

PM for punishing rioters who martyred LEAs personnel, damaged public properties

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday directed the authorities concerned to take all-out measures to strictly punish the protesters who martyred and injured the personnel of law enforcement agencies and damaged public properties during the sit-ins in Islamabad.

The prime minister, chairing the meeting of the task force formed to investigate the riots in the November 24 sit-in in the federal capital, said that the progress on legal action against the rioters would be reviewed weekly.

He said the attack on Islamabad by the insurgents during the official visit of the Belarusian president caused great embarrassment for the country.

The prime minister said that a world-class anti-riot force would be raised in the country to meet the contemporary requirements. By establishing a forensic lab, the Islamabad Safe City would be upgraded to international standards for which all necessary resources would be utilized. In the briefing, the prime minister was told that the weapons, cartridges, shells and other pieces of evidence had been collected from the crime scene those would be sent for forensic analysis. The identification process of the rioters is also being carried out swiftly, who would later be produced before courts. Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, Economic Affairs Minister Ahsan Iqbal, Law Minister Azam Nazeer Tarra.



ISLAMABAD: Parliamentary leader of PMU-N and Provincial Minister for Communication and Works Mir Saleem Ahmed Khosa and social worker Attullah Khosa in a group photo with Federal Minister for Commerce and Industry Jam Kamal Khan

Cochlear implant surgery starts in ENT Unit, Head & Neck Surgery Dept of SPHHQ

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Cochlear implant surgery has been started in the ENT Unit-III, Head and Neck Surgery department of the Sandeman Provincial Headquarter Hospital Quetta (SPHHQ) here.

The Provincial Minister for Health, Bakht Muhammad Kakar formally inaugurated the rare facility of the cochlear implant surgery in the SPHHQ.

Two surgeries of the cochlear implant were conducted for the first time in history of Balochistan.

The senior ENT specialist, Professor Dr. Muhammad Umar Farooq performed the successful surgeries of cochlear implant along with his team in the ENT Unit-III of the major teaching hospital of Quetta.

The Provincial Minister for Health highly appreciated the entire team of SPHHQ including Medical Superintendent, Dr. Noorullah Musakhail, ENT department's head, Dr. Sher Zaman Mandokhail and all other concerned on launching successful cochlear implants in the Hospital.

Speaking on the occasion, Bakht Muhammad Kakar said that the service of cochlear implant was desperately needed in Quetta for the children, otherwise deprived of the hearing by birth.

He said that the patients would have the facility of cochlear implant totally free of cost in Quetta, for otherwise, they are compelled to go to major cities of the country.

Earlier, Professor Sher Zaman Mandokhail briefed the Minister about the facility of cochlear implant in SPHHQ.



QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti giving away shield to DG NADRA Balochistan Kashif Iqbal during a ceremony held in connection with World Disable Day.

NA body directs to ensure implementation of minimum salary in media houses

ISLAMABAD (APP): Sub-Committee of the National Assembly Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting on Tuesday directed the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and PEMRA to ensure that all media houses pay 37,500 minimum salary fixed by the government.

The 1st meeting of the committee was held here under the convenorship of Syed Aminul Haque to discuss the current state of payment of salaries and outstanding dues and to suggest measures for ensuring rights of media workers.

The committee further directed the concerned authorities to stop advertisements of media houses in case of defiance, and take immediate steps to eliminate the system of third-party contracts in media houses and take measures to increase the number of Implementation Tribunal for Newspaper Employees (ITNE) to 5 as soon as possible. Syed Aminul Haque directed to take steps in accordance with the policy for complaints regarding dummy newspapers and payment of PBA dues.

Digital Agricultural Census 2024 kicks off in Nasirabad District

Independent Report
NASIRABAD: The Digital Agricultural Census 2024 has commenced in Nasirabad district, under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Nasirabad, Munir Ahmed Khan Kakar. This initiative marks a significant milestone for the district's agricultural sector, which is the backbone of Pakistan's economy.

The census, being conducted by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS), aims to provide accurate and reliable data on the district's agricultural landscape. This data will be crucial in informing policy decisions and allocating resources for agricultural development in the region.

The digital agricultural census is a first-of-its-kind initiative in Pakistan, and it is expected to bring about a significant improvement in the country's agricultural sector.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting of Task Force established in view of recent law and order situation.

CM expresses discontentment over implementation on projects of Health & Education sectors

Bugti directs high ups to ensure speedy work on development projects make sure transparency and public requirements in public sector development programme; directs to prepare comprehensive strategy for 5 year development projects

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfaraz Bugti has expressed discontentment over implementation on the projects of Health and Education departments and directed to ensure speedy work on the projects making sure transparency and public requirements in the public sector development programme (PSDP).

The Chief Minister was chairing review meeting on progress of the development projects here on Tuesday.

Those who were in attendance were included the Provincial Minister for Planning and Development, Mir Zahoor Ahmed Buledi, Provincial Minister Finance, Mir Shoaib Nausherwani, spokesman of Provincial Government, Shahid Rind, Chief Secretary, Shakeel Qadir Khan, Principal Secretary, Babar Khan, Additional Chief Secretary Development, Hafiz Abdul Basit, Secretary Finance, Imran Zarkoon and other concerned high ups.

He also directed to introduce the modern technology for review of the transparency in PSDP besides keeping strict vigil on its all stages.

He conveyed to the P&D Department not to make any scheme based on personal gains or commission part of the PSDP.

He warned that stern action would be taken against any "babu" (official) who was found any irregularity.

He stressed that the benefits of development must reach common men of the province.



QUETTA: Provincial Minister for Health Bakht Muhammad Kakar talking with media after inaugurating cochlear implant surgery in the ENT Unit-III, Head and Neck Surgery department of the Sandeman Provincial Headquarter Hospital Quetta (SPHHQ).

D-Chowk protest: ATC issues written order for arrest warrants of PTI founder & others

ISLAMABAD (Online): Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) Islamabad has issued written order in connection with arrest warrants of PTI founder, Ali Amin Gandapur, Bushra Bibi and others in the case related to D-Chowk protest.

Judge Tahir Abbas Sipra has issued one page order in respect of 96 accused persons.

Name of chairman PTI barrister Gohar is not included in the written order of arrest warrants while name of Ali Amin Gandapur is mentioned in the order.

Police has mentioned Ali Amin Gandapur as MPA instead of chief minister in their plea.

PHC grants interim bail to Bushra Bibi until Dec 23

PESHAWAR (APP): The Peshawar High Court on Tuesday granted interim bail to Bushra Bibi, the wife of PTI Chairman, until December 23.

The court also directed that she should not be arrested during this period.

Justice Waqar Ahmad conducted a hearing on a plea filed by Bushra Bibi's lawyer. During the proceedings, her lawyer informed the court that 27 cases had been registered against her.

Peace returns to Kurram after ceasefire

ISLAMABAD (INP): Kurram district is witnessing a gradual return to peace and stability on Tuesday following a ceasefire brokered by a political jirga.

Deputy Commissioner Javedullah Mehsud said that all schools and colleges in the area have reopened, reported a private news channel. DC further said that mobile phone services, which were cut off during the conflict, are also being restored. Security forces have now taken control of trenches used during the fighting to prevent further violence.

DPM Dar stresses effective implementation of ECO trade agreement for regional prosperity

MASHHAD (APP): Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar on Tuesday urged the member states to ensure effective implementation of the Economic Cooperation Organization Trade Agreement (ECOTA) to help strengthen regional security and economic prosperity through mutually beneficial intra-regional trade.

"However, it is a matter of great concern that the ECO region, comprising an area of 8 million square kilometers and half a billion population - roughly 15% of the World population, has intra-regional trade of, unfortunately, less than 8% of region's aggregate, and only about 2% in global trade, which is in stark contrast to other regional groupings such as the EU where the intra-regional trade stands above 70%, and the ASEAN, where it is around 23%," the deputy prime minister said addressing the 28th Meeting of ECO Council of Ministers (COM) being hosted here. He said the ECOTA was a landmark intra-regional preferential trade agreement, which was conceptualized exactly in line with the founding and fundamental goals of the organization to create amenable and conducive conditions for the promotion of sustainable economic development of the region, aiming at joint welfare and well-being of member states.

"ECOTA primarily aims to lower tariffs in our region over an agreed timeframe and provides an excellent platform for the promotion of our region's economic interests by trade promotion and facilitation. Despite a considerable period since its inception, it is yet to see day the light of implementation. So far, only five member states have signed the agreement," he added. Dar said that as the coordinating country on ECOTA, Pakistan attached great importance to its early implementation, and urged all member states to take a broader and more holistic view of the matter. The deputy prime minister told the gathering that ECO Vision 2025, adopted during the 13th ECO Summit in Islamabad in 2017 was a key document that guided.



KARACHI: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Prof Ahsan Iqbal addressing at the opening ceremony of the World Islamic Finance Forum hosted by IBA.

Levies force foils WAPDA cable theft in Musakhel

Independent Report
MUSAKHEL: Levies Force personnel from the Tungi Sar post have apprehended thieves involved in stealing WAPDA cables in the area. The thieves were caught red-handed while loading the stolen cables onto a rickshaw. The operation was carried out on the directives of Deputy Commissioner Jamiluddin Mando Khel, who had received a complaint from WAPDA authorities. The Levies Force sprang into action, successfully foiling the theft attempt.

Deputy Commissioner Jamiluddin Mando Khel emphasized that maintaining law and order, and protecting citizens from thieves, is a top priority. He warned that no compromises will be made in dealing with criminals, and those found guilty will face severe punishment.



HONG KONG: Federal Ombudsman Ijaz Ahmed Qureshi addressing International Ombudsman Conference 2024 on eve of 35th anniversary of establishment of Ombudsman Office

PM lauds Senate's role for national solidarity, provincial harmony

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday highlighting the legislation by the Senate for public welfare, said that the upper house was playing a vibrant role in promoting national solidarity and provincial harmony.

The prime minister said this in a meeting with Deputy Chairman of Senate Senator Syedaal Khan who called on him here.

In the meeting, they discussed the country's overall political situation, according to a PM Office press release.

Imran twitter account is being used for organized propaganda: Vawda

ISLAMABAD (Online): Senator Faisal Vawda has claimed twitter account of Imran Khan is being used for organized propaganda while he himself is not running twitter handle. BB, her associates and people like Qasim Soori have hatched conspiracy to declare Imran Khan mad and kill him. On X he said in a statement this is the same propaganda which I am mentioning that Bibi, her associates and people like Qasim Soori have hatched conspiracy for declaring Khan to killing him.

Wafaqi Mohtasib addresses International Ombudsman Summit- 2024 at Hong Kong

Ombudsmanship has taken firm roots in Pakistan; Calls for greater sharing of experiences and best practices amongst Ombuds Institutions

Independent Report
ISLAMABAD: The Wafaqi Mohtasib (Ombudsman), Mr. Ejaz Ahmad Qureshi has said that addressing maladministration and protection of human rights is inextricably linked to good governance, accountability and inclusivity.

He was addressing the International Ombudsman Summit - 2024 in Hong Kong organized on the eve of the 35th anniversary of the establishment of the Office of the Ombudsman in Hong Kong, China. Mr. Qureshi, who is the current President of the 47-member strong Asian Ombudsman Association (AOA), said that the United Nations, too, recognizes the importance of the institution of Ombudsman in strengthening democracy, good governance and the rule of law.

Good administration and efficient service delivery constitute the most essential features of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), he added. He further said that these goals have a direct bearing on the role and functions of Ombudsman institutions working to build peaceful and inclusive societies, accountable institutions at all levels and providing easy access to justice. He added that the scope of work of Ombudsman institutions is witnessing speedy expansion and now includes issues like the climate change, business rights, public accessibility and inclusivity.



BANGKOK: Senator Bilal Ahmed Khan Mandokhail and Senator Afnanullah Khan representing Pakistan in Global Health Security Conference.