acquisition and operationalisation of these advanced aircraft showcases PAF's dedication to maintaining a cutting-edge force, capable of meeting evolving challenges and defending Pakistan's airspace with utmost proficiency.

As the Sino-Pak Joint Annual Air Exercise Shaheen-X is in full swing in the Jiuquan and Yinchuan cities of Northwest China, the exceptional event highlights the dedication and capabilities of the Pakistan Air Force, demonstrating its commitment to fostering mutual learning and collaboration with allied countries.



ISLAMABAD: The High Commissioner of Malaysia to Pakistan, Mohammad Azhar Mazlan enjoying the Malaysian foods along with others during Malaysian Food Festival entitled "Flavors of Malaysia" at local hotel.

PPP has strong faith in democracy: Zardari

ISLAMABAD (INP): Former President of Pakistan and Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians, Asif Ali Zardari in his message on the occasion of the International Day of Democracy has said that the Pakistan Peoples Party has strong faith in democracy.

"The sacrifices made by the leadership and workers of the party in the struggle for democracy are unprecedented in the political history of the world," said President Asif Ali Zardari. Every time the sun of democracy has risen in Pakistan, it is because of the martyrs in the graveyard of Garhi Khuda Bakhsh.

President Zardari said that today is the era of youth and Chairman PPP Bilawal Bhutto Zardari is a young politician. He knows best how to provide opportunities to the youth to advance

and take a dignified place in the society.

The focus of the politics of Chairman PPP is on the downtrodden population of Pakistan. Bilawal has the philosophy of his maternal grandfather, Quaid-e-Azam Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, and the passion of his mother, Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto.

Asif Ali Zardari said that a dignified and civilized society is a light that shows the way to the goals of development.

The leadership and workers of the party sacrificed their lives while accepting the gallows and crossing the landmines in the way to a democratic dispensation in the country. They endured the hardships of the prison and suffered whipping on their bodies but did not back down from the struggle for democracy.

25 illegal immigrants arrested in Islamabad

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Capital police on the directions of caretaker Interior Minister Sarfraz Bugti arrested 25 illegal immigrants from different locations in Islamabad.

The authorities, under the 14 Foreign Act have so far shifted 57 illegal immigrants to Adyala jail and making all arrangements to repatriate them to their home countries, said the press note on Thursday.

The ministry also decided to take action against those Pakistanis who supported illegal immigrants to stay illegally in Pakistan because the stay in Pakistan is only possible in accordance with the law of the land.

IHC removes objection over Imran petition seeking dismissal of cipher case

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has removed objection from PTI chairman petition seeking dismissal of cipher case.

The PTI chairman petition seeking dismissal of cipher case came up for hearing before Chief Justice (CJ) of IHC Justice Aamir Farooq Friday.

Latif Khosa advocate counsel for PTI chairman appeared before the court.

The CJ IHC directed the staff to mark diary number on the petition filed for amendment.

Pak-Japanese delegations discuss multi lateral issues

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Pakistanis and Japanese delegations discussed a wide range of bilateral issues at the outset of the 9th Round of Pakistan-Japan Security Dialogue held in Tokyo on Friday.

The delegation of Pakistan was led by Mr. Ameer Khuram Rathore, Additional Foreign Secretary (Asia-Pacific) while the Japanese side was led by Mr. Ryo Nakamura, Director General, Southeast and Southwest Asian Affairs Department.

The two sides discussed a wide range of bilateral, regional and multilateral issues of mutual interest.

The cordial Pakistan-Japan ties and the potential for greater cooperation in the field of defence were underscored.

Solangi terms Namira's upcoming space journey sign of Pak growing presence in space exploration

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi said on Friday that Namira Saleem's upcoming journey to space was a sign of Pakistan's growing presence in space exploration and a major achievement for the nation.

This he said during a meeting with Pakistan's first female astronaut Namira Saleem who met him here.

Namira Salim briefed the caretaker minister about the preparations for her space journey on October 3 this year.

Namira Saleem expressed her determination to raise the Pakistani flag in space. Solangi congratulated Namira Saleem on behalf of the Government of Pakistan, the Prime Minister and the people for starting the space journey and expressed good wishes for her success.

Terming Namira Saleem a role model for all women, Murtaza Solangi said the young generation can raise the name of Pakistan in the world in various fields of life.

"This effort of Namira Saleem will highlight the positive image of Pakistan as a peace-loving and progressive country," Murtaza Solangi maintained.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani presenting souvenir to Inspector General Sindh, Riffat Mukhtar Raja at Parliament House.

Imran assumes charge of DG Information & PR KPK

Independent Report

PESHAWAR: Muhammad Imran Khan, a BPS-19 officer within the Directorate General Information & Public Relations, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, has officially taken up the position of Director General Information & Public Relations in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, effective Friday.

The Election Commission of Pakistan, granted his approval on September 13, 2023 subsequently, the Government of Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa's Establishment Department issued an official notification on Thursday, formally entrusting Muhammad Imran Khan with the responsibilities of Director General Information & Public Relations, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Muhammad Imran Khan brings a wealth of experience and expertise to his new role, making him well-equipped to lead the Directorate General Information & Public Relations towards greater efficiency and effectiveness.

Farewell ceremony held in honor of DSP Muhammad Bashir

Independent Report

ISLAMABAD: A farewell ceremony was held in honor of DSP Muhammad Bashir at CTD Headquarters Islamabad, a public relations officer said.

He said that Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) CTD Yasir Afridi graced the occasion as chief guest. Senior police officers and officials were also present on the occasion.

The SSP CTD conveyed good wishes from Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCP) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan to the retiring DSP and said that retirement is part of the service as the one who joins the service has to retire one day.

He asked the serving police officials to do their best to earn respect for the department. He was of the view that public servants can earn a good name by serving the citizens with

devotion and dedication. He recognized the services rendered by DSP Muhammad Bashir and added that the officer served at various posts in different divisions of Islamabad Capital Police and always accomplished his tasks in a responsible manner and ensured effective working.

His contribution in the success story of Islamabad Capital Police would be remembered, SSP CTD added. At the end, he presented a police shield to DSP Muhammad Bashir and also expressed best wishes for his future endeavors.

DSP Muhammad Bashir joined Islamabad Capital Police as constable and earned the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) through completion of different departmental courses and dedication for the work.

AJK cabinet decides to reinforce accountability law in true spirit

MUZAFFARABAD (APP): Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) cabinet has decided to amend the ineffective accountability law to resume across the board free, fair and strict accountability of the public office holders aimed to curb the rising menace of corruption by the government functionaries, said Minister.

Senior Minister Col (retired) Waqar Noor accompanied with two other ministers Abdul Majid Khan and Ch. Abdul Rasheed announced the decisions of the cabinet taken last night at a press conference here on Friday.

The Minister without portfolio Abdul Majid Khan while initiating the press conference said that a cabinet committee was constituted under the chairmanship of senior minister Col Waqar Noor to propose amendments in the accountability law in order to enable the accountability Bureau to proceed against corruption in an effective manner.

The accountability process was made ineffective by amendments in the accountability act during the last Pakistan Muslim League (N) government headed by former Prime

Minister Raja Farooq Haider Khan leaving the accountability body to exist but with limited powers to proceed against corruption.

Majid Khan claimed that his government was committed towards fairness and accountability process and would reinstate the teeth of accountability watchdog that had been pulled out by the previous government in order to initiate across-the-board free, fair and strict accountability.

Khan said that Prime Minister Anwar Ul Haq had earlier also activated the defunct anti-corruption department which shows his determination towards fairness and corruption-free governance in the region besides austerity measures taken to overcome the wastage of public money.

The cabinet also lifted the ban on transfer postings besides extending the upper age limit for government jobs up to 40 years for a further 3 years, the minister added saying the ban on contract and ad hoc appointments was also lifted and rules for appointments on discretionary posts were also approved in the meeting.



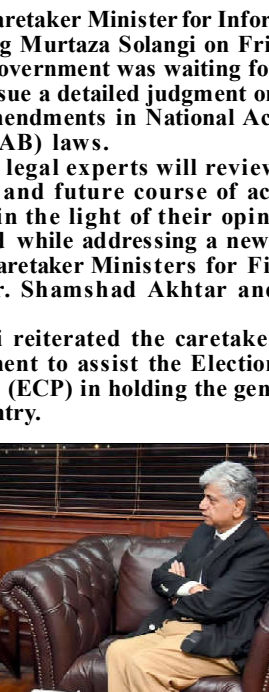
ISLAMABAD: Director General of Islamic Organization for Food Security Yeran Baidault called on caretaker PM Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

Solangi says Govt awaits SC's detailed verdict on NAB amendments

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Friday said the caretaker government was waiting for the Supreme Court to issue a detailed judgment on a case related to the amendments in National Accountability Bureau (NAB) laws.

"Law Ministry and legal experts will review the detailed judgment and future course of action will be announced in the light of their opinion," the minister said while addressing a news conference along with Caretaker Ministers for Finance and Energy Dr. Shamshad Akhtar and Muhammad Ali.

To a query, Solangi reiterated the caretaker government's commitment to assist the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) in holding the general election in the country.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Information Minister of Balochistan Jan Achakzai meeting with Caretaker Information Minister Murtaza Solangi.

Islamabad Police strikes on criminals, arrests wanted snatcher gang member

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a major breakthrough, Islamabad Police have arrested a wanted member of a notorious snatcher gang, recovering a cache of valuables and weapons from his possession.

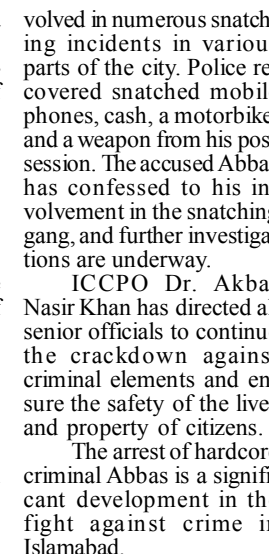
The arrest comes as part of a sustained crackdown against criminal elements in the city, under the direct supervision of Islamabad Capital City Police officer (ICCP) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, a public relations officer said.

The accused, identified as Muhammad Abbas, was apprehended by a team of Koral Police Station on Friday.

He is alleged to be involved in numerous snatching incidents in various parts of the city. Police recovered snatched mobile phones, cash, a motorbike, and a weapon from his possession. The accused Abbas has confessed to his involvement in the snatching gang, and further investigations are underway.

ICCP Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan has directed all senior officials to continue the crackdown against criminal elements and ensure the safety of the lives and property of citizens.

The arrest of hardcore criminal Abbas is a significant development in the fight against crime in Islamabad.



ISLAMABAD: Chief Retail Sales Officer Ufone 4G Noman Fakhra and Group Chief Marketing Officer PTCL Ufone 4G Syed Atif Raza and others attending inaugural ceremony of Ufone 4G 1st Digital Life Style Experience Shop.