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Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

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## PM says: Govt's business friendly policies coming to fruition

Directs preparing tariff rationalization for export sector industries

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday said that the business-friendly policies pursued by the incumbent government were coming to fruition.

The prime minister, talking to a delegation of international beverages companies which called on him here, said that the government was extending its maximum support to the foreign investors and business community to make them create employment opportunities, boost exports and contribute to the national economic development.

The delegation members appreciated the prime minister for his government's pro-business

policies. They told the prime minister that 25 plants of international beverages firms were operating in Pakistan and had employed around 130,000 workers.

Apprising the prime minister of their largest recycling system, the delegation told that the beverage firms were contributing to the national exchequer through huge amount of taxes.

Prime Minister Shehbaz urged the companies to play their productive role under their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

He also instructed the relevant authorities to hold consultations on the com-

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ISLAMABAD: A delegation of international beverage manufacturing companies met Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif

## Chief Minister told Process of collection & disposal of solid waste to be outsourced from August in Quetta city

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has directed to the concerned high ups to make process of tendering of collection of solid waste from Quetta city transparent under the Public-Private Partnership.

He directed to ensure the whole process transparent and on merit under the Public-Private Partnership.

He also directed to Finance Department to pay outstanding salaries and pensions of the employees of Quetta Metropolitan Corporation.

The Chief Minister was chairing the review meeting about the Quetta Solid Waste Management here on Friday.

The Chief Minister was briefed about the functioning of Corporation and solid waste management in Quetta.

It was informed that 150,000 tons of garbage has been lifted from Quetta city.

It was also informed that the process of collection of the solid waste would be outsourced from

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QUETTA: Provincial Ministers Haji Noor Muhammad Dummer, Parliamentary Secretary Mir Barkat Ali Rind and MPAs Sheikh Zarak Khan Mandokhail and Asghar Ali Tareen holding negotiations with BDA protesting employees

## Secretaries of departments didn't come in Assembly despite ruling: Speaker

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai has regretfully pointed out that the secretaries of government departments didn't come in the assembly session despite his ruling in this regard.

The Speaker was chairing the session of provincial assembly here on Friday.

Earlier, the Member of Provincial Assembly, Mir Asadullah Baloch also pointed out that the offi-

cial gallery is empty despite ruling of the Speaker.

He said that neither Chief Secretary nor Inspector General of Police comes in the assembly during the session.

He observed that these officers consider them to be above the assembly.

The leader of Opposition, Younas Aziz Zehri on a point of order mentioned that Chief Secretary is also reluctant to meet the members of assembly. He stressed that the Chief Secretary should respect every member.



QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti chairing a review meeting about the Quetta Solid Waste Management

## Tarar gets additional portfolio of National Heritage & Culture

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday assigned the additional portfolio of National Heritage and Culture to Mr Attaullah Tarar, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting.

"The prime minister, in terms of rule 3 (4) of the Rules of Business, 1973, has been pleased to allocate the additional portfolio (business of Government) of National Heritage and Culture, in addition to his own responsibilities, to Mr Attaullah Tarar, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, with immediate effect," said a notification.

## CNIC's issuance, renewal to be made available at UC level: Naqvi

ISLAMABAD (APP): Interior Minister, Mohsin Naqvi on Friday visited the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) headquarters and chaired an important meeting during which various proposals were discussed to make NADRA more people-friendly.

Several significant decisions were made to facilitate the public, including the provision of identity card issuance and renewal facilities at the union council level across Pakistan. Additionally, biometric machines will be installed at union council levels nationwide.

Mohsin Naqvi directed that a plan be devised within a few days to finalise the issuance and renewal of identity cards at the union council level. He also sought a plan to make the Identity Card system foolproof, better, and efficient.

He emphasised the need for a plan that would facilitate visitors to NADRA centres and ensure prompt service without delay.

## USIP warns of terrorist threats from Afghanistan targeting Pakistan

WASHINGTON (INP): The United States Institute of Peace (USIP) has issued a warning that Afghanistan territory is being used by terrorist groups to target Pakistan.

The report highlights the growing regional threat posed by these organizations, which operate with apparent support from the Afghan Taliban.

According to the USIP, despite repeated warnings, the Afghan Taliban has not cut ties with terrorist groups like the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), which conducts attacks on Pakistani soil.

The report indicates that the Taliban provides these groups with financial support, arms, weapons, and secret hideouts.

## CM Bugti vows to revoke 'illegal recruitments' in Education Department

Says I will not allow anyone to sale jobs in Balochistan and deprive a child who fulfills merit and criteria; Reiterates government's resolve to uphold the policy of merit and good governance

QUETTA (APP): Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti on Friday reaffirmed the revoke all the 'illegal appointments' in the Provincial Education Department after a thorough probe and investigations.

The decision comes in response to the widespread public outcry and the reported evidence of corruption in the recruitment process carried out by the Sardar Bahadur Khan Women's University.

"I will not allow anyone to sale jobs in Balochistan and deprive a child who fulfills merit and criteria," Chief Minister Bugti said while talking to the newsmen.

"We have received serious complaints about the corrupt mafia who had sold jobs and deprived the deserving poor candidates."

The chief minister, reiterating the government's resolve to uphold the policy of merit and good governance, said the matter would be fully probed and he would not hesitate to revoke the appointments if the same were found

against the merit.

In light of the Supreme Court's order, such appointments could be revoked at any time, he added.

The chief minister said that he had directed the Chief Secretary to hold an inquiry into the issue and "after consultations with the Education Minister, the final decision will be made".

CM Bugti said the entire Balochistan "knows how these jobs were sold and the deserving candidates were deprived of their

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ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi chairing a meeting at NADRA headquarters.

## KP Govt makes botch attempt to maintain credibility by attributing false statement to PM: Tarar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Friday said the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Government was making a botch attempt to maintain its credibility by attributing a false statement to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

The minister, in a statement, said that the KPK Food Minister had attributed a false statement to the prime minister which was based on assumptions and contrary to the facts.

He said the KP government wanted to confront with the Federal Government by consistently churning out lies especially about electricity, wheat and other crops.

He regretted that the KP chief minister had been persistently threatening "to attack Islamabad and seize the Peshawar Electricity Supply Company".

He had even given a 15-day deadline to the Federal Government in that regard, the minister added.

Tarar said their "nefarious designs" would not succeed as the Federal Government was fully capable to protect state institutions and public property.

Nobody would be allowed to take the law into their hands, he said, vowing that a strict action would be taken against those who would dare to do so.

## Fatcha offered for martyr Major Babar Khan: BA adopts joint resolution demanding establishment of medical college in Kharan

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The Balochistan Assembly adopted a resolution demanding establishment of a Medical College in Kharan for students of the Rakhshan Division.

Through joint resolution tabled by the Provincial Minister for Finance, Mir Shoaib Nausherwani, it was assembly's sitting.

The resolution mentioned that the Rakhshan Division consists of

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## Pakistan is ready to counter any threat to its security, regional integrity: FO

Unending sufferings of Kashmiri families with over 22,000 women widowed, 107000 children orphaned

ISLAMABAD (Online): Foreign Office (FO) Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said on Friday that Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar visit to China and meeting with Chinese authorities remained useful.

Both countries agreed on peace in the region and investment, this was said by Mumtaz Zahra Baloch during weekly press briefing here in Foreign Office Friday.

There are solid brotherly relations with Iran, she said adding we support pleasant relations with Afghanistan.

During various investment issues including CPEC were discussed in the meetings of Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar.

Discussions were also held regarding work on the second part of CPEC. Various issues including regional peace and stability were discussed.

The Foreign Office said that during meetings of Foreign

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RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir, shake hand with the player of Pakistan Hockey team at General Headquarters in Rawalpindi.

## Pakistan's hockey team brought immense pride to nation: COAS

RAWALPINDI (APP): Chief of Army Staff, General Syed Asim Munir on Friday, commending the Pakistan Hockey team over outstanding performance, on Friday said the hockey team had brought immense pride to the nation.

The Army Chief received the Pakistan Hockey team at General Headquarters whereas the meeting was also attended by President Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) Tariq Hussain and other PHF officials, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.

During the interaction, the COAS said: "We are committed to providing them with comprehensive support to ensure their continued success." He also extended his best wishes to the players for their future endeavors.

The President of PHF expressed gratitude to the COAS for the opportunity to meet and interact with the team.

## Maritime Affairs Minister visits Naval HQ

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh on Friday visited Naval



Headquarters, Islamabad and called on Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf. During the meeting, professional matters of mutual interest and Pakistan Navy's role in regional maritime security and Indian Ocean region came under discussion, said a press release.

Both the dignitaries also dilated upon prospects of maritime economy and its importance for overall economic growth of the country.

## SC serves show-cause notices to Faisal Vawda, Mustafa on anti-judiciary remarks

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Supreme Court of Pakistan on Friday served show-cause notice to Senator Faisal Vawda and Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM)'s leader Mustafa Kamal and summoned them in person on the next hearing in a suo-moto case about remarks against judiciary.

The court directed the politicians to clarify that why a contempt of court proceedings shouldn't be initiated against them on controversial remarks about judiciary.

A three-member bench, headed by Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa and comprising Justice Naeem Afghani and Justice Irfan Saadat Khan, heard the suo-moto case on a press conference of Senator Faisal Vawda and remarks by Mustafa Kamal.

During the hearing, the chief justice sought the details of the press conference of Faisal Vawda and also inquired from the additional attorney general whether the content of media talks did come under contempt.



QUETTA: Provincial Ministers and MPs expressing their views on the resolutions presented in Balochistan Assembly



# Speakers call for promoting mystics' values of peace and tolerance

ISLAMABAD (APP): Speakers at the concluding session of a two-day national conference on Friday emphasized on highlighting the teachings of Maulana Rumi, Hazrat Rumi and Hazrat Sultan Bahu created a personality like Iqbal", they said.

On the second day, the speakers included Director General NLPD, Dr. Muhammad Salim Mazhar, Member of National Assembly, Sahibzada Amir Sultan, Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Pakistan, Khazar Farhadov. Chairman Higher Education Commission (HEC), Professor Dr. Mukhtar Ahmad, DG Public Libraries, Kashif Manzoor, Vice Chancellor Kohsar University Dr. Syed Habib Bukhari, Executive Director of NLPD, Dr. Rashid Hameed, Chairman Muslim Institute, Sahibzada Sultan Ahmad Ali, Dr. Farooq Adil, Dr. Arshad Mahmood Nashad and others were included.

The speakers said that Maulana Rumi and Hazrat Sultan Bahu believed that the very thought that causes a person to fall from the position of humanity is not Islamic or Sufi thought.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Portugal to Pakistan Frederico Silva, speaks during a ceremony on the eve of World Day of the Portuguese Language and the Lusophone Culture at the residence of Brazil Ambassador in the Federal Capital, Ambassador of Brazil to Pakistan, Olyntho Vieira and Prof. Guiomar de Grammont is also seen in the occasion.

# KSrelief concludes 4 more medical camps in Sindh, Balochistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): The King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSrelief) has wrapped up its sponsorship of four more medical camps in Pakistan, marking the second phase of a vital project aimed at combating blindness and eye diseases.

Collaborating with the Al-Basir International Foundation and Al-Ibrahim Eye Hospital Karachi, these camps provided advanced eye care facilities to individuals facing financial constraints or lacking access to specialized treatment.

Strategically positioned in rural and urban areas of Sindh and Balochistan, these camps addressed regions with limited eye care services. The primary goal was early detection and treatment of eye-related issues to prevent blindness and enhance thousands of lives.

Over the course of the program, more than 18,056 medical examinations and 1,633 surgeries were successfully conducted. Furthermore, 3,116 pairs of corrective glasses were distributed, along with prescribed medications, ensuring comprehensive care for all patients.



ISLAMABAD: Visitors take keen interest in a painting during paintings exhibition of different artists Gellry-6 in the Federal Capital.

# Special training session organized to enhance IFA's staff food testing skills

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad Food Authority (IFA) and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Food Authority on Friday organized a special training session for staff to enhance their food testing skills.

Talking to APP, Deputy Director Operations of IFA, Dr Tahira Saddique said that the initiative, organized by Nutrition International, aimed at enhancing the accuracy and efficiency of food safety inspections in the federal capital.

The training focused on using modern Continuous Data Recording (CDR) machines, and iCheck Chroma, she added.

The training programme was designed to equip IFA staff with advanced techniques and tools for food testing. With the new skills, they would be able to conduct more thorough inspections and ensure that the food available to the public meets safety standards, she added.

# Dengue defense: ICT's admin launches public education campaign

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad Capital Territory Administration with the collaboration of District Health Officer Friday started an awareness campaign to combat the dengue outbreak in the Federal Capital.

According to the Spokesman of ICT's Administration, Deputy Commissioner, Irfan Nawaz Memon, and District Health Officer, Dr. Zaem Zia, led the campaign by engaging directly with the public.

They handed out informational pamphlets to residents, aiming to educate them about preventive measures against dengue. The DC highlighted that the success of the dengue prevention campaign relies heavily on the active participation of citizens. He urged everyone to adhere to the standard operating procedures (SOPs) designed to prevent dengue. To tackle the issue effectively, joint teams have been established to locate and eliminate dengue larvae across the city.



ISLAMABAD: IUCN country representative Mahmood Akhtar Cheema presenting an annual monitoring and evaluation report on UGPP & forestry to the PM's Coordinator on climate change Romina Khurshid Alam.

# Malala Fund welcomes Pakistan's new plan to address its national education crisis

ISLAMABAD (APP): Malala Funds has welcomed Pakistan's new education emergency plan to address its national education crises and bring more than 26 million out-of-school children into schools under the directives of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

Malala Fund welcomes this news, which responds to demands from Pakistani activists, educators and civil society for the administration to take urgent action on girls' education, said a press release on Friday.

Through the Education Emergency initiative, the government of Pakistan aims to make significant reductions to the overall number of children out of school. In a directive released from the Prime Minister's office on Friday, the government has committed to allocating at least Rs25 billion to education over the next five years.

# Amir Muqam participates in farewell reception of outgoing Federal Secretary SAFRON

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ministry of States & Frontier Regions (SAFRON) on Friday arranged a farewell party in the honour of outgoing Federal Secretary SAFRON Naheed S. Durrani. The farewell reception was participated by Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs & Gilgit Baltistan and SAFRON Engineer Amir Muqam as a chief guest, said a press release.

The farewell reception was attended by senior officers of SAFRON, Joint Secretary Agha Waseem, Joint Secretary Azra Jamali, Chief Commissioner Afghan Refugees Muhammad Abbas Khan, Filiberto Gabresi Principal Adviser, Heidi-GIZ Islamabad and Dr Imran Zeb-UNHCR Consultant.

Federal Minister Engr Amir Muqam said that Naheed S. Durrani was a principled and competent Secretary and her services for Ministry of States and Frontier Regions will always be remembered. The Minister also lauded the federal secretary's efforts for the promotion of Ministry. Outgoing Federal Secretary thanked Federal Minister Engr Amir Muqam and all the officers for their support and acknowledgement.



Students and Faculty members of Lahore College for Women University visiting Senate Museum at Parliament House, Islamabad.

# CUI arranges open house, job fair

ISLAMABAD (APP): COMSATS University Islamabad (CUI), Wah campus organized an Open House and Job Fair for the graduating students of Spring semester 2024.

A total of 595 students from Electrical and Computer Engineering, Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Management Sciences, and Computer Sciences departments showcased 204 Final Year Projects (FYPs) which portrayed their professional skills and expertise for industries. Representatives from 136 companies evaluated projects, conducted interviews, and short listed students for job placements, said a news release issued here.

Dr Mushtaq Ahmad Bhatti, Incharge of the Career Development Center (CDC), highlighted the CDC's role and the event details. The Campus Director, Prof. Dr Muhammad Abid, welcomed the participating industry, guest, students and FYP evaluators. He shared that the CUI Wah believes in transparency and digitization of such scientific projects and researches to show the world.

He briefed the industry that all FYP presentations and student's resumes are available on website providing global visibility of the CUI Wah graduates. He added that when industry and academia work together, students will be able to benefit from real-world experiences and practical training that helps them to prepare for their future careers and to succeed in the competitive job market. The Campus Director also pointed out the availability of the best talent here at CUI Wah Campus and persuaded the companies to utilize skills of students for the betterment of industry and country. Assistant Vice President at Systems Ltd., Imran Latif graced the occasion as the chief guest in the opening session of event. He stressed the importance of industry-academia partnerships and support of the Systems Ltd's for making graduates industry-ready.



ISLAMABAD: A view of deserted 7th Avenue due to hot weather in the Federal Capital.

# KP Governor lauds Saudi Arabia investment in Pak

PESHAWAR (APP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor, Faisal Karim Kundi and Ambassador to Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan H.E Nawaf bin Saeed Ahmad Al-Malkiy met at Islamabad where they discussed enhancement of cooperation in different sectors in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and further strengthening of bilateral relations between the two brotherly Muslim countries.

Faisal Karim Kundi said Saudi Arabia's investment in different sectors in Pakistan would significantly help bring economic stability in the latter, saying KP is blessed with an abundance of natural resources and there is a lot of opportunities for investors of the friendly countries to make investment in Pakistan including KP.



During the meeting, investment opportunities in different sectors in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa came under discussion. The Saudi ambassador congratulated Faisal Karim Kundi on assuming the office of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor and expressed best wishes to him. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor said that relations between the two brotherly countries were deep-rooted and people of both countries were connected in a strong bonds of religious, culture and historical values.

# Attempts underway to repeat 1987-like situation in IIOJK: Mehbooba

ISLAMABAD (APP): Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) President Mehbooba Mufti on Friday had warned that attempts are underway to repeat the tumultuous 1987 situation in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir, when massive rigging altered the territory's trajectory, leading to bloodshed.

According to Kashmir Media Service, addressing various rallies in north Kashmir's Baramulla parliamentary constituency, Mehbooba Mufti said that the authorities were using the same old tactics they used to muzzle the just voices in 1987. She said that the New Delhi-installed IIOJK administration was pressuring officers from specific communities to support BJP's proxy candidates, fearing a repeat of 1987's electoral manipulation.

"The head of the administrative affairs in Jammu and Kashmir has summoned officers of a particular community, warning them of dire consequences if they do not support BJP's proxy candidates in Kashmir. I fear a 1987-like situation is being repeated", Mehbooba said. "Even today, we see people being coerced ahead of elections. They are threatened by a situation reminiscent of 1947," Mehbooba said. She stressed that today's youth are voting to express their sufferings, warning that rigging these elections could lead to disastrous outcomes.

# 25 illegal buildings sealed under CDA anti encroachment operation

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Capital Development, on the directives of Chairman Capital Development Authority (CDA) Chaudhary Muhammad Ali Randhawa, Friday sealed 25 illegal buildings and issued warning to a private housing society during its operations conducted against illegal constructions, encroachments, illegal housing societies and violation of building by-laws all over the city.

In this connection strict action was taken against the violation of layout plan (LOP) in Jinnah Garden Extension and all the roads including the entrances built beyond the LOP were removed, a news release said. The CDA administration warned the Jinnah Garden management to halt the construction beyond the approved LOP. The administration of Jinnah Garden has assured that they will get the permission on Monday by submitting the regular fee.

Moreover, the Building Control Department sealed 25 buildings in Sawan Garden Housing Society on violation of building by-laws. It is pertinent to mention here that these 25 sealed buildings were constructed in the violation of Building Control and Regulation 2020. On this occasion, Chairman CDA Chaudhary Muhammad Ali Randhawa said that CDA's actions against illegal constructions and encroachments will continue in the coming days.

# AIG Operations holds Khuli Kachehri to address grievances of public

ISLAMABAD (APP): According to the details, following the special directives of the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad, Syed Ali Nasir Ali Rizvi, the AIG Operations Islamabad Anayat Ali Shah said that the Islamabad Police is committed to resolve public issues on priority, a public relations officer said.

He said this while listening to the complaints and issues of the public as well as police officials during the Khuli Kachehri held at Central Police Office Islamabad. Citizens, student volunteers of the Friends of Police program, and senior police officers were also present on this occasion.

During the Khuli Kachehri, he listened to the complaints of the citizens and marked their applications to the concerned officers for timely action on merit. He also directed them to send reports to his offices in the given time frame. He further said that strict action will be taken against officials involved in bribery or corruption and a zero tolerance policy will be adopted in this regard.

He emphasized that Islamabad Police would not leave any stone unturned to secure the lives and property of the citizens. "Such interaction would be continued in future to provide maximum relief to the citizens," he added. AIG Operations further said that interaction during "Khuli Kachehri" would help to promote friendly policing.



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# Edu. ministry to ensure clean drinking water in ICT schools

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Education has taken an initiative to ensure the safety of drinking water within educational institutions of Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT).

According to the Education Ministry, it has been decided to conduct testing of the water quality in all schools and colleges in Islamabad, aims to identify any impurity in water quality and ensure to take appropriate measures to rectify them promptly. Following the testing, schools and colleges are required to take necessary actions to address any issues found and ensure the provision of clean and safe drinking water for students and staff.

# TDCP makes best arrangement for Murree tourists

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Tourism Development Corporation of Punjab (TDCP) has made comprehensive and best arrangements for the tourists in Murree to facilitate them with dignity.

Talking to APP here on Friday, a TDCP official said the practical steps are being taken by the organization for further promotion of tourism in Murree.



## British HC calls on Punjab governor, discusses promotion of bilateral relations

**Independent Report**  
LAHORE: British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Jane Marriott called on Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan at Governor House Lahore, today. In the meeting, issues of mutual interest, ways to strengthen bilateral relations, climate change and important issues including wheat crisis were discussed in detail. Head of Lahore Office, Clara Strandhoj was also present during the meeting.

Speaking on the occasion, Governor Punjab, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan said that Pakistan attaches great importance to its relations with Britain. He said that Britain has supported Pakistan in every difficult time including floods, earthquake, which is duly acknowledged by the Government of Pakistan.

Governor Punjab further said that Pakistan has suffered a colossal loss in the form of flash floods due to climate change. He said that climate change was also having adverse effect on the agricultural sector of Pakistan. Governor Punjab expressed hope that Britain would highlight the issue of Pakistan being affected by climate change in international forums. He said that Pakistan is an agricultural country and it is very important to support farmers for the development of the agriculture sector. He said that Pakistan People's Party has always taken steps for the welfare of farmers and labour class. He said that the government was trying to resolve wheat crisis issue on priority and the situation had already improved.

British High Commissioner Jane Marriott said that Pakistan and Britain enjoy good relations. She said that the government was addressing the climate change issue on priority basis. She said that Britain would extend all out support to Pakistan to tackle climate change issue.



KARACHI: Sindh PPP President Nisar Khuhro meeting with Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah at Chief Minister House.

## KPRA continues crackdown against non-compliant hotels

**Independent Report**  
PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Revenue Authority (KPRA) Friday continued raids on the business premises of non-compliant taxpayers in Peshawar to improve tax compliance and discourage tax evasion. A team of KPRA Peshawar including Assistant Collector Khalid Mansoor, Assistant Collector Roohullah Khan, Assistant Collector Shahnawaz Khan, Assistant Collector Muhammad Imran Khan, Inspector Muhammad Afzal Abid, Auditor Hadi Hussain Bangash and Auditor Sikandar Hayat conducted a raid on a restaurant located in Saddar Cantonment area and confiscated its record. On the directives of Director General KPRA Fouzia Iqbal, KPRA has launched a crackdown against non-compliant taxpayers across the province. In Peshawar, the KPRA team confiscated record of noted restaurant located in Cantt area in Saddar.

## Punjab CM bringing Rs 400bn package for farmers: Azma

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari has said that the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government should be thankful to the Punjab government that it allowed it to purchase wheat. According to a press release, issued here on Friday, she said the KP government was purchasing wheat as per its requirement and not obliging farmers. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa had always been purchasing wheat and flour from Punjab, she added. The Punjab information minister said that Punjab CM Maryam Nawaz was bringing a historic package of Rs 400 billion for farmers.



SUKKUR: Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Sindh President, Haleem Adil Shaikh addresses to media persons during press conference, in Sukkur.

## Punjab Finance Minister announces interest-free loans for farmers

LAHORE (INP): Punjab Finance Minister Mujtabi Shujaar Rehman has announced the provision of interest-free loans to farmers during the crucial crop sowing season for bolstering agricultural endeavors. This financial assistance seeks to empower farmers and facilitate their agricultural activities. Furthermore, Rehman emphasized the need to ensure swift financial support, within a timeframe of three months, to the wives and children of employees who tragically lost their lives during their tenure of service. This measure reflects the government's commitment to providing comprehensive support to the families of deceased employees. These announcements were made during the fourth session of the Standing Committee on Legislation and Privatization of the Cabinet, presided over by Minister Rehman. The meeting was attended by notable figures including Provincial Minister for Law and Communications Malik Sohib Bharat, Provincial Minister for Local Government Zeeshan Malik, and key officials from related departments.

During the session, a nine-point agenda was deliberated upon, encompassing crucial matters such as agreements with financial institutions, approval of memoranda of understanding (MoUs) with governmental bodies, and a review of pertinent legislative acts. Minister Rehman directed relevant authorities to expedite processes related to the issuance of Kisan Cards.

## CM takes notice of theft from a temple

KARACHI (APP): The Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has taken notice of a theft of an idol and other goods from Rama Pir temple in Tando Adam.

He directed IGP Sindh to recover the stolen goods from the temple and report to him.

The CM Shah said, 'I have given clear instructions that no unfair treatment against minorities will be tolerated.'

He had asked the IGP Sindh also about progress in the recovery of a child Muhammad Hussain Arayen, who was kidnapped three days ago from Puno Aqil.

The Chief Minister directed the IGP for the details of the hostage recovery in the last three days.

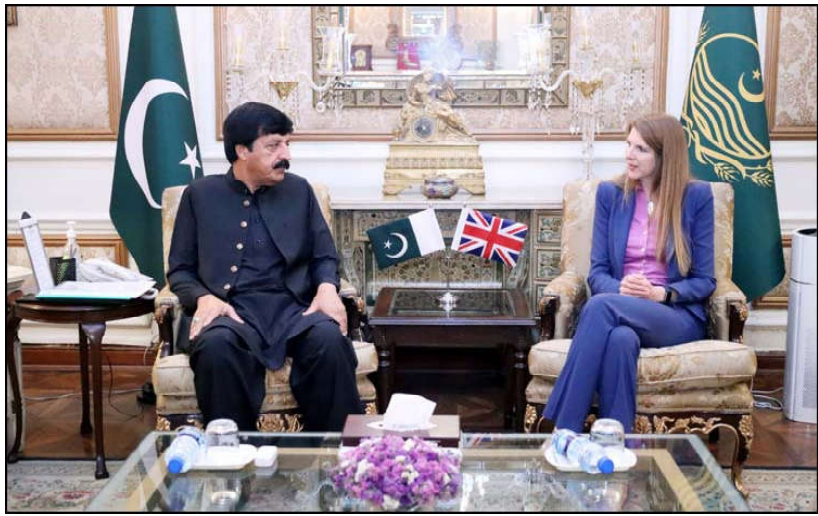
## 15 dead, 1,406 injured in Punjab road accidents

LAHORE (APP): At least 15 people were killed and 1,406 others injured in 1,280 road accidents in all 37 districts of Punjab during the last 24 hours.

As many 638 people with serious injuries were shifted to different hospitals, while 768 with minor injuries were treated at the incident site by the rescue medical teams. Data analysis showed that 767 drivers, 60 underage drivers, 147 pedestrians, and 507 passengers were among the victims of road crashes. The statistics showed that 283 accidents were reported in Lahore, which affected 300 people, placing the provincial capital at top of the list, followed by Faisalabad with 84 accidents and 99 victims.

## PHC seeks reply from federal govt for inclusion of Swati name in PNIL

PESHAWAR (APP): A two-member bench of Peshawar High Court (PHC) comprising Justice Arshad Ali and Justice Waqar Ahmed on Friday sought a response from the federal government within seven days over the inclusion of the name of Speaker Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly Babar Saleem Swati in the Provincial National Identification List (PNIL). The counsel of the petitioner told the court that Babar Saleem was the Speaker of the Provincial Assembly.



LAHORE: British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Jane Marriott called on Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan at Governor House.

## LHC gives 3-week time to Punjab govt to appoint special court judges

LAHORE (Online): The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Friday granted the provincial government three-week time to appoint judges to special courts, including anti-terrorism courts.

LHC Chief Justice Malik Shahzad Ahmad Khan issued the orders while hearing a petition, filed by the provincial government, seeking the transfer of certain cases from Anti-Terrorism Court-1 Rawalpindi to another court.

At the start of proceedings, members of the provincial committee tasked with finalising the appointments of judges, including Marriyum Aurangzeb and Mujtaba Shujaar Rehman, appeared

in court, following directions issued at the previous proceedings.

Advocate General Punjab Khalid Ishaq informed the court about the steps taken so far for appointment of judges. Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb highlighted the government's commitment to making transparent appointments, while Provincial Law Minister Sohaib Ahmad assured that appointments would comply with the legal standards.

However, the chief justice expressed dissatisfaction over the delay in appointment of judges, stating that timely appointments would lead to prompt decisions.

In response, Marriyum Aurangzeb mentioned that the Punjab government had formed a committee for judges' appointments, with a request to suggest a panel of judges, assuring that the appointments would be made from the given list.

At this, the chief justice questioned where it was written in law that the chief justice would give a panel of judges. The provincial law secretary presented the procedure for appointment of judges and relevant law in the court.

The law minister submitted that if the chief justice gave two or three names to the government, one of them would be appointed as a judge.

## Health minister lauds new air ambulance service as 'gift from CM'

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Minister for Health and Emergency Services Khawaja Salman Rafique has appreciated the introduction of the air ambulance service as a gift from Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif for the people of the province.

Presiding over a meeting at the Emergency Head Office on Friday, he underscored the government's commitment to enhancing the welfare of Punjab's citizens through improved emergency services.

"Emergency Services is the department dedicated to welfare of the people of Punjab," the minister added. "We are focusing our capacity building for our field staff to ensure they can meet the demands of emergency situations effectively."

The minister highlighted ongoing efforts to review and enhance emergency services on motorways and improve the existing motorbike service. He also emphasised that public projects under the Department of Emergency Services Punjab will undergo weekly reviews to ensure their efficacy and progress.

Punjab Emergency Services Department Secretary Dr. Rizwan Naseer, aligning with the minister's vision, detailed the department's achievements.



LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Health and Emergency Services Khawaja Salman Rafique presiding over a meeting at the Emergency Head Office.

## From Bahrain to Kalam Elders of Kalam give govt. a one-week ultimatum to reconstruct 6 km road

**By Haroon Siraj**  
SWAT: Elders of Kalam and surrounding areas, including Mattiltan, Uttar and Gabral have given the government a one-week ultimatum to reconstruct the 6 km road from Bahrain to Kalam. If the demand is not met, they have warned of drastic measures.

During a press conference at the Swat Press Club on Friday, the elders expressed their frustration and disappointment at the government's failure to complete the road project despite approvals and significant funding. The 33 km road, which connects Kalam to other areas, was severely damaged in the 2010 and 2022 floods, cutting off the region's land connection.

According to Kalam elders, over 100 traffic incidents have occurred on the incomplete road, resulting in loss of life and injuries. Despite assurances from the Prime Minister, Chief Minister, and other relevant departments, the project remains unfinished, and the approved funds have not been utilized.

The elders appealed to both the provincial and federal governments to take immediate action and announce the road tender within a week. If the deadline is not met, they warned of escalating protests, including closing hotels and roads and prohibiting government officials from entering Kalam.



FAISALABAD: Participants hold a banner during awareness walk on the eve of World Mental Health Day at Allied Hospital in the city.

## CM wears Elite Force's uniform 'Elite Force officers render services with unwavering commitment,' Punjab CM

LAHORE (INP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz did it again donned a uniform of the Elite Force while attending a passing-out parade in Lahore on Friday.

Not bothered about the harsh criticism she faced last time she wore a uniform, Maryam Nawaz appeared on screens of TV channels on Friday morning wearing the uniform with broad smile on her face.

Late last month, Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz had caused quite a stir when she attended a passing-out ceremony for women constables and traffic assistants decked out in a Punjab police uniform.

Addressing the graduating class at Police Training College Chung, the chief minister said "After wearing the police uniform for the first time, I have realized that being a police officer or being sworn in as a CM is a very responsible job. In the chief minister's office, we take decisions and you get them implemented." But the chief minister's decision to attend the ceremony in full police regalia rubbed many the wrong way, especially the

opposition PTI.

Opposition Leader in the National Assembly Omar Ayub, Yasmin Rashid, Moonis Elahi and Shahbaz Gill all criticised CM Maryam's decision to don a police uniform. The issue also remained among the top trends on social media, with many users questioning the logic behind the move. A Lahore-based lawyer even went to the trouble of filing a petition before a sessions court, seeking the registration of a case against the Punjab chief minister for 'impersonating' a police officer. But in the face of the criticism, both the PML-N and Punjab police defended CM Maryam's actions. "In the whole world, the head of the states can wear the uniform of their forces to enhance their respect. Nawaz Sharif did the same when he was in power and CM Maryam has followed him," Punjab Information Minister Azma Bokhari said in a statement then. In a statement on X (formerly Twitter), the Punjab police shared a copy of the relevant rules that govern how governors and chief ministers can dress on formal occasions.



LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister, Maryam Nawaz standing in a respect of National Anthem during the passing out parade of Elite Force, in Lahore.

## LHC links distribution of motorcycle to students scheme to NOC

LAHORE (Online): Lahore High Court (LHC) has linked Distribution of motorcycle to students scheme to NOC.

LHC has sought detailed report regarding bikes distribution scheme from Punjab government till May 27.

The petitions regarding elimination of smog came up for hearing before LHC Friday.

Justice Shahid Karim of LHC took up for hearing petitions filed by citizen Haroon Farooq and others Friday. Justice Shahid Karim remarked the issue of pollution is grave which cannot be ignored.

During the hearing of the case related to distribution of motorcycles to students scheme the court said in its remarks non-obtaining environmental NOC before project is criminal case.

The court made the motorcycle distribution to students scheme conditional to NOC.

The court ordered to submit report regarding restoration of 7 sports complex of LDA and cutting of tree.

The court while ordering for restoration of all parks of the city completely and making them secure remarked if fine has to be imposed for restoration of parks and their preservation then this should be slapped.

During the previous hearing of the case the LHC had remarked need is there to provide electric buses instead of motorcycles to students. Motorcycles be not distributed unless new policy is framed. Smog and environmental pollution has already increased, therefore, government should promote electric buses. Traffic load will reduce due to provision of electric buses to schools and colleges.

Secretary I&C read out the notification regarding the appointment of Chairman Punjab Public Service Commission (PPSC) Lieutenant General (@ Muhammad Abdul Aziz during a ceremony at the Governor's House.

The Governor Punjab congratulated Lieutenant General @ Muhammad Abdul Aziz on assuming the post of Chairman PPSC and expressed his best wishes.

Secretary I&C read out the notification regarding the appointment of Chairman Punjab Public Service Commission. Secretary PPSC, officers and staff from the commission were present during the oath-taking ceremony.



PESHAWAR: Mayor Peshawar, Zubair Ali addresses to media persons during press conference, at Peshawar press club.

## Problems of merged areas' police being solved on priority basis: IGP

PESHAWAR (APP): Amalgamated Districts Dr. Qureshi Khan were also present on the occasion.

The members of the delegation reported their problems to the IGP and requested to depute the constables in the specialized units, i.e., CTD, FRP, Special Branch, and Elite Force, established in the merged districts, who want to join these units voluntarily.

They also demanded the release of salaries to those officials who were transferred to these units but could not join duties due to unavoidable reasons. Similarly, the delegation also presented their issues of promotion and early disposal of the absorption cases.

The IGP issued on-the-spot orders to regional police officers.

## Jinnah House attack: ATC issue warrants for 11 PTI workers over non-appearance

LAHORE (APP): An anti-terrorism court (ATC) on Friday issued bailable arrest warrants for 11 workers of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), who were out on bail, due to their non-appearance in a trial related to Jinnah House attack. The court issued bailable arrest warrants of accused, Abdul Razaq, Qasim Liaqat, Majid Rais, Aman Ullah, Maqbool Murad.

Additional Inspector General Headquarters Awal Khan, Capital City Police Officer Peshawar Syed Ashfaq Anwar, and AIG





