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Parliament has the prerogative and responsibility to bring clarity to unclear constitutional provisions through amendments

Minister for Petroleum
Dr Musadik Malik

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PM working day and night to reform national institutions, says Ishaq Dar

LAHORE: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar said on Sunday that Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif was working day and night to bring reforms in national institutions while the economy would soon be restored under his leadership. He expressed these views while talking to the media on the occasion of participating in the urs celebrations of Hazrat Data Ganj Bakhsh. He said when the country's economy was taking off, obstacles were created. "May Almighty Allah not let this happen this time; let us make Pakistan an economically prestigious country in the world," he prayed. Provincial Food Minister Bilal Yasin and others were also present.

The deputy PM said he had already served the country as the finance minister, and this time he had been assigned many responsibilities. He said there was no doubt that Pakistan had suffered a lot economically during the past years, adding that "it was being predicted that the country would take 15 years to come out of the severe crises. But with the grace of Allah, it took only three-and-a-half years for Pakistan to come out of the crises."

In 2013, the country was experiencing up to 18 hours load-shedding, and dozens of terrorist incidents were taking place daily, affecting the economy badly. But, the PML-N government solved all those problems in just three-and-a-half years with the grace of Allah, and the load-shedding issues was also resolved. It was admitted by major forums, and it was said that the way Pakistan was developing, it would soon join the G20. But after that, in the next four years, Pakistan was ranked at the 47th position economically and it was not a small loss, the problems of the country today are due to that duration.

Ishaq Dar said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, "we are making all-out efforts to restore economy and create ease for Pakistanis again". He said a 14 rupees per unit relief in electricity bills had been given by the provincial government to the people of Punjab, and the prime minister allocated Rs. 50 billion subsidy to electricity users of up to 200 units, with the approval of the cabinet.

Parliament has right to refine constitution, says Musadik

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Petroleum Dr Musadik Malik has said the Parliament has the prerogative and responsibility to bring clarity to unclear constitutional provisions through amendments.

Talking to a private news channel, he said in the current circumstances, amendments are mandatory to keep the country on the right path.

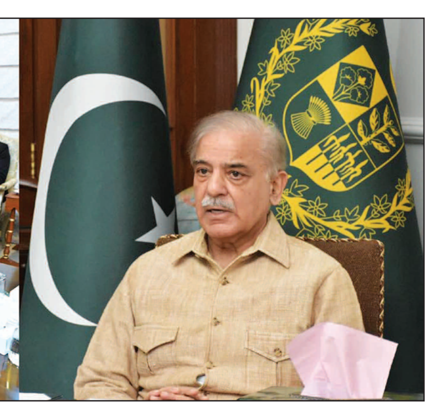
Commenting on Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf style of politics, he said PTI has a track record of challenging the state writ and attacking the institutions. The Minister said federal government has the right to stop such mobs to protect the country from the security risk. INP

CAIRO: Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Chaudhry Salik Hussain attending an International Conference on role of Women in building awareness. INP

PM congratulates UAE on posting impressive growth in foreign trade

PM Shehbaz reviews legal aspects, final stages of PakPWD closure

VOM Report



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday extended his heartfelt congratulations to the President of United Arab Emirates (UAE) Sheikh Mohamed Bin Zayed, on posting 11% increase in foreign trade to the tune of 1.39 trillion dirhams ($397 billion) during the first half of 2024.

"This figure represents an impressive increase in the UAE's non-oil exports and foreign trade," the prime minister wrote on his official X handle.

He said the UAE's focus on foreign trade as part of its overall economic strategy had been instrumental in driving industrial growth, boosting competitiveness and fostering innovation.

"Over the years, the UAE has emerged as a reliable global trade partner and facilitator under the able leadership of President Mohamed bin Zayed. It also reflects an increased international confidence in the UAE economy's resilience and massive potential for growth," the prime minister added.

The credit for this impressive economic performance goes to the dynamic leadership of President Mohamed bin Zayed. It is a great step forward towards realizing his vision of turning UAE into a global trade hub, he added.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday chaired a meeting to review the legal aspects and final procedures regarding the closing down of the Pak Public Works Department (PakPWD).

The prime minister directed that the financial package for employees who will be laid off due to the dissolution will not be applicable to those who have been proven guilty of serious corruption charges.

PM Shehbaz Sharif also instructed that the final plan for transferring ongoing projects under the PakPWD to provinces and relevant departments should be presented soon.

He further directed that all final recommendations regarding the closure of the PakPWD should be presented to the cabinet.

The prime minister also ordered the implementation of the age relaxation proposal to re-employ hardworking and honest individuals with short period of employment in the PakPWD.

The meeting was attended by Minister for Finance Muhammad Aurangzeb, Minister for Economic Affairs Division Ahad Khan Cheema, Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal, Minister for Housing and Works Riaz Hussain Pirzada and high officials of the relevant departments.

Atta Tarar launches operation clean up on PTV, axes 25 shows: Report

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information, Broadcasting, Culture and National Heritage Attaullah Tarar has launched a comprehensive overhaul of Pakistan Television (PTV), "shutting down 25 low-rating shows" and introducing a new policy aimed at promoting openness, professionalism and constructive criticism. According to a news report published by a local daily on Sunday, the minister had vowed to root out "sifarishi culture, incompetence and fake news" on PTV. Tarar said this is just the beginning of the "Operation Clean Up" initiative.

The report said the minister had faced resistance from "vested interests and mafias but remains resolute in his mission to transform PTV". The minister has announced the recruitment of professional anchors and producers, while warning that fake and incompetent staff would be sent packing. The report said the minister had also engaged multiple experts to revamp PTV's programming, aiming to make it comparable to private channels. Tarar has addressed concerns about the rating of talk shows on PTV, stating that the policy has been changed to allow for openness and criticism of the government. According to the report, the minister has also hinted at taking action against those behind a malicious social media campaign resisting the changes. "With a focus on marketing and sales, Tarar aimed to make PTV's shows profitable and vibrant, starting with the successful coverage of the ICC T20 World Cup," the report noted.

Pakistan invites Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to visit for SCO summit in October

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Sunday officially extended an invitation to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to attend the upcoming Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in October.

According to diplomatic sources, the invitation was sent as part of the preparations for the SCO meeting, where the heads of state from member countries have been invited. The sources further confirmed that formal invitation letters have been dispatched to the respective high commissions and embassies of the member states. The SCO summit is expected to bring together leaders from member countries to discuss various regional and international issues, with the potential to pave the way for renewed dialogue and cooperation. Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch already announced on July 4, 2024, that Pakistan will invite Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to attend the SCO Summit, which Islamabad will host in October this year. Speaking at her weekly news briefing in Islamabad, the foreign office spokesperson said Pakistan will host the SCO Heads of State summit in October. When asked whether the Indian prime minister will be extended an invitation, the FO spokesperson said that as the rotation chair of the SCO, Pakistan will invite leaders of all member states. The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is an Eurasian political, economic, international security, and defence organisation established by China and Russia in 2001. INP

Interior Minister visits Hazrat Data Ganj Bakhsh's shrine

ISLAMABAD: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Sunday visited the shrine of Hazrat Data Ganj Bakhsh (RA) on the occasion of his Urs.

He laid a chadar and floral wreath at the shrine. Thousands of devotees are participating in the Urs celebrations.

The interior minister prayed for the country's progress and well-being of the people. He also extended greetings to the devotees of Hazrat Data Ganj Bakhsh (RA) in Lahore and around the world on the occasion of the Urs.

He highlighted that Hazrat Data Ganj Bakhsh (RA) and other religious scholars preached peace and harmony in the Subcontinent.

He emphasized the need to follow the teachings of Hazrat Data Ganj Bakhsh (RA) and other religious elders.

offered special prayers for the oppressed Muslims of Indian occupied Kashmir and Palestine.

The federal interior minister also reviewed the project for the restoration and renovation of Data Darbar.

In this regard, the Secretary of Auqaf Punjab briefed him on the project and apprised him regarding the progress.

Division & differences within PTI is now stand exposed due to their negative politics: Khawaja Asif

Says PTI founder canceled a public gathering after foreseeing its failure

SIALKOT: Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif says nation stands by the armed forces to foil agenda of enemy against the country.

Talking to newsmen in Sialkot on Sunday, Khawaja Asif stressed for unity and collective efforts to address all challenges. The Defence Minister said hundreds of thousands of people witnessed conspiracy and violent actions on May 9 last year.

He said division and differences within PTI is now stand exposed due to their negative politics. He said that the PTI founder canceled a public gathering after foreseeing its failure. The Defence Minister said that we have to change the country's fate ourselves. He said that parliamentarians are tested in elections. SABAH

One cop martyred, another injured as terrorists attack checkpost in Central Kurram

President strongly condemns terrorist attack on Police check post

KURRAM/ISLAMABAD: At least one policeman has been killed and as many injured after terrorists attacked a police checkpost in Central Kurram, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, police told media on Sunday.

According to District Police Officer Ahmed Khan, the terrorists set fire to the police checkpost after the gun attack.

The martyred policeman was identified as Qoowat Khan, while Constable Shahzad has been injured in the attack. He has been shifted to the Tehsil Headquarters Hospital Sadda in Central Kurram for treatment.

Funeral prayer of the martyred policeman has been offered in the wake of the attack.

The region has witnessed multiple similar incidents for the last few months.

Meanwhile, President Asif Ali Zardari on Sunday strongly condemned the terrorist attack on a police check post in Kurram.

In a message, he paid tribute to the police personnel who embraced martyrdom in the attack.

He offered his heartfelt condolence to the bereaved family members, praying for grant of courage for them to bear the loss with equanimity.

He also prayed for the swift recovery of those injured in the attack.

President Zardari also prayed to Allah Almighty to grant high ranks to the martyred in Jannah. Agencies

At least 25 passengers lost their lives when a coaster traveling from Haveli Kahuta to Rawalpindi fell into a ditch

President Zardari, PM Shehbaz, AJK PM Chaudhry Anwarul Haq, others express 'deep grief over the loss of precious lives' in the accident

HAVELI KAHUTA/RAWALPINDI /ISLAMABAD: At least 25 passengers lost their lives while one person sustained injuries on Sunday when a coaster traveling from Haveli Kahuta to Rawalpindi fell into a ditch.

The bus was traveling with 30 passengers from Haveli Kahuta to Rawalpindi, the sources said, adding that the accident took place near Pana bridge.

"The accident was caused due to the coaster's failed brakes," Rescue 1122 Punjab official Usman Gujjar said.

The bodies are currently being shifted to Tehsil Headquarters Hospital in Kahuta, he said, adding that 26 passengers were on board.

According to the rescue official, victims included 20 men, four women and one child. "The tragic accident occurred on the Girari Bridge of Kahuta's Azad Pattan Road," the official further said.

Sardar Abdul Waheed, Commissioner of Poonch Division, confirmed that the accident occurred near Pana Pul, between Azaad Pattan and Kahuta.

Upon receiving the news, rescue teams were immediately sent from Rawalakot and Sadhanoti.

Deputy Commissioner Sadhanoti, Umar Farooq, stated that the deceased include children, women, and men, all of whom were from the Sadhanoti district.

Meanwhile, President Asif Ali Zardari expressed "deep grief over the loss of precious lives" in the accident. "My sympathies are with the bereaved families in this hour of sorrow," he said, according to a post shared by his party, PPP, on the X platform. He also emphasised on the need to "speed up relief activities". Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif expressed deep grief and sorrow over the loss of lives in a bus accident near Azad Pattan, according to Radio Pakistan. In a statement, he prayed "for the high ranks of the departed souls and patience for their families". The premier also directed "authorities to provide immediate medical aid to the injured".

Azad Kashmir Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwarul Haq also expressed his condolences, praying for the departed souls and for the families of the deceased. He directed the authorities concerned to work with the Punjab government to ascertain the reason of the accident.

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi in a statement expressed "heartfelt condolences and sympathy to the families of the deceased in both accidents."

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz said that she felt "deeply saddened" by the loss of lives". "May Allah exalt the ranks of those who died in this tragedy and grant patience to their loved ones," she said on X. Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq also expressed regret over the accident. In a post on X, the speaker "expressed deep sorrow and grief over the loss of life of more than 22 passengers as a result of the accident".

"The speaker prayed for the speedy recovery of the passengers injured in the accident," the statement read. "I express my heartfelt condolences and solidarity with the families of those who died in the accident," Ayaz Sadiq said, adding that "authorities should ensure the provision of immediate medical aid to the injured persons in the accident". SABAH

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Downsizing is not the answer

HUSSAIN H ZAIDI

The cabinet committee on institutional reforms has proposed to cut some 150,000 positions in the federal government as part of the 'rightsizing' of the public sector. As these positions are currently vacant, the proposal, if put into effect, will not impact employees and thus will be politically and legally easier to go ahead with. All the same, it must have dismayed job seekers, who now will have fewer vacancies to apply for. Given a predominantly young population and a large workforce, numbering in the shade of 80 million, at least one million jobs need to be created every year. On the other hand, we have loss-making public sector enterprises (PSEs) keeping which afloat costs the public exchequer billions annually. This puts every government into a dilemma: should it continue to give the PSEs a shot in the arm, a situation will eventually arrive – and to many it already has – when such a recipe becomes unsustainable. Should the government stop putting money in the coffers of the PSEs, thousands of their employees will stop getting salaries. This is not a good option politically or economically, as the workers account for a considerable chunk of an already shrinking consumer market because of the increasing cost of living.
So, what's the way forward? The situation reminds us of a standard question posed in elementary textbooks of economics: 'Is it possible to grow all the rice, or for that matter any other commodity, in a small parcel of land by supplying labour and other necessary input?' Evidently, not. But why? The law of diminishing marginal returns states that if one or more factors of production are constantly increased while keeping the others unchanged, it will soon result in an ever-smaller rise in output. A stage may even arise, which usually does, when production, instead of expanding, starts shrinking.
In our example, there is a maximum amount of rice that can be grown in a particular parcel of land regardless of the number of farmers who plough the land from dawn to dusk and the quantity and quality of fertilizers they use. Once the maximum level of output is reached, it's only by bringing another parcel of land under cultivation that more rice can be grown.
Likewise, hiring additional workers will add to the output of a factory. But if the management only keeps introducing more workforce without giving them additional capital or better technology to work with, every marginal worker will be less productive, which eventually will make the entire production process inefficient. Not only that, while the additional workers may make at best only a nominal contribution to the output, they will draw the same remuneration that a productive worker does. Thus the enterprise in question will be characterized by increasing costs and stagnant or shrinking output and thus falling revenue, which is a recipe for going bankrupt if there's no one to bail it out. This is what has happened in the case of Pakistan's PSEs including PIA and the Pakistan Steel Mills (PSM), where more employee inductions relative to the level of output made them less productive and by implication costlier to run. Be that as it may, to argue that only overstaffing PSE losses or overall inefficiency of the public sector and that they can be turned around just by downsizing is at best a half-truth – convenient to sell though it may be. The traditional management style is no less, if not more, responsible. The management style in the public sector is activity-oriented. It judges employee performance by the number of activities they perform – such as the number of files disposed of every day – irrespective of their outcome. The result is that employees get so involved in doing their day-to-day activities that they deem them to be an end in themselves rather than a means towards achieving organizational objectives. Not surprisingly in government offices, a lot is done but little accomplished. Management by activities may be contrasted with management by objectives (MBO), which is a relatively young management philosophy. MBO is driven by goals or targets, which are periodically reviewed. The performance of employees is judged by the progress made towards achieving these targets. The goals or targets have to be specific, realistic, and jointly determined by the superiors and subordinates. The senior management should play the role of a facilitator, rather than that of the traditional big boss, in helping employees overcome the personal and work-related problems that may bear upon their performance and goal accomplishment. By contrast, the public sector by and large relies on a top-down approach. Powers are concentrated in the head of the department, who may delegate some of these to their subordinates to lessen their (boss) burden. But since these are delegated powers, they have to be exercised in the way the big boss desires. Almost all key decisions are made at the top and conveyed to the employees in a pecking order. One-way communication – from top to bottom – is the norm. Modern approaches to management put a high premium on resolving employees' problems that have a bearing on their work and performance. Even if all the problems are not resolved, employees have the feeling that the organization cares for them, which helps them positively relate to the workplace.
The callousness of the senior management in the public sector towards employees' problems leads to their alienation from the organization. Hence, not surprisingly, a great majority of workers in the public sector are unable to relate themselves emotionally in a positive way to their organization. As long as they get their salaries, they are not concerned about its success or failure. A cardinal principle of effective management is to relate rewards to performance. This requires two things: establishing clear-cut performance standards and adhering to them objectively, fairly and transparently. The public sector in Pakistan, however, has been remarkable for its lack of performance-based rewards. In the first place, there are no clear-cut performance standards. And even if they exist, they are not followed. Allocation of rewards has much to do with the personal likes and dislikes of the top management.

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Maladies not interpreted

Ghazi Salahuddin

If there were dreams to sell, what would you buy? This choice actually belongs in the realm of poetry and parables. But dreams, in the context of one's aspirations and desires, do have relevance in our lives. The problem is that in times like these, we feel overwhelmed with the ugly and abrasive realities that keep interfering with our daily existence.
While poets may still have some excuse to play with dreams and fantasy, this escape is not valid for a poor scribe assigned to interpret current affairs. And this is a task that can hardly be performed well and equitably in the present circumstances. Hence, every week I find myself skirting around certain issues that somehow remain elusive and almost beyond comprehension.
So, what do I do this week? Well, for once I have a lot on my plate and I intend to introduce a few of the issues that I deem are important and have a bearing on developments that are taking place in the social and political domain. As I have confessed, the idea is not to delve deeply into specific issues. Consider this as some kind of a montage, a blend of separate images.
Let me begin with the dark messages that are being traded in the media and in private conversations about the consequences of the impending field court martial of the former ISI chief, Faiz Hameed. Think of the many questions that are inherent in this unprecedented and fateful process. What will happen to Imran Khan when this process is brought to its conclusion?
An important proceeding was conducted in the Supreme Court on Thursday in which not lawyers but prominent religious leaders were involved – and one of them participated via video link from Turkiye. A controversial order of the Supreme Court was amended on ulema's advice. One reference to what transpired on Thursday was a malicious campaign against and threats to the chief justice of Pakistan.
I am not going into the intricate legal details that relate to a set of review petitions against a February 6 verdict in the Mubarak Ahmed Sani case. It is significant that when the Supreme Court took up the case on Thursday, all roads leading to its premises were blocked with containers. Demonstrators had to be kept out of the Red Zone. After the hearing, the ulema announced a day of thanksgiving – Youm-e-Tashakkur – on Friday.
What is the message here? It is not new, nor surprising. We know how impossible it is for Pakistan's civil society to struggle for a secular, democratic and progressive polity.
Something else also happened on Thursday. Or, it would be correct to say that something did not happen on Thursday. I am referring to the rally that had been planned by Imran Khan's party. It was meant to be a show of power, in defiance of the authorities' resolve to not allow the crowds to gather. But Imran Khan decided to postpone it after some unspecified nocturnal manoeuvres that possibly involved the establishment.
These power games, involving momentous cloak-and-dagger operations, are certainly of great consequence but one event deserves to be the focus of our attention this week and I regret that this is not the exclusive subject of this column. Yes, it is the Karsaz accident in Karachi in which a speeding SUV crushed a father and daughter to death. The vehicle was being driven by a rich and privileged woman.
There are reasons why this accident has triggered an emotional response across the country. As a human story, it has an overpowering appeal. But the widespread anger and anguish that it has generated is rooted in how it is seen as a replay of several similar accidents in the past when the wayward members of the elite were seen to have escaped punishment for their reckless actions.
Though the accident took place on Monday, its coverage, mostly on social media, has continuously gained momentum with new video clips and related evidence. There was general suspicion about a cover-up, with the powerful family using its influence. But the universal outrage that the accident has caused is making it difficult, for the time being. Students of the University of Karachi held a demonstration on Wednesday on the campus; on Thursday, the governor of Sindh promised a transparent probe into the accident.
This is one manifestation of how the elite in Pakistan live and behave. But going into details of what has happened in the recent past can be problematic. In a TV talk show, one of the panelists' voice was erased for some seconds. Was he naming names with reference to a similar accident at some other place?
There is a graphic video clip of a vehicle belonging to a political leader running over a policeman in Quetta in 2017 – and it was repeatedly shown this week. It is really incredible, as if lifted from a Hollywood thriller. But apparently no one was punished for this crime.
Sadly, I don't have much space left to refer to other headlines that raise questions that are difficult to answer. For instance, how do you deal with the news that at least 12 policemen were killed on Thursday night when their vehicles came under rocket attack from dacoits in the Katcha area near the Punjab-Sindh border? Again, there is an entire background to how these dacoits have defied the state for a very long time.
Let me conclude with a major disruption in Pakistan that also has a touch of mystery and deception. Typically, there are questions and no answers. It is about how the internet was disrupted and became slow, affecting businesses.
One was intrigued by assertions made by some officials that the government was not responsible for the internet problems. But they have admitted plans for a firewall to regulate and block malicious content and protect government networks. And we are familiar with the concept of 'digital terrorism'. For that matter, there is also real terrorism on the militancy front.

The writer is a senior journalist. He can be reached at: ghazi_salahuddin@hotmail.com

Disclaimer: Views expressed by writers in this section are their own and do not necessarily reflect The Asian Telegraph's point-of-view

Today in History

History of Pakistan

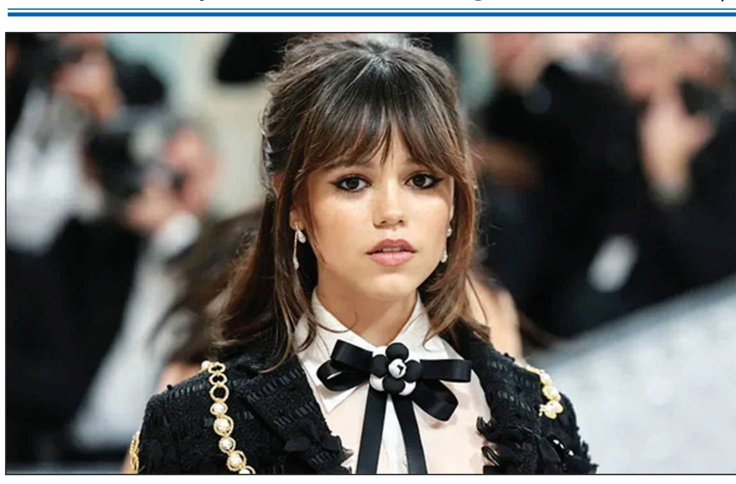
Censorship, particularly of newspapers, is widespread, but Pakistanis have access to a variety of information media via satellite television (ownership of dishes is growing rapidly) and the Internet as well as newspapers and journals. Newspapers, in particular those published in Urdu, Sindhi, and English, have a wide readership, and many are available in both print and online versions. Pakistan has numerous publishing houses, which print books mostly in English and Urdu.
This section presents the history of Pakistan from the partition of British India (1947) to the present. For a discussion of the earlier history of the region, see India.
The call for establishing an independent Islamic state on the Indian subcontinent can be traced to a 1930 speech by Sir Muhammad Iqbal, a poet-philosopher and, at the time, president of the All India Muslim League (after Pakistan's independence, shortened to Muslim League). It was his argument that the four northwestern provinces and regions of British India—i.e., Sind (Sindh), Balochistan, Punjab, and North-West Frontier Province (now Khyber Pakhtunkhwa)—should one day be joined to become a free and independent Muslim state. The limited character of this proposal can be judged from its geographic rather than demographic dimensions. Iqbal's Pakistan included only those Muslims residing in the Muslim-majority areas in the northwestern quadrant of the subcontinent. It ignored the millions of other Muslims living throughout the subcontinent, and it certainly did not take into account the Muslim majority of Bengal in the east. Moreover, Iqbal's vision did not reflect the interests of others outside the Muslim League seeking liberation from colonial rule, and it did not conform to ideals reflected in Islamic expressions that spoke of a single Muslim community (ummah) or people (qawm), explaining in no small way why many other Muslim leaders—e.g., Abul Kalam Azad, Abdul Ghaffar Khan, and, later, Khizar Hayat Khan Tiwana—were less than enthused with his proposal.
Also missing at the time was a name to describe such a South Asian country where Muslims would be masters of their own destiny. That task fell to Choudhary Rahmat Ali, a young Muslim student studying at Cambridge in England, who best captured the poet-politician's yearnings in the single word Pakistan. In a 1933 pamphlet, Now or Never, Rahmat Ali and three Cambridge colleagues coined the name as an acronym for Punjab, Afghania (North-West Frontier Province), Kashmir, and Indus-Sind, combined with the -stan suffix from Baluchistan (Balochistan). It was later pointed out that, when translated from Urdu, Pakistan could also mean "Land of the Pure."
Long before the British invaded and seized control of the subcontinent, Muslim armies had conquered the settled populations in the rolling flat land that stretched from the foothills of the Hindu Kush to the city of Delhi and the Indo-Gangetic Plain and eastward to Bengal. The last and most successful of the Muslim conquerors was the Mughal dynasty (1526–1857), which eventually spread its authority over virtually the entire subcontinent. British superiority coincided with Mughal decline, and, following a period of European successes and Mughal failures on the battlefield, the British brought an end to Mughal power. The last Mughal emperor was exiled following the failed Indian Mutiny of 1857–58. Less than three decades after that revolt, the Indian National Congress was formed to give political representation to British India's indigenous people. Although membership in the Congress was open to all, Hindu participants overwhelmed the Muslim members. The All India Muslim League, organized in 1906, aimed to give Muslims a voice so as to counter what was then perceived as the growing influence of the Hindus under British rule.

To be continued.....

Showbiz

Jenna Ortega reveals 'terrifying' reason for deleting her Twitter account

'Wednesday' star Jenna Ortega deleted her X, formerly Twitter , account two of three years ago



Jenna Ortega opened up about the horrendous experience that led the young actress to delete her X, formerly Twitter, account.
In a conversation with the New York Times prior to the premiere of Beetlejuice Beetlejuice and the second season of Netflix's Wednesday, Ortega, 21, revealed that after receiving AI-generated pornographic DMs of herself as a child, she removed the social media handle from her life.
While speaking about her forthcoming project, an adaptation of Kazuo Ishiguro's novel Klara and the Sun helmed by Taika Waititi, in which she plays the eponymous robot, the Disney star described her experience with artificial intelligence as "terrifying."
"I hate AI," the Scream actress asserted. "I mean, here's the thing: AI could be used for incredible things…Let's keep it to that."
"Did I like being 14 and making a Twitter account because I was supposed to and seeing dirty edited content of me as a child? No," she described."It's terrifying. It's corrupt. It's wrong."
"It was disgusting, and it made me feel bad. It made me feel uncomfortable," Ortega added, recalling the first explicit DM she encountered at age 12. "Anyway, that's why I deleted it, because I couldn't say anything without seeing something like that."

Tech

Flawed Boeing mission to return to Earth with SpaceX next year: Nasa

HOUSTON: Two US astronauts who arrived at the International Space Station aboard Boeing's Starliner will have to return home with rival SpaceX, Nasa said on Saturday.
"Nasa has decided that Butch and Suni will return with Crew-9 next February, and that Starliner will return uncrewed," Nasa administrator Bill Nelson told reporters.
The return of Barry "Butch" Wilmore and Sunita "Suni" Williams has been delayed by thruster malfunctions of the Boeing spacecraft. The decision marked a fresh public relations headache for Boeing, meaning the two astronauts will have to spend a total of eight months in orbit, not the eight days as originally planned.
After years of Starliner development delays, the spacecraft had finally lifted off in early June carrying veteran astronauts Wilmore and Williams to the ISS.
But while studying problems with the craft's propulsion system, Nasa had to put their return on indefinite hold.

Engineers at Boeing and Nasa were concerned Starliner might not have the propulsive power to wrest itself out of orbit and begin the descent toward Earth.
Nasa officials said on Saturday they had opted for the highly unusual option of bringing the astronauts back from the flying laboratory not on their own craft, but aboard a previously scheduled SpaceX vehicle in February. Under the new plan, the SpaceX Crew-9 mission will take off in late September, but carrying only two passengers instead of the originally planned four.

Health

Research reveals noise pollution troubling well-being of Gen Z in Dubai

Noise pollution in the extravagant Gulf city of Dubai has been revealed by a new study to be a major concern for the Generation Z as many of them consider it an important factor troubling their well-being.
Notably, Buro Happold's Urban C:Labs in collaboration with Heriot-Watt University in Dubai conducted the study. It will be presented at the Inter-Noise 2024 conference in Nantes, France, reported Khaleej Times.
Pooja Ganatra, who is a senior sustainability consultant, noise specialist and lecturer at Heriot-Watt University Dubai, led the study along with Gregory Maltsev and Kathy Wong, who are consultants based in Dubai and Hong Kong.
As the study's demographic is extensively aware about mental health dilemmas as well as the environmental aspects influencing them, the research has been deemed particularly relevant.

Stress, tiredness, difficulty concentrating among symptoms revealed by the study

For the research, students at the university took part in noise-mapping exercises and surveys assessing their sleep quality and mental health. Moreover, they also provided important details into how urban noise pollution is affecting their daily lives.
"The findings revealed that nearly 70% of Dubai's Generation Z population identified noise pollution as a significant factor influencing their wellness, with 37% rating it as a top concern. Our study highlighted frequent symptoms among participants, such as stress, tiredness, and difficulty concentrating, indicating a strong link between noise exposure and mental health issues," said Ganatra.
She also highlighted that the correlation between noise and air pollution in urban settings, particularly in Dubai's rapidly growing environment, has been underscored by the research.
"The data showed that the majority of students considered noise pollution the most impactful environmental factor, while a combined 88% acknowledged both noise and air pollution as critical issues affecting their well-being. This dual threat highlights the need for integrated urban planning strategies that address both noise and air quality to mitigate their combined effects on public health," she added.

روزنامہ
دی ایشین ٹیلی گراف
اسلام آباد
پیر 26 اگست 2024ء

حضرت داتا گنج بخش کا عرس جاری، لاہور میں آج عام تعطیل

کہوٹہ، کوسٹر کھائی میں جا گری، 25 مسافر جاں بحق، مکران میں 11 زائرین چل بسے

زائرین کی بس ایران سے پنجاب آرہی تھی کہ مکران ہائی وے پر بزی ٹاپ کے قریب بریک فیل ہونے کے باعث حادثہ پیش آیا، زائرین کا تعلق لاہور اور گوجرانوالہ سے ہے، صدر، وزیراعظم، چیئرمین سینیٹ کا اظہار افسوس

شہدائے کربلا چہلم، راولپنڈی میں سیکیورٹی ٹریفک پلان تشکیل، 4600 سے زائد افسران و اہلکار ڈیوٹی پر مامور

مرکزی جلوس کی سیکیورٹی پر 4400 سے زائد افسران و اہلکار جبکہ ٹریفک کی روانی کیلئے 215 افسران و اہلکار فرائض انجام دیں گے

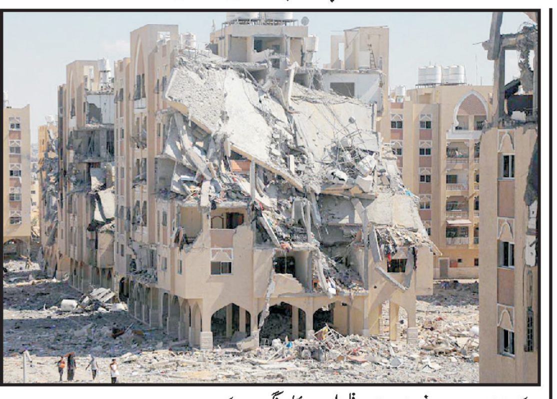
...سی سی ٹی وی مانیٹرنگ کی جائے گی چھتوں پر خصوصی سنا پر تعینات کئے جائیں گے جلوس کے روٹ پر گلیوں، سڑکوں اور راستوں کو سیل کیا جائے گا اسی طرح چہلم کے جلوس پر سٹی ٹریفک پولیس کے 5 ڈی ایس پی و سرکل انچارج، 48 سینئر ٹریفک وارڈن، 162 ٹریفک وارڈن و ٹریفک اسسٹنٹ ... اور فول پروف سکیورٹی فراہم کی جائے گی اس سلسلے میں پبلک سروس ٹرانسپورٹ کو ڈی اے وی کالج چوک سے واپس بھجوا دیا جائے گا جبکہ دیگر ٹریفک کو گوالمنڈی سے ڈھوک کمہار سے بھوسہ گودام کی طرف موڑا جائے گا مشرق ہوٹل، سٹی صدر روڈ پر ڈائیورشن لگا کر واپس صدر اور موہن پورہ کی طرف ... پاس ڈائیورشن لگا کر بنی چوک اور لنک روڈ کی طرف بھجوایا جائے گا جو براستہ سید پور روڈ، سرکلر روڈ سے ہوتی ہوئی مری روڈ سے لیاقت باغ کی جانب آئے گی، ہملٹن چوک اور بانساں والا چوک پر ڈائیورشن لگا کر ڈنگی کھوئی اور جامع مسجد روڈ کی جانب کسی قسم کی ٹریفک کو داخل نہیں ہونے دیا جائیگا

پولیس نے کچے کے ڈاکوؤں کے ہاتھوں یرغمال کانسٹیبل کو رہا کرالیا

اسلام آباد، راول ڈیم میں پانی کی سطح بلند ہونے پر سپل وے کھول دیئے گئے ہیں

ن لیگ سن لے آئی پی پیز کو لگام نہ ڈالی تو چھوڑیں گے نہیں: حافظ نعیم الرحمٰن

...ایکسٹینشن یا سیٹیں لینی ہیں یا پھر سیاسی جوڑ توڑ کرنے سے فرصت نہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ آئی پی پیز کا تسلط جو ظلم کا نظام ہے اس پر کوئی بات کرنے کو تیار نہیں، پارٹیوں میں ذاتیات مفادات والی سیاست سرگرم ہوگئی ہے۔ ملک کو گیس و بجلی کا بحرانوں کا سامنا ہے، تنخواہ دار طبقہ پر ٹیکس پر ... 28 دن رہ گئے ہیں ن لیگ پیپلز پارٹی کو بتانا چاہتے ہیں ہم چھوڑیں گے نہیں، 14 روپے فی یونٹ پر کسی مونگ پھلی بھی نہیں، شریف خاندان کی آئی پی پیز چھوڑیں تو بجلی کی قیمت کئی گنا کم ہوجائے گی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ آئی پی پیز نے 2017-18 میں 1.2 ٹریلین روپے ٹیکس پر ... ہوئے کہا کہ بنگلا دیش میں گزشتہ 15 برسوں میں جماعت ظلم وستم کیا گیا، کئی رہنماں کے جنازے جیلوں سے اٹھائے گئے۔ جماعت اسلامی 1941 قیام پاکستان سے پہلے وجود میں آئی، مولانا مودودی نے کہا تھا قومیں وطن سے نہیں نظریہ سے بنتی ہیں۔



غزہ کی پٹی کے جنوبی خان یونس کے حمد شہر میں فلسطینی اسرائیلی جنگی طیاروں کی بمباری سے تباہ شدہ عمارتوں کا جائزہ لے رہے ہیں

راول ڈیم میں پانی کی سطح بلند، سپل وے کھول دیئے گئے

اسلام آباد (سٹاف رپورٹر) راول ڈیم میں پانی کی سطح بلند ہونے کے بعد سپل وے کھول دیئے گئے۔ راول ڈیم کے سپل وے کھولنے سے 30 منٹ پہلے سائرن بجائے گئے اور شہریوں کو حفاظتی تدابیر اپنانے کا کہا گیا تھا۔ واضح رہے کہ گزشتہ روز انتظامیہ نے راول ڈیم کے سپل وے کھولنے کا اعلان کیا تھا۔ ضلعی انتظامیہ کی جانب سے شہریوں سے درخواست کی گئی کہ دریا اور ندی نالوں کی طرف جانے سے اجتناب کریں۔

خیبر پختونخوا میں کرپشن روکنے کیلئے قائم کمیٹی کا نام تبدیل کرنیکا فیصلہ

پشاور (بیورو رپورٹ) خیبر پختونخوا میں کرپشن کی روک تھام کیلئے قائم ہونے والی کمیٹی کا نام تبدیل کرنے کا فیصلہ کرلیا۔ 20 دن قبل گڈ گورننس کے نام سے کمیٹی تشکیل دی گئی، اب کمیٹی کا نام پی ٹی آئی انٹرنل اکاؤنٹیبلٹی کمیٹی رکھا جائے گا، کمیٹی کے لئے الگ سیکرٹریٹ کا قیام بھی عمل میں لایا جائے گا، کمیٹی کے لئے دفتر، سٹاف اور دیگر سہولیات مہیا کی جائے گی۔ ذرائع کا کہنا ہے کہ شکایات درج کرنے کیلئے الگ ویب سائٹ بھی بنائی جائے گی، کرپشن کی نشاندہی کرنے کیلئے مختلف ذرائع سے کمیٹی کو درخواست دی جاسکے گی، کرپشن کی نشاندہی کرنے والوں کو باقاعدہ ای میل اور سول میڈیا پر شکایات درج کرنے کی سہولیات دی جائے گی۔ پی ٹی آئی انٹرنل اکاؤنٹیبلٹی کمیٹی 3 ممبران پر مشتمل ہوگی۔ ممبر کمیٹی کا کہنا ہے کہ وزیر اعلی خیبر پختونخوا سے بات کی ہے جلد سیکرٹریٹ قائم کیا جائے گا، کمیٹی باقاعدگی سے کرپشن کے خلاف کام کرے گی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ اب تک سابق وزیر شکیل خان کے علاوہ کسی کو طلب نہیں کیا، کسی وزیر یا سیکرٹری کے خلاف کوئی شکایات موصول نہیں ہوئی، کسی کے خلاف بھی کرپشن کی شکایت ملے تو کارروائی کا آغاز کریں گے۔

قومی اسمبلی اجلاس آج، سپیکر سردار ایاز صادق صدارت کرینگے

اسلام آباد (نامہ نگار) قومی اسمبلی کا اجلاس (آج) پیر شام پانچ بجے پارلیمنٹ ہاؤس اسلام اباد میں شروع ہوگا اجلاس کی صدارت سپیکر سردار ایاز صادق کریں گے۔ قومی اسمبلی سیکرٹریٹ کے مطابق صدر مملکت آصف زرداری نے اسمبلی اجلاس (آج) 26 اگست بروز پیر شام 5 بجے پارلیمنٹ ہاؤس میں طلب کیا ہے۔ قومی اسمبلی کا اجلاس آئین کے آرٹیکل 54 کی شق (1) کے تحت تفویض شدہ اختیارات کو بروئے کار لاتے ہوئے طلب کیا گیا

شانگلہ، وفاقی وزیر انجینئر امیر مقام الپوری میں بجلی کے نئے فیڈر کا افتتاح کر رہے ہیں

پاکستانی سرمایہ کاروں اور چینی کمپنی میں 28.7 ملین ڈالر کا معاہدہ

دستخط ہوگئے، پاکستان سے محفوظ خوراک کی مصنوعات فراہم کی جائیں گی، چاول، تل، مکئی سمیت زرعی اجناس کی متنوع رینج شامل

بیجنگ (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) پاکستانی ایگریکلچرل اینڈ فوڈ انٹرپرائزز پر مشتمل 16 رکنی وفد اور چین کی سوژو شیف ما انٹیلیجنٹ ٹیکنالوجی کمپنی لمیٹڈ کے درمیان 28.7 ملین ڈالر کے معاہدے پر دستخط ہو گئے، معاہدے کے تحت پاکستانی وفد شیف ما کو اعلی معیار اور محفوظ خوراک کی مصنوعات فراہم کرے گا، معاہدے میں چاول، تل، مکئی اور مکئی سمیت زرعی اجناس کی متنوع رینج شامل ہیں۔ چائنہ اکنامک نیٹ کے مطابق 16 پاکستانی ایگریکلچرل اینڈ فوڈ انٹرپرائزز پر مشتمل ایک وفد نے چین کے ساتھ زرعی تعاون کو مضبوط بنانے میں اہم پیش رفت کی۔ چاول، تل اور مکئی پیدا کرنے والوں اور برآمد کنندگان سمیت مختلف شعبوں کی نمائندگی کرنے والے گروپ نے چین کی سوژو شیف ما انٹیلیجنٹ ٹیکنالوجی کمپنی لمیٹڈ کے ساتھ مفاہمت کی یادداشت (ایم او یو) پر دستخط کیے۔ چائنہ اکنامک نیٹ کے مطابق معاہدے پر دستخط کی تقریب کی نظامت وفد کے سربراہ حافظ سعد بن مصطفیٰ اور سوزو شیف ما کے جنرل منیجر ہوانگ ژیجن نے کی۔ اس موقع پر شنگھائی میں پاکستانی قونصل جنرل شہزاد احمد خان بھی موجود تھے جنہوں نے معاہدے کے گواہ کی حیثیت سے خدمات انجام دیں۔ چائنہ اکنامک نیٹ کے مطابق ایم او یو کے تحت پاکستانی وفد شیف ما کو اعلی معیار اور محفوظ خوراک کی مصنوعات فراہم کرے گا۔ شیف ما بنیادی طور پر فوڈ انڈسٹری میں مہارت رکھنے والی سافٹ ویئر اور انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی سروسز سے وابستہ ہے۔ معاہدے میں چاول، تل، مکئی اور مکئی سمیت زرعی اجناس کی متنوع رینج شامل ہیں، جوان شعبوں میں وفد کی مہارت اور مسابقت کو اجاگر کرتی ہے۔ چائنہ اکنامک نیٹ کے مطابق شیف ما نے اپنی جانب سے پاکستانی وفد سے مصنوعات خریدنے کے پختہ ارادے کا اظہار کیا، اس معاہدے کی مالیت 200 ملین آر ایم بی (تقریبا 28.7 ملین امریکی ڈالر) ہے۔ یہ عزم پاکستانی زرعی پیداوار کے معیار اور صلاحیت پر چینی کمپنی کے اعتماد کو ظاہر کرتا ہے۔ چائنہ اکنامک نیٹ کے مطابق شنگھائی میں پاکستان کے قونصلیٹ جنرل نے پاکستان سینٹ فلن گروپ کے ساتھ مل کر چین پاکستان زراعت، تجارت اور تجارتی گول میز کانفرنس کا انعقاد کیا۔ اس تقریب نے 60 سے زائد چینی کاروباری اداروں کو پاکستانی وفد کے ساتھ ون آن ون بات چیت میں مشغول ہونے کے لئے ایک قابل قدر پلیٹ فارم فراہم کیا، جس سے ایک دوسرے کی طاقت وں کی گہری تفہیم کو فروغ ملا اور تعاون کی ممکنہ راہیں تلاش کی گئیں۔

تاریخ رقم، بنگلا دیش نے پہلی بار پاکستان کو ٹیسٹ میچ میں شکست دیدی

راولپنڈی (بیورو رپورٹ) بنگلا دیش نے تاریخ رقم کرتے ہوئے پہلی بار پاکستان کو ٹیسٹ میچ میں شکست دیدی۔ راولپنڈی میں کھیلے گئے پہلے ٹیسٹ کے آخری روز پاکستان کی پوری ٹیم دوسری اننگز میں صرف 146 رنز ہی بنا سکی اور بنگلا دیش کو جیت کیلئے 30 رنز کا ہدف دیا، جسے مہمان ٹیم نے با آسانی بغیر کسی نقصان کے حاصل کرلیا۔ بنگلا دیش کی جانب سے ذاکر حسن نے 15 جبکہ شادمان اسلام نے 9 رنز سکور کیے، پاکستان کی جانب سے کوئی بھی بالر وکٹ نہ لے سکا۔ قبل ازیں میچ کے پانچویں روز پاکستان نے کھیل کا آغاز 23 رنز اور ایک وکٹ کے نقصان پر کیا، کپتان شان مسعود زیادہ دیر وکٹ پر نہ ٹھہر سکے اور حسن محمود کی گیند پر 37 گیندوں پر 14 رنز بنا کر لٹن داس کے ہاتھوں کیچ آؤٹ ہوگئے۔ کپتان کے بعد تیسرے نمبر پر آنے والے بلے باز بابر اعظم بھی خاطر خواہ کارکردگی نہ دکھا سکے، سابق کپتان 22 رنز بنا کر پویلین چلتے بنے جبکہ سعود شکیل کھاتہ کھولے بغیر ہی پویلین لوٹ گئے۔ پاکستان کا پانچواں نقصان عبداللہ شفیق کی صورت میں ہوا، اوپنر بلے باز 86 گیندوں پر 37 رنز بنا کر شکیب الحسن کی گیند پر شادمان اسلام کو کیچ دے بیٹھے، پاکستان کی چھٹی وکٹ 105 رنز کے مجموعے پر گری جب آغا سلمان بغیر کھاتہ کھولے چلتے بنے۔ نئے آنے والے بلے باز شاہین آفریدی بھی زیادہ دیر کریز پر نہ ٹھہر سکے اور 16 گیندوں پر صرف 2 رنز بنا کر مہدی حسن مرزا کی گیند پر ایل بی ڈبلیو ہوگئے۔ شاہین کے بعد نسیم شاہ نے کریز سنبھالی لیکن خاطر خواہ کارکردگی نہ دکھا سکے اور صرف 3 رنز بنا کر شکیب الحسن کی گیند پر مشفق الرحیم کو کیچ دے بیٹھے جبکہ محمد علی بھی بغیر کھاتہ کھولے مہدی حسن مرزا کی گیند پر ایل بی ڈبلیو ہوگئے، یوں پوری ٹیم صرف 146 رنز پر ہی ڈھیر ہوگئی۔

ملک کے ساتھ غداری کرنیوالوں کا انجام بڑا بھیانک ہوتا ہے: اسحاق ڈار

شہباز شریف کی قیادت میں معیشت دوبارہ بحال ہوگی، ہم لوگوں کیلئے کام کریں گے، پاکستان کی خدمت کرکے نوکری کر رہا ہوں

لاہور (بیورو رپورٹ) نائب وزیر اعظم و وزیر خارجہ اسحاق ڈار نے کہا ہے کہ جس نے ملک کے ساتھ غداری کی اس کا انجام بڑا بھیانک ہوتا ہے۔ داتا دربار میں میڈیا سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے وزیر خارجہ اسحاق ڈار کا کہنا تھا کہ پاکستان کلمے کی بنیاد پر بنا ہے، ماضی میں ملک دولخت ہوا، ہم نے آدھا حصہ گنوا دیا، جنہوں نے ملک کو دولخت کیا ان کا حال بہت برا ہوا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان کی خدمت کر کے نوکری کر رہا ہوں، میں کبھی عہدوں کے پیچھے نہیں بھاگا، اللہ کا فضل ہے پہلے بھی وزیر خزانہ رہا، اس بار مجھے کئی ذمہ داریاں ملی ہیں، ڈپلومیٹک طور پر کہتے تھے پاکستان تنہائی کا شکار ہو گیا ہے، ہم نے نواز شریف کی قیادت میں پاکستان کو دنیا کی 24 ویں بڑی معیشت بنایا تھا۔ اسحاق ڈار کا کہنا تھا کہ ہماری پچھلی حکومت کے بعد اگلے 4 سال میں پاکستان 47 ویں معیشت بن گیا، کہا جاتا تھا پاکستان کو بھنور سے نکلنے میں 15 سال لگیں گے، نواز شریف کی حکومت میں اللہ کے فضل سے پاکستان کو مشکلات سے نکلنے میں صرف ساڑھے 3 سال لگے۔ نائب وزیر اعظم نے کہا 2013 میں گھنٹوں لوڈشیڈنگ اور دھماکے ہوتے تھے، اگلے ساڑھے تین سالوں میں لوڈشیڈنگ، دہشتگردی کا خاتمہ اور پاکستان 24 ویں معیشت پر پہنچا، کوئی دو آرا نہیں کہ پاکستان نے گزشتہ چار سال میں معاشی طور پر نقصان اٹھایا۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ میاں شہباز شریف دن رات تمام محاظوں پر محنت کر رہے ہیں، شہباز شریف کی قیادت میں معیشت دوبارہ بحال ہوگی، ہم لوگوں کیلئے کام کریں گے، وزیر اعلی پنجاب مریم نواز کا اقدام لائق تحسین ہے انہوں نے 2 ماہ کیلئے عوام کو بجلی بلوں میں 46 ارب روپے کا ریلیف دیا ہے۔ اسحاق ڈار نے کہا کہ میں نے 1993 میں پہلا ایم این اے کا الیکشن لڑا، ہم نے فیصلہ کیا حکومت کا آغاز دربار شریف کے منصوبے سے ہوگا، سب سے پہلے داتا دربار میں جی ٹی روڈ سے انٹری والا منصوبہ بنایا، پہلے لاہور ویٹرنری ہسپتال کے ساتھ محفل سماع ہوا کرتی تھی۔ ان کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ یہ اللہ کے کام ہوتے ہیں وہ جس سے بھی کام لے، اللہ کی ہم پر یکطرفہ مہربانی ہے، ہم تو گنہگار ہیں۔

تونسہ، پولیس مقابلے کے دوران خوارج کے دو دہشت گرد ہلاک

تونسہ (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) تھانہ سٹی تونسہ کی حدود میں سٹی فوڈ کلب کے قریب پولیس سے مقابلے کے دوران فتنۃ الخوارج کے دو دہشت گرد مارے گئے۔ پولیس ذرائع کے مطابق 24 اگست کو فتن الخوارج کا ایک گروہ دہشت گردی کی بڑی کارروائی کے لیے موجود تھا، ایس ایچ او تحصیل و ہوا ضلع تونسہ کی جانب سے دہشت گردوں کی موجودگی کی خفیہ اطلاع پر فوری چھاپہ مارا گیا۔ پولیس کے پہنچتے ہی دہشت گردوں نے پولیس پارٹی پر فائرنگ شروع کر دی جہاں پولیس نے جوابی کارروائی کرتے ہوئے 2 خارجی دہشت گردوں کو جہنم واصل کر دی۔ شدید فائرنگ کے تبادلے میں ایس ایچ او وہوا، سب انسپکٹر صادق اور کانسٹیبل مظہر نذیر زخمی ہوگئے۔ زخمی پولیس اہلکاروں کو تحصیل ہیڈ کوارٹر تونسہ منتقل کر دیا گیا جہاں انھیں طبی امداد دی جا رہی ہے۔ قانون نافذ کرنے والے اداروں کی اس کارروائی سے فتنۃ الخوارج کو شدید دھچکا لگا، اہل علاقہ نے دہشت گردوں کا مردانہ وار مقابلہ کرنے پر پولیس جوانوں کی حوصلہ افزائی کی۔ قانون نافذ کرنے والے ادارے اور سیکیورٹی فورسز وطن عزیز سے دہشت گردی کے خاتمے کے لیے پر عزم ہیں۔ تھانہ سٹی تونسہ کی حدود میں سٹی فوڈ کلب کے قریب پولیس سے مقابلے کے دوران فتنۃ الخوارج کے دو دہشت گرد مارے گئے۔ پولیس ذرائع کے مطابق 24 اگست کو فتن الخوارج کا ایک گروہ دہشت گردی کی بڑی کارروائی کے لیے موجود تھا

گوادر میں پینے کے صاف پانی کی دستیابی کیلئے حکمت عملی تیار

گوادر (بیورو رپورٹ) گوادر کے علاقے کلڈان میں مقامی آبادی کو درپیش مسائل اور ان کے حل کے لیے کھلی کچہری کا اہتمام کیا گیا۔ کھلی کچہری میں پاک فوج کے متعلقہ افسران سمیت اسسٹنٹ کمشنر گوادر، تحصیلدار جیونی، ڈسٹرکٹ ہیلتھ آفیسر، ڈسٹرکٹ ایجوکیشن آفیسر سمیت دیگر افراد نے شرکت کی۔ کھلی کچہری میں مقامی آبادی کو درپیش پینے کے پانی کے مسائل اور ان کے جلد سدباب کے حوالے سے حکمت عملی اختیار کی گئی۔ مقامی آبادی کی جانب سے بیسک ہیلتھ یونٹ کلڈان میں میڈیکل سٹاف اور ادویات کی کمی کا بتایا گیا جس کے حل کے لیے فوری اقدامات اٹھانے کی ہدایات کی گئی۔

اسلام آباد، وزیراعظم آزاد کشمیر چوہدری انوار الحق سے عامر خورشید ملاقات کر رہے ہیں

مودی تیسری بار وزیراعظم بننے کے بعد 4 مرتبہ پاکستان کی فضائی حدود استعمال کر چکے

اسلام آباد (نامہ نگار) نریندر مودی حالیہ انتخابات میں تیسری بار وزیراعظم بھارت بننے کے بعد 4 مرتبہ پاکستان کی فضائی حدود سے گزر چکے ہیں۔ مودی 24 اگست سے قبل 21 اگست کو دہلی سے اپنے خصوصی طیارے انڈیا ون میں پولینڈ کے دارالحکومت وارسا جاتے ہوئے صبح 10 بجے قصور کے قریب سے 36 ہزار فٹ کی بلندی سے پاکستان کی فضائی حدود میں داخل ہوئے تھے، ان کا طیارہ 48 منٹ تک پاکستان کی فضائی حدود میں رہا، وہ چترال سے افغانستان کی فضائی حدود میں داخل ہوئے۔ اس سے قبل دہلی سے ماسکو جاتے ہوئے 8 جولائی کو صبح 11 بج کر 26 منٹ پر وزیراعظم بھارت کا طیارہ انڈیا ون صبح 11 بج کر 26 منٹ پر 36 ہزار فٹ کی بلندی سے پرواز کرتے ہوئے پاکستان کی فضائی حدود میں داخل ہوا اور چترال کے قریب سے ہی دوپہر 12 بج کر 10 منٹ پر افغانستان کی فضائی حدود میں داخل ہوا۔ یہی طیارہ ماسکو سے ویانا گیا اور پھر 10 جولائی کو ایران کے راستے زائدان کے قریب سے رات 4 بج کر 43 منٹ پر پاکستان کی فضائی حدود میں داخل ہوا۔ وزیراعظم بھارت کا طیارہ رحیم یار خان کے اوپر سے 37 ہزار فٹ کی بلندی سے پرواز کرتے ہوئے صبح 5 بج کر 54 منٹ پر 37 ہزار فٹ کی بلندی پر بھارت میں داخل ہوا تھا۔

بشریٰ بی بی اور علیمہ خان بارے پراپیگنڈہ کیا جارہا، بیرسٹر سیف

پشاور (بیورو رپورٹ) مشیر اطلاعات خیبر پختونخوا بیرسٹر ڈاکٹر سیف نے کہا ہے کہ بشری بی بی اور علیمہ خان بارے نااہل حکومت پراپیگنڈہ کر رہی ہے۔ وفاقی وزیر اطلاعات عطا تارڑ کے بیان پر ردعمل دیتے ہوئے بیرسٹر سیف کا کہنا تھا کہ علیمہ خان اور بشری بی بی میں پارٹی پر قبضہ کی خبریں مینڈیٹ چور حکومت کی خواہش ہوسکتی ہے مگر حقیقت نہیں، پارٹی عمران خان کی ہے اور وہ خود تمام معاملات دیکھ رہے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ عمران خان کی قیادت میں پی ٹی آئی متفق متحد اور منظم ہے، بشری بی بی اور علیمہ خان بارے نااہل حکومت پراپیگنڈہ کر رہی ہے، اختلافات شریف خاندان میں ہے

حکومت عوام کے آگے بندھ نہیں باندھ سکتی، مسرت چیمہ

لاہور (بیورو رپورٹ) پاکستان تحریک انصاف کی سینئر رہنما مسرت جمشید چیمہ نے کہا ہے کہ حکومت کنٹینرز کے ذریعے عوام کے شعور کے آگے بندھ نہیں باندھ سکتی، ان شاءاللہ 8 ستمبر کو بھرپور جلسہ ہوگا اور ہم پر امن رہ کر اپنا آئینی وقانونی حق استعمال کریں گے، حکومت اور انتظامیہ ایسے اقدامات اٹھاتی ہے جس سے پی ٹی آئی کا جلسہ منعقد ہوئے بغیر ہی جلسہ پلس ہو جاتا ہے۔ اپنے بیان میں انہوں نے کہا کہ پی ٹی آئی آئین و قانون پر عمل کرنے والی جماعت ہے، پی ٹی آئی نے ملک بھر میں لاکھوں کی تعداد والے جلسے کئے ہیں لیکن کبھی ایک گملا بھی نہیں ٹوٹا، ہمارا مطالبہ ہے حکومت اور انتظامیہ ہمیں سخت شرائط سے آگاہ کرنے کی بجائے خود انتشار سے باز رہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پی ٹی آئی کو تو جلسے کے لئے تشہیر کی بھی ضرورت نہیں ہوتی، حکومت کے منفی ہتھکنڈے ہی تشہیر ہوتے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پی ٹی آئی نے ہمیشہ آئین وقانون کی حکمرانی اور جمہوری آزادی کیلئے جدوجہد کی ہے اور یہ سلسلہ آج بھی جاری ہے، پی ٹی آئی عمران خان کی قیادت میں متحد ہے اور جو لوگ پی ٹی آئی میں تقسیم کے خواب دیکھ رہے ہیں وہ نامراد ہی رہیں گے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ ظلم اور جبر کی رات اب ختم ہونے والی ہے اور وہ دن دور نہیں جب عوام کو حقیقی آزادی نصیب ہو گی۔ پاکستان تحریک انصاف کی سینئر رہنما مسرت جمشید چیمہ نے کہا ہے کہ حکومت کنٹینرز کے ذریعے عوام کے شعور کے آگے بندھ نہیں باندھ سکتی، ان شاءاللہ 8 ستمبر کو بھرپور جلسہ ہوگا اور ہم پر امن رہ کر اپنا آئینی وقانون حق استعمال کریں گے

حزب اللہ کے راکٹ اور ڈرون حملے، اسرائیل کا 2 روزہ ایمرجنسی کا اعلان

اپنے حملے میں اسرائیلی فوجی تنصیبات اور دفاعی نظام آئرن ڈوم کو نشانہ بنایا، بدلے کا پہلا مرحلہ مکمل ہوا، حزب اللہ

بیروت (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) لبنان کی مزاحمتی تنظیم حزب اللہ نے اپنے کمانڈر فواد شکر کا بدلہ لینے کے لیے اسرائیل پر رات گئے 320 راکٹ اور 100 سے زائد دھماکا خیز ڈرون فائر کیے۔ غیر ملکی میڈیا کے مطابق حزب اللہ نے شمالی اسرائیل میں قائم مختلف شہروں پر ڈرون طیاروں اور راکٹوں سے حملہ کیا، حزب اللہ نے اپنے حملے میں اسرائیلی فوجی تنصیبات اور دفاعی نظام آئرن ڈوم کو نشانہ بنایا۔ حزب اللہ کی جانب سے جاری بیان میں کہا گیا کہ ہم نے اپنے کمانڈر فواد شکر کا بدلہ لینے کے لیے اسرائیل پر 320 راکٹ فائر کیے اور یہ ہمارے بدلے کا صرف پہلا مرحلہ ہے جواب مکمل ہوا ہے۔ دوسری جانب حزب اللہ کے حملوں کے بعد اسرائیل میں آئندہ 48 گھنٹوں کیلیے ایمرجنسی صورتحال کا اعلان کیا گیا ہے اور لوگوں کو گھروں میں رہنے کی ہدایت کی گئی ہے جب کہ حزب اللہ کے حملوں کے جواب میں اسرائیلی جنگی طیاروں نے بھی لبنان پر حملے شروع کردیے ہیں۔ حزب اللہ کے حملے کے بعد تل ابیب سے آنے اور جانے والی تمام پروازوں کو معطل کردیا گیا تھا جنہیں اب بحال کر دیا گیا ہے۔ حزب اللہ اور اسرائیل کے درمیان بڑھتی کشیدگی پر وائٹ ہاؤس نے بیان جاری کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ امریکی صدر جو بائیڈن اسرائیل لبنان تازہ صورتحال پر نظر رکھے ہوئے ہیں، صدر بائیڈن قومی سلامتی ٹیم سے رابطے میں ہیں اور ان کی ہدایت پر سینئر امریکی حکام اسرائیلی ہم منصبوں سے رابطے میں ہیں۔ یاد رہے فواد شکر حزب اللہ کے سینئر کمانڈر تھے اور حزب اللہ سربراہ حسن نصراللہ کے قریبی ساتھیوں میں سے تھے، اسرائیل نے 30 جولائی کو بیروت میں حملہ کرکے فواد شکر کو نشانہ بنایا تھا جس میں وہ جاں بحق ہوگئے تھے جس کے بعد حزب اللہ نے اسرائیل سے اپنے کمانڈر کا بدلہ لینے کا اعلان کیا تھا جب کہ اس کے اگلے ہی روز اسرائیل نے ایران میں اسماعیل ہنیہ پر حملہ کرکے انہیں بھی شہید کیا تھا۔

آذربائیجان کے وزیر داخلہ کا محسن نقوی کو خط، ڈاکو حملے کی مذمت

اسلام آباد (سٹاف رپورٹر) آذربائیجان کے وزیر داخلہ ولایت ایوازوف نے پاکستانی ہم منصب سید محسن نقوی کو خط لکھ کر رحیم یار خان میں پولیس قافلے پر ڈاکوؤں کے حملے کی شدید الفاظ میں مذمت کی ہے۔ وزیر داخلہ آذربائیجان ولایت ایوازوف نے حملے میں پولیس اہلکاروں کی شہادت پر گہرے رنج اور افسوس کا اظہار کیا۔ انہوں نے خط میں لکھا کہ ڈاکوؤں کے حملے سے 12 پولیس اہلکاروں کی شہادت پر دلی دکھ ہوا، حملے میں شہید پولیس اہلکاروں کو خراج عقیدت پیش کرتے ہیں، حملے میں زخمی پولیس اہلکاروں کی جلد صحتیابی کے لیے دعا گو ہیں، مسلح گروہ نے غیر انسانی اور وحشیانہ پن کے فعل کا ارتکاب کیا۔ ولایت ایوازوف کا کہنا تھا کہ بے دردی سے لوگوں کو کچلنے اور مارنے والے انسان کہلانے کے لائق نہیں، آذربائیجان کی حکومت دہشتگردی کے خلاف جنگ کی مکمل حمایت کرتی ہے۔ وزیر داخلہ آذربائیجان نے خط میں شہید پولیس اہلکاروں کے لواحقین سے دلی ہمدردی و تعزیت کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے لکھا کہ آذربائیجان کی حکومت متاثرہ خاندانوں کے دکھ درد میں برابر کی شریک ہے، مشکل کی گھڑی میں آذربائیجان کی حکومت پاکستان، عوام، شہدا پولیس کے لواحقین، زخمیوں اور آپ کے ساتھ دلی ہمدردی کا اظہار کرتی ہے۔ آذربائیجان کے وزیر داخلہ ولایت ایوازوف نے پاکستانی ہم منصب سید محسن نقوی کو خط لکھ کر رحیم یار خان میں پولیس قافلے پر ڈاکوؤں کے حملے کی شدید الفاظ میں مذمت کی ہے۔

جھوٹا بیانیہ بنا کر ایک اور 9 مئی برپا کرنیکا پراپیگنڈا کیا جارہا: خواجہ آصف

سیاسی ماحول ہر وقت گرم رہتا ہے، بشریٰ بی بی اور سپرنٹنڈنٹ جیل کی جو گفتگو سامنے آئی ہے اس کا کوئی وجود نہیں، علی امین گنڈاپور بزدار نمبر ٹو ہیں، میڈیا سے گفتگو

سیالکوٹ (بیورو رپورٹ) وزیر دفاع و رہنما مسلم لیگ ن خواجہ محمد آصف نے کہا ہے کہ جھوٹا بیانیہ بنا کر ایک اور 9 مئی برپا کرنے کا پراپیگنڈا کیا جارہا ہے۔ سیالکوٹ میں میڈیا سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے وزیر دفاع خواجہ آصف کا کہنا تھا کہ سیاسی ماحول ہر وقت گرم رہتا ہے، جلسے کی منسوخی کے بعد بشری بی بی اور دیگر رہنماں کی گفتگو میڈیا پر سامنے آئی ہے، ان کی گفتگو نے ملک سے خلوص پر بہت بڑا سوالیہ نشان کھڑا کر دیا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ بشری بی بی اور سپرنٹنڈنٹ جیل کی جو گفتگو سامنے آئی ہے اس کا کوئی وجود نہیں، نہ انہیں کوئی زہر دے رہا ہے اور نہ ہی سپرنٹنڈنٹ سے کوئی گفتگو ہوئی ہے، صرف جھوٹا بیانیہ بنا کر ایک اور 9 مئی برپا کرنے کا پراپیگنڈا کیا جارہا ہے۔ خواجہ آصف کا کہنا تھا کہ ملک کے خلاف بغاوت کا بیانیہ بنایا گیا ہے، مختلف بین الاقوامی اخبارات میں پیڈ آرٹیکل چھپوائے گئے، یہ سیہونی ایجنڈا ہے جس کے تحت یہ لوگ اقتدار میں آئے، پاکستان ایٹمی قوت ہے ان کا اس ملک کو تباہی کے دہانے پر پہنچانے کا ارادہ تھا۔ وزیر دفاع نے کہا کہ 9 مئی کی بغاوت کو اللہ پاک نے ناکام کیا، ڈیڑھ سال ہوگیا 9 مئی کے مجرموں کے خلاف کوئی کارروائی نہیں کی جارہی، اس تصادم میں قانونی اور آئینی اداروں نے بھی ایک پوزیشن لے رکھی ہے۔ لیگی رہنما کا کہنا تھا کہ پی ٹی آئی کے سارے بیانیے ملک مخالف ہیں ان کا حقیقت سے کوئی تعلق نہیں، جیلوں کی گفتگو چھپی نہیں رہتی، علی امین گنڈاپور بزدار نمبر ٹو ہیں، سواتی صاحب اچانک کہاں سے آگئے؟ پی ٹی آئی کے جلسے کی منسوخی کے حوالے سے کیے گئے ایک سوال کے جواب میں خواجہ آصف نے کہا کہ جلسے کی ناکامی دیکھ کر انہوں نے جلسہ منسوخ کیا، انہیں جلسے سے کسی نے نہیں روکا۔ وزیر دفاع و رہنما مسلم لیگ ن خواجہ محمد آصف نے کہا ہے کہ جھوٹا بیانیہ بنا کر ایک اور 9 مئی برپا کرنے کا پراپیگنڈا کیا جارہا ہے

ڈیرہ، گورنر خیبر پختونخوا فیصل کریم کنڈی سے پی پی کے رہنما سخی مرجان، ظفر خان، ریحان بلوچ ملاقات کر رہے ہیں

راولپنڈی، ایس ایس پی آپریشنز فلائٹ لیفٹیننٹ (ر) حافظ کامران اصغر کرکٹ سٹیڈیم کے دورے کے دوران سیکورٹی انتظامات جائزہ لے رہے ہیں

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Chaudhry Salik emphasizes transformative role of women in building awareness across religious, cultural, societal & familial domains

CAIRO: Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Chaudhry Salik Hussain has emphasized the transformative role of women in building awareness across religious, cultural, societal, and familial domains.

The federal minister was addressing the 35th International Conference on the role of women in building awareness in Cairo, Egypt. Chaudhry Salik Hussain highlighted women's significant role in addressing contemporary issues such as religious intolerance and promoting global peace. "As we continue to advocate for gender equality and empower women, we must recognize their achievements, ensuring their voices and efforts are valued' he added. He asserted to empower women for leadership roles and added: we not only honour their contributions but also enhance the inclusivity and depth of religious discourse, the federal minister added. He stated that as we gather at this forum, our exploration of conference theme will delve into four critical areas where women have been and continue to be pivotal including religious awareness, cultural awareness, societal services, and the nurturing of family and child development. He said each of these domains highlights not only the invaluable contributions of women but also the potential for further growth and impact as we continue to champion gender equity.

The minister said the role of women in building awareness, particularly in spreading knowledge, promoting good, and upholding justice, is well-recognized in Islam. "Religious awareness is fundamental in fostering mutual respect and understanding among diverse communities. Women have played a transformative role in this arena, acting as custodians and communicators of faith", he added.

Chaudhry Salik Hussain noted historically and across cultures, women have been at the heart of religious education, guiding families and communities in spiritual matters. He said today, women continue to lead and innovate in religious spaces. They are breaking barriers to become prominent voices in theological scholarship, interfaith dialogues, and grassroots religious movements. He said women through their role as creators, preservers, and educators, have been pivotal in shaping and expanding cultural awareness. He said in literature, art, and media, women have made indelible marks. Moreover, women play a crucial role in cultural preservation and education. He was of the view that in modern times, women are also leading efforts to celebrate and educate others about diverse cultural heritages through museums, cultural festivals, and educational programs. "Encouraging women to continue their work in these areas ensures a richer, more inclusive cultural narrative. Their insights and creativity not only preserve cultural heritage but also promote intercultural understanding and respect", the minister added. *(Picture on page 1)*

ISLAMABAD: District administration opened the spillways of Rawal Dam on August 25 at 6 am, and is actively monitoring the situation at rivers and bridges and has completed preparations for potential flood scenarios. ONLINE

At least 12 people killed, 35 injured when a bus overturned on the Makran coastal highway & fell into a ditch

President Zardari, PM Shehbaz, Sarfraz Bugti, others express heartfelt condolences over the loss of Zaireen's lives in a bus accident on Makran Coastal Highway

MAKRAN/ISLAMABAD: At least 12 people were killed and 35 injured when a bus overturned on the Makran coastal highway and fell into a ditch on Sunday.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Lasbela Captain (retd) Naveed Alam said the bus was carrying pilgrims from Iran to Punjab when it overturned near Buzzi Top as the driver lost control of the vehicle due to overspeeding.

Four passengers were still trapped inside the coach, and a crane has been called for to evacuate them, SSP Alam said.

The dead and injured were said to be from Lahore and Gujranwala, according to Hakeem Lassi, Edhi in-charge Lasbela.

He added that the army, Rescue 1122, and Edhi were conducting the rescue operation, and the injured had been shifted to civil hospital.

The bus was carrying around 60 passengers, Ali Hassan, one of the injured passengers who belongs to Gujranwala, told a private TV channel. Five of the injured were brought to Jam Ghulam Qadir hospital in Hub where first aid was administered to them before being sent to Karachi, according to District Commissioner (DC) Hub Rohana Gul Kakar. She added that one body has been brought to the Rural Health Centre in Winder.

An emergency has been imposed in hospitals in Hub to treat the injured, according to Mir Ali Hassan Zehri, adviser on commerce and industries to Balochistan's CM.

The Sindh government has also been contacted for the best possible treatment for the injured, as have authorities of the health department, he added. Gwadar DC Hamoodur Rehman has imposed a complete travel ban on the movement of pilgrims from Iran's Gabd to Gwadar for their safety, according to a statement issued by the district's administration.

"Iran has also banned the entry of pilgrims, and, therefore, they should avoid any travel at this time," the statement said. This measure is aimed at improving traveling facilities for pilgrims, the statement read. It urged pilgrims to avoid any unnecessary travel at this point.

Meanwhile President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif have expressed heartfelt condolences over the loss of Zaireen's lives in a bus accident on Makran Coastal Highway. In their condolence message, they commiserated with the bereaved families of deceased and directed the relevant authorities to provide timely medical aid and care to the injured. The President prayed for high ranks of the deceased in the hereafter and speedy recovery of the injured.

The Prime Minister directed the authorities concerned to provide timely medical aid and care to the injured.

Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi has expressed deep sorrow over the bus accident on the Makran Coastal Highway, resulting in the loss of 12 lives of pilgrims. He also expressed regret over the bus falling into a ditch near Rawalakot, resulting in the loss of 29 lives.

Interior Minister extended heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased in both accidents and prayed for the swift recovery of the injured. He said that he was deeply saddened by the large-scale loss of life in the accidents and shared the grief of the families of the deceased. May Allah grant patience and courage to the families of the deceased.

Sindh Governor Kamran Tessori also instructed relevant authorities to shift the injured to Karachi and provide all possible medical facilities to them. He expressed his solidarity with the families of the deceased in their hour of grief, according to a post shared on X.

Meanwhile, Punjab Governor Sardar Saleem Haider Khan, and Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti in their separate messages have expressed sorrow over loss of precious lives.Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif expressed deep sorrow over the loss of lives in the Lasbela incident and extended her condolences to the grieving families. She also prayed for the swift recovery of those injured. SABAH

Thirteen new campuses to be established in Karachi: Dr. Khalid

KARACHI: Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training and MQM-Pakistan Convener Dr Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui on Sunday said that after the 18th amendment, only campuses could be established in Karachi instead of erecting any new university buildings here.

The minister witnessed the signing ceremony of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the National College of Arts (NCA) and Preston Institute of Management Science and Technology (PIMSAT) for the provision of space to establish the NCA campus.

Talking to media persons after that MoU, he said that thirteen new campuses would be established in the city.

Dr Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui said that NCA was a proud institute of the country and that Karachites deserved its campus.

Expressing his concerns over the low rate of education, he was of the view that every empty building should be established for education.

Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui said that MQM-Pakistan gave two young leaders to the city.

He said that Karachi was not as it was in 2008.

He further said that the United Nations (UN) had come to make the city livable.

The MoU ceremony was signed in the presence of the Vice Chancellor of the National College of Arts (NCA) Professor Dr. Murtaza Jafri and Preston Institute of Management Science and Technology (PIMSAT)'s Dr. Mohammed Ali.

Kashmiris' struggle goes beyond Article 370: APHC-AJK

ISLAMABAD: All Parties Hurriyat Conference Azad Jammu Kashmir (APHC-AJK) chapter has said that the people of Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir are not concerned with the restoration of Article 370, which was unilaterally abrogated by the Indian government on August 5, 2019.

APHC-AJK leaders Sheikh Abdul Majid, Sheikh Muhammad Yaqoob, Zahid Ashraf, Zahid Safi, Muhammad Ashraf Dar, Syed Aijaz Rehmani, Chaudhry Shaheen Iqbal, Mian Muzaffar, Manzoor Ahmed Dar, Syed Mushtaq Ahmed, Abdul Majeed Lone and Imtiaz Iqbal Wani in a joint statement in Islamabad said the struggle of the Kashmiris is not limited to a constitutional provision like Article 370 and 35A.

They said Indian Home Minister Amit Shah's refusal to restore it is meaningless to the Kashmiris as the struggle of the people of occupied Jammu and Kashmir is not for the reinstatement of a temporary provision or farcical elections but for complete independence from the Indian hegemony. They explained that the abrogation of Article 370, and 35A was unconstitutional and oppressive, which was BJP's agenda to snatch all political, social, economic and religious rights of the IIOJK people and to strengthen its illegal occupation over Kashmir.

CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif Directs to Establish PHA in Every District Across Punjab

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif said, "Cleanliness of all cities, villages and every street and muhallah will be ensured. The people should see a clear difference in the improvement of cleanliness and other affairs." A principle decision has been made to establish PHA in every district across Punjab. Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif while presiding over a meeting to review administrative measures directed to make green belts surrounding the roads along with taking their continuous care.

The CM directed the administration to further increase its focus on the beautification of cities. The Chief Minister directed to make maximum plantation along with making functional street lights in all cities of the province. Deputy Commissioner Rahim Yar Khan apprised about Artificial Intelligence software so as to review implementation on the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

Special Assistant Rashid Nasrullah, Chief Secretary Zahid Athkar Zaman, Home Secretary Noor ul Amin Mengal, IG Police, Commissioner, RPO and other relevant officials attended the meeting.

Five-day anti-polio drive set to launch on Sept 9

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Administration is set to launch a comprehensive five-day anti-polio campaign starting on September 9.

Deputy Commissioner Islamabad, Irfan Nawaz Memon on Sunday chaired a meeting to review arrangements for upcoming anti-polio drive.

According to an ICT spokesman, the meeting was attended by District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. Zeem Zia, Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) East and others. The campaign will target vaccination of 421,455 children against polio across the region.

The primary phase will run from September 9 to September 13, with additional rounds on September 14 and 15 to ensure that any remaining children are vaccinated.

A key focus of the meeting was the security of the polio teams, who will conduct door-to-door visits to cover every area and household in the city. Citizens are urged to cooperate with the teams and ensure their children receive the necessary polio drops.

This initiative is part of Islamabad's ongoing efforts to eradicate polio, aiming for full immunization coverage and a polio-free future. INP

Agreements with IPPs hinderance to economic progress: Speakers

ISLAMABAD: Speakers at an in-house session on Independent Power Producers (IPPs) and Capacity Payment Issues in the Power Sector on Sunday pointed out current agreements with IPPs as a hinderance to economic progress of the country.

The Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) recently hosted a Roundtable Conference on "Independent Power Producers (IPPs) and the Capacity Payment Issues in the Power Sector."

The speakers at the event included Ambassador (R) Inamul Haque; Former Caretaker Federal Minister for Commerce, Industries, and Production, Dr Gohar Ejaz; CEO of CPPA, Rihan Akhter; Former Chairman NDMA, Maj General Asghar Nawaz; Former SAPM CPEC, Khalid Mansoor; Senior Partner RIAA Barker Gillette, Husnain Naqvi; Partner Orrdignam & Co., Shahid Raza; CEO Attock Oil, Adil Khattak and GM WAPDA Irfan Rizvi, a news release said.

The discussion highlighted the challenges posed by Pakistan's current energy policies, particularly the implications of the existing tariff structure is unsustainable and burdensome for the economy. The need for a comprehensive review of these tariffs was emphasized, noting that the high cost of electricity is stifling economic growth and making Pakistan's exports less competitive on the global stage.

The conversation also addressed Pakistan's continued reliance on coal power plants, a practice that has been slowly reduced in various countries. Some speakers strongly advocated for the retirement of these plants, arguing that they are economically unviable in the long term. It was highlighted that natural gas should also not be sold in Pakistan, unless absolutely necessary. A significant portion of the discussion focused on the role of IPPs in Pakistan's energy sector.

The panellists critically examined the capacity payments being made to these producers. These payments, they argued, have placed a considerable strain on the national economy, particularly by inflating energy costs and reducing the competitiveness of Pakistani goods in the international market. INP

Vocational education vital to combat unemployment, skills development: Kundi

PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Faisal Karim Kundi has said that the vocational education holds key importance to combat unemployment and skills development in the province.

This was stated by him while talking during a meeting with Chairperson of the National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTC) Gulmina Bilal Ahmad at Governor House Peshawar on Sunday.

Chairperson NAVTTC briefed the Governor on initiatives taken for promoting vocational education in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Expressing his satisfaction with the progress, Faisal Karim Kundi highlighted the importance of involving as many young people as possible in these activities. He said that economic difficulties are a major source of unrest among youth and emphasized that empowering youth and women is among his top priorities.

The Governor pointed out that while there is a global demand for skilled labour, the lack of vocational training tailored to international standards often leaves Pakistani youth unable to secure jobs abroad. He welcomed the Prime Minister's decision to increase the budget for vocational education, stressing the need for training programs that meet modern requirements and international needs.

Kundi commended NAVTTC's efforts in launching courses in agriculture, IT and other fields, and discussed various proposals for further enhancing vocational education. He assured the NAVTTC Chairperson of full support from the Governor House to ensure a better future for the new generation.

Meanwhile, the Governor KP praised overseas Pakistanis and discussed social projects in a meeting at the Governor House with prominent social activist Imran Agra, a leader in the overseas Pakistani community-based in the United States. Social figures Malik Kifayat and Zahid Saleem from Islamabad were also present on this occasion.

Faisal Karim Kundi commended the overseas Pakistanis for their role as ambassadors of the country, acknowledging their significant contributions to enhancing Pakistan's global reputation through their hard work and dedication. He lauded the efforts of overseas Pakistanis in advancing social causes within Pakistan.

The discussion also covered various topics, including the promotion of education and social service projects in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Several proposals were reviewed to further these initiatives.

Governor Kundi expressed his appreciation for Imran Agra's suggestions and assured him of his full support and cooperation in these endeavours.

Meanwhile, Governor Faisal Karim Kundi, expressed deep sorrow over the tragic bus accident on the Makran Coastal Highway, which resulted in the deaths of 12 pilgrims. In his condolence message, the governor extended his condolences to the families of the deceased, offering heartfelt sympathy and prayers for the elevation of the souls of the departed. He also conveyed his best wishes for the speedy recovery of the injured in the accident.

Pak, Azerbaijan discusses future prospect for bilateral economic, trade ties

VOM Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Azerbaijan have discussed the prospect of bilateral economic and trade relations to further look at bilateral and multilateral cooperation in different sectors of the economy.

The Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Pakistan Khazar Farhadov met Deputy Chairman Senate Syedaal Khan at the residence of Deputy Chairman Senate on Sunday. During the meeting, issues of mutual interest including bilateral relations and the overall situation of the region were discussed in detail.

Meanwhile, the Deputy Chairman Senate said that Pakistan values its fraternal relations with Azerbaijan and there is a need to increase cooperation between the two countries in the fields of economic and trade, investment, energy, defence, agriculture and natural resources.

The Deputy Chairman Senate said that there is an urgent need to promote investment and trade between the two countries and it is necessary to remove the existing obstacles for the improvement of the economy. He said that Parliamentary and institutional cooperation can help promote relations at the public level.

Emphasizing bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the meeting, the Deputy Chairman Senate said that Pakistan will further promote economic relations with Azerbaijan. Syedaal Khan said that trade and investment opportunities can be found through frequent exchanges of delegations in business sectors.

He said that Pakistan, especially Baluchistan province is rich in mineral wealth and will prove to be important in changing the destiny of this region. Pakistan will prove to be the economic and trade hub of the region and Investors and businessmen from all over the world should take advantage of the investment opportunities in Pakistan, he added.

The Deputy Chairman Senate said that the relationship between Pakistan and Azerbaijan is based on religious and cultural values.

Emphasis was placed on the work of the delegations regarding the promotion of exchanges.

Deputy Chairman Senate Syedaal Khan said that the parliaments have a heavy responsibility for peace and development in the region.

He said that many lives and financial sacrifices have been made in Pakistan in the war against terrorism. Every possible measure will be taken for the peace and survival of this region, he said.

The Deputy Chairman briefed that the Indian government has set the worst example of cruelty and violation of human rights in occupied Kashmir. He said that the whole world should take strict measures against the ongoing cruelty and brutality in Palestine and for the freedom of the Palestinians Islamic countries need to adopt a common plan of action.

He said that Prime Minister, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and PML- N Leader Muhammad, Nawaz Sharif are working for the development and prosperity of Pakistan. The Ambassador of Azerbaijan, Khazar Farhadov, agreed with the views of the Deputy Chairman of the Senate and said that Azerbaijan is keen to further develop its relations with Pakistan. They agreed to prepare an early action plan for the exchange of delegations in business sectors while stressing the need for institutional cooperation.

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