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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 amended law stand restored.

Toshakhana reference has been restored against former Prime Minister (PM) Shahid Khaqan Abbasi was shifted from Accountability Court (AC). Rental power reference against former PM Shehbaz Sharif, former PM Shaukat Aziz and former finance minister Ishaq Dar have been reopened now.

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The beneficiaries 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, inquiries and complaints have been reopened in the light of this decision.

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.

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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 will be 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. Care taker 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.

But saying this that immediate relief is provided to the people and inflation goes down in consequence of these operations then perhaps it will not happen so soon. Because who were before us they did what in this regard. This question should be asked from them. We have come since one month.

PPP doubles down on demand for immediate announcement of poll date

Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari reiterates concerns over lack of level-playing field, says "one party" tried to throw PPP out of Punjab but "paid the price" later.

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 de-

limit 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.

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LAHORE: PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari talking to media persons after Central Executive Committee meeting.

PPP has strong faith in democracy: Zardari

ISLAMABAD (INP): Former President of Pakistan and President 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.

Economy showing signs of Recovery: Finance Minister

ISLAMABAD (INP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Finance Dr Shamsah 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 minister 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".

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.

ATC grants bail to Ch Pervaiz Elahi

ISLAMABAD (Online): Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) Islamabad granted bail to former Chief Minister Punjab Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi in Judicial Complex vandalism case.

The bail petition of Pervaiz Elahi came before Judge Abul Hasnat Muhammad Zulqarnain of ATC Islamabad Friday.

Babar Awan, Sardar Abdul Razaq, counsels for Pervaiz Elahi and prosecutor Raja Navid appeared in the court.

The prosecutor told the court the record will reach a bit late.

The judge remarked this is not the way. Court has started proceedings and record has not reached. Start the arguments.

Counsel Babar Awan while requesting the court to accept bail plea took the plea Pervaiz Elahi is not nominated in the case. He has been arrested on the basis of suspicion. The prosecution while opposing the bail plea said FIR has been registered under non-bailable sections. Pervaiz Elahi was arrested on the information of informer. Judge Abul Hasnat Zulqarnain while accepting bail plea remarked Pervaiz Elahi is not nominated in FIR.



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

Caretaker govt awaits SC's detailed verdict on NAB amendments: Solangi

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. Shamsah

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.

"Funds for election were allocated in the federal budget presented by the previous government and at this stage, delimitation process is underway.

However, it is our commitment to fulfill all the requirements of the Election Commission whether it is related to finance or security," the minister remarked.

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

Pakistan in a meeting with Pakistani authorities. In the backdrop of this assurance Pakistan considered reopening the border.

Trade activities were completely suspended due to closure of Torkham border for 9 days. Earlier while expressing concern over misuse of Afghan Transit Trade Agreement, spokesperson of Foreign Office said that transit trade is only between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

India is not included in it. There has been no change in position regarding recognition of Afghan interim government.

Ambassador designate to Russia calls on President Alvi

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan's Ambassador-designate to the Russian Federation Muhammad Khalid Jamali called on President Dr Arif Alvi here on Friday. During the meeting, the president hoped that the ambassador-designate would play active role in strengthening bilateral relations with Russia.

M u h a m m a d Khalid Jamali assured his determination to reinforce the bilateral ties.

5 killed in road accident

INDEPENDENT REPORT MIRPUR MATHELO: Traffic accident on Multan Sukkur Motorway M5, five people died in the accident, two were injured, according to the details of the accident, the car and the Mazda were involved in a car and a Mazda at Multan Sukkur M5 location 488 due to high speed.

As a result of the collision, the injured and the dead were shifted to Sheikh Zayed Hospital, Rahim Yar Khan. Among the deceased, Aziz Mastoi, Jahanzeb Mastoi and a woman were also reported to be from Babarloi District Khairpur.

Gwadar Port fully operational, says Chinese Charge d'Affairs

Jan Achakzai welcomes news of port's full operationalization and expresses his gratitude to the Chinese government for its support

ISLAMABAD: The Chinese Charge d'Affaires of 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.

He also said that the GoB government under the leadership of CM Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Domki is committed to working closely with the Chinese government on various projects.



KARACHI: Sindh Rangers officials recovered huge quantity of sugar during operation at illegal godown located on Baldia Town in Karachi

MQM-P urges caretaker govt to ensure fair, transparent polls

ISLAMABAD (INP): Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P) convener Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui on Friday urged the caretaker government to ensure transparent polls.

Expressing his thoughts, Mr Siddiqui said, "There is a dire need to hold elections on time as the census in the country has been completed." The assemblies had also completed their terms", he added.

He highlighted the significance of youth, saying, "MQM-P is having a youth leadership in Karachi. We have started our preparations in line with the elections. In some of the constituencies, the party has

also decided the expected candidates". Mr Siddiqui asserted that the MQM-P will not leave any of the "better candidates" in frustration. On the other side, Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) senior leader Faisal Karim Kundi had reiterated the demand for holding the elections within 90 days. Expressing his thoughts, Mr Kundi said, "The elections should be held on time. The PPP is ready for the polls. The PPP will win the next elections with the majority of the votes". Mr Kundi expressed his thoughts in line with the return of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supreme Nawaz Sharif to the country.



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

Daily Voice of Masses Independent

Monetary policy

Defying market expectations of a 100-300 bps hike in the interest rates, the State Bank has again left its key policy rate unchanged at 22pc. In support of its decision, the bank cites a declining trend in inflation from its peak of 38pc in May to 27.4pc last month, despite the recent surge in global oil prices that are being passed on to consumers.

Therefore, it maintains that the "real interest rates continue to remain in positive territory on a forward-looking basis". The bank is also hopeful that "expected ease in supply constraints owing to improved agriculture output" and the pick-up in high-frequency indicators like the sale of petroleum products, cement and fertilisers, as well as recent administrative actions against speculative activity in the forex and commodity markets will support the outlook.

The SBP dispels concerns over the recent resurgence of the current account deficit of over \$800m in July, after posting a surplus for the previous four months, saying it is largely in line with the earlier full-year projection that took into account import growth. It underscores continued monitoring of the risks to the inflation outlook, and taking appropriate actions to achieve the objective of price stability if required.

At the same time, it urges the government to maintain a prudent fiscal stance to keep aggregate demand in check, "to bring inflation down on a sustainable basis and to attain the medium-term target of 5-7pc by end of fiscal 2025". Why is the rate to remain unchanged after it was increased in June to meet a key goal for securing IMF funds?

Any other central bank would have raised the interest rates in view of the consistently elevated inflation, continuous exchange rate depreciation, and falling forex reserves over huge debt payments and weakening capital inflows. But the bank's reluctance is understandable. Previous hikes in rates to a multi-decade high of 22pc haven't helped increase savings, or check consumer spending and inflation. The price rise is faster than rate hikes; the national savings rate is falling; and the government continues to accumulate debt to meet its inelastic expenditure. Monetary policy as an instrument to check the price hike has lost its effectiveness in the current economic structure and existing political uncertainty.

For the last several years, headline prices in Pakistan are being influenced primarily by cost-pushed administered adjustments of domestic fuel and power prices, with the demand pull coming from the government that remains the largest bank borrower.

Expecting a tighter monetary policy to tame soaring prices is useless without a drastic change in the reckless fiscal behaviour of the government.

Only fiscally responsible behaviour by the rulers can make it easier for the SBP to effectively apply monetary policy tools and check other inflation-producing factors for price stability.

'Desirable' Muslims



Nikhat Sattar

"I went to the West and saw Islam, but no Muslims; I got back to the East and saw Muslims, but not Islam." Thus said the great reformist Egyptian scholar, Muhammad Abduh, during the late 19th century.

This holds so true, more than 150 years later, even though Muslims possess innumerable mosques and madrasahs, all supposedly imparting religious education. Men wear skullcaps and sport long flowing beards, with above-the-ankle trousers and long shirts. Women, even girls while still toddlers, don long abayas, hijabs and burqas. Religion overwhelms every aspect of life, quotations from ahadith abound, charity, prayers, fasts, Umrah and Haj dominate Muslim lives. Religious processions are frequent. Shrines are thronged with devotees.

One would then expect religion to be manifest in their habits, attitudes, professional and social dealings, relationships and interactions with each other and the rest of the world. Unfortunately, dishonesty, lies, greed, financial corruption, violence and a lack of concern for God's creations pervades Muslim populations.

If Muslims strive to be close to God, what does God expect from Muslims? A Muslim is honest and by the same virtue, truthful, even if the truth hurts them and their kin. Honesty with oneself means assessing one's mistakes truthfully and since the Muslim aspires to be loved by God, they strive to improve their character.

Honesty with others covers the whole gambit of financial dealings, giving evidence, never engaging in gossip or abusing others, accepting one's mistakes and abiding by the law.

A Muslim is trustworthy and reliable, keeping promises once made and ensuring all commitments are met in letter and spirit. This ranges from being punctual for even the smallest of tasks, to meeting financial, social, legal and other obligations. With trust and reliability a characteristic of people, courts would dispense justice in time, transport systems would run punctually, national and international agreements would be implemented in their true spirit and a massive wastage of time and money prevented.

Muslims are merciful, kind, thoughtful of others' needs, and avoid harming anyone or anything. They seek peace and harmonious living with others and actively engage in resolving any conflicts that may arise. They possess empathy, good manners, never share another's secrets and never make false accusations. A violence-free, supportive environment would be ensured for all citizens; false cases and false witnesses would not exist, nor would any sort of road rage. People would be free to practise any religion, faith or belief without fear and there would be openness and freedom in society. Everyone would be educated and intellect, creativity and innovation would reign. Humans, animals and the environment would be protected as far as possible.

A Muslim is fair and just. They hone their God-given ability to distinguish right from wrong and choose the right path as much as they can. When endowed with power and governance, they provide succour to the wronged and dispense justice without consideration of

anyone's status or social standing. In such a society, if a person is oppressed, whether for their wealth, personal matters or in freedom of speech, the Muslim would always provide quick redress and atonement for any harm endured as well as punishment to the oppressor, even if the latter is the ruler.

A Muslim would make efforts towards enhancing their taqwa (piety). They are humble and always think the better of others. This humility creates a continuous urge to improve one's own spiritual self, avoiding the love of ostentation, bragging and living a life of simplicity, always trying to do good and repelling evil, in thought and deed. They both love and fear God; love because He is the Creator and fear lest they incur His displeasure. They strive to lead a life with guidance from God and keep a constant watch over their tongue, mind and body. There are over 200 places in the Quran that mention taqwa and its importance. A taqwa-oriented society fears no one but God and is free from display of wealth and pomp. Muslims keep their soul, body and environment clean, are chaste and shun any immoral behaviour. They are decent in attire, simple and soft-spoken and avoid the company of loud and aggressive people. They discourage immodesty and immorality. Sexual harassment would be minimum and dealt with immediately and harshly, and women and children would enjoy freedom of movement. Garbage produced would be recycled by such Muslims and towns, cities and villages would be clean. A Muslim would also be prompt and focused in prayers, fasting, giving alms, performing Umrah and Haj. Are we Muslims in any way, except the last?

-- Courtesy Dawn

For nationalisation



Asim Sajjad Akhtar

The 'caretaker' government (read: the security establishment and its lackeys) has embarked on yet another ideological offensive about the incredible benefits of privatisation under the guise of the Special Investment Facilitation Council. Foreign donors, the mainstream intelligentsia and bourgeois parties are faithfully toeing the line.

This is happening even as the painful effects of privatisation play out in the homes of every working-class family. There are certainly other reasons for the astronomical electricity bills that triggered recent bill-burning protests, including the state's unwillingness to tax the rich. But our rulers' willingness to hand over wholesale power production to the so-called Independent Power Producers (IPPs) at the behest of the World Bank and IMF back in the 1990s is as big a cause of the current crisis as any other single factor.

In short, the state agreed to retain only the power to distribute electricity while allowing private companies — initially foreign and later domestic — to produce it, whilst also guaranteeing to pay these companies in dollars ad infinitum. There is now more power capacity in Pakistan than actual demand but loadshedding still takes place because the government cannot make payments to IPPs. It does not have enough dollars to pay them without becoming insolvent. Most IPPs run coal-fired thermal plants, which not only contribute directly to our already serious climate

crisis but also require inordinate amounts of imported oil. Who pays for this oil? Not the IPPs but the government, which conveniently passes on this burden to the masses. Where does this leave us? Intellectually and politically, it should compel us to once again imagine big structural policy changes. Like nationalisation.

It is a measure of the successes of neoliberal ideology in the world, and that of the Zia military junta in Pakistan especially, that the experience of nationalisation in the 1970s has become accepted as a disaster. The Bhutto-led PPP regime that enforced the nationalisation policy had many failures, and the takeover of numerous private industries by the postcolonial bureaucracy was not beneficial to the working class. But the story is too complex to be deemed purely as an abomination that must never be repeated.

The Pakistani state invested more in manufacturing industry during the 1970s than at any other time. Yes, the Ayub dictatorship presided over industrialisation, but this was accompanied by enormous inequality, encapsulated by the regime's own chief economist, Mahbub ul Haq who said that 22 families controlled virtually all of Pakistan's wealth.

In contrast, the 1970s featured the Pakistan Steel Mills' establishment, as well as publicly owned heavy industrial complexes in a few locations across the country. Some experts point to stunting economic growth rates through that period, attributing them to nationalisation and related policies. But they neglect to mention the enormous impact of the secession of East Pakistan, which was a major driver of economic growth in the 1960s.

More generally, in-

vestments in manufacturing industry such as those undertaken in the 1970s do not produce demonstrable effects in the very short term. Indeed, Zia's dictatorship benefited greatly from a number of policies introduced by the previous regime, including public investment in heavy industry and labour migration to the Gulf, which started in 1974 but only bore fruit in the form of remittances by the end of the decade.

The specific impact of nationalisation per se — mostly of rice, ghee and sugar mills — was mixed. The economic impact on growth was actually not very substantial and the most significant, long-lasting outcome was political; trader-merchant segments reacted furiously, funding and peopling the Pakistan National Alliance's Nizam-i-Mustafa movement which led to Bhutto's overthrow by Gen Zia. Industrialist families like the Sharifs developed a visceral hatred for left and working-class politics, not to mention the Bhutto family. The result was a mandate for the Zia regime to not only de-nationalise, but also block land reform and crush left progressives, including trade and student unions. The alliance between trader-merchants and the religious right under the military establishment's patronage was permanently inked. And the rest is history.

Denationalisation was globally in vogue throughout the 1980s, led by Thatcher-Reagan with lieutenants like generals Zia and Pinochet in the Third World. Today, countries like France are overturning neoliberal orthodoxy and nationalising common-a-ding heights of the economy — most notably electricity. It is high time we stop treating the privatisation-nationalisation debate as a taboo that cannot be questioned. — Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

Economy showing signs of recovery: Shamshad Akhtar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs and Privatization Dr Shamshad Akhtar said on Friday that the country's economy was showing signs of recovery, owing to efforts made by the caretaker government.

"The macroeconomic indicators, if you view them, you can find some betterment. There are some signs of economic recovery.

Even if it is just starting," the minister said while addressing a press conference. The minister was flanked by Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Muratza Solangi and Caretaker Minister for Energy, Power and Petroleum Muhammad Ali.

Deliberating upon the indicators showing positive development, the finance minister said the Consumer Price Index (CPI) has

shortly declined from over 38 percent in May to 27.2 percent now, adding that this was an important indicator to show betterment.

The minister said the caretaker setup had inherited several challenges, however it was not frightened by them and trying to deal with them one by one, adding the government's strategy was to prudently manage the challenges, make efforts to control expenditure and

enhance revenues, which would help improve the situation.

She said the country had come out of some difficulties and the situation would improve further when 'we go forward.' Shamshad Akhtar said the productive sectors witnessed betterment, including agriculture, which was expected to yield good output in both minor and major crops.



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Asian Development Bank ASB led by its Country Director Yong Ye called on Deputy Chairman Planning Commission Jehanzeb Khan at Planning Commission.



ISLAMABAD: Chief Retail Sales Officer Ufone 4G Noman Fakhar 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.

LESCO charges Rs 30,205,018 detection bill from 304 power pilferers

LAHORE (APP): Lahore Electric Supply Company (LESCO) charged 304 power pilferers with detection bill of 711,109 units worth Rs 30,205,018 during ninth day of grand anti-power theft operation in all its circles on Friday.

LESCO Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Engineer Shahid Haider termed the electricity thieves as enemies of national exchequer and deserved no mercy.

Following instructions of the Prime Minister and Ministry of Energy, a grand anti-power theft operation was ongoing in LESCO region under the supervision of CEO Shahid Haider for the last nine days.

Sharing details of the ninth day operation, the LESCO spokesperson confirmed that 304 connections in all circles were found involved in electricity theft and applications for FIRs against all electricity thieves had been filed in the respective police stations, out of which 149 FIRs had been registered, while 20 suspects had also been arrested.

He said that among the connections seized were one industrial, five agricultural, 12 commercial and 286 domestic and all the connections had been disconnected and charged with detection bill of 711,109 units worth Rs 30,205,018.

Fast-track approval of seed to benefit farmers: CM

LAHORE (APP): The approval process of seed and new varieties has been made easier and fast.

According to official sources here on Friday, Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi said that the process had been expedited and improved during a special meeting of Punjab Seed Council. The CM said that after getting approval from a special committee of the federal government now it would not be required to get approval of seed and new varieties from the Punjab Seed Council. He said that the initiative would help the agriculture sector grow rapidly. "This step will ensure the availability of new seed and varieties in the market ultimately benefiting farmers.

Crackdown against power theft: Over 5,000 held, 1.74 bn dues recovered

ISLAMABAD (APP): In an ongoing nationwide crackdown against power theft, the distribution companies have arrested over 5,000 persons, recovering Rs 1.74 billion in outstanding dues from defaulters in a single week.

According to a Power Division spokesperson, the campaign was launched on September 7 this year, following the prime minister's directions to ensure strict enforcement of laws against electricity theft and defaulters.

Senate body on Industries and Production convenes

ISLAMABAD (Online): The Senate Standing Committee on Industries and Production convened today at Parliament House, with Senator Khalida Ateeb presiding as the Chair.

The meeting commenced with discussions on the availability and pricing of sugar within the country. Senator Zeeshan Khanzada raised concerns about the decision-making process for sugar exports, emphasizing the need for a robust system to assess projected sugar demand. He noted that we

Ufone 4G launches end-to-end digital lifestyle experience shops to boost customer satisfaction

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistani mobile operator, Ufone 4G has started transforming its flagship joint shops nationwide to Digital Lifestyle Experience Shops, aimed at delivering an end-to-end digital lifestyle experience to its customers.

As part of this initiative, all distribution companies have been given a special task to crack down on elements involved in line losses, outstanding dues, and electricity theft day and night. "There will be no leniency shown to anyone involved in these illegal activities," the spokesman remarked.

The joint shops are being equipped to provide a comprehensive suite of world-class services, including a wide range of handsets, internet devices, repair & maintenance, exclusive discount & value-added offers, and more to help customers fulfill their diverse digital needs

conveniently under one roof.

Ufone 4G joined hands with multiple partners with leading digital products and service providers to bring about the single-window facility. Notable partners include Generation Next; the official distributor of Samsung products in Pakistan, electronics giant TCL, top-rated digital marketplace PriceOye, prominent distribution company Yellowstone and gaming powerhouse Game Store.

Chief Retail Sales Officer, Ufone 4G,

Nauman Fakhar, inaugurated the first flagship Digital Lifestyle Experience Shop in Islamabad in the presence of officials from the partnering companies and PTCL Group.

The joint shops will bring these products and services within close access to a broader user base, including female consumers, who often face challenges in purchasing and maintaining mobile phones and other digital products due to access issues or concerns related to device and data security.

Tractor production increase 6.52% in Jul-Aug

ISLAMABAD (APP): The production of farm tractors in the country witnessed an increase of 6.52 percent to 6,189 units during the first two months of the financial year 2023-24, against the production of 5,810 units during the same months last year 2022-23. During July-August, the production of trucks witnessed a decreasing trend as it went down from 619 units as compared to 234.

CDNS achieves Rs 250b targets in fresh bonds

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Central Directorate of National Savings (CDNS) has achieved target of Rs 250 billion in fresh bonds in the current fiscal year, from July 1 to September 5.

The CDNS surpassed the annual target and achieved target of Rs 1.6 trillion in fresh bonds in the current fiscal year, the senior official of CDNS told APP here on Friday. This was Rs 200 billion additional annual

targets than the target of Rs 1300 billion for previous financial year 2021-22, he said.

"The CDNS has set a reviewed saving target of Rs 1.4 trillion for current financial year (2021-22) which will promote savings culture in the country," he said.

In view of the current market trend in the country, the ambitious target had been set to further improve the savings culture, he said.

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 Paimdand 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.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a meeting on measures against electricity theft and hoarding, in Federal Capital.

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

Independent Report
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 Nation Development Program's commitment to eradicating poverty and its role in climate change, said that the United Nation's

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.

Caretaker CM reviews anti-narcotics measures

Independent Report
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.



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

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.

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 Ahmad, 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 Nayer Sheikh reached the spot immediately after the incident. Additional Deputy Commissioner Kashif Raza Awan.

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 Ifkhar Ali Sahoo chaired the meeting here on Friday. Secretary P&D Board Nadir Chattha 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.

Action against hoarders continue

Independent Report
MIRPUR MATHELO: Action against hoarders, thousands of sacks of wheat, sugar, rice, urea fertilizer were recovered, according to details, Assistant Commissioner Mirpur Mathelo Muhammad Ahmar Ali, Mukhtiar Abul Hasan Rahoo raided various warehouses of Jarwar and 42 hundred bags of marker wheat were seized, sacks, 1434 sacks of sugar, 200 sacks of urea, 1300 sacks of DAP were recovered and two hundred sacks of rice were recovered and all the godowns were raided on the spot.



KARACHI: A view of the massive traffic jam due to the protest of people in the favor of their demands at Liaqatabad area in Provincial Capital.

Imran assumes charge of DG Information & PR Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

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.

International News

Belarus leader proposes three-way cooperation with Russia's Putin and North Korea's Kim

Monitoring Desk
MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin hosted a meeting Friday with his Belarusian ally, who suggested that Minsk could join Moscow's efforts to revive an old alliance with Pyongyang after this week's summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko made the proposal as he met with Putin in the Black Sea resort of Sochi, where the Russian leader said he would brief him about the talks with Kim on Wednesday at the Vostochny spaceport in Russia's Far East.

"I would like to inform you about the discussion on the situation in the

region, which was quite important, and also to touch on the most acute issue, the situation in Ukraine," Putin said at the start of the meeting.

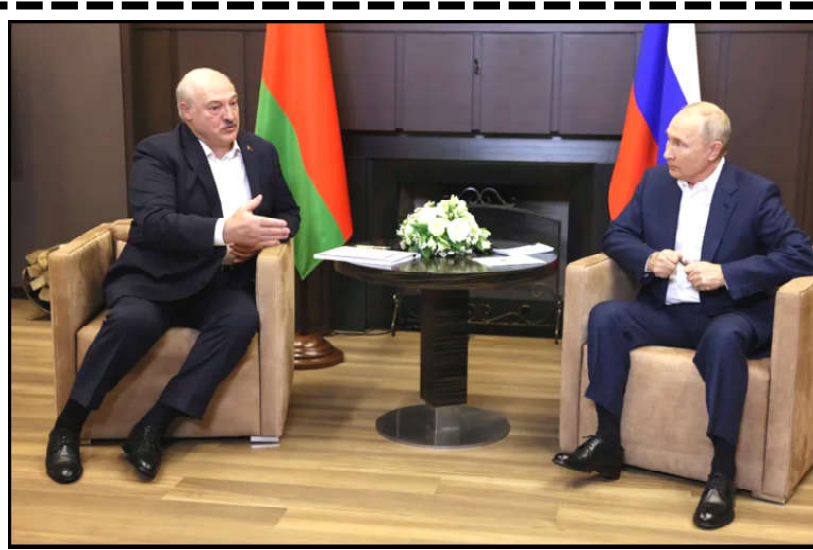
Lukashenko responded by saying that "we could think about three-way cooperation," adding that "I think a bit of work could be found for Belarus to do there as well."

Kim on Friday continued his trip by visiting an aircraft factory in Komsomolsk-on-Amur to see the latest Russian fighter jets. On Saturday, he is scheduled to arrive in Russia's port of Vladivostok where he is expected to see Russian Pacific Fleet warships and visit a university.

The U.S. and its allies believe that Kim will likely supply ammunition to Russia for use in Ukraine in exchange for receiving advanced weapons or technology from Moscow, a deal that would violate the U.N. sanctions against Pyongyang that ban any arms trade with North Korea.

Putin said after meeting Kim that Russia will abide by the U.N. sanctions and he reaffirmed the pledge Friday.

"We never violate anything, and in this case we have no intention to violate anything," he told reporters. "But we certainly will look for opportunities for developing Russian-North Korea relations."



Russian President Vladimir Putin and Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko talk during their meeting in Sochi, Russia.

Lockheed's new F-16 training center Romania could train Ukrainians

Monitoring Desk
NATIONAL HARBOR: Lockheed Martin expects to close a contract with Romania to open up its first F-16 flight training center in Europe, which could eventually train pilots from Ukraine. The planned European Flight Training Center would be the U.S. company's first in the continent, and in the future could expand to teach pilots from nations other than Romania, OJ Sanchez, Lockheed's integrated fighter group vice president and general manager, told Defense News in a Sept. 13 interview.

The Romanians "need to train their pilots, and there was no good place to do that, as well as their maintainers," he said. Lockheed announced late last month that it had signed a letter of intent with Romania and the Netherlands to establish the European F-16 Training Center. Sanchez said the company is confident its contract with Romania will be signed by the end of the year. As part of this arrangement, the Netherlands will loan F-16s to Romania for training. Sanchez said the number of aircraft is still being negotiated as part of the larger contract.

Romania also struck a deal with Norway in November to buy 32 used F-16s, which would allow Romania to expand its fledgling F-16 fleet and retire the last of its outdated Soviet-era MiG-21 fighters. At first, this training center will focus on teaching Romanian pilots to fly F-16s, Sanchez said. But over time, Lockheed hopes more nations could start sending their pilots there — including Ukraine. "The European Flight Training Center may be a good option for countries like Ukraine, or others who may need that support as they build out their air force needs."



Iranian women, some without wearing their mandatory Islamic headscarves, walk in downtown Tehran, Iran.

Iraq-Turkey oil pipeline ready to resume operations soon, Turkish minister says

Monitoring Desk
ANKARA: Iraq's northern oil export route through Turkey will soon be ready to resume operation after checks on pipeline maintenance and repairs to flood damage, the Turkish energy minister said. A survey of the oil pipeline is complete and it will soon be "technically" ready for operation, Alparslan Bayraktar said.

Turkey halted flows on Iraq's northern oil export route on March 25 after an arbitration ruling by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) ordered Ankara to pay Baghdad damages for unauthorized exports by the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) between 2014 and 2018.

Turkey then started maintenance work on the pipeline, which goes through a seismically active zone and which it says has been damaged by floods.

Mexican journalist in US wins asylum appeal

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: Mexican journalist Emilio Gutierrez Soto has won his asylum appeal to remain in the United States, 15 years after seeking refuge amid fear of persecution in Mexico and deportation efforts by U.S. officials, a media organization said on Thursday.

The Board of Immigration Appeals this week ruled Gutierrez, who came to the United States legally 15 years ago and now resides in Michigan, was eligible for asylum, the National Press Club said in a statement.

"I hope that my case will shine a light on the need to protect those journalists in Mexico and around the world who are working and risking their lives, to tell the truth," Gutierrez said in the statement from the U.S.-based group, which represents journalists and advocates for press freedom.

Gutierrez is one of several journalists whose cases have drawn attention in recent years.

Chinese defence minister under investigation for corrupt procurement

Monitoring Desk
BEIJING: Defence Minister Li Shangfu, who has been missing from public view for more than two weeks, has been placed under investigation by Chinese authorities, according to 10 people familiar with the matter.

The investigation into Li relates to procurement of military equipment, according to a regional security official and three people in direct contact with the Chinese military. Reuters was unable to obtain details on which equipment purchases were under scrutiny.

Eight senior officials from the Chinese military's procurement unit, which Li led from 2017 to 2022, are also under investigation, according to two of the people in direct contact with the military. The probe into Li, who was appointed as defence minister in March, and the eight officials is being carried out by the military's powerful disciplinary inspection commission, those two people said.

Kim Jong Un's chair at summit disinfected

Monitoring Desk
MOSCOW: North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's security detail spent several minutes disinfecting the chair that Kim sat on during a summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin, the Kommersant newspaper reported on Thursday.

Video footage published by the newspaper showed a North Korean security official in white gloves scrupulously wiping down Kim's black chair and spraying around an unidentified substance.

Biden announces more Iran sanctions on the anniversary of Mahsa Amini's death

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: President Joe Biden announced new U.S. sanctions Friday on "some of Iran's most egregious human rights abusers" as he marked the anniversary of the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini, who died while being held by the country's morality police. Amini had been detained for allegedly wearing her hijab too loosely in violation of laws that require women in public to wear the Islamic headscarf. She died three days later in police custody.

Her death set off protests in dozens of cities

across the country of 80 million people, with young women marching in the streets and publicly exposing and cutting off their hair. The government responded with a fierce crackdown, blaming the protests on foreign interference. Amini remains a potent symbol in protests that have posed one of the most serious challenges to the Islamic Republic since the 2009 Green Movement protests drew millions to the streets. Biden said Friday that the U.S. reaffirms its "commitment to the courageous people of Iran who are carrying on her mission."



TAIPEI: Terry Gou founder and former chairman of Foxconn and independent Taiwanese presidential candidate, joins his hand with running mate Lai Pei-hsia during a press conference.

Iraq steps up repatriations from Islamic State camp in Syria, hoping to reduce militant threats

Monitoring Desk
BAGHDAD: Iraq is stepping up repatriation of its citizens from a camp in northeastern Syria housing tens of thousands of people, mostly wives and children of Islamic State fighters but also supporters of the militant group.

It's a move that Baghdad hopes will reduce cross-border militant threats and eventually lead to shutting down the facility. After U.S.-backed and Kurdish-led fighters defeated the Islamic State group in Syria in March 2019 — ending its self-proclaimed Islamic "caliphate" that had ruled over a large swath of territory straddling Iraq and Syria — thousands of IS fighters and

their families were taken to the camp known as al-Hol. Many of them were Iraqi nationals.

Today, Iraqi officials see the facility, close to the Iraq-Syria border, as a major threat to their country's security, a hotbed of the militants' radical ideology and a place where thousands of children have been growing up into future militants.

It's "a time bomb that can explode at any moment," warned Ali Jahangir, a spokesman for Iraq's Ministry of Migration and Displaced. Since January, more than 5,000 Iraqis have been repatriated, from al-Hol, with more expected in the coming weeks, he said.

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 (retid) 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 extinction 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 defect 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.

He said that the cabinet also approved to withdrawal of the electricity hike in the bills of July which was earlier suspended by the prime Minister and decided not to charge a late payment surcharge (LPS) on July bills while the cabinet disapproved the amendments in Mangla upraising agreement enacted in 2021 and the issue will be raised with the central government and WAPDA.



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.

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.

CEC pledges strong commitment to democracy on Intl Democracy Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sikandar Sultan Raja Friday reaffirmed his unwavering commitment on International Democracy Day to fulfilling the constitutional duty of upholding, advancing, and ensuring the stability of democracy.

In his message on International Democracy Day, the CEC stated that the commission was making every possible effort to include all segments of society, especially the disadvantaged, in the electoral process.

"Our aim is to ensure that all eligible Pakistanis are not only registered on the electoral lists but can also participate in the electoral process without facing any discrimination," he added.

Top court's ruling on NAB amendments draws mixed reactions

ISLAMABAD (INP): The major Supreme Court verdict on Friday on the amendments made to the National Accountability Bureau's (NAB) laws created a stir in political circles as it restored the corruption cases against political bigwigs.

A three-member bench — headed by outgoing Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial, and comprising Justice Mansoor Ali Shah and Justice Ijazul Ahsan — in a majority 2-1 verdict approved Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan's petition challenging the passage of NAB amendments by the previous Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM)-led government.

While reacting to the development, former inter-

ior 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 that the chief justice who is about to retire has caused the most harm to the institution of judiciary.

Sanaullah said that Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz leaders have faced the inquires in their respective cases. "Nearly 13 cases are registered against the PTI chairman. He should face the inquires and have a taste of it. Let's see how he [Imran Khan] gets scores of bails," he added.

The politician said that he was of the view that the "unkind" law of NAB should not be abolished because PML-N leaders have borne the brunt of it.



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

Attock jail authorities refuse to arrange telephonic talks b/w Imran and his sons

ISLAMABAD (Online): Attock Jail Authorities have refused to arrange telephonic conversation between PTI chairman Imran Khan and his sons.

Attock jail superintendent has filed reply to contempt of court plea in special court Islamabad established under official secret act.

Attock jail superintendent has said in his reply jail laws don't allow. Telephonic talk cannot be arranged.

Jail superintendent said telephone facility is not available to the those accused in secret act. The court's order regarding telephonic has not been violated.

Judge Anbul Hasnaat Zulqarnain of the court has sought arguments on September 18 with regard to Attock Jail superintendent reply.

Superintendent Attock jail has filed in the court a letter from Punjab Prisoners Foundation.

ECP throws out petition against registration of Tareen's party

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Election Commission of Pakistan has dismissed the petition filed by the Istehkam-i-Pakistan Tehreek (IPT) against the registration of Jehangir Khan Tareen's Istehkam-i-Pakistan Party (IPP) on Friday.

The IPT has decided to challenge the ECP's decision in the superior court.

Istehkam-i-Pakistan Tehreek's leader Ahmad Kaleem had filed an application in the Election Commission complaining that the two political parties have similar names and it would create confusion, beseeching the commission to not register the IPP.

The Election Com-

mission had reserved its verdict after hearing arguments.

According to the verdict, the process of registration of the Istehkam-i-Pakistan Party should be carried out in accordance with the constitution and law.

The verdict further said that the difference between the IPP and the IPT is clear and that the registration process of the IPP is still ongoing.

IPT President Ahmad Kaleem and Vice President Ayman Javed said in a media talk that today the Election Commission has added another dark chapter, requesting the Chief Justice to take notice of it.



KARACHI: Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Karachi Chief, Hafiz Naem-ur-Rehman addresses to media persons during press conference held at Idara-e-Noor-ul-Haq in Karachi.

Deputy 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 Milad-un-Nabi processions and install streetlights on time.



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

Smart Classrooms initiated under CPEC growing in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Smart Classrooms project was initiated under CPEC in September 2021 and is now grooming in the country. Around 100 smart classrooms are being built in 50 universities across Pakistan, Gwadar Pro reported on Friday.

Meanwhile, a smart classroom was inaugurated at Karakoram International University (KIU) in Gilgit-Baltistan, aiming to empower teachers with the essential skills needed to effectively utilize technology in the classroom.

This initiative seeks to enhance the learning experience for students through comprehensive training programs.

Vice-Chancellor of KIU, Engineer Professor Dr. Attaullah Shah, inaugurated the smart classroom in the presence of senior administrative and teaching staff of the university.

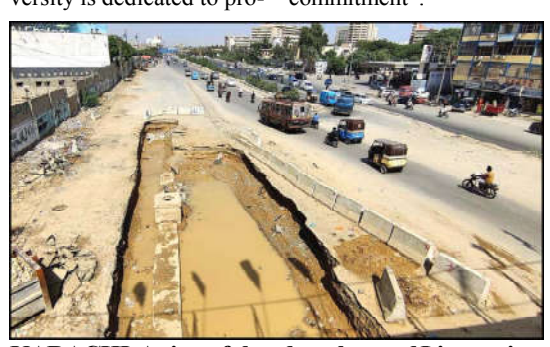
According to Dr. Attaullah Shah, "The University is dedicated to pro-

viding facilities that align with modern educational and learning requirements for its students," and he further emphasized this commitment by pointing to the establishment of a modern classroom as a clear and concrete example.

This information is in line with an official statement from the university.

The Vice-Chancellor said that the objective behind establishing a smart classroom is to embrace the digital age by providing state-of-the-art facilities that meet today's educational requirements.

"This initiative aims to enhance learning opportunities, benefiting both students and teachers alike," he said and added that KIU has consistently prioritized its students by continually advancing in response to the demands of the digital age, and the inauguration of the "smart classroom today serves as a tangible testament to this commitment".



KARACHI: A view of closed work on red Line project in provincial capital.

All possible services will be ensured in connection with Rabi-ul-Awwal: Altaf Sheikh

Independent Report KARACHI: A meeting of ulama e Karram and officers was held under the presidentship of Deputy Commissioner East, Altaf Ahmed Sheikh regarding the provision of municipal and administrative services in rabi-ul-awwal procession and other programs in District East.

In the meeting, the scholars and administration of Procession and Mehfil apprised them of the problems prevailing in their areas, masjids, procession routes and places of Mehfil.

On this occasion, Deputy Commissioner East Altaf Ahmed Sheikh and Transition Officer Faiz Ahmed Sheikh listened carefully to the problems and in-

structed the officers present on the spot to resolve the problems.

He said that all possible steps would be taken to perform the services in Rabi-ul-Awwal, senior director tauqeer Abbas would ensure the provision of street lights, patchwork, improvement of road and other municipal services in district East.

He urged the organizers of the procession to remain in touch with each other and ensure cooperation, in this regard, a WhatsApp group has also been formed.

The meeting was also attended by Town Chairman Dr Fawwad Ahmed, Farhan Ghani, Lala Rahim, Rashid Khaskheli, SSP Irfan Bahadur and other officers of the other institutions.

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 multi-lateral issues of mutual interest. The cordial Pakistan-Japan ties and the potential for greater cooperation in the field of defence were underscored.

During the exchange of views on regional situation, the Additional Foreign Secretary briefed the Japanese delegation on Pakistan's policy of peaceful neighbourhood including Afghanistan, India and the gross violations of human rights in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

Man shoots dead wife over domestic dispute

HYDERABAD (APP): A man allegedly shot dead his wife at her father's residence in the Babbar 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.

The police said the suspect escaped after the incident but he is being chased at his whereabouts.

The dead body was shifted to the Takula Hospital Kotri for postmortem.

The incident's FIR has not been lodged so far.

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

Election in 90 days: SC registrar office returns the petition with objections filed by JI, others

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) Registrar Office has returned with objections petitions filed by JI, Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) and Ibadul Rehman seeking court order for holding general election in 90 days.

The same objections have been raised on all petitions.

It has been said in the objections what petitions have been filed by petitioners they have not clarified it therein do their petitions fulfill the norms set for public interest under article 184 (3) of the constitution. And how can they file petition directly under this constitutional jurisdiction of the court. Secondly how they hold the authority to come

in the court by exercising this extraordinary ambit of court.

Thirdly How the petitioners have made president of Pakistan respondent in this case while he cannot be made necessary respondent under article 248 of the constitution.

The forth is this the notices for the respondents have not been prepared as per law which are used for constitutional petition like this. The petitioners have not resorted to proper forum before this. They should have first approached the proper forum and then they should have come to SC.

It is essential to resort to proper forum in connection with relief like this.



HYDERABAD: Mayor Hyderabad, Kashif Shoro talking to media persons after inspecting the construction works of Filter Plant during his visit, at Latifabad No.04 in Hyderabad.

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 artisan 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.



KARACHI: Kishor Naheed speaking at the opening ceremony of "Tar Tar Pirhan (Poems Ghazals)" poetry collection by Kishor Naheed organized by Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi. Renowned Poetess Zahra Nigham, Noorul Hadi Shah, Dr. Syed Jafar Ahmad, Dr. Tanveer Anjum and Dr. Inam Nadeem are also present on this occasion.