

Independent

dailyindkhi@gmail.com

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

Karachi

Ph: 0300-3898091 Vol: 06. No. 223 Rabi-us-Sani 03, 1445 AH Monday October 07, 2024 Pages 04 Price Rs. 12.00



KARACHI: Jamat-e-Islami (JI) Chief, Hafiz Naem-ur-Rehman addresses to his supporters during a protest rally against Israeli cruel and inhumane acts and expressing unity with the innocent people of Palestine, at Shahrah-e-Faisal in Karachi.

March on Shahrah-e-Faisal to express solidarity with Palestinians

KARACHI (APP): Hundreds of thousands of Karachiites marched on Shahrah-e-Faisal to express solidarity with Palestinians and other victims of Israeli brutalities, here on Sunday.

The Alqsa Million March was organized by Jamaat-e-Islami (JI), in which PPP and other political parties also participated.

JI Pakistan Emir Engineer Hafiz Naemur Rehman addressing the participants of the march condemned Israel over her inhumane behaviour, brutalities, genocide and extension

plans. He said that unfortunately, the Muslim ummah was not playing its due role. How come it possible that Muslim block could not handle Israel despite the fact that it had huge strong armies, airpower and all types of missiles and even nukes in its arsenal.

He warned the Muslim countries that Israel would not spare anyone and sooner or later they will be on the target if the Zionist regime in Israel was not pushed back.

The JI leader highlighted that the Israeli leader

has recently once again unmasked its extension plan and come up with a new map, challenging sovereignty of various countries but the United Nations could do nothing.

On the occasion, he paid a rich tribute to Gaza people for their steadfastness in the face of Israeli brutalities and crimes against humanity.

He said that the Pakistani nation is united for the cause of Palestine.

PPP leader Nisar Khuhro, and other speakers also condemned Israeli brutalities.

Pakistan pushed to verge of destruction due to Imran's ego: Saeed

KARACHI (INP): Sindh Local Government Minister Saeed Ghani has said the ego and stubbornness shown by the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf founder, Imran Khan, have pushed the country to the verge of destruction.

The Local Government Minister stated this on Sunday while speaking at a press conference here at the media cell of Bilawal House, Karachi. Also on the occasion, Vice-President of Awami National Party Sindh Niaz Muhammad Khan announced his joining the PPP along with his fellow party office-bearers and workers.

Ghani, who is also the PPP Karachi Division President, told media persons that the Peoples Party didn't desire imposition of the governor's rule in any province. He said that following the passage of the 18th Constitutional Amendment, the process of imposition of governor's rule in any province had become lengthy and cumbersome.

He lamented that the conduct of Ali Amin

Gandapur didn't match the stature of the constitutional office of a provincial chief minister, as he (Gandapur) acted more like an activist of the PTI. He lamented that Imran Khan's ego had no regard for Pakistan. Ghani said the PTI founder had no regard for the interests of Pakistan as he proved to be an anti-state politician.

He said that the PTI founder since 2014 had a proven track record that everything would be okay in the country if he were in power or else Imran Khan wouldn't allow affairs of the state to run smoothly.

Ghani recalled that during the 2014 sit-in in Islamabad, the PTI founder had threatened the IG and DIG, orchestrated attacks on the Parliament House, and PTV, and compelled people to resort to civil disobedience in the country.

He said that Imran Khan had remained okay till the day the establishment fulfilled his unjust, illegal, and unconstitutional demands after he became the prime minister.

UK delegation meets Speaker SA

Independent Report

KARACHI: A delegation from the United Kingdom called on the Speaker Sindh Assembly Syed Awais Qadir Shah and Sindh Education Minister Syed Sardar Shah at Sindh Assembly here Sunday.



Secretary Universities and Boards Abbas Baloch, Secretary Sindh Assembly Ghulam Muhammad Farooq and other officers were also present on the occasion.

They discussed education, especially teachers' training, technical and vocational education and student exchange programs.

The British delegation offered support for putting education in Sindh on modern lines.

Speaker Sindh Assembly Syed Awais Qadir Shah thanked the delegation and said this partnership would not only improve the educational quality of Sindh but also give students and teachers the opportunity to benefit from international opportunities.

He said that these measures would also help in providing better employment opportunities to the youth of Sindh, which was very important for the economic development of the province.

Sindh Minister for Education Syed Sardar Ali Shah also discussed various models regarding the modern training of teachers.

Sindh Governor announces gym, IT courses for NPC

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Governor Mohammed Kamran Khan Tessori on Sunday announced to build a gym and start IT courses under Governor's Initiative in National Press Club Islamabad (NPC).

He made this announcement in a meeting with a 17-member NPC delegation on the request of NPC President Azhar Jatoi and Secretary Nayyar Ali at Governor House here.

Governor Tessori said that the services of journalists could not be forgotten. He said that journalist community had a key role in the establishment and continuity of democracy.

The Governor also discussed matters of mutual interest including the role of journalism in democracy. There was a detailed discussion on the promotion of higher education, service

creation and stability of the economy in the province.

Tessori said that in this era of inflation, he started distributing ration to the deserving persons so far more than 7 lakh ration bags had been distributed and this process was still going on.

The Governor of Sindh said that there was more than 60 percent population of the youth in the country.

He said that currently 50 thousand young people were receiving free IT training in the Governor House.

On the occasion, NPC Secretary Nayyar Ali informed the Governor that the number of members of National Press Club was 3200 and the Camp office of the club was in Rawalpindi, while the number of women members in the club was 300.



FAISALABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari offering Fateha over the martyrdom of Lt. Col. Muhammad Ali Shaheed at his family residence.

Dr. Khalid Maqbool says: Action must be taken against those making scene in Islamabad

KARACHI (APP): The Federal Minister for Education and Vocational Training Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui on Sunday said that action must be taken against those, who were becoming cause of the situation on the roads of Islamabad.

While talking to media persons after a special reception in honour of a delegation from the United Kingdom hosted by NAVTTC at a local hotel here, he said that the world was approaching towards Pakistan but some elements wanted to make her solitude at diplomatic level. He said that the attitude being posed on the roads of Islamabad should be stopped by action.

Replying to a question, the federal minister said that the National Education Policy would be announced by the end of current year or in the start of new year. He said that 25 million children were out-of-school and they had to

make efforts for them. Siddiqui said that the world needed Information Technology (IT) experts and Pakistan had youth for availing this opportunity.

The minister said that Karachi was the biggest city of Pakistan and centre of commerce and trade. There were approximately 180 million youth in the country and they should be trained in line with modern skills based on demand.

Siddiqui said and added, our first priority is International Certification in Vocational Training.

He, on the occasion, also welcomed the foreign delegation and hoped that the cooperation among them would help equip Pakistani youth and students with modern market-oriented skills and education.

NAVTTC Executive Director Mohammed Aamir Jan and NAVTTC Director General Sindh Aziz Chandio were also present on the occasion.



KARACHI: Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui chairing a meeting with the NAVTTC counterpart colleagues from United Kingdom.

Government won't allow anyone to destabilise economy: PM

Shehbaz Sharif lauds police, security forces for preventing 'attack' on capital

LAHORE (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has stated that Pakistan's economic policies are being recognised globally, but political opponents are unable to accept the country's economic progress and are attempting to hinder its development.

During a meeting with Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Sunday, he said that the government would not allow anyone to destabilise economy. He praised the Islamabad administration, Islamabad and



Punjab police, Pakistan Army, and Rangers for their role in maintaining peace in the capital. He lauded the Islamabad police for their exemplary role in thwarting an assault on the city, highlighting the collective

efforts of the security forces in ensuring law and order. The prime minister paid tribute to Constable Hameed Shah, who sacrificed his life in the line of duty while protecting the public. "May Allah elevate

the martyr's ranks. The nation will always remember this sacrifice," said the PM, expressing solidarity with the constable's family and directing that they be fully cared for. Shehbaz Sharif assured the public that the situation in Islamabad was rapidly returning to normal, and reaffirmed that economic development and national prosperity remain the government's top priorities. He said the upcoming international events in Pakistan would proceed as planned, with the best security arrangements in place.



KARACHI: 18-member delegation led by President National Press Club Islamabad Azhar Jatoi meeting with Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori.

President expresses condolence with Shaheed Lt. Col. Ali's family

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari on Sunday arrived at the residence of martyred Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Ali in Faisalabad to express condolence with the bereaved family. The president offered Fateha for the departed soul, expressed sympathy with the martyr's family and also prayed for their patience, President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press release.

Lt. Col. Muhammad Ali embraced Shahadat while fighting with terrorists in North Waziristan, the other day. On behalf of the nation, the president paid tribute to the services and valour of Shaheed Lt. Col. Muhammad Ali. The president appreciated the affection and passion of sacrifice of late Lt. Col. Muhammad Ali Shaheed and his family for the country.

Federal government imposes ban on PTM

ISLAMABAD (APP): The federal government on Sunday has imposed a ban the Pashtun Tahafuz Movement (PTM), citing threats to national peace and security.

According to a notification issued by the Interior Ministry, the PTM is declared "unlawful" under Section 11B of the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1997.

The announcement from the Interior Ministry stated that the PTM poses a "significant danger" to public order and safety in the country.

79 professional beggars arrested in two days

KARACHI (INP): A recent drive against professional begging has resulted in the arrest of 79 professional beggars over two days, with all being handed over to the authorities as per reports submitted by the deputy commissioners to the Commissioner Karachi.

Commissioner Karachi Syed Hassan Naqvi has said that efforts are being made to establish the rehabilitation centre to curb the begging.

According to a press release issued by Commissioner office, he said Deputy Commissioners have been directed to identify the places where they can be provided

a place to live for rehabilitation. Citizens are facing difficulties due to professional beggars at traffic signals, intersections, and highways. He said,

Objective of PTI protest to derail economy, spread anarchy: Attaullah Tarar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar said on Sunday that the objective of the so-called "Tehreek-e-Intishar" was to derail the country's economy and spread chaos and anarchy.

Talking to Media here, the minister said he wondered what were the objectives of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf protest movement? He said he was deeply saddened by the martyrdom of Islamabad Police Constable Abdul Hameed Shah.

"Abdul Hameed Shah had left home to perform security duties and was martyred by the anarchist

group," he added. The anarchist movement cannot feel the grief of the family members of the martyrdom of Abdul Hameed Shah, he said.

The people of the PTI attacked the federal capital armed with weapons.

The minister said the PTI was not digesting the country's economic development, they wanted to derail the system.

Islamabad Police showed patience and performed the security duties in a friendly manner and did not allow any loss of life or property, he remarked.

He said that the PTI once again wanted dead bodies, but they were not given the opportunity.



LAHORE: Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar addressing the meeting of the UC Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of constituency NA-127 at Model Town.

Dr Fowzia briefs Dr Zakir Naik on ordeal of Aafia

KARACHI (INP): Global Aafia Movement Chairperson Dr Fowzia Siddiqui called on the global Islamic preacher Dr Zakir Naik here

who was just six months old at that time, is still missing and nobody knows if he is dead or alive.

Dr Naik listened to



at the Governor House and briefed him on the ordeal of Dr Aafia Siddiqui.

The meeting continued for more than 45 minutes. Dr Fowzia welcomed Dr Naik on his visit to Pakistan and praised his global preaching services. She said Dr Naik is presenting the true face of Islam before the world.

Dr Fowzia briefed him about the details of the atrocities Dr Aafia has been enduring for last two decades. She said 21 years ago Dr Aafia was kidnapped along with her three minor children. Her two children were later freed but the third child, youngest of them

this ordeal with wet eyes. Dr Fowzia requested him for special prayers for early release of Aafia.

She also presented him a religious Fatwa or decree of the teacher of Jamia Ummul Qura of Mecca, Abu Muhammad Abdullah Alhijazi, saying if any Muslim woman is in custody of non-Muslims it is the responsibility of all Muslim people and countries to work for her release. She told him that Dr Aafia Siddiqui was also a preacher. On the occasion, a video made in the US about the respect of women and human rights in Islam.

Daily Voice of Masses Independent

Indian visitor

Amongst the host of foreign dignitaries expected to fly into Islamabad for the SCO Council of Heads of Government meeting due to begin on Oct 15, the participation of Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has attracted particular attention. The Indian government has confirmed their top diplomat will attend the SCO moot. Earlier, there was considerable speculation over whether the Indians would attend. The debate related to the visit is understandable and occurs whenever there are high-level exchanges between Pakistani and Indian officials, though it should be mentioned that this is not a bilateral visit. Yet such meetings present opportunities to engage with one another in a civil atmosphere. It would be the first time such a senior Indian official has visited Pakistan since the then home minister Rajnath Singh attended a Saarc meeting in 2016.

Many observers have said that hopes should not be too high, as bilateral relations are the lowest they have ever been during peacetime. Mr Jaishankar, too, stressed that bilateral talks are not on the table. When the then foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari was in Goa last year for an SCO meeting, the Indian reception was not hospitable. Moreover, Mr Jaishankar's remarks regarding Pakistan at last month's UN General Assembly were anything but charitable. It is also true that India may have swallowed the bitter pill of sending a senior envoy to Pakistan to avoid accusations that it is sabotaging the China-led SCO. Yet while acknowledging the deep gulf of mistrust that exists between Pakistan and India, there can always be constructive outcomes from the Indian minister's visit. If both sides stick to the SCO script and avoid bringing in bilateral matters to the multilateral meeting, it could set a positive precedent. But both capitals must also seize the moment and at least engage with each other on the side-lines, even if it concerns only 'talks about talks'. The best way to bring peace to the subcontinent is through frank and direct dialogue. Let both sides discuss all outstanding issues, but through diplomatic channels. Moreover, they should avoid pugnacious sound bites that only vitiate the atmosphere. One immediate confidence-building measure to accompany the SCO visit can be the full restoration of diplomatic relations. While no one should expect any miracles from Mr Jaishankar's visit, there is certainly no harm in using the opportunity to talk peace.

Time for action

Basil Nabi Malik

There comes a time when everyone has to take a stand, speak up, and be counted. And then, there is a time to be silent. The difficulty lies not in the question of whether one should voice their concerns, but in knowing when to voice them. In Pakistan, with the advent of the 'judicial package', an opportunity to speak out seems to have presented itself.

This is a judicial package that has been anything but welcome. By virtue of the proposed amendments, the government is attempting to upend the judicial set-up as we see it. They are not reforming it, building upon it, or improving it. They are, without any doubt, dismantling it. In its place, they are installing a set-up, which is in essence subordinate to them. In fact, the proposed amendments are so drastic that the term 'judicial package' appears to be a euphemism for 'judicial fix'.

After all, any set-up in which the Supreme Court becomes subordinate to a 'court' which is nothing more than a glorified attached department of the government is scandalous. Any proposed amendment which takes away the people's right to hold national security agencies accountable for enforced disappearances or abuse of authority is akin to rubbing salt in already festering wounds. And any proposal which takes cover under the heading of 'judicial reforms' but also slips in alien provisions empowering cantonment boards to levy taxes is a bit too blatant.

It is, in effect, a barefaced effort to break the system of checks and balances that the trichotomy of power allows a polity. In

doing so, it also attempts to concentrate all power in a single centre that seeks de jure, and not de facto, recognition. That should be something that is frightening to all of us.

Under the Constitution, each pillar of the state has a well-defined role. Parliament is to legislate, the executive is to enforce, and the judiciary is to interpret. Each organ is to act within its own domain, to whatever extent is possible, as a check against the other. But if parliament were to go beyond its role and attempt to dismantle the independence of the judiciary and create a subordinate department in its place, it would defeat the very basis of the constitutional structure. In fact, the Constitution would become so lopsided and imbalanced that it would simply not be workable.

The Constitution is a social contract between Pakistan and its provinces, between the governed and those governing. It was evolved through understanding among the stakeholders after extensive debates, and it is the only Constitution that the federating units actually agreed upon, with their aspirations represented in it. In light of this, and especially in the context of these times of extensive turmoil, whether it be terrorism in KP, separatism in Balochistan, unrest in Punjab, or resentment in Sindh, maintaining and protecting the sanctity of this document is pivotal, necessary, and a matter of survival, and not mere convenience.

And it is important to keep in mind that this social contract was delivered to us by politicians in 1973. It is ironic, therefore, that it is through the hands of those very politicians that the same is being weakened, or as some

contend, entirely dismantled. It is hardly surprising though. After all, today's political class talks about democracy but acts like a dictator. It champions the sanctity of the Constitution but does not actually follow it. It asserts parliamentary supremacy, yet refuses to debate any significant proposals in that very parliament. Funnily enough, this political class claims to represent the people, but talks on behalf of everyone but them.

And that is why this is outrageous. It is our public representatives, those who are supposed to mirror our sentiments and will, who have been actively hiding the contents of the proposed amendments from us. There could be many reasons for not revealing the draft earlier, but perhaps, amongst those varying reasons, is an acknowledgment that the measures that were being proposed were not popular or representative, nor did they mirror the demands of the electorate or the needs of the populace. Hence, they sought to bulldoze them through.

They may justify this attempt on the premise of parliamentary supremacy, the rule of law, or the beauty of democracy, but frankly, can anything be more inimical thereto? Evidently no, and that is why the time to speak has arrived — speak up and affirm that this situation is not acceptable.

It is time for true reform, not that born of bad faith. It is time for course correction, but not of the variety which only benefits the elites. And it is time to be representative, but of those who do not have a voice, as opposed to those whose voice we can ill afford to drown out. It is time for action, not silence. -- Courtesy Dawn

Beirut on my mind

Muna Khan

I'm thinking about Lebanon but it's a more personal reflection than political, although the two are inextricably linked. Since hearing about Israel's murder of Shaikh Nasrallah, I've been filled with memories of my 2009 trip there, starting with meeting the men at the Hezbollah camp-cum-stall my friend Shaan and I walked into. Upon hearing we were from Pakistan, we were treated like long-lost friends — we experienced this everywhere we went on our two-week trip where we travelled the length and breadth of this country. We heard iterations of 'Pakistan? You understand what it's like to live through war and instability.'

The men at the Hezbollah stall were no different. They talked about Pakistan with sympathy — our corrupt politicians, our greedy elite, our army that wanted to retain its power, our client-like status with the imperialists, our hapless citizens. "But we have Hezbollah to protect our borders," they said. There was no talk of religion or sect or heaven or hell.

I have written about this before so pardon me for repeating how we left that afternoon armed (no pun intended) with gifts — Hezbollah memorabilia if you will. I worried I would look like a Hezbollah fighter if screened at Karachi airport. Friends commented "terrorism supporters" on pictures of us dressed in Hezbollah T-shirts.

I also remember that day very well for another reason: it was the first day of Ramadan. We had stopped at a cafe en

route to Baalbek to have some breakfast. We asked the staff for the dining section — thinking perhaps they had not set up the curtains to cordon off the area for non-fasters. The staff pointed to the entire restaurant. "Anywhere," said one man. Nothing slowed in Lebanon because of the month of fasting, at least when we were there.

Another day on our trip to find Rashdieh refugee camp — not for disaster tourism; I wanted to attempt some reporting — which houses Palestinian refugees, we took a wrong turn and ended up close to the border with Israel. Don't ask; this is pre-Google maps. Because we were not bound by a set itinerary, we were quite nonplussed about getting lost. We'd already learned that between our broken Arabic and French and English, we found our way back to Beirut; and b) we enjoyed our conversations with strangers. Our new friends pointed us in the direction of Israel, so we flipped them the bird and headed home.

That is what Beirut felt like in just a few days of being there. When we went to a certain hotel on my father's insistence as he had dined there with my mother on our first posting abroad when I was a mere baby in the 1970s, the man at the piano bar dedicated song after song to "our guests from Pakistan".

I have numerous such anecdotes to share but I'm thinking of three people as I write this. An elderly owner of the bookshop where I went every morning to buy the Daily Star before heading to a coffee shop to read it. (Team News-
pers Forever.) He would tell me which columnist to read, ask my opinion the following day, and because I wasn't so well versed in Lebanese politics, he would make me sit and explain and I found so many similarities with Pakistan — that is, the complex relations between stakeholders. I'm thinking of a young jewellery designer I met in a fancier part of the city whose mother was in the shop that day. We talked about the violence tearing, and then also creating, political dynasties, ZAB for us, Rafic Hariri for them. And finally, I'm thinking of feminist writer Joumana Had-dad; I visited her at a newspaper office and chatted about her activism, about how a small action can lead to a big shift, even if it's in attitude. She said she did not want to leave because who will be left to fight? These three individuals had nothing in common save one thing: all of them had been affected by war and there was clarity on who the aggressor was. Israel then, Israel now, Israel always. I wonder what they're thinking as Lebanon holds centre stage. Once again the Western media's lens points their way using adjectives we're all too familiar with: 'terrorist' for Hezbollah, 'resilient' for its people. It is not resilient to live in the face of so many blows coming at you from so many places; it is not a compliment, it is a reminder that you have no choice but to get up and carry on. It doesn't get easier trying to survive this crazy world with crazy men in charge. And fewer resistance leaders shielding you from the madness. No one should have to be brave or resilient but they have no choice if they want to survive. -- Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

Pakistan's economy shows signs of recovery, says Rana Ihsan Afzal

ISLAMABAD (APP): Coordinator to the Prime Minister Rana Ihsan Afzal Khan Sunday expressed optimism about Pakistan's economic recovery, highlighting the government's initiatives that have boosted investor confidence, exporter confidence, and attracted foreign investment, paving the way for sustainable economic growth. Pakistan's economic recovery is gaining momentum, driven by strategic reforms and investments, he said in an exclusive talk with PTV news channel.

Pakistan's economy is showing promising signs of

recovery, thanks to the government's strategic efforts, he said. He painted a positive picture of Pakistan's economic outlook and expressed confidence in the government's reform agenda, citing notable progress in tax stabilization, privatization and exporter support.

Pakistan is poised for significant economic growth, with a focus on resolving long-standing issues faced by manufacturers and exporters, he said, adding, the government is actively addressing refund issues and implementing strategies to boost exports.



ISLAMABAD: Visitors taking keen interest in different handmade items displayed by artisans during two day "Daachi Arts & Craft Exhibition" at Pak China Friendship Centre in the Federal Capital.

Intl. carpet expo in Lahore from 9th

LAHORE (APP): The Pakistan Carpet Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PCMEA) and Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) is jointly hosting the 40th Pakistan International Carpet Exhibition here from October 9 to 11, 2024. This prestigious event will bring together leading carpet manufacturers, exporters, and international buyers from Pakistan and 30 other countries, showcasing an impressive array of handcrafted carpets. Usman Ashraf, chairman of the exhibition

committee, told media here Sunday that the three-day international exhibition will be inaugurated by the Federal Minister of Commerce. An international conference will also be organized for the first time on the occasion of the exhibition, which will be addressed by eminent domestic and foreign economic analysts. He said that foreign guests, manufacturers and importers will also be given dinner on behalf of the Punjab Governor. Foreign guests will be given the best hospitality on their arrival in Pakistan.

In fact, Pakistan has planned to raise its exports to \$50 billion in five years, with an ambitious long-term target of \$100 billion, he added. Rana Ihsan Afzal Khan emphasized that eliminating the non-filer category will have a positive impact on exporters, boosting Pakistan's economic growth.

Coordinator to the Prime Minister also highlighted a significant shift in Pakistan's economy, adding, previously, investments were largely concentrated in the property sector, which did not contribute significantly to the country's economic growth.

Mian Abuzar Shad elected PBIT Director

LAHORE (APP): Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) President Mian Abuzar Shad has been elected as Director of Punjab Board of Investment and Trade (PBIT), according to an LCCI spokesman here Sunday.

On this occasion, Mian Abuzar Shad said that he was grateful to Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz and the Provincial Minister and Secretary Industries. He vowed to promote investment according to the Punjab Chief Minister's vision and also take effective steps to further activate the PBIT.

Mian Abuzar Shad was of the view that increased investment is essential for economic recovery, adding that concrete and viable proposals will be made to promote investment.

Mian Abuzar Shad's election as PBIT Director is also welcomed by the business community.



LAHORE: President Zarai Taraqiati Bank Tahir Yaqoob Bhatti meeting with Punjab Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Syed Ashiq Hussain Kirmani.

PTI protests and rallies cause price surge and supply shortages in Hazara division

ABBOTTABAD (APP): Over the past three days, the ongoing protests and rallies by PTI in different parts of the country have significantly impacted the daily lives of the general public.

Like other parts of the country, the unrest has caused a suspension of vital supply chains, leading to a sharp increase in prices for essential goods and creating shortages in various commodities in Hazara division, with the effects being felt most severely by the poor and

middle-class citizens.

The most immediate and noticeable impact has been on the prices of fruits and vegetables. As transportation has been blocked or delayed due to the tense situation in several regions, supplies to the cities have drastically slowed down. Markets across various cities of Hazara division have reported an unprecedented price hike, with certain fruits seeing a spike of up to 100 rupees per kilogram or per dozen.

Fruits like grapes,

apples, bananas, and other seasonal fruits have become significantly more expensive. Consumers who were purchasing these fruits at regular prices just days ago are now facing a steep hike, with vendors citing the disruption in supply chains as the primary cause.

Similarly, vegetable prices have also surged and tomatoes, onions, potatoes, and other commonly consumed vegetables have either disappeared from shelves or are being sold at inflated rates.

Iftikhar Malik says: Political stability crucial for economic growth

LAHORE (APP): SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry former president Iftikhar Ali Malik said on Sunday that political stability was vital for achieving sustainable economic growth and at this crucial time, the country could not afford politics of agitation and confrontation.

Commenting on prevailing political situation, he said a stable political environment was necessary to attract both domestic and foreign investment, which were essential for revitalizing the economy and improving the livelihoods of millions. He further pointed out that economic development and prosperity were closely

linked to political certainty, without which long-term planning and policy implementation suffer.

He urged all political stakeholders to prioritize the national interest above individual or party agendas. Instead of resorting to political turmoil, he called for dialogue and consensus-building among political parties to ensure smooth governance and economic reforms. Highlighting the challenges facing Pakistan, including inflation, unemployment, and dwindling foreign reserves, Malik stressed that unity among political leaders was a key to overcoming these hurdles.

PCCC greets Sham Lal Manglani

MULTAN (APP): The Pakistan Central Cotton Committee (PCCC) extended its heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Sham Lal Manglani, a distinguished member of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI), on his election as the Chairman of the Task Force on Agriculture for the 2024-25 term.

In the message issued by PCCC and Dr. Yusuf Zafar, it was emphasized that Mr. Manglani's appointment serves as a testament to his unwavering dedication and commitment to the agricultural sector, as well as an acknowledgment of his exemplary leadership.

SCCI stresses urgent steps to reopen Pak-Afghan highway

PESHAWAR (APP): Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry president Fazal Moqem Khan has urged the government and relevant authorities to take urgent steps to open the Pak-Afghan highway for trade and transportation to save traders on both sides of the border from further monetary losses.

In a statement issued here on Sunday, Fazal Moqem said bilateral trade, transit trade and export have nearly come to

an end owing to the closure of Pak-Afghan highway trade routes for the last several months.

He added that Pak-Afghan mutual trade volume and transit trade had dropped to an alarming situation owing to the closure of the trade route.

Moqem feared if the government couldn't take timely action, the bilateral trade would completely end, which would not only be detrimental to the national economy but also trigger unemployment.



LAHORE: People are buying shoes at Ganpat road, in the Provincial Capital.

PFC delegation heads to US for expanding furniture export opportunities

LAHORE (APP): A delegation from the Pakistan Furniture Council (PFC), led by CEO Mian Kashif Ashfaq, has embarked on a week-long visit to the United States to explore new export opportunities and expand the market for Pakistan's high-quality furniture products. Prior to his departure here on Sunday, he said delegation will engage with American businesses, industry stakeholders, and potential buyers to showcase the craftsmanship and design excellence of Pakistani furniture, which has gained global recognition for its quality and aesthetic appeal. He said the visit was a part of PFC's broader strategy to enhance the global presence of Pakistani furniture and foster

collaboration between local manufacturers and international importers. By exploring export avenues in the U.S., PFC aims to boost the industry's revenue, create more jobs, and improve the competitiveness of Pakistan's furniture sector globally. He said during the visit, delegation will also hold meetings with trade representatives to promote Pakistan's furniture sector. He emphasized the importance of strengthening trade ties with the U.S. market, which presents significant potential for growth. He also highlighted the government's support in helping Pakistani businesses increase their exports and contribute to the national economy.

Criminal involved in May 9 violence responsible for cop's martyrdom: Senior Minister

LAHORE (APP): Senior Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb announced that constable Abdul Hameed, injured by PTI activists, had succumbed to his injuries at PIMS hospital. She held the criminal responsible for the events of May 9, labeling him a shameless narcissist and fascist. She condemned his mindset of "If I'm not there, destroy everything," "If I'm not there, drop an atom bomb on Pakistan," and "Set the country on fire, kill everyone, burn everything down," saying such thinking is not representative of the

Pakistani people. The senior minister stated that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur was armed with weapons, tear gas shells, and glass slingshots by Imran Khan, aimed at attacking Islamabad, shedding blood, and creating chaos. She said attacks were carried out on the police and Rangers, with heads and eyes being targeted, and that yesterday was essentially another May 9. Marriyum Aurangzeb added that the target on May 9 was national security institutions, with the aim of seizing control of their leadership. Yesterday,

democratic institutions were the target, and the goal was to postpone the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit and gain control over the judiciary. She emphasized that both conspiracies were orchestrated by the same individual, who is now aware that Pakistan's foreign relations have improved. The economy, she said, is back on track, and his divisive politics have come to an end. Those participating in this anti-state conspiracy are traitors to Pakistan and the nation, she maintained.



RAWALPINDI: People are arriving at Faizabad bus station for traveling their home towns as bus station open after three days in the city, due to roads closed during PTI protest in twin cities.

Another incident akin to May-9 thwarted: Azma

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari has said that another incident akin to the May-9 incident by the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf has been thwarted.

Those who claimed to bring about a revolution fled away, leaving their shoes behind, she said and saluted the people of Punjab for completely rejecting the movement of chaos.

She said that the effective strategy of the federal and Punjab governments successfully countered the rioters.

A senior police officer was martyred and dozens

were injured due to stone-pelting by miscreants. She remarked that how come these rioters can claim that their protest was peaceful.

The assault on the federation was carried out using the resources and employees of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province, the information minister said adding that participation of the KP police and Afghan nationals in the protest was concerning and warrants investigation.

Furthermore, she expressed regrets for the parents who were sacrificing their children in this political turmoil.

08 dead, 1504 injured in 1411 RTCs in Punjab

LAHORE (APP): Eight persons were killed and 1504 injured in 1411 Road Traffic Crashes (RTCs) in all 37 districts of Punjab during the last 24 hours.

Out of these, 708 people with serious injuries were shifted to different hospitals, while 796 victims with minor injuries were treated at the incident site by Rescue Medical Teams thus reducing the burden of hospitals.

Furthermore, the analysis showed those 810 drivers, 54 underage drivers, 158 pedestrians, and 544 passengers were among the victims of road traffic crashes. The statistics show that 290 RTCs were reported in Lahore which affected 297 persons placing the Provincial Capital at top of the list followed by Faisalabad 119 in with 121 victims and at third Gujranwala with 84 RTCs and 87 victims.

According to the data 1307 motorbikes, 82 autorickshaws, 122 motorcars, 34 vans, 10 passenger buses, 22 truck and 117 other types of vehicles and carts were involved in these road traffic accidents.



LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Health Khawaja Salman Rafique and Deputy Commissioner preside over the meeting regarding anti-dengue campaign.

PPP says PTI's agenda of disruption exposed, calls for immediate action

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Central Punjab General Secretary Syed Hassan Murtaza has declared that the agenda of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has been exposed, stating that the decision regarding the disruptive elements within the party will no longer be made in parliament but on the ground. He stressed that the current focus should be on saving the state rather than engaging in political maneuvering, reaffirming that the PPP is committed to both its manifesto and the coalition

government.

He made these remarks during a joint press conference alongside party leaders Usman Malik, Rana Jawad, Mian Ayub, and Chaudhry Akhtar, following a Punjab organizational meeting at the residence of CEC member Chaudhry Aslam Gill on Sunday.

He paid tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Ali Shaokat Shaheed and other soldiers martyred in North Waziristan, stating that they had sacrificed their today for the future of the nation.

EPA confiscates over 1500kg plastic bags in drive against pollution

MULTAN (APP): The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) raided and confiscated 1500 kilogramme substandard polythene bags after a ban by Punjab government on single-use plastic and shopping bags with a thickness of less than 75 microns.

Assistant Director Environment Hameed Akhtar told APP here on Sunday that departmental teams were engaged and made inspections of 1203 shops from June 5 to so far. He further said that a Rs10,000 fine was also imposed on shopkeepers over violation. The teams

are making inspection on a daily basis to enforce the provincial government orders as plastic also contributes to environmental pollution. The initiative was taken for the health and life of the public and shopping bags less than 75 microns thick and single-use plastics are banned across the province, he added. The official said that factories have started manufacturing shopping bags above 75 microns. Since June 6, 2024, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Multan has been actively enforcing the ban on polythene bags below 75 microns.

Man killed, brother injured over old enmity

FAISALABAD (APP): Some people allegedly stoned to death a man and inflicted serious injuries on his brother in the area of Raza Abad police station.

A police spokesman said here on Sunday that one Ali and his brother Shakeel, residents of Raza Abad, were going to offer prayers when their rivals attacked them with bricks and stones to avenge an old rivalry.

As a result, Ali and Shakeel received serious injuries and were rushed to hospital, but Ali succumbed to his injuries on the way, whereas condition of Shakeel was stated to be serious.

District Dadu Police Boosts Security Measures for a Peaceful Environment

DADU: In a commendable effort to ensure a peaceful environment in Dadu District, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Captain Ameer Saud Magsi has taken significant steps to strengthen security. The district's second-largest city, Mehar, has seen an increase in police personnel, with 40 additional eagle-trained commandos joining the Madadgar 15 unit. This enhancement aims to bolster stability and safety in Mehar, a key business and densely populated hub.

Opposition Leader criticizes absence of KP Chief Minister

PESHAWAR (APP): Dr. Ibadullah, the Leader of the Opposition in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly, on Sunday raised concerns over Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur's recent absence, saying that this is not the first time he has gone missing.

Speaking to journalists in the Chamber of the Opposition Leader, Dr. Ibadullah emphasized that the Chief Minister has not been arrested, raising serious questions about his disappearance, which he termed a "drama for political point-scoring."

He accused Gandapur of abandoning his party workers to enjoy pastries at the Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa House instead of fulfilling his responsibilities.

Dr. Ibadullah also highlighted that the assembly session has been postponed until October 7, questioning the rationale behind suddenly calling a meeting on a public holiday today.

"What issues are being addressed here? Are they solely concerned with the interests of the PTI, rather than public concerns?" he asked.

Furthermore, he criticized the Chief Minister's rhetoric, questioning whether it is appropriate for a leader to respond to violence with violence.



PESHAWAR: Activists of Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) are holding protest demonstration for release of PTI Founder Imran Khan, outside KPK Assembly in Peshawa.

AJK observes World Teachers Day with due respect and honor

MIRPUR (APP): Like other parts of the country, the World Teachers' Day was also observed across Azad Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday. Parents and students conveyed good wishes to the teachers coupled with the prayer for long lives of the teachers to keep the children intact with the blessing of this relation to commemorate the 'Salam Teachers Day'.

Special meetings and rallies of both teachers and students were hosted under the auspices of various places in various parts of

AJK, including Mirpur, to mark the Day. Addressing an impressive ceremony hosted at the local campus of International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI) School here on Friday, Director Atique ul Amin Khan, Principal Mrs. Ayesha Imran Mirza, Vice Principal Maria Attique and other seasoned academicians and students highlighted the superiority and importance of the relation between student and teacher as also confided and determined in the teachings of Islam.

International News

At least 26 killed in Gaza as Israeli army launches new incursion in north

Monitoring Desk
CAIRO: At least 26 people were killed and 93 others wounded when Israeli airstrikes hit a mosque and a school sheltering displaced people in the Gaza Strip early on Sunday, the Hamas-run Gaza government media office said.

Palestinian health officials said at least another 20 people had been killed since Saturday night in northern Gaza, after the army sent tanks into areas there for the first time in months and urged residents to leave.

The Israeli military said it had conducted "precise strikes on Hamas terrorists" who were operating within command and control centres embedded in Ibn Rushd School and the Shuhada al-Aqsa Mosque, in the area of Deir al-Balah in central Gaza.

Hamas rejects accusations it uses civilian facilities such as schools, hospitals and mosques for military purposes.

The mosque has been here for 20 years, and the neighbourhood has displaced people," imam Ahmed Fleet said as he retrieved Korans from the debris. "I was shocked when it was struck."

The strikes came as the war between Israel and the Palestinian group Hamas approaches its first anniversary, and as Israel has been expanding its actions in Lebanon.

Hamas attacked southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, killing 1,200 people and taking about 250 as hostages, according to Israeli tallies.

Israel's subsequent military assault on Gaza has killed nearly 42,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza's health ministry. It has also displaced nearly all of the enclave's 2.3 million

people, caused a hunger crisis and led to genocide allegations at the World Court that Israel denies.

The International Committee of the Red Cross urged all parties to ensure all civilians were protected.

"This is a year marked by heartbreak and unanswered questions. Families have been torn apart, with many loved ones still held against their will. Tens of thousands of people have been killed and millions have been displaced across the region," it said.

The Hamas-run Gaza government media office said Israel had struck 27 houses, schools and displacement shelters across Gaza in the past 48 hours.

Medics said an Israeli airstrike killed three Palestinians in Rafah, near the border with Egypt, where Israeli forces have been operating since May.



A view shows a damaged site in the aftermath of Israeli strikes on Beirut's southern suburbs, amid the ongoing hostilities between Hezbollah and Israeli forces, Lebanon.

Israel says it's 'preparing response' to Iran's missile attack

Monitoring Desk
BEIRUT: Israel was preparing a military response to Iran's missile attack this week that heightened fears of a wider regional war, an official said on Saturday, as fighting raged in Lebanon and in Gaza. In its second-ever direct attack on its regional foe, Iran launched about 200 missiles at Israel on Tuesday in revenge for a spate of killings of leaders from outfits like Hezbollah and Hamas.

The missile attack, which killed one person in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, caused damage to an Israeli air base, according to satellite images. The Israeli military official said the army "is preparing a response to the unprecedented Iranian attack". He did not elaborate on the nature or timing of the response, which analysts and Israeli media said would likely be designed to deal an immense blow to Iran, despite international calls for de-escalation.

Russia targets Kyiv, Odesa in latest drone attack

Monitoring Desk
KYIV: Russia unleashed an overnight drone attack across Ukraine targeting the capital Kyiv and hitting infrastructure in the Black Sea port of Odesa, Ukrainian officials said on Sunday.

The State Emergency Service said one person was wounded and warehouses and cargo trucks were damaged in Odesa during the multi-wave attack, which kept much of the country under air-raid alert for several hours.

Nasrallah's possible successor 'out of contact' after Israeli air strike

Monitoring Desk
BEIRUT: The potential successor to slain Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah has been out of contact since Friday, a Lebanese security source said on Saturday, after an Israeli air strike that is reported to have targeted him. In its campaign against the Iran-backed Lebanese group, Israel carried out a large strike on Beirut's southern suburbs late on Thursday that, according to Israeli officials, targeted Hashem Safieddine in an underground bunker.

Zelensky to hold defence talks with Biden in Germany

Monitoring Desk
KYIV: President Volodymyr Zelensky said on Saturday he would attend an international meeting to discuss military support for Ukraine to be held in Germany next week. The military meeting at the US air base in Ramstein near Frankfurt is expected to bring together more than 50 of Ukraine's allies, including US President Joe Biden. "We are preparing for the 25th Ramstein meeting on October 12, which will be the first to take place at the leaders' level," he said on social media.

Iran FM calls for ceasefire in Lebanon and Gaza

Monitoring Desk
DAMASCUS: Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi renewed his call for ceasefires in both Gaza and Lebanon on Saturday as he held talks with his country's Syrian ally.

"The most important issue today is the ceasefire, especially in Lebanon and in Gaza," he told reporters. "There are initiatives in this regard, there have been consultations that we hope will be successful."

Araghchi's visit to Damascus, his first since he took office in August, comes almost a year after Iran-backed Palestinian group Hamas attacked Israel, triggering war in Gaza. The conflict has also

drawn in Iran's Lebanese ally, Hezbollah and on September 23 Israel sharply intensified its campaign against the group.

"The purpose of my trip to Damascus is to continue consultations regarding the developments in the region," Araghchi said.

His meetings in the Syrian capital follow a visit to Beirut on Friday during which he voiced support for a truce in Lebanon acceptable to Hezbollah "simultaneously with a ceasefire in Gaza."

Araghchi travelled to Damascus by air after Lebanon said an Israeli air strike on Friday severed the main international highway linking the two countries.

Kazakhstan votes on whether to build first nuclear plant

Monitoring Desk
KAZAKHSTAN: Kazakhstan began voting in a referendum on Sunday on whether to build its first nuclear power plant, an idea promoted by President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev's government as the Central Asian nation seeks to phase out polluting coal plants.

The plan has faced public criticism on concern over any related hazards, the Soviet nuclear testing legacy, and fears that Russia will be involved in the project.

"I have come to the conclusion that the decision to build the nuclear power plant, and to build it with (Russian state nuclear firm) Rosatom, has already been made in (Tokayev's office) and the people of Kazakhstan are being invited to polling stations as 'notaries' to authenticate this decision with their votes," popular blogger Vadim Boreiko wrote.

In the village of Ulken on the shores of Lake Balkash, which the cabinet has designated as the site

to build the plant on, some locals hoped the project would bring jobs while others expressed concern about the impact on the quality of the lake water. "I support the power plant," said Dametken Shulgeyeva, who has lived in the village of 1,200 people for more than 20 years. "This is our future."

Despite its sizeable natural gas reserves, the Central Asian nation of 20 million relies mostly on coal-powered plants for its electricity needs, supplemented by some hydroelectric plants and the growing renewable energy sector. Kazakhstan already imports electricity, mostly from Russia, as its facilities, many of which are old, struggle to meet domestic demand. And coal is generally regarded as the most polluting energy source.

The government says a reliable energy supply is needed to supplement renewable sources such as solar and wind power, and since Kazakhstan is one of the world's biggest uranium producers, nuclear power is a logical choice.

Elon Musk makes his first appearance at a Trump rally and casts the election in dire terms

Monitoring Desk
NEW YORK: Billionaire tech executive Elon Musk cast the upcoming presidential election in dire terms during an appearance with Donald Trump, calling the Republican presidential nominee the only candidate "to preserve democracy in America."

The CEO of SpaceX and Tesla who also purchased X, Musk joined Trump on Butler, Pennsylvania, on Saturday at the site where the former president survived an assassination attempt in July. Musk said "this will be the last election" if Trump doesn't win. Wearing a cap with the "Make America Great Again" slogan of Trump's campaign, Musk appeared to acknowledge the foreboding nature of his remarks.

"As you can see I am not just MAGA — I

Climate activist Greta Thunberg detained at Brussels demo

Monitoring Desk
BRUSSELS: Climate activist Greta Thunberg was among several of protesters detained on Saturday for blocking a road in the Belgian capital at a demonstration against fossil fuel subsidies. An eyewitness saw the iconic Swede — who has previously been detained for civil disobedience at protests in various countries — carried away by police after refusing to leave a sit-in.

Thunberg, 21, was part of a smaller group of demonstrators who broke away from a march organised by the United for Climate Justice movement that began outside the European Parliament. The rally was calling for the European Union — headquartered in Brussels — to end subsidies for fossil fuels in order to achieve its ambitious goal of making the continent carbon neutral by 2050.

NCCA agrees roadmap for prioritising climate actions in close coordination with provinces

Independent Report

ISLAMABAD: The National Climate Change Authority (NCCA) in a high level meeting on Sunday agreed to roll out a roadmap for prioritising climate actions to take forward country's climate resilience-building in close coordination and collaboration with the provinces and other relevant stakeholders.

The NCCA meeting was held to review the implementation of the various measures proposed in the national climate change policy for climate change resilience of various socio-economic sectors, particularly energy, water, agriculture, public infrastructure, a press statement issued here said.

The meeting discussed at length the future course of actions for enhancing collaboration with all relevant federal and provincial government organisations for addressing various climate impacts, particularly floods, heat waves, glacial lake outburst floods, shifting rainfall patterns, changing river flows

and groundwater depletion.

The meeting also pondered over efforts to formulate and coordinate climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience-building ongoing and future plans, projects, and programmes to meet Pakistan's obligations under international conventions, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

In her statement, Co-ordinator to Prime Minister on Climate Change, Romina Khurshid Alam, said on the occasion that present government is increasingly focusing on climate change resilience of Pakistan, recognising that the country is highly vulnerable to climate change impacts, including extreme weather events, floods, droughts, and glacial melt.

"The present government is committed to enhance Pakistan's climate resilience by protecting people, their lives and livelihoods from the adverse impacts of climate change by utilizing all available resources, capacity and technical know-how," Romina Khurshid Alam said.

Earlier, in her welcome remarks, the climate change and environmental coordination ministry secretary Aisha Humera Moriani highlighted Pakistan's growing climate vulnerability and exacerbating impacts of the climate change-caused disasters.

Climate change and environmental coordination ministry said that Pakistan is among the countries most affected by climate change, despite contributing relatively little to global greenhouse gas emissions.

But, for tackling these climate risks as an environmentally-responsible country, the government is shaping its response to the climate risks in the light of its national policies, international commitments and regional initiatives aimed at strengthening climate resilience and reducing vulnerability, particularly for the most affected communities in marginalized and poverty-hit parts of the country, she remarked.



KARACHI: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori and Vice Chancellor Dr. Aurangzeb Khan presenting honorary degree of Ph.D from Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University to UAE Consul General Bakheet Ateeq Al-Remeithi.

Resurfaces after day-long disappearance IG Islamabad will have to tender apology at KP Assembly floor: Gandapur

PTI stalwart accused federal govt of undermining will of people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Monitoring Desk

PESHAWAR: After nearly a full day of uncertainty, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur reappeared at the provincial assembly on Sunday, following his sudden disappearance during a Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)-led protest in Islamabad a day earlier. The mystery surrounding Gandapur's absence had sparked widespread concern, prompting the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly to pass an urgent resolution demanding his immediate release. Provincial Law Minister Aftab Alam tabled the resolution, which condemned the re-

cent raid on Khyber Pakhtunkhwa House in Islamabad and the violent incidents that ensued.

Gandapur, who had been last seen leading a convoy of PTI protestors into Islamabad on October 5, was reportedly near China Chowk when he disappeared.

CCTV footage from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa House shows him entering the premises but later leaving in civilian clothes, raising questions about whether his departure was voluntary. PTI leaders, including former National Assembly Speaker Asad Qaiser, issued a 24-hour ultimatum demanding his release.

Faces legal heat: Imran Khan booked for D-Chowk protest planning

ISLAMABAD (INP): A case has been registered against PTI founder Imran Khan for allegedly planning the D-Chowk protest.

The charges against him included kidnapping, robbery, attempted murder, interference with government operations, and violations under the Anti-Terrorism Act, among 13 sections in total.

The case was filed by Sub-Inspector Qaiser Mehmood and named Imran Khan along with 14 local leaders.

The complaint stated that, contrary to prison manual, Imran Khan was granted extraordinary illegal facilities while incarcerated.

It alleged that he incited his political workers to violence against the state and institutions during visits and communications from jail.

Naqvi announces Shaheed package for martyred cop's family

ISLAMABAD (APP): Interior Minister Syed Mohsin Raza Naqvi on Sunday ruled out any possibility of talks with the protestors of a political party and announced the Shaheed package for the assistance of the bereaved family of Shaheed Islamabad Capital Territory Police Constable Abdul Hameed Shah to be delivered within upcoming days.

In a media talk after the funeral of the constable who was martyred during the PTI protest here, the Interior Minister said that those involved in the killing of the martyr would face law and vowed to bring the culprits to justice. He expressed his condolences to the police and the victim's family.

Naqvi informed that he had received the information of Constable Abdul Hameed's martyrdom late at night. He added that the martyr has one son employed at CDA, who would be regularized, while the other son would also be provided employment in the public department, Naqvi said.

along with a martyr's package and a plot given to the martyrs' families would be given.

The minister expressed that they aimed to complete this process within next two to three days.

Interior Minister Naqvi added Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Ali Amin Gandapur was not present at the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa House and the Islamabad police is searching for him. He said the Rangers and police had raided the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa House yesterday to arrest Gandapur, but he escaped through the main entrance and there are photos of his fleeing. "The chief minister is neither in their custody nor in the custody of any Pakistani institution. We had suspicions about his presence at two to three locations, which led to the raids, but they are still maintaining roadblocks. Wherever he is found, the police will take necessary action," Naqvi said.



ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi and Governor KPK Faisal Karim Kundi laying floral wreath during the funeral of martyred constable Abdul Hameed Shah.

IBA Karachi launches report on 'The State of Pakistan's Economy 2024-25'

KARACHI (INP): IBA's School of Economics & Social Sciences (IBA-SESS) in collaboration with Center for Business and Economic Research (IBA-CBER) launched its report 'The State of Pakistan's Economy 2024-25' at the Main Campus, IBA Karachi.

This year's theme is 'Tapping the Economic Potential: Strategies for Productivity and Growth'. The report is authored by the faculty members and students from the Department of Economics, IBA-

SESS and edited by Professor, IBA-SESS, Dr. Heman Das Lohano and Professor and Director IBA-CBER, Dr. Lubna Naz.

This report analyzes key economic sectors in Pakistan, proposing strategies to unlock the country's potential for sustainable growth and prosperity. It offers fresh perspectives on longstanding challenges, making it an essential reading for students, policymakers, and anyone interested in economic improvement.

Expedite lingering red line BRT project, demands Altaf Shakoork

KARACHI (INP): Expressing grave concern over inconvenience to drivers and commuters due to the dug up University Road, Pasban Democratic Party PDP Chairman Altaf Shakoork here Sunday demanded from the government to expedite the lingering project of the Red Line Bus Rapid Transit.

He said it is a nightmare to travel on the University Road, one of the busiest arteries of Karachi, as it is broken at several places due to haphazard and over delayed construction of the Red Line BRT.

He said it has become a second nature of government projects to get delayed beyond their schedule. He said this delay not only raises their cost but also torments innocent people.

Altaf Shakoork asked the government to ensure that the contractor engages more workforce in three shifts on these projects to complete it early. He said with the completion of this project, the busy University Road could be fully reopened again and the lingering traffic jams in this area of Karachi would finally end.



HYDERABAD: IBA Test Passed candidates are holding protest demonstration for demanding appointment letters, at Hyderabad press club.

JSMU to restructure JPMC's BMSI

KARACHI (INP): Jinnah Sindh Medical University (JSMU) has joined hands with Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (JPMC) to restructure the JPMC's Basic Medical Sciences Institute (BMSI) building on Health Minister Dr Azra Pechuhu's recent announcement to establish a research institute for health sciences. She had announced this in JSMU's 6th Senate meeting last month.

Vice Chancellor JSMU Professor Amjad Siraj Memon highlighted the Sindh Health Minister Dr. Azra Pechuhu's vision while announcing the restructuring of JPMC's Basic Medical Sciences Institute in a recently held MoU ceremony between JPMC and JSMU. Vice Chancellor Memon appreciated the cooperation of JPMC's Executive Director Professor Shahid Rasul and Professor Tariq Mehmood in finalizing the plan and the MoU.

This collaboration aims to restructure BMSI, which was established by JPMC as its research and postgraduate education arm focused on advancing knowledge in the basic medical sciences, into a School of Postgraduate Studies offering programs in basic and clinical sciences, as well as allied health sciences under JSMU's academic framework.

"This partnership between JPMC and JSMU will greatly enhance the educational and research capabilities of the Basic Medical Sciences Institute.



ISLAMABAD: Army is standing in reverse to control PTI's protest and situation at Zero point.

SSUET delegation participates in GCWOT'24, ACTIVE Project Review

KARACHI (INP): A high-level delegation from Sir Syed University of Engineering & Technology (SSUET), led by Acting Vice Chancellor Dr. Munawar Hussain, attended the Global Conference on Wireless and Optical Technologies (GCWOT) 2024, as well as the post-interim review and Steering Committee Meeting of the ICT Applications for Sustainable Environmental Protection (ACTIVE) Project in Malaga, Spain.

The ACTIVE Project is an Erasmus+ Capacity Building initiative funded by the European Union and led by the University of Malaga, aiming to utilize ICT solutions to tackle environmental challenges.

This year's conference stood out with 60 technical presentations and 4 keynote speeches, covering groundbreaking developments in Wireless, Optical, and Underwater Communication Technologies.

The Chief Guest, Ambassador of Pakistan to

Spain, HE Dr. Zahoor Ahmed inaugurated the conference and immensely appreciated the longstanding collaboration among the University of Malaga, Sir Syed University, and other Pakistani institutions, recognizing the ACTIVE Project's significant strides in promoting sustainable practices. He was of the view that the conference played a vital role in fostering meaningful international collaboration on technological and environmental advancements.

Vice Chancellor SSUET, Dr. Munawar Hussain said that the collaborative efforts between Sir Syed University and international institutions like the University of Malaga continue to drive innovation and contribute to the development of solutions that enhance both technological capabilities and environmental sustainability. The event was a testament to the importance of international cooperation in meeting today's complex challenges.



HYDERABAD: Sindh Government Spokesperson Sadia Javed is talking to the media at the Press Club, while People's Party Information Secretary Aziz Dhamra is also present with her.

SBBU signs agreement with Universiti Sains Malaysia for academic cooperation

NAWABSHAH (APP): In a landmark move to promote international flight cooperation, a significant Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) & (MoA) was signed between Universiti Sains Malaysia, and Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University (SBBU), Shaheed Benazirabad. The ceremony marked a new chapter of collaboration in academic and research fields between the two renowned institutions. USM Malaysia is ranked as No 2 University in Malaysia and in top 150 universities (146 in the world as per QS rankings).

The MoU & MoA was inked by Engineer Professor Dr Madad Ali Shah, Vice Chancellor of Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University, Shaheed Benazirabad, Sindh, Pakistan, and Pro-

fessor Dato' Gs Dr Narimah Samat, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic & International Universiti Sains Malaysia.

The event was held at the Meeting Room, Chancellery Building Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang Malaysia. This MoU & MoA aims to promote joint research initiatives, student and faculty exchanges, and the development of academic programs.

Both leaders expressed their commitment to enhancing a mutually beneficial relationship that will enrich the educational experiences of students and faculty at both universities. Most important thing, to develop a centre of excellence in the areas of Artificial Intelligence and cyber security.

HDA cautions public against investing in unauthorized housing schemes

HYDERABAD (APP): The Hyderabad Development Authority (HDA) has advised the people against making investments in some 88 housing schemes in the city which have failed to secure the due No Objection Certificates (NOCs) and approvals from the HDA. An official informed here on Sunday that 57 schemes in Hyderabad taluka, 13 each in City and Latifabad talukas and 5 in Qasimabad taluka were booking plots and homes without obtaining the approvals. The official said such schemes had also set up booking offices where the innocent people were being swindled.

GCU Hyderabad tops in Sindhi, English debate contest

HYDERABAD (INP): A Sindh Inter-University Trilingual Debate was organized by the Government College University in collaboration with Sindh Higher Education Commission the other day.

The competition held in all three languages was participated by all universities of Sindh. GCU Hyderabad bagged the first two positions in Sindhi and English debates. Tahira Zulfikar, a student of BBA department and Shah Noor Rajput, a student of English department of the University clinched their positions in Sindhi language and English, respectively.

PM felicitates mountaineer Sirbaz on summiting all 14 highest peaks

LAHORE (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday congratulated Pakistani mountaineer Sirbaz Khan on his historic accomplishment of summiting all 14 of the world's highest peaks. In a post on X (formerly Twitter), the prime minister expressed the nation's pride in Sirbaz, lauding his resilience and determination.

"The nation is immensely proud of Sirbaz Khan for his remarkable feat of becoming the first Pakistani to summit all 14 of the

world's highest peaks. This singular achievement goes to show his resilience, courage and commitment in the face of the heaviest of the odds," the prime minister wrote.

He emphasized that this milestone would undoubtedly serve as a source of inspiration for future generations of climbers. "I congratulate him on his heroic achievement, which, I am certain, will inspire a generation of climbers to establish their mettle in mountaineering," PM Shehbaz added.



KARACHI: Officials of Jinnah Sindh Medical University and Jinnah Post Graduate Medical Center exchanging documents after signing of MoU.

Renowned religious leader Allama Shehanshah Naqvi visits SAFCO office

HYDERABAD (APP): Renowned religious leader and founder Chairman of Qaim Trust Allama Syed Shehanshah Hussain Naqvi visited SAFCO Head Office Hyderabad and had dialogue on 'Promotion of Islamic Values in Business: Economic Ethics'.

According to a press release issued here on Sunday, a memorandum of cooperation with the SAFCO management was also signed on behalf of his Al-Qaim Trust to promote mutual cooperation for professional skill development and economic growth of low income households. The founder and CEO of SAFWCO Group Suleman G. Abro and Managing Director of SAFCO Microfinance Company Syed Sajjad Ali Shah welcomed the distinguished guest and briefed about the objectives of SAFWCO Group and its multifaceted services.

In his speech, Suleman G. Abro said that in 1986, when we established

SAFWCO and worked for health, education and economic improvement and access to resources, women and children's rights for the underprivileged, narrow-minded people started putting obstacles and many problems arose, but we continued to carry out our responsibilities in accordance with the Islamic spirit, keeping in mind human values, with collective thinking, patience and tolerance. Today, our three institutions are doing social services through which millions of people have benefited.

On this occasion, Syed Sajjad Ali Shah, Managing Director of Safco Microfinance Company, gave detailed information about SAFWCO Group. He said that the Sindh Agricultural and Forestry Workers Coordinating Organization-SAFWCO established in 1986 has so far provided services to more than 536 thousand 600 families in various sectors including health, education and agriculture.



KARACHI: Activists of Shikapur Civil Society demonstrate in favour of their demands outside the Karachi Press Club.