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Federal Minister for Interior Senator Mohsin Naqvi

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Armed Forces of Pakistan pay solemn tribute to the valiant personnel of Pakistan Police on the occasion of Youm-e-Shuhada Police: ISPR



ISLAMABAD: On the occasion of Youm-e-Shuhada Police, the Armed Forces of Pakistan pay solemn tribute to the valiant personnel of the Pakistan Police who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. Their unwavering

dedication, unrelenting courage, and selfless sacrifice will be perpetually remembered and honored. According to the statement issued by ISPR, today, the Armed Forces, comprising officers and men, salute the memory of our fallen heroes who have protected the nation with their sweat and blood. Their noble and selfless service has ensured the safety and security of our communities, and their legacy continues to inspire and motivate us. We stand in solidarity with their families and reaffirm our commitment to supporting them in every possible manner.

To demonstrate our solidarity with the Shuhada of Police, army officers and troops participated in various events organized by the local police at numerous locations across the country.

Youm-e-Shuhada Police serves as a poignant reminder of the immense sacrifices made by our policemen in the pursuit of peace, justice, and security. The Armed Forces of Pakistan reiterate their unwavering commitment to the noble cause of defending the motherland, alongside the Police and other law enforcement agencies, and pledge to continue this mission with unshakable resolve and determination. PR



ISLAMABAD: Posters and flags displayed on different roads of the Federal Capital, urge people to mark the Youm-e-Istehsal (Exploitation Day), Jammu Kashmir falling on 5th August. ONLINE

Mohsin Naqvi pays rich tribute to the great sacrifices of police martyrs on Police Martyrs' Day

Says police officers & personnel have always been at the forefront in curbing crimes

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior Senator Syed Mohsin Raza Naqvi has paid rich tribute to the great sacrifices of police martyrs on Police Martyrs' Day. He said that this day is a reminder of the unforgettable sacrifices of brave police personnels who are the pride of the entire nation.

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi said that police officers and personnel have always been at the forefront in curbing crimes. He praised the exemplary services of police forces in all provinces for maintaining peace and order. He also acknowledged the sacrifices of police officers and personnel in the war against terrorism, saying that they have written history with their precious blood.

Furthermore, he said that SSP Ashraf Marth, Captain Mubeen, and all police martyrs are always alive in our hearts and will remain so. The sacrifices of police martyrs are invaluable which can never be forgotten. Interior Minister stated that on Police Martyrs' Day, we express solidarity with the families of martyrs. He emphasized that we stand with the families of police martyrs and will also be there for them. He said that welfare of the families of police martyrs is responsibility of the Government.

Interior Minister reiterated that a true nation always honors its martyrs. He underscored that there will be no compromise regarding the honor and respect of martyrs. SABAH



LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a review meeting regarding FBR Track & Trace System and FBR Transformation.

Economic team must accelerate transformation of FBR, directs PM

Pakistan to continue moral, political, diplomatic support to Kashmiri people: PM Shehbaz

VOM Report

LAHORE: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has directed his economic team to accelerate the process of transformation of Federal Board of Revenue (FBR).

The prime minister passed the orders while chairing a review meeting on Track and Trace System of Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) here on Sunday.

The FBR's transformation plan includes total digitization and its restructuring according to modern standards.

Premier Shehbaz Sharif delegated responsibility to Minister of State for Finance to oversee the transformation project of FBR. On the occasion, the prime minister was presented a detailed report regarding the track and trace system and on progress of digitization of Federal Board of Revenue (FBR).

The PM directed immediate action against the persons responsible for deficiency and irregularities regarding the track and trace system.

He directed immediate implementation of steps for taking action against the officials negligent in upgrading the system.

Premier Shehbaz Sharif said that reforms in FBR were necessary to improve the tax system of Pakistan, adding, "We will work day and night to save every penny of the poor people of Pakistan."

He said that digitization of FBR was main priority of the government and no disruption was acceptable in this regard.

Federal ministers Muhammad Aurangzeb, Ahmad Khan Cheema, Minister of State Ali Pervaiz Malik, Coordinator of Prime Minister Ihsan Afzal and high level officials attended the meeting.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said Pakistan will continue to extend its strong moral, political and diplomatic support to the Kashmiri people till the realization of their inalienable right to self determination.

In a message on Youm-e-Istehsal on August 5, 2024, he said the people and Government of Pakistan are observing the Youm-e-Istehsal today.

"This somber occasion reminds us of the grave consequences of India's illegal actions of 5 August 2019 vis-à-vis Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK)."

On 5 August 2019, he said India took a series of steps to consolidate its occupation of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

"Ever since, India has been trying to convince the world that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of its territory. However, international law, historical facts, moral principles and the situation on the ground deny India's baseless claims. Today, in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), efforts are being made to

silence the genuine leadership of the Kashmiri people and muzzle the media. The number of political prisoners remains in the thousands, while 14 political organizations have been outlawed.

Harassment of innocent people, arbitrary detentions, and the so-called 'cordon and search operations have become a matter of routine. The Indian forces are operating with impunity, according to them under different draconian laws," he added.

He said, "I, however, salute the indomitable courage of the Kashmiri people that has enabled them to withstand every Indian attempt to subjugate them. There is no doubt that India's coercive methods have failed to diminish their yearning for the realization of their inalienable right to self-determination."

"History has proven, time and again, that durable peace in South Asia remains contingent upon the settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute. In the interest of lasting peace and security in South Asia, India must move from dispute denial to dispute resolution," he added.

The prime minister said, "The international community must urge India to halt its egregious human rights violations in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK); reverse its unilateral and illegal actions of 5 August 2019; repeal the draconian laws; and implement the UN Security Council resolutions on Jammu and Kashmir."

Dissenting note raises important points regarding reserved seats: Attaullah Tarar

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar said that two honourable judges of the Supreme Court had raised important points in their dissenting note regarding reserved seats.

Addressing a press conference here, he said that on the issue of reserved seat a party was provided relief which was not a petitioner. He said that two honourable judges of the Supreme Court, Justice Aminuddin Khan and Justice Naeem Akhtar Afghan, have issued detailed dissenting notes and it said that after the passage of 15 days a detailed verdict of the case had not come.

He said, "Usually a detailed verdict comes within 15 days after a decision is announced."

Attaullah Tarar said that some articles of the Constitution were related to reserved seats, adding that in the reserved seats case, a decision had been given not in line with these articles.

He further said that it was also mentioned in the dissenting note of two honourable judges of the Supreme Court that the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf had not been a party to this case and to provide it a relief the court had to travel beyond the jurisdiction conferred by Articles 175 and 185 of the Constitution and would also have to suspend Article 51, 63, 106 of the Constitution.

The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf was not a petitioner but their 81 members had been provided relief, he said and added that those who had come after being elected on reserved seats and taken oaths of their membership were removed.

He said that it was a reality that if members of Sunni Ittehad Council would sit with Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf then this would be violation of Article 62(1) (f). He said that the two honourable judges in their dissenting note said that it was a proved reality that Sunni Ittehad Council had not taken part in general elections as a political party while the chairman of Sunni Ittehad Council had also contested election in an independent capacity.

A party which has no existence in the parliament how it could be given reserved seats, he questioned.

Attaullah Tarar said that it was mentioned in the Constitution of Sunni Ittehad Council that no minority member could join it, so it could not get minority seats as well.

The Information minister said that a due procedure was followed for electing members on reserved seats.

He further said that PML-N and PPP had filed a review petition on the Supreme Court's reserved seats verdict but it had not been fixed for hearing till now.

He said that two honourable judges of the Supreme Court had raised constitutional and legal points in their dissenting note and added that these points were a big question mark on the legal framework and needed to be answered.

Resolution of Kashmir dispute essential for achieving lasting peace in region: NA speaker

ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq Sunday said that the resolution of the Kashmir dispute is essential for achieving lasting peace in the region.

He reiterated the need to resolve this long-standing dispute in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations and as per the aspirations of the Kashmiri people. He reaffirmed Pakistan's principled stance to support the Kashmiri people in their rightful struggle for freedom and self-determination.

The Speaker expressed these views on the eve of Youm-e-Istehsal Kashmir, which is observed on the 5th August every year.

The speaker strongly condemned the illegal annexation of Indian-Occupied Kashmir and stated, "The Indian government abrogated Article 370 and 35-A of its constitution, stripping Kashmir of its special status and imposing a military siege on the territory", he said. While lauding the resilience of the Kashmiri people he stated, "their struggle for freedom and self-determination is a beacon of hope for the entire region". APP

CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif to Launch "Own Roof...Own House" (Apni Chat...Apna Ghar) Program on 14 August

LAHORE: On the firm resolve of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif, work on "Own Roof... Own House" (Apni Chat...Apna Ghar) program is ongoing briskly. Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif presided over a meeting in which principal approval to three models has been granted under "Own Roof...Own House" (Apni Chat...Apna Ghar) program.

The Chief Minister also directed not to receive service charges from those who acquire a loan for getting a plot. The CM will launch "Own Roof...Own House" (Apni Chat...Apna Ghar) program on 14th August. Model Houses have been constructed under a pilot program titled "Own Roof...Own House" (Apni Chat...Apna Ghar) program. CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif directed to include a living room in the maps of model houses. She directed to introduce a toll free number for the facilitation of people.

On the direction of CM Punjab, PITB will pre-



pare a special portal under "Own Roof...Own House" (Apni Chat...Apna Ghar) program. The aspirants of "Apni Chat...Apna Ghar" program can submit their applications through online by sitting at their homes. Secretary Housing Captain (Retd) Asad Ullah Khan while giving a detailed briefing on "Apni Chat...Apna Ghar" program apprised that forms for "Apni Chat...Apna Ghar" program can be acquired from the offices of Deputy Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners. The plot owners from 1 to 5 marlas can acquire interest-free loans for building a house.

Amir Maqam calls Int'l community to play its role to address Kashmir issue

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan Engr Amir Maqam has appealed to the international community and Organization of Islamic Countries (OIC) to play their vital role in addressing the longstanding Kashmir valley issue of the region.

Addressing a press conference here on Sunday, the minister said the Kashmir dispute should be resolved through the resolution of the United Nations as without a solution to this issue there is no peace and development in the region.

He said that the incumbent government was highlighting the Kashmir issue at all appropriate platforms of the globe effectively. The minister underlined that since August 5, 2019, to date in the last five years around 900 people have been killed, more than 2500 freedom fighters injured and many widows have been arrested by Indian forces.

India is claiming the largest democratic state of the world but violating the

human rights and suppressing the self-determination rights of Kashmiris, he added. Amir Maqam asked all parliamentary parties to participate in the walk from Radio Pakistan to D Chowk in Islamabad on the occasion of Youm-e-Istehsal-e-Kashmir on August 5. He said on August 5, 2019, the special status of Jammu and Kashmir was repealed by the Modi regime which will complete five years on August 5.

He said that every year, Youm-e-Istehsal-e-Kashmir is also being observed this year. Protest walks and demonstrations have been announced against this illegal move of the Modi government in Pakistan as well as around the world, he said.

Amir Maqam appealed to all parliamentary parties to participate in the walk so that a clear message could be sent to India that the government and people of Pakistan are united on the Kashmir dispute.



He said that the Indian actions were aimed at a process of demographic change and political engineering. As a result, he said that the Kashmiri people are confronted with the danger of becoming a disempowered community in their land.

"India has increased its oppression in IIOJK since August 5, 2019. Efforts are being made to silence the media. The

genuine leadership of the Kashmiri people remains behind bars. The Indian authorities have sought the death penalty for one of the most renowned Kashmiri leaders, Yaseen Malik", he said. He said the harassment of innocent people, arbitrary detentions, 'cordon and search' operations, and extra-judicial killings have become a matter of routine.

The Kashmiri people are unable to enjoy

their freedom of expression and assembly. Most importantly, they are unable to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination, he said.

He said on this 'Youm-e-Istehsal', we salute the courage and valour of the people of IIOJK, who have rendered countless sacrifices in their struggle for the realization of their basic rights.

The international community must demand an end to India's gross and widespread human rights violations in IIOJK, reversal of its unilateral and illegal actions of 5 August 2019, repeal of draconian laws; release of political prisoners and implementation of relevant UN Security Council resolutions on Jammu and Kashmir, he said.

Amir Maqam said Pakistan will continue to play its role to ensure a free and impartial plebiscite in accordance with the United Nations Security Council resolutions. "Our strong moral, political and diplomatic support for the Kashmiri peo-

ple will continue till the realization of their inalienable right to self-determination", he said.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has directed all provinces authorities including Gilgit Baltistan and AJK to befittingly observe Aug 5 Youm-e-Istehsal.

The minister also briefed the media about the planned activities for Youm-e-Istehsal to be observed on August 5, including walks, seminars and awareness drives, particularly the ceremonies scheduled to be held at Pakistan's diplomatic missions across the world.

Meanwhile, the convener of All Parties Hurriyat Conference AJK Chapter, Ghulam Mohammad Safi, said that India has been trying to justify its usurpation of Jammu and Kashmir since day one. In a cynical attempt to make Jammu and Kashmir a part of itself, the provisions included in the Constitution of India regarding the special status of Kashmir were abolished. APP

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No politics for the young

MUSTAFA TARIQ WYNNE

The last time a student union election was held in Pakistan was 1983, which means the previous generations to contest student union elections were the Boomers and Gen X, born between 1946-1965 and 1965-1980s. These two generations experienced democracy at the very grassroots level. They took part in student politics right from the word go. Many great politicians came to fame in the national political sphere from student politics such as Jahangir Badar, Javed Hashmi, Amin Ul Haq, Liaqat Baloch, Abid Hasan Minto, Meraj Muhammad Khan, and many more. They later joined parties that suited their ideologies or were closest to them. These politicians were once elected student union leaders from their educational institution or student organization operating on a boarder scale i.e. NSF, DSF, JL, etc. What made these leaders stand out from the rest of the crowd, mainly the status-quo politicians, was their ability to lead and their connection with the people. How did they get their leadership qualities? Well, from participating in student politics, simple. Leading thousands of young people, fighting for their rights, day in and day out, keeping the university administration in check, presiding in meetings of their universities as members of the syndicate, taking part in important decision-making, and so on.

However, that breed of politicians is soon going to vanish as if it never existed – taking all the great precedents, norms, and political culture along with them. So, now we have two generations – the Millennials born between 1981 and 1996, and the Gen Z born between 1997 and 2012 – are more than 50 per cent of the population, with zero political experience. These two generations haven't taken part in student unions or local government elections. Also, by the looks of things Gen Alpha born between 2013-present might also not experience democracy while growing up. So what do you get after two-three generations of de-politicization? Leaders like the ones who joined the caretaker setup and later on got elected as senators, who parachuted their way into high offices using anything but democratic means. Then there are youth icons who are experts on issues ranging from black magic to women/transrights and everything under the great blue sky. Now, coming to the serious bit of how the de-politicization of more than two generations can have some serious ramifications for the future.

For starters, the theoretical conception, practice, culture and norms of democracy are stalled. Even the living memory of institutions like student unions fade away. There's no transfer of all these things to future generations, which results in the weakening of democracy in the country. When that happens, anti-democratic forces start to crawl up and take space. We have seen that happen in Pakistan – extremist organizations entering university spaces to recruit young boys and girls. When new leadership isn't reproduced, the existing status quo holds on to power without any competition. Those who came to hold key positions after the Zia martial law regime and resurgence of democracy, are still at the helm of affairs even after three decades. The same faces appear time and again with different cabinet portfolios. This shows how the system becomes decadent with no real growth or innovation. This is not to just single out any one person; boomers have occupied everything in Pakistan. They are waiting to retire for the third time so they can snatch a young person's job because their batch-mate is the one hiring for the position. But more importantly, politics in Pakistan is left to the rich and powerful. Industrialists, land owners, and political dynasties are the type that come to the assemblies and parliament, we seldom see someone from the grassroots or someone from the middle class make their way to the halls of power and represent. Furthermore, the culture of acceptance and tolerance ends with de-politicization. Since the ban on student unions, ethnic councils and religious student organizations have taken over the space. Wouldn't it have been better if a panel consisting of someone from a diverse faith, under-privileged socio-economic background, ethnicity, and gender were to contest someone of the same sort from a different group based on a different set of ideology instead of students contesting election based on exclusive ethnic vote bank, with members of Pashtun, Baloch, Sindh, Punjab councils having their own separate electorate? Where a student union election would have a Punjabi voting for a Pashtun or vice versa based on their ideology or their class solidarity.

Due to the very exclusive nature of politics, women and young people in general are considered an exception in politics rather than a norm. Previously we had women actively participating in student politics and young people coming forward to join the ranks of leadership. Now the majority of the women and young people come into politics because of their families' political affiliation and status.

Moreover, with the 40-year ban on student politics and disruption in local government elections, the culture of accountability has also eroded. Those with power have been running the show unaccountably and with total impunity.

The boomer and X generations have let down multiple generations, and this critique isn't just to single out politicians; it includes the bureaucracy as well and by bureaucracy, it doesn't just mean the CSP babus – it goes far beyond that. The worst thing is that, despite knowing what is to come, our boomer and GenX politicians fail to amend previous mistakes. They are not willing to do two things: let go of power and make way for younger generations, and devolve power from provinces to local government and students' unions which are nurseries of democracy. Those who thought banning student unions would solve the mess were not only short-sighted but also politically naive. Banning student unions has created a mess far beyond their ability to manage, and with the rise in extremism among the youth, this mess will get from bad to worse not better with time.

The writer is a youth activist. He tweets at @mustafa_wynne



Ghazi Salahuddin

Getting to know Pakistan

When you run into someone you know well, in a cafe or a grocery store or wherever, your conversation usually starts before even a word has been uttered. It is the eye contact that sends and receives an unspoken message. A feeling of despondency and defeat is instantly shared. And when you begin to talk, after some form of cursory greetings, it is generally a confession of not being able to understand the prevailing state of affairs. Consequently, you are baffled about what can happen in the near future.

It is a bit different when you discuss politics, with your personal, partisan preferences. But so much is happening beyond our political squabbles that does not draw our serious attention. It has been my contention that the crisis of Pakistan is not so much economic or political as it is moral and intellectual.

There are bound to be many reasons why our people, by and large, are so anxious and angry and confused about a situation they do not comprehend. Will it help if an organized attempt is made at the national level to objectively examine the underlying forces that have driven our social and political disorders? Can an informed debate be conducted to chart a way out of this stultifying middle?

I am making this assertion because I feel that the overall discourse in the media and in the shadows of social media is devoid of any social research and participation of relevant social scientists and scholars. In the same vein, I believe that the discussion that is aired by our news channels in the guise of talk shows is contributing to this atmosphere of depression and emotional disquiet. As a journalist, I am fully aware of the limitations that are imposed on the mainstream media in the context of what is not allowed to be covered. There is so much that cannot be reported or discussed. I have often talked about the 'ruling ideas' that have led us into this wilderness. However, this suppression cannot be an excuse for the poor quality of debate that our news channels churn out, day in and day out. An almost nauseating aspect of this is that you see the same panelists again and again and they make the same statements again and again because they belong to a party or they are partisan in their views. It seems comical that one panelist is featured in more than one talk show on the same day, sometimes in talk shows that are shown simultaneously – and are supposed to be live.

There is so much more that could be said about how the news channels chew the cud and remain largely obsessed with politics. Besides, the journalistic, academic and intellectual level of the conversation remains inadequate. As a result, the viewers are not sufficiently enlightened about any particular issue that relates to their daily lives and interests. Unfortunately, concerned and liter-

ate citizens do not have other sources to enhance their knowledge and understanding of current affairs. The print media is in dire straits. Pakistan figures near the bottom of almost every international assessment in the domain of social and human development. Our reading habits are shockingly poor, one manifestation of which is the state of our libraries. Our universities are not doing the kind of research and critical analyses of domestic issues that is expected of them.

Coming back to what I stated at the outset, making sense of what is happening to us is becoming more and more difficult. It should, essentially, be the task of our rulers to study and decipher our fundamental problems. But the ideas they subscribe to and the policies they pursue may have become a barrier to any critical thinking.

Is this not a suicidal tendency on the part of the ruling elite that it does not know why and how we have arrived at this critical juncture? I realize that my observations would appear to be a bit abstract. So, let me try to be specific. Every week, when I look around to select a peg for my column, a number of headlines attract my attention. In fact, every day there are incidents and accidents that deserve to be fully explored. But every exploration would leave us with questions that remain unanswered.

For instance, here are two subjects that emerged in this week's headlines. Members of a religious political party have attempted to incite their followers against the chief justice of the country. This relates to a verdict of the Supreme Court of Pak-

istan. Now, this kind of extremism has flourished in the country for a long time and one knows that it has been promoted or, at least, ignored by the rulers.

Now, of course, statements are being issued that the state will not allow anyone to incite violence. As one big headline proclaimed: "threats to top judge to be met by full force of law". Ah, but do we not know the history of how these primitive passions have come to govern our society? Where has the 'full force of law' been hiding so far?

I wonder if the rulers really want to understand this issue and want to confront a problem that has a bearing on the very survival of this country. But this will depend on the rulers' understanding of how a civilized society functions and prospers. The second topic I could have selected for my column is, metaphorically, another elephant in the room. It relates to our human development or, in a wider sense, our human condition. The Senate Standing Committee on Overseas Pakistanis was informed that 50 per cent of the crime rate among the UAE labour force is reportedly attributed to Pakistanis. Not only that, the UAE authorities had expressed concern about the inappropriate behaviour of some Pakistanis, such as making videos of women in Dubai without their permission.

Finally, I conclude with a question for our rulers: Do you know what is happening to Pakistan? Is it something we should worry about?

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



Government has always been mindful of the need to placate the religiously motivated populace, but finding a balance between those envisioning Pakistan as a theocratic state and those determined to pursue a liberal, progressive agenda has proved to be the most significant test. A climate of virtually irreconcilable forces has emerged, much of it manifested by external militant Islamic elements led by the al-Qaeda organization and a revived Afghan Taliban.

The task of framing a constitution was entrusted in 1947 to a Constituent Assembly that was also to function as the interim legislature under the 1935 Government of India Act, which was to be the interim constitution. Pakistan's first constitution was enacted by the Constituent Assembly in 1956. It followed the form of the 1935 act, allowing the president far-reaching powers to suspend federal and provincial parliamentary government (emphasizing the viceregal tradition of British India). It also included a "parity formula," by which representation in the National

Assembly for East and West Pakistan would be decided on a parity, rather than population, basis. (A major factor in the political crisis of 1970-71 was abandonment of the parity formula and adoption of representation by population, giving East Pakistan an absolute majority in the National Assembly.)

In 1958 the constitution was abrogated, and martial law was instituted. A new constitution, promulgated in 1962, provided for the election of the president and national and provincial assemblies by something similar to an electoral college, composed of members of local councils. Although a federal form of government was retained, the assemblies had little power, which was, in effect, centralized through the authority of governors acting under the president. In April 1973 Pakistan's third constitution (since the 1935 act) was adopted by the National Assembly; it was suspended in 1977. In March 1981 a Provisional Constitutional Order was promulgated, providing a framework for government under martial law. Four years later a process was initiated for

reinstating the constitution of 1973. By October 1985 a newly elected National Assembly had amended the constitution, giving extraordinary powers to the president, including the authority to appoint any member of the National Assembly as prime minister.

With the end of military rule in 1988 and following elections to the National Assembly held in November of that year, the new president used those powers to appoint a prime minister to form a civilian government under the amended 1973 constitution. In 1997 the prime minister pushed through two significant changes to the constitution. The first revoked the president's power to remove a sitting government, and the second gave the premier authority to dismiss from parliament any member not voting along party lines—effectively eliminating the National Assembly's power to make a vote of no confidence. In 1999 a military government again came to power, and the constitution was suspended. The chief executive of that government initially ruled by decree and was made presi-

dent in 2001. In 2002 the constitution was reinstated following a national referendum, though it included provisions (under the name Legal Framework order [LFO]) that restored presidential powers removed in 1997; most provisions of the LFO were formally incorporated into the constitution in 2003.

The amended constitution provides for a president as head of state and a prime minister as head of government; both must be Muslims. According to the constitution, the president is elected for a term of five years by the National Assembly, the Senate, and the four provincial assemblies. The prime minister is elected by the National Assembly. The president acts on the advice of the prime minister. Universal adult suffrage is practiced.

The National Assembly has 336 members, each of whom serves a five-year term. Of these, 266 seats are filled by direct popular election in electoral constituencies; 256 are for Muslim candidates, and 10 are for non-Muslims.

To be continued....

Showbiz

Angelina Jolie seeks help for son Pax, hospitalized after e-bike accident

Angelina Jolie and friends are worried Pax's troubling pattern



Angelina Jolie is reportedly taking steps to support her 20-year-old son, Pax, following a serious accident involving his electric bike. The actress has been by Pax's side at the hospital since he collided with a car during rush hour in Los Feliz, Los Angeles, on July 29. At the time of the crash, Pax was not wearing a helmet.

Initial concerns from paramedics about a potential brain bleed have since been addressed, though no further details about his condition have been released.

According to Page Six, this incident is part of a troubling pattern; sources suggest Pax has previously been

involved in other accidents with both two- and four-wheeled vehicles. Friends are reportedly worried about his reckless behavior, with one insider revealing, "His friends are concerned about him. They're worried about his reckless actions." A source close to Jolie has revealed that her son Pax, who remains hospitalized after a serious electric bike accident, has a troubling history of car crashes. "He has had a string of car crashes," the insider asserted. "It's not great. Pax is a troubled kid, and Angelina is doing her best to help him." LAPD sources have stated there is no new information regarding the collision or potential charges.

Tech

VPNs being whitelisted in Pakistan, confirms PTA

In order to ensure the smooth and secure functioning of IT services and online businesses, the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has clarified that it is whitelisting VPNs through a "automated process". The clarification comes two days after PTA Chairman Hafeezur Rehman linked the lifting of a ban on X, formerly known as Twitter, to the government's directives.

In a briefing to the Senate's Standing Committee on Cabinet Secretariat, he also confirmed that the PTA was whitelisting VPNs after which only selected proxy networks will be available in Pakistan.

However, some media reports suggested that the country was going to impose a blanket ban on the use of VPNs.

The PTA, in an official announcement, clarified today: "No such action has been taken and all kinds of blocking is undertaken only under the directions of government of Pakistan in accordance with legal frameworks and

No such action has been taken and all kinds of blocking is undertaken only under the directions of govt, says PTA

guidelines." "For smooth and secure functioning of the IT services and online businesses, VPNs are being whitelisted through an automated process available at PTA and PSEB websites," it added. It is noteworthy to mention here that the Pakistani authorities suspended the X in the country on February 17, citing national security concerns. However, it can be accessed through different proxy networks. Last month, the federal government defended the ban on X in its response submitted to the SHC, saying that the move was "legitimate" when addressing national security concerns.

Health

Hepatitis A is endemic, childhood infection in developing world; experts

MULTAN: Hepatitis A is usually a self limiting illness caused by hepatitis A virus and enterically transmitted.

Senior Family Physician, Dr Imran Rafiq told this news agency on Saturday that Hepatitis A virus with heavy worldwide distribution, is associated with overcrowding and poor sanitation and is endemic in the developing world where it is an infection of childhood.

In developed countries, he stated, incidence increases village epidemics are associated with food and waterborne transmission certain groups are at increased risk. The virus is usually transmitted via the faeco oral route for though outbreaks have been associated with contaminated blood products, the senior family physician informed.

Subclinical infection is common in children more

than 90 pc of age less than 5 years, he said adding that acute hepatitis occurs more frequently with increasing age symptoms include fever, headache, pain in the whole body, loss of appetite vomiting weight loss, dark colour urine and pale stool. Occasionally, diarrhoea, cough flu or pain in joints of the body may occur most commonly while in children physical findings include jaundice, enlarged liver and spleen, Dr Imran explained.

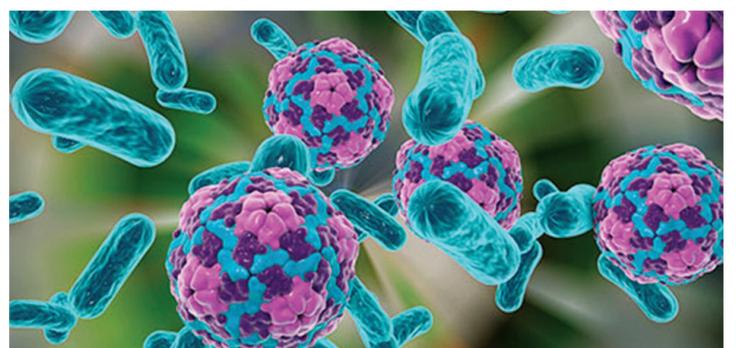
Treatment in acute hepatitis is always symptomatic. The doctor advises to avoid Paracetamol and alcohol. In case the patient is not conscious then the patient must be referred to a hospital where the consultant specialist physician should treat the patient, he maintained.

Prevention from the disease passive immunization cooled immunoglobulin (Gammaglobulin) was

previously the mainstay of prophylaxis in travelers to endemic regions, he said and added that There are concerns that decreasing antibody level may not be to confer protection and the duration of protection is short lived. Immunoglobulins are now only used for post exposure and for non-vaccinated individuals who will be in a high risk region in less than 2 weeks.

Active immunization... several inactivated hepatitis A virus vaccines exist and these have largely superseded the use of immunoglobulin, Dr Imran informed. Two doses of HAV are given at zero and 6-12 months and it provides protection for at least 10 years, he stated.

Indications for immunization include travelers to endemic areas, intravenous drug users, regular recipients of blood products and high risk employment, he concluded.



9th Conference of Awqaf: Islamic Affairs Ministers discuss efforts to promote correct understanding of Islam

ISLAMABAD: The Minister of Islamic Affairs, Dawah, and Guidance, Sheikh Dr. Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al-Sheikh, has stated that the ministry is working diligently to establish communication bridges with Islamic affairs ministries in various countries around the world.

He said this during the press conference, ahead of the 9th Conference of Ministers of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs in Makkah on Sunday.

The conference, organized by the Ministry of Islamic Affairs, Dawah, and Guidance, is titled "The Role of the Ministries of Islamic Affairs and Awqaf in Promoting the Principles of Moderation and Consolidating the Values of Moderation" and would see the participation of Islamic figures from over 60 countries around the world.

Dr. Abdullah bin Al-Sheikh who is also the Executive Chairman of Conference of Ministers of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs in countries of the Islamic world, said these efforts would help advance Islamic work, strengthen ties and cooperation foundations, promote moderation and combat terrorism.

Dr. Abdullah bin Al-Sheikh said the conference would enhance Islamic solidarity, coordinate and collaborate in the fields of Dawah, Awqaf and Islamic affairs, and strive to promote the correct understanding of Islam worldwide according to the Holy Quran, the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him).

He said the conference would discuss the cause of Al-Quds (Jerusalem) and Palestine, matters related to Islamic Dawah, the care of mosques, and other aspects impacting the life of the Islamic nation.

The conference would also address the exchange of experiences in appointing Imams and preachers, as well as the programmes and responsibilities assigned to them, he added. APP

Five police personnel including officers martyred in various incidents in Islamabad

ISLAMABAD: Five police personnel including officers were martyred in various incidents in Islamabad. According to the details, Shaheed Ansar Abbas along with ASI Muhammad Ramzan raided the Dore village in area of Tarnol police station on the information of the drug peddling gang for the recovery of drugs and the arrest of the accused, where they were confronted by the drug peddling gang. Both officers fought very bravely and attained the rank of martyrdom.

Shaheed Police Officer Ghulam Farid was posted in the anti-car lifting cell while investigating a case of car theft he reached the accused, but officer Ghulam Farid and his partner were taken hostage and kept in the basement, starved and thirsty, and subjected to immense torture. Due to this, Ghulam Farid was martyred.

Martyr ASI Sher Muhammad at Thana Tarnool was seriously injured as a result of firing while on duty in a rally. He was shifted hospital where he received martyrdom due to his injuries. SABAH



ISLAMABAD: To observe "Youm-e-Istehsal", banners and panaflexes displayed in front of Parliament House against Indian Government's decision of revocation of the special status of disputed territory of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK). APP

India's actions demonstrate disregard for int'l law in IIOJK: President Zardari



ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari said India's actions since 5 August 2019 demonstrated complete disregard for international law, the aspirations of the Kashmiri people, and the UN Security Council resolutions regarding Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). In a message on Youm-e-Istehsal on 5th August 2024, he said, "Today marks the completion of five years of India's latest campaign to consolidate its illegal occupation of Jammu and Kashmir. On this day, five years ago, India took a number of unilateral and unlawful steps in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) to undermine its internationally recognised disputed status." Since 5 August 2019, he said India has

"Today marks the completion of five years of India's latest campaign to consolidate its illegal occupation of Jammu and Kashmir. On this day, five years ago, India took a number of unilateral and unlawful steps in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) to undermine its internationally recognised disputed status"

embarked upon a ceaseless campaign to alter the demographic structure and political landscape of IIOJK.

Issuing domicile certificates to outsiders, registering temporary residents in the voters' lists, gerrymandering assembly constituencies, and modifying land and property ownership laws are some of the key features of this campaign. All these measures are in blatant violation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions and international law, including the 4th Geneva Convention, he observed. "The continued presence of hundreds of thousands of Indian troops has turned IIOJK into one of the most heavily militarized zones in the world. The gross human rights violations in IIOJK have been documented extensively and condemned globally. The mistreatment of Kashmiri journalists and human rights defend-

ers has further revealed India's willingness to go to any lengths to silence dissenting voices. India would not succeed in suppressing the just struggle of the people of IIOJK through domestic legislation and judicial verdicts," he added. For the past seven decades, the President said the Kashmiris had waited for the United Nations to fulfil its solemn commitments. "It is crucial that the international community urges India to end its human rights violations in IIOJK and implement the relevant UN Security Council resolutions." "Pakistan, for its part, will continue to extend full moral, diplomatic and political support to the just struggle of the people of Jammu and Kashmir for the realization of their inalienable right to self-determination, as enshrined in the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions," he added. APP

Youm-e-Istehsal Kashmir' to be observed at Pakistan House in New York

UNITED NATIONS: The Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN and the Pakistan Consulate General in New York have jointly organized a meeting on Monday to observe 'Youm-e-Istehsal' marking the fifth anniversary of India's revocation of the disputed Jammu and Kashmir's special autonomy status, and to show solidarity with Kashmiri people. The move to scrap Article 370 of India's Constitution, which gives the state of Jammu and Kashmir its own constitution and decision-making rights for all matters except for defence, communications and foreign affairs, was enforced in a bid to integrate the state with the Indian Union. That article also forbids Indians outside the state from permanently settling, buying land, holding local government jobs and securing educational scholarships.

On 8 August 2019, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres reaffirmed that the UN's position on the Kashmir dispute is governed by the Security Council resolutions, and called for refraining from "taking steps that could affect the status of Jammu and Kashmir." But the Indian leadership described its unilateral move as the "Final Solution" for Kashmir, using harsh tactics through deployment of additional troops and a lockdown of the region, following up with the imposition of demographic changes in violation of the international law and UN Security Council resolutions. Since 2019, human rights violations in Kashmir have escalated, including extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detentions, sexual violence, and restrictions on freedom of expression. Despite these tough measures, the resolve of the Kashmiri people remains unbroken, and their struggle for freedom continues. Prominent Kashmiri leaders and activists in New York will attend the meeting, which will address among others by Ambassador Munir Akram.

Reserved seats judgment contradicts constitutional provisions, says Senator Siddiqui

ISLAMABAD: The majority judgment of the apex court in PTT's reserved seats case contradicts provisions of the constitution and is controversial, said Senator Irfan Siddiqui on Sunday. The PML-N parliamentary leader in senate, Senator Siddiqui referred to the dissenting notes of the two judges of the larger bench and said that the judgment was beyond jurisdiction. "It is upto the judges who would one day be appointed Chief Justice to decide whether they can carry the guilt for unconstitutional decision or to reconsider the order," the senator said in a statement. He said that the future Chief Justices need to consider whether they would be spending their entire lives providing explanations of the flawed judgment or decide to reconsider the controversial judgment be vindicated before history. He said that the dissenting notes of two esteemed judges, the opinions of leading constitutional experts, the recent resolution of the Pakistan Bar Council, and the unanimous decision of the Peshawar High Court's five-member bench, tell that the majority judgment is in conflict with the constitution. APP

Power division rejects plans for separate courts on power theft

Statement says no separate budget will be allocated for this purpose

ISLAMABAD: The Power Division has dismissed recent reports suggesting the establishment of separate courts and police stations to tackle power theft as unfounded. In a statement issued on Sunday, the Power Division clarified that there is no truth to the claims circulating in both mainstream media and social media about plans to set up specialised judicial and policing institutions to address electricity theft.

The statement stressed that the Power Division has no such plans under consideration. Instead, the federal government is intensifying its campaign against power theft by utilising

existing law enforcement agencies. The focus remains on leveraging these agencies to combat theft effectively without incurring additional costs on consumers. Recent reports suggested that the government was contemplating the creation of separate legal and enforcement bodies specifically for dealing with electricity theft. However, the Power Division's statement refutes these claims, reaffirming that no separate budget will be allocated for this purpose, and any expenses related to the campaign against power theft will not be passed on to the public. Agencies

HC Dhaka assures security of Pakistani students

DHAKA: Pakistan High Commission, Dhaka was keeping a close eye on the changing situation in Bangladesh and was taking all possible steps for ensuring security of Pakistani students.

In a statement Pakistan's High Commissioner Syed Ahmed Maroof said security of Pakistani citizens was top most priority and the High Commission was continuously in contact with the citizens particularly Pakistani students who were studying in the country. The officials of High Commission were also in touch with the Bangladeshi authorities and were keeping the students informed about the situation. He said as the situation worsened, the male and female students were asked to immediately reach the High Commission and those who could not come were in contact on telephone. He said Pakistani students were asked to keep themselves confined to their rooms and stay away from the present situation. Out of the 144 students studying in Bangladesh one third had already left for Pakistan while few more students were leaving for Pakistan in a day or two. APP

Sirajul Haq awarded International Islamic Award for Human Rights by Iran

Sirajul Haq says it is the duty of all Islamic countries including Iran to stand with the people of Palestine

TEHRAN: The Islamic Republic of Iran has awarded the "International Islamic Award for Human Rights" to former Emir Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan Sirajul Haq. The "International Islamic Award for Human Rights" is given every year by the Department of Human Rights of the Islamic Republic of Iran to those who have performed outstanding services around the world. This year, this award was reserved for those who raised their voice against the ongoing oppression and brutality in Palestine and Zionist imperialism.

After 47 people from around the world are nominated for this award, six people are selected while three persons are chosen for the honorary award. Sirajul Haq was awarded the

International Islamic Award for Human Rights in a special official ceremony in recognition of his strong voice against the ongoing bombing and aggression in Gaza, financial support and valuable services to the Palestinian people. Ambassadors of Islamic countries from all over the world participated in this event held in the capital city of Tehran. The ministers of the government of Iran, including the judiciary and high government officials also participated in it.

According to the Central Secretary of Human Rights, the theme of this year's award was "defence of the oppressed people of Palestine, resistance and the fight against the crimes of the Zionist regime". SABAH

Experts for collaborative efforts to address energy challenges in South Asia through regional cooperation

ISLAMABAD: The experts at the study launch of Energy Security in South Asia have stressed the need for collaborative efforts to address energy challenges in South Asia through regional cooperation to ensure energy security. Speaking at the launch of the study "Energy Security in South Asia: A Case of Transitioning to Sustainable Sources" on Monday, jointly prepared by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) and the Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF), Birgit Lamm, Country Head of FNF, stressed on the urgent need for sustainable energy policies, especially in the light of the current focus on energy prices in Pakistan.

She highlighted that energy, being a strategic industry, is essential for all. The war in Ukraine has exacerbated energy prices in the region, leading to fuel scarcity and increased costs. With Pakistan's growing population and outdated infrastructure, the issue of circular debt is reflected in rising commodity prices. Lamm emphasized the need to diversify energy sources, increase efficiency, and reduce dependency on the global market for fuel. SABAH

Mushaal Mullick urges world to prevent Kashmiris genocide in IIOJK

Says the people of Kashmir across the world would mark August 5, 2024 as Black Day tomorrow

ISLAMABAD: Mushaal Hussein Mullick, a wife of incarcerated senior Hurriyat leader Muhammad Yasin Malik has urged the world to stand up and prevent genocide of innocent Kashmiris by the occupational regime of Hindutva terrorists in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

While addressing a roundtable in connection with 'August 5 Youm-e-Istehsal', former Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Human Rights and Women Empowerment Mushaal Hussein Mullick said that the people of Kashmir across the world would mark August 5, 2024 as Black Day today (Monday) to condemn India's unconstitutional unilateral action of August 5, 2019.

She said that the August 5 was one of the darkest days in the history of Kashmir as it had a catastrophic impact on the lives of Kashmiris because fascist authorities turned Kashmir into a world biggest open

jail and a largest torture cell since abrogation of Article 370 and 35-A. Mushaal Mullick noted that hundreds of structures were blasted, demolished and confiscated with the view to deprive Kashmiris of their land, resources and livelihood and thousands non-settlers Hindus were granted domiciles and were being settled in the disputed territory under a malicious scheme to change the demography of occupied Kashmir. Former SAPM said that Kashmiris would once again give India and the international community a clear and unequivocal message that they preferred death over slavery and they would never compromise on their principled stance by accepting India's hegemony and its illegal control over the occupied Kashmir. She recalled that over one million troops were stationed in the illegally occupied valley and tasked to carry out systematic genocide of Kashmiris, besides thousands of innocent

Kashmiris, were languishing in Indian jails under concocted charges including her husband Yasin Malik. However, she vowed that despite all its tools of oppression and suppression, the notorious Narendra Modi-led fascist Indian government completely failed to deter the determined Kashmiris from seeking their right to self-determination through a peaceful struggle.

Mushaal Mullick stated that the day was not far when Kashmiris would achieve their cherished goal of freedom, as they could not be deprived from the birth right of self-determination through brutal tactics anymore. She urged the civilized world to shun silence and double-standard and take tangible steps to put pressure on the Indian government to ensure resolution of the decades-olds Kashmir dispute as per the UN agreed formula and aspirations of the people of the scenic valley. SABAH



CHINIOT: District Police Officer Abdullah Ahmad offering feteha at Yadare-Shuda in front of DPO office on the eve of Youm-e-Shuda Police. APP

Education ministry renovated Margalla College

ISLAMABAD: In a remarkable feat of collaborative governance, Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training has renovated and refurbished the abandoned hostel at Margalla College Islamabad in just three months. According to the Education Ministry, GIK University will now manage the facility from Monday, offering high-impact IT courses, training programs for students, and fostering a culture

of innovation and excellence. This initiative showcases the power of public-private partnerships and innovative governance, providing a world-class learning environment for students and empowering them with cutting-edge skills. The Ministry of Education also appreciated to the teams involved for their dedication and hard work.