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Nawaz's love, services to nation made him party President again: PM

LAHORE (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has said that Muhammad Nawaz Sharif has once again been elected unopposed as the President of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz because of his great love and services to the people of Pakistan. Addressing the PML-N General Council Meeting at a local hotel, he said that in the 2018 elections, Nawaz Sharif was defeated through various intrigues, adding that Nawaz Sharif's fault was that he transformed the country into a nuclear power and also put it on the path to speedy development. He said that unfortunately, Muhammad Nawaz Sharif was implicated in the false Panama cases, asserting that his crime was that he served Pakistan and made Pakistan a nuclear power, while Pakistan had been progressing fast in industrial, agricultural and all other sectors. Under a sheer conspiracy, he said, attempts were made to de-

fame Nawaz Sharif in the comity of nations by ruining his national services and he was forced to quit Pakistan but today, the faces of all those conspirators are tainted, while Nawaz Sharif has once again succeeded to foil all those unlawful tactics and intrigues. With dedication and hard work, the PML-N governments in federal and Punjab under the dynamic leadership of Muhammad Nawaz are surpassing every milestone and taking Pakistan towards speedy development, he said and acknowledged the cooperation of the allied parties including Pakistan People's Party, PML-Q and MQM in the government. He added that all the allied parties are sincerely working day and night for the economic and prosperity of the country. He vowed to take Pakistan to that level of progress and prosperity as it had been in 2017 under the leadership of then Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif.



LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif congratulates former Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif on being elected unopposed as President of PML-N in Lahore.

To ensure provision of better services to people Public Health facilities should be upgraded faster: Nasir

Independent Report
KARACHI: Provincial Minister Planning and Development Syed Nasir Hussain Shah presided over an important meeting of Planning and Development Board. Chairman P&D Najam Ahmed Shah, Secretary Planning Khair Muhammad Kalor and other senior officers also partici-

parted in the meeting. Minister Syed Nasir Hussain Shah was informed about the details of the schemes. The meeting was informed that the focus was on key projects to enhance infrastructure and public services to accelerate the provincial development agenda and reviewed the various schemes of the road sector to ensure smooth development and better connectivity. Minister directed that the public health facilities should be upgraded



fastest to ensure the provision of better services to the people. The meeting informed that new projects have been proposed under the planning and development framework, focusing on targeted poverty alleviation strategies and improved social safety net. The meeting emphasized the importance of a

strong urban policy to effectively manage the challenges and opportunities of urbanization. Notable infrastructure projects like SWAT and MSDP projects were discussed with emphasis on ensuring that these projects are aligned with broader development objectives. He added that reforms and improvements in the prisons department were also presented in the meeting to ensure better management and rehabilitation services.

Sindh govt orders probe against officers with alleged fake domiciles

KARACHI (INP): The Sindh Home Department has launched an investigation into several officers who allegedly secured Grade 17 jobs using fake domiciles.

According to authorities from home department, the investigation focuses on candidates from other provinces who reportedly used falsified Sindh domiciles to pass the Central Superior Services (CSS) exam. The Sindh Home Department suspects that these individuals may have illicitly obtained positions such as Assistant Commissioner and other high-ranking posts.

Key individuals under scrutiny include Arslan Chaudhry, Kamran Ahmed Asadullah Gondal, Makhdoom Malik, and Owais Brar, who allegedly obtained their Assistant Commissioner positions through fraudulent means. Additionally, the domiciles of Raja Abdul Salam and Rana Ziaur Rehman, who secured Grade 17 jobs, are under suspicion, as well as that of Hania Minhas from the Office Management Group. The Sindh Home Department has issued a letter demanding a prompt investigation and thorough report submission on these cases.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a review meeting on Electricity Supply Load Management and Anti-Power Theft Campaign.

Country's economic indicators improving Nawaz fires broadside at Imran, 'facilitators' after re-election as PML-N president

Ex-PM vehemently criticises decision by former chief justice Saqib Nisar, declaring it has been discarded as 'trash'

LAHORE (Agencies): Former prime minister and newly elected President of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), Nawaz Sharif, has once again accused Imran Khan of relying on military support for his political ascent.

Sharif was elected unopposed as the president of the ruling party earlier today, coincidentally, the same day Pakistan conducted nuclear tests in 1998 during the PML-N's second term in government.

"Imran Khan started his politics on the shoulders of the army. I personally approached him for collaboration, and he agreed, but then planned protests from London with

a general, a cleric from Canada, Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi, and others. Protests began, and I was asked to resign. I said do whatever you want, Nawaz Sharif never resigns," he remarked while addressing the party's general council meeting, where Sharif's presidency was confirmed on Tuesday.

Sharif quoted former ISI chief General (ret'd) Zabeerul Islam, saying he had said they tried different parties and allowed a third force, which they thought could deliver. He said that that force appeared in PTI. "Imran Khan should clarify if he was not the third force, then who was?"

Challenging Khan, Sharif declared, "If you

were not the third force, I promise to retire from politics. Your politics and the ousting of our government were founded with their help. You derailed democracy on their behalf. It was during the PTI's protests in Islamabad where it was said Sharif would be dragged out of the PM House with a rope around his neck. This was the empire's finger that Imran Khan frequently referred to."

Sharif urged Khan to answer these questions before he could be engaged in a dialogue with the government. "We are of May 28, not May 9. When Bill Clinton offered \$5 billion to avoid nuclear tests, we refused and rejected the offer of \$5 billion of that time."

Sharif also vehemently criticised the decision by former chief justice Saqib Nisar, declaring it has been discarded as "trash."

"Saqib Nisar removed me from the party presidency for life. Today, people have thrown his decision into the dustbin. Summon those who declared that Nawaz Sharif would be permanently removed, yet here I stand before you once again," he stated.

Sharif questioned the basis of the verdict against him, citing, "What was the decision against me? Not taking a salary from my son? I did not take a salary from my son; I did not ask for one from your son either."

Shazia Marri pays tribute to founders of Pakistan's Nuclear program

KARACHI (APP): Pakistan Peoples Party's central spokesperson, Shazia Marri, Tuesday, paid glowing tribute to founders of Pakistan's nuclear program that made country's defense impregnable.

Shazia Marri, in her message on Youm-e-Takbeer, saluted Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Shaheed Benazir Bhutto and said that May 28 will always remind us of their services for national defense.

Pakistan Navy foils major drug smuggling bid in North Arabian Sea

RAWALPINDI (APP): Pakistan Navy Ship (PNS) Aslat on Tuesday seized a large quantity of narcotics in the North Arabian Sea during a regional maritime security patrol.

The seized drugs were worth thousands of dollars in the international market, an Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said. The successful operation against drug smuggling was the result of effective surveillance at sea by Pakistan Navy, it added.

Youm-e-Takbeer celebrated with national enthusiasm

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Law & Justice Azam Nazeer Tarar said that Youm-e-Takbeer was celebrated with national enthusiasm in memory of the successful nuclear tests conducted on that day in 1998 which made the country's defense invincible. In his special message on Tuesday, he stated that Youm-e-Takbeer is celebrated in Pakistan on Tuesday to commemorate the Chagai-I and Chagai-II series of nuclear tests. He added that Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif made the bold decision to test Pakistan's nuclear weapons, thereby balancing the strategic power in the region.



KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Information, Transport and Mass Transit, Excise Taxation and Narcotics Control, Sharjeel Inam Memon addresses to media persons during press conference in Karachi.

Aleem hold meeting with Tajikistan's ministers to discuss various matters

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Investment Board, Privatization and Communications, Abdul Aleem Khan, during his visit to Tajikistan held detail meetings with Transport Minister Azim Ibrahim and Minister for Economic Development and Trade Zavqizoda Zavqi Amin to increase bilateral trade between the two countries.

Aleem Khan agreed to the proposals for starting a pilot project at the ports of Gwadar and Karachi and increasing the "Organic Export", said a press release issued here on Tuesday.

The federal minister while expressing the determination to expand existing relation between two countries said that good neighbors are no less than a blessing. He mentioned that Tajikistan is the "Gateway" for trade with Pakistan for Central Asian countries. He assured his all possible cooperation to start at least one direct flight in a week from Tajikistan to Pakistan. He added that both the countries should also increase "organic exports" while Pakistan's trade may increase from Tajikistan via China and Afghanistan as well.



KARACHI: Grand Democratic Alliance (GDA) Chief, Pir Sibghatullah Shah Rashidi exchanging views with Maulana Fazal-ur-Rehman, Chief of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI-F) during meeting held in Karachi.

Gilani felicitates Nawaz on election as PML-N president

ISLAMABAD (APP): Acting President Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani on Tuesday congratulated Muhammad Nawaz Sharif on his unopposed election as the president of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N).

The acting president, in a statement, reiterated to work with Muhammad Nawaz Sharif to promote democracy in the country. Expressing good wishes for him, the acting president said that Nawaz Sharif rendered numerous services for strengthening the democracy in the country.

PM takes notice of fire erupted again at Margalla Hills

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday took notice of the fire which erupted again at the Margalla Hills, instructing the authorities concerned to extinguish it before spreading further.

The prime minister asked the relevant departments to immediately mobilize their teams to control the fire which broke out again a day after it was extinguished through a joint operation by the Pakistan Army, NDMA, Islamabad administration and the climate change ministry.

Hearing of cipher case likely today

ISLAMABAD (Online): Hearing of cipher case against PTI founder Imran Khan and former foreign minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi could not take place on Tuesday being public holiday in connection with Youm-e-Takbeer and it is likely to be held today.

A division bench of Islamabad High Court (IHC) comprising Chief Justice (CJ) IHC Aamir Farooq and justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb will hear the case.

CM Sindh felicitates nation on Youm-e-Takbeer

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, Tuesday, felicitated the nation on 'Youm-e-Takbeer' and said that it is a manifestation of collective efforts of all aspects of national strength.

The Sindh CM, in his message on 'Youm-e-Takbeer', also paid tribute to the leadership, people and armed forces of Pakistan who played significant role in making the motherland a nuclear power.

Murad Shah said that Former Prime Minister Shaheed Zulfikar Ali

Bhutto was the founder of Pakistan's nuclear program who laid the foundation of a program aimed at making Pakistan a nuclear power to maintain peace and deterrence in the region.

Paying tribute to Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto for his foresight and determination to make Pakistan a nuclear power, saying that former PM Shaheed Benazir Bhutto brought innovation in Pakistan's nuclear program and also launched the missile program in difficult circumstances.



Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi calls on Acting President Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani in Islamabad.

PM for minimum load shedding for public relief in sizzling summer

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday directed the authorities concerned to minimize the ongoing load-shedding in different areas through better load management, considering the public relief in sizzling weather.

The prime minister, chairing a meeting on load management and power theft, reiterated that the government would deal strictly with the power thieves and the ongoing mission against them would be taken to the logical end.

Vowing to hold a monthly review of the power theft situation, he asked the provincial governments, law enforcement agencies and other departments to extend their support in the anti-power theft drive in the national interest and for the country's progress. The prime minister told the participants of the meeting that the government in no way would tolerate the over-billing.

He directed to accelerate the privatisation process of the power distribution companies by engaging the experts and formulate a strategy to solarise the tube wells in Balochistan.

During the briefing on load management and power theft issue, it was told that under a joint strategy formulated following a conversation between Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chief minister and federal minister for power, it had been agreed to reduce load shedding and line losses and ensure recovery of dues from defaulters in the province.

It was told that areas with more power theft and line losses and low recovery ratio were being subjected to load shedding and that the upgradation of the south-north power transmission line would help improve the system.

The meeting participants were told that task forces were being formed at provincial and divisional levels to eliminate the power theft which would undergo a weekly performance review.

Sindh minister, UAE CG discuss measures for tourism promotion

Independent Report
KARACHI: Sindh Minister of Tourism and Culture, Syed Zulfikar Ali Shah on Tuesday, visited the Consulate General of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in

both the brotherly countries could reap benefits by further increasing the exports of handicrafts. Syed Zulfikar Ali Shah said that the founder of the Pakistan Peoples Party



Karachi. He discussed with UAE Consul General Bakhit Atiq Al-Rumithi matters relating to the promotion of bilateral tourism and cultural activities and projects for the promotion of tourism under public-private partnership, said a statement issued here. The minister stressed the need to further strengthen cultural relations and enhance joint cultural activities and said that Pakistan is keen to strengthen cultural and people-to-people relations with the Emirates and organizing events in this regard will produce positive results. He said that there are vast opportunities and a favorable environment for investment in Sindh while

UAE CG Bakhit Atiq al-Rumithi said that there were remarkable bilateral relations between UAE and Pakistan at the state and public level as well as in social, historical and cultural sectors. Underscoring the need for coordinated measures for the promotion of tourism and culture to strengthen the relations between the two countries, he said that joint effort will be made for investment under public-private partnerships in the sectors. Muhammad Isa Al Tahiri, CEO of U Bank was also present on this occasion.

Political stability in the country the need of hour: Punjab Governor

PPP delegations meet governor, congratulate on assuming charge

Independent Report
LAHORE: Various delegations of Pakistan Peoples' Party Central Punjab met Governor Punjab met all the people one by one and listened to their problems. Secretary Information Shahzad Saeed Cheema and Secretary Records and Events Ahsan Rizvi were also present during the meeting. Speaking on this occasion, Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider said that political stability in the

country was the need of the hour. He added that everyone has to play a positive role for the betterment of the country. He said that the vision of our leadership is the prosperity of the people and a stable Pakistan. He said that fulfillment of his constitutional obligations and betterment of Punjab province was among his top priorities. Governor Punjab further said that he

rose to this position by dint of hard work and struggle. He added that he was well aware of the problems of working class. He said that the doors of Governor House are always open for the workers and the people of Punjab. Meanwhile, Punjab Governor Sardar Saleem Haider Khan in his statement regarding Youm-e-Takbeer stated that May 28 was a big day in the history of Pakistan.



LAHORE: Various delegations of Pakistan Peoples' Party Central Punjab in a group photo with Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan after meeting at Governor House.



LAHORE: A delegation of JICA Pakistan Provincial Ministers Khawaja Salman Rafique and Khawaja Imran Nazir at PMU.

Minister Health inaugurates 250 KW solarization project at Women & Children Hospital

Independent Report
PESHAWAR: Minister Health Syed Qasim Ali Shah on Tuesday inaugurated a 250 KW solarization project at the Women and Children Hospital in Charsadda, completed at a cost of Rs68 million with the support of UNICEF. This project will ensure an uninterrupted power supply to the maternity and neonatal care wards, as well as the oxygen production plant. The inauguration ceremony was attended by several notable figures, including MPA PK-64 Iftikhar Ullah, Director General Health Dr. Muhammad Saleem,

Two killed, three injured in road mishaps

BUREWALA (APP): At least two persons including a minor kid were killed while three others sustained injuries in two separate road incidents. According to details, two persons on a motorcycle were taking turn when suddenly an overspeeding Vehari bounded bus ran over them near Multan road. As a result, 65-year-old Ghulam Ali died on the spot while woman sustained serious injuries. The bus driver managed to escape from there. In another incident, two motorcycles collided near Tufailabad Arifwala Road and were crushed by a trailer coming from behind. As a result, three-year-old child Imran died on the spot while his mother Abida Parveen.

PML-N working day & night for development of country: Minister

SIALKOT (APP): Provincial Minister for Local Government Zeeshan Rafiq has said that under the leadership of Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Federal and Punjab government are working day and night for the development and prosperity of the country and the nation. History is a witness that whenever Muhammad Nawaz Sharif came into power, the country became stronger economically, ideologically and geographically. He expressed these views while speaking as a special guest at Kissan Mela 2024 in Koriky of Pasrur tehsil. Member Provincial Assembly Chaudhry Naveed Ashraf, former Vice Chairman District Council Chaudhry Jameel Ashraf, Dawood Bukhari besides dignitaries of the area were present in large numbers.

Youm-e-Takbeer rally held in Dera

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): A rally was held on Tuesday to observe Youm-e-Takbeer anniversary of the nuclear tests conducted on May 28, 1998. Deputy Commissioner Mansoor Arshad led the rally in which government officials, civil society members, political party representatives, and social leaders participated, waving national flags and chanting slogans of "Pakistan Zindabad" and "Youm-e-Takbeer Zindabad". The rally commenced from the Deputy Commissioner's Office with participants and culminated after reaching Yadgar Chowk.

Pakistan defense made impregnable on May 28, 1998: Kundi

PESHAWAR (APP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi here Tuesday said that May 28 (Youm-e-Takbeer) was in fact a day of survival, integrity and security and now no one could dare to cast an ugly eye on Pakistan. In a message on Youm-e-Takbeer here, the Governor said that former Prime Minister Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto had made a commitment of making Pakistan an atomic power after Indian nuclear

explosions and 26 years ago on this day Pakistan had achieved the status of first nuclear country of the Muslims world. He paid homage to civil and military leadership, scientists and engineers for making Pakistan an atomic power. He said Pakistan had been protected from all external threats and safeguarded its autonomy, sovereignty and independence after successful nuclear tests at Chagai Balochistan 26 years ago.

Ecotourism flourishes in Kalam following increase of temperature

KALAM (APP): Providing meal and cold water to tourists, Haji Ehsan Ullah (28), a resident of Osho village has reserved his guest house for visitors by earning maximum capital in the wake of arrival of influx of adventure and mountains sports enthusiasts from hot plain districts of KP and Punjab provinces to the picturesque Kalam valley. "No one can feel the pain of an unemployed married person better than me. I have opened my two room guest house for tourists on the advice of my grandfather and today he was earning a handsome amount enabling me to fulfill my household expenses," said Ehsan, a resident of Osho village near Kalam while talking to APP. He said domestic tourists prefer small hotels and inns due to its affordable prices than expansive hotels at Kalam and majority of his villagers had opened their rest houses for accommodations of the tourists. Ehsan said that he provides free meal and water to tourists and obtain only Rs1500 rent for 24 hours stay. "I came from Wapda Town Peshawar to spend few days in pleasant weather of Kalam," said

Kaiser Khan, a retired Wapda employee while talking to APP. Impressed by the hospitality of locals, he said that guest houses at Kalam were more economical than hotels and urged people here in large numbers to enjoy trout fish and paragliding besides rivers rafting. Although local tourism had flourished visibly in recent years at Swat yet unfortunately these bounties remained untapped to the maximum due to multiple reasons like insufficient projection, facilities for tourism and law and order situation in the past. Since Pakistan has a

meager share in global tourism earning from tourism, the experts believe that if the government fully employs the latest digital techniques and social media to highlight these hidden destinations, it can earn billions of dollars annually. Internationally recognized as home to six United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) heritage sites, second highest mountain peak, long coastline and vast cultural and religious heritage, Pakistan offers plenty of tourism activities for local and foreign tourists. It is also a unique

country with enchanting deserts, mesmerizing plains and snow covered peaks, adventurous sea shores and plenty of cultural and archeological sites, ancient Muslim architecture and religious sites of Buddhism and Sikhism. Archeological wonders of Mohenjodaro in Sindh, Harappa in Punjab, Buddhist Ruins in Takht Bhai and Sahri Bahlol in Mardan and Taxila, ancient Indus and Gandhara civilizations, Thal and Thar deserts and architecture of ancient rulers especially Mughal era can be future hot spots for tourism.

International News

Spain, Ireland and Norway recognise Palestinian state

Monitoring Desk
MADRID: Spain, Ireland and Norway formally recognised the Palestinian state on Tuesday in a coordinated decision slammed by Israel as a "reward" for Hamas, more than seven months into the devastating Gaza bombardment. The three European countries believe their initiative has a strong symbolic impact that is likely to encourage others to follow suit, defying Israel which had condemned the plan. After Ireland's government formally approved the measure, Prime Minister Simon Harris said the aim was to keep Middle East peace hopes alive. "We had wanted to recognise Palestine at the end of a peace process.

However, we have made this move alongside Spain and Norway to keep the miracle of peace alive," he said in a statement, urging Israel to "stop the humanitarian catastrophe" in Gaza. As Oslo's recognition went into effect, Foreign Minister Espen Barth Eide hailed the move as "a special day for Norway-Palestine relations". After Spain's cabinet backed the move, Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Albares said it was a day that would be "etched in Spain's history". Earlier, Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez said the recognition was "essential" for peace, insisting the move was "not against anyone, least of all Israel" and the only way to

secure a future of two states living side-by-side "in peace and security". The decision also reflected Spain's "outright rejection of Hamas, which is against the two-state solution" and whose October 7 attacks led to the Gaza conflict, he added. Tuesday's move will mean 145 of the United Nations' 193 member states now recognise Palestinian statehood. On October 7, Hamas fighters stormed into southern Israel in an assault that killed more than 1,170 people, mostly civilians, according to an AFP tally based on Israeli official figures. The Palestinian fighters also took 252 hostages, 121 of whom remain in Gaza. The Israeli army says 37 of them are dead.



Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Albares, Norway's Foreign Minister Espen Barth Eide and Ireland's Foreign Minister Micheal Martin gesture after a press conference in Brussels, Belgium.

Iran talks suspended after Raisi's death, says IAEA

Monitoring Desk
VIENNA: Planned talks between Iran and the UN nuclear watchdog aimed at breaking the impasse over Tehran's nuclear programme have been put on hold after the death of President Ebrahim Raisi, an agency report said on Monday. The temporary suspension of talks between Iran and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) comes as its chief Rafael Grossi reiterated his concern over public statements made in Iran regarding its nuclear weapons capability. In the report, Grossi said that "further public statements made in Iran... regarding its technical capabilities to produce nuclear weapons and possible changes to Iran's nuclear doctrine only increase... concerns about the correctness and completeness of Iran's safeguards declarations." Iran has always denied any ambition to develop nuclear weapon capability, insisting its activities are entirely for peaceful purposes.

Russia invites Afghan Taliban to key economic forum

Monitoring Desk
MOSCOW: Moscow has invited the Taliban to its biggest annual economic forum and is considering a proposal to remove the group from its terror list, a Russian diplomat was quoted as saying on Monday. Since the Taliban seized power in August 2021 as US-led forces withdrew after 20 years, Moscow has been slowly building ties with the Taliban, though the movement is still officially outlawed in Russia. The foreign and justice ministries have reported to President Vladimir Putin on the issue of removing the ban, Zamir Kabulov, an official at the Russian foreign ministry, told state news agency TASS.

Storms kill 21 across four states in US

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: Tornado-spawning thunderstorms that swept the US southern plains and Ozarks have killed at least 21 people as of Monday morning across four states and wrecked hundreds of buildings, with forecasters warning of more severe weather. The death toll over the Memorial Day weekend includes at least eight fatalities in Arkansas, seven in Texas, four in Kentucky and two in Oklahoma, according to tallies by state emergency authorities. Kentucky Governor

China calls for Red Sea attacks on civilian ships to end

Monitoring Desk
BEIJING: China called for attacks on civilian ships in the Red Sea to end and safe navigation there when China Foreign Minister Wang Yi met his Yemen counterpart in Beijing on Tuesday. Wang said China is ready to continue to play a constructive role in the matter, according to a foreign ministry statement.

Security Council set to meet over deadly Rafah strike

Monitoring Desk
RAFAH: The UN Security Council was set to convene an emergency meeting Tuesday over an Israeli strike that killed dozens in a displaced persons camp in Rafah, as three European countries were slated to formally recognise a Palestinian state. AFP journalists on the ground early Tuesday reported fresh Israeli strikes overnight in the southern Gaza border city, where an Israeli attack targeting two senior Hamas members on Sunday night sparked a fire that ripped through a displacement centre, killing 45, according to Gaza health officials. The attack prompted a wave of international condemnation, with Palestinians and many Arab countries calling it a "massacre". Israel said it was looking into the "tragic accident". "There is no safe place in Gaza. This horror must stop," UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres posted on social media. UN humanitarian chief Martin Griffiths pointed to the widespread warnings of civilian deaths that circulated ahead of Israel's incursion into Rafah, saying in a statement: "We've seen the consequences in last night's utterly unacceptable attack." "To call it 'a mistake' is a message that means nothing for those killed, those grieving, and those trying to save lives," he added.

As Israel attacks Rafah, Palestinians are living in tents and searching for food

Monitoring Desk
DEIR AL-BALAH: The tent camps stretch for more than 16 kilometers (10 miles) along Gaza's coast, filling the beach and sprawling into empty lots, fields and town streets. Families dig trenches to use as toilets. Fathers search for food and water, while children look through garbage and wrecked buildings for scraps of wood or cardboard for their mothers to burn for cooking. Over the past three weeks, Israel's offensive in Rafah has sent nearly a million Palestinians fleeing the southern Gaza city and scattering across a wide area. Most have already been displaced multiple times during Israel's nearly 8-month-old war in Gaza, which is aimed at destroying Hamas but has devastated the territory and caused what the United Na-

tions says is a near-famine. FILE - Palestinians displaced by the Israeli bombardment of the Gaza Strip set up a tent camp in Rafah on Dec. 6, 2023. The tent camps stretch for more than 16 kilometers (10 miles) along Gaza's coast, filling the beach and sprawling into empty lots, fields and town streets. (AP Photo/Hatem Ali, file) Palestinians displaced by the Israeli bombardment of the Gaza Strip set up a tent camp in Rafah on Dec. 6, 2023. (AP Photo/Hatem Ali, file) The situation has been worsened by a dramatic plunge in the amount of food, fuel and other supplies reaching the U.N. and other aid groups to distribute to the population. Palestinians have largely been on their own to resettle their families and find the basics for survival.



Palestinians travel in vehicles and on foot along with their belongings as they flee Rafah due to an Israeli military operation, in Rafah, in the southern Gaza Strip.

Doctor says Gaza hospitals operating in 'mediaeval' conditions

Monitoring Desk
BRUSSELS: Gaza hospitals are reduced to practising "mediaeval medicine", a British surgeon recently returned from the bombed Palestinian territory said on Monday. "It's absolutely true to describe it as mediaeval medicine. It is what you would hear about or read about what would be happening in Europe maybe 300, 400 years ago," Dr Khaled Dawas, head of gastrointestinal surgery at University College London

Hospitals, said in an interview. Dawas described dire conditions in Gaza, with medical staff operating virtually without supplies, power supplies intermittent and patients lying on the floor. He returned at the end of April from his two-week stint to help overstretched Palestinian hospital surgeons - his second wartime stay there, following one in January. Dawas was in Brussels to describe his experience to European Union officials.

12 Indians killed in quarry collapse after cyclone rains

Monitoring Desk
SATKHIRA: Torrential rains in the wake of a powerful cyclone caused the collapse of a quarry in India's Mizoram state killing 12 people, government officials said on Tuesday. "So far 12 bodies have been found, we are looking for more," deputy commissioner of Aizawl district Nazuk Kumar told AFP. Rescue efforts in the quarry were being hampered by "heavy rains", police director general Anil Shukla said, NDTV news network reported. Mizoram Chief Minister Lalduhoma offered compensation to families of the victims of the "landslide due to Cyclone Remal". "I pray for the success of rescue and relief operations and wish a speedy recovery of the injured," India's President Droupadi Murmu said on social media.

China an important partner in economic development of Pakistan: PM

ISLAMABAD (Online): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has China as an important partner in the economic development of Pakistan. He said in a meeting in Islamabad Tuesday regarding enhancing cooperation with China in various fields.

China. Addressing the meeting PM Shehbaz Sharif said we invite Chinese businessmen especially the Chinese textile industry to set up industries in Pakistan.

He held out an assurance that the Chinese nationals will be provided with foolproof security in Pakistan. A comprehensive plan has been evolved with reference to security of Chinese nationals.

Shehbaz Sharif said preparations are being made for the next phase of CPEC. He said Gwadar port will be made a logistics hub with Chinese cooperation.

He said establishment of Agriculture Demonstration Zones will be an important project in the next phase of CPEC.

The Prime Minister directed the ministries concerned to prepare new projects aimed at enhancing Pakistan-China cooperation as well as undertake measures to promote business to business ties.

He said China is an important partner in Pakistan's economic development and it can be helpful in framing a strategy for increasing our exports.

PM directed that the respective ministries should make preparations with reference to new projects of cooperation between Pakistan and China and steps be taken for enhancing business to business contacts.



KARACHI: Pakistan Navy Ship ASLAT seizes narcotics in the North Arabian Sea during Regional Maritime Security Patrol (RMSP).

KMC issues tender of Rs 1bn to convert three highways on solar

KARACHI (INP): The Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC) has announced plans to convert three major highways in the city to solar energy. With the support of the World Bank, KMC has issued a tender for the ambitious project, valued at one billion rupees.

Under the leadership of Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab, the iconic thoroughfares of Shahrah Faisal, Marine Drive Road, and Shahrah Iran/Shahrah Firdous are slated for transformation. Additionally, 103 other key highways managed by KMC are earmarked for the adoption of solar energy systems.

Mayor Murtaza Wahab emphasized that the initiative aims not only to reduce the city's carbon footprint but also to generate substantial savings. These savings will be redirected towards vital development projects across Karachi. Not stopping there, KMC is set to become a pioneer in sustainable governance by transitioning its head office entirely to solar energy, marking a significant milestone for the council.

With this bold step towards renewable energy, Karachi is poised to lead the way in environmental stewardship and innovation, setting an inspiring example for cities nationwide.

Sindh police raid landlord's private jail, free 33 children

UMARKOT (INP): On the court order, Sindh police raided a landlord's private jail and freed 33 farmers including women and children in Umarkot.

According to the report, the raid was conducted following a petition filed by farmer Nursing Kolhi in the Umarkot Sessions Court against landlord Hamza Rind. In the petition, Nurshigh Kolhi alleged that landlord Hamza Rind had imprisoned women, children, and farmers in his private jail and forced them into bonded labour.

The petitioner appealed to the session's court to release the imprisoned children, women and farmers from the landlord's private jail. On this, the sessions court took serious notice and issued orders to the police to recover the imprisoned kids, women and farmers from the private jail immediately.

After recovering the imprisoned 33 farmers including children and women, police brought all of them along with their belongings to Kunri police station. According to the police sources, the recovered persons from the private jail will be presented in the Umarkot's sessions court.



KARACHI: Police personnel checking motorcyclists during snap checking and take strict security in city to maintain law and order on the occasion of Youm e Takbeer.

Rescue 1122 to establish DHQ facility at Sehwan to deal with emergencies

KARACHI (APP): The Rescue 1122 has planned to establish District Head Quarter (DHQ) facility at Sehwan to deal with emergencies and calamities including flood, fire medical, earthquake and other disaster emergencies and road accidents to provide immediate relief to the public at large.

According to spokesman, the land for the Sehwan DHQ 1122 facility has been acquired and execution will commence shortly with the firm commitment of completion and commissioning within 10 months.

The Rescue 1122 has been a source of immediate relief to general public in times of adverse situations and has provided help specially in case of health-related issues and road accidents.

The Sindh govt has already established Emergency Rescue 1122 Services and committed to expand its network throughout the province to cater for the emergency situations in province.

So far, Rescue 1122 Services have been kept operational in five divisional headquarters i.e. Karachi, Larkana, Hyderabad, Sukkur and Mirpur khas which are working as district offices as well for the provision of services to the people of relevant areas. Additional, Divisional/District headquarters' Emergency Rescue 1122 Facilities are under final stage of execution in other districts of province i.e. Matiari, Sanghar, Shaheed Benazirabad, Badin, Thatta, Sajawal, Umerkot, Tharparkar, Jacobabad, Ghotki and Qambar Shadadkot. Further few More DHQ facilities are planned to be established in Dadu and Shikarpur where execution has not yet started due to non-availability of land for these buildings.



KARACHI: Supporters of the Pakistani religious group "Jamaat-e-Islami protest the continued bombing of Gaza Israeli air strikes on tents housing displaced people in Rafah, Gaza, in Karachi.

Pakistan's full spectrum deterrence capabilities leave Indian forces feel handicapped: Gen @ Kidwai

ISLAMABAD (APP): Advisor to National Command Authority (NCA) and former Director General Strategic Plans Division (SPD), Lieutenant General @ Khalid Ahmed Kidwai on Tuesday at a lecture to commemorate Youm-e-Takbeer here said that the Indian armed forces were feeling in the past few decades due to Pakistan's full spectrum defence capabilities.

The Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) as part of its distinguished lecture series organised the seminar titled "Celebrating Youm-e-Takbeer Evolution of Pakistan's Full Spectrum Deterrence Policy" where the NCA Advisor was the guest speaker. Lieutenant General @ Khalid Kidwai said the full spectrum deterrence capabilities which was the combination of the conventional and most modern technology-based weapons capable to respond all threats from the enemy.

He added that the full spectrum deterrence helped in restoring the strategic balance of power that enforced peace in the region. "In the past few decades, the robust nuclear capability of Pakistan has enforced peace in the region. Pakistan does not adhere to the policy of no first use," he said.

General @ Kidwai explained that the nuclear programme of Pakistan was clearly divided into two periods; first from 1970s till 1999, the completion, and the second from 2000s till date that involved great political leadership and diplomatic efforts to protect it.

The work in the second era was taken forward from converting it into an operationalised capability based on different weapons to attain minimum credible nuclear deterrence, whereas with a variety of ballistic missiles the entire horizon of missiles was covered horizontally and vertically from 2011 under the strategic, operational and tactical cores of nuclear weapons, he added.

"The reality of nuclear deterrence is proven from the fact that in February 2019 the world community and India and Pakistan moved consciously on the ladder of escalation. Pakistan's confidence in retaliation to the Indian strike was out of the full spectrum deterrence," The NCA Advisor said.

PM welcomes Spain's announcement to recognise Palestine as a state

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday welcomed the announcement by Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez to formally recognise Palestine as a state.

The prime minister, in a statement, said that the recognition of Palestine as a state by Spain was a positive development in the international scenario which also manifested the rejection of Israeli barbarism against the unarmed Palestinians by the Spanish people and their Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez.

He strongly condemned the recent unprovoked Israeli bombing of Rafah which martyred another 45 Palestinian people, and reiterated his call for an immediate end to the genocide of Palestinian population being carried out by Israel.

He reiterated Pakistan's resolve to continue extending moral, political and diplomatic support to the Palestinian people till the establishment of an independent Palestine state with Quds Al Sharif as its capital.



KARACHI: Former President of Pakistan, Dr. Arif Alvi addresses during the protest demonstration of Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) for release PTI Chairman Imran Khan, at Karachi press club.

Fund raising event held in Karachi for Gaza affectees

KARACHI (APP): Al-Khidmat Foundation, in collaboration with Justice of Peace and Sahar Foundation organized a fund raising event to for collecting donations for support of Gaza affectees who were subject to Israeli atrocities since last several months.

President Al-Khidmat Foundation Dr Hafeez-ur-Rehman addressing the event said that more than 34 thousand innocent people were killed in Palestine and hundreds of thousands left without shelter, food and water. He said this during a fund raising event organized by Chairman Sehar Foundation and Justice of Peace, Danish Aman, Zahid Hameed & Friends of Al-Khidmat. It was also attended by Dost Muhammad Rahimoon, Sindh Minister for Environment, climate change & costal development department MPA, Barrister Hallar Wassan, Additional I.G. (AIG) Police Javed Alam Adho, and elite of the city.

Dr Hafeez ur Rehman described in detail the catastrophic violence and oppression being carried out by Israel in Gaza and said "Gaza is only 365 square kilometer area, out of which only 41 kilometer is sea facing. 96 km with Israel and 13 km with Egypt, in such a small area 2.4 million people have been living, where they cannot travel to any place, neither they are allowed to study".

He defined the sufferings of the people in Gaza saying "60 percent electricity in Gaza comes from Israel and 40 percent is generated from generators, there were 3 desalination and a number of filtration plants for providing water and pipelines also entered from Israel.

Pipelines have now been cut, desalination and filtration plants have been destroyed, trailers of food have been stopped and not allowed since 7 Oct.



HYDERABAD: Residents of Tando Hyder are holding protest demonstration against high handedness of land grabbers, at Hyderabad press club.

Pakistan reviving Belt and Road Initiative projects: Ahsan Iqbal

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal said here on Tuesday that the incumbent government was hopeful to inject some fresh momentum into projects that fall under China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), as it tries to boost the country's troubled economy.

The government is looking forward to joint ventures for renewable energy projects, agriculture collaboration and possibly enticing some Chinese companies to relocate to Pakistan, Ahsan Iqbal, who also co-heads the committee responsible for the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor said in an interview with Bloomberg.

"Yeah, I'm very hopeful because I was there in China recently and I had meetings with their senior leadership... So I see great interest on the Chinese side to revive the momentum for CPEC and also to take it into the second phase," he said Pakistan was seen as a flagship destination for BRI projects, with CPEC — which includes a port in the southern town of Gwadar and new power plants — the crown jewel. The progress on new projects stalled in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and amid Pakistan's on-going economic difficulties that have required the International Monetary Fund's intervention.

Job fair will provide new employment opportunities to youth: Nasir Shah

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister of Energy and Development & Planning Syed Nasir Hussain Shah has said that job fair will provide new employment to the youth and PPP also believes in providing employment to people. He requested the local and non-local companies to encourage such programs and set up their stalls so that the youth can get ample employment opportunities. He added that the Hindu community is playing an important role in the stability of the country's economy.



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He expressed these views while inspecting the stalls and interacting with the media after the inauguration of the job fair today. Patron Chief Hindu Council Dr. Ramesh Kumar and other members of the council were also present. Minister Nasir Shah said that the most important need of the people is employment.

He added that Chairman Bilawal Bhutto vision is also to provide maximum employment to the youth and PPP also believes in providing employment to people. He requested the local and non-local companies to encourage such programs and set up their stalls so that the youth can get ample employment opportunities. He added that the Hindu community is playing an important role in the stability of the country's economy.

This initiative of Hindu Council should be emulated by others. While talk to media, minister said that we want to provide free electricity to the consumers up to 300 units, for this purpose 4 solar parks are being built and work is going on rapidly.

Youm-e-Takbeer holds special significance in lives of Pakistanis, says Mazari

KARACHI: On the occasion of Youm-e-Takbeer, Ehsan Ur Rehman Mazari, Advisor to the Chief Minister of Sindh for Inter-Provincial Coordination and Cooperative Department, congratulated the nation and remarked that Youm-e-Takbeer is the day when the nation held its head high with pride. This day holds special significance in the lives of Pakistanis as it marks the achievement of a seemingly unattainable feat by Pakistan's scientists and experts.

Ehsan Ur Rehman Mazari further stated that Pakistan has played a pivotal role in sustainable development by utilizing nuclear science for peaceful purposes, a testament to the unparalleled services of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan.

Youm-e-Takbeer has always elevated Pakistan's defensive power and development, representing a significant milestone in history, he added.

He emphasized that Shaheed Benazir Bhutto also courageously advanced the nuclear program, leading to ongoing efforts in health, international cooperation, nuclear energy, and agriculture, thereby bolstering Pakistan's development and global standing. He said Youm-e-Takbeer is a source of pride for every Pakistani and Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto played a crucial role in making Pakistan a nuclear power, and Youm-e-Takbeer is the result of his endeavors.



HYDERABAD: Children in hospital during heatwave.

Prize distribution ceremony held at Junagadh Ghanchi Academy

KARACHI (INP): The annual prize distribution ceremony of the Junagadh Ghanchi Academy Karachi was held on Tuesday.

Provincial Minister Saeed Ghani, Senator Waqar Mehdi, Deputy Mayor Salman Murad, Chairman of Junagadh Ghanchi Board Rafiq Qasim Patel, Saleem Qasim Patel, Obaid Saleem Patel and others attended the ceremony. Junagadh Ghanchi Academy, a project of the Muslim Ghanchi Jamaat, organized the 10th annual prize distribution ceremony, in which students and teachers welcomed the guests.

Speaking at the occasion, Saeed Ghani said that the services of Rafiq Qasim Patel and Salim Qasim Patel are appreciable and assured full support for the noble cause.

He congratulated all the teachers for organising a very successful event and underlined the importance of such positive activities.

Saeed Ghani said that educating children is the responsibility of everyone and that we will always support such quality institutions.

Every person has the right to a good education, and authorities should do whatever is needed to make sure every child gets a quality education, he underlined.