

# Independent

dailyindkhi@gmail.com

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

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## Imran Khan ready to hold talks with military

Army should nominate representative for negotiations: ex-PM; Says he would never hold talks with interior minister

**Monitoring Desk**  
RAWALPINDI: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) imprisoned founder Imran Khan said Tuesday that his party was ready to hold talks with the military.

The PTI founder, who appeared in a court established in Adiala jail for a hearing, said: "We are ready to hold talks with the military. The army should nominate their representative [for negotiations]."

Khan, who has been imprisoned for nearly a year, said that his party had never levelled allegations against the army, but had only criticised the armed forces.

He further said that if any PTI worker was found guilty in the May 9, 2023, riots then the authorities should penalise the individual. Khan reiterated that the incumbent government wanted to destroy his party by creating a wedge between PTI party and the armed forces. When asked why he was seeking talks

when he was criticising the army and why wasn't he seeking talks with political parties, he said: "What is the SIFC? Who is Mohsin Naqvi? There is an undeclared martial law."

Khan said that Interior Minister Naqvi was "their" representative and that he had reached "this place due to them".

He then alleged that he would never hold talks with Naqvi as he along with the Punjab Inspector General (IG) "oppressed" his party.

In his statement, the PTI founder also termed Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz "fascist" while pointing towards back-to-back arrests of the party leadership across the province.

The deposed prime minister, referring to his arrest last year, alleged that he was "abducted from judicial complex" and "it was declared legal by the Islamabad High Court (IHC) Chief Justice Aamer Farooq".



Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori addressing Mehfil-e-Milad at Darbar Alia Eidgah Sharif Rawalpindi.

## Pakistan can bring \$12b monthly if 1m youth get IT education: Sindh Governor

KARACHI (INP): Sindh Governor Muhammad Kamran Tessori has said Pakistan can earn \$12 billion monthly as foreign exchange if one million youth are equipped with Information Technology education.

He said that Governor House is providing opportunities for IT Advanced Courses to 50,000 youths while 45,000 male, as well as female students, are being given online training.

Governor Kamran Khan Tessori in an interview said that as many as 80,000 youths appeared for IT course tests in Hyderabad and around 50,000 youngsters would be selected for IT advanced courses.

He said that the youth are undergoing Advanced IT courses in the Governor House, are earning \$ 600 to \$ 800 per month. "If we

provide IT education to at least one million youth of the country, we would be able to bring billions dollars in Pakistan, as a result of which the country's economy could be stabilized", he underlined.

Elaborating his vision, Governor Tessori said as soon as he assumed office the governor, he was determined to do something for the country and for this purpose, he chose the IT sector to be worked for. He said the Governor House was selected as the place from where youth have to be trained so that they could achieve their skill to be used for the country's economic stability. Kamran Tessori said he would extend such training facilities to other cities and Hyderabad has already been selected for the purpose.



ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi in a meeting with Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi.

## Government cooperates seafood companies, exporters for business projects: Qaiser Sheikh

KARACHI (APP): A meeting was chaired by the Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs with fish exporters to explore the opportunities and avenues for the establishment business venture between Pakistani and Chinese Seafood companies held at PNSC building on Tuesday.

The Board of Investment presented the report on the fisheries and aquaculture sector as a food commodity in the country.

On the occasion minister for Maritime Affairs Qaiser Ahmed Shaikh applauded the efforts of BOI for presenting the report and thanked the exporters for their attendance and support.

He assured that Gov-

ernment will support exporters for the establishment of business ventures between Pakistani and Chinese Seafood Companies, said in the report analysis encompasses all the broader aspects which is leading to the avenues for the investment opportunities in the sector.

The highlights of the report are evidently indicating that opportunities and avenues of investments in the sector of fisheries and aquaculture between Chinese and Pakistani seafood industry.

The key opportunity for the development of the sector are Aquaculture and Shrimp Farming. Products focus on shrimp, crab and tuna lining.



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah and Federal Minister for Industries and Commerce, Rana Tanveer presiding over a Special Economic Zone at the additional land of Pakistan Steel Mills, at CM House in Karachi.

## Sindh, fed govts agree to establish Special Economic zone on remaining steel mills land

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah and Federal Minister for Industries & Production Rana Tanveer, in their meeting at CM House, discussed the revival of the Pakistan Steel Mill plan and the establishment of a Special Economic Zone on the remaining land.

The meeting was attended by Provincial Minister Industries Jam Ikram Dharejo, Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, PSCM Agha Wasif, Secretary Industries Yasin Shar, and the Federal Minister was assisted by Federal Secretary for Industries Saif Anjum and his team, according to a CM House communique on Tuesday.

The CM said that the proposed Special Economic Zone project was

discussed in the cabinet on May 30, 2024. He added that his cabinet proposed the federal government establish the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) on the extra land of Pakistan Steel Mill.

CM Murad Shah said that his cabinet was of the view that the 700 acres of land earmarked for the Pakistan Steel Mills plant should be kept intact for the revitalisation of the Steel Mills Plant or setting up a new Steel Mill, any additional requirement of land for the purpose should be worked out mutually.

At this, Federal Minister Rana Tanveer proposed to complete the paperwork at the earliest so that the zone could be established promptly.

The Special Economic

Zone would generate employment opportunities and contribute to the country's economy. The CM said he, with the support of the federal government, would make all-out efforts to revive Pakistan Steel Mills on Pakistan's People's Party mode so that this national asset could be utilized for employment and economic development.

CM Murad Shah said that his government was working hard to strengthen the agro-economy by introducing cropping patterns, strengthening and reviving the industrial sector and providing technical education to the youngsters. This is to generate a technical and non-technical workforce to accommodate them in the growing industrial sector.

The provincial and federal governments agreed to complete the paperwork at the earliest so that the zone could be established promptly.

## Khalid Maqbool vows to ensure universal access to education

KARACHI (INP): Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training, Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui has expressed commitment to ensure access to educational opportunities for every citizen, fulfilling their constitutional right.

He was addressing the cheque distribution ceremony held under Pakistan Education Endowment Fund (PEEF) in Karachi. Congratulating the scholarship recipients, Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui lauded the vital role of Pakistan Education Endowment Fund in removing financial barriers to education and empowering students.

## Masoud Pezeshkian sworn in as Iran's ninth president

TEHRAN (INP): Iranian reformist President Masoud Pezeshkian was sworn before parliament on Tuesday as the Islamic republic's ninth president at a ceremony attended by foreign dignitaries.

Pezeshkian won a runoff race against ultra-conservative Saeed Jalili on July 5 to replace president Ebrahim Raisi who died in a helicopter crash in May.

Tuesday's ceremony came two days after Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei officially endorsed Pezeshkian and gave the 69-year-old heart surgeon presidential powers.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar visited Tehran on Tuesday to attend the investiture ceremony of the President-elect of Iran, Dr. Masoud Pezeshkian.

On behalf of the people and Government of Pakistan, the DPM conveyed a message of felicitations and best wishes for President Pezeshkian on his assumption of office.

He congratulated the Iranian nation on the successful and smooth transitioning of power to the new political administration.



KARACHI: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Muhammad Aurangzeb addressing Pakistan Banks Association Executive Committee at Islamic Chamber of Commerce.

## Aurangzeb stresses on corporate farming for enhanced economic growth

KARACHI (APP): Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Muhammad Aurangzeb on Tuesday stressed on the corporate farming in collaboration with the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) so that economic growth could be accelerated.

Addressing the Executive Committee of the Pakistan Banks Association (PBA) here at Islamic Chamber of Commerce building, the finance minister also highlighted key initiatives and discussed the macroeconomic situation in the country.

M u h a m m a d Aurangzeb said it was encouraging to see the private sector taking proactive steps in advancing financial and technological infrastructure. The minister stated that extensive talk has been conducted on the Macro aspect, but moving on the external financing front, the government is comfortable with the current situation. "We are moving forward with the IMF draft resolution", he added.

The minister also emphasized the importance of public-private partnerships, particularly with HBL and NBP, stating, "we need to create capacity and move forward".

The minister emphasized aiming to get back into International Capital Markets and ensure we reach the ranking of B- to reach the minimum ranking for any finance sector to enter the International Capital Markets, as we currently acquired a rating of CCC.

He continued discussing the macroeconomic situation. "We are aware of the current challenges, but with the IMF's core approval, we believe the situation is manageable. It is essential to continue focusing on agriculture and support initiatives like SIFC, the minister stated.

He further noted, "We are urging the private sector to take ownership and lead these transformations." He said there was a need to create capacity to get the cash flow lending moving and move forward.

"The agriculture sector and IT industry, especially freelancers, need proper fund allocation.

## Bilawal pays tributes to Madar-e-Millat on birth anniversary

KARACHI (APP): Chairman of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has paid rich tribute to Madar-e-Millat Fatima Jinnah on her birth anniversary.

He praised Madar-e-Millat for her unwavering commitment to democracy and tireless struggle for Pakistan. He lauded her as a beacon of hope and a role model for all Pakistanis.

"Fatima Jinnah's dedication to the principles of freedom, equality, and justice remains an inspiration to us all. Her contributions to our nation, especially her steadfast support for her brother, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, during the formative years of Pakistan, and battles against dictatorial forces are invaluable," said Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

He further stated, "In honoring her memory, we are reminded of the importance of her dedication to justice and equality.

## Turkish Navy Ship arrives Karachi for good will visit

KARACHI (INP): Turkish Navy Ship TCG KINALIADA (F-514) on Tuesday arrived Karachi for a good will visit.

Pakistan Navy Ship received the Turkish Ship at sea and later welcomed at Karachi port by senior Pakistan Navy officials along with diplomatic staff of Turkish Consulate.

During stay at the port, the Commanding Officer of Turkish Ship will call on Pakistan Navy Field Commanders and other dignitaries to discuss matters of mutual interest.

With an aim to strengthen mutual cooperation and integration between the two navies, joint interactions including planning of coordinated sea patrol and discussions on other professional topics will also be conducted.

In order to pay homage to the Founder of Pakistan, the Turkish Navy delegation will also lay floral wreath at Mausoleum of Quaid-e-Azam.

## President for stronger cooperation with Commonwealth

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari has emphasised the need for stronger cooperation with the Commonwealth in areas of climate change, education, parliamentary exchanges and disaster preparedness.

He called for enhanced interactions among parliamentary bodies, particularly young parliamentarians and students, to further strengthen and promote the bonds of friendship with Commonwealth member states.

The president expressed these views while talking to a delegation led by the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, Patricia Scotland, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, on Tuesday.

Welcoming the delegation, the president said that Pakistan, being the founding member of the Commonwealth, attached great importance to this organi-

zation for promoting cooperation among member states.

The meeting exchanged views on the consequences of climate change for Pakistan. The president said that Pakistan had suffered a lot due to the impacts of climate change. He informed that over 2 million mangroves had been planted in Sindh to mitigate the impacts of climate change which had also earned \$ 27 million by trading carbon credits in the international market.

He also mentioned that the Sindh government had started constructing 2 million flood-resilient houses in the wake of the floods of 2022. Secretary-General Patricia Scotland said that Pakistan was facing huge challenges relating to Climate Change and was among the countries most vulnerable to its consequences.



ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari meeting a delegation of Commonwealth, led by the Secretary-General of Commonwealth, Ms Patricia Scotland, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

## Bill prohibiting independent candidates from joining parties tabled in NA

Independents will not be considered political party members at a later stage if they didn't already submit declaration showing affiliation; The proposed amendment aims to alter Sections 66 and 104 of the Elections Act 2017

ISLAMABAD (Agencies): The National Assembly has introduced the Second Amendment Bill to the Elections Act 2024, prohibiting independent candidates from joining another political party after a specified period. The session, chaired by Speaker Ayaz Sadiq, saw PML-N member Bilal Kayani present the bill. The proposed amendment aims to alter Sections 66 and 104 of the Elections Act 2017, restricting independent candidates from joining political parties after a constitutionally and legally defined period.

The bill suggests that independent candidates should not be allowed to join any political party within the stipulated timeframe. It

also states that parties failing to submit a list of reserved seats within the specified period will not be eligible for those seats. The bill further states that candidates who do not submit an affidavit of party affiliation to the returning officer will be considered independent. Candidates declaring party affiliation post-election will not be recognised as candidates of that party, and the second amendment to the Elections Act 2017 will be enforced retroactively. The law minister recommended the bill be referred to the standing committee, which Speaker Sadiq subsequently did, instructing the committee chairman to convene a meeting the following day.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Petroleum Senator Musadik Malik addressing a press conference.

## Chief Secretary Inaugurates Monsoon Tree Plantation campaign

KARACHI (APP): Chief Secretary Sindh Syed Asif Hyder Shah inaugurated the Commissioner Karachi Monsoon Tree Plantation Campaign by planting a sapling here on Tuesday.

This campaign will run from July 30 to August 31, during which 200,000 trees will be planted in the city. The Chief Secretary Sindh Syed Asif Hyder Shah said that the primary objective of this campaign was to encourage people to plant as many trees as possible.

He mentioned that environmental change is the biggest challenge of this century, with Pakistan being

one of the most affected countries by climate change.

Planting trees will help mitigate its negative impacts. He further emphasized that the goal of the campaign is not only to plant trees but also to ensure their growth and care so they become fully grown trees.

He urged government departments and civil society to actively participate in the tree plantation campaign. He directed the initiation of an awareness campaign about the environmental and economic benefits of tree plantation.





# Adopting artificial intelligence essential for development, prosperity: Ayaz Sadiq

ISLAMABAD (APP): Speaker of National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has said that this is an era of Artificial Intelligence and adopting innovations in all walks of life is essential for development and prosperity.

“Extending parliamentary cooperation among 56 member states of the Commonwealth is essential for regional prosperity and development,” he expressed these views during his meeting with Commonwealth Secretary-General Patricia Scotland along with representatives of parliaments of the Commonwealth who are on a 5-day official visit to Pakistan.

He also said that using innovative technologies and Artificial Intelligence is pivotal for ensuring qualitative and public-responsive legislation.

The speaker also high-

lighted the significance of proactive parliamentary Friendship groups for enhancing parliament-to-parliament contacts among member states of the Commonwealth.

He also stressed the need to digitalize parliament for effective and public-responsive education. While mentioning the formulation of the Legislative Drafting Council.

He said that Artificial Intelligence is the technological innovation that can help produce synergy among parliaments of commonwealth member states.

While mentioning the Green Parliament Initiative, he said that the Pakistan parliament is the first of its kind which has been solarized completely for its electricity needs. Further, he also said that the Pakistan Parliament established the Secretariat of Sustainable

Development Goals for synergizing among various stakeholders.

Sardar Ayaz Sadiq said that the Pakistan parliament has started a Youth internship program to bring youth and parliament closer.

He also said that the parliament of Pakistan has also established the Women Parliamentary Caucus (WPC) to ensure basic rights for women. He also added, “Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights has also been playing a pivotal role in protecting children.”

Commonwealth Secretary-General Patricia Scotland expressed gratitude to the Speaker National Assembly for the warm welcome.

She also commended the resilience of the Pakistani nation and its people to grapple with the devastating impacts of the 2022 floods.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal presided 3rd Meeting of Disaster Response Committee at NEOC, NDMA HQS.

# Govt striving to strengthen national economy on sustainable basis: Finance Minister

KARACHI (APP): The federal government is striving to strengthen the national economy on a sustainable basis with focus on promotion and diversification of exports, attracting foreign investment in export-oriented sectors and expanding the tax base.

The views were expressed by Federal Minister of Finance and Revenue Muhammad Aurangzeb, Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Qaiser Sheikh, Minister of State for Finance, Revenue and Energy Ali Pervaiz and Chairman FBR Malik Amjed Zubair Tiwana during a meeting with representative of Trade and Industrial community at Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) here on Tuesday.

The government finance team apprised the business community about the government’s strategy as well as measures taken for dealing with the economic woes of the country and listened to issues confronted by the business community.

They stressed the business community to contribute in the government’s efforts aimed at economic stabilization and also assured of extending every possible assistance to do away with issues faced by trade and industrial sectors.

The minister underscored the significance of expanding and diversifying

exports for sustainable economic growth and creating fiscal space to facilitate all the sectors of the economy and provide relief to the masses. He assured that available fiscal space would be utilized to provide relief to the masses.

He said that Macroeconomic initiatives affect the overall national economy and multifaceted measures taken by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for economic stabilization and fiscal consolidation were leading to macro-economic stability of the country and it was also reflected by the upgraded rating of Pakistan by an international rating agency recently.

Government inquires health of senior journalist Nazir Leghari

KARACHI (APP): The Sindh Governor Mohammed Kamran Khan Tessori contacted the wife of senior journalist, intellectual, analyst Nazir Leghari over telephone and enquired about the health of the senior journalist.

The Governor said that he was worried about the health of the senior journalist after hearing his sudden health condition.

Tessori further said that he had personal attachment to the senior journalist Nazir Leghari.

The Governor Sindh directed the authorities concerned to provide all possible medical facilities to the senior journalist.

# PM directs NDMA to accelerate relief efforts in rain-hit areas, assess damages

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday telephoned Chairman of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Lt. General Inam Haider Malik and directed to take all necessary relief measures as heavy rains lashed across the country.

The prime minister asked the Authority to assess the damages to life and properties caused by the rains and improve coordination with provincial disaster management departments, and the disaster management authorities of AJK and Gilgit Baltistan, according to a PM House press release.

He instructed the NDMA to ensure swift restoration of the highways and roads damaged by the rains or landslides.

Prime Minister Shehbaz also called for providing all possible healthcare facilities in the rain-affected areas, besides ensuring the supply of relief items including medicines and other commodities.

He expressed deep grief over the deaths caused by heavy monsoon rains and consequent floods. He prayed to Allah Almighty for peace for the departed souls and sympathised with the bereaved families.



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah exchanges views with Commander Serken DOGAN, Commanding Officer Turkish Navy Ship TCG KINALIADA, during meeting held at CM House in Karachi.

# Economic policies show results, inflation drops sharply: Musadik Malik

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Petroleum Dr. Musadik Malik on Tuesday announced that the government’s economic policies were yielding positive results under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. He highlighted a significant reduction in food inflation from 48% to 2%, with ongoing efforts to further control price hikes and provide relief to the public.

During a press conference, Dr. Malik reported that overall inflation in the country has decreased from 38% to 12% due to the government’s interventions. The inflation, he said,

was gradually falling and that economic indicators suggest the country was moving towards stability. Addressing key priorities, the minister noted that the government was focused on alleviating poverty, reducing inflation, and creating job opportunities for the youth.

Despite facing economic challenges, the government has allocated Rs 600 billion in the current federal budget to uplift the poor. This budget includes funds for the construction of dams, roads, and motorways, which were expected to generate job opportunities.

# 830 kilometers roads adversely affected by floods, WB review meeting told

KARACHI (APP): The Project Director, Sindh Flood Emergency Rehabilitation Project Ghulam Asghar Kanasro on Tuesday said that out of total 143 roads affected by flood in interior Sindh measuring 830 kilometers, 45 roads measuring 226 kilometers have so far been completed while another 30 roads measuring 191 kilometers to be completed in next 15 days/ while the remaining 68 roads will be completed by the end of current year.

While briefing the World Bank review meeting, Kanasro said the remaining 68 roads will be completed by the end of current year.

He informed that embankments of the roads so rehabilitated were designed on resilient standards so that future climate shocks can be sustained and fur-

ther widening of roads can be done with a minimal expenditure. The number of beneficiaries using these roads would be up to the tune of at least five million.

Ahbas K Jha, World Bank’s Practice Manager for South Asia Infrastructure Resilience Policy and Finance Unit, expressed his satisfaction over the pace and quality of rehabilitation work undertaken by Sindh Flood Emergency Rehabilitation Project.

Kanasro further informed that 114 water supply and 23 drainage schemes affected by flood in 5 districts of Umerkot, Mirpurkhas, Sanghar, Badin and Shaheed Benazir Abad will be completed by January 2025 while the work on 273 water supply schemes and 124 drainage schemes in other six districts.



KARACHI: Assistant Commissioner Aram Bagh, Muntaha Azhar, Faisal Edhi, and others are planting a sapling during Tree Plantation Drive, held at Aram Bagh Public Park Saddar Town area in Karachi.

# District, session Judge chair meeting regarding tree plantation

HYDERABAD (APP): District and Session Judge Shaheed Benazirabad Allah Bachao Gabol chaired meeting regarding tree plantation and prevent cutting of trees in district Shaheed Benazirabad.

Addressing the meeting he said there had been a lot of damage due to climate change, the temperature of the province is increasing due to weather effects, to prevent which planting is the need of the hour, so we all have to make a joint effort. He further said that along with the government departments as well as the

public, awareness should be raised for planting and protecting them so that the rising temperature can be reduced by planting more plants.

District and Sessions Judge further said that according to Hadith Sharif Giving charity is also ongoing, he added that eco-friendly plants should be planted and maintained on empty plots of government institutions, parks, canal banks and roadsides.

17-member committee was formed under the leadership of Judge Waqar Ahmed Soomro.



KARACHI: President Karachi Chambers of Commerce and Industries (KCCI) Iftikhar Ahmed Sheikh, along with Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh, presenting a plaque to the Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Muhammad Aurangzeb during his visit to KCCI.

# Federal Ombudsman held Khuli Kachehri in Tando Muhammad Khan

HYDERABAD (APP): The Regional In-Charge of the Federal Ombudsman Secretariat Hyderabad, Ambassador @ Dr Rizwan conducted an open court (Khuli Kachehri) at the Deputy Commissioner Office Tando Muhammad Khan, which was attended by the Deputy Commissioner Darmon Bhawani, officials from HESCO, NADRA and Sui Gas, as well as a large number of residents.

According to a press release, on this occasion, numerous complaints were lodged against federal insti-

tutions such as SSGC, HESCO, NADRA and other agencies. A significant number of people raised issues about unjustified detection bills and alleged collusion between HESCO officials and staff in electricity theft.

Ambassador Dr Rizwan directed HESCO officials to address public grievances promptly and resolved several issues related to detection bills on the spot. He assured that legitimate issues raised by residents of Tando Muhammad Khan and surrounding areas would be addressed.

# Former Lt-Col Akbar Hussain court martialled for incitement to revolt

RAWALPINDI (INP): Lt-Col (ret) Akbar Hussain was court martialled on Tuesday for inciting military personnel to revolt and handed down 14 years in prison.

According to the ISPR, the public relations department of Pakistan Army, Lt-Col Akbar was sentenced under the Field General Court Martial.

The Inter-Services Public Relations statement added that the former lieutenant colonel was tried by a court of competent jurisdiction. His rank has also been confiscated.

# Meeting reviews arrangements to cope with flooding

SUKKUR (APP): Chairman, Nisar Ahmed Siddiqui Twon, Tariq Chauhan on Tuesday reviewed the arrangements finalized by Sukkur Municipal Corporation to cope with flooding.

Chairing a meeting held at his office he said that all elected representatives along with the officers concerned were present in the field and added immediate arrangements should be made for drainage of stagnant rain water.

Nullah should be specially monitored and all the preparations should be completed immediately, said Tariq.

SMC officials briefed the chairman Twon committee about arrangements finalized for Monsoon.

He said that all the officers had been directed to remain alert during rain.

# Three members of dacoit gang arrested in Surjani Town

KARACHI (APP): The Surjani Town police station in District West arrested three members of a notorious street criminal gang, including its ring-leader, on Tuesday. The suspects, identified as accused Arif alias Guddu, Abdul Rahman, and Muhammad Farooq alias Umer, were found in possession of three 30-bore pistols, eight mobile phones, and two motorcycles, one of which was stolen, along with cash.

During initial interrogation, the suspects admitted of being involved in about 18 cases of street crimes. The police have registered cases against them and will conduct an identification parade based on FIRs filed at the Surjani police station. Further investigations are ongoing.

# Pakistan hopes next US admin will focus on South Asia peace, resolve Kashmir issue: Masood

NEW YORK (APP): Pakistan hopes that whoever is elected as President of the United States in the November election would pay attention to peace and stability in South Asia, and help resolve the decades-old Kashmir dispute between India and Pakistan, Ambassador Masood Khan has said.

“We have to work with whichever administration is chosen by the people of the United States,” Masood Khan, who relinquished his post as ambassador to the US on June 30, was quoted as saying in a Newsweek article on the expectation India and Pakistan have from the presi-

dential rivals—the presumptive Democratic nominee Vice President Kamala Harris and the Republican candidate, former president Donald Trump—now campaigning hard for America’s top job.

Writing under the headline ‘India and Pakistan Prepare for Battle Between Harris and Trump’, Newsweek Correspondent Tom O’Connor pointed out that in 2020, Ms. Harris, as a US Senator, had weighed in on the fate of Kashmir, after India revoked its special status in 2019.

She was then campaigning for Democratic presidential nomination.



SINGAPORE: High Commissioner Rabia Shaifq calls on President Tharman Shanmugaratnam at the President's Office.

# Crackdown on LPG cylinders in passenger vehicles ordered

SUKKUR (APP): Divisional Commissioner Sukkur, Fayaz Hussain Abbasi on Tuesday strictly directed the District Regional Transport Authorities of the Sukkur division to immediately remove LPG cylinders from passenger vehicles to ensure safe travel facilities to citizens.

He emphasized the need for strict enforcement of transport laws and vigilant monitoring of vehicle fitness. He gave these directions while chairing a meeting of the Secretaries, District Regional Transport Authority, Sukkur Division, at his office. The Divisional Commissioner directed them to ensure reduction in transportation related accidents, violations and proper Implementation of transport laws, regulations and inspections.

He ordered secretaries to activate District Transport authorities/committees under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioners. He also emphasized the

need to take serious steps to avoid road traffic accidents.

He pointed out that the use of LPG cylinders in passenger vehicles is prohibited and poses a significant risk of fire accidents. He emphasized the need for stringent measures to prevent this practice.

Commissioner Abbasi said that a comprehensive strategy for Sukkur, Khairpur, and Ghotki devised to tackle this issue and stressed the importance of rigorous enforcement of transport regulations.

Furthermore, he directed the eradication of unauthorized bus terminals in urban areas, which are exacerbating traffic woes in various cities.

He emphasized the need for collaborative efforts between the district administration, police and Regional Transport Authorities to tackle these challenges and directed that a monthly progress report be submitted to the Commissioner’s Office.



HYDERABAD: Activists of Pakistan Peoples Party Shahed Bhutto hold a protest in favor of their demands outside HPC.

# DC for resolving problems of citizens on priority basis

HYDERABAD (APP): Deputy Commissioner Shaheed Benazirabad, Shahriyar Gul Memon, met with citizens coming to the office at the DC Office’s Darbar Hall and inquired about their problems.

On the occasion, citizens submitted requests to the Deputy Commissioner regarding various issues including Benazir Fund, admissions, sale certificates, faulty account charges, and non-conduct of house surveys. Deputy Commissioner resolved some of the issues on the spot, and the citizens thanked him.

Deputy Commissioner Shahriyar Gul

Memon said that the problems of the public are being heard and resolved on daily basis to provide maximum relief to the common citizens.

He further said that from Monday to Thursday, from 12 pm to 2 pm, the problems of the public will be heard and resolved at the DC Office’s Darbar Hall, so citizens should meet him on these days and submit their problems. Deputy Commissioner further said that all officers of the district and revenue officers of all tehsils have also been directed to resolve the problems of citizens on a priority basis.



HYDERABAD: Residents of Tawer Market hold a protest against murder of Fatima outside HPC.

# Monsoon rain spell to persist till tomorrow: Met Office

KARACHI (INP): The Met Office has forecast rainfall with thunderstorm in Karachi today under the influence of a monsoon system. A cloudy weather prevails in the city and light to heavy rainfall is expected in various areas of the metropolis, according to the weather report.

The ongoing monsoon spell of rainfall will persist until tomorrow with breaks. Chief Meteorologist Sardar Sarfaraz has said that the rainfall is expected during the daytime today. Maximum temperature in

Karachi will likely range between 32 to 34-degree Celsius with 75 percent humidity. The westerly winds blowing at 10 kilometers per hour speed, according to the weather report.

Chief Meteorologist said that the sea breeze has lower speed owing to the presence of the low pressure in the Arabian Sea. “The sea winds could restore by the evening or night tomorrow,” he added. Pakistan Meteorological Department had forecast rainfall in Karachi.