The Asian Telegraph

www.theasiantelegraph.net | Sunday, September 29, 2024 | Vol: XV, Issue: 182 | ABC CERTIFIED

Expressed interest in boosting the bilateral trade volume and praised Japan's collaboration with the Punjab government in improving education, health, and urban facilities

Punjab Chief Minister **Maryam Nawaz**

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US President Joe Biden & PM Shehbaz Sharif meet during a reception

NEW YORK: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif's attended a reception hosted by US President Joe Biden in honor of the heads of government participating in the United Nations General Assembly session

US President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif met during the reception.

Both the leaders expressed good wishes for each other. The heads of state of other countries also attended the dinner.

Pakistan, US reaffirm desire to enhance cooperation in key areas; Pakistan and the United States have reaffirmed their common desire to enhance cooperation in key areas including trade, investment, technology and climate action.

This was stated by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in a post on his X handle after attending a reception in New York hosted by US President Joe Biden in honour of the heads of state and government participating in the United Nations General Assembly session.

The Prime Minister said his brief meeting with President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden during the reception was most warm and cordial. Agencies

Six people killed, eight injured in N. Waziristan copter crash

MIRANSHAH: At least six people were killed and eight injured after a chartered helicopter carrying 14 passengers crashed in the North Waziristan district of the KP province on Saturday.

The MI8 helicopter was chartered by Mari Petroleum, an oil exploration and production company in Pakistan, and it crashed near Shewa oil field due to a technical fault, said the sources.

The helicopter developed a technical fault soon after it took off. As it tried to make an emergency landing its tail rotter hit the ground, the petroleum company said in a statement.

"Although the helicopter managed to land, it unfortunately lost control afterward. Evacuation operations are currently underway, with support from all relevant departments, including the Pakistan Army. The injured are being transported to the nearest hospital," the spokesperson said in a statement.

The injured were moved to nearby hospital while relief operation was underway, the spokesperson added. INP

NEW YORK: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif with United States President Joe Biden and First Lady Dr,Jill Tracy Jacobs Biden at a reception hosted by US President in the honor of the heads of state and Government participating in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) session. INP

Hassan Nasrallah, Hezbollah leader martyred in Beirut in Israeli strike

The 64-year-old was widely seen as personification of armed group he led for 32 years

BEIRUT: Lebanon's Hezbollah confirmed on Saturday that its leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah was martyred and vowed to continue the battle against Israel.

Nasrallah's death marks a major blow not only to Hezbollah but also to its backers in Iran. He was a leading figure in the Tehran-backed Axis of Resistance, helping to project Iranian influence across the Middle East.

Nasrallah, who reached the peak of his popularity after the war with Israel in 2006, was seen as a hero by many, not just in Lebanon but beyond. Standing up to Israel is what defined him and his Iranian-backed group, Hezbollah, for years. But that changed when Hezbollah sent fighters to Syria to crush the uprising threatening President Bashar al-Assad's rule.

Despite this, Nasrallah continued to enjoy support from his loyal base – mainly Lebanon's people who revered him as a leader and religious figurehead.

Born in 1960, Nasrallah's early childhood in East Beirut is cloaked in political mythology. One of nine siblings, he is said to have been pious from an early age, often taking long walks to the city centre to find second-hand books on Islam. Nasrallah himself has

described how he would spend his free time as a child staring reverently at a portrait of scholar.

After the outbreak of civil war between Lebanon's Christian Maronites and Muslims, Nasrallah joined Amal's movement and fought with its militia. But as the conflict progressed, Amal adopted a staunchly unsympathetic stance towards the presence of Palestinian militias in Lebanon.

Disturbed by this stance, Nasrallah split from Amal in 1982, shortly after Israel's invasion of Lebanon, and formed a new group with Iranian support that would later become Hezbollah. By 1985, Hezbollah had crystallised its own worldview in a founding document, which addressed the "downtrodden of Lebanon" and named the Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran as its one true leader.

Since early in his career, Nasrallah's speeches helped cement his persona as a wise, humble figure, deeply invested in the lives of everyday people – a leader who shunned formal Arabic in favour of the dialect spoken on the street, and who reportedly preferred to sleep, every night, on a simple foam mattress on the ground. In the book The Hizbullah Phenomenon: Politics and Communication, scholar and co-author Dina Matar describes how Nasrallah's words have fused political claims and religious imagery, creating speeches with high emotional voltage that transformed Nasrallah into "the very embodiment of the group". Nasrallah's charisma was far-reaching; his elegies on the history of oppression in the Middle East have made him an influential figure across sects and nations. That was helped by Hezbollah's sprawling media apparatus, which makes use of TV, print news and even musical theatre shows to spread its message. SABAH

Army resolute to crush 'illegal activities' in Pakistan: COAS

Gen Asim Munir invites business community to play role in economic development, collaborate with SIFC

KARACHI: Chief of the Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir has invited the business community to play their role in the country's economic development and work jointly with Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC). In an interaction with traders' community during his visit to Karachi, General Asim Munir assured the businessmen that the Army is committed to take action for eliminating illegal business activities in the country and the problems being faced by Karachi's business community will be solved on priority basis.

"I had told you a year ago that don't lose hope which is a sin. Never give up on the country's prosperity as through collective efforts we have defeated the attempts to spread despair in the society," the army chief said, adding "Pakistan possesses extraordinary potential in various sectors and keeping in its immense resources and abilities it wants to take its rightful place in the comity of nations."

General Asim Munir spoke of the positive impact on the national economy of the action against smuggling along country's western border.

The COAS richly commended the role of friendly countries – China, Saudi Arabia and UAE – in Pakistan's economic revival. General Asim Munir said Google, Starlink and other international companies are investing in Pakistan. "These successes could not have been possible without the cooperation of the business community," he added. The army chief said everyone should have unwavering faith in Pakistan's bright future. Agencies

1st National Tourism Awards 2024 celebrated with full zest

ISLAMABAD: 1st National Tourism Awards of Excellence celebrated with full zest in Islamabad was organized by Discover Pakistan and Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation on the occasion of World Tourism Day 2024.

The National Tourism Awards seek to recognize and encourage the remarkable endeavours of those who are contributing to the growth and development of the tourism and hospitality sector in Pakistan.

This impressive event was attended by over 300 participants including Diplomats, Senior Government Officials and Private Sector Stakeholders of the tourism and hospitality sector.

At the event, awards were distributed among the individuals and organizations who make remarkable contributions to the tourism and hospitality sector in 20 different categories.

The award recipients were selected by an independent jury of top professionals of tourism and hospitality sector through an extremely fair and transparent procedure. APP

Minister lauds PM for highlighting Kashmir, Palestine issues at UN

ISLAMABAD: Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif in meeting with members of the Pakistani community in the US said the Prime Minister has reflected the national spirit by giving a message to respond to any aggression by India in his address at the UN General Assembly (UNGA) meeting.

He was addressing the meeting organized by the Consulate General of Pakistan in New York, US where members of the Pakistani community paid tribute to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for his speech at the United Nations General Assembly, a news release said

Khawaja Asif said the Prime Minister presented the case of Kashmir and Palestine in front of the whole world in a magnificent manner.

"It is a pleasure for me to meet the Pakistani community in America. This event is not just a gathering but a manifestation of the greatness and harmony of the Pakistani nation. Overseas Pakistanis are our precious asset and our crown's jewel," the Minister said.

He added that he was overwhelmed to see the diaspora's love for Pakistan whereas they have settled a new society on the soil of America with their hard work and dedication and have brought laurels to the country.

"Overseas Pakistanis have always played a vital role in the development and prosperity of Pakistan. Overseas Pakistanis have proved by their role that the Pakistani nation is capable of facing every difficulty. This success of all of you is a sign of a bright future for Pakistan. The overseas Pakistanis have a significant role in the country's economic development. The welfare of the Pakistani community is the top priority of the Government of Pakistan," the Defence Minister said.

"The Prime Minister has assured all embassies abroad to solve the problems of Overseas Pakistanis on priority basis," he said.

Chairman PMYP held meeting with S Korean Envoy to enhance bilateral ties

ISLAMABAD: To enhance bilateral ties and promote youth collaboration, Chairman of the Prime Minister's Youth Programme (PMYP) Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan, met with the Ambassador of the Republic of South Korea, His Excellency Park ki Jun here on Saturday. According to the PMYP office, the discussions focused on strengthening relations between Pakistan and South Korea, emphasising empowering the youth of both nations. Both dignitaries expressed their mutual commitment to enhancing youth development initiatives during the meeting.

They discussed various strategies for youth engagement, skills development, and digital empowerment, particularly through educational and cultural exchange programs. Chairman PMYP Rana Mashhood highlighted Pakistan's ongoing initiatives, including the Smart Pakistan Scheme and the National Innovation Award, which aim to equip the younger generation with essential tools for the future. His Excellency Park ki Jun expressed keen interest in fostering greater cooperation in the areas of technology, culture, and education. APP

Gilani highlights vital role of textile sector in national economy

ISLAMABAD: Senate Chairman Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani underscored the significant contribution of the textile sector to Pakistan's economy, emphasizing its role in both employment and exports. Speaking as the chief guest at the 7th International Conference on Textiles, titled "Inspiring Change: Challenges and Strides are the Wings of Success," held at a local hotel on Friday, Gilani noted that textiles account for over 60 per cent of the country's exports, a substantial share of the national income.

He acknowledged the industry's role in providing livelihoods to thousands of workers and highlighted Pakistan's potential in producing high-quality cotton, the backbone of the textile sector. He stressed the need for research and development to enhance cotton quality and reduce reliance on imported raw materials.

The Senate Chairman called for the production of innovative, high-quality textile products, emphasizing that reducing dependency on government subsidies would make industrialists more self-sufficient. He stressed the importance of remaining competitive on the global stage and urged the strengthening of Research and Development (R&D) from cotton cultivation to finished textile products. He also highlighted the importance of advancing both traditional and modern sectors of the textile industry, stating that parliament, particularly the Senate, plays a crucial role in crafting legislation that supports sustainable industrial growth. He emphasized the need for technological advancements and assured the Senate's commitment to providing the best technology to the industry.

Govt determined to make Pakistan top destination for business: Jam Kamal

ISLAMABAD: The Government is working on increasing Ease of Doing Business in Pakistan to make it an attractive destination for foreign investment. In this regard, projects like Pakistan Single Window have been undertaken to provide one node solution to potential investors rather than hopping between various government departments for different permits. The government remains fully committed to supporting businesses and fostering an environment that enables them to thrive.

This has been stated by Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan while addressing 40 years anniversary celebration of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) as Chief guest.

The Minister said that prudent and effective policies of the Government have brought down inflation. Stable and increased foreign reserves have brought down interest rates. Moreover the Government has been working relentlessly on bringing down power tariffs for the industry in general and exporters in particular.

He added that the Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif himself is paying utmost attention to the resolution of the business community' s problems and that a high profile Board is already working under his (Prime Minister) chair for the purpose.

He further said that an all-out effort is being made by every Ministry to see regional trade flourish and explore business opportunities for our exporters. The transshipment policy is being revised to spur cross border trade in the region and foster business opportunities for our business community. Once devised, the transshipment policy is expected to make Pakistan a regional business hub for the Central Asia, South Asia and Middle East regions. This will create employment for the skilled labour force, bring in foreign exchange, boost revenues for the Government and bring in overall development in the country.

The role of Chambers in promoting trade and commerce, both domestic and international, cannot be overstated. Over the past four decades, the Islamabad Chamber has played a pivotal role in spurring business activity, promoting entrepreneurship, and contributing significantly to national economic progress, he further stated.

In his welcome address Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry, highlighted the major milestones of ICCI achieved during his tenure. He said that he and his entire team tirelessly worked to resolve the problems being faced by the community and to provide a congenial atmosphere for ease of doing business.

He said that we have to increase our exports, impart skill training to our youth and formulate long term economic policies for the wellbeing of the country. He described his success as President ICCI the result of the entire team work and expressed the hope that the future leadership of the Chamber will carry forward this legacy.

Chairman Founder Group ICCI khalid Iqbal Malik paid rich tributes to Ahsan Zafar Bakhtwari for his outstanding performance as President ICCI which made the Chamber as one of the premier Chambers of the country.

In his address former President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Secretary General United Business Group Zafar Bakhtawari underlined the need for the acknowledgement of business leaders' achievements through excellence awards at government level. He called upon the youth to idealize business leaders to emerge as job providers instead of job seekers.

Former President FPCCI and ICCI Zubair Ahmad Malik by mentioning the problems of the business fraternity impressed upon the government for provision of necessary facilities to the business community. He also demanded the incitation of immediate work on the Pakistan-Iran gas pipeline project, CASA-1000, TAPI etc. in the best interest of the country.

President elect ICCI Nasir Mansoor Qureshi said that Pakistan is blessed with multiple opportunities and resources and the only needed thing is to showcase them articulately to overcome the economic challenges. He also made mention of his future plans to further promote the Chamber's repute and especially to resolve the community's problems.

Senior Vice President Faad Waheed emphasized the need for the continuity of the economic policies.

In his vote of thanks, Vice President Eng. Azharul Islam Zafar expressed gratitude to the chief guest for gracing the occasion. DNA

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Child marriage: laws, verdicts, solutions

WALI TAHIR

Pakistan turned 77 this year, yet the children harbored by the fifth most populated country continue to be failed by the state. One of the many challenges in this regard is child marriage. The Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929 Section 2(a) defines a "child" as "a person who, if a male, is under eighteen years of age, and if a female, is under sixteen years of age". The term "child marriage" is defined in Section 2(b) as "a marriage to which either of the contracting parties is a child".

Article 25A of the constitution declares: "There shall be no discrimination on the basis of sex", yet Sindh is the only province which does not discriminate on the basis of gender, as the age of marriage is uniform for both men and women at 18 in Sindh following the enactment of Child Restraint Act 2013. More recently in Azka Wahid v Province of Punjab, the Lahore High Court also struck down the minimum age of marriage of girls being 16 in Punjab for being discriminatory, remarking that the difference in age "is not based on an intelligible criteria having nexus with the object of the law". The court considered the purpose of the 1929 Act to be "muddled" by this fallacy, something every reasonable person can appreciate. While both girls and boys are affected by this human rights violation, girls suffer from child marriages disproportionately. According to the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), 18.3 per cent of girls and 4.7 per cent of boys are married before the age of 18 in Pakistan. While the most recent DHS report shows an increase in the average marrying age of girls, on deeper inspection there was actually an increase in child marriages before the age of 15. According to Unicef, 19 million girl (and women) victims in Pakistan have been married in their childhood, and given a burden they have to bear for as long as they live.

Perhaps a darker shadow is cast by the fact that 54 per cent of girls in Pakistan get pregnant before the age of 18. In Akza Wahid, the Lahore High Court was briefed by the advocate general that: "Pregnancy and childbirth related complications are the main causes of death for mothers aged 15 to 19." Child marriage in such cases becomes a human rights violation that can easily turn into a painful death sentence, aggravated by a lack of contraceptive facilities. Distressingly, child marriages may be on the rise following the 2022 floods, and the recent monsoon season, the latter giving rise to the term 'monsoon brides'. Pakistan ranks as the eighth most vulnerable country to climate change, according to the Global Climate Risk Index 2021. Climate change has resulted in longer, more powerful rainfall, something our rural areas are not equipped for, resulting in destruction; the land is barren, the now poisoned water has killed the fish, and made growing crops no longer possible. The resulting income and food insecurity has become the impetus for child marriage. One striking example is a sharp increase in child marriages in Dadu District, something the Sindh Human Right's Commission has taken "cognizance" of. Sindh's existing provincial percentage of child marriages already stands at a nauseating 33 per cent. This connection between child marriages and extreme weather conditions, however, is not unprecedented. A research article evaluating the impact of 2010 floods found that the percentage of girls married in the 15-19 age range increased from 10.7 per cent to 16 per cent as a direct result of the floods. Thus, this increase in child marriage was something that the government should have easily foreseen and worked for prevention of, if not on basis of common sense, then on basis of academic evidence. What is most disturbing is how child marriage is legally accepted after the fact. As the Islamabad High Court noted in Mumtaz Bibi v Qasim, the courts continue to rely on the Supreme Court judgment of Bakshi v Bashir, wherein the Supreme Court ruled that where an underage girl was married in violation of the Child Marriage Restraint Act, the marriage itself would not automatically become void. The legal mechanism for voiding a child marriage remains wanting. The onus of proof is on the child to void their marriage, through costly and complicated legal procedures. The Dissolution of Muslim Marriages Act 1939 may allow a Muslim girl to void a child marriage only if the girl is married before 16, and the marriage is petitioned before she turns 18. And the marriage must not be "consummated".

Similar issues arise for Hindu girls under the Hindu Marriage Act 1955. Whereas there is no remedy for child marriage under the Christian Marriage Act, a divorce or annulment must instead be sought under the DivorceAct 1869. In the Mumtaz Bibi case, Justice Babar Sattar distinguished Bakshi case on a number of reasons, foremost being the fact that Pakistan is a party to the UN Convention on Rights of the Child and has enacted specific legislation for the purposes of integrating the convention into domestic law. The most relevant are the Protection of Women (Criminal Laws Amendment) Act 2006 and the Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Act 2016. The 2006 Act added sections 375 and 376 to the Pakistan Penal Code, which prohibits sex under the age of 16, where even sex with her "consent", would still constitute statutory rape, punishable with death or life imprisonment. The 2016 Act further added sections 377A and 377B to the PPC, which makes a person inducing or enticing any child under the age of 18 to engage in sexual act guilty of sexual abuse, punishable by 25 years, "consent" of the child once again remains irrelevant. Justice Babar Sattar reasoned that since a marriage is a contract mandated by the state, wherein the parties agree to engage for sexual relations, as a result any contract executed with any person who is underage would result in an unlawful contract, which would be void ab initio as per the Contract Act, 1982. The judgment is only binding in the Islamabad Capital Territory, and persuasive otherwise.

The writer is a freelance contributor.

A day at the cat cafe

Dr Ayesha Razzaque

Many of the world's big destination cities have a cultural, theatre, or entertainment district. The closest thing Islamabad has is Lok Virsa, where I sometimes take nieces and nephews.

For myself, when I feel like watching live drama, I sit in on proceedings of the Supreme Court of Pakistan on days when there is a hearing for an interesting case. Last Friday was the fourth hearing of a case brought by the All-Public Universities BPS Teachers Association (APUBTA) against The Federation of Pakistan (through the secretary for federal education secretary and professional training, Islamabad and others). The case was heard by a three-member bench of the SC, including the chief justice of Pakistan (CJP). The APUBTA seeks permanent appointments to key offices in universities that are holding up business.

The reason the case was brought before the SC was that as of March of this year, only 57 per cent of the 154 public universities nationwide were operating with permanently appointed VCs. Many also have no appointments to the three most important statutory positions – registrar, treasurer, and controller. The court's stated goal of the hearings was to ensure universities complied with the law and their acts, statutes, and rules because education is a matter of public interest, funded by taxpayers' money, that ought to be secured. In its first order in April, the court had solicited a simple status report of vacancies at public universities. By the time of the second hearing in May, the government had not complied with the court's order to provide this data, and directions were given more forcefully. By the third hearing in August, government representatives were able to partially comply with the court's order to provide a simple accounting of existing vacancies. I was expecting to witness some drama but instead, the experience felt more like visiting a cat cafe. For much of the time, what I saw were senior government officials and vice-chancellors being meek cats. The government respondents, some of whom I witnessed thundering at and unloading on senior staff members of a public university just a few days earlier, were behaving like well-behaved kitties while addressing the court. In sharp contrast to a few days earlier, they also appeared remarkably aware of the limits of their authority. That day being the fourth hearing, the court had summoned VCs and representatives of several universities involved in the matter.

The conduct of various VCs in the court followed the same template as the government representatives. Most of them and their lawyers' demeanour was as you would expect: deferential, respectful, and polite. Officials of about two dozen universities were summoned by the court that day. All suffered from similar issues, but a few stood out, nevertheless. In one university (in Karachi), the statutory positions of controller, registrar, and treasurer have not been filled since November 2022. The VC's explanation for why he has not made appointments in the six months since he took office was that he was waiting on guidance on whether to select from an applicant pool from 2019 or required "permission" to re-advertise the openings from the governing body. My, such helplessness! These are the kinds of decisions that have some university leaders stumped for months.

According to the Higher Education Commission (HEC) and Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training (MoFEPT), the VC of another institution (in Multan) was appointed in 2012, completed his tenure, and was granted a two-year extension, but was then terminated in 2017 during that extension period. Instead of vacating the office, he has been illegally occupying the VC office to date – for an additional seven years, almost twice as long as two regular tenures. How, you may ask, is that possible? Simply, by refusing to call a meeting of the university senate that could remove him from his position. This simple maneuver, which could have sprung from the mind of a five-year-old, has the HEC, the MoFEPT, and indeed the entire machinery of government stumped. And people still say that our universities do not have anything worthwhile to teach! Senior employees of government services of all stripes who seek an extension of their appointments ought to learn from this ingenuity.

Among university officials that appeared before the court, there was one exception, the International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI), whose lawyer took a notably different approach to responding to the court – confrontation. The IIUI's status as a public-sector university is well-established. The IIUI collects approximately Rs3.7 billion from tuition fees and receives Rs0.68 billion from Saudi and Kuwaiti sources. In addition, it also receives more than Rs2.2 billion from the government of Pakistan, more than three times that of foreign sources and more than what most public universities receive.

That did not dissuade the IIUI's lawyer from arguing that his client university is not a public university and hence not answerable to the court, as if the IIUI is built 10 miles outside of Pakistan. Irrespective of the IIUI's official status as a private or a public university, it is the recipient of substantial financial support in the form of public funds – taxpayer money. When a university relies on public funds for 40 per cent of its expenses, it is accountable to the public for its performance.

The IIUI's lawyer persisted in his claim that his client is not a public university and, therefore, not answerable. When that did not work, he demanded the CJP recuse himself from the case because he is a member of the university's board of trustees. None of these maneuvers helped placate the court's displeasure with this respondent.

According to the HEC, the IIUI's rector has made it a habit to not show up for any meetings when invited, citing illness. I would probably feel sick too if the organization I was responsible for had a pension fund running short by Rs11.5 billion (according to an actuarial study) while running a budget deficit.

The HEC also complained that the IIUI is not willing to share any information about its 55 tenured positions of deans, chairpersons, and DGs. Moreover, the university's board of trustees (required to meet at least once a year) did not meet all of 2021 and 2022. There was a meeting on December 11, 2023, but its minutes were never issued. Similarly, the university's board of governors (required to meet every quarter) has not met since September 2023.

When the court insisted on the rector's appearance before the court, it was first offered the same excuse of illness, then a medical certificate of questionable veracity. When the court insisted, the rector made a dramatic appearance in a wheelchair, with sympathetic social media 'influencers' in tow. In the meantime, their lawyer was attempting to fabricate a controversy at the expense of the personal safety of the CJP.

The day's first-hand experiences were also instructive for another reason: It evaporated what little trust I had left in self-styled social media journalists, including some that enjoy reputations of being objective. As soon as the IIUI's rector left, there were posts up on Twitter / X decrying the court and sympathizing with the rector. Mostly, the reporting was high on emotion but free of objective facts that any serious reporter available in relevant public domain documents. In fact, most of the people doing the reporting on social media platforms later were only in the courtroom briefly, if at all. That did not stop several of them from vigorously stirring the pot on Twitter later in the day.

Several times during the proceedings, the CJP was exasperated to the point where he had to ask attendees why the court had to make government departments and universities do their routine jobs and exclaimed that no one seemed interested in performing their duty.

The MoFEPT, which has been seen eager to relegate the HEC to the role of one of its constituent departments in recent years, was feebly acknowledging the limits of its mandate. The HEC's representative was professing his inability to answer the court's questions for lack of responsiveness of universities. On any other day, both MoFEPT and HEC can always be found eager to expand their turf, but not that day.

The story of all public organizations in Pakistan is the same – everyone wants to grow their sphere of influence but not be held responsible for their performance (or the lack thereof).

The writer (she/her) has a PhD in Education.

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

In alliance with Junejo's Pakistan Muslim League (J) (PML-J), the PPP formed the new civilian government, and, after three years in the opposition, Benazir Bhutto returned to the premiership.

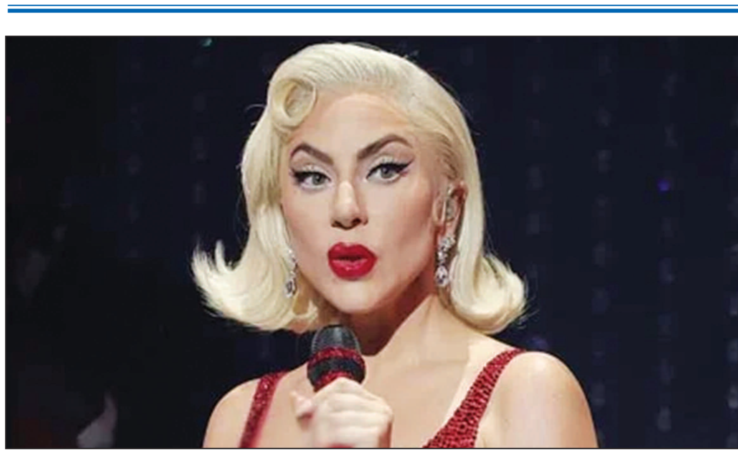
The PML-J helped the PPP take control of the Punjab, an objective that Bhutto could not attain in her earlier administration. Nonetheless, Nawaz Sharif's party was able to form coalition provincial governments in Balochistan and the North-West Frontier Province. The power, however, was in Bhutto's hands, and it was for her to determine the country's course. Having spoken of democracy for so long, it was the prime minister's task to realize what had escaped her grasp during her previous administration. Moreover, Bhutto had the good fortune of having one of her own party, Farooq Leghari, assume the office of the president. Yet, the country remained economically unstable, and Pakistanis were far from developing a genuine civil society. Bhutto, favoured by the Americans, had to juggle relations with them and the Pakistani people: Pakistan came under U.S. pressure to freeze Pakistan's popular nuclear program and to reach a settlement over Kashmir.

To be continued.....

Showbiz

'Typical' Lady Gaga makes 'unhinged' admission ahead of new album

Lady Gaga stays true to herself with 'unhinged' confession ahead of her upcoming album



Lady Gaga is opening up about her upcoming pop album, LG7, which draws inspiration from a pivotal time in her life that left her feeling 'unhinged'.

During an exclusive interview with Rolling Stone, Gaga, who just dropped Joker 2's Harlequin, admitted that her upcoming album is "nothing like Chromatica" and will represent a "time in her life."

She told the outlet, "The pop album is nothing like Chromatica. It's a completely different record. I don't know that I'm even ready to talk about it yet, but it's coming out soon, and I will. What I would say is, it's all for me. It's meant to be ingested as a time in my life. "And I'm also really excited about this idea that I don't have to adhere to an era if I don't want to. I can have a few going at once. That feels unhinged and more like me or Harley. Or whoever."

In addition, the songstress revealed that the album is heavily inspired by her character and it does not adhere to any one genre.

Referring to the latter as a 'typical' Lady Gaga record, the House of Gucci star shared that it is destined to blur the lines of pop music, setting a record on its own.

Tech

What does WhatsApp's new event feature do?

WhatsApp will soon be rolling out a new feature for community announcement groups in its latest WhatsApp beta for Android 2.24.20.34 update which is currently available to some beta testers through the Google Play Beta Program.

The new feature in Meta's instant messaging app enables users to create events, specify the date, time and other related necessary information about the events and share them in group chats, WABetaInfo reported.

This makes it easier for community admins to share information directly with all community members, streamlining communication between members of a community and its administrators.

An event can be any scheduled activity, meeting, or gathering which users may organise.

The new feature proves useful when a new user joins a community because it automatically adds them to the community announcement group, without needing to join additional sub-groups.

This ensures that every new member receives information about upcoming events.

Additionally, since only admins can send messages in announcement groups, event details will not get lost among other conversations and can be easily accessed by members. The ability to share events in announcement groups also allows admins to easily reach a wider audience because, as the primary communication channel for communities, the announcement group serves as a centralised hub for all members, making it the perfect place to post event details.

It is worth noting that this feature will make it more convenient for community admins to manage their groups, eradicating the need to create the same event for multiple group chats.

Health

The 5 Plant-Based Proteins You Should Be Eating for Insulin Resistance

1. Dry Beans: Every cup of dry beans contains 15 grams of protein and 15 grams of fiber. When soaked and cooked, dry beans are a low-glycemic-index food, meaning they don't raise blood sugar quickly.5 Beans are also good sources of magnesium, a mineral that may play a role in glucose metabolism and improve insulin sensitivity.6 Huggins says dry beans are also affordable and easy to prepare for delicious soups, salads and bowls. Not sure how to cook dried beans? Follow our How to Cook Dried Beans method to make some of our favorites, including Sweet Potato & Black Bean Chili and Bean Salad with Lemon-Cumin Dressing.

2. Lentils: Like dry beans, lentils are full of protein and fiber, providing 15.5 grams of protein and 13.5 grams of fiber per cup.7 Research notes that the protein in these mighty and colorful pulses may block digestive enzymes from accessing the starch, lessening the amount of glucose your body can absorb from them. Our guide explains how to make perfect lentils every time.

3. Split Peas: Split peas are dried and halved green peas with a shorter cooking time. One cup of cooked split peas contains 16 grams of protein and 16 grams of fiber.9 Soaked and cooked split peas contain resistant starch, which brings down their glycemic load, lessening their blood sugar impact. Split pea soup is a classic comfort food that can be whipped up on the stovetop. Split peas don't only come in the green variety—you can also use the golden-colored ones to make Trinidadian Dal & Rice, Yellow Split Pea Sambar with Turnip, Eggplant & Okra and Swedish Yellow Split Pea Soup with Ham.

4. Chickpeas: Fiber- and protein-packed chickpeas have 14.5 grams of protein and 12.5 grams of fiber for every cup cooked.11 While they contain starch, these beige-colored gems also have a unique chemical makeup that makes their starches harder to digest, slowing down carbohydrate digestion and absorption. The result? Potentially lower rises in blood sugar levels.12 Try chickpeas to add color and creaminess to satisfying grain bowls, such as our Turmeric Rice Bowl with Garam Masala Root Vegetables and soups like our Butternut Squash Soup with Avocado & Chickpeas.

5. Edamame: Edamame has 18 grams of protein and 8 grams of fiber per cup.13 Soy products such as edamame may positively impact blood sugar regulation, influencing insulin signaling and improving glucose uptake, metabolism and insulin sensitivity. Conveniently sold as a frozen item in grocery stores, you can cook these shelled baby soybeans as a filling ingredient in our Herbed Corn & Edamame Succotash and Egyptian Edamame Stew.

روزنامہ دی ایشین ٹیلی گراف اسلام آباد

اتوار 29 ستمبر 2024ء

نواز شریف، مریم سے جاپانی سفیر کی ملاقات، تعلقات مضبوط بنانے پر اتفاق

لندن، وزیراعظم شہباز شریف پریس کانفرنس کر رہے ہیں

حسن نصراللہ اسرائیلی حملے میں شہید، حزب اللہ کا جنگ جاری رکھنے کا اعلان، نعیم قاسم عبوری سربراہ مقرر، ایران کا لبنان میں فوجی دستے بھیجنے کا اعلان

دارالحکومت تل ابیب میں حملوں کا الرٹ جاری کردیا گیا، فضائی دفاعی نظام ہائی الرٹ ہوگیا، شیلٹر کھول دیئے گئے، یمنی فوج نے بحیرہ احمر میں تین امریکی جہازوں کو نشانہ بنانے کا دعویٰ

بیروت، بغداد (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) بیروت پر اسرائیلی فوج کے حملے میں ایرانی پاسداران انقلاب گارڈز کے ڈپٹی کمانڈر عباس نلفروشان بھی شہید ہوگئے۔ غیر ملکی میڈیا کے مطابق گزشتہ روز اسرائیل نے لبنانی دارالحکومت بیروت کے جنوبی علاقے میں بمباری کی تھی اور اس حملے میں 2 افراد شہید اور متعدد زخمی ہوئے تھے۔ گزشتہ 5 روز میں یہ اسرائیلی فوج کی بیروت پر سب سے طاقتور بمباری تھی، جنوبی ٹاؤن پر اسرائیلی بمباری میں 4 عمارتوں کو نقصان پہنچا تھا۔ اسرائیلی فوج کے ترجمان کا کہنا تھا کہ حزب اللہ کا سینٹرل کمانڈ عمارت کے نیچے قائم کیا گیا تھا، بمباری کا اصل ہدف حزب اللہ سربراہ حسن نصراللہ تھے۔ ایران کا جنگجو لبنان بھیجنے کا منصوبہ، خامنہ ای محفوظ مقام پر منتقل غیر ملکی میڈیا کے مطابق اسرائیلی فوج کے حملے میں ایرانی پاسداران انقلاب گارڈز کے ڈپٹی کمانڈر عباس نلفروشان بھی شہید ہوگئے۔ ایرانی میڈیا نے تصدیق کی ہے کہ عباس نلفروشان بھی حسن نصراللہ کے ساتھ حملے میں شہید ہوئے ہیں۔ دوسری جانب خبر ایجنسی کا بتانا ہے کہ ایرانی سپریم لیڈر آیت اللہ خامنہ ای کو محفوظ مقام پر منتقل کردیا گیا ہے، آیت اللہ خامنہ ای کو سخت حفاظتی اقدامات کے ساتھ محفوظ مقام پر منتقل کیا گیا ہے۔ حزب اللہ نے سربراہ حسن نصراللہ کی شہادت کی تصدیق کردی یاد رہے کہ اسرائیل نے 30 جون کو ایران کے دارالحکومت تہران میں ایک عمارت پر حملہ کرکے حماس کے سربراہ اسماعیل ہنیہ کو شہید کردیا تھا۔ لبنانی تنظیم حزب اللہ نے اسرائیلی حملے میں اپنے سربراہ حسن نصراللہ کی شہادت کی تصدیق کردی۔ قطری نشریاتی ادارے الجزیرہ کی رپورٹ کے مطابق حزب اللہ کی جانب سے جاری مختصر بیان میں کہا گیا کہ اسرائیل کے خلاف جنگ جاری رکھیں گے۔ حزب اللہ نے کہا کہ سید حسن نصراللہ گزشتہ روز اسرائیلی حملے میں شہید ہوگئے۔ غزہ اور فلسطین کی حمایت، لبنان کے دفاع کیلئے اپنا جہاد جاری رکھیں گے۔ عالمی میڈیا رپورٹس کے مطابق گزشتہ روز اسرائیل نے لبنان کے دارالحکومت بیروت پر اب تک کا سب سے بڑا حملہ کیا جس میں حزب اللہ کے ہیڈ کوارٹر کو نشانہ بنایا گیا جس کا بنیادی مقصد سید حسن نصراللہ کو مارنا تھا۔ اسرائیل کی جانب سے فضائی حملوں کا یہ سلسلہ تقریباً 5 گھنٹوں تک جاری رہا، جب کہ ہفتہ کی صبح اسرائیل نے بیروت کے جنوبی مضافات اور لبنان کے دیگر علاقوں پر فضائی حملے کیے۔ رپورٹس کے مطابق بیروت میں ہفتے کی صبح طلوع ہونے سے پہلے اور طلوع آفتاب کے بعد 20 سے زیادہ فضائی حملوں کی آوازیں سنی گئیں، حزب اللہ کے زیر کنٹرول جنوبی مضافاتی علاقوں سے دھواں اٹھتا دیکھا گیا جب کہ اسرائیلی فوج نے دعویٰ کیا کہ بیروت حملوں میں حسن نصراللہ مارے گئے ہیں۔

آئی ایم ایف بورڈ کا قرض پروگرام پر مکمل عملدرآمد، ٹیکس کا دائرہ وسیع کرنے پر زور

معاہدے کے بعد پاکستان میں معاشی ترقی کی شرح بڑھ کر 3.2 فیصد ہوسکتی، بیروزگاری میں کمی متوقع، آئی ایم ایف کی پیشگوئی

پاکستان کا کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ بیلنس میں 75 ملین ڈالر اضافے کے ساتھ مثبت

ترقی پذیر ممالک کے مالیاتی شعبوں کو زیادہ خطرات کا سامنا، عالمی بینک

واشنگٹن (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) عالمی بینک نے کہا ہے کہ عالمی سطح پر ابھرتی ہوئی معیشتوں اور ترقی پذیر ممالک کے مالیاتی شعبوں کو زیادہ آمدنی رکھنے والے ممالک کے مقابلہ میں زیادہ خطرات کا سامنا ہے۔ عالمی بینک کی جانب سے جاری مالیات وخوشحالی رپورٹ 2024 میں مجموعی طور پر 50 ممالک کی معیشتوں کا تجزیہ کیا گیا ہے، زیر جائزہ ممالک میں سے 70 فیصد ممالک اگلے 12 مہینوں میں کم یا معتدل خطرات کا سامنا کررہے ہیں لیکن کم آمدنی والے ممالک خاص طور پر مشرق وسطیٰ، شمالی افریقہ، اور جنوبی ایشیا میں کچھ بینکوں کو قرضوں کے زیادہ خطرات کا سامنا ہے۔ رپورٹ کے مطابق ابھرتی ہوئی معیشتوں اور ترقی پذیر ممالک کے سینٹرل بینکس زیادہ تر کورونا کی عالمگیر وبا کے اثرات سے نمٹنے میں کامیاب رہے ہیں، لیکن کچھ بینکوں کو شدید مالی چیلنجز کا سامنا ہے۔ بہت سے ممالک میں بینکوں نے حکومتی قرضوں میں سرمایہ کاری کی ہے جس کی وجہ سے ان ممالک میں مالیاتی استحکام کو خطرات لاحق ہیں۔ رپورٹ کے مطابق کم آمدنی والے ممالک میں مالیاتی قواعد و ضوابط کمزور ہے، جس کی وجہ سے بینکوں کو مالی دباؤ کا سامنا ہوسکتا ہے، بعض ممالک میں حکومتی قرضوں کی عدم ادائیگی کا خطرہ بڑھ گیا ہے اور اس کی وجہ سے بینکوں کے مالی حالات مزید خراب ہوسکتے ہیں۔ رپورٹ میں کہا گیا ہے کہ حکومتوں کو مالیاتی خطرات کو کم کرنے کے لیے فوری اقدامات اٹھانے کی ضرورت ہے۔ بینکنگ سیکٹر میں مضبوط ضوابط اور بحران کے انتظام کے نظام کا قیام ضروری ہے

ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹس زیرالتوا کیسز کا فیصلہ نہیں سنا سکتے، اسلام آباد ہائیکورٹ کا تحریری فیصلہ

اسلام آباد میں صرف عدالتیں ہی جوڈیشل اختیارات استعمال کرسکتی ہیں، جسٹس ارباب محمد طاہر کا تحریری فیصلہ جاری

اسلام آباد (سپیشل رپورٹر) اسلام آباد ہائیکورٹ نے اسلام آباد انتظامیہ کے ماتحت انتظامی افسران کو بطور ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ مقدمات کے فیصلوں سے روک دیا۔ جسٹس ارباب محمد طاہر نے ایگزیکٹو کے جوڈیشل اختیارات استعمال کرنے کیخلاف کیس کا فیصلہ جاری کردیا۔ عدالتِ عالیہ کے تحریری فیصلے میں کہا گیا کہ اسلام آباد میں صرف عدالتیں ہی جوڈیشل اختیارات استعمال کرسکتی ہیں، جوڈیشل اختیارات کا استعمال آئین کے آرٹیکل 175 تھری، 202 اور 203 کے تحت ہی ہوگا، آئینی شقوں کیخلاف جوڈیشل اختیارات کا استعمال غیر آئینی ہے۔ ہائیکورٹ نے تحریری فیصلے میں کہا کہ آئینی شقوں کیخلاف جوڈیشل اختیار کے استعمال کی قانونی نظر میں کوئی حیثیت نہیں، کوڈ آف کرمنل پروسیجر میں ترمیم سے صوبائی حکومتوں کا ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹس تعینات کا اختیار واپس لیا گیا۔ تشویشناک بات ہے وفاقی حکومت 23 سال گزرنے کے باوجود نوٹیفکیشن جاری نہیں کرسکی۔ جسٹس ارباب محمد طاہر نے تحریری فیصلے میں کہا کہ نوٹیفکیشن جاری ہونے تک ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹس زیرالتوا کیسز کا فیصلہ نہ سنائیں، ترمیمی آرڈیننس کے نفاذ کے بعد ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹس کیسز کا ریکارڈ متعلقہ سیشن ججز کو بھجوائیں، سیشن ججز کیسز پر قانون کے مطابق فیصلے کیلئے موصول فائلز جوڈیشل مجسٹریٹس کو بھجوائیں۔ اسلام آباد ہائی کورٹ نے فیصلے میں کہا کہ آئین کا آرٹیکل 175 تھری واضح، غیرمبہم ہے جس میں عدلیہ اور ایگزیکٹو کو الگ کیا گیا، عدلیہ کو ایگزیکٹو سے الگ کرنے کی فارملیٹیز پوری کرنے کیلئے 14 سال کا وقت دیا گیا، 14 سال کا وقت 14 اگست 1987 کو مکمل ہوا۔ تحریری فیصلے میں یہ بھی کہا گیا کہ انتظامی افسران اس کے باوجود جوڈیشل اختیارات استعمال کررہے ہیں، عدلیہ کو ایگزیکٹو سے علیحدہ کرنے کیلئے مقررہ وقت کے بعد تاخیر غیر آئینی ہے، آئین کے ہر لفظ کا ایک مطلب اور مقصد ہے، 2001 میں کوڈ آف کرمنل پروسیجر میں ترمیم کا آرڈیننس آیا۔ جسٹس ارباب طاہر نے فیصلے میں کہا کہ آرڈیننس نے ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹس کے اختیارات ختم کیے، صوبائی حکومت کا ڈسٹرکٹ، ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ مجسٹریٹس تعینات کرنے کا اختیار ختم کیا گیا، دوسری ترمیم کے ذریعے دائرہ کار اسلام آباد تک بڑھایا گیا جس کا نفاذ 14 اگست 2001 کو ہوا۔ عدالتی فیصلے میں مزید کہا گیا کہ 23 سال گزرنے کے باوجود وفاقی حکومت کی جانب سے گزٹ نوٹیفکیشن جاری نہیں ہوا، وزارت قانون تفصیلی جواب میں بھی تاخیر کی کوئی وجہ نہ بتا سکی۔

راولپنڈی، پولیس اہلکار پی ٹی آئی کارکنان کو گرفتار کر رہی ہے

کوئٹہ: پنجگور میں گھر پر فائرنگ، 7 مزدور جاں بحق

کوئٹہ (بیورو رپورٹ) پنجگور کے علاقے خدا آبادان میں گھر پر فائرنگ کے نتیجے میں 7 مزدور جاں بحق اور 1 زخمی ہوگئے۔ لاشوں اور زخمیوں کو قریبی ڈسٹرکٹ ہسپتال منتقل کردیا گیا پولیس نے علاقے کا محاصرہ کرلیا ہے پنجگور کے علاقے خدا آبادان میں گھر پر فائرنگ کے نتیجے میں 6 مزدور جاں بحق اور 2 زخمی ہوگئے۔ تمام افراد کا تعلق پنجاب کے مختلف علاقوں سے تھا، وزیر اعلیٰ بلوچستان میر سرفراز بگٹی نے پنجگور میں مزدوروں کے قتل کی مذمت کی ہے

اسلام آباد، وفاقی وزیر تجارت جام کمال تقریب سے خطاب کررہے ہیں

پاکستان کو غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاری کیلئے پرکشش مقام بنائینگے، جام کمال

حکومت کی دانشمندانہ اور موثر پالیسیوں سے مہنگائی میں کمی آئی، مستحکم اور غیر ملکی ذخائر میں اضافے سے شرح سود میں کمی لائی

اسلام آباد (نامہ نگار) وفاقی وزیر تجارت جام کمال خان نے کہا ہے کہ حکومت کاروبار کرنیوالوں کے لئے آسانیاں پیدا کرنے پر کام کررہی ہے تاکہ پاکستان غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاری کے لیے پرکشش مقام بنایا جاسکے۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے اسلام آباد چیمبر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کی 40 سالہ سالگرہ کی تقریب سے بطور مہمان خصوصی خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہی۔ وفاقی وزیر نے کہا کہ حکومت کی دانشمندانہ اور موثر پالیسیوں سے مہنگائی میں کمی آئی ہے، مستحکم اور غیر ملکی ذخائر میں اضافے سے شرح سود میں کمی لائی ہے۔ مزید برآں، حکومت صنعت کے لیے بالعموم اور خاص طور پر برآمد کنندگان کے لیے بجلی کے نرخوں کو کم کرنے کے لیے انتھک محنت کر رہی ہے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ وزیراعظم شہباز شریف خود تاجر برادری کے مسائل کے حل پر بھرپور توجہ دے رہے ہیں اور اس مقصد کے لیے ان کی سربراہی میں ایک ہائی پروفائل بورڈ پہلے ہی کام کر رہا ہے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ علاقائی تجارت کو پھلنے پھولنے اور اپنے برآمد کنندگان کے لیے کاروباری مواقع تلاش کرنے کے لیے ہر وزارت کی جانب سے بھرپور کوشش کی جارہی ہے، خطے میں سرحد پار تجارت کو فروغ دینے اور ہماری کاروباری برادری کے لیے کاروباری مواقع کو فروغ دینے کے لیے ٹرانس شپمنٹ پالیسی پر نظر ثانی کی جارہی ہے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ گزشتہ چار دہائیوں کے دوران اسلام آباد چیمبر نے کاروباری سرگرمیوں کو فروغ دینے، انٹرپرینیورشپ کو فروغ دینے اور قومی اقتصادی ترقی میں نمایاں کردار ادا کرنے میں اہم کردار ادا کیا ہے۔ اسلام آباد چیمبر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے صدر احسن ظفر بختاوری نے اپنے خطبہ استقبالیہ میں آئی سی سی آئی کے اپنے دور میں حاصل کیے گئے اہم سنگ میلوں پر روشنی ڈالی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ وہ اور ان کی پوری ٹیم نے کمیونٹی کو درپیش مسائل کو حل کرنے اور کاروبار کرنے میں آسانی کے لیے ایک سازگار ماحول فراہم کرنے کے لیے انتھک محنت کی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ہمیں اپنی برآمدات میں اضافہ کرنا ہوگا، اپنے نوجوانوں کو ہنر مندی کی

رانا مشہود سے جنوبی کوریا کے سفیر کی ملاقات، ثقافتی روابط مضبوط بنانے پر اتفاق

اسلام آباد (آئی این پی) چیئرمین وزیر اعظم یوتھ پروگرام رانا مشہود احمد خان سے جنوبی کوریا کے سفیر پارک کی جن نے ملاقات کی ہے، ملاقات میں پاکستان اور جنوبی کوریا کے درمیان دو طرفہ تعلقات، نوجوانوں کے لئے جاری پروگرامز اور مستقبل کے اشتراک کار پر تفصیلی تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا۔ اس موقع پر رانا مشہود احمد خان نے پاکستان میں نوجوانوں کی ترقی کے حوالے سے وزیراعظم یوتھ پروگرام کی مختلف سکیموں کا ذکر کیا اور کوریا کی معاونت کو سراہا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ دونوں ممالک کے درمیان تعلقات کو مزید مضبوط کرنے کے لئے نوجوانوں کے تبادلوں، تربیت اور مختلف تعلیمی و ثقافتی منصوبوں میں اشتراک کار بڑھانے کی ضرورت ہے۔ اس موقع پر کوریا کے سفیر پارک کی جن نے کہا کہ جنوبی کوریا پاکستان کے نوجوانوں کی ترقی کے لئے اپنا بھرپور کردار ادا کرنے کے لئے تیار ہے اور دونوں ممالک کے نوجوانوں کو باہمی فائدے کے لئے ایک دوسرے کے تجربات سے سیکھنے کے مواقع فراہم کئے جائیں گے۔ مزید برآں آئندہ ماہ اکتوبر میں منعقد ہونے والے " کلچرل ویک کے حوالے سے بھی جوش و خروش کا اظہار کیا گیا،

این او سی کینسل ہونے پر ہم نے پرامن احتجاج کی کال دی، شیخ وقاص اکرم

پنجاب اور مرکزی حکومت انتشار پھیلانا چاہتے ہیں، لوگوں پر سرعام گولیاں برسائی جا رہی ہیں، پریس کانفرنس

اسلام آباد (سٹاف رپورٹر) سیکریٹری اطلاعات پاکستان تحریک انصاف (پی ٹی آئی) شیخ وقاص اکرم نے کہا ہے کہ پنجاب بھر سے ہمارے رہنماؤں اور کارکنوں کو گرفتار کیا گیا۔ ہمارے ریجنل پریزیڈنٹ کے ساتھ پرامن لوگوں پر گولیاں برسائی جا رہی ہے، ہمارے لوگوں کی ٹانگوں پر کارتوس لگے ہیں، پنجاب اور مرکزی حکومت انتشار پھیلانا چاہتے ہیں، لوگوں پر سرعام گولیاں برسائی جارہی ہیں۔ پریس کانفرنس کے دوران شیخ وقاص نے کہا کہ لاہور اور راولپنڈی میں جلسوں کی اجازت کے باوجود راستے بند کیے گئے۔ انکا کہنا تھا کہ عدلیہ کی آزادی اور عوامی حقوق کیلئے جلسہ کرنا چاہ رہے ہیں۔ مینڈیٹ چوروں، مہنگائی کے ذمہ داروں اور عدلیہ کی آزادی کیلئے کال دی ہے۔ انہوں نے یہ بھی کہا کہ پرامن احتجاج کی کال دی، لیاقت باغ میں پرامن احتجاج ہونا تھا، پنجاب بھر سے ہمارے رہنماؤں اور کارکنوں کو گرفتار کیا گیا۔ آج کے حالات کے حوالے سے بات کرنا چاہتا ہوں۔ پرامن احتجاج ہمارا آئینی حق ہے، ہمارے قائد ہمیشہ آئین اور قانون کے احترام کا درس دیتے ہیں، پنڈی اور لاہور میں این او سی کے بعد ہمارے ساتھ کیا ہو رہا ہے، سب کے سامنے ہے، کے پی کے سے آئے مہمانوں سے سنگجانی اور لاہور میں آپکے سامنے ہے، ہم چاہتے تھے لیاقت باغ میں پرامن جلسہ ہو، وہ جلسہ مہنگائی اور میڈیٹ چوروں کے خلاف اور آزاد عدلیہ کے حق میں ہو، مہنگائی صرف پی ٹی آئی کا نہیں پورے پاکستان کے عوام کا ہے۔ شیخ وقاص اکرم نے کہا کہ این او سی کینسل ہونے پر ہم نے پرامن احتجاج کی کال دی، کال دینے کے فوراً بعد مجھ سمیت ہمارے ایم این ایز اور ایم پی ایز کے گھروں پر ریڈ ہوئے، کئی مقامات سے ہمارے رہنماؤں کو گرفتار کیا گیا ہے، یہ لوگ ہم سے ہمارا آئینی حق چھیننا چاہتے ہیں، بانی پی ٹی آئی ہمیشہ قانون کے احترام کا سبق دیتے ہیں، آج صبح لیاقت باغ کے تمام راستے بلاک کیے گئے، چھوٹی گلیاں، بڑے روڈ بند کیے گئے، لوگوں پر تشدد، شیلنگ اور لاٹھی چارج کیا جارہا ہے، سب سے بھیانک عمل یہ تھا کہ لوگوں پر ایکسپائر شیل استعمال کیے جارہے ہیں

9 مئی کا ماسٹر فساد، خون خرابہ اور ملک میں لاشیں چاہتا، مریم اورنگزیب

لاہور (بیورو رپورٹ) سینئر صوبائی وزیر مریم اورنگزیب نے کہا ہے کہ 9 مئی کا ماسٹر فساد، خون خرابہ اور ملک میں لاشیں چاہتا ہے، عمران خان کے حکم پر ایک صوبے کی پولیس اور لشکر لے کر پنجاب پہ چڑھائی کا ہر ہفتے خطرناک کھیل کھیلا جاتا ہے جس کی اجازت نہیں دیں گے یہ احتجاج نہیں دہشت گردی کہا جاتا ہے، 9 مئی کے ماسٹر مائنڈ کی ہدایت پر خیبر پختون خوا کا وزیراعلیٰ ہر ہفتے اسلام آباد اور پنجاب میں لشکر کشی، غنڈہ گردی اور فساد کرتا ہے۔ مریم اورنگزیب نے اپنے ایک ٹویٹ میں بتایا کہ پنجاب پولیس پر آنسو گیس، پتھر اور گلیلوں سے شیشے پھینکیں جا رہے ہیں۔ خیبر پختونخوا کی پولیس، سرکاری ملازمین، سرکاری وسائل، کرینیں، کنٹینرز، ٹریکٹر، ٹرک اور دیگر مشینری اور گاڑیاں اس فساد اور غنڈہ گردی کے لئے استعمال ہو رہی ہیں، عمران خان اور پی ٹی آئی ملک میں امن اور ترقی کے دشمن ہیں۔ انہوں نے عوام کا شکریہ ادا کیا جو روز اِس فتنہ مائینڈ سیٹ کو مسترد کررہی ہے اور اپنی ترقی کا ساتھ دے رہی ہے۔ لاہور میں جلسہ لاہور کے لوگوں نے مسترد کر دیا اور راولپنڈی کا جلسہ راولپنڈی کے لوگوں نے مسترد کردیا۔

اسرائیلی دہشتگردی کو روکا جائے، گورنر سندھ کا اقوام متحدہ، او آئی سی کو خط

کراچی (بیورو رپورٹ) گورنر سندھ کامران خان ٹیسوری نے وزارت خارجہ کے ذریعے اقوام متحدہ اور او آئی سی کو خط لکھا ہے جس میں اسرائیلی دہشتگردی کو روکنے کا مطالبہ کیا گیا ہے۔ گورنر سندھ کامران خان ٹیسوری نے خط اقوام متحدہ اور او آئی سی کے سیکرٹری جنرلز کو تحریر کیا ہے، جس میں کہا گیا ہے کہ اقوام متحدہ اور او آئی سی اسرائیل کی دہشتگردی روکنے کے لئے اپنا کردار ادا کرے۔ کامران ٹیسوری نے کہا کہ حسن نصراللہ کی شہادت افسوسناک ہے۔ خبر سن کر دل انتہائی رنجیدہ ہوا، اسرائیل اس سے قبل ایران میں اسماعیل ہانیہ کو نشانہ بنا چکا، فلسطین میں حالیہ دہشتگردی کے دوران اسرائیل نے 40 ہزار سے زائد معصوموں کو شہید کیا جن میں معصوم بچے، خواتین اور بزرگ بھی شامل ہیں۔ گورنر سندھ نے خط میں لکھا کہ اسرائیل نے اب لبنان کی سلامتی خودمختاری پر حملہ کیا ہے

لاہور، وزیر اطلاعات پنجاب عظمیٰ بخاری پریس کانفرنس کر رہی ہیں

بجلی کی تقسیم کار کمپنیوں میں 580 ارب کی چوری، اربوں کے لاسز کا انکشاف

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ خصوصی) بجلی کی تقسیم کار کمپنیوں میں 580 ارب روپے کی چوری اور اربوں روپے کے لاسز کا انکشاف ہوا ہے اور چیلنجز سے نمٹنے اور لائن لاسز میں کمی کیلئے موثر اقدامات کی سفارش کی گئی ہے۔ نائب وزیراعظم اسحاق ڈار کی زیر صدارت ڈسکوز میں ہیومن ریسورس مسائل پر دوسرا اجلاس ہوا، اجلاس میں بہتری اور کارکردگی کیلئے شعبوں کی نشاندہی کی گئی۔ اجلاس کے بعد جاری ہونے والے اعلامیہ کے مطابق اجلاس میں لائن لاسز کو کم کرنے اور ڈسکوز کو درپیش چیلنجز سے مؤثر طریقے سے نمٹنے اور موثر عوامی خدمات فراہم کرنے کی ضرورت پر زور دیا گیا۔ ڈسکوز میں ملازمین کی کمی اور دیگر مسائل پر حکومت متحرک ہوگئی ہے جس پر نائب وزیراعظم اسحاق ڈار کی زیر صدارت تقسیم کار کمپنیوں کے مسائل پر دوسرا اجلاس ہوا۔ کمیٹی نے ڈسکوز کی استعداد کار بڑھانے والے علاقوں کی نشان دہی کی۔ کمیٹی نے لائن لاسز کو کم کرنے پر زور دیا۔ کمیٹی نے ڈسکوز کے کمزور علاقوں کی نشان دہی کی جس میں بہتری کی ضرورت ہے۔ کمیٹی نے عوام کو بروقت اور موثر سروس دینے پر زور دیا۔

ملکی ترقی ہضم نہیں، چند عناصر گالی کی سیاست پر یقین رکھتے، طلال چودھری

فیصل آباد (بیورو رپورٹ) مسلم لیگ (ن) کے رہنما طلال چودھری نے کہا ہے کہ ملک میں چند عناصر گالم گلوچ کی سیاست پر یقین رکھتے ہیں، ایسے عناصر کے ساتھ کوئی ہمدردی نہیں کی جائے گی، اللہ ہی جانتا ہے اقتدار میں کس کے کتنے دن ہیں۔ فیصل آباد میں میڈیا سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا کہ پی ٹی آئی کو ملکی ترقی ہضم نہیں ہورہی ہے، پی ٹی آئی دوست ممالک سے تعلقات خراب کرنا چاہتی ہے، چند عناصر ملک اور اداروں کے خلاف مذموم مہم چلا رہے ہیں۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ وزیراعظم نے جنرل اسمبلی میں خطاب کے دوران مسئلہ کشمیر کو اجاگر کیا، وزیراعظم نے اسرائیل اور بھارت کے مظالم کو بے نقاب کیا، انہوں نے عوام کے جذبات کی نمائندگی کی

اوورسیز پاکستانیز کے مسائل ترجیحی بنیادوں پر حل کیے جائیں گے، خواجہ آصف

نیویارک (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) وزیر دفاع خواجہ محمد آصف وزیراعظم نے پوری دنیا کے سامنے کشمیر اور فلسطین کا مقدمہ شاندار انداز سے پیش کیا، وزیراعظم نے بھارت کی جانب سے کسی بھی جارحیت پر منہ توڑ جواب دینے کا پیغام دے کر قوم کی ترجمانی کی ہے، وزیر دفاع نے ان خیالات کا اظہار پاکستانی کمیونٹی کے ارکان سے ملاقات میں کیا۔ ملاقات کا اہتمام قونصلیٹ جنرل آف پاکستان کی جانب سے کیا گیا۔ پاکستانی کمیونٹی کے ارکان نے وزیراعظم شہباز شریف کو اقوام متحدہ جنرل اسمبلی سے خطاب پر زبردست خراج تحسین کیا۔ وزیر دفاع نے مزید کہا کہ امریکہ میں پاکستانی کمیونٹی کے ساتھ ملاقات میرے لئے باعث مسرت ہے، یہ تقریب صرف ایک اجتماع نہیں بلکہ پاکستانی قوم کی عظمت اور ہم آہنگی کا مظہر ہے، اوورسیز پاکستانیز ہمارا قیمتی اثاثہ اور ہمارے ماتھے کا جھومر ہیں، آپ سب کی پاکستان سے محبت کا اظہار دیکھ کر خوشی ہوئی، امریکہ کی سرزمین پر آپ سب نے اپنی محنت اور لگن سے ایک نیا معاشرہ آباد کیا اور پاکستان کا نام روشن کیا ہے، انہوں نے کہا کہ اوورسیز پاکستانیز نے ہمیشہ پاکستان کی ترقی اور خوشحالی میں بھرپور کردار ادا کیا، اوورسیز پاکستانیز نے اپنے کردار سے ثابت کیا ہے کہ پاکستانی قوم ہر مشکل کا مقابلہ کرنے کی صلاحیت رکھتی ہے، آپ سب کی یہ کامیابی پاکستان کے لئے ایک روشن مستقبل کی نوید ہے

آئینی ترامیم کے نام پر کھلواڑ قبول نہیں، آج ملک گیر احتجاج ہوگا، حافظ نعیم

مہنگی بجلی وظالمانہ ٹیکسز اور آئی پی پیز و حکمرانوں کے گٹھ جوڑ نے عوام کی کمر توڑ دی، امیر جماعت اسلامی کا جلسے سے خطاب

حیدرآباد (بیورو رپورٹ) امیر جماعت اسلامی حافظ نعیم الرحمٰن نے پوری آئینی ترمیم کو مسترد کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ تمام جمہوری قوتوں کو اس کے خلاف متحد ہونا چاہیئے کیوں کہ یہ لوگ ترمیم سے اپنی مرضی سے جج و چیف جسٹس مقرر کرکے من پسند فیصلے لینا چاہتے ہیں اس لیے آئینی ترمیم کی آڑ میں قوم کے ساتھ کھلواڑ قبول نہیں کیا جائے گا۔ حکومت کی وعدہ خلافی اور مہنگی بجلی کے خلاف 29 ستمبر کو پورے ملک میں جماعت اسلامی احتجاجی مظاہرے کرے گی۔ سندھ میں اب سندھی مہاجر نہیں عوام کا کارڈ چلے گا۔ شہری و دیہی وڈیروں و جاگیرداروں نے قوم کو تقسیم کرکے خود متحد ہوتے ہیں جو 77 سال سے قوم کا خون چوس رہیں گے اس لیے آج عوام کو متحد کرکے ظالم قوتوں کو تقسیم کرنے کی ضرورت ہے۔ ناظم جوکھیو اور امہ رباب کا خاندان بھی اس وڈیرہ شاہی کے بھینٹ چڑھ گئے۔ یہ ظالم جاگیرداروں کا ٹولا اپنے ہی لوگوں کا حق کھاجاتا ہے۔ سندھ کا تعلیمی نظام تباہ ہے اس وقت بھی 80 لاکھ سندھ کے بچے تعلیم کے زیور سے محروم ہیں۔ ظلم و ظالموں کے خلاف ایک ہوجائیں یہی مسائل سے نجات اور سندھ کی ترقی کا راستہ ہے۔ جماعت اسلامی سب کو متحد و متفق کرتی ہے۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے رابطہ عوام ممبر سازی مہم کے سلسلے میں کوہ نور چوک حیدرآباد میں منعقدہ جلسہ عام سے صدارتی خطاب کے دوران کیا۔ اس موقع پر صوبائی امیر محمد حسین محنتی، بزرگ رہنما اسداللہ بھٹو، مقامی امیر عقیل احمد خان، صوبائی رہنما عبدالوحید قریشی، حافظ طاہر مجید اور مجاہد چنا بھی موجود تھے۔ قبل ازیں امیر جماعت کا جلسہ گاہ آمد پر فقید المثال استقبال اور پھولوں کی پتیاں نچھاور کی گئیں۔ ان کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ مرکزی نائب قیم ممتاز حسین سہتو نے کہا کہ حکمرانوں نے سندھ کو کھنڈرات بنا دیا ہے، 16 سال سے برسر اقتدار پیپلز پارٹی کی سندھ حکومت نے عوام کو مسائل سے نجات کی بجائے کرپشن کے ریکارڈ توڑ دیئے ہیں۔ روشن خیالی کے نام پر عقیدہ ختم نبوت اور تحفظ ناموس رسالت پر کوئی آنچ نہیں آنے دیں گے سندھ کے امیر محمد حسین محنتی نے کہا کہ مسلم حکمرانوں کی بے حسی کی وجہ سے پوری دنیا میں مسلمانوں کا خون بہہ رہا ہے۔ فلسطین میں صیہونی جارحیت کو ایک سال ہوگیا ہے چالیس ہزار سے زائد لوگوں کو شہید کیا جاچکا ہے۔ مہنگی بجلی و ظالمانہ ٹیکسز اور آئی پی پیز و حکمرانوں کے گٹھ جوڑ نے عوام کی کمر توڑ دی ہے۔ 29 ستمبر کو امیر جماعت کی اپیل پر کراچی تا کشمور احتجاجی مظاہرے کئے جائیں گے۔

حکومت مسائل حل کرنے میں سنجیدہ نہیں، پورا اسلام آباد بند، شاہد خاقان عباسی

لاہور (بیورو رپورٹ) سربراہ عوام پاکستان پارٹی اور سابق وزیراعظم شاہد خاقان عباسی نے کہا ہے کہ حکومت مسائل حل کرنے میں سنجیدہ نہیں، پورا اسلام آباد بند ہے کہ ایک سیاسی جماعت کو جلسہ نہیں کرنے دینا۔ یونیورسٹی آف لاہور میں سیمینار سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا ہے کہ آئین کا راستہ اپنا لیں ملک چل پڑے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ایک عجیب سیاسی صورتحال پیدا کی جارہی ہے، کسی کے جلسے کو روکنے کیلئے راستے بند کیے جا رہے ہیں، بدنصیبی یہ ہے کہ ہم ہر قانون کو روکتے ہیں۔ شاہد خاقان عباسی نے کہا کہ ملک کی معیشت بہتر ہوگی تو مسائل حل ہونگے، عوام کو روزگار چاہیے، ہمارا مقصد کسی کی دل آزاری نہیں، حق کی بات کرنا ہے۔ سابق وزیراعظم نے کہا کہ پارٹیاں حکومت میں آتی ہیں ان کے پاس ایجنڈا نہیں ہوتا، حکومت میں آکر صرف باتیں کی جاتی ہیں، نوجوانوں کیلئے مواقع فراہم کیے جانے چاہئیں۔ ویمن پولیس اسٹیشن بناتے ہیں ان کو وسائل نہیں دیتے ہیں، پچاس فیصد حصے کو وہ حقوق نہیں دے سکے۔ شاہد خاقان عباسی نے کہا کہ آج خواتین کو موقع دیں لڑکوں کے لیے کوٹے رکھنے پڑیں گے، آج اس ملک کے نوجوان میں مایوسی ہے، نوجوانوں انٹیلی جنس کے حوالے سے دنیا میں چوتھے نمبر پر ہیں، اس کا مطلب ہے کہ ہم موقع دیں تو نوجوان ملک کو آگے لے جاسکتے ہیں۔ سابق وزیراعظم نے کہا کہ پورا اسلام آباد بند ہے کہ ایک سیاسی جماعت کو جلسہ نہیں کرنے دینا، کیا اس طرح کسی کی آواز روکی جانی چاہیے؟ آئینی نقطے پر حکومت کی توجہ مبذول کراتے ہوئے انکا کہنا تھا کہ آئین میں 3 جگہوں پر خواتین کو مساوات کا یقین دلایا گیا ہے۔

فتنہ پارٹی شنگھائی تعاون تنظیم کانفرنس کو سبوتاژ کرنا چاہتی، عظمیٰ بخاری

لاتوں کے بھوت باتوں سے نہیں مانتے، جس نے قانون توڑنے کی کوشش کی اس کے ساتھ آہنی ہاتھوں سے نمٹا جائیگا، پریس کانفرنس

لاہور (بیورو رپورٹ) وزیر اطلاعات پنجاب عظمیٰ بخاری نے کہا ہے کہ بے شرم گنڈاپور کو اپنے صوبے کی کوئی پرواہ نہیں ہے، خیبر پختونخوا کے سرکاری وسائل پنجاب پر یلغار کے لئے استعمال ہو رہے ہیں، فتنہ پارٹی حالات خراب کرکے شنگھائی تعاون تنظیم کی کانفرنس کو سبوتاژ کرنا چاہتی ہے، گنڈاپور کو پنجاب آنے کی اجازت نہ ہوتی تو وہ اٹک پل کا "الف" بھی پار نہیں کرسکتے تھے، پرویز خٹک بھی اسلام آباد آئے تھے مگر انہیں اٹک کا پل دیکھنا بھی نصیب نہ ہو، پی ٹی آئی کے دہشت گرد گروہ نے بچوں کو پٹرول بم بنانا سکھائے، لاتوں کے بھوت باتوں سے نہیں مانتے، جس نے قانون توڑنے کی کوشش کی اس کے ساتھ آہنی ہاتھوں سے نمٹا جائے گا۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے ڈی جی پی آر میں میڈیا سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ تانگہ پارٹی کے جلسوں میں ملک خلاف سازشوں، گالم گلوچ اور دنگے فساد کے علاوہ کچھ نہیں ہوتا۔ یہ لاتوں کے بھوت ہیں باتوں سے نہیں مانیں گے۔ ہم جلسے جلوسوں سے پاکستان اور ملکی اداروں کے خلاف بدزبانی کی اجازت نہیں دیں گے۔ یہ بار بار کہتے ہیں کہ ہم پرامن لوگ ہیں مگر سب ان کی پرامنی دیکھ چکے ہیں۔ کے پی کے کا وزیراعلیٰ جو ہر فتنے اور فساد کا ماسٹر مائنڈ ہے اسکے اپنے صوبے کی حالت یہ ہے کہ وہاں پولیس اہلکاروں پر حملے ہو رہے ہیں اور وزیر اعلیٰ صاحب سوئے ہوئے ہیں۔ کرم میں حالات اس قدر خراب ہیں کہ وہاں قبائل کی آپس میں لڑائی سے پانچ افراد کی جانیں چلی گئی ہیں، وہاں اب تک کل چھیالیس افراد ہلاک ہو چکے ہیں۔ وزیر اطلاعات نے کہا کہ مجھے بتائیں کوئی وزیر اعلیٰ اپنے ہاتھ میں اے کے 47 لے کر کسی دوسرے صوبے میں کیا کرنے آتا ہے؟ کیا کوئی سیاسی جماعت اسلحے کے ساتھ جلسہ کرنے آتی ہے؟ وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب نے بڑے دل کے ساتھ فساد گروپ کو جلسہ کرنے کی اجازت دی۔ جلسے میں جب لوگ نہ آئے تو انہوں نے کاہنہ میں ہی پہاڑیاں اگا دیں جس پر انہیں فتنہ خان سے گالیاں بھی سننے کو ملیں۔ ایک سوال کے جواب میں انکا کہنا تھا کہ اگر یہ لوگ بندوق پکڑیں گے تو ان کے ساتھ بھی دہشت گردوں والا ہی سلوک ہوگا۔ اگر گنڈاپور اے کے 47 لہرا کر نکلیں گے تو پھر انہیں پتہ چل جائے گا کہ ان کے ساتھ کیا سلوک ہوتا ہے۔ اگر نیازی کی سالگرہ ہے اس میں مینار پاکستان کا کیا قصور ہے؟ پی ٹی آئی والے اڈیالہ جیل کے باہر کیک کاٹیں

راولپنڈی، پی ٹی آئی کا احتجاج، انتظامیہ کی جانب سے ڈھوک پراچہ چوک کو کنٹینر لگا کر بلاک کیا گیا ہے، جس کے باعث شہریوں کو مشکلات کا سامنا کرنا پڑ رہا ہے

اسلام آباد، چیئرمین وزیراعظم یوتھ پروگرام رانا مشہود احمد جنوبی کوریا کے سفیر سے ملاقات کر رہے ہیں

The Asian Telegraph
www.theasiantelegraph.net
Sunday, September 29, 2024

Pindi major locations sealed, entry points blocked

RAWALPINDI: In anticipation of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) protest, the administration has sealed major locations in Rawalpindi,
blocked entry points, and deployed heavy contingents of law enforcement. To prevent PTI's protest at Liaqat Bagh, the Rawalpindi administration has placed containers, effectively sealing off the city.
No traffic is allowed to enter, causing difficulties for residents due to road closures. The Rangers and thousands of police personnel have been deployed at various points. Law enforcement agencies have been heavily deployed across the city. Liaqat Bagh has been completely sealed off, and Section 144 has been enforced throughout the city, banning all kinds of gatherings, protests, and public displays of weapons. Meanwhile, the metro bus service has been partially suspended.
Additionally, the route from Faizabad to Marrir Chowk has been completely sealed. All entry points to Murree Road, including Liaqat Bagh Chowk, Committee Chowk, Asghar Mall Chowk, Chandni Chowk, Rehmanabad Chowk, Sadiqabad Chowk, and Shamsabad Double Road, have been blocked. Liaqat Bagh has been locked and sealed.
Small streets leading into Murree Road have been sealed with barbed wire. Two government offices in Liaqat Bagh have also been sealed. Educational institutions on Liaqat Road and Iqbal Road, along with hotels, have been closed, and rooms vacated.
Even morning walkers have been denied access to Liaqat Bagh. Ambulances are also barred from entering Murree Road and allied hospitals, with police and prisoner vans stationed at all intersections.
Moreover, bicycles are completely banned from entering Liaqat Bagh. Breakfast shops and tandoors (bakeries) on Liaqat Road are also closed. Police officers armed with tear gas shells have been stationed, and the metro bus stations are secured by police, with the service completely suspended. INP

Affectees of sector I-12 urge CDA Chairman for immediate assistance

ISLAMABAD: Affectees of Capital Sector I-12 have made a heartfelt plea to the Chairman of the Capital Development Authority (CDA) regarding
the recent demolition of their homes, which has left many families displaced and vulnerable.
In a message shared with the media, Nafees Ahmad Mughal, a resident of Sector I-12, expressed the despair felt by the community: "The houses in our area have been demolished, rendering us helpless. We were promised plots in exchange for our homes, but so far, no positive response has been received."
The demolitions have affected not just the adults but also children, elderly, and women, forcing them to live under the open sky and seek refuge wherever they can. Many families are struggling to cope with the loss of their ancestral lands and the disruption of their lives. "We appeal to the Chairman CDA to understand our plight and take immediate action to resolve our issues. Our hope lies in your support," Mughal emphasized. Residents of Sector I-12 including Banaris, Ashfaq and Rizwan are now looking towards the CDA for assistance, believing that their future depends on the Chairman's intervention.

ISLAMABAD Chairman Prime Minister's Youth Programme Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan in a meeting with Ambassador of Republic of Korea Park Kijun. *(Story on page 1)*

Pakistan, Iran, China, Russian ministers discuss Afghanistan in New York

NEW YORK: Quadrilateral meeting of the foreign ministers of Pakistan, Iran, Russia and China on the issue of Afghanistan was held in New York, hosted by the Islamic Republic of Iran.
The meeting was held in the presence of the foreign ministers of Iran, China and Russia, Abbas Araghchi, Wang Yi and Sergei Lavrov as well as Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif.
It focused on coordinating efforts to interact with Afghan authorities in order to promote peace and stability in this country.
Earlier on September 18, Iran's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the UN Amir Saeid Iravani had criticized the international community for its failure to support Afghanistan's neighbours, including Iran, which he said are bearing the burnt of the ongoing challenges in Afghanistan that have led to mass migration from the country.
"We take note of the Secretary-General's recent report (S/2024/644) which underscores the severe economic and humanitarian challenges, with 23.7 million people still in need of assistance," he added.
As of 30 August, the Afghanistan Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan for 2024 has secured only 24.9% of the required $3.06 billion, leaving millions, especially women and children, deeply impacted, he noted.
This situation remains a serious concern for neighbouring countries directly affected by the humanitarian crisis, he stressed.
Since the US's irresponsible withdrawal in August 2021, mass migration from Afghanistan has placed a heavy burden on our country, already strained by unlawful unilateral sanctions, Iravani stated. INP

NA body for passing law to extend job quota system

ISLAMABAD: The Standing Committee of the National Assembly on Law and Justice recommended the passage of law extending the job quota for the underdeveloped areas by the National Assembly.
The meeting of the standing committee was held under the chairmanship of MNA Chaudhry Mahmood Bashir Virk at the Parliament House on Friday.
The committee considered the Constitution Amendment Bill, 2024 (Article 27), moved by MNA Aliya Kamran. After thorough discussions, the committee, by majority vote, recommended that the bill be passed by the National Assembly.
According to the statement of objects and reasons for the bill, a quota for jobs was proposed in the Constitution to support development and provide opportunities to people in underdeveloped areas.
After 40 years, these areas remain significantly backward; therefore, this amendment aims to extend the quota period to create more opportunities for residents of less developed regions.
discussed the Legal Aid and Justice Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2024, and after detailed deliberations, it recommended that the bill be passed by the National Assembly.
The bill aims to shift the administrative control of the Legal Aid and Justice Authority (LAJA) from the Ministry of Human Rights to the Ministry of Law and Justice.
The institutional linkages of the Ministry of Law and Justice with other law officers and commissions under the administrative control of the Law and Justice Division, as well as with bar councils and associations, will enable LAJA to fulfil its mandate more effectively.
The standing committee deferred consideration of the Constitution Amendment Bill, 2024 (Article 25), moved by Dr. Nafisa Shah, and the Constitution Amendment Bill, 2024 (Articles 51 & 106), moved by Naveed Aamir Jeeva.
The committee also did not consider the National Accountability (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Ordinance No. VI of 2024) (Government Bill), and deferred it at the request of the ministry.
Moreover, the committee did not consider the Constitution Amendment Bill, 2024 (Article 9-A), moved by Amjad Ali Khan, MNA, and deferred it due to the non-availability and request of the mover.
Due to a lack of time, the committee did not consider several other bills, including the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Article 184), the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Articles 51, 59, and 106), the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Articles 177, 193, and 208), the Contempt of Court (Repeal) Bill, 2024 (moved by Noor Alam Khan), the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Article 198) (moved by Changaze Ahmad Khan), the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Articles 175A & 215) (moved by Asad Qaiser), and the High Courts (Establishment) (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Article 4 of the President's Order No. 8 of 1970) (moved by Sohail Sultan). These bills were deferred until the next meeting. DNA

IMF urges fairer taxation system, broadening of tax base in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has stressed the need of a fairer taxation system in Pakistan with participation of all sectors.
The IMF's Executive Board in a statement on Saturday emphasized for "sustained implementation" of the new $7 billion bailout package, as well as broadening of the tax base, following its approval of the 37-month Extended Fund Facility (EFF) for Pakistan, under which it has disbursed a $1bn tranche.
The government has agreed to the unpopular reforms, including widening its chronically low tax base.
"The IMF stressed the importance of additional revenue mobilisation efforts by broadening the tax base and enhancing tax administration."
The IMF has urged for strict implementation of the anti-money laundering framework, curbing corruption in government departments and power sector reforms.
The IMF also stressed the need of better governance in government departments and persistent reform. It has urged for reforms in energy sector and timely adjustment of power prices.
The lending institution has said that the businesses required equal opportunities and productivity of all sectors.
The IMF board highlighted the new program would "require sound policies and reforms to support the ongoing efforts to strengthen macroeconomic stability, address deep structural challenges, and create conditions for a stronger, more inclusive, and resilient growth".
The IMF board noted, "despite progress, Pakistan's vulnerabilities and structural challenges remain formidable".
"A difficult business environment, weak governance, and an outsized role of the state hinder investment, which remains very low compared to peers, while the tax base remains too narrow to ensure tax fairness, fiscal sustainability and meet Pakistan's large social and development spending needs. APP

Mushaal thanks Pakistan's PM for championing Kashmir cause

ISLAMABAD: Mushaal Hussein Mullick, renowned peace activist and wife of jailed Senior Kashmiri leader Mohammad Yasin Malik Saturday expressed her gratitude to Pakistan's Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif for his unwavering support of Kashmir at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).
In her video message on the national TV news, she acknowledged the Prime Minister's efforts to raise world awareness about the human rights violations in Kashmir and his unwavering commitment to the Kashmiri people's right to self-determination.
She praised that the Prime Minister effectively highlighted India's terrorism in Kashmir at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).
The Prime Minister's address emphasized India's role in perpetuating violence in the region, which has led to numerous human rights violations, she added.
She said Pakistan's Prime Minister has exposed the sham elections in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) and highlighted the illegitimacy of the Indian army's presence, which numbers over 1 million troops. APP

Pak envoy emphasizes cultural significance of the Great Wall

BEIJING: Pakistan's Ambassador to China, Khalil Hashmi, has underscored the Great Wall's symbolic significance in China's cultural heritage as a representation of resilience and strength while recalling Pakistan's 1989 contribution to its (Wall's) restoration as a symbol of their ironclad friendship.
Speaking at the inauguration of the exhibition marking the 40th anniversary of "Love Our China, Repair the Great Wall" at the Badaling section near Beijing, Hashmi drew parallels between the Great Wall and Pakistan's ancient city of Taxila, a center of Buddhism, as well as the Indus Valley Civilization, emphasizing the shared historical and cultural ties between the two nations.
Ambassador Khalil Hashmi underlined that Pakistan and China have always enjoyed a unique and time-tested friendship based on mutual respect, trust, and a desire to grow together.
He underlined that the partnership between the two countries is enriched by a deep cultural understanding that goes beyond economic and political cooperation.
He analogized the friendship between Pakistan and China to the Great Wall–strong, unbreakable, stable, and enduring. He reaffirmed the commitment to continue building on this foundation by expanding collaboration in diverse fields, from trade and infrastructure to cultural exchange.
Among others, the event was attended by Chinese scholars and leaders, including Bian Jinping, a member of the 12th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), who discussed the Great Wall's role as a symbol of international resilience and creativity. In their welcoming note, they also appreciated Pakistan's contribution to the preservation of the Great Wall.

Pakistan, India delegates clash over terrorism and Kashmir following PM Shehbaz's

UNITED NATIONS: Pakistani and Indian delegates engaged in a sharp verbal duel at the United Nations Friday night, after Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif drew the world community's attention to India's policy of "brutal coercion and oppression" in occupied Kashmir and the "externally financed" terrorism against Pakistan, specially by TTP and its associates.
The Indian delegate, Bhavika Mangalanandan, reacted to the Pakistani prime minister's strong speech in the 79th session of the UN General Assembly earlier in the day in which he referred to New Delhi's threats and arms build-up, warning that Pakistan will respond "most decisively" to any Indian aggression.
Ms. Mangalanandan, a first secretary in the Indian Mission to the UN, claimed that Jammu and Kashmir was an internal matter of India, and accused Pakistan of cross-border terrorism. She also commented on some of Pakistan's domestic matters.
Exercising his right of reply, Pakistani delegate Muhammad Faheem dismissed his Indian counterpart's "false narrative", asserting that Jammu and Kashmir is an internationally recognized disputed territory. "It has never been, nor will ever be, a part of India, nor is it an internal matter."
The UN Security Council has unequivocally called for a free and impartial plebiscite to enable the Kashmiri people to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination, he said, adding that India was obligated to honour that decision.
"Yet, instead of honouring its obligations, India has chosen the path of repression, subjecting the legitimate aspirations of the Kashmiri people for self-determination through a brutal and oppressive occupation," Faheem, a third secretary in the Pakistan Mission to the UN, said.
"India's illegal and unilateral actions of 5 August 2019 further intensified this occupation, with nearly one million soldiers deployed to suppress the Kashmiris' legitimate right."
India's crimes in Kashmir are "heinous and committed with impunity", with innocent civilians targeted through staged encounters, extrajudicial killings, and collective punishment.
"Entire villages have been razed, the entire Kashmiri political leaders remain incarcerated, and a media blackout continues to stifle independent voices," the Pakistani delegate said, pointing out that, "This is the largest military occupation in the world, where over 8 million Kashmiris live in a perpetual state of siege and terror."
The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and over a dozen UN Special Rapporteurs have documented these widespread violations, and called for the investigation of human rights violations in occupied Kashmir, he pointed out, noting India's consistent denial of their access to the occupied territory.
Rejecting baseless allegations of terrorism, Faheem remarked, "It is ironic that a country, which uses terrorism as an instrument of state policy against its neighbours, should attempt to point fingers at others. India, which has been sponsoring terrorism and orchestrating assassination campaigns worldwide, is hardly in a position to lecture others on the issue."
For decades, he said, India has been the primary perpetrator, supporter, and financier of terrorism, sponsoring outfits such as the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) that have claimed the lives of thousands of innocent Pakistanis.
"Pakistan has shared irrefutable evidence of India's involvement in terrorism with the international community."
The arrest and conviction of Kulbhushan Jadhav, a serving Indian naval officer and an operative of India's intelligence agency RAW, is irrefutable evidence of India's state-sponsored terrorism, including targeted assassinations in Pakistan, he said.
"Now, the Indian terrorist franchise has gone global with assassinations and attempted murders of political dissidents on North American soil."
Referring to the events of 1971, the Pakistani delegate said those were not a question of genocide but of India's foreign aggression and attack on the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of Pakistan. "I would like to request the Indian delegation to refer to the General Assembly resolution of December 1971 which upheld the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Pakistan against the foreign invasion." APP

Japanese Ambassador calls on Nawaz, Maryam

LAHORE: Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) President Nawaz Sharif and Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif met with Japan's Ambassador Mitsuhiro Wada here on Saturday.
The discussions focused on mutual interests, enhancing bilateral relations, and increasing cooperation across various sectors.
PML-N President Nawaz Sharif emphasized their commitment to further expanding the excellent relations between Pakistan and Japan, highlighting Japan's prominence in the global arena due to its hard work and dedication. CM Maryam Nawaz expressed interest in boosting the bilateral trade volume and praised Japan's collaboration with the Punjab government in improving education, health, and urban facilities.
The CM noted the significant potential for investment in Punjab across sectors such as education, health, and energy, stating that the government is providing a conducive environment and incentives for investment.
The Japanese ambassador expressed a desire to further enhance relations with Pakistan. DNA

Printed at Rouhani Art Press, Published by Amna Malik for Melange Media Group from Office # 408, 4th Floor, Evacuee Trust, Agha Khan Road, F-5/1 Islamabad