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Emphasizes the positive evaluation from int'l credit rating agencies, which reflect the stability of Pak's economic environment

Federal Minister for Finance & Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb

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DPM Dar, OIC chief stress urgency of Gaza ceasefire, humanitarian aid

JEDDAH: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Wednesday met with Secretary General of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Hissein Brahim Taha on the sidelines of the Open-Ended Extraordinary Meeting of OIC Executive Committee held here.

In the meeting, they discussed the situation in Gaza and Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), according to a press release.

The deputy prime minister discussed with the secretary general the ongoing genocide of the Palestinians and dire humanitarian situation in Gaza and the West Bank. They stressed the urgency of a ceasefire and unhindered supply of humanitarian assistance for the Palestinian people.

Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar praised the OIC for its efforts for peace in the Middle East and expressed full support of Pakistan for its initiatives.

He appreciated the historic role of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir and the Special Envoy for Jammu and Kashmir for supporting the legitimate right of self-determination of the Kashmiris as reflected in various OIC resolutions and statements. Islamophobia, discrimination, and violence against Muslims were also discussed in the meeting. The deputy prime minister also lauded the appointment of OIC Secretary General's Special Envoy on Islamophobia and expressed the hope that the special envoy would steer the campaign to address this important issue.

Political sanity need of hour: Musadik

ISLAMABAD: Dr. Musadik Malik, Federal Minister for Petroleum, emphasized the need for political sanity and tolerance to tackle Pakistan's pressing issues. In an interview with a private news channel on Wednesday, he highlighted the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz's (PML-N) economic policies, which he claimed reduced inflation from 38% last year to 12%. Malik criticized the previous Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf (PTI) regime, stating that it dragged the country into an economic crisis, which the current government has since recovered from. He accused the PTI's former chairman of perpetuating chaos and lawlessness since losing power. Malik specifically cited the May 9 events, where he alleged that PTI supporters desecrated martyrs' statues, as an example of this destructive behavior. APP

ISLAMABAD: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Mr Faisal Karim Kundi, called on President Asif Ali Zardari, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Govt. allocates historic budget for growth of IT, Telecom sectors: PM

SAPM Ali meets Prime Minister Shehbaz

VOM Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday said that the federal government had allocated a historic development budget, in the current fiscal year, for the promotion of Information Technology and Telecom sectors.

He said the incumbent government was prioritizing steps for increasing country's IT export.

The prime minister expressed these views during a meeting with a four-member delegation of GSM Association led by its Asia Pacific head Julian Gorman, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The meeting was attended by Minister of State for IT and Telecom Shaza Khawaja Fatima, Chairman Pakistan Telecommunication Authority Major General (retired) Hafeezur Rehman and other relevant senior officials.

The prime minister observed that GSMA had significant and vital role in the digitization processes and welcomed holding of Digital National Summit in Islamabad for the promotion of telecommunication and IT.

He said the mechanism processes for IT sector reforms and digitization was being implemented and the focus was made on common man's better access to internet, digital infrastructure, E-Governance, professional training of youth in the digital skills and innovations, besides promotion of business in this sector.

"Our vision envisaged access to smart phone by every individual, broadband internet facility to every household and facility of QR Code for all businesses, " the press release quoted the prime minister as saying.

The delegation apprised the prime minister of GSMA role throughout the world, including Pakistan, over promotion of telecom services and expressed its keen interest in enhancing cooperation with the government in IT and telecom sectors.

Meanwhile, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Power, Muhammad Ali, met with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday. The prime minister warmly congratulated Muhammad Ali on his new appointment and offered his best wishes for success, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

During the meeting, the SAPM received instructions from the prime minister regarding his forthcoming responsibilities.

PNS YARMOOK visits Bahrain, conducts bilateral exercises with friendly navies

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Navy Ship (PNS) YARMOOK on Wednesday visited port Mina Salman of Bahrain and bilaterally conducted exercises with friendly navies during deployment on Regional Maritime Security Patrol (RMSP).

Upon arrival at port, the ship was received by senior officials of Bahrain Navy and officials of Pakistan Embassy. Later, Commanding Officer of PNS YARMOOK called on Commander Royal Bahrain Naval Force, Rear Admiral Ahmed Mohammad Ibrahim Al Bin Ali, Commander Royal Bahrain Coast Guards, Brig Saqib Qamar and other senior officials of Bahrain Navy, a Pakistan Navy news release said.

The Commanding Officer also visited HQ Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) and called on Dy Commander CMF, Commodore Mark Anderson. During the interactions, professional matters of mutual interests were discussed and enhancement of bilateral ties in all spheres was re-affirmed.

During stay at port Mina Salman, Ambassador of Pakistan to Bahrain, Commander Maritime Coalition Forces, officials of Bahrain Navy, prominent businessmen, notables from Pakistani community, a large number of diplomats and Defence Attaché of friendly countries visited PNS YARMOOK. Various activities; including exchange visits onboard ships and orientation visits of military installations were also undertaken. Upon culmination of port visit, PNS YARMOOK conducted bilateral exercises with Royal Bahrain Navy Ship AL-MANAMA, US Ship DANIEL INOUYE and Japanese Maritime Self Defence (JMSDF) Ship, JS SAMIDARE. The exercises were aimed to develop synergy and mutual understanding among partner Navies while rehearsing interoperability to undertake joint operations in the region.

Pakistan Navy is maintaining permanent presence in the Indian Ocean to keep the national and international Sea Lines Of Communications (SLOC) under surveillance. Pakistan Navy (PN) believes in collaborative efforts for maintenance of rule-based order at sea. PN actively collaborates with regional and international partners deployed in Indian Ocean to counter piracy and to undertake anti-narcotics operations for protecting global common interests. PR

Pakistani pilgrims to get major facility at entering Iraq: visa fees waived, special flights announced

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi and Iraqi Ambassador Hamid Abbas Lafta announced a slew of measures aimed at easing travel restrictions and enhancing convenience to facilitate Pakistani pilgrims traveling to Iraq for Arbaeen. The landmark decisions were reached during a high-level meeting on Wednesday between the two sides who promised to make the journey smoother and more accessible for thousands of devotees.

Both sides agreed that Pakistani pilgrims traveling to Iraq for Arbaeen would no longer need to surrender their passports upon arrival. The meeting decided that the Pakistani pilgrims would be issued visas by the Iraqi Embassy, bypassing travel agents and the quota for Pakistan pilgrims would be increased.

It was also decided that special flights would be operating from Pakistan for Pakistani pilgrims while a new consulate will be opened in Karachi and both sides initiate a crackdown on agents charging excessive fees from pilgrims.

The meeting also decided Visa waiver agreement on diplomatic and official passports while it was requested for the visa fee waiver for the ordinary pilgrims.

The decisions aim to provide equal facilities to Pakistani pilgrims, ensuring a hassle-free experience. Mohsin Naqvi thanked the Iraqi counterparts for their cooperation, while Ambassador Lafta extended an invitation to visit Iraq. APP

In contact with US authorities over Pakistani national allegedly involved in murder plot: FO

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Wednesday said that they were in contact with the US authorities and awaiting further details regarding the alleged involvement of a Pakistani national in connection with an assassination plot in the United States.

"We have seen the media reports. We are in touch with the US authorities and await further details. We have also noted the statements by US officials that this is an ongoing investigation," Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said in a statement.

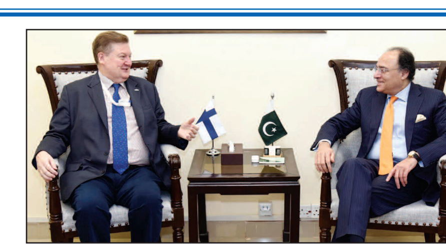
In response to the media queries, she also stated that before giving any formal reaction, the government also needed to be sure of the antecedents of the individual in question.

Finnish Ambassador Hannu Ripatti expresses his appreciation for Pakistan's economic reforms

Muhammad Aurangzeb emphasizes the positive evaluation from int'l credit rating agencies, which reflect the stability of Pak's economic environment

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Finland to Pakistan Hannu Ripatti called on Federal Minister for Finance & Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb at Finance Division on Wednesday.

The Finance Minister welcomed Ambassador Ripatti and shared updates on Pakistan's economic performance, highlighting rise in tax collection, increased remittances, and foreign exchange reserves exceeding USD 9 billion. He emphasized the positive evaluation from international credit rating agencies, which reflect the stability of Pakistan's economic environment. The Minister also discussed the successful conclusion of the 9-month SBA with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the recently finalized staff-level agreement for a 37-month IMF program. Additionally, the Minister outlined ongoing initiatives, including end-to-end digitization in the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) to broaden the tax base, reforms in the energy sector, restructuring of state-owned enterprises (SOEs), and focus on export-led growth. These initiatives are aimed at enhancing economic stability and promote long-term growth. SABAH



Parliament converted a rule into law to stop floor crossing as envisaged in Constitution: Tarar

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar said on Wednesday the Parliament was a supreme institution and through the Election (Amendment) Act it had converted a rule into a law to stop floor crossing as envisaged in the Constitution.

Addressing a press conference here, he said that Bilal Azhar Kayani of Muslim League (Nawaz) had presented the Election Act Amendment Bill in the National Assembly whereas Senator Talal Chaudhry moved it in the Senate.

The minister said that the bill was passed by the National Assembly and the Senate by majority votes and became an act.

He maintained that the Constitution and law were clear regarding floor crossing scourge and the new piece of legislation and further elaborate the matter.

According to the rules, he said an independent candidate had to join any party within three days after the announcement of official results of the elections.

The minister posed a question if a member's party could be changed after submitting an affidavit for joining a party.

He said that two Supreme Court judges had raised important points and questioned that even after 15 days, the detailed decision was not issued by the majority judges in the bench.

Tarar said that the PTI-backed independents joined a party that did not exist in Parliament, how could that party get any seat as those seats were given on the principle of proportion.

Moreover, he said under proportional representation rules, it was binding on each political party to display its candidates lists for both women and minority seats.

He said one fails to fathom the logic and stance of the PTI leadership that they should not hold intra-party elections without any legal action or punishment on that account.

About the situation in Bangladesh, he said that the government and people of

Pakistan stood with the people of that country. He appreciated the determination and resilience of the Bangladeshi people for standing up against the regime marred by corruption.

Tarar said in Pakistan, the PTI founder chairman had compared himself with Sheikh Mujeeb eulogizing his stance in 1971 which Pakistanis considered as against national interests. PTI leaders during television talk shows claimed that their leader was like Sheikh Mujeeb, he added.

Taking a jibe at the PTI founder chairman, he said if he did not take a U-turn, he cannot be called Imran Khan. He asked the PTI leaders if they had any faith, any sense of shame as now they were trying to build another narrative when Sheikh Mujeeb's daughter was thrown out of power by the people.

He said now when the statues of Sheikh Mujeeb were pulled down in Bangladesh, the PTI took a U-turn.

The PTI had created a narrative of Sheikh Mujeeb terming him a hero, posts were uploaded on its official social media accounts declaring him hero but after the fall of Mujeeb's statue PTI had changed its stance.

The minister said that the previous BD regime had created division in Bangladesh and the founding chairman PTI also believed in creating division in politics and society.

Tarar said that due to the degree of inconsistency in words and deeds, PTI founder chairman should be given the title of "King of U-turns".

He said that PTI founder chairman did use 'Islamic touch' for political gains and even was portraited a 'sacred' personality in public gathering and nobody disowned those callous remarks.

Tarar suggested that Barrister Gohar should tell his party leader when he meets him in jail, he had termed Sheikh Mujeeb a hero, but now the party narrative has changed.

To a question, he said the problem in Bangladesh was not economic conditions, it was the problem of division, hatred and quota system.

He expressed the hope that normalcy would return in Bangladesh and its journey towards prosperity would continue.

The minister questioned when Sheikh Mujeeb's narrative was being made by the PTI founder chairman, did he not know where his daughter was seeking help from.

He said it was his faith that no political party or leader was bigger than Pakistan, and slogans of " Imran Nahin tau Pakistan Nahin" exposed the mentality of PTI followers.

Answering a question, he said that matters have progressed amicably with Jamaat-e-Islami and formidable progress has been made in yesterday's talks. He said that the government had sent some points to the JI which will be discussed today.

Tarar said what Jamaat-e-Islami's demand actually was the agenda of the government. "We also want the electricity bills tariff to be reduced", he remarked.

The minister said that now the PTI founder chairman has demanded that a refrigerator should be provided in his prison cell. "His Highness has decreed that when water has been brought from the refrigerator in the prison from the superintendent's room, it gets hot on the way." APP

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Lessons from the east

ERIC SHAHZAR

The sudden resignation of Sheikh Hasina, prime minister of Bangladesh, has sent shockwaves through many struggling democracies. Her departure to a safe location in India on a military helicopter, coupled with the military's refusal to grant her a final address to the nation, demonstrates a theatrical shift in Bangladesh's political landscape. The crisis in Bangladesh escalated from student-led demonstrations against a quota system for government jobs. The situation rapidly deteriorated into violent clashes, resulting in over 200 deaths last month. This turmoil, combined with economic challenges – GDP growth dropping to 3.78 per cent from 7.0 per cent the previous year and inflation hovering around 10 per cent – set the stage for military intervention.

When people discuss the 'Asian Tigers', they often refer to Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea, and Taiwan – countries that experienced rapid growth between the 1960s and 1990s. Recently, Bangladesh seemed poised to join this group. However, the current economic and political instability has dimmed these prospects. For Pakistan, the developments in Bangladesh are a stark warning. Pakistan, already lagging behind Bangladesh in several metrics, must heed these lessons. Pakistan faces its own set of challenges: inflation around 12 per cent, a lack of jobs, and a significant portion of its youth seeking better opportunities abroad. Those left behind are frustrated, grappling with a polarized political landscape. The politics of polarization is not just a looming threat; it is a reality. Provinces are at loggerheads, and individuals in power use politics of hate and resentment to maintain their relevance. This needs to stop. According to the latest Pakistan Economic Survey for 2023-24, over 13.53 million Pakistanis have officially migrated to work in more than 50 countries by April 2024. This places Pakistan in the seventh position among the leading countries of migrant origin, according to the International Migration Report of 2022.

When young talent leaves the country in such significant numbers, it is a clear indication that the country has failed its youth. For additional perspective, consider the contrasting situation in India, where young Indians are increasingly choosing to stay and build their

Crisis in Bangladesh escalated from student-led demonstrations against a quota system for government jobs

futures at home. This stark difference highlights the challenges Pakistan faces in providing opportunities and stability for its younger generations. A seemingly small event, like the student-led protests against a quota system for government jobs in Bangladesh, can rapidly escalate into a revolution or even lead to the toppling of a government. In Pakistan, we are experiencing socio-political tensions across almost all provinces. One single incident could spark nationwide protests, putting countless lives at risk. The people of Pakistan are losing patience. If they do not see meaningful change in the next few years, we might witness scenes similar to those in Bangladesh or the uprisings of the Arab Spring. In Pakistan, we're already witnessing the erosion of the separation of powers, with state institutions often at daggers drawn. This ongoing conflict exposes deep fault lines within our governance structures, undermining the integrity and effectiveness of our institutions. Such a breakdown not only hampers the functioning of the government but also erodes public trust in the state's ability to govern fairly and effectively. Identity politics is another significant threat to the country's stability. When segments of society feel marginalized or sidelined over extended periods, it breeds resentment and unrest. Provinces such as Balochistan, for instance, have long felt neglected and marginalized. This sense of exclusion has already led to significant unrest, and if not addressed, has the potential to escalate further.

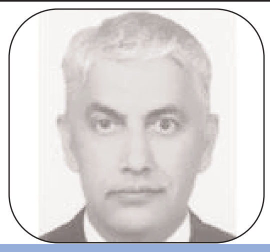
For too long has Pakistan has focused on pointing fingers at its neighbours for its instability. It is time for the country to take responsibility for its own shortcomings. Internal conflicts among provinces and divisive politics have weakened the nation. What happened in Bangladesh serves as a reminder that Pakistan needs to revamp its structures within the power corridors and work in unity for socio-economic and political development.

The likelihood of future undemocratic interventions in Pakistan is uncertain. While a formal takeover seems improbable in the near term, unforeseen circumstances could change the dynamics. Observing recent developments in Bangladesh, where unexpected political shifts have occurred, it becomes clear that anything is possible. As former US president Harry Truman aptly remarked, "Politics is a fascinating game". In other words, expect endless possibilities in the world political arena.

Self-reflection is crucial for Pakistan. It is imperative for the nation to learn from Bangladesh's crisis and implement necessary reforms to prevent a similar fate. An essential step towards national healing and unity would be to address historical grievances Bangladesh may hold in relation to the 1971 war. This could pave the way for a fresh start and improved relations between the two countries. And help us move on for self-healing.

The writer is an academic in the UK.

Regulating party elections



Muhammad Waqar Rana

Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah remained the president of the All India Muslim League from 1937 to 1943. Abul-Kalam Azad was the president of the All India Congress from 1936 to 1946. Syed Maududi headed the Jamaat-e-Islami almost throughout his life.

Founding leaders usually remain the head of a political party and are 'reelected' because in South Asia, people rally behind leaders and subscribe to their ideologies. Pakistan owes its existence to Jinnah, who created it against all odds.

The pivotal position of political parties in modern liberal democracies is well known. These parties are organized on common ideals. People vote for them on the basis of their programmes. Political parties help form public opinions on important issues that determine state policy. The ultimate goal of a political party is to gain power through ballot and deliver on its programme.

The entire constitutional scheme is built around the formation, membership, functioning and voting for political parties to give it a representative character. The formation of political parties, with the penumbra of rights, is therefore elevated to a fundamental right in almost all constitutions. These rights are also recognized in international charters as part of civil and political rights.

Pakistan's constitution recognized this basic right in Article 17. The 1956 and 1962 constitutions also recognized this right to form and join political parties. However, the original right, as guaranteed in the constitution of 1973, was qualified through the fourth amendment (1975) by adding more restrictions on the formation of and existence of political parties, including restrictions in the interest of Pakistan's integrity and sovereignty.

The federal government was given the power to prohibit or dissolve a political party subject to an SC verdict passed in a reference by the federal government. These expressions were not defined in the constitution. Additionally, a political party was obligated to account for funds. This restriction was added in the context of the cold war as parties were funded by the erstwhile communist Soviet Union. Funds and aid from the 'free world' were seen with favour.

The Political Parties Act, 1962 was also amended, and the power to prohibit and dissolve a political party lay with the federal government. It was a dangerous tool given in the hands of sitting governments, which could silence their political opponents and dissenting voices by prohibiting and dissolving political parties. The law was further amended to make it compulsory for political parties to register with the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP).

Yet in another attempt to control political parties in the political arena, intra–party elections were made a condition, and a certificate from the ECP had to be obtained to become eligible for a common election symbol for elections. This gave the commission the power to either refuse to accept or instead raise a dispute against such intra-party elections and then judge the said elections in the absence of an express adjudicating power under the law.

This latter part of the law was added through the Legal Framework Order of 2002 in Article 17 by adding clause 4 with the objective of excluding two main political parties from the electoral process. The Political Order, 2002 was promulgated to incorporate these Machiavellian provisions. Articles 11 and 17 of the Political Order, 2002 provided the legal framework. Article 17 was substituted through the 18th Amendment in 2010, and the requirement of holding intra-party elections was done away with. The omission of the said constitutional provision, having been challenged through a petition, was maintained by the SC in the 2015 district bar association case. It was held that intra-party elections were not sine qua non for a democratic setup (paragraph 117).

In an earlier attempt to control political parties, by amending the Political Parties Act, 1962 through various enactments during the martial law regime, restrictions were placed by forcing parties to register with the commission. The SC, in its historic judgment (1988) on a petition of the late Benazir Bhutto, struck down the requirement of registration made subject to the satisfaction of the ECP that was sine qua non for participation in elections and held that leaving discretion with the commission "be but an unreasonable restriction as it fails to provide a remedy against the exercise of discretion in putting to an end the existence of a political party in the context of rights guaranteed by the constitution".

In another judgment (1989), the vires of Section 21 of the Representation Act were challenged wherein political parties were omitted from eligible persons to obtain an electoral symbol for elections. The SC struck down that provision also and held that the right to obtain a symbol was part of the rights guaranteed under Article 17. The right to a symbol for elections is also connected with the constitutional right to vote as guaranteed under Article 51 of the constitution. Lawmakers overlooked the constitutional change and incorporated Article 17 of the Election Order in the form of Section 215 of the Election Act. There is no entry in the Federal Legislative List in relation to political parties. The law thus enacted can only draw its constitutional backing from Article 17 of the constitution. The ECP does not conduct intra-party elections. Section 209 of the Election Act does not confer jurisdiction upon the commission to decide an intra-party election dispute before giving the certificate.

In the absence of an express conferment of jurisdiction as required under Article 175(2) of the constitution and there being a bar under Article 225 of the constitution, the ECP cannot interfere in, dispute and decide an intra-party election matter and refuse the election symbol to a political party. It would become a party to the lis and a judge in the cause.

Political parties are like private clubs. Intra-party election disputes are to be decided by the courts of ordinary jurisdiction. The provisions of Sections 209 and 215 of the Elections Act are ultra vires and against the constitution's basic features. The commission, by denying the election symbol to a political party on the basis of intra-party elections, would be failing in its duty to hold free, fair and transparent elections.

In the Marbury v Madison case, the Judiciary Act was struck down in the absence of a formal challenge thereto. Vires of Section 8-B of the Political Parties Act were challenged in defence as a legal objection to question the jurisdiction of the ECP. The Supreme Court upheld the objection and declared Section 8-B ultra vires of the constitution. Judges take oath to uphold the constitution and not laws.

After committing an historic wrong in the Tamizuddin case (1955), CJ Munir, in the twilight of his career observed in the 1958 noon case that "if the country is ruined by the wrong choice of the prime minister, the responsibility for the disaster is that of the people and not of a judge". CJ Marshall's observation in McCulloch v Maryland is still relevant: "We must never forget that it is the constitution we are expounding". There is no harm in admitting mistakes.

The writer is an advocate of the Supreme Court and former additional attorney general for Pakistan. He can be reached at: mwaqarrana@yahoo.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

Under the constitution there is a formal division between the judiciary and the executive branches of government. The judiciary consists of the Supreme Court, the provincial high courts, and (under their jurisdiction and supervision) district courts that hear civil cases and sessions courts that hear criminal cases. There is also a magistracy that deals with cases brought by the police. The district magistrate (who, as deputy commissioner, also controls the police) hears appeals from magistrates under him; appeals may go from him to the sessions judge. The Supreme Court is a court of record. It has original, appellate, and advisory jurisdictions and is the highest court in the land. At the time of independence, Pakistan inherited legal codes and acts that have remained in force, subject to amendment. The independence of the judiciary has been tested at times, most notably in 2007, when Pres. Pervez Musharraf replaced the chief justice and several other Supreme Court justices who challenged his constitutional legitimacy. Pressure from lawyers' groups and opposition leaders led to the justices' reinstatement in 2009. The judicial system also has a religious dimension; a reorientation to Islamic tenets and values was designed to make legal redress inexpensive and accessible to all persons. A complete code of Islamic laws was instituted, and the Federal Shariat Court, a court of Islamic law (Shar ah), was set up in the 1980s; the primary purpose of this court is to ascertain whether laws passed by parliament are congruent with the precepts of Islam. The Shar ah system operates alongside the more secular largely Anglo-Saxon system and legal tradition.

The role of Islam in the political and cultural unification of Pakistan has been controversial. Some factions have argued that Islamic ideology is the only cement that can bind together the country's culturally diverse peoples. Opposing factions have argued that the insistence on Islamic ideology, in opposition to regional demands expressed in secular and cultural idiom, has alienated regional groups and eroded national unity.

To be continued.....

Showbiz

Kate Winslet makes poignant remarks as she accepts 'Golden Icon Award'

Kate Winslet leaves audience stunned with latest move

Kate Winslet, who is refusing to change anything about her original physique, let alone her "belly rolls", is set to be honoured at the Zurich Film Festival. The Oscar-winning actress is looking forward to accepting the festival's Golden Icon Award before the screening of her upcoming film, Lee.

Previously, Kate, who is widely known for her role in 1997's Titanic, recounted an instance when a crew member encouraged her to sit up straight during a scene.

She told Harper's Bazaar at the time, "There's a bit where Lee's sitting on a bench in a bikini... And one of the crew came up between takes and said: 'You might want to sit up straighter. So you can't see my belly rolls? Not on your life! It was deliberate, you know?" The 48-year-old, who is set to portray the role of a war journalist Lee Miller in the upcoming film, expressed disappointment when asked about cosmetic surgery. Kate continued, "The opposite. I take pride in it because it is my life on my face, and that matters. It wouldn't occur to me to cover that up. "I think people know better than to say, 'You might wanna do something about those wrinkles'. I'm more comfortable in myself as each year passes. It enables me to allow the opinions of others to evaporate."In addition, the Revolutionary Road actress also reflected on the criticism she faced over her body in early years. Kate is eagerly awaiting the release of her new film, Lee, on September 13, 2024.

Tech

WhatsApp Meta AI gets major update

People often experience a creativity slump, a dreadful time when people struggle to explore ideas or find inspiration. However, if you are one of them, then look no further than WhatsApp on your phone.

Meta's instant messaging app has truly evolved since its artificial intelligence into the platform and it just keeps on enhancing the app.

Recently, a new feature was announced on WhatsApp's channel on the app and it takes the app's intelligence to the next level.

According to the update on the channel, users can now ask Meta AI within the app any question and receive summarised answers to their queries.

The update revealed that users may even ask WhatsApp's Meta AI for ideas and inspiration when they are experiencing a creativity slump. All they need to do is head to the search bar at the top of their chats and ask away!

Mark Zuckerberg's Meta has enriched the company's instant messaging app with creative tool to help users

Meta AI has already changed the face of WhatsApp by introducing seven new languages and being available in more countries worldwide, including in Latin America for the first time.

Additionally, WhatsApp's parent company introduced new Meta AI creative tools, making it easier for users to bring their vision to life and turn their ideas and imagination into images.

Users also have the option to use Meta's largest and most capable open-source model inside Meta AI for challenging math and coding questions and more complex projects.

Health

How to get through with cancer diagnosis?

A lot of people can experience shock and get triggered upon coming to know about their cancer diagnosis especially when they are not expecting it. As per the World Health Organisation (WHO), cancer is one of the most widespread conditions worldwide. The National Cancer Institute (NCI) estimates that in the United States alone, there were around 1,806,590 new cases in 2020.

One important way of coping with a diagnosis of cancer is to be well informed as receiving it can come as a shock to anyone. Cancer is often surrounded by an aura of myth and much of what people think they know can often just be hearsay.

As a result, an important first step is to get as much information as possible from doctors and other reliable sources.

Dany Bell, a specialist advisor on treatment and recovery at Macmillan Cancer Support in the

Cancer diagnosis can shock, trigger a lot of people as WHO describes it as one of most widespread conditions

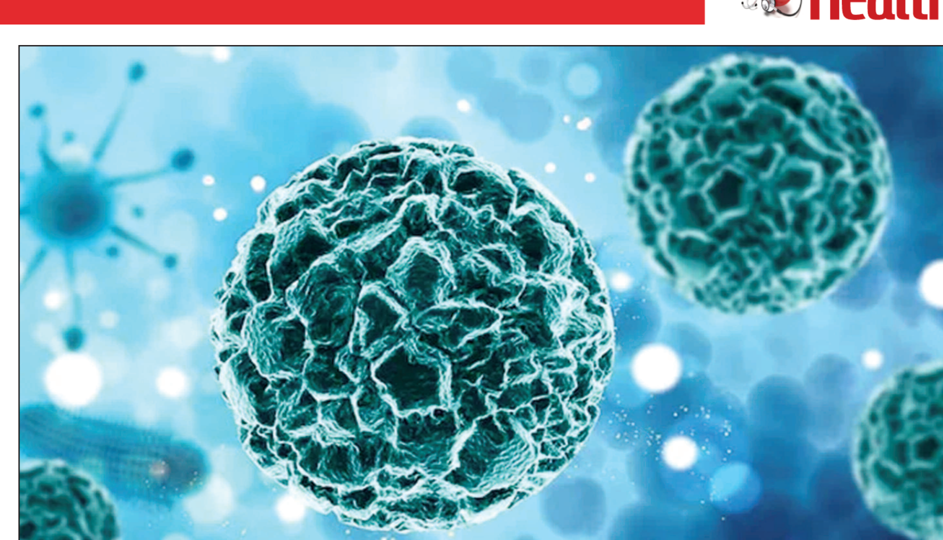
United Kingdom, told Medical News Today: "Being diagnosed with cancer can be a big shock, even if you already suspected you might have it." "Cancer is a word that can stir up many fears and emotions," added Bell, "but making sure you fully understand your diagnosis can help you feel more in control of the situation."

As the subject of a cancer diagnosis is always a heavily loaded one, so communicating with a doctor might feel challenging. It might be difficult for both the person and the doctor to communicate efficiently.

Dr Ann O'Mara, head of palliative care research in the NCI's Division of Cancer Prevention, told Medical News Today that there is no magical recipe for success in these cases. However, she said that open communication is very important to ensure that people get the information they need and that the doctor knows how they are coping with the diagnosis.

"If the communication with that physician is causing you to be more stressed out, you have to communicate that to the physician," she said.

Moreover, after receiving a cancer diagnosis, symptoms of depression and anxiety are often a natural outcome. A strong support network is also important to be able to count on.



روزنامہ
دی ایشین ٹیلی گراف
اسلام آباد
جمعرات 08 اگست 2024ء

ہماری حکومت اور قوم بنگلا دیشی عوام کے ساتھ کھڑی ہے، پاکستان

اسلام آباد (سٹاف رپورٹر) دفتر خارجہ کی ترجمان ممتاز زہرا بلوچ نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان کی حکومت اور عوام بنگلا دیشی عوام کے ساتھ کھڑے ہیں، امید ہے بنگلا دیش میں حالات پرامن اور تیزی سے معمول پر آئیں گے۔

بنگلہ دیش، برطرف انٹیلی جنس چیف فرار ہوتے گرفتار، حسینہ واجد کی پارٹی کے 29 رہنماؤں کی لاشیں برآمد

شیخ حسینہ کی حکومت کے خاتمے کے بعد سے مرکزی بینک کے گورنر عبدالرؤف تالقدر بینک واپس نہیں آئے، بنگلادیش فوج کے بعد پولیس کے اعلیٰ عہدوں پر بھی اکھاڑ پچھاڑ، پڑھ ایکشن بٹالین کیلئے نئے ڈی جی ایم شاہد الرحمان ہوں گے

طیارے سے ایک مسافر کو حراست میں لے کر طیارے کو جانے کی اجازت دیدی گئی۔ مقامی میڈیا نے دعویٰ کیا ہے کہ گرفتار شخص میجر جنرل ضیاالحسن ہیں ... 2009 میں راب 2 کے نائب کپتان بنے جب وہ میجر تھے۔ اسی سال انہیں لیفٹیننٹ کرنل کے عہدے پر ترقی دی گئی اور راب ہیڈکوارٹر کے انٹیلی جنس ونگ کا ... زائد لاشوں میں عوامی لیگ کے رہنما اور ان کے خاندان کے افراد شامل ہیں اور بتایا جارہا ہیکہ یہ لاشیں شیخ حسینہ واجد کے ملک چھوڑنے کے بعد ملی

اسلام آباد، وزیراعظم شہباز شریف مون سون شجرکاری مہم 2024 کی افتتاحی تقریب سے خطاب کر رہے ہیں

مون سون سیزن میں 10 کروڑ درخت لگائے جائیں گے، شہباز شریف

سندھ ہائی کورٹ میں گیس لیکیج دھماکا، بم ڈسپوزل سکواڈ طلب

عمران خان نے شیخ مجیب کو ہیرو بنا کر پیش کیا، مجسمہ گرتے یوٹرن لے لیا، عطاء تارڑ

عمران خان نے اپنا موازنہ شیخ مجیب سے کیا، کہا کہ میرے ساتھ وہ ہو رہا ہے جو اس کے ساتھ ہوا تھا، وفاقی وزیر اطلاعات

اسلام آباد (سٹاف رپورٹر) وفاقی وزیر اطلاعات ونشریات عطا تارڑ نے کہا ہے کہ پی ٹی آئی تو شیخ مجیب کو ہیرو مانتی تھی، ایک مجسمہ گرنے سے انہوں نے اپنا ایمان بدل لیا۔ اسلام آباد میں پریس کانفرنس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا کہ اس ایکٹ پر بات ہونی چاہیے کہ یہ قانون کس نظریے سے بنایا گیا ہے، مسلم لیگ (ن) کے رہنما بلال کیانی نے قومی اسمبلی میں الیکشن ایکٹ ترمیمی بل پیش کیا، سینیٹ میں طلال چوہدری نے بل پیش کیا اور وہاں وہ کثرت رائے سے منظور ہوا اور قانون بن گیا۔ عطا تارڑ کا کہنا تھا کہ فلور کراسنگ کے حوالے سے آئین واضح ہے کہ یہ جائز نہیں ہے، فرض کریں کہ کوئی آزاد امیدوار مسلم لیگ (ن) کا ایفیڈیوٹ جمع کرواتا ہے تو رولز یہ کہتے ہیں کہ 3 دن کے اندر پارٹی وابستگی ظاہر کرنی ہوتی ہے، حلف نامہ کسی دوسری پارٹی کا اگر دے دیا تو کیا وہ حلف نامہ ختم ہوسکتا ہے؟ کیا اسے ختم کرنے کے بعد دوسری پارٹی میں شامل ہوسکتے ہیں؟ کیا کسی کی حلف اٹھائے ہوئے ممبر کی رکنیت کو ختم کرکے نئے ممبران کو فلور کراسنگ کروا کر نئی پارٹی جوائن کروائی جاسکتی ہے؟ یہ بہت پیچیدہ صورتحال ہے۔ وفاقی وزیر نے بتایا کہ ایک رول پہلے ہی موجود تھا کہ 3 دن کے اندر آزاد امیدوار نے پارٹی میں شامل ہونا ہے، اس بل کے ذریعے اس رول کو قانون میں بدل دیا گیا ہے، یہ پریکٹس اور رول دونوں موجود ہیں، متناسب نمائندگی کا جو تعین ہے تو سپریم کورٹ کے 2 ججز نے انتہائی اہم سوالات اٹھائے ہیں، انہوں نے کہا کہ آئین کے آرٹیکلز 51، 62، 63 اور 106 کو معطل کرنا پڑے گا سپریم کورٹ کے فیصلے پر عمل درآمد کروانے کے لیے اور آئین کے کچھ آرٹیکلز کے اسکوپ سے باہر بھی جانا پڑے گا۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ ججز نے یہ سوال بھی اٹھایا ہے کہ 15 دن گزر گئے مگر اکثریت کی طرف سے ججمنٹ کا تفصیلی فیصلہ جاری کیوں نہیں کیا گیا؟ جب آئین واضح کہتا ہے کہ کسی بھی جماعت کو مخصوص نشستیں متناسب نمائندگی کے فارمولے کے تحت دی جائیں گی تو اس کا مقصد یہ ہے کہ وہ جماعتیں جو پارلیمان میں موجود ہیں، نا سنی اتحاد کے چیئرمین نے سنی اتحاد کے ٹکٹ پر الیکشن لڑا نہ ان کی جماعت کا پارلیمان کا کوئی وجود تھا، اگر آزاد امیدوار ایم ڈبلیو ایم جوائن کرتے تو شاید سیٹیں مل جاتیں، اب پارٹی کے الیکشن نہ کرائیں اور کہیں کہ سیٹیں مل جائیں، ایک ایسی پارٹی جوائن کریں جس کا وجود نہیں پارلیمنٹ میں اور پھر کہیں متناسب نمائندگی کے تحت ہمیں سیٹیں دی جائیں تو یہ کیسا انصاف ہے؟ انہوں نے کہا کہ متناسب نمائندگی کے لیے ضروری ہے کہ ہر سیاسی جماعت مخصوص نشستوں کے امیدواروں کی فہرستیں آویزاں کریں شیڈول کے مطابق، اس شیڈول کو بھی سپریم کورٹ کے فیصلے نے ختم نہیں کیا، اگر ہم نے 15 خواتین اور 10 اقلیتوں کی لسٹ دی ہے وہ انتخاب سے پہلے لگنی ہوتی ہے شیڈول کے مطابق تاکہ ووٹر کو مطلع کرسکیں کہ انہیں ہم نے چنا ہے اور یہ ووٹر کے اوپر ہے کہ وہ اس چوائس کے مطابق ہمیں ووٹ دیتا ہے یا نہیں دیتا الیکشن میں۔ عطا تارڑ نے بتایا کہ قانونی ماہرین کے مطابق وقت کے دھارے کو پیچھے موڑا گیا، بن مانگے ریلیف دیا گیا، اور ایسے فریق کو ریلیف دیا گیا جس نے مانگا ہی نہیں تھا

اسلام آباد، وزیر خزانہ محمد اورنگزیب سے فن لینڈ کے سفیر ملاقات کر رہے ہیں

پشاور ہائی کورٹ نے 10 نئے سول ججز کو تعینات کر دیا

راولپنڈی، ایس ایس پی آپریشنز کھلی کچہری کے دوران شہریوں کے مسائل سن رہی ہیں

فواد چوہدری کی توہین الیکشن کمیشن کیس ختم کرنے کی استدعا

چہلم امام حسینؓ، محکمہ داخلہ پنجاب نے فوج اور رینجرز کی خدمات طلب کر لیں

لاہور (بیورو رپورٹ) چہلم امام حسینؓ کے پرامن انعقاد کیلئے محکمہ داخلہ پنجاب نے فوج اور رینجرز کی خدمات طلب کرلیں۔ محکمہ داخلہ پنجاب کے مطابق قانون نافذ ...

راولپنڈی، کمشنر بارش کے دوران ہدایات دے رہے ہیں

آئی پی پیز کے حوالے سے جو ریلیف ممکن ہوا عوام کو دینگے، وزیر توانائی

انہوں نے بتایا کہ اس وقت کی حکومتوں نے دنیا کے کئی ممالک سے کہا کہ آپ پاور پلانٹس لگائیں۔ اس وقت امریکی ڈالر کا ریٹ 100 روپے تھا، چین نے ان پاور پلانٹس میں سرمایہ کاری کی۔ تقریباً 8 ارب ڈالر قرض لے کر یہ پاور پلانٹس لگائے گئے۔ وفاقی وزیر نے بتایا کہ تاریخ میں پہلی مرتبہ ڈسکوز کو پاور ڈویژن کے اختیار سے نکال رہے ہیں۔ اگلے سال ... بڑی اصلاحات کر رہے ہیں۔ این ٹی ڈی سی کے اندر ری اسٹرکچرنگ کی جارہی ہے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ این ٹی ڈی سی کے اندر پلاننگ اور ڈویلپمنٹ کے کام کو 3 مختلف کمپنیوں میں ری اسٹرکچر کرنے کی پوزیشن میں ہیں۔ پی پی ایم سی کے اندر اصلاحات کے ذریعے وزارت توانائی میں بہتری لائی جارہی ہے۔ نندی پور اور گڈو پاور کا بوائلر خراب ہے تو اسے ... جا رہے ہیں کہ آئندہ حکومت بجلی نہیں خریدے گی۔ جو پلانٹ بجلی تیار کرے گا، وہ انرجی ایکسچینج کے ذریعے اگلے خریدار کو خود ہی فروخت کرے گا۔ اس ایکسچینج کو آپریشنل کرنا ہمارے ریفارم کا حصہ ہے۔ انہوں نے بتایا کہ ہیٹ ریٹ آڈٹ رپورٹ کو اس وقت کی کابینہ کی ثالثی نے نقصان پہنچایا۔ ہم کسی کی نیت پر شک نہیں کر رہے۔

جعلی حکومت اداروں کو لڑانے کی کوشش کر رہی ہے، بیرسٹر سیف

سیف سٹیز جلد راولپنڈی، فیصل آباد اور گوجرانوالہ میں فعال کرینگے، مریم نواز

لاہور میں مزید 250 مقامات پر فری وائی فائی سروس شروع کرنے کی ہدایت، شہریوں کا مفت انٹرنیٹ سے استفادہ کامیابی کا ثبوت

فعال کریں گے۔ وزیراعلیٰ پنجاب مریم نواز کی زیر صدارت خصوصی اجلاس ہوا جس میں فری وائی فائی پراجیکٹ سے متعلق اہم فیصلے کیے گئے۔ مریم نواز کی ہدایت پر "سی ایم مریم نواز فری وائی فائی" کا لاہور اور قصور کے بعد اب ننکانہ صاحب میں بھی آغاز کردیا گیا، ننکانہ صاحب میں پہلے فیز میں پانچ ہیں، چار ہفتے میں فری وائی فائی پراجیکٹ سے ننکانہ کے شہریوں نے 250 جی بی ڈیٹا استعمال کیا۔ بریفنگ میں بتایا گیا کہ قصور میں 10 مقامات پر فری وائی فائی سروس عوام کے لئے دستیاب ہے، قصور میں فری وائی فائی ڈی ایچ کیو ہسپتال، ویمن کالج، نیو بس ٹرمینل، ریلوے سٹیشن، ماڈل بازار، ڈی سی ... سٹیز بہت جلد راولپنڈی، فیصل آباد اور گوجرانوالہ میں بھی فعال کریں گے۔ مریم نواز کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ سال کے آخر تک 18 شہروں میں سیف سٹی اتھارٹی قائم کردی جائے گی، خواتین اور طالبات بھی سی ایم مریم نواز فری وائی فائی سروس سے ہنگامی صورتحال میں مدد حاصل کرسکیں گی۔

معیشت کی کمزوری سیاسی عدم استحکام سے ہوئی، شاہد خاقان

کراچی (بیورو رپورٹ) کنوینیئر عوام پاکستان پارٹی اور سابق وزیراعظم شاہد خاقان عباسی نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان واحد ملک ہے جس کا احتساب کا ادارہ خود قابل احتساب ہے، معیشت کی کمزوری سیاسی عدم استحکام کی وجہ سے ہے۔ احتساب عدالت کراچی کے باہر میڈیا سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے سابق وزیراعظم شاہد خاقان عباسی نے کہا کہ سوا چار سال سے کیس چل رہا ہے، آج نیب کی اس عدالت میں تیسویں پیشی ہے، پیشیاں ہوتی رہتی ہیں، نہ گواہ آتے ہیں نہ کیس آگے چلتا ہے، کیس بنانے والے آج الزام دوسرے پر لگاتے ہیں، کیس کس نے بنائے اور کیوں، جواب کون دے گا؟۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ہم آج آئی پی پیز اور کسی اور معاملے کی بات کرتے ہیں، پاکستان دنیا کا واحد ملک ہے جس کا احتساب کا ادارہ خود قابل احتساب ہے، پاکستان واحد ملک ہے جس کا احتساب کا ادارہ خود کرپٹ ہے، بارہ بارہ سال سے لوگوں کے کیسز چل رہے ہیں کوئی حقیقت نہیں، نیب کے افسران اس ادارے سے اربوں روپے اکٹھے کرکے گئے ہیں، آپ اس نیب کے ادارے کو رکھیں گے تو ملک نہیں چلے گا، کل یہ نیب آپ کے خلاف استعمال ہوگا، یہ باتیں سوچ لیں۔ شاہد خاقان نے کہا کہ میں نہ کسی کے خلاف نہ کسی کے حق میں بولتا ہوں، میں حقائق پر بات کرتا ہوں، بجلی کے بل عوام کے اختیار سے باہر ہوگئے ہیں، معیشت کمزور ہوئی تو روپیہ کمزور ہوگیا، بجلی کے پلانٹس میں سرمایہ کاری اور فیول ڈالرز میں آتا ہے، معیشت سیاسی عدم استحکام سے کمزور ہوئی۔ ان کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ سیاسی عدم استحکام الیکشن چوری کرنے سے آتا ہے، آج ملک کو سیاسی استحکام کی ضرورت ہے، آپ نے خود دعوت دیکر آئی پی پیز لگائے ہیں، یہ دیکھیں مسائل پیدا کیسے ہوئے، آئی پی پیز معاہدے مختلف ریٹ پر کیے گئے ہیں

وائٹ ہاؤس کی آصف مرچنٹ کے ٹرمپ پر حملے میں ملوث ہونے کی تردید

واشنگٹن (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) ترجمان وائٹ ہاؤس کیرین جین پیری نے کہا ہے کہ آصف مرچنٹ کا ٹرمپ پر قاتلانہ حملے سے کوئی تعلق نہیں ہے۔ امریکی محکمہ انصاف کے مطابق آصف مرچنٹ نے بتایا کہ وہ پاکستانی شہری ہے اور پاکستان میں رہتا ہے، اس کے پاکستان میں بیوی بچے ہیں اور ایران میں بھی بیوی بچے ہیں۔ آصف مرچنٹ نے بتایا کہ اس کے منصوبے کے 3 حصے تھے، ہدف کے گھر سے یو ایس بی ڈرائیوز چوری کرنا، احتجاج پلان کرنا حصہ تھا۔ امریکی محکمہ انصاف کا کہنا ہے کہ منصوبے میں کسی سیاستدان یا سرکاری اہلکار کو قتل کرنا شامل تھا، وہ کئی مرتبہ ایران، شام اور عراق کے دورے کر چکا ہے۔ واضح رہے کہ 46 سالہ آصف مرچنٹ پر کرائے کے قاتلوں کے ذریعے قتل کی سازش کا الزام عائد کیا گیا ہے۔

اسلام آباد، وزیر داخلہ محسن نقوی چڑیا گھر اور سفاری پارک کے حوالے سے اجلاس کی صدارت کر رہے ہیں

الیکشن ترمیمی ایکٹ پی ٹی آئی کا راستہ روکنے کی کوشش، عمر ایوب

لاہور (بیورو رپورٹ) قومی اسمبلی میں اپوزیشن لیڈر و رہنما پاکستان تحریک انصاف عمر ایوب نے کہا ہے کہ الیکشن ترمیمی ایکٹ پی ٹی آئی کا راستہ روکنے کی بھونڈی کوشش ہے۔ انسداد دہشتگردی عدالت پیشی کے موقع پر میڈیا سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے جنرل سیکرٹری پی ٹی آئی عمر ایوب کا کہنا تھا کہ جو ایکٹ پاس کیا گیا ہے وہ مکمل غلط اور منفی ہے، اس ایکٹ کو ہر جگہ چیلنج کریں گے، یہ قانون اور آئین کے بالکل منافی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ صوابی کا جلسہ سب نے دیکھا ہے، ہمارے کسی کے ساتھ کوئی مذاکرات نہیں ہو رہے، ملک میں تازہ الیکشن ہمارا واحد مطالبہ ہے، ہمارا چرایا ہوا مینڈیٹ واپس کیا جائے، پاکستان نئے الیکشن کی طاقت رکھتا ہے۔ اپوزیشن لیڈر کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ فنانس کا ایک طالب علم ہوتے بتا سکتا ہوں

9 مئی مقدمات، حافظ فرحت، شیخ امتیاز کی ضمانتیں خارج، گرفتار

لاہور (بیورو رپورٹ) انسداد دہشتگردی عدالت نے راحت بیکری کے باہر پولیس کی گاڑیاں جلانے کے کیس میں پی ٹی آئی کے اراکین صوبائی اسمبلی حافظ فرحت عباس اور شیخ امتیاز محمود کی عبوری ضمانتیں خارج کر دیں۔ بدھ کو لاہور کی انسداد دہشتگردی عدالت میں 9 مئی کے مقدمات کی سماعت ہوئی، اے ٹی سی کے جج خالد ارشد نے مقدمات میں نامزد ملزمان کی عبوری ضمانتوں کی درخواستوں پر سماعت کی، ملزمان کی جانب سے ایڈووکیٹ سلمان شاہد اور پیر مسعود چشتی نے دلائل دیئے۔ عدالت نے 2، 2 لاکھ روپے کے مچلکوں کے عوض 6 پی ٹی آئی رہنماؤں کی عبوری ضمانت کنفرم کر دی جبکہ شیخ امتیاز محمود اور حافظ فرحت عباس کی عبوری ضمانتیں خارج کر دی۔ عدالتی فیصلے میں کہا گیا کہ ملزمان ایف آئی آر میں نامزد نہیں ہیں صرف تتمہ بیان میں نام ہیں، رائے حسن نواز، ایم پی اے رائے مرتضیٰ اقبال، ایم این اے محمد احمد چٹھہ، چودھری آصف علی، شکیل خان نیازی اور ایم این اے بلال اعجاز کی عبوری ضمانتیں کنفرم کی جاتی ہیں۔ عدالتی فیصلہ سننے کے بعد حافظ فرحت عباس اور شیخ امتیاز محمود باآسانی عدالت سے فرار ہوگئے، پولیس کی جانب سے دونوں نامزد ملزمان کو گرفتار کرنے کی کوشش نہیں کی گئی۔ بعدازاں اپنے ایک بیان میں حافظ فرحت عباس کا کہنا تھا کہ حق وسچ کی فتح ہوگی، جن لوگوں نے عبوری ضمانتیں خارج کروائی ہیں انہیں کہنا چاہتا ہوں ظلم ظلم ہی ہوتا ہے، ہم اس فسطائیت کا مقابلہ کریں گے، ہائیکورٹ جائیں گے۔

اسرائیل کو جواب دینے میں تاخیر سزا کا حصہ ہے، حسن نصراللہ

بیروت (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) لبنانی حزب اللہ کے سیکرٹری جنرل حسن نصراللہ نے کہا ہے کہ اسرائیل کی جانب سے تنظیم کے ایک سرکردہ رہنما فواد شکر کا قتل جماعت کے لیے بہت بڑا نقصان ہے۔ حسن نصراللہ نے شکر کے قتل کے ایک ہفتے کے بعد ایک تقریر کے دوران کہا کہ فواد شکر حزب اللہ کے سب سے نمایاں بانیوں اور صلاحیتوں میں سے ایک تھے، ان کا قتل حزب اللہ کے لیے ناقابل تلافی نقصان ہے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ اسرائیل کی جانب سے بیروت کے جنوبی مضافاتی علاقے میں فواد شکر کا قتل "ایک کامیابی ہے لیکن فتح نہیں"۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ اس میں کوئی شک نہیں کہ اسماعیل ہانیہ کا قتل حماس اور ہمارے لیے بہت بڑا نقصان ہے۔ نصراللہ نے یمن، شام اور عراق میں اپنے اتحادیوں سے کشیدگی جاری رکھنے کا مطالبہ کیا، لیکن انہوں نے اس بات کی طرف اشارہ کیا کہ ایران اور شام کو جنگ میں داخل ہونے کی ضرورت نہیں، بلکہ انہیں ہماری مدد کرنے کی ضرورت ہے۔ دریں اثنا انہوں نے زور دے کر کہا کہ "ہم فواد شکر کے قتل کے بعد اسرائیل کو جواب دینے کے پابند ہیں، مگر ہم اپنے ردعمل کے حوالے سے محتاط ہیں"۔ انہوں نے اسرائیل کو جواب دینے میں تاخیر کو "سزا کا حصہ" قرار دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ ہمارا ردعمل آئے گا، چاہے ہم اکیلے ہوں یا ہم اتحادیوں کے ساتھ مل کر جواب دیں"۔ حزب اللہ کی تقریر سے چند منٹ قبل اسرائیلی جنگی طیاروں نے 30 منٹ سے بھی کم وقت میں بیروت پر 3 بار ساؤنڈ بیریئر کو توڑا، جس کے نتیجے میں زوردار آواز کے دھماکے ہوئے اور لوگ لبنانی دارالحکومت میں پناہ کی تلاش میں بھاگ کھڑے ہوئے۔

آزاد کشمیر حکومت عوام کے مسائل حل کرنے کیلئے اقدامات کر رہی، لطیف اکبر

مودی سرکار نے مقبوضہ جموں و کشمیر کی خصوصی حیثیت کا خاتمہ کر کے چالیس لاکھ سے زائد غیر ریاستی افراد کو ڈومیسائل دیئے

اسلام آباد (سٹاف رپورٹر) آزاد جموں و کشمیر کے قائمقام صدر چوہدری لطیف اکبر نے کہا ہے کہ بھارت اقوام متحدہ کے چارٹر اور سیکورٹی کونسل کی منظور شدہ قراردادوں سمیت عالمی قوانین اور معاہدوں کی دھجیاں بکھیرتے ہوئے ریاستی دہشت گردی اور انسانی حقوق شہری آزادیوں کو پامال کرنے کا مرتکب ہوا ہے مودی سرکار نے مقبوضہ جموں و کشمیر کی خصوصی حیثیت کا خاتمہ کرکے اسکی تاریخی حیثیت اکثریت کو اقلیت میں تبدیل کرنے کیلئے چالیس لاکھ سے زائد غیر ریاستی افراد کو ڈومیسائل دیئے ہیں ان خیالات قائم مقام صدر ریاست آزاد جموں و کشمیر چوہدری لطیف اکبر نے مختلف وفود سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کیا اس موقع پر لطیف اکبر سے ملاقات کرنیوالوں میں سردار زاہد تبسم، سیکرٹری مالیات پیپلزپارٹی آزاد کشمیر سید تصدق گردیزی، مرکزی ایڈیشنل سیکرٹری مالیات پیپلزپارٹی آزاد کشمیر چوہدری ربنواز طاہر، ممبر سنٹرل ایگزیکٹو کونسل پیپلزپارٹی آزاد کشمیر محمد حنیف کھٹانہ، سابق مشیر حکومت آزاد کشمیر صاحبزادہ ذوالفقار علی، سابق چیئرمین پیپلز اسٹوڈنٹ فیڈریشن آزاد کشمیر عامر بشیر انقلابی، چوہدری غلام حسین، چوہدری جمیل اصغر، ندیم کھوکھر، راجہ شفیق، محسن ساجد کیانی، چوہدری ظفر سعید اور دیگر شامل تھے اس موقع پر معاون خصوصی سید عزادار حسین کاظمی بھی موجود تھے وفود سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے چوہدری لطیف اکبر نے کہا کہ مسئلہ کشمیر پر دونوں ممالک کے درمیان کشیدگی اور ڈیڈلاک کے خاتمے کیلئے انٹرا کشمیر کانفرنس کا انعقاد ناگزیر ہوچکا ہے آزاد کشمیر کی صورتحال پر گفتگو کرتے ہوئے چوہدری لطیف اکبر نے کہا کہ حکومت عوام کے مسائل حل کرنے کیلئے دن رات اقدامات کر رہی ہے حکومت کا کام ہی عوام کو ہر ممکن سہولیات فراہم کرنا ہے منتخب نمائندوں لوگوں کی مشکلات کا احساس کرتے ہوئے ان کے مسائل حل کرتے ہیں۔ چوہدری لطیف اکبر نے مزید کہا کہ میڈیا کا تحریک آزادی کیلئے اہم کردار ہے میڈیا کی آزادی اور خودمختاری حکومت کی ترجیحات میں شامل ہے تحریک آزادی میں میڈیا کا کردار بہت اہم ہے۔ عالمی میڈیا میں بھارت کا مقابلہ کرنے کے لیے ٹھوس حکمت عملی اختیار کرنے کی ضرورت ہے قائم مقام صدر آزاد کشمیر نے میڈیا کے ذریعے کشمیر کاز کو اجاگر کرنے پر زاہد تبسم کا شکریہ ادا کیا ان کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ مقبوضہ جموں وکشمیر میں اور بھارت کے اندر جو کچھ ہو رہا ہے اسے بے نقاب کرنا مقامی، علاقائی، قومی اور بین الاقوامی میڈیا کی بنیادی ذمہ داری ہے۔

بشریٰ بی بی کی درخواست پر سماعت، ایس ایس پی آپریشنز پیش

اسلام آباد (سپیشل رپورٹر) سابق وزیر اعظم عمران خان کی اہلیہ بشریٰ بی بی کے خلاف درج مقدمات کی تفصیلات کی فراہمی کے لیے درخواست پر سماعت کے دوران سینئر سپرنٹنڈنٹ پولیس (ایس ایس پی) آپریشن فلائٹ راولپنڈی پیش ہوئے جب کہ چیف جسٹس اسلام آباد ہائی کورٹ عامر فاروق نے ریمارکس دیے ہیں کہ یہ تو نہیں ہوسکتا کہ ملزم ایک کیس میں نکلے اور دوسرے میں گرفتار ہو۔ سابق خاتون اول کے خلاف درج مقدمات کی تفصیلات کی فراہمی کے لیے درخواست پر چیف جسٹس اسلام آباد ہائی کورٹ عامر فاروق نے سماعت کی۔ بشریٰ بی بی کے وکیل سردار لطیف کھوسہ عدالت میں پیش ہوئے، طلبی پر راولپنڈی کے سینئر سپرنٹنڈنٹ پولیس (ایس ایس پی) آپریشن فلائٹ لیفٹیننٹ (ر) کامران اصغر اسلام عدالت میں پیش ہوئے، عدالت نے 9 مئی کے راولپنڈی میں درج مقدمات کی پیش رفت سے متعلق ڈی آئی جی کو طلب کیا تھا۔ چیف جسٹس عامر فاروق نے استفسار کیا کہ ڈی آئی جی آپریشنز راولپنڈی پیش ہوئے ہیں؟ اسٹیٹ کونسل عبدالرحمٰن نے بتایا کہ ایس ایس پی آپریشنز پیش ہوئے ہیں، چیف جسٹس عامر فاروق نے استفسار کیا کہ کیا بشریٰ بی بی کو 9 مئی کے مقدمات میں گرفتار کیا گیا ہے؟ ایس ایس پی آپریشنز راولپنڈی نے جواب دیا کہ ابھی تک گرفتار نہیں کیا گیا۔ چیف جسٹس عامر فاروق نے ریمارکس دیے کہ سوا سال ہوگیا اب کہانی ختم نا، یہ تو نہیں ہوسکتا کہ ایک کیس میں نکلے اور دوسرے میں گرفتار ہو، اگر آپ کو بشریٰ بی بی تفتیش کے لیے مطلوب تھیں تو طلب کیوں نہیں کیا؟ بشریٰ بی بی جب گرفتار نہیں تھیں تب بھی پولیس نے انہیں طلب نہیں کیا۔

ورلڈ بینک کی سندھ میں 2 لاکھ سولر سسٹم تقسیم کرنیکے منصوبے کی توثیق

ورلڈ بینک کے 34 ارب ڈالرز کے 14 منصوبے جاری، میں خود ہر منصوبے کی پیش رفت کی نگرانی کرتا ہوں، وزیراعلیٰ سندھ

کراچی (بیورو رپورٹ) ورلڈ بینک نے صوبہ سندھ میں سولر سسٹم کے 2 لاکھ یونٹس تقسیم کرنے کے منصوبے کی توثیق کردی۔ وزیراعلیٰ سندھ کی زیرصدارت اہم اجلاس ہوا جس میں ورلڈ بینک کے کنٹری ڈائریکٹر ناجے بینہیسن وفد سمیت شریک ہوئے، وزیر توانائی ناصر شاہ نے ورلڈ بینک ٹیم کو 2 لاکھ سولر یونٹس کی تقسیم سے متعلق بریف کیا۔ اجلاس میں ورلڈ بینک کے جاری اور نئے منصوبوں کا جائزہ لیا گیا، وزیراعلیٰ سندھ نے کہا کہ ورلڈ بینک کے 34 ارب ڈالرز کے 14 منصوبے جاری ہیں، میں خود ہر منصوبے کی پیش رفت کی نگرانی کرتا ہوں، تمام منصوبہ بندی کے عمل میں منصوبوں کی پیش رفت پی اینڈ ڈی ورلڈ بینک کے ساتھ شیئر کرتی ہے۔ اس موقع پر شرجیل میمن نے کہا کہ چھ اگست کو جام صادق پل کے خاکے کو حتمی شکل دی گئی ہے، حتمی ڈیزائن میں کچھ تاخیر ہوئی ہے جس کو مکمل کرنے کے لیے میں نگرانی کر رہا ہوں۔ صوبائی وزیر سعید غنی نے کہا کہ لوکل کونسلز کے 968 ملین ڈالرز کے کام مکمل ہوچکے ہیں، ٹاؤنز کی استعداد کار میں اضافے پر کام کیا جارہا ہے، پراپرٹی ٹیکس کے سروے کے لیے فرم ہائر کی گئی ہیں اور تین اگست سے کام شروع ہوگا۔ واضح رہے کہ گزشتہ ہفتے وزیراعلیٰ سندھ مراد علی شاہ نے صوبے کے 2 لاکھ گھروں کو سولر انرجی پر منتقل کرنے کا اعلان کیا تھا۔ وزیراعلیٰ ہاس میں سولر ہوم سسٹم کے معاہدے کی تقریب سے خطاب میں مراد علی شاہ نے کہا تھا کہ صوبے کے 20 لاکھ گھروں کو سولرائز کرنا چاہتے ہیں، شروعات میں 2 لاکھ گھروں کو سولر دینے کا فیصلہ کیا گیا ہے۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ کم آمدنی والے خاندانوں کو 80 فیصد سبسڈی پر سولر سسٹم فراہم کیا جائے گا، بینظیر انکم سپورٹ پروگرام میں رجسٹرڈ گھرانوں کو پروگرام میں شامل کیا جائے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا تھا کہ 34 سرکاری عمارتیں سولر انرجی پر منتقل ہوچکی ہیں، مزید عمارتوں کو بھی منتقل کیا جائے گا۔ مراد علی شاہ کا کہنا تھا کہ سولر ٹیسٹنگ لیبارٹریز کا قیام بھی کیا جارہا ہے، سندھ میں نوجوانوں کو سولر ٹیکنیشن کی ٹریننگ بھی دے رہے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا تھا کہ تھر سے سستی ترین بجلی فراہم کی جارہی ہے، پہلے مرحلے میں 400 میگاواٹ بجلی پیدا کریں گے، چاہتے ہیں لوگوں کو سستی بجلی فراہم کریں۔

راولپنڈی، پنجاب آرٹس کونسل میں ممبر پنجاب اسمبلی ملک افتخار احمد ملک مصوری نمائش دیکھ رہے ہیں

مشیر خزانہ خیبر پختونخوا مزمل اسلم محکمہ آبپاشی منصوبوں کے قرضہ جات بارے جائزہ اجلاس کی صدارت کر رہے ہیں

The Asian Telegraph
www.theasiantelegraph.net
Thursday, August 08, 2024

President Zardari stresses to discourage fake news, disinformation

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari has stressed the need for discouraging the spread of fake news and disinformation by promoting a culture of fact-checking and verifying information.

He said, "Media should uphold the highest standards of journalism and play its role in promoting tolerance, unity and ethical values in the society."

These views were expressed by the President while talking to Chairman Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA), Mr. Muhammad Saleem, who called on him and presented PEMRA Report 2021-23, at Aiwan-e-Sadr on Wednesday.

Asif Ali Zardari said that modern communication technologies had opened up new challenges and the media needed to play a responsible and constructive role in shaping public opinion. He said that a code of conduct regarding the spread of misinformation and propaganda should be observed.

The President stressed the need to improve the capacity of PEMRA by adopting modern tools and technologies and building a pool of talented human resources. He remarked that the media should also raise awareness about socio-economic issues, besides promoting a soft image of the country.

The Chairman PEMRA briefed the President about the role and performance of PEMRA in the regulation and development of the media landscape of the country. The President affirmed his support to further strengthen PEMRA. INP

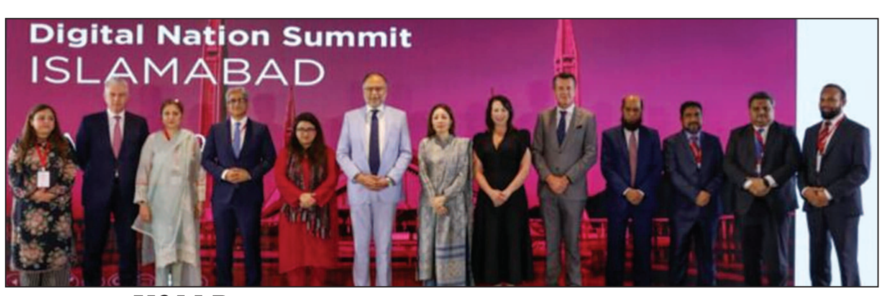
Pakistan stands in solidarity with people of Bangladesh: FO

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Wednesday expressed solidarity with the people of Bangladesh and hoped that they would return to normalcy peacefully and swiftly. "The government and people of Pakistan stand in solidarity with the people of Bangladesh, sincerely hoping for a peaceful and swift return to normalcy," the Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said in a statement.

She also expressed confidence that the resilient spirit and unity of the Bangladeshi people would lead them to a harmonious future. DNA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif addressing the launching ceremony of Monsoon Tree Plantation Campaign 2024.

GSMA highlights Pakistan's digital progress, potential to spur accelerated economic growth



VOM Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan is poised to unlock its economic potential through accelerated digital transformation, according to a new report, "Realising Pakistan's Aspiration to become a Digital Nation," launched by the GSMA at its Digital Nation Summit.

The report underscores the country's significant strides in mobile connectivity and smartphone adoption while outlining a clear path to maximise these gains for the benefit of its citizens. However, achieving these aspirations will require concrete action and reforms.

The GSMA's supporting report revealed a substantial increase in mobile broadband coverage in Pakistan, with 81% of the adult population now in areas covered by 3G or 4G networks, up from just 15% in 2010.

Additionally, smartphone ownership reached 63% by the end of 2023. However, only 23% of the population subscribes to mobile internet services, underlining the scale of the challenge to connect the unconnected.

The report reveals the blueprint to address these challenges: infrastructure, innovation, data governance, security, and people. These five pillars are the foundation for a thriving digital nation. The report emphasises the importance of financial reforms and strategic initiatives. Recommendations include eliminating the 15% Advance Income Tax and the 19.5% sales tax on mobile services, addressing high spectrum prices, and introducing a smartphone financing policy to improve access to affordable devices. Additionally, the GSMA advocates for a rational approach to spectrum pricing ahead of the planned 5G spectrum auction in early 2025.

Julian Gorman, Head of APAC at the GSMA, said: "Pakistan has the potential to realise its aspiration to become a Digital Nation. First it must scale its connected population to strengthen its basic digital economy enabler. Then by adopting a whole-of-government approach and investing in the five key pillars of infrastructure, innovation, data governance, security, and people, Pakistan can unlock its full digital potential, improve the lives of its citizens, and drive sustainable economic growth. The GSMA is committed to supporting the country's digital journey and working in partnership to build a connected, inclusive, and prosperous future."

However, achieving these goals requires addressing significant regulatory and fiscal challenges. While market reforms are hoped for, without changes to the regulatory framework and a reduction in tax, progress will be limited, and the substantial usage gap will remain difficult to bridge.

Adding to the momentum, the upcoming edition of M360 Asia Pacific in Seoul this October will see the release of the first pan-Asia Pacific Digital Nation Report, which will compare the digital progress of 20 nations across the Asia Pacific region. This event follows the recently published Mobile Economy APAC 2024 Report, which highlights key trends and insights shaping the mobile industry in the Asia Pacific region.

The report provides valuable data and analysis on the growth trajectory and economic impact of mobile technology, reinforcing the strategic importance of digital advancement in Pakistan and beyond.

Chevening scholarship opens window for Pakistanis

ISLAMABAD: The British High Commission invites ambitious mid-career Pakistani professionals to apply for a fully funded one-year master's degree in the United Kingdom. Applications to the UK's prestigious Chevening Scholarship have now opened. Tuition fees, living expenses and travel costs are all fully covered through the scholarship.

Applications are open until November 5, 2024. The scholarship is open to any Pakistani mid-career professional with at least 2 years of work experience. More information on eligibility requirements, and the application portal, can be found on www.chevening.org. Applications to the South Asian Journalism Programme, a short-term fellowship with the University of Westminster where mid-career professionals can hone their skills and meet leaders in UK journalism, are also open. They close on 5th October 2024. As are applications to the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies fellowship, where fellows gain access to leading scholars focussing on the Islamic world while completing a 5-month research project. Applications close 5th November 2024.

Chevening scholars have gone on to become prominent leaders in Pakistan. Successful applicants will join a pool of nearly 2,000 Pakistani Chevening alumni who are leaders across a range of sectors.

High Commissioner to Pakistan, Jane Marriott CMG OBE, encourages potential applicants:

'Chevening produces changemakers and leaders. It offers an exceptional academic opportunity and helps connect emerging leaders from across the globe. I urge those looking to elevate their careers to seize this opportunity and apply.' Amal Durrani, Chevening scholar 2022 and alumni of SOAS, University of London said: The Chevening scholarship, a highly competitive opportunity, opens doors to world-class education and brings incredible networking and career opportunities - making you stand out! It made my dream of studying in the UK a reality and helped me secure a role at UNDP within three months of returning. You should apply if you're passionate about making a difference and achieving your dreams. — DNA

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Law and Justice Azam Nazeer Tarar had a meeting with Law Minister Punjab Sohaib Ahmad Malik.

Tanveer for US markets access for Pakistani agri products

VOM Report

ISLAMABAD: Minister for National Food Security and Research Rana Tanveer Hussain has stressed the need to give Pakistani agricultural products access to US markets.

He was talking to US Ambassador Donald Blome, who called on him in Islamabad today.

The Minister said Pakistan wants to strengthen agricultural cooperation with the United States. He also emphasized the need to transfer of agricultural technology to enhance production.

Donald Blome said the United States will continue its cooperation with Pakistan in the social and agriculture sectors. He said his country is working on food security programme in collaboration with the UNICEF in Pakistan.

The Ambassador expressed the determination to augment cooperation in the agriculture sector of Pakistan. He said the United States will help face climate change impacts on agriculture.

Resolving GB's issues federal govt's top priority: Engr Amir Muqam

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan and SAFRON, Engr. Amir Muqam, on Wednesday said addressing the issues of Gilgithatt-Baltistan was a top priority for the federal government and assured to apply their resources to advance growth and well-being in the region.

Minister Muqam chairing a high-level meeting at the Gilgit-Baltistan Council highlighted the region's vast potential to emerge as a premier global tourist destination. Additionally, he pointed out the area's rich mineral resources and hydropower capabilities, vowing to harness these assets for regional development.

Amir Muqam assured that issues faced by Gilgit-Baltistan's traders would be resolved amicably in accordance with existing rules and laws, and that all stakeholders would be kept informed and involved.

The Federal Minister also promised that the federal government would provide substantial relief to the people of Gilgit-Baltistan. He announced that the issue of wheat provision had been addressed, with a subsidy on wheat now in place.

OIC Ambassador vows to ensure Kashmir resolution under UN mandate

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador Hameed Ajibaiye Opeloyeru, Permanent Observer of the OIC Mission to the United Nations, has reiterated the Organization of Islamic Cooperation's (OIC) commitment to ensuring the resolution of the Kashmir dispute in line with international law and resolutions of the United Nations.

Speaking at an event marking the fifth anniversary of India's unilateral actions in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir, Opeloyeru said the OIC has adopted a plan of action to expedite the resolution of the crisis Equally ominous is the fact that this crisis that has historically threatened peace, stability and security of South Asia. Opeloyeru expressed solidarity with the people of Kashmir in their struggle for self-determination, emphasizing that the OIC recognizes their just and legitimate struggle. "There is no doubt that the United Nations has been seized of the question of Jammu and Kashmir since the Security Council Resolution 47 of 21 April 1948," he added. Accordingly, and in line with the principle of subsidiarity, the OIC, as a regional organization of 57 member states, recognizes the just and legitimate struggle of the people of Jammu and Kashmir to defend their right to self-determination, through exploring all legal, political and diplomatic avenues, leading to the realization of the national aspirations of the people of the Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

He called on UN member states to encourage the implementation of relevant UN Security Council resolutions on the peaceful settlement of the Kashmir dispute.

Other speakers, including Ambassador Munir Akram of Pakistan, Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai, and Senator Lt. General (rtd) Abdul Qayyum, also emphasized the need for international action to resolve the Kashmir dispute. They highlighted the similarities between the Kashmir and Palestine conflicts and the importance of implementing UN resolutions to bring about lasting peace. The event was held to mark the fifth anniversary of India's revocation of Article 370, which granted special status to Jammu and Kashmir. APP

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs & Gilgit Baltistan Engr Amir Muqam chairing a meeting regarding Gilgit Baltistan.

Efforts afoot to empower youth and provide maximum relief to people: Rana Mashhood

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of the Prime Minister Youth Programme(PMYP)Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan on Wednesday said that Pakistan's economy improved under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and the PML-N-led coalition government was making all-out efforts to provide relief to the people.

Addressing a press conference, Rana said the government had reduced the inflation rate and will succeed in overwhelming the financial problems soon.

He said that the signing of multi-billion-dollar investment projects with China, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE and others will create numerous job opportunities for youth in Pakistan.

The Chairman reiterated his pledge that the government was committed to empowering youth through several revolutionary initiatives and was taking crucial steps for the betterment of the youth.

He added that technical training will be directly provided to two hundred thousand and indirectly to six to eight hundred thousand youth this year under various skill development programmes as there was a great demand for a skilled workforce abroad.

Giving details of the successful maiden visit of the Commonwealth secretary-general RT Patricia Scotland to Pakistan, Mashhood said that several agreements and memorandums of understanding were signed.

He said that signing free training of Pakistani youth in the top eight streams of Artificial Intelligence in collaboration with Commonwealth Forum and Intel Corporation would create numerous jobs and earning opportunities for Pakistan which would be formally launched by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on International Day of Youth on August 12.

BISP collaborates with Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis to provide skill training

ISLAMABAD: The Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) and the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development have agreed to collaborate on initiating steps to provide quality skill training to BISP beneficiaries.

This initiative aims to empower beneficiaries and their families by equipping them with internationally recognized certifications and enhancing their employment prospects both locally and abroad.

In a meeting held today at the office of Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development, Chaudhry Salik Hussain, Chairperson of BISP, Senator Rubina Khalid emphasized the need for high-quality training programs.

She highlighted the focus on fields such as home care, hospitality, and receptionist roles, with a strong emphasis on basic work ethics.

"Providing quality training to BISP beneficiaries and their family members is crucial. We are focusing on areas with high demand and potential for international employment. Obtaining international certifications will open doors for our trainees, enabling them to secure jobs abroad and contribute to the country's economy," stated Senator Rubina Khalid.

Chaudhry Salik Hussain expressed his support for the initiative, noting its potential to benefit entire families of beneficiaries.

He stressed the importance of creating job opportunities for the underprivileged and suggested collaborations with countries like Japan and Germany to ensure the highest standards of training.

"This initiative is not just about training individuals; it's about uplifting whole families by providing them with the skills needed to secure better jobs. Partnering with internationally recognized training institutes will help us achieve this goal," Chaudhry Salik Hussain said.

Both leaders agreed on the importance of their teams working closely together to develop a comprehensive program module. They will focus on demand-driven courses and technical support to ensure the quality of skilled manpower.

ECP files review petition against reserved seats verdict

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Wednesday moved a review petition to the Supreme Court against the verdict regarding the reserved seats.

It has been said in the petition that the Commission has not misinterpreted any legal and judicial decision, and prayed the top court to review its verdict dated July 12.

The review petition stated that the ECP has performed its responsibility according to the Constitution and law and has not misinterpreted any legal or judicial decision. The Supreme Court's decision has been implemented in letter and spirit, it added.

The ECP said that it is a constitutional right to file a review of a court decision, adding that the court cannot interfere in Article 218 of the Constitution.

It said that on misinterpretation of the Constitution, the matter should be remanded back to the constitutional body. The decision has been implemented to the extent of 39 members of the PTI, it said.

It should be mentioned that the Supreme Court in its judgment had ordered to give the reserved seats to the PTI while giving a decision on the appeal filed by the Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC). APP

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