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President Zardari signs off Federal cabinet approves SC amendment practice and procedure ordinance

Ordinance on Practice and Procedures Act to further improve transparency in judicial proceedings: Tarar

ISLAMABAD (Online): Prime Minister and federal cabinet have approved Supreme Court Amendment Practice and Procedure Ordinance. According to sources federal cabinet accorded approval to draft bill through summary circulation. Practice and Procedure Amendment Ordinance 2024 is likely to be approved by president soon.

Following the implementation of amendment ordinance 2024 whatever proceedings of the judiciary is, its draft will be prepared and proceedings of the judiciary will be available for the people. Supreme Court Practice and Procedure Amendment ordinance is aimed at bringing more transparency in court's process.

A committee was constituted under Practice and Procedure act-2023. Im-

provement is being brought in the committee to ensure hearing of the cases on merit and their disposal.

Under new amendment ordinance, Chief Justice can nominate any learned judge member of committee in case of non availability of some member. Meanwhile Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar said on Friday that the promulgation of Ordinance on Practice and Procedures Act will further improve transparency in the judicial process.

Talking to the media here, he said an ordinance for amendment in the Practice and Procedures Act has been promulgated by the President after approval from the federal cabinet.

He said that from now

on, the case that comes first would be taken up first by the court and the cases coming after would be fixed on their number.

He said that in a case under section 184(3), it will have to be written why it was a matter of public importance.

A formal order will be issued that if a case under Section 184(3) was taken up, whether it was a case of public importance, or human rights issue.

He said under the ordinance, on 184 (3) any order passed by the Supreme Court, the right of appeal had been granted.

According to this ordinance, a transcript will be prepared of the proceedings including judges' remarks and observations during the case and this text will also be available to the public.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif witnesses signing of an MoU between Board of Investment and RUYI Shangdong.

Sindh govt secures funds to repair 4,162 flood-affected schools, seeks funds for remaining 15646: CM

Damaged schools have an enrolment of 2.23 million children

KARACHI (INP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah presiding over a review meeting on the ongoing repair and reconstruction of 4,162 out of 19,808 school buildings damaged by the 2022 floods, directed the School Education department to not only expedite the work but also to ensure that the schools are rebuilt to be flood resilient.

The meeting was held at the CM House and attended by Minister Education Syed Sardar Shah, briefing the CM, said that out of 40,978 school buildings, 19,808 were damaged, including 7503 fully and 12,305 partially by the floods of 2022. To a question, the CM was told that the total enrolment of 40,978 schools comes to 5.22 million, but the number of children affected by the damage caused to the schools is 2.33 million.

The CM directed the school education dept to ensure the proper running of the classes so that the education of the students may not be affected. At this, the minister education told the CM that under stop-gap arrangement classes were functioning properly.

The school education dept told the Chief Minister that out of 36,622 primary schools and 260 elementary schools, 17,255 primary and 1,192 elementary schools had sustained damage. Similarly, out of 1,654 secondary schools and 491 higher secondary schools, 928 secondary and 278 higher secondary schools were damaged.

When asked about the repair efforts, the CM was informed that 4,162 damaged schools had been taken up for repair and reconstruction with the support of various donor agencies and the federal government.

rebuild these schools to provide a safe learning environment for our children," he stated.

Murad Shah said that out of a total of 19,808 damaged schools work on 4162 has either been started or will be started shortly but even then, he has to arrange funds for repair/reconstruction of 15,646 remaining damaged schools.

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Chinese firm to set up textile parks in Pakistan aiming \$5b exports, 0.5m jobs; MoU signed

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Board of Investment and Chinese textile firm RUYI Shangdong on Friday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) under which the latter would establish textile parks of international standards in Pakistan to boost country's exports to \$5 billion and create around 0.5 million jobs.

The document was signed by a nine-member delegation of RUYI group led by Chairman QiuYafu called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif here as a significant development regarding Chinese investment in Pakistan following the prime minister's recent China visit.

According to the MoU signed at a ceremony witnessed by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the Chinese company would establish textile parks in Sindh and Punjab provinces where around 100 Chinese textile firms would be invited to invest.

The prime minister lauded the time-tested Pakistan-China friendship and observed that the bilateral economic ties were strengthening with each passing day.

He welcomed the Chinese RUYI group to Pakistan and lauded its investment in Pakistan's textile sector, recalling that the firm had been the first investor of Sahiwal Coal Power Plant established under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

Briefing the prime minister, the company head said that the textile parks aimed at boosting textile exports and making the country a hub of textiles and garments.

To be powered by solar energy, the textile parks would be developed as zero-carbon and automated facility to enhance the exports to \$2 billion in its first phase and \$5 billion in the second one besides creating from 0.3 million to 0.5 million jobs.

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Chinese investors to be encouraged to invest in Sindh: Governor Tessori



KARACHI (APP): Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori invited Chinese investors to explore investment opportunities in the province, emphasizing that the region offers an ideal environment and lucrative sectors for investment.

He assured that through the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), investors are provided with full support, assistance, and cooperation to ensure smooth operations.

He further remarked that China is confidently progressing on the path of economic, scientific, and technological advancement, steadily strengthening its global standing. Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori also acknowledged China's active role in addressing key issues on the regional and global agenda.

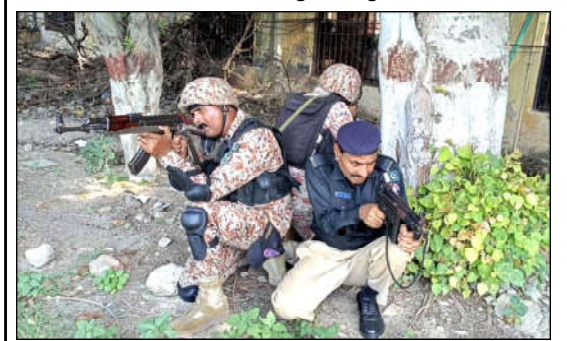
KARACHI (APP): Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori attended the 75th founding Day celebration of the People's Republic of China in Islamabad. Upon his arrival, Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori was warmly welcomed by the Chinese Ambassador, Jiang Zaidong and the diplomatic staff.

According to the spokesman of the Governor Sindh, on this historic occasion, Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori congratulated the Chinese Ambassador and presented a bouquet as a gesture of goodwill.

He highlighted the deep-rooted friendship between Pakistan and China, noting that it is based on unshakable love and mutual respect, rising higher than the Himalayas and deeper than the seas.

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KARACHI: Police and Rangers officials are taking part in mock exercise as a practice to defend in perception of any terrorist attack, at Cantt Railway Station in Karachi.

Three ECP officers suspended for incompetence, misconduct

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja suspended three Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) officers for 120 days for incompetence and misconduct.

According to the notification issued by the ECP, Provincial Election Commissioner Sindh Sharifullah, Director Admin Election Commission Sindh Azhar Hussain Tanwari were suspended for incompetence and misconduct.

According to the notification, Election Officer Karachi Khuda Baksh has also been suspended and directed that the three officers will remain in Karachi until the inquiry is completed and further orders.

While Joint Provincial Election Commissioner Ali

Asghar Sial has been appointed Acting Election Commissioner Sindh.

The Election Commission stated that on the night of September 17, many bags of different polling stations were damaged by forcibly breaking the locks of the strong room in Papri Karachi, for which a committee has been established to investigate.

The notification of Election Commission further stated that Joint Provincial Election Commissioner Sindh Sharifullah, Director Admin Election Commission Sindh Azhar Hussain Tanwari were suspended for incompetence and misconduct.

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While Joint Provincial Election Commissioner Ali



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah exchanging views with Barrister Hallar Wassan, MPA during meeting held at CM House in Karachi.

Bilawal pays tribute to Mir Murtaza Bhutto on death anniversary

KARACHI (APP): Chairman of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has paid rich tribute to his maternal uncle, Shaheed Mir Murtaza Bhutto, on his martyrdom anniversary.

In a message, the PPP Chairman described Shaheed Mir Murtaza Bhutto as a man of strong principles who never compromised on his values and lived his life with courage and conviction.

"His sacrifice for the cause of democracy and his steadfast opposition to oppression continue to inspire generations of Pakistanis," Bilawal Bhutto

Zardari remarked.

He further noted that the martyrdom of Shaheed Mir Murtaza Bhutto served as a poignant reminder of the immense sacrifices made by the Bhutto family for the people of Pakistan.

"The blood of Shaheed Mir Murtaza Bhutto, alongside the sacrifices of our family, is forever etched in the history of our nation's struggle for democracy," he said.

"We must continue this legacy and work tirelessly to build a Pakistan where justice, equality, and the rights of all citizens are upheld."

Sindh decides to amend Civil Service Act 1973 to end pension

KARACHI (INP): The Sindh government has decided to amend Civil Service Act 1973 to end provision of monthly pensions to retired employees. According to the proposed amendment, the govt employees recruited after July 2024 will not be eligible for the provision of monthly pension after retirement. The proposed amendment further stated that the employee and the provincial govt will contribute in Sindh Employee Benefit Scheme and after retirement, the employees will get the Golden Cheque Gratuity.

Under the scheme, the government as well as employees will contribute at a provisional rate of 12 per cent and 10 per cent respectively. The move is being

taken to relax the burden of pensions from the budget as a large number of amount is being in provision of pensions, the Sindh govt said.

Earlier, the Sindh cabinet, in its meeting at the CM House approved the implementation of the Sindh Defined Contributory Pension Scheme 2024 starting from 1st July 2024. The cabinet approved the insertion of a new subsection in the Section of the Sindh Civil Servant Act 1973. According to the proposed amendment, "an individual who is appointed or regularized as a civil servant on or after the commencement of the Sindh Civil Servant (Amendment) Act, 2024, will be considered a civil servant, except for pension and gratuity.

Tessori leaves for Türkiye on two-day visit

KARACHI (INP): Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori left for Türkiye on Friday on a two-day visit.

The Governor during his visit will meet Turkish investors, officials of IT sector, institutions and others. He will also meet Turkish IT experts. Kamran Tessori will invite the Turkish investors for investment in the IT sector in the Sindh province. On the occasion, IT courses under Governor's Initiative would also be discussed.

PPP not against creation of new provinces: Kaira

MULTAN (INP): Pakistan People's Party (PPP) senior leader Qamar Zaman Kaira stated that his party is not against creation of new provinces in the country. This he stated while talking to a private TV channel. Qamar Zaman Kaira said that no political party was able to get a clear majority in February 8, 2024 elections.

Qamar Zaman Kaira said that the formation of new provinces was not an issue of Punjab and Sindh. He said that the PPP is of the view that new province should not be created in Sindh as the people of the Sindh are not demanding a new province whereas the people of South Punjab are demanding a separate province.

PM greets Rind on winning Karate Combat Championship

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday congratulated Shahzaib Rind, the Pakistani mixed martial arts player from Balochistan, who won the Karate Combat Championship (KC-49) held in Singapore.

"You have brought fame to Pakistan through your sport and expertise. The whole nation feels proud of you," the prime minister said, according to a PM Office press release.

In the final contest held in Singapore, Shahzaib defeated Brazil's Bruno Roberto De Assis.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister Communications, Privatization & Board of Investment Abdul Aleem Khan presides over high level meeting of NHA.

DIG, SSP, CIA team Mirpurkhas, SHO Sindhri suspended over allegations of extrajudicial killing, PA informed

KARACHI (APP): The Sindh Minister for Home, Law, Parliamentary Affairs and Criminal Prosecution Ziaul Hasan Lanjar on Friday informed the Sindh Assembly that Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIGP) Mirpurkhas, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Mirpurkhas, CIA team of Mirpurkhas and Station House Officer (SHO) of Sindhri had been suspended over allegations of extrajudicial killing (Encounter) of Dr Shah Nawaz Kunbar from Umerkot in Mirpurkhas, the accused of sharing blasphemous post

on social media, until they prove their innocence.

While speaking on a Point of Order on the floor of the house, the Sindh Home Minister Ziaul Hasan Lanjar said that an alarming and burning issue had been echoing for 24 to 48 hours, on which he wished to brief to the Assembly.

He said that a doctor named Dr Shah Nawaz Kunbar allegedly posted a blasphemous material on social media.

Lanjar said it is our faith that Hazrat Mohammed (PBUH) is our last prophet. It is our re-

sponsibility to stop blasphemous incidents.

He said that Hazrat Mohammed (PBUH) in his life gave opportunity even to his opponents to prove their innocence, make their mistake correct and confirm and verify the facts.

The teachings of our Holy prophet (PBUH) taught us to verify an incident and reach its roots to ascertain truth to avoid any injustice to a person.

He said that being a Muslim they could sacrifice their lives for the Holy prophet (PBUH).

During recent prolonged monsoon rains in Karachi Only Provincial Ministers, MPAs, LG representatives of PPP helping out people in distress: Saeed Ghani

Independent Report
KARACHI: A spokesman for Sindh Local Government Minister, Saeed Ghani, has said the Karachi-based town and union committee chairmen belonging to Jamaat-e-Islami have started complaining about lack of powers following in the tradition of MQM's way of doing politics. The spokesman for the Local Government Minister stated on Friday this while responding to the statement of the Opposition Leader in the City Council from JI, Saifuddin.

The spokesman said that only the provincial ministers, lawmakers, elected local government representatives from Pakistan People's Party were seen helping out the people

in distress during recent prolonged monsoon rains in Karachi. The spokesman advised Saifuddin to seek resignations from town and UC chairmen from JI on showing poor performance during recent rains in the city. He mentioned that the people of Karachi by overwhelmingly voting in favour of the PPP had buried the politics of hatred in the city.

The spokesman said the Sindh government had started the process of repairing the rain-damaged road networks in the city. The spokesman for the Local Government Minister mentioned that the Karachi Mayor had started action against the erring contractors and officials of Karachi on account of faulty construction of roads.

PTI allowed to hold rally in Lahore

LAHORE (INP) The district administration of Lahore has decided to permit Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) to hold a rally in Lahore but with some caveats.

The decision includes strict adherence to Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to ensure safety and order during the event, as confirmed by a spokesperson. Currently, officials are in discussions to finalise the venue for the rally.

Sources indicate that the Kahna Maweshi Mandi (Cattle Market) is being considered as a potential location. PTI had initially requested to hold the rally at Minar-e-Pakistan ground. However, based on the District Intelligence Committee's report, alternative locations such as Kahna Cattle Market, Shahpur Kanjran, and Saggian Bridge are also under consideration.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb chairs the meeting of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) at the Finance Division.

Daily Voice of Masses Independent

What now?

The Election Commission of Pakistan appears to be in no mood to obey the Supreme Court, and, continuing a pattern observed over the last year, the federal government seems eager to provide it political cover.

It emerged on Wednesday that the ECP would, instead of implementing the Supreme Court's verdict in the reserved seats case, seek further opinion from 'legal experts' on the matter. This, despite being warned by the court not to delay any further.

As it turns out, it did not need legal counsel: on Thursday, the National Assembly Speaker himself came to the ECP's rescue, informing the Commission that since a new law — bulldozed last month through parliament to prevent the reserved seats from being given to the PTI — had come into effect, it need not heed the Supreme Court's order. Unexpected though the move was, it was not the first time that the ruling set-up had come to the ECP's aid against the courts.

Last year, the ECP had similarly refused to obey the apex court when it made it clear it would not hold elections to the Punjab Assembly despite what the court ordered. The then-PDM government had endorsed the ECP's stance, even though it had been in clear violation of the timeline for polls provided in the Constitution. Emboldened, the ECP has continued to thwart the courts since, be it in the matter of election tribunals or, as recently seen, in the case pertaining to the PTI's reserved seats.

It may be recalled that the Commission's last attempt to delay implementation of the Supreme Court's verdict in the reserved seats matter was officially condemned as "dilatory tactics, adopted to delay, defeat and obstruct implementation of the decision of the court". The ECP was also warned that continuing on this path "may expose the Commission" to legal action in terms of the Constitution and the law. It had zero effect.

Now, the government's actions could turn this into a major clash between institutions. It is a risky and unfortunate escalation. Any confrontation on this issue is a direct challenge to the separation of powers as envisioned in the Constitution. The incident underlines that, despite its repeated claims to institutional 'supremacy' derived from democratic ideals, this government seems to have little interest in, or understanding of, democracy's core principles.

The fact that it is relying on tailor-made legislation, moved after a court verdict, to thwart its implementation will be seen as defiance against the judiciary. The situation is made worse by the Speaker of the National Assembly stepping in and endorsing the Commission's position.

The separation of powers must be respected and no institution should overstep its bounds. At this critical juncture, all state institutions must remain within their mandates to prevent further erosion of democratic values.

Dogar Courts

Asad Rahim Khan

After hearing the case his life would be known for, Muhammad Munir retreated to his private quarters, where he collapsed on the sofa.

We know this because another (future) chief justice, Nasim Hasan Shah, was there: "I saw a heartrending scene. Here was this man, who half an hour earlier had been presiding with all the majesty of his office at the Federal Court, now lying prostrate," as others sprinkled water on his face. "Obviously," writes the author, "he had been physically and emotionally drained by the proceedings."

That was gracious of him: the decision in Federation vs Tamuzuddin not only derailed democracy for good, it also delivered the courts to the deep state.

In the decades since, the executive carried on tightening its grip — some of those sad notes still echo today: Bhutto amending the Constitution to extend a favourite chief justice; Zia's PCO, a purge by any other name, burying judicial independence for years.

With the rise of Pervez Musharraf, the Dogar Courts were brought in to dry-clean emergency rule — the price of serving on them was to betray the Constitution. Through it all, it would be fair to say the house usually won; that there were old judges and there were bold judges, but almost no old, bold judges.

It may be time to make that choice again. Because the 26th Amendment — what's been leaked — is an all-out assault on the Constitution. Lawyers across the spectrum have dubbed it a scandal, a suicide pact, a neo-PCO, and with reason: this is, in 77 years, the most corrosive solution to the executive's major check:

the unbowed judge.

For starters, it hollows out the Supreme Court of its main function — interpreting the Constitution — and sets up a brand new federal court to do it. Shorn of its purpose, the demoted Supreme Court shall now concern itself with civil nosebleeds, land disputes, maybe the odd buffalo wandering into a stranger's rice paddy.

Not yet content with asking him to lord over the ashes, the Supreme Court's chief justice will be chosen by a crew of MNAs dominated by the ruling parties. This not only reverses any gains made for independent appointments since at least 1996, it encourages hopefuls to audition for their role as power's number one favourite.

Things get even worse for high court judges, who can now be transferred from province to province in the manner of common bureaucrats. Imagine if, at the first sign of resistance, the centre keeps ping-ponging courageous judges between Quetta and Karachi: would the integrity of the Islamabad High Court remain intact if the state could have dispersed the six letter-signing judges over four units? Or if their writ jurisdiction had to cede to 'national security'?

All of which brings us to the new Dogar bench so proposed: this federal constitutional court, or 'FCC', will have its first chief justice hand-picked by the prime minister! Unless the FCC stands for Fully Controlled Chaperones, this is no less than extraordinary. Plus, if our history around the term 'consultation' is anything to go by, then that same chief justice will go on to pick his fellow judges.

Not least, Pakistan is a common law jurisdiction, hence its reliance on interpretation; on hundreds of years of precedent. We already have a 'constitutional court': the high courts and Supreme Court. A separate constitutional court is from civil law countries — think France or Germany — one that's alien to our legal system.

In sum, the Supreme Court is being destroyed and replaced by a brand-new, even-more-supreme court, just one that's junior to the PM. If this sounds like the end of the in-dependence of the judiciary, that's because it is: the third branch will be sawed off and remade a support beam.

And the next victim will be the ordinary litigant: as the JUI-F's senator Kamran Murtaza has already revealed (and opposed), one late-night draft was all set to water down Article 8 — the protection of fundamental rights.

That this journey began with the trash-fire law that was the Practice and Procedure Act is now plain — those praising its case-fixation committee overlook the fact that the new method still results in mostly 'li-keminded' benches; that its appeals process has mainly managed freeing out the military trials case; and that it has opened the door to a rump Assembly mangling the Constitution to punish the judges.

But the road must end there: this amendment cannot stand. If the idea was to reduce backlog, all it does is throw up another needless forum. If the idea was to honour the Charter of Democracy, the same charter calls for FCC judges to be appointed by a judicial commission (and not the PM's speed dial). And if the idea was the chief justice's extension, that won't work either. On Oct 26, Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah will be chief justice of Pakistan. Best to act accordingly. — Courtesy Dawn

Father of man

Zubeida Mustafa

Aug 31 was Dr Maria Montessori's birthday. The Pakistan Montessori Association had planned to honour its icons that day, starting with its legendary founder-educator and followed by her luminous successors in Pakistan — Mrs Gool Minwalla and others.

Special tribute was to be paid to Farida Akbar, whose contribution as a child-trainer of trainers is unparalleled. Cyclone Asna disrupted the programme. The event was held a week later.

The storm was nature's revenge for the excesses committed by humankind. This was a warning to us not to tamper with nature's ways. The same also holds true for the child's education. When incorrectly managed, our school system causes 'deviations' — a term used by Dr Montessori — in the child.

I quote from The Absorbent Mind to show how misunderstood our children are. "Education is not what the teacher gives: [it] is a natural process spontaneously carried out by the human individual. It is acquired not by listening to words [of a teacher], but by [gaining] experiences from the environment."

The gist of the Montessori philosophy is that the child 'constructs' itself and by doing so it constructs the man/woman it will grow up to be. The teacher's role is to facilitate the child in this self-construction process. She prepares the environment from where the child gains its experiences. Montessori's emphasis is on the psychic development of the child that begins at birth.

This is an autonomous process. It must be fully respected. Every child is born with diverse 'tendencies', strengths and weaknesses. The child must be encouraged

to explore its self-learning instincts. Any attempt to control the child in the name of discipline and uniformity is self-defeating. The 'strait-jacketing' of children destroys their interest in education itself.

Farida Akbar would always remind her students: "Follow the child." It sounded so exciting. I would wonder, can't we make our early childhood education more child-friendly by adopting some basic principles of the Montessori philosophy?

In March 2023, I decided to experiment with 10 children from a low-income community. Having acquired a classroom from a neighbouring school for two hours in the afternoon thrice a week, I launched my 'Aao Khailain Markaz' (Come Let's Play Centre). My friend Hawa Mohammad, an excellent teacher trainer who acquired her expertise from renowned institutions, readily agreed to join me in my venture for six months. Above all, it was a privilege to have Farida Akbar as our mentor and guide. I had requested her to brief Hawa about her relationship vis-à-vis the children. Hawa says the time she spent with Mrs Akbar was a unique learning experience. "She enriched my understanding of a child. Her passion for her work was remarkable. She visited the centre whenever she felt her presence was needed."

We collected a lot of teaching material, including many colourful picture books, flash cards and stationery for the children.

The basic principle Hawa followed was to ensure that every child had the freedom of choice of the activity that interested it. Other do's and don'ts for Hawa included: speak softly; don't order the child, just do yourself whatever needs to be

done and the child will imitate you; do not say "no" to a child if it has to be stopped, just distract it with something more attractive. Being a gentle person herself, Hawa was quick on the uptake.

How fast the children oriented themselves to their surroundings and pace of work was amazing. They showed a remarkable sense of timing. They started recognising their names written in Urdu and were attracted by books which they picked up themselves for Hawa to read out to them. The most significant of all was their immense interest in whatever they chose to do. Each of them sat and worked with great concentration without being asked to. Above all, they became very articulate as we always spoke in Urdu, the language they spoke at home.

We gave nature time to do its work as there was no hurry. We had been told that when a child's finger muscles and hand-eye coordination are ready, it will begin to write without being shown how to. We never made the children competitive or rewarded them for their good work. But we ensured that they were always happy and did what they wanted to do in a carefully planned environment. Thus, they derived satisfaction from accomplishing their work. This satisfaction was their own reward.

I now understand why our present system is flawed. We push the child too much and create competitiveness. That has made us what we are: ambitious, greedy and willing to cut corners to get what we want. Give the child time and it will turn out to be nature's best specimen in a world of diversity. -- Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

Awais chairs introductory meeting of BoDs, CEOs, WB, ADB, IDB experts

ISLAMABAD (APP): The introductory meeting of Chairpersons Board of Directors (BoDs), Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of power companies, experts from World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Islamic Development Bank and other development partners was held here on Friday. Federal Minister for Power Division Sardar Awais Ahmed Khan Laghari presided over the meeting, said a press release issued here.

He said that there were some hurdles in the system due to lack of infrastructure and technology. "We need more transparency in the system and Power Division is working on it to achieve the goal," he added.

Awais Laghari sought effective proposals from development partners in order to create a more efficient, effective and transparent environment in the power sector. In current scenario, each matter required to be referred to the board of NTDC, which needed to be changed. He said due to slow decision making, targets were not achieved on time which created more uncertainty and added that the Power Division would restructure NTDC.

to introduce a robust and sustainable system.

The minister stressed that we need more transparency in data and investment plans, to reduce electricity costs for consumers. "Transparency is part of our vision and we need to make prompt, data-driven decisions for the benefit of consumers," he said. Awais Laghari appreciated the support of development partners and the vision of the newly appointed chairmen BoDs and NTDC, and directed them to focus on transparency and effective decision-making.



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of RUYI Group led by Chairman Qiu Yafu calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.



Federal Minister for Privatisation, Abdul Aleem Khan presiding Privatisation Commission Board Meeting in Islamabad.

Steps being taken to boost cultivation of onion, tomato: Ashiq

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Agriculture Minister Syed Ashiq Hussain Kirmani on Friday said the Punjab government was taking practical steps to boost seasonal and off season cultivation of onion and tomato in Punjab.

While presiding over a meeting at the Agriculture House, here, he said that to increase production of onion and tomato the government had started pilot project worth Rs 6 billion. In this regard 33 farmer enterprise groups of 450 farmers would be formed on an area of 2500 acres to ensure availability of affordable quality vegetables to the

people throughout the year, he added.

Syed Ashiq Hussain Kirmani said that modern agricultural machinery and solar system would be provided to farmers on subsidy for increasing seasonal and non-seasonal cultivation of onion and tomato.

For success of the project, it was need of the hour that there should be link of farmer groups with value added industry, local businessmen and investors with international market, he said and added that World Bank would provide financial support for onion and tomato seeds, nursery plants, machinery and agricultural equipment.

Honorary CG of Kazakhstan visits SCCI

SIALKOT (APP): Honorary Consul General of Kazakhstan Rao Khalid Mahmood, Director of Kazakhstan House, Lahore Abuzar Butt and Manager of Travel and Tourism at Kazakhstan House Umair Afzal visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI).

SCCI President Abdul Ghafoor Malik and Senior Vice President (SVP) Wahub Jahangir warmly welcomed the distinguished guests.

The office-bearers of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) had a productive meeting with Honorary Consul General of Kazakhstan Rao Khalid Mahmood.

Indonesian market open to Pak rice, meats, medicines, cosmetics and more: Envoy

ISLAMABAD (APP): The delegation included JW Holdings Chief Executive Officer Hasnain Waheed, Yasir Kamran Khattak, and Malik Mubasher Khan.

Rahmat underlined the vital role that Pakistani food products could play in enhancing global food security in the future. "There is an ample opportunity to absorb Pakistani rice, meats, medicines, cosmetics, and other commodities in the Indonesian market," he added.

Senate body reviews overbilling, power theft, data discrepancies

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Senate Standing Committee on Power Division on Friday reviewed overbilling, power theft and data discrepancies in power sector. The Committee which met with Mohsin Aziz in the Chair discussed a point of public importance raised by Senator Palwasha Muhammad Zai Khan regarding the overbilling of electricity bills and the indifference of officers/officials to the plight of consumers.

Senator Palwasha

UN resident coordinator meets Jam Kamal to discuss sustainable trade growth

ISLAMABAD (APP): The newly appointed United Nations (UN) Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (UNRHC) Mohamed Yahiya on Friday met with Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan and discussed sustainable trade growth in Pakistan.

He was accompanied by representatives from UNRHC office, United Nations Industrial Development Organization and International Trade Centre, said a news release.

During the meeting, the minister appreciated

the work of UN in the realm of trade and advised to take provinces and other relevant stakeholders onboard in the process.

Jam Kamal stressed that Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) should be given preference while devising policies.

He emphasized that to ensure sustainability benefits of exports growth should be equitably with marginalized and vulnerable including the populace living in peripheral areas.

He appreciated the work being done under UN

Rupee gains 08 paise against dollar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistani rupee on Friday appreciated by 08 paise against the US dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs 277.83 against the previous day's closing of Rs 277.91. However, according to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of the dollar in the open market stood at Rs 279.25 and Rs 280.75 respectively. The price of Euro increased by 36 paise to close at Rs 310.19 against the last day's closing of Rs 309.83, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP).

Sahiwal Coal Power Plant paid Rs 120.5 bln tax so far

ISLAMABAD (APP): Since its establishment, the Sahiwal Coal Power Plant has made a significant contribution to Pakistan's fiscal landscape, with approximately Rs 120.5 billion in taxes paid to the federal and provincial governments.

These tax contributions are a testament to the plant's role in driving economic growth and supporting public finances, said a press release issued here Friday. Since its inception, this plant has significantly contributed to the country's fiscal health, playing a pivotal role in expanding Pakistan's tax net and fostering economic growth.

The financial impact of the Sahiwal plant reaches far beyond its direct contributions through corporate taxes. A substantial portion of its revenue flow comes from value added tax (VAT) generated through its extensive procurement processes.

Punjab Governor says: Pakistan, Azerbaijan enjoy long standing brotherly ties

Independent Report
LAHORE: The Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Pakistan, Khazar Farhadov, called on Punjab Governor, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan here today at Governor House Lahore. The two sides stressed the need to enhance trade relations between Pakistan and Azerbaijan.

Speaking on the occasion, the Punjab Governor, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan said that the two countries enjoy long standing brotherly relations. He appreciated the role of the Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan in supporting the direct flights between the two brotherly countries and mutual exports from Azerbaijan to Pakistan and from Pakistan to Azerbaijan. He stated that Pakistan and Azerbaijan enjoy close ties and it is heartening to know that Pakistani flags are displayed in Azerbaijan that reflects the love of Azerbaijan's people towards Pakistan, adding that Pakistani people cherish the same feelings for Azerbaijan.

He said that the relations between the two countries are based on common religion, culture and mutual support. He stressed the need for exchange of trade delegations between the two countries. The Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Pakistan, Khazar Farhadov said that Pakistan stood with Azerbaijan in difficult times. He expressed determination to enhance trade relations between the countries. He said that plan for preferential trade facilities for Pakistani businessmen was on the cards. He said that there are vast opportunities for cooperation in infrastructure and energy sectors between Azerbaijan and Pakistan. He reaffirmed his commitment to foster economic relations with Pakistan.



LAHORE: Punjab Local Government Minister Zeeshan Rafique chairs high level meeting regarding preparation of app for citizens under "Suthara Punjab Program".

KP govt takes initiatives to empower youth for future challenges: Saif

PESHAWAR (APP): Advisor to Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for Information and Public Relations Barrister Dr. Saif Friday said the provincial government was actively working on policy and at ground levels to provide better opportunities to prepare the youth for future challenges.

Addressing the Young Leaders Parliament Conference, he emphasized that the youth should not merely focus on acquiring degrees, but also strive to become responsible citizens and better individuals, equipped with modern education and skills.

Barrister Dr. Saif urged young people to prioritize entrepreneurship over relying on government jobs. He stated, "We need to move beyond nepotism and corruption, and it is essential for the youth to contribute to this change." The three-day entrepreneurship conference, organized by the Young Leaders Parliament in collaboration with the Directorate of Youth Affairs, saw participation from over 70 young leaders across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The event featured extensive sessions on entrepreneurship, e-commerce, technical education, and online businesses.

CM KP to inaugurate development projects next month

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Ali Amin Gandapur, will inaugurate several projects next month under the Peshawar Uplift Program phase second. After the timely provision of funds by the provincial government, the ongoing projects under the Peshawar uplift program have gained further momentum.

The ongoing projects include the construction of the six kilometer-long Hayatabad Jogging and Cycling Track in the provincial capital, the renovation and construction of Peshawar Zoo Road (Palosi Road), the Iqra Chowk Island on University Road, the Park Avenue Island on University Road, and the construction of the Walkway Town Market. Additionally, several projects have been completed at the historic University of Peshawar, including the renovation of the university, repair and construction of the main roads, flooring of key areas, construction of public washrooms, and modern parking facilities.



LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Health Khawaja Salman Rafique chairs high level meeting at Punjab Health Initiative Management Company.

9 dead, 1488 injured in 1372 road accidents in Punjab

LAHORE (APP): Nine persons were killed and 14,77 injured in 1372 Road Traffic Crashes (RTCs) in all 37 districts of Punjab during the last 24 hours. Out of these, 653 people with serious injuries were shifted to different hospitals, while 835 victims with minor injuries were treated at the incident site by rescue medical teams thus reducing the burden of hospitals.

Meeting of district coordination committee for nutrition held

HYDERABAD (APP): A meeting of the District Coordination Committee for Nutrition was held under the chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Matiari Fahad Sahito, to address the issue of malnutrition in the district.

District Health Officer (DHO) Matiari Pir Ghulam Husain, Dr Babar, Deputy Director Livestock Riaz Hussain Legari, Deputy Director Agriculture Asad Kaka and other key stakeholders attended the meeting.

Naat Khwani competition of the blind people held

KARACHI (APP): AMIGOS Welfare Trust organized Naat Khwani competition of the blind people in the seminar hall of Karachi Development Authority (KDA) Head Office Civic Centre here on Friday. On this occasion, Director General KDA Syed Shujaat Hussain, President AMIGOS Welfare Trust Anwar Masih, General Secretary Syed Muhammad Hussain and the management of the Welfare Trust were in attendance. Naat-Khwani competition for the blind people was held in connection with Eid Milad-ul-Nabi (Peace Be Upon Him) celebrations.



HYDERABAD: Allottees of Shams Icon Plaza are holding protest demonstration for demanding possession, at Hyderabad press club.

Code of ethics for 'Social Media Influencers' in Pakistan stressed

KARACHI (APP): Speakers in a "Social Media Influencer Conference" stressed the need for formation of the code of ethics so that flow of misinformation and the disinformation could be discouraged. If code of ethics not to be formed, Government would have no other option but to introduce strict laws affecting freedom of speech.

The speakers were highlighting their views in a one day conference themed "Social Media Influencers, ethics of authenticity and production of content" organized by Women Media Centre (WMC) Pakistan in collaboration with Washington based National Endowment for Democracy (NED). Influencers should maintain responsible behaviour towards society as due to heavy flow of the information, social media influencers were spreading disinformation, speaker said. The conference brought together leading journalists, social media influencers and digital media experts to discuss the growing influence of social media and the pressing need for ethical guidelines in content creation.

LHC orders DC to decide on PTI's plea for rally

LAHORE (APP): The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Friday ordered the deputy commissioner of Lahore to make a decision by 5 PM on Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) application for permission to hold a rally in the provincial capital.

A three-member bench, headed by Justice Farooq Haider and comprising Justice Tariq Nadeem and Justice Ali Zia Bajwa, passed the order while disposing of a petition filed by former MNA Aliya Hamza and others, seeking permission for a rally scheduled to be held on September 21 at Minar-e-Pakistan. During the proceedings, Punjab Chief Secretary Zahid Akhtar Zaman, Inspector General of Police Dr. Usman Anwar, and other relevant officers appeared before the bench.

A provincial law officer, representing the Punjab government, opposed the petition, claiming the petitioners had not approached the relevant forum for permission to hold the rally and rejected allegations of harassment. The bench instructed the PTI to submit an official request for the rally and emphasized the need to find a permanent solution by designating rally sites across Punjab.

International News

Israel kills top Hezbollah figure in Beirut strike

Israeli military says around 10 senior Hezbollah commanders killed along with Aqil

Monitoring Desk
BEIRUT: Israel killed a top Hezbollah commander in an airstrike on Beirut's southern suburbs on Friday, the Israeli military and two security sources in Lebanon said, sharply escalating the year-long conflict between Israel and the Iran-backed group. Israeli military said that Aqil, who served on Hezbollah's top military body, was the acting commander of the group's elite Radwan force and that he was killed along with other senior commanders of the unit. One of the security sources in Lebanon said he was killed with members of the Radwan unit as they held a meeting. The strike killed nine people and wounded 59 others, Lebanon's health ministry said, in a preliminary toll. The strike inflicted another blow on Hezbollah

after the group suffered an unprecedented attack earlier this week in which paggers and walkie talkies used by its members exploded, killing 37 people and wounding thousands. That attack was widely believed to have been carried out by Israel, which has neither confirmed or denied its involvement. The civil defence said its rescue teams were searching for people under the rubble of two buildings hit in Friday's strike. The Israeli military said it had conducted a "targeted strike" in Beirut, without giving further details. It marks the second time in less than two months that Israel has targeted a leading Hezbollah military commander in Beirut. In July, an Israeli airstrike killed Fuad Shukri, the group's top military commander.

Aqil has a \$7 million bounty on his head from the United States over his link to the deadly bombing of Marines in Lebanon in 1983, according to the U.S. State Department website. The Israeli military reported warning sirens sounded in northern Israel following the Beirut strike. Israeli media reported heavy rocket fire in northern Israel. Hezbollah said it had fired Katyusha rockets at what it described as the main intelligence headquarters in northern Israel "which is responsible for assassinations". White House spokesman John Kirby said he was not aware of any Israeli notification to the United States before the Beirut strike, adding that Americans were strongly urged not to travel to Lebanon, or to leave if they are already there.



People and members of the military inspect the site of an Israeli strike in the southern suburbs of Beirut, Lebanon.

Saudi crown prince says no Israel ties without Palestinian state

Monitoring Desk
RIYADH: Saudi Arabia's de facto ruler said that the kingdom will not establish ties with Israel until a Palestinian state has been created, in a blow to US efforts to seal a normalisation deal. "We renew the kingdom's rejection and strong condemnation of the crimes of the Israeli occupation authority against the Palestinian people," Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman told the opening session of its advisory Shura Council. "The kingdom will not cease its tireless efforts to establish an independent Palestinian state with east Jerusalem as its capital, and we affirm that the king-

dom will not establish diplomatic relations with Israel without one," he added. Normalisation deals brokered by then US president Donald Trump in 2020 between Israel and Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates had ended a longstanding Arab consensus that there should be no normalisation without an independent Palestinian state and thrown the spotlight on their more powerful neighbour Saudi Arabia. As recently as earlier this month, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken had been holding out the prospect of the swift establishment of ties with the Gulf Arab oil kingdom as a potential dividend for Israel.

Zelenskiy says Ukraine 'victory plan' depends on quick decisions by allies

Monitoring Desk
KYIV: Ukraine's "victory plan" in the war against Russia depends on quick decisions being taken by allies this year, President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said on Friday during a visit by European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen. Zelenskiy told a joint press conference with von der Leyen that Ukraine planned to use a proposed multi-billion dollar European Union loan for air defence, energy and domestic weapons purchases. Zelenskiy singled out the importance of U.S. President Joe Biden to the victory plan, which he said the two leaders will discuss when they meet. The Ukrainian leader is travelling to the United States next week. "Most of the deci-

sions from the plan depend specifically on him (Biden). On other allies too, but there are certain points which depend on the goodwill and support of the United States," Zelenskiy said. Zelenskiy has provided regular updates on the plan's preparation but has given few clues to the contents, indicating only that it aims to create terms acceptable to Ukraine after more than 2-1/2 years of war following Russia's full-scale invasion. "The entire plan is predicated upon quick decisions from our partners. The plan is predicated upon decisions which should take place from October to December, and not delaying these processes," he told the press conference alongside von der Leyen.

Ex-Iran president Rafsanjani's daughter released from prison after two years

Monitoring Desk
TEHRAN: Faezeh Hashemi Rafsanjani, the daughter of former Iranian president Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, has been released from Tehran's Evin prison after serving two years for her role in protests over women's rights. Faezeh was sentenced to five years in prison following her arrest during the 2022 protests. Her release followed a ruling by an appeals court, as confirmed by her lawyer, Mohammad Hossein Aghassi. Faezeh was arrested in September 2022 during nationwide protests sparked by the death of Mahsa Amini. Mahsa's passing while in police custody for allegedly violating Iran's strict dress code ignited widespread demonstrations demanding change.

Israeli forces deepen raid in Rafah, kill 27 people across Gaza

Monitoring Desk
CAIRO: Israeli forces killed at least 27 Palestinians in tank and air strikes on north and central areas of the Gaza Strip on Friday, medics said, as tanks advanced further into northwest Rafah near the border with Egypt. The unrelenting fighting between the Israelis and Hamas militants in the enclave carried on even as a parallel conflict in the Lebanon-Israel border area involving Hamas' allies

Hezbollah intensified. Meanwhile, some Palestinians displaced by the Israeli assault on Gaza said they feared their temporary beachside camp would be inundated by high waves. Palestinian health officials said shelling by Israeli tanks killed eight people and wounded several others in the Nuseirat refugee camp in the central area of Gaza, and six others were killed in an airstrike on a house in Gaza City.

US polls: Donald Trump says Jews will be partly to blame if he loses election

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON DC: Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump said on Thursday that Jewish-American voters would be partly to blame if he lost the November 5 election to Vice President Kamala Harris, the Democratic candidate. During comments to the Israeli-American Council National Summit in Washington, the former president lamented that he was trailing Harris among American Jews. Israel would likely cease to exist within two years should Harris win the election, and Jews would be partly to blame for that outcome because they tend to vote for Democrats, Trump argued. "If I don't win this election — and the Jewish people would really have a lot to do with that if that happens because if 40 per cent, I mean, 60pc of the people are voting for the enemy — Israel, in my opinion, will cease to exist within two years," Trump told the crowd. Trump was citing a poll that he said showed Harris polling at 60pc among American Jews.

Sudan's warring parties say they are open for peaceful solutions

Monitoring Desk
CAIRO: Sudan's army and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) said they are open for peaceful solutions to a war that has been ongoing for more than 17 months, in response to US President Joe Biden's call on warring parties to re-engage in talks. Army chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan said on Wednesday the Sudanese government remains open to all constructive efforts aimed at ending the war, before RSF leader Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo

followed suit with a similar sentiment early on Thursday. "We reaffirm our commitment to ceasefire negotiations. We believe that the path to peace lies in dialogue, not random violence, and we will continue to engage in peace processes to secure a future free from fear and suffering for all Sudanese civilians," Dagalo said on X. However, both men traded blame for a failure to bring an end to a conflict that has killed more than 12,000 people since it started in April 2023.

President, PM laud security forces for anti-terror operations in Waziristan

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif have paid tribute to the security forces for carrying out successful anti-terrorist operations in North and South Waziristan.

The president reiterated the nation's resolve to purge the country of terrorists and paid tribute to the soldiers who sacrificed their lives during the operations.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting on transformation plan of Federal Board of Revenue.

No compromise can be made on liberties of citizens: SHC

KARACHI (Online): Sindh High Court (SHC) has said no compromise can be made on the liberties of citizens and constitution has given guarantee for it.

The petitions for recovery of 6 citizens who had gone missing from different areas came up for hearing Friday. The court expressed dissatisfaction and annoyance over the reports of investigating agencies.

Justice Nemat Ullah Phulpoto remarked you cannot satisfy the court by preparing traditional reports. The investigating officer said in the court several meetings of JIT and

CS held meeting with DCs, ADCs ACs, urges enhance public service

HYDERABAD (APP): The Chief Secretary (CS) Sindh Syed Asif Haider Shah held a meeting with all Deputy Commissioners, ADCs and Assistant Commissioners of Hyderabad Division at the Commissioner House Hyderabad on Thursday night.



KARACHI: Police officials carried out the combing search operation against criminals as security has been tightened in city due to security reasons, at Saudabad area in Karachi.

ACP hosts graphic design thesis display 2024

KARACHI (APP): Art Council of Pakistan (ACP) Karachi's School of Visual and Performing Arts organized the Graphic Design Thesis Display 2024 at the Art School building, inaugurated by the Provincial Minister for Culture, Syed Zulfiqar Ali Shah, and President Art Council of Pakistan Karachi, Muhammad Ahmed Shah, Shahid Rasam and faculty members from the art school were also present at the event.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting on transformation plan of Federal Board of Revenue.

FBR's digitisation, improved enforcement vital for economic reforms: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday said the digitisation of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) and its improved enforcement mechanism were the need of the hour to bring about economic reforms in the country.

Quran Khawani for Shaheed Murtaza Bhutto held at People's Secretariat

KARACHI (APP): Quran Khawani was held at People's Secretariat on Friday on the occasion of 28th martyrdom anniversary of Shaheed Mir Murtaza Bhutto, elder son of party's founder Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

SHC adjourns hearing against the Dar's appointment as Deputy PM

KARACHI (INP): Sindh High Court (SHC) on Friday adjourned the hearing of application against the appointment of Ishaq Dar as deputy prime minister.

Additional District & Sessions Judges promoted

KARACHI: The Law, Parliamentary Affairs & Criminal Prosecution Department has notified that the recommendation of the Departmental Promotion Committee / Provincial Selection Board of the High Court of Sindh and with the approval of the competent authority i.e. Chief Minister, the following Additional District & Sessions Judges (BS-20), are promoted as District & Sessions Judge (BS-21), with immediate effect; they will be on probation for a period of two years, as prescribed under Rule 9 of the Sindh Judicial Service Rules, 1994.

Hot, dry weather forecast for Sindh

KARACHI (INP): Pakistan Meteorological Department on Friday predicted hot and dry weather in most parts of the Sindh province during the next 24 hours. Mainly, hot and dry weather is likely to prevail in the province.

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Members of Pakistan Fisher Folk Forum are holding protest demonstration for awareness of Climate Change, at Karachi press club.



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Ayaz Sadiq urges for global unity to maintain peace

ISLAMABAD (APP): Speaker of the National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq on Friday said that global unity, tolerance, and dialogue are essential for establishing long-lasting peace. He also said that peace is essential for the progress and well-being of humanity and stressed the importance of resolving conflicts through peaceful means.

In his message, Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has said that the role of diplomacy is pivotal for maintaining peace. He also added "Nations and leaders must prioritize dialogue and understanding over conflict. Peace cannot be achieved through violence; it can only be sustained through mutual respect, cooperation, and a commitment to justice."



KARACHI: Dow University of Health Sciences Pro Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Nazli Hossain addresses to media persons during press conference, at Ojha Campus in Karachi.

Federal Ombudsman team visits Karachi airport to review facilities

KARACHI (APP): A team of Federal Ombudsman, Friday, paid an inspection visit to Jinnah International Airport (JIAP) Karachi to review the facilities being provided to passengers and status of implementations on the recommendations of the Wafaqi Mohtasib.

The inspection team, led by Senior Advisor (In charge) Regional Office Karachi, Syed Anwar Haider, visited the facilitation desk at the departure lounge of JIAP and reviewed the service delivery. Advisors to Ombudsman Maula Bakhsh Shaikh and Syed Shujaat Abbas checked the complaint register and sought details of the complaints lodged by the passengers.

Senior Advisor (In charge) Regional Office Karachi, Syed Anwar Haider, while presiding over the briefing, said that JIAP Karachi was the busiest airport of Pakistan that provides travel facilities to entire southern half of the country. The Federal Ombudsman Secretariat was conducting a series of visits to international airports of the country and this visit was also part of that program aimed at further improvement of services, the Senior Advisor said. The FOS teams, during their earlier visits to JIAP observed the facilities and issues and made recommendations to resolve the issues and ensure maximum facilitation to the domestic as well as international travelers using the Karachi airport, he said and noted that improvement has been brought in certain areas.

Man killed in armed attack

HYDERABAD (APP): A young man was shot dead on Hyderabad Bypass here on Friday allegedly by three persons riding on a motorbike apparently because of personal enmity.

Bus-truck collision wrecks havoc in Karachi, over a dozen injured

KARACHI (APP): More than a dozen passengers including women and children were critically injured when a horrifying collision between a bus and a speeding truck occurred in Karachi early Friday morning.

According to Rescue Officials 1122, a devastating road accident occurred on the Panjgur to Karachi route when a bus was struck by a truck, leaving dozens of passengers critically injured, a private news channel reported.

Advertisement for APNS (National Newspaper Readership Day) featuring a large graphic with the text 'Most People Won't Get it' and a QR code. It includes a list of names of judges promoted and a call to action to stop fake news and promote authenticity.