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CIRCULATION CERTIFIED BY ABC

Tehran and Ankara Unveil High-Stakes Plan for Game-Changing Trade Rail Corridor

IRAN: Iran and Türkiye have agreed to begin constructing a new joint rail link to serve as a strategic gateway between Asia and Europe, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said on Sunday. The planned route, known in Iran as the Marand-Cheshmeh Soraya railway transit line and running towards Türkiye's Aralik border region, will cover around 200 kilometres (120 miles). It will cost roughly \$1.6 billion and is expected to take three to four years to complete, Iranian authorities have said. Earlier this month, Iran's transport minister Farzaneh Sadegh said the rail line would transform the southern section of what was once the Silk Road into an "all-rail corridor ensuring the continuity of the network between China and Europe".



It would also ensure "fast and cheap transport of all types of cargo with minimal stops", she added. At a joint press conference on Saturday with his Turkish counterpart Hakan Fidan, Araghchi said "emphasis was placed on the need to remove barriers to trade and investment between the two countries". "The two countries also stressed the importance of the rail link [...] in the region and expressed hope that the construction of this line can start as soon as possible," he added. The ancient Silk Road was a vast system of trade routes that for centuries linked East Asia to the Middle East and

Field Marshal Munir and Egypt's Top Diplomat Forge New Arc of Defence and Security Cooperation

EGYPT: Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr. Badr Ahmed Mohamed Abdelatty on Sunday met Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Field Marshal Asim Munir to discuss defence and security cooperation. During the meeting at the General Headquarters (GHQ) in Rawalpindi, Field Marshal Munir and the Egyptian foreign minister emphasised the importance of continued high-level engagement between the armed forces of the two nations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) said in a statement. Discussions between the two also focused on "military exchanges, training collaborations, and regional peace and stability". The meeting was part of



Abdelatty's two-day official visit to Pakistan from November 29 to 30, during which he held meetings with the political and military leadership of the country. Apart from his meeting with the field marshal, the Egyptian foreign minister also held meetings with Pres-



ident Asif Ali Zardari and Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, followed by delegation-level talks at the MoFA. Following the meetings, DPM Dar said that Pakistan would provide Egypt with a list of 250 business enter-

prises, selected through a transparent mechanism for inclusion in Egypt's "white list," as both countries decided to enhance bilateral relations. In a joint presser, alongside Abdelatty, Dar said another list of 250 additional firms will be prepared within six months, bringing the total to 500. Dar added that both countries have also decided to establish a Pakistan-Egypt Business Council, a move aimed at giving institutional shape to bilateral trade cooperation. To address rising visa-related complaints, he said, both governments have finalised a new facilitation mechanism to streamline travel and business move-

ment between the two countries. The DPM said the political consultations between the two sides will be held in Pakistan during the first quarter of 2026, adding that the forum will hold its first meeting in Cairo in the second quarter of 2026. He added that, for the first time since 2010, Pakistan and Egypt have agreed to convene the Joint Ministerial Commission in 2026. Egypt's foreign minister expressed deep condolences and solidarity with Pakistan over the recent terrorist attacks in the country, reaffirming that Cairo stands firmly with Islamabad in its fight against terrorism.—RT/Agency

Defence Minister Slams Irresponsible Speculation, Says CDF Announcement Coming on State's Own Terms

ISLAMABAD: Defence Minister Khawaja Asif on Sunday dismissed speculation about a notification for the appointment of the Chief of Defence Forces (CDF), saying the announcement will be made in due time. The government introduced the CDF post through the 27th Constitutional Amendment earlier this month.



"There is unnecessary and irresponsible speculation about CDF notification. Please be informed that the process has been initiated. PM is returning shortly," Asif wrote in a post on X. The defence minister said a notification in this regard would be issued in due course, emphasising that there was "no room for conjecture". Field Marshal Asim Munir, who is currently the Chief of Army Staff (COAS), will also be appointed as the CDF — the post created after the abolishment of the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee in the amended Army Act. The government will determine the duties, functions, and responsibilities of the COAS and CDF, including but not limited to his func-



tions and responsibilities regarding multi-domain integration, necessary restructuring, and optimum jointness of the Armed Forces. The tenure of the COAS will also recommence for five years with the issuance of a new notification. The provisions of Article 243 of the Constitution, applicable to a Field Marshal, shall apply where a General is promoted to the rank, according to The News. COAS Munir was elevated to the rank of field marshal — Pakistan's second and the first in more than six decades — following the country's resounding victory over India in the May war. Field Marshal Munir will be officially addressed as the CDF concurrently the COAS with effect from November 28, according to The

Petrol Price Slashed as Consumers Catch Rare Break at the Pump



ISLAMABAD: The federal government has slashed the petrol price by Rs2 per litre for the next fortnight, effective from December 1, following recommendations from the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (Ogra) and the relevant ministries. The price of petrol has been set at Rs263.45 per litre for the next fifteen days, read a notification issued by the Finance Division on Sunday. Similarly, the price of high-speed diesel (HSD) recorded a decline of Rs4.79 to Rs279.65 per litre. Only the parliament would have the power to remove the titles of the armed forces' chiefs and to impeach them. Additionally, the prime minister would appoint the National Strategic Command's commander from the Army on the CDF's recommendation.—RT/Agency

Baby Killer Netanyahu Pleads for Pardon as Long-Running Corruption Saga Reaches Critical Moment

ISRAEL: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu asked the president on Sunday for a pardon in his long-running corruption trial, arguing that criminal proceedings were hindering his ability to govern and a pardon would be good for Israel.



Netanyahu, the country's longest-serving prime minister, denies the bribery, fraud, and breach of trust charges. His lawyers said in a letter to the president's office that the prime minister still believes the legal proceedings would result in a complete acquittal. "My lawyers sent a request for pardon to the president of the country today. I expect that anyone who wishes for the good of the country support this step," Netanyahu said in a brief video statement released by his political party, the Likud. Neither the prime minister, who has been on trial for five years, nor his lawyers made any admission of guilt. Opposition leader Yair Lapid said Netanyahu should not be pardoned without admitting guilt, expressing remorse, and immediately retiring from political life. Pardons in Israel have typically been granted only after legal proceedings have concluded and the accused

has been convicted. Netanyahu's lawyers argued that the president can intervene when public interest is at stake, as in this case, with a view to healing divisions and strengthening national unity. President Isaac Herzog's office described the request as "extraordinary" with "significant implications". The president "will responsibly and sincerely consider the request" after receiving relevant opinions, his office said. US President Donald Trump wrote to Herzog this month, urging him to consider granting the prime minister a pardon, saying the case against him was "a political, unjustified prosecution". Herzog's office said the request would be forwarded to the pardons department in the justice ministry, as is standard practice, to collect opinions, which would be submitted to the president's legal adviser, who will formulate a recommendation for the president.

Israel's Justice Minister, Yariv Levin, is a member of Netanyahu's Likud party and a close ally of the prime minister. In the letter, Netanyahu's lawyers argued that criminal proceedings against him had deepened societal divisions and that ending the trial was necessary for national reconciliation. They also wrote that increasingly frequent court hearings were burdensome while the prime minister was attempting to govern. "I am required to testify three times a week... That is an impossible demand that is not made of any other citizen," Netanyahu said in the video statement, emphasising that he had received the public's trust by repeatedly winning elections. Netanyahu was indicted in 2019 in three separate but related cases that centre around accusations that he granted favours to prominent business figures in exchange for gifts and sympathetic media coverage.—RT/Agency

Marking 58 Years, Zardari Rallies Nation Toward Unity, Inclusion and Democratic Renewal

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari marked the 58th Foundation Day of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) on Sunday, paying tribute to the party's founders and reaffirming its commitment to democracy, social justice, and empowerment. In his message, Zardari said, "On the 58th Foundation Day of the Pakistan Peoples Party, we pay tribute to our Founder Chairman, Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and to Shaheed Murtaza Benazir Bhutto, whose vision, courage and sacrifices strengthened Pakistan's democratic foundations and inspired generations." He highlighted the PPP's historic role, saying, "Throughout its history, the PPP has risen to meet the central challenges of its time. When Pakistan faced authoritarian rule, the PPP stood firm as the party of democratic resistance and led the struggle for the restoration of people's rights. The Party has consistently worked to stabilise the democratic system, foster unity and keep the political process on track."



Zardari also recalled the party's achievements under Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, noting, "It was under the leadership of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto that Pakistan received its first consensus Constitution in 1973, a National covenant that continues to guide our democracy. The PPP also takes pride in its role in strengthening the federation, initiating reforms in Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir, laying the foundations of the country's nuclear programme and advancing landmark reforms in land rights, labour protections, education and social justice." He traced the party's involvement in democratic movements, stating, "From the MRD and ARD movements to the Charter of Democracy (CoD), the Eighteenth Amendment and the National Action Plan, the PPP has

KP Police Crush Central Kurram Assault, Eliminating Four Militants



KURRAM: In Central Kurram, security forces thwarted an attack by militants on the Chinarak police check-post, according to police officials. District Police Officer (DPO) Kurram said that four militants were killed and six others injured in the exchange of fire, while two police personnel embraced martyrdom during the operation. Local sources reported that the attackers set the Chinarak police check-post on fire, and the gun battle between militants and police continued for several hours. The DPO added that additional police units were immediately dispatched to the area, engaging the militants in a three-hour-long, courageous operation. Mohsin Naqvi pays tribute. Meanwhile, Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi praised the police for eliminating four militants, lauding their professionalism and timely response that foiled the militants' plans. He also paid tribute to the two martyred policemen and expressed heartfelt condolences to their families.—RT/Agency

FO Strikes Back at UN Over Misplaced Fears on 27th Amendment

ISLAMABAD: Expressing deep concern, Pakistan has categorically refuted the ungrounded and misplaced apprehensions on behalf of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights over the recently passed 27th Constitutional Amendment.



In a statement issued on Sunday, the Foreign Office highlighted that the Constitutional tweaks were adopted by the two-thirds majority of the parliament and that "all legislation, as well as any amendment to the Constitution, remains the exclusive domain of the elected representatives of the people of Pakistan". "Democracy and democratic methods form the bedrock of civil and political rights, and therefore must be respected," it said. The ruling coalition, earlier this month, had passed the 27th Constitutional Amendment in the Senate and the National Assembly amid resistance from the opposition benches, which eventually came into effect on November 13 after President Asif Ali Zardari's assent. The amendment was first passed by the Senate, however, the NA approved it with 234 votes and added

tweaks, which were once again approved by the Senate by 64 votes (two-thirds majority in the 96-member House). However, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk, in a statement issued on Friday, had said that the tweaks "seriously undermine judicial independence" while raising grave concerns regarding accountability and respect for the rule of law. The News reported on "Under the changes adopted on November 13, a new Federal Constitutional Court (FCC) has been given powers over constitutional benches, replacing the previous authority of the Supreme Court, which will now only deal with civil and criminal cases," the statement read. "These changes, taken together, risk subverting the judiciary to political interference and executive control," Turk was quoted as saying. "Neither the executive nor legislative should be in a position to control or direct the judiciary, and the judiciary should be protected from any form of political influence in its decision-making," the UN official added. Reacting to Turk's statement, the FO today accentuated that the constitutional amendments adopted by the parliament followed due procedures as enshrined in the country's Constitution. "Pakistan remains fully committed to protecting, promoting and upholding human rights, human dignity, basic freedoms and the rule of law as enshrined in the constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan," the FO's statement read.—RT/Agency

REGIONAL TIMES

THE HEARTLAND



Hyderabad Mayor Kashif Ali Shoro Pushes Child Safety Agenda at High-Impact Civic Centre Seminar

By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: Mayor Hyderabad Kashif Ali Shoro attended a seminar held at the Mayor Secretariat Civic Centre, organized by the Child Safety Committee Hyderabad and attended by committee member Senator Krishna Kumari Kohli.

The seminar was jointly organized by the Association for Betterment and Development of Human Beings (ABAD) and the Municipal Corporation Hyderabad. Among the attendees were Municipal Commissioner Zahoor Ahmed Lakhan, Town Committee Chairman Abdul Ghaffar Dars, Chairman Umar Chaudhry, Adnan Rasheed, Manthar Jatoi, and other officials.

Chairperson of the ABAD Child Safety Committee, Advocate Rafia Bangash, emphasized the importance of



institutional cooperation and information sharing. She stated that the seminar was organized to discuss key issues and to exchange strategies aimed at ensuring the safety and well-being of children, enabling coordinated and effective action.

ABAD has established the Child Safety Committee to assess children's issues, protect their basic rights, strengthen coordination among stakeholders, and provide a platform for joint ef-

orts.

Mayor Kashif Ali Shoro announced that all Town Chairmen will collaborate with ABAD to organize similar programs. He added that ABAD and the Hyderabad Municipal Corporation will jointly monitor and manage activities related to child safety. During the seminar, he also discussed important measures for children's protection and community welfare with Senator Krishna Kumari Kohli.

World Loses a Musical Legend as Shehnai Maestro Ustad Abdullah Khan Passes Away

By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: The internationally acclaimed Shehnai player Ustad Abdullah Khan Samoon passed away last night in Kotri at the age of 71. The legendary musician not only made remarkable contributions to the world of music but also played a vital role in preserving and performing Sindh's centuries-old Azadari and traditional mourning rituals.

His funeral prayers were offered today after Zuhr, and he was laid to rest in his ancestral graveyard in Kotri city.

The Azadari Coordination Committee Hyderabad expressed profound grief over his demise and his extended heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. The committee prayed for the departed soul's eternal peace and



for his rank to be elevated in the hereafter.

Ustad Abdullah Khan was the recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including the Presidential Award, Lal Shahbaz Qalandar Award, Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai Award, Sachal Sarmast Award, along with hundreds of other honors. His exceptional performances earned him recognition not only across Pakistan but in many countries around the world.

Mirpurkhas Labor Colony Erupts in Protest Over Neglect and Missing Basic Services

By Muzamil Malik

MIRPURKHAS: Residents of the Labor Colony in Mirpurkhas have staged a strong protest over the lack of basic facilities and poor management in their area. A large number of residents gathered and told the media that they are forced to live under inhumane conditions, deprived of electricity, health facilities, and dedicated amenities for women laborers. The colony's water pond is completely filled with garbage, and despite being constructed 15-20 years ago, no repair work has been carried out, turning the area into a heap of filth.

The media team visited the colony's school and were shocked by its dilapidated



condition. Classrooms lack doors, washrooms are in ruins, and the boundary walls are broken on all sides. Bottles of alcohol and drug paraphernalia were scattered around. Female students are forced to attend other schools due to the unsafe environment, and despite a large number of teachers assigned, only two local teachers are

present, with the rest sent from outside Mirpurkhas. Rahu Panhwar, President of the People's Labor Bureau Mirpurkhas Division, said that over 200 families live in the colony without any basic facilities, and the contractor responsible for construction has escaped the country after committing massive corruption.

HCSTSI Hails WAPDA's 118 Helpline as Breakthrough for Public Accountability

By GM Chaudhry

HYDERABAD: Muhammad Saleem Memon, President of the Hyderabad Chamber of Small Traders & Small Industry (HCSTSI), warmly welcomed the WAPDA's 118 Complaint Helpline, designed for the prompt registration and effective resolution of electricity-related issues. He described the system as a significant step toward public convenience and

enhanced transparency in the power sector.

President Memon expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister, Federal Minister for Power, and all relevant institutions for implementing this initiative. He noted that HCSTSI had previously submitted multiple recommendations for an effective complaint helpline and expressed satisfaction that these efforts have materialized into a comprehensive, modern system. Highlighting the importance of technology in public service, he said the 118 Helpline demonstrates the government's commitment to prompt customer service and accountability. He emphasized that every complaint must be handled responsibly and efficiently, especially from industrial areas, factories, and small enterprises, where delays can directly affect productivity and business activities.

Grieving Heirs Rise Up Over Two-Year Stalemate in Extortion Murder Case

By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: In Thul, the suspects involved in the murder of a young man killed two years ago for refusing to pay extortion still remain at large. The victim's family started a protest and sit-in, demanding the immediate arrest of the accused.

According to reports, the heirs of Shaheed Hafiz Muzam Noonani, who was shot dead during a robbery within the jurisdiction of the A-Section Police Station, held a protest demonstration against the killers and those harassing the family. The protesters marched from Hafiz Muzam's office to Rahbar Chowk, chanting slogans throughout the rally.



Protesters Raheem Noonani, Muntaz, Inayatullah Noonani, and others said that Hafiz Muzam was brutally murdered by extortionists who opened fire during a robbery. They alleged that even after two years, Thul police are unwilling to arrest the killers. They further claimed that the police, after

Five-Member Committee Formed to Tackle Journalists' Grievances in Jacobabad



By Muhammad Ali Surhio

JACOBABAD: A meeting was held in Jacobabad to discuss the challenges faced by the journalist community under the chairmanship of AS Hafeez Jatoi. A large number of young journalists participated in the session.

Speaking at the meeting, senior journalist Abdul Rehman Afridi said that young journalists in Jacobabad face numerous issues. He emphasized that unity among journalists is crucial to safeguard their fundamental rights and address these problems.

He urged the journalist community to set aside personal differences and collectively work towards the solution of common challenges and the protection of their shared interests. During the meeting, it was unanimously decided to form a five-member organizing committee for the Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ) workers in Jacobabad. The appointed members are: Abdul Rehman Afridi, Muhammad Ali Surhio, AS Hafeez Jatoi, Ghulam Hussain Mastoi, and Nisar Ahmed Gorgji.

Seven Laborers and Children Freed After Dramatic Court-Ordered Rescue



By muzamil malik

MIRPURKHAS: Following a court order, the Old Police Station carried out a successful operation, rescuing seven laborers and their children allegedly held by landlord Tamachi Meghwar. The action was taken on the implementation of Zareena Solangi's application under Section 491. The rescued individuals were presented before the court.

According to details, under the instructions of the District and Sessions Judge Mirpurkhas, Officer Muhammad Hanif Shar led a team to conduct the opera-

tion near Nage Shah Dargah. During the operation, seven laborers along with their innocent children were freed from the alleged unlawful detention.

The rescued individuals included Ghazi, Ijaz, Ahmad, Umeed Ali, and woman Moomal Solangi. The police took all individuals into protective custody and presented them before the honorable court, where their statements were recorded.

The court has ordered further investigation, while the police have assured that a comprehensive inquiry into the incident will be conducted.

Thana Bola Khan's Poor Receive Winter Relief from Al-Aminat Welfare Trust

By Shaukat Khaskheli

THANA BOLA KHAN: Near Khan Muhammad Palari village in the jurisdiction of Thana Bola Khan Police Station, Al-Aminat Welfare Trust distributed warm clothing to needy villagers, including women and children, to protect them from the cold.

On the occasion, members of Al-Aminat Welfare Trust, including Haji Shiraz Malik,

Ramzan Gabol, Balach Gabol, Asaf Gabol, and others, were present. Speaking at the event, they said that the trust continues to serve deserving people in various villages of Karachi. They added that Kohistan is also an underdeveloped area where people are struggling due to poverty, and God willing, the trust will soon extend its support and services to other villages in Kohistan as well.

Allama Sajid Ali Naqvi Warns That Science Must Lift Humanity, Not Lead It to Ruin

By Dildar Ali Samo

TANDO ADAM: Quaid-e-Millat Jafaria Pakistan, Allama Syed Sajid Ali Naqvi, said that science is like a scalpel: if it is in the hands of a doctor, it brings goodness, but if it is in the hands of a criminal, it spreads destruction. Today, he added, the state of the world is similar. Unfortunately, the knowledge that should have been used for the welfare of humanity has instead been sacrificed to vicious acts that destroy humanity. In the present world, imperialist and Zionist forces are openly declared enemies, from whom no good can ever be expected.

These remarks were made by Allama Sajid Ali Naqvi in his message on World Day of Science for Peace and Development. He stated that there is no doubt that scientific knowledge has played a crucial role in



advancing human understanding of the universe and solving human problems, making it indispensable for progress. However, the same scientific knowledge has also been ruthlessly used by imperialist powers to destroy humanity, with Hiroshima and Nagasaki serving as the worst historical examples, and today, Gaza has become a testing ground for such destructive forces.

Allama Naqvi emphasized that science, like a scalpel, can either promote peace and safety or bring op-

pression and devastation, depending on who wields it. He expressed sorrow that the world is celebrating Science for Peace and Development while bombs rain down on Gaza, innocent lives are lost, and aid cannot reach the oppressed due to imperialist interference. Hunger is now being used as a weapon, targeting the remaining vulnerable people. He lamented that although so much propaganda has been made about imposed "peace agreements," in reality, the dark night of oppression continues.

Massive Corruption Web Exposed in SDA Housing Scheme

By Munwar Chaudhry

JAMSHORO: A significant land scandal has come to light in the Gulshan Shahbaz area of Kotri, exposing alleged widespread corruption within the Sindh Development Authority (SDA). The controversy centers on the fraudulent allotment of single plots to multiple parties, a practice that has reportedly continued unchecked despite its illegality.

The dispute involves an 80-foot residential plot officially allotted to Yousuf Otho, a leader of the Sindh Tahera Party (STP). Otho has publicly accused a sitting political figure of orchestrating the illegal takeover of his property. According to him, the plot was allegedly seized by Chando Mewati, a local Councillor affiliated with the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), in collusion with a key SDA official, Secretary Raja Odho, who allegedly prepared a "bogus and fabricated file"



for the same land. This manipulation effectively enabled the illegal occupation of the plot. "When I arrived with my duly processed and allotted file to take possession of my plot, I found it was already occupied," Otho stated. The STP leader has issued a stern warning of legal action, highlighting the high value of the land involved. "The net will be tightened around those who are selling plots worth millions of rupees through forgery. If the occupation of my plot is not ended immediately, the administration of the SDA and Councillor Chando Mewati will be held

fully responsible for any loss or consequences," he declared. Local sources indicate that this is not an isolated incident. Double allotments and land-grabbing in Gulshan Shahbaz have become recurring issues, implicating SDA officials whose cooperation is essential for such fraudulent schemes to succeed. Critics argue that the collusion between government authorities and politically connected individuals systematically undermines the rights of legitimate allottees, eroding public trust in government housing projects.

Hingorja B.Ed Pass Candidates Protest Delays in Long-Awaited Job Orders

HINGORJA: Candidates over 40 years old who have passed the B.Ed GST and PST tests staged a protest and sit-in in front of the Press Club under the leadership of Shahbaz Malik, Rizwan Mirani, Gulzar Otho, Azhar Otho, and Qadir Sheikh Alfai Kalhoro.

The protesters stated that despite passing the test conducted by B.Ed, a highly reputable institution, the Sindh government has yet to issue their job orders. They claimed that while the Provincial Education Minister has pro-



vided jobs to candidates from certain areas scoring 33 marks, they have been ignored. The protesters staged on December 27 in front of the museum of Shaheed Mohtarma Be- nazir Bhutto.

Sindh's Hindu Community Stands Firm Against Indian Defence Minister's Provocative Remark

By GM Chaudhry

HYDERABAD: Following a provocative statement by Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh regarding the "occupation" of Sindh, the Hindu community across Sindh staged a vigorous protest outside the Hyderabad Press Club. The demonstration was led by community leaders Dr. Amarkishore Thakur, Teerth Das Lohana, Ramesh Kumar, and Bhisham Kumar Lohana, with hundreds of men and women participating. Protesters chanted slogans such as "Pakistan Zindabad" (Long Live Pakistan) and carried banners reading: "We are Pakistanis, Pakistan is ours," "Sindh will now take its land from Hind (India)," and "We will com-



plete Sindh; we will take more parts of Sindh from Hind." Addressing the gathering, speakers condemned Rajnath Singh's statement as a tactic to divert attention from India's internal crises, including rising poverty and political setbacks. They emphasized that Pakistan provides better living standards, equal rights, and protection for minorities, whereas India's minorities face insecurity, and even Hin-

Indus demand freedom due to social and political discrimination. Women leaders strongly denounced the statement, asserting that the entire minority community in Pakistan stands united with the nation and its armed forces for the defense of the homeland. Hindu community leaders further stated that Sindh was never part of India, and no foreign power would be allowed to threaten its integrity.

REGIONAL TIMES NATIONAL



Tara Uzra Dawood Celebrated in a Majestic NSW-27 Ceremony Hosted by President Zardari

ISLAMABAD: Tara Uzra Dawood, CEO of Dawood Global Foundation and 786 Investments Ltd., received her prestigious NSW-27 certificate from President Asif Ali Zardari, in the presence of Lt Gen Babar Iftikhar and First Lady Aseefa Bhutto Zardari. Surrounded by senators, parliamentarians, and senior Armed Forces officials, she said the moment reflected Pakistan's

courage, unity, and limitless potential. The transformative workshop strengthened her resolve to serve the nation. She

reaffirmed her commitment to champion Pakistan globally with pride, creativity, and unwavering loyalty.—RT

KP Chief Minister Sounds the Alarm on Imran Khan's Isolation as Major Protest Drive Unfolds

KP: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Sohaib Afridi has expressed serious concern over the continued isolation of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan, stating that he has been kept in isolation since November 4, while disturb-

ing reports about his condition are appearing in international media.

Addressing a press conference in Peshawar, Afridi said they plan to protest in front of the Islamabad High Court and will also proceed to Adiala Jail. —RT/Agency

Central Punjab

Gujranwala Police Take Down Infamous Drug Peddler Seizing 10.8 kg of Hashish

By Dr. Mirza MB Qamar

GUJRANWALA: In a commendable operation, People's Colony Police arrested a notorious drug dealer, Ali Raza, recovering 10 kilograms and 800 grams of hashish from his possession. A formal case has been registered against the accused.

Following directives from City Police Officer (CPO) Muhammad Ayaz Saleem to take strict action against drug traffickers across the district, SDPO People's Colony Niaz Khan supervised the operation. SHO People's Colony



Inspector Shukrullah and his team arrested Ali Raza during patrols, blockades, and targeted checks for suspicious individuals. During interrogation, the accused revealed that he procured drugs from other districts and distributed them throughout Gujranwala. Further investigation is ongoing. Socio-political organi-

zations and local residents praised the police team for their effective action. On the occasion, CPO Muhammad Ayaz Saleem stated that law enforcement is tightening the circle around drug dealers to protect the youth from narcotics. He also congratulated SHO Shukrullah and his team for their outstanding performance.

METRO KARACHI

Chowkhundi Cemetery Imperiled by Sewage and Crumbling Roads as Urgent Action Sought

By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: The historic Chowkhundi Cemetery, renowned for its centuries-old stone carvings and rich cultural heritage, is facing rapid deterioration due to broken roads, overflowing sewage, and general neglect. Local residents, heritage experts, and social organizations have expressed deep concern and demanded urgent intervention from authorities.

Residents report that the main access road to the cemetery has been damaged for months, with large pot-



holes, mud, and stagnant water making it difficult for visitors, researchers, and tourists to reach the site.

The situation has worsened after a nearby sewage line burst, allowing contaminated water to flood the cemetery, further damaging the grounds and weakening

the foundations of several ancient graves.

Heritage experts warn that Chowkhundi Cemetery is globally recognized for its unique Islamic architecture and intricately carved tombstones, but neglect is pushing this invaluable site toward irreversible decline.

BALUCHISTAN HEARTLAND

Contractor Muhammad Waris Barro Stresses Race Against Time and Uncompromising Work Standards

By Abdul Aziz Banguizai

Bolan / Bhag: Renowned contractor Muhammad Waris Barro said that completing all assigned projects on time is an essential part of their contracting system, and they have never shown negligence or weakness in the quality of their work.

He stated that whenever they undertake projects, they do so with honesty, sincerity, and good intentions. Whether in District Kachhi, Balochis-



tan, or any other area, they have always treated every project as if it were their own personal responsibility, carrying it out with integrity and dedication.

Mother of Rais Nazeer Ahmed Gola Passes Away as Community Gathers for Funeral and Soym

By Abdul Aziz Banguizai

BOLAN: The mother of Rais Nazeer Ahmed Gola has passed away due to the will of Allah. She was laid to rest in the local graveyard of Village Rais Muhammad Ramzan Mola Dad Gola, and

Rais Nazeer Ahmed Gola has passed away due to the will of Allah. She was laid to rest in the local graveyard of Village Rais Muhammad Ramzan Mola Dad Gola, and

New Press Club President Sweeps In with a Bold Pledge to Transform Journalist Welfare

By Abid Mahmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: The newly elected President of the Press Club, Mian Saeed Hassan, said in a detailed statement that he considers serving the journalist community both an honor and a responsibility. He stated that, with the grace of Almighty Allah, he will work tirelessly for the betterment of the Press



Club, the professional development of journalists, and the welfare of its members.

SP Waseem Akhtar Takes Command as Punjab Highway Patrol Gujranwala Enters New Era

By Dr. Mirza MB Qamar

GUJRANWALA: SP Waseem Akhtar has assumed charge as Regional Officer of the Punjab Highway Patrol, Gujranwala region. He was welcomed by SP Sohail Fazil and DSP Patrolling Gujranwala Zulfiqar Ali. Upon arrival at the regional office, a well-equipped, patrolling squad saluted him, and flowers were presented as a mark of respect.

SP Waseem Akhtar was previously posted as CTO Murree. After his arrival, the regional office conducted a comprehensive briefing, with



in-charges of all branches introducing their teams. He also issued instructions to all officers to perform their duties with honesty and integrity.

Addressing the staff, SP Patrolling Waseem Akhtar said that the supremacy of law, friendly policing, and elimination of corruption would be his top priorities. He emphasized that the Punjab Highway Patrol's mission is to protect the lives and property of citizens and provide selfless service to the people.

Awami Justice Party Leaders Hold High-Stakes Telephonic Contact with Air Marshal (R) Syed Azhar Hassan Shah

By Abid Mahmood Ch

Toba Tek Singh: According to the Central Media Cell of the Awami Justice Party Pakistan, a telephonic conversation was held between Air Marshal (R) Syed Azhar Hassan Shah and the party's Central Senior Vice President Rana Muhammad Saeed Rasheed Manj, along with Central Chief Orga-

nizer and NA-105 ticket holder Rana Muhammad Arsalan Khan Manj, to discuss matters of mutual interest.

During the conversation, both leaders paid rich tribute to Air Marshal (R) Shah for his exemplary services to the country and the nation. They also praised the prestigious honors conferred upon him, including

Hilal-e-Imtiaz (Military), Sitara-e-Imtiaz, and Sitara-e-Basalat, stating that personalities of his caliber are a valuable asset to the nation. They emphasized that the party requires senior leaders with exceptional abilities, a spirit of public service, and political insight to guide the future leadership of the Awami Justice Party Pakistan.

Advocate Rana Asif Javed Throws Weight Behind Ittehad Group in Crucial Local Contest

By Abid Mahmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: "Resolving the issues of the District Bar and upholding the dignity and respect of the lawyer community is our top priority," stated Advocate Rana Asif Javed in a recent statement.

He announced his full support for the Ittehad Group's candidates

— Advocate Mian Ahsan for President and Advocate Muhammad Anwar Gul for General Secretary — expressing confidence that, with the current momentum of support, victory is likely.

District Bar President Rabb Nawaz Dadwana, former President Amir Nadeem Sidhu, and several prominent lawyer groups, including those led by Advocate Shoaib Randhawa, have also declared their complete support.

Further endorsements from senior lawyers, including Advocate Chaudhry Anwar, were highlighted as part of the growing backing for the Ittehad Group.

Social Welfare Department Hands Over Electronic Wheelchairs in a Major Boost for Persons with Disabilities

By Rana Mudassar

NAROWAL: The Social Welfare Department Narowal organized a special ceremony for the distribution of electronic wheelchairs and other assistive devices to persons with disabilities. Federal Minister for Planning and Development, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal Chaudhary, attended the event as the chief guest.

Under the directives of the Chief Minister of Punjab, the first phase of distribution included 37 electronic wheelchairs, 5



children's wheelchairs, 16 manual wheelchairs, 1 tricycle, 4 walking frames, 6 white canes for the visually impaired, and 3 elbow clippers. The ceremony was attended by Chairman Bait-ul-Maal Punjab Khawaja Muhammad Waseem Butt, Additional Deputy Commissioner Revenue Ahmed Haroon, Deputy Director Social Welfare Tasleem Zehra, Assistant Directors Maham Rasheed, Anna Rafiq, Salman Nayyar, Manager Sanat Zar Ms. Farzana, and other officials.

Turkey Farewell Luncheon: Irshad Ahmed Sajila Pays Tribute to Fawad Mahmood's Contributions

By Dildar Sailro

KARACHI: Senior journalist Irshad Ahmed Sajila from Istanbul, Turkey, hosted a farewell luncheon in honor of Fawad Mahmood, President of the Karachi Union of Journalists (Workers), at the Pakistani restaurant Mumbai Zaika. The event was attended by local Turkish journalists Ozgar, Ataturk Jamal Shah, Haji Daniel Khan, Faheem Khan, Waqar Ahmed, Danish Khan, and prominent business personalities from Istanbul.

During the ceremony, Irshad Ahmed Sajila acknowl-



edged Fawad Mahmood's contributions to journalism and organizational work, stating that a true leader of journalists is one who practices fearless journalism and makes sacrifices for fellow journalist workers, even under censorship pressures. Sajila further praised

Mahmood for his efforts in resolving false cases filed against Karachi journalists, emphasizing that he stood steadfast in protecting journalists' rights. He added that Turkish journalists stand shoulder to shoulder with the Karachi Union of Journalists workers.

National People's Movement Stages Protest in Malir Demanding Basic Facilities and Village Leases

By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: The National People's Movement Unit, led by Daud Shoro along with Farhan Larik, Fayaz Atero, Jamsar Hisbani, Hariram Kohana, Sajid Gurelo, and Sikandar Shoro, organized a protest rally from Chowkhundi Graveyard to Syed Chowk in Malir. A large number of villagers participated, voicing their grievances over the area's longstanding problems.

Speaking to the media,



the leaders stated that the leases of Malir's villages have been canceled, but ownership rights have not been restored to the Sindh people, leaving local residents frustrated and oppressed. They criticized elected representatives for failing to provide basic facilities such as water, sewerage, roads, education, and healthcare in the villages.

Sindh Pensioners Warn of Sit-In as Long-Standing Demands Remain Ignored

By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: The Sindh government has yet to address the demands of retired employees, prompting the Grand Alliance of Sindh Pensioners to warn of a sit-in protest outside the Chief Minister's House if their issues remain unresolved.

The Alliance stated that their demands—including Group Insurance, Benevolent Fund, Health Cards, a 10% increase in pensions, and other pending requests—have not been approved. They emphasized that re-



peated assurances from the government have not resulted in any tangible action.

Leaders of the Grand Alliance, including Mohammad Qasim Pathan, Professor Mohammad Murad Chaudhry, Sanawan Khan Babar, Safi Abbasi, Amirzadi Baloch,

Farzana Bhatti, Mohammad Sachal Wadhoo, Ijaz Ali Bhatti, Niyaz Hussain Depar, and Ghulam Rasul Rajpar, highlighted that despite presenting their demands through proper channels, the government has failed to fulfill them.

Gujranwala on Edge as Multan Police Launch Intensified Crackdown on Deadly Criminal Networks

By Dr. Mirza MB Qamar

GUJRANWALA: In a groundbreaking move, Multan police conducted three hours within the last 14 hours, targeting some of the city's most dangerous criminals. Unlike previous operations, this campaign did not involve the district police directly, and the individuals injured in these encounters were not ordinary robbers or suspects in gang-rape cases.

The accused were noto-

rious criminals responsible for heinous acts, including the murder of innocent children and exploitation of the younger generation. Many were also involved in supplying drugs, including ice, to educational institutions. This new initiative by Multan police is being hailed as a beacon of hope for parents, whose children have long been victims of these criminal activities. Authorities hope this decisive action will restore safety and confidence in the community.

Panhwar Family Publicly Distances Itself from Waseem Panhwar in Press Conference

By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: The prominent Panhwar family has formally announced its complete disassociation from their relative, Waseem Panhwar. The announcement was made by Hamira Panhwar and his wife, Ijaz Panhwar, during an emergency press conference at the Public Press Club in Malir.



Speaking at the conference, Hamira Panhwar stated that Waseem

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EDITORIAL

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The Gravest Folly: Governor's Rule in KP Would Be a Historic Betrayal of Pakistan's Unity

Talk of imposing governor's rule in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is not merely bad politics — it is the mother of all political blunders, a catastrophic replay of the most reckless mistakes that once cracked the very foundations of our federation. At a time when Pakistan desperately needs cohesion, wisdom, and maturity, even entertaining such a move risks reopening wounds that history has already warned us never to revisit. From the trauma of 1971 to later bouts of centre-province confrontation, Pakistan has repeatedly paid a devastating price for federal overreach. Whenever Islamabad has tried to micromanage or sideline an elected provincial government, the result has never been improved governance — only alienation, resentment, and a dangerous rise in centrifugal

forces. To forget this is to trample on the graves of les-



sions learned in blood.

Today, Minister of State for Law Barrister Aqeel Malik claims that KP's "security and governance failures" justify a constitutional intervention under Articles 232 or 234. Yet every seasoned observer knows that once the Centre crosses this line, trust collapses and political fault lines harden. The argument that governor's rule is a "constitutional measure" ignores an equally constitutional truth: Pakistan is a federation, not an em-

pire, and its stability hinges on respecting provincial autonomy — not steamrolling it.

KP may have political challenges; every province does. Governments will come and go. But Pakistan — our Pakistan — must endure, must strengthen, must heal. It cannot afford another chapter of fragmentation accelerated by hasty, heavy-handed decisions masked as administrative necessity. The state must resist the temptation of forceful centralisation and instead invest in dialogue, cooperation, and democratic mechanisms. Because if history has taught us anything, it is this: once alienation takes root, no constitutional article can undo the damage. The path of wisdom is clear — step back from the brink. Only unity will preserve Pakistan; coercion will tear it apart.

THE HEARTLAND



Thatta Unites in Culture as National Press Club Hosts All-Night Ekta Mach Katchery at Makli

By Mohammad Khan Memon

THATTA: In the lead-up to Ekta Day (Unity Day) on December 7, awareness and cultural activities have gained strong momentum across Sindh, including Thatta. As part of these efforts, the National Press Club Thatta organized an all-night Ekta Mach Katchery (Unity Platform Gathering) at the historic Makli site, continuing until dawn last night. The event featured a vibrant display of music, poetry, and cultural performances aimed at fostering unity and communal harmony.

Young artists Mansoor Mehboob, Khaskheli, Roshan Junejo, Imtiaz Soomro, and Meinhani Wasayo Palari performed their art, energizing the youth and audience alike. Renowned poets including Fida Hussain Memon, Abdullah Chaudhry, Shakir Kalamati, and Hameed Mehraani recited their works, receiving widespread appreciation. Addi-



tionally, Sufi Zulfikar Qadri, Ramzan Memon, Muhammad Baran, Amjad Durrani, Akhtar Brohi, Aajiz Qadir Bakhsh Samo, Muzaffar Khaskheli, Bhattai Manzoor, and others reinforced their commitment to celebrate Ekta Day with enthusiasm through poetry.

The gathering also saw participation from political and social figures such as former Senator Sassi Palejo, Provincial Minister Riaz Shah Shirazi, PPP leader Ashiq Zardari, Chairman District Council Thatta Abdul Hameed Panhwar, Vice Chairman

Mumtaz Jalbani, Chairman Municipal Committee Ada Muhammad Memon, and leaders from various parties and civic organizations. Prominent activists, journalists, writers, students, and youth groups also attended in large numbers. Addressing the attendees, participants emphasized that December 7 is a day of unity and brotherhood for the people of Sindh, a day to put aside differences and stand together. The Mach Katchery featured diverse cultural performances, poetry, and music, creating a lively and inspiring atmosphere.

Moro's Anchor Institute Public School Showcases Color and Culture in Sindhi Festival

By Akhtar Laghari



MORO: Anchor Institute Public School in Moro organized a grand Sindhi cultural event, attended by a large number of participants including teachers, students, parents, leaders and workers of political, social, academic, and literary organizations, city residents, journalists, and people from diverse back-

grounds. During the event, students delivered outstanding performances on national songs, presented cultural and national tableaux, and gave speeches on Sindh and its rich culture, earning widespread appreciation from the audience. The school also displayed cultural artifacts representing Sindh, which were highly praised by the visiting guests.

Dadu Draws Massive Crowd for PPP's 58th Foundation Day Show of Strength



By Javed Laghari

DADU: On the occasion of the 58th Foundation Day of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), a grand public rally was organized at the District Council Hall Park in Dadu. Thousands of PPP workers from all four talukas participated in the event. The Foundation Day cake was also cut, and a live broadcast of PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's address was shown.

The ceremony was attended by prominent PPP leaders, including District President and MPA Barrister

Pir Mujeeb-ul-Haq, MPA Jogi Syed Saleh Shah Jelani, MPA K.N. Shah Zubair Ahmed Junejo, Ladies Wing President Musarrat Rafiq Mahesar, MNA Irfan Zafar Laghari, former MNA Irfan Zafar Laghari, Mansoor Shahani, Adnan Joso, District Council Chairman Muhammad Shah, former District Council Chairman Ashraf Solangi, party leaders Imdad Hussain Dawach, Murtaza Laghari, Mumtaz Laghari, Khalil Sikandar Khonahro, Municipal Vice Chairman Khalid Hussain Mirani, P.A. Pir Amir Ali Comrade, and others.

PPP's 58th Foundation Day Reverberates with Passion at Mohsin House, Thatta

By Mohammad Khan Memon



THATTA: The Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) celebrated its 58th Foundation Day (Yom-e-Tasees) with great zeal at Mohsin House, Thatta. The central ceremony, hosted by Provincial Minister Haji Ali Hassan Zardari, drew a large gathering of party leaders, officials, and activists. Among the attendees were Provincial Minister Riaz Shah Shirazi, PPP leader Ashiq Zardari, Chairman District Council Thatta Abdul Hameed Panhwar, Vice Chairman Mumtaz Jalbani, PPP leader Pir Rehmani, Chairman Municipal Committee Thatta Ada Muhammad Memon, former MPA Ghulam Qadir Palijo, MPA Rukhsana Shah, PPP Thatta

District General Secretary Imtiaz Qureshi, and thousands of workers and activists from various party wings including People's Youth, SPSP, and People's Hari Committee (Farmers' Committee).

The event was marked by an electrifying atmosphere filled with party slogans, anthems, and a musical program. Workers displayed enthusiastic par-

ticipation and celebrated the day with fervent joy. Party leaders addressed the audience, reaffirming their commitment to democracy and public service.

PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari also addressed the participants via video link, highlighting the party's ongoing dedication to serving the people and upholding democratic values.

Larkana Glows with Enthusiasm as PPP Marks 58th Foundation Day

By Saleem Soomro



LARKANA: The Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) District organized the 58th Foundation Day ceremony at Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Municipal Stadium, Larkana. The event was attended by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, PPP District President MNA Khurshed Ahmed Junejo, MPA Jamil Ahmed Soomro, MPA Sohail Anwar Sial, MNA Nazir Baghiu, PPP District General Secretary and Chairman District Council Larkana Ijaz Ahmed Laghari, Taluka President and Vice Chairman Asadullah Bhutto, Special Assistant to the Chief Minister Khair Muhammad Sheikh, Mayor Larkana Advocate Anwar Ali Luhr, Chairman Dar Town Shahrubh Anwar Sial, and a large number of leaders and workers from the

Ladies Wing, SPAF, Youth Wing, and other sub-organizations.

PPP leaders also cut the Foundation Day cake during the ceremony.

Addressing the gathering, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah highlighted that Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto founded the PPP in 1967 to oppose dictatorship and champion the rights of the poor, farmers, students, journalists, and marginalized communities.

He stated that the people have remained loyal to Shaheed Bhutto since the beginning, and after his martyrdom, Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto continued the struggle for the party and the people. He praised President Asif Ali Zardari for advancing the party's mission and emphasized that PPP's consistent public trust in Larkana and Sindh in elections after 2008 reflects its strong connection with the people.

Tando Allahyar Police Step Up Security with Tight Snap Checking at All District Entry Points

TANDO ALLAHYAR: Under the special directives of SSP Tando Allahyar Syed Saleem Shah, security has been placed on high alert across the district, with continuous snap checking at all major entry and exit points.

To further strengthen law and order in the district, SDPOs are supervising all SHOs to conduct effective and comprehensive inspections. During these operations, 870 passenger vehicles, private transports, and motorcycles were thoroughly checked. Suspected individuals were digitally verified through biometric and tracking apps, while



modern technology and digital tools were used to examine and record the details of suspicious persons and vehicles.

The primary aim of these measures is to limit the movement of criminal elements, curb the distribution of weapons and

narcotics, and ensure lasting peace and security in the district.

The Tando Allahyar Police remain fully committed, working round the clock to protect citizens' lives and property, eliminate crime, and provide a safe environment.

Sindhi Adabi Sangat Honors Scholar Mufti Kareem Bakhsh Magsi on His 19th Death Anniversary

By Murtaza Panhwar

MEHAR: The Mehar branch of Sindhi Adabi Sangat organized a commemorative event on the 19th death anniversary of renowned Sindhi scholar, researcher, and author of numerous books, Allama Mufti Kareem Bakhsh Magsi. During the event, four significant books were also inaugurated: two authored by Allama Mufti Kareem Bakhsh Magsi—'Mehtar's Religious Schools and Faiz-ul-Karim'; the book 'Qurb-e-Kareemi' by Dr. Abdul Rasool Qadri about Magsi; and the translated



work 'Dilbar Jo Deedar' by Hafiz Maulvi Badaruddin Agraw. Allama Mufti Kareem Bakhsh Magsi was remembered as an exemplary researcher, scholar, and a symbol of religious tolerance and fraternity.

The program highlighted his invaluable contributions to Sindhi literature, religious scholarship, and communal harmony. The event was attended by literary enthusiasts, scholars, and local dignitaries who paid tribute to his legacy.

Pakistan and Singapore Join Hands to Advance Art and Disability Inclusion

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: The Pakistan Down Syndrome Association (PDSA) Karachi hosted an inspiring dinner reception in honor of the visiting delegation from Maya Dance Theatre — Diverse Abilities Dance Collective, Singapore. The event marked a significant step in strengthening cross-

border cooperation to promote art, culture, and disability inclusion.

The delegation, which included Ms. Kristin Van Burn, Ms. Kavita, Mr. Imran, and other esteemed representatives, was warmly welcomed by Mr. Abid Lashari, CEO PDSA; Alishaba Aminuddin, Ambassador PDSA; and Dr. Ifet Sultana.

By Sarfaraz Ali Randhawa

SAMARO: Syed Ghulam Haider Shah Qalandari, leader of the Anjuman Ghulam-e-Qalandar Welfare Pakistan, has stated that the foundation of social reform lies in a person understanding their true self, destiny, and responsibilities, and in sowing the seeds of truth, justice, honesty, sincerity, and goodwill toward others—values upon which humanity was built. He said that a person who lives righteously and follows the straight path earns respect, stability, and a worthy outcome in society, while those who follow paths of corrup-



tion, hatred, injustice, selfishness destroy themselves and push society toward ruin. These remarks were made during a spiritual and reformatory address at the Hadya Kasrat-e-Durood-e-Pak program organized by Anjuman Ghulam-e-Qalandar Welfare Pakistan at the shrine of

Syed Lashkar Shah Khasani. Syed Ghulam Haider Shah further emphasized that in the face of rising social corruption and moral decay, Islamic teachings clearly instruct the protection of one's modesty, which plays a central role in individual purity, family stability, and the moral integrity of society.

REGIONAL TIMES

SPORTS



Andre Russell Shocks Cricket World by Calling Time on Explosive IPL Career



Kolkata Knight Riders' (KKR) legendary all-rounder Andre Russell has called time on his Indian Premier League (IPL) career, but will continue to play different franchise leagues across the world.

Russell, who was released by the former champions ahead of the 2026 season of the IPL, announced that he will stay with the franchise and will join their support staff instead as the "power coach".

"I've made a decision to retire from the IPL. I'll be active playing in various leagues all around the world and all the other KKR franchises," Russell said in a video message.

The West Indian all-rounder termed stepping away as a player from the cash-rich league "the best decision" as he aims to leave a legacy behind.

"I had some amazing time and great memories. Hitting sixes, winning games, MVP and all of those things. But sometimes you just have to know when to hang up the boots. When I made this decision, I just felt like 'yes, this is the best decision,'" said Russell.

"I don't want to fade out. I want to leave a legacy and it's best to retire when fans ask 'why, you still have some more in you, you still could go for a bit longer' than say, 'yeah, you should have done it years back'."

"So Kolkata, I'll be back. I'm here now just to say that I'll be a part of the KKR support staff," he said. "When I heard that name, you know, coming from Mr Venky, I said, you know, 'power coach, hmmm'. That describes Dre Russ. —Agency

Former Barcelona Star Reveals Messi's Transformative Power Inside the Club

Former Barcelona player Kevin-Prince Boateng has opened up about Lionel Messi's influence on the club during his stint at the La Liga side, saying his signing was also approved by the Argentine legend.

Boateng, who joined Barcelona from Sassuolo in 2019 on loan with an €8 million option to buy; however, the Spanish giants decided against it.

Speaking on the UN-SCRIPTED by Josh Mansour podcast, Boateng revealed that his signing

was finalised after the club had consulted Lionel Messi.

"Before I went to Barcelona, they had two sporting directors," Boateng said.

"One of them was Eric Abidal, who I played against still. He said, 'Yes, we want you.' The other sporting director said, 'We want you.' The president (Bartomeu) wanted me, the coach (Valverde), too, so I said, 'Perfect, let's sign tomorrow. —Agency"

West Ham Icon Billy Bonds Passes Away at 79, Leaving a Legacy of Grit and Glory



West Ham United legend, Billy Bonds, who served the club as a player and coach, has passed away at the age of 79 on Sunday.

Bonds has made a record 799 appearances for West Ham and also captained them to FA Cup titles in 1975 and 1980.

He represented the club as a player from 1967 to 1988 and then went on to manage them from 1990 to 1994.

West Ham United shared a statement from Bonds' family, which read: "We are heartbroken to announce that we lost our beloved dad today. He was devoted to his family and was the

most kind, loyal, selfless and loving person."

"Dad loved West Ham United and its wonderful supporters with all his heart and treasured every moment of his time at the club."

"He will always be in our hearts and eternally missed. We take comfort knowing that his legacy will live on forever."

The club honoured his legendary status by naming the East Stand at the London Stadium as the Billy Bonds Stand.

He was awarded an MBE in 1988 for his services to football, the same year he bid farewell to the sport as a player.—Agency

Face of the Day



My name is Ali Raza Mughal and I'm a young Gamer from Karachi with a passion for virtual victory

Please email us your photo for our Model Watch and Kids' Corner section at regionaltimes10@gmail.com

Pakistan U17s Close AFC Asian Cup Qualifiers with Stunning Record-Breaking Triumph

BESH KUNGEI: Abdul Samad's haul, coupled with Kaleem Ullah's hat-trick led Pakistan to a resounding 11-0 victory over rock-bottom Guam in the Group B match of the AFC U17 Asian Cup Qualifiers here at the Dostuk Arena on Sunday.

The Green Shirts got off to a relatively quiet start to their final group-stage fixture as they took 27 minutes before eventually netting the opener through Kaleem, who volleyed home from close range.

Syed Mehboob doubled Pakistan's lead five minutes later when he struck a low drive from the edge of the box.



Muhammad Abdullah's command on the match in the 43rd minute by weaving through the centre before drilling a low shot past Guam keeper Micah Tavaréz into the bottom right corner, while Kaleem helped them finish with a 4-0 advantage by netting his second in the stoppage time.

Kaleem completed his hat-trick just 11 minutes into the second half before being eventually substituted in the 74th minute when Pakistan's lead had grown into 7-0, courtesy of Sharaf Khan and Abdul Samad's strikes in the 67th and 71st minutes, respectively.

Following Kaleem's substitution, Samad added

further to Guam's woes as he netted three more to complete a haul in the stoppage time.

During his late fireworks, forward Hasnain Ali chipped in with one in the 86th minute, helping Pakistan men's U17 football team to register their biggest victory in any competition.

The victory helped Pakistan finish second in Group B standings of the AFC U17 Asian Cup Qualifiers, with nine points in five matches and a goal difference of 10, while Guam remained at the bottom with zero points and a goal difference of negative 42.—Agency

PCB Chief Naqvi Hails Security Forces After Flawless T20I Tri-Series Hosting

RAWALPINDI: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chairman Mohsin Naqvi on Sunday expressed his gratitude to the security forces for providing a safe environment to the participating teams of the recently concluded T20I tri-series.

Pakistan's packed home season, comprising two ODI series, besides one bilateral and a tri-nation T20I series, was hit by a wave of uncertainty due to Sri Lanka's reluctance to continue their white-ball tour, citing security concerns in the aftermath of a bomb blast in Islamabad.

Naqvi, who is also the interior minister, held several meetings with Sri Lankan officials and their players and assured them of foolproof security, playing a



pivotal role in ensuring the home season continues.

The season ultimately concluded on Saturday, with the culmination of the T20I tri-series, which saw Pakistan lift the title by defeating Sri Lanka in the final at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium in Rawalpindi.

Reflecting on the busy home season of the men's cricket team, Naqvi acknowledged that the secu-

rety in twin cities — Rawalpindi and Islamabad — remained a major challenge for them this month following the tragic incident in the capital, but credited Rawalpindi Police, Islamabad Police, Rangers and Army for ensuring the guests feel completely secure.

"Security in Rawalpindi and Islamabad remained a major challenge in November, especially after a tragic incident. Yet an outstanding job was done by Rawalpindi Police, Islamabad Police, Rangers and Army," Naqvi wrote on X, formerly Twitter.

"Thousands of jawans and officers stood on duty every single day to ensure Pakistan's name stays high and our guest nations feel completely secure. Thank you, Team Pakistan," he added.

The PCB chairman further expressed gratitude to Cricket South Africa (CSA), Zimbabwe Cricket (ZC) and Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) for standing beside them during the challenging period.

"Grateful to the South African, Zimbabwe and Sri Lankan boards and teams for standing with us."—Agency

Mike Hesson Bids Warm Farewell as Pakistan's Home Season Wraps Up

KARACHI: White-ball head coach of the Pakistan men's cricket team, Mike Hesson, left for New Zealand on Sunday after enjoying a successful home season with the Green Shirts.

After the ACC Men's T20 Asia Cup 2025 heartbreak, where they suffered defeat at the hands of arch-rivals India in the final, Pakistan were engaged in a packed white-ball home season, comprising two ODI series, besides one bilateral and a tri-nation T20I series.

The Green Shirts first hosted South Africa for a three-match each T20I and ODI series in October, winning both the assignments 2-1.

They then locked horns with Sri Lanka in a three-



match ODI series, sweeping it 3-0 before competing against the Island nation and Zimbabwe in the T20I tri-series, which concluded Saturday with the home side clinching the title.

During the busy calendar, the national men's cricket team lost only three matches — one ODI and two T20Is — and won each of the four series.

Following the conclusion of the home season, the

delight over the team's successful home season and lauded his players.

"This is the face of a tired but happy man. Tonight I start my long journey home back to New Zealand for a few weeks' break. Missing my family and some warm summer weather," Hesson wrote on Instagram.

"So delighted to have finished the season with a win, well played boys."

Pakistan will then likely host Australia for a T20I series, which is expected to conclude just days before the commencement of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026, set to be co-hosted by India and Sri Lanka from February 7 to March 8.—Agency

High-Stakes Prize Money Unveiled for QEAT 2025-26 Finale



LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Sunday announced the prize pot for the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy (QEAT) 2025-26 on the eve of the highly-anticipated final between Karachi Blues and Sialkot, set to be played here at the Gaddafi Stadium from December 1 to 5.

According to the cricket board, the winner will bag a prize money of Rs7.5 million, while the runners-up will get Rs4 million. Furthermore, the Player of the final will be presented a cheque of one lac rupees, while the best bowler, batter, wicket-keeper and player of the tournament will be awarded PKR 250k each.

Unlike the league-stage matches, the summit clash will be broadcast and live-streamed across different platforms, while the fans can witness the action free of cost from the Fazal Mehmood enclosure of the venue.

Renowned voices Ali Younis, Raja Asad, Salman Butt and Tariq Saad will be calling the action during the high-stakes fixture.

For the unversed, Sialkot will enter the fixture to defend their title against Karachi Blues, who have been the most successful team in Pakistan's premier first-class tournament with nine titles.

The two teams last faced each other in the QEAT final in the 2012-13 edition, which saw Karachi Blues emerge victorious by nine wickets.

For the unversed, Karachi Blues and Sialkot took contrasting routes to the final as the former was the first to book their place by edging the holders in the last-round fixture by three wickets.

Following Karachi Blues' qualification, Faisalabad and Sialkot remained in contention for the remaining spot. Faisalabad had the chance to pip Sialkot and secure the decisive second spot in the QEAT 2025-26 standings by defeating Bahawalpur, but the outcome of the fixture did not go their way as Saifullah Bangash's side chased down the 310-run target to conclude their campaign on a winning note.—Agency

Quetta Qavalry Crash Out of Abu Dhabi T10 After Tough Elimination Battle



ABU DHABI: Table-toppers Quetta Qavalry have been knocked out of the Abu Dhabi T10 league after suffering a seven-wicket defeat at the hands of UAE Bulls in the Qualifier 2 here at the Zayed Cricket Stadium on Sunday.

Put into bat first, the Qavalry could accumulate 104/8 in the allotted 10 overs as Muhammad Rohid and Qais Ahmad dismantled their batting unit.

Wicketkeeper batter Andries Gous and experienced all-rounder Jason Holder remained the joint top-scorers with 25 each, while Khawaja Nayaf was the other notable run-getter, making an 11-ball 21.

Besides them, only Fabian Allen (13) and Irfan Khan (10) could amass double figures against a disciplined Bulls' bowling attack.

For the Bulls, Rohid and Qais took three wickets each, Fazalhaq Farooqi and Junaid Siddique chipped in with one apiece.

In response, Tim David's swashbuckling half-century helped Bulls chase down the 105-run target for the loss of just three wickets and 16 balls to spare.

The Australian all-rounder smashed seven sixes and two sixes on his way to an unbeaten 57 off just 18 deliveries after walking out to bat at number four with the scoreboard reading 8/2 in two overs.—Agency

REGIONAL TIMES

ENTERTAINMENT



Khloe Kardashian Ignites Storm as Photoshop Accusations Trigger Heartbreaking Debate



Khloe Kardashian has been here before, but she is once again in the public's court, being accused of heavily editing her pictures.

The 41-year-old media personality recently had a candid chat over her Photoshop usage and told viewers that she used to heavily rely on these apps and filters to create her "perfect" image.

The Kardashians star then vowed to quit using these features to stop promoting fake beauty ideals on social media.

However, the reality actress seemingly backtracked on her ideas as she shared the photoshoot for her new fragrance, Almost Always, which, ac-

cording to fans, was so edited that it didn't look like the mom of two herself.

Social media users quickly began to criticise Khloe for not following what she preached, with one writing, "Thought you said you weren't Photoshopping your pics?"

Another echoed, "Your whole face is manufactured."

A third chimed in, "So heartbreakingly to see young influencers promoting so called beauty standards," and "Weird and perfume ad I think I've ever seen lol."

The Khloe in Wonderland podcast host hasn't addressed the comments herself yet.

Nina Dobrev Trades Heartbreak for Sunlit Serenity in Tropical Escape



Nina Dobrev turned to her close-knit circle of friends to celebrate her first Thanksgiving after parting ways with her longtime love, Shaun White.

The Vampire Diaries star enjoyed a sun-soaked Mexican getaway during this year's festive holidays.

Rocking a black and white striped bikini and sunglasses, the Canadian beauty was photographed hanging out with friends at a beach resort and catching some rays.

Among other snapshots

Taylor Swift Loyalists Erupt Over Eras Tour Docuseries Promo Controversy



Taylor Swift fandom appears to be polarised over the pop icon's career moves this year, since the release of her album, The Life of a Showgirl.

The 35-year-old pop superstar drew mixed reactions to the 12th studio album among listeners, but she was able to achieve commercial success, to a record-breaking extent.

The Fate of Ophelia hit-maker landed in much criticism over the release of multiple vinyl variants for the album, for using the release as a cash-grabbing strategy and repackaging the same vinyl to sell in several colours.

Swift, however, paid no heed to the criticism for either her album or the vinyls and claimed that she had deliberately stepped away from fans' opinions about her art.

No later than two months after the album release and the Showgirl release party event, the 14-time-Grammy winner announced her six-part docuseries with Disney+, which will include the final Vancouver show.

While Swifties expressed their excitement to revisit the two-year-long tour and get a peek into Swift's life behind the curtain, behind the glamour and glitter, as she promised, many are disappointed by the documentary promo.

The Anti-Hero songstress has released several teasers for the upcoming release, but the majority of the clips focused on her relationship with now-fiancé Travis Kelce, whom she had just met at the time.

REGIONAL TIMES: THE HEARTLAND



PPP's 58-Year Legacy Roars to Life in Sujawal

By Kamran Hidayat

SUJAWAL: Like the rest of the country, Sujawal also celebrated the 58th Foundation Day of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP). The main event was held at Indus Hall, Sujawal, and was attended by numerous party leaders and workers.

Among the prominent attendees were PPP District Sujawal President, Provincial Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Muhammad Ali Khan Malkani, Spokesperson of the Sindh Government MPA Heer Sohoo, former Deputy Speaker MPA Re-



hana Leghari, PPP public leader Abdul Latif Memon, former MNA Arbab Wazir Memon, Rais Iqbal Chaudhry, Abdul Sattar Lohar, District Council Chairman Danish Malkani, Tehsil Sujawal President Dr. Iqbal Memon, Information Secretary Manzoor Rahim Palijo, Abdullah

Khan Leghari, District Vice Chairman Rameez Zewar, Arbab Rameezuddin Memon, Zahed Khado, Naajeb Sarvech, Shahmir Gabol, Shafqat Shah, Matari Mohabbat Mustafa Leghari, Shafee Muhammad Leghari, along with hundreds of PPP workers.

High-Stakes Coordination Push Begins for Full-Scale Nawabshah Airport Emergency Drill

By Samad Ayaz Dahi

NAWABSHAH: Under the chairmanship of Airport Manager Muhammad Suifan Aziz, the second coordination meeting for the Full-Scale Airport Emergency Exercise 2025 was held at the terminal hall of Nawabshah Airport.

Addressing the meeting, Mr. Aziz stated that the purpose was to review arrangements for the emergency exercise, assess the availability

of resources, and ensure effective inter-agency coordination. He emphasized that the primary objective of the exercise is to protect human lives, ensure timely and effective responses during emergencies, and maintain complete coordination among all relevant departments. He added that the rehearsal date will be announced during the third coordination meeting and expressed confidence that all departments would participate fully prepared in this important national exercise.

During the meeting, Chief Fire and Rescue Officer Muhammad Suhail and Coordinator Rao Muhammad Irfan briefed participants that the exercise will simulate an aircraft crash scenario, aiming to thoroughly assess response systems, resource utilization, and interdepartmental communication in emergency situations.

Woman Fights for Life After Brazen Shooting as Attacker Escapes

By Muhammad Ali Surhio

JACOBABAD: In Jacobabad's Jan Muhammad Talani Colony, an accused, Yasir Talani, opened fire with a gun, critically injuring a woman identified as Hidayatun Laghari. The injured woman was initially taken to the city's Civil Hospital, and due to her critical condition, doctors transferred her to Larkana for further treatment. The accused fled the scene immediately after the incident.

According to reports, the victim's family stated that the previous night, Yasir Talani,



reportedly intoxicated, attacked their house with a firearm. The next morning, they approached the local Sadar police station to report the incident, but alleged that the police demanded a bribe to take action against the accused. The family, being poor, could not provide the bribe.

The victim's family

claimed that Yasir Talani then entered their home and fired directly at the woman, leaving her severely injured. They have demanded that the SSP Jacobabad take notice, ensure the immediate arrest of the accused, and deliver the strictest possible punishment.

Kunri Press Club's New Leadership Welcomed with Tradition and Triumph

KUNRI: The tradition of congratulating the newly elected Kunri Press Club officials continues with guests presenting Sindh Ajrak, garlands, and sweets in a warm welcome ceremony.

Details indicate that Ijaz Mughal, elected president of Kunri Press Club for the third consecutive term for 2026, along with other office-bearers including Vice President Tahseen Javed Memon, General Secretary Muhammad Iqbal Bhatti, Joint Secretary Syed Mahmood Ali Shah,

Press Secretary Anwar Hussain Memon, and Finance Secretary Fida Hussain Haideri, were warmly received by prominent local figures. Among them were Town Committee Chairman Haji Shakeel Ahmed Bajwa, Councilor Syed Manzoor Ali Shah, Imran Mughal, Sajid Aziz, Imran Bhatti, Muhammad Raza Popo, Haji Munir Ahmed Arain (President of Atta Chalk Association), Zulfikar Ali Mughal (Chairman Mughal Welfare Association), Haji Muhammad

Hasan Memon (President Private Schools Association), Principal Muhammad Ashraf Arain (New Life Public School), Zahid Murad Arain, Muhammad Hussain Arain (Anjuman Tajirani), LS Syed Jafar Shah (HESCO WAPDA Subdivision Kunri), Muhammad Afzal Arain, Advocate Aslam Nafees, Kanwal Sharma, Shah Nawaz Gargji, Muhammad Saqib Khaskheli, along with other leaders of journalistic, political, and social organizations.

JUI Sindh Sounds Alarm on Threats to Sindh's Unity and Calls for Faith-Based Rights for Women

THUL: Addressing a gathering, JUI Sindh Press Secretary Dr. A.G. Ansari emphasized that while women have significant rights in Islam, they do not possess the unilateral right to grant divorce. He warned that any conspiracy against Sindh's unity, the 18th Amendment, and the NFC Award would not be tolerated.

Dr. Ansari spoke at the JUI UC Toj general body meeting held in memory of the late Maulana Fida Ahmed Dol. Referring to a Supreme Court ruling, he noted that if a husband grants his wife an unconditional right to divorce, it cannot be revoked; however, he alleged that certain forces, influenced by Western agendas, are creating confusion around this mat-



ter. He reiterated that while women's rights are protected under Islam, the religion does not grant women the authority to issue divorce independently.

Condemning interference in Sindh's heritage, resources, and identity, Dr. Ansari highlighted that Karoonjhar, a vital part of Thar's history and culture, is being destroyed through machines, explosives, and greed. He also criticized conspiracies targeting religious seminaries and mosques, as well as

anti-Islamic marriage laws, describing them as attacks on faith and humanity. He denounced the Rawalpindi Bench of Lahore High Court's decision to overturn the punishment of five blasphemy convicts and demanded strict legal action against individuals posting blasphemous content on social media. Dr. Ansari further criticized laws passed by the Sindh and Balochistan Assemblies prohibiting underage

Midnight Shutdown Order Takes Hold Across Taluka Latifabad

By Muqeem Keerio

HYDERABAD: On the directives of Deputy Commissioner Hyderabad, Zain-ul-Abidin Memon, the Assistant Commissioner of Taluka Latifabad, Saud Lund, conducted late-evening inspections across the

taluka to enforce the administrative order mandating a 12:00 AM shutdown of marriage halls, banquets, restaurants, and chahi dhabas. During the visits, he checked compliance at multiple establishments and reminded owners that the order aims to maintain public order and ensure the timely closure of late-night commercial activities. He emphasized that strict legal action will be taken against any violations.

According to officials, Najmi Banquet was sealed for violating the shutdown order.

Jamshoro Journalists Revolt, Boycott PPP Event and Press Bilawal Bhutto for Action

By Munwar Chaudhio

JAMSHORO: Local journalists and the Jamshoro Press Club have expressed strong outrage against the exclusion and leadership of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) for deliberately excluding the media from a Founding Day event held at a local wedding hall.

Journalists reported that they were denied official invitations, and key district leaders, including Giyan Chand Essrani, Dr. Mohan Lal Kohistani, and Syed Asif Shah, did not invite any media personnel to

cover the program. Appeal for Central Intervention

In a strongly worded statement, the Press Club condemned the exclusion and appealed directly to PPP Central Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari to take immediate notice. "We condemn this act," the statement read. "The mission of PPP founders, Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Shaheed Benazir Bhutto, was to uphold the media as the fourth pillar of the state. The current district leadership has clearly forgotten this principle."

Jacobabad Floods Streets with Massive PPP Foundation Day Rally



By Muhammad Ali Surhio

JACOBABAD: A large gathering was held in Jacobabad to celebrate the 58th Foundation Day of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP). Under the leadership of PPP MPA Haji Sher Muhammad Mugheri, hundreds of party workers participated in a rally that reached the event venue.

PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's address was broadcast via video link, while local leadership also delivered speeches. Prominent attendees included PPP District President Mir Li-aquat Ali Lashari, Mir Kam-

ran Khan Pechuho, Shaikat Ali Ghanio, and leaders of the PPP Lawyers Forum such as district president Advocate Bilal Sardar Khan Lashari, senior vice president Advocate Imdad Ali Jamali, Advocate Laza Ghazwan Pathan, Advocate Syed Aijaz Ali Shah, Advocate Shehzad Lashari, and Lady Advocate Shabana Mengal, along with hundreds of party workers.

During the speeches, leaders highlighted that the PPP has completed 58 years, emphasizing the sacrifices made by its leaders to ensure the continuity of democracy in Pakistan.

Mirpurkhas Bursts into Celebration for PPP's 58th Foundation Day

MIRPURKHAS: The 58th Foundation Day of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) was celebrated with great fervor and enthusiasm in Mirpurkhas.

As part of nationwide celebrations, a large gathering of party workers participated in a grand event held at the city's central venue. The venue echoed with party anthems and slogans chanted by enthusiastic PPP supporters. The highlight of the event was a live video address by PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, which was highly appreciated by

the attendees. In his address, the Chairman emphasized the party's ideology, commitment to public service, and sacrifices for democracy, stating that the PPP will continue to fight for the rights of the people.

The event was attended by senior leadership and prominent figures of Mirpurkhas, including District President Nawabzada Mir Manwar Ali Talpur, among others, who took part in the celebrations and praised the party's ongoing dedication to serving the public.

Public Outrage Growing as Waste Piles Up in Qasimabad, Warns Shahid Soomro

By Javed Samejo

HYDERABAD: Prominent social figure Shahid Soomro met yesterday with the head of Awami Ittehad Qasimabad at the office of the Traders' Association Qasimabad. Well-known journalist Tufar Hakro Bhai and others were also present on the occasion.

During the meeting, Shahid Soomro expressed

his concern about the piles of soil and debris scattered along the roads from Qasimabad Pakora Chowk to Main Wadhwah Road. He stated that for a long time, he has been pointing out the need for cleaning to the staff of the Sindh Solid Waste Management Board Hyderabad, but the personnel have avoided taking action.

Another Inmate Dies in Naushehro Feroze Jail as Conditions Spiral

By Hasnain Shahid Channa

Naushehro FEROZE: This week, Naushehro Feroze Jail witnessed the death of an prisoner due to inadequate facilities, raising concerns over jail conditions.

According to jail authorities, Amir Ali Lashari, a prisoner at Naushehro Feroze District Jail, was suddenly transferred to the Civil Hospital Naushehro Feroze after

experiencing severe chest pain. Sources stated that Amir Ali, 36, the son of Sher Muhammad Lashari, was in jail on remand for theft and illegal weapons cases for the past 11 months. While being transferred from Civil Hospital to NICVD Nawabshah, he passed away at the Civil Hospital. After judicial magistrate proceedings, his body was handed over to the family.



LARKANA: Chief Minister Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah is addressing on the occasion of the 58th Foundation Day of the Pakistan People's Party at the local Municipal Stadium. Photo By Ahmed Raza Soomro

Fierce Protest Erupts Over 27th Amendment, Corporate Farming and Water Injustice Across Sindh

By Murtaza Panhwar

MEHAR: In Mehar, the Public Workers' Movement (Awami Porhit Tehreek)

staged a hunger strike at Mehar Press Club under the leadership of Advocate Azam Khaskheli, Advocate Panhal Khoso, Advocate Mashooq

Chandio, Muqadas Chandio, Saira Khaskheli, Kainat Chandio, Sarfraz Khoso, Parvez Wako, and others.

The protest was held against the 27th Constitutional Amendment, corporate farming, the unjust distribution of Indus River water, and exploitation of

Sindh's natural resources. The protesters stated that injustice is being done not only to Sindh but also to smaller provinces and communities. They criticized the ruling elite for bringing the political situation of Pakistan and Sindh to a critical juncture.

PPP Marks 58th Foundation Day with Thunderous Power Show

By Sajam Jani Detho

SHAHADADPUR: On the occasion of the 58th Foundation Day of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), a massive rally was held in Sanghar and Shahdadpur, attended by PPP's elected representatives, including MNAs, MPAs, Senators, district, municipal, town, and UC chairmen, as well as key party office-bearers, workers, and

activists from all levels of the party. Prominent personalities also participated in large numbers.

The event began with a recitation from the Holy Quran, followed by the national anthem. Divisional General Secretary Javed Nayab Leghari, MNA Salahuddin Junejo, former provincial minister MPA Shahid Khan Tahim, Senator Qurat-ul-Ain Mari,

MPAs Pars Dero and Jam Shabbir Ali Khan, District Chairman Riaz Shah, Jhangir Junejo, and other leaders welcomed the participants and expressed gratitude for their active involvement. They emphasized that the PPP has always been the protector of public rights and this spirit continues to strengthen and organize the party further.

SICVD Employees Threaten Fresh Agitation Over Lingering Grievances

By Zeeshan Soomro

SUKKUR: An important meeting of the All Employees Union SICVD Sindh was held in Nawabshah, attended by Muzafar Kalwar, Ghulam Muftaba Jamali, Faiz Muhammad Mangrio, Badruddin Shihon, Abbas Ali Shah, and other members.

During the meeting, the union warned of launching an immediate protest if the issues of SICVD employees, who play a vital role in treating heart diseases in Sindh, are not addressed promptly. They strongly condemned the dual standards between Karachi and interior Sindh



employees. While NICVD Karachi employees receive annual promotions, health insurance cards, health professional allowances, and various other benefits, employees in interior Sindh cities have not received any promotions or health insurance benefits for the past nine years.

The employees alleged

that management harasses them in different ways to prevent them from claim-

ing their rights. They stated that numerous complaints have been submitted, but no corrective action has been taken. The union has appealed to the Chief Minister of Sindh and the Provincial Health Minister to resolve their issues immediately, warning that otherwise, employees across Sindh will launch a province-wide protest movement.

Tando Allahyar Lights Up for PPP's 58th Foundation Day

By Afaq Ahmed Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: The 58th Foundation Day of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) was celebrated with great enthusiasm at the PPP Secretariat, Patafi House in Tando Allahyar. Thousands of PPP workers and supporters from all three talukas of the district attended the grand event.

During the celebrations, District President Zaeher Patafi cut a 58-pound cake brought from Karachi in honor of the occasion. The live address of PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari was also broadcast to the audience.

Prominent leaders who attended included former



Provincial Minister and MPA Amjad Khan Patafi, District President Zaeher Abbas Patafi, MNA Zulfikar Sattar Bachani, District Council Chairman Mir Sohail Pappu Talpur, PPP leader Zulqarnain Kokhar, MC Chairman Syed Samar Hassan Shah Rizvi, District General Secretary Ghulam Muhammad Kambar, Town Chairman Khan Muhammad Patafi, Taluka Presidents Ramzan Mari and Rajo Thakur, among others.

Speaking at the event, leaders highlighted that the PPP is the party of the poor, the oppressed, and the martyrs, emphasizing that no force can ever destroy it. They said that despite conspiracy against PPP in every era, opponents have always failed because the people of Pakistan hold a deep love for the party, which is evident from the massive turnout and thunderous slogans of the supporters.

Literary Giant Muhammad Zafar Bukhari Passes Away at 90

By Sajam Jani

SHAHADADPUR: Muhammad Zafar Bukhari, a renowned civil agent and respected figure in journalism, literature, and poetry, passed away at the age of 90 after a brief illness. He was the father of former Shahdadpur Press Club president Irfad Zafar Bukhari and had been unwell for some time.

Zafar Bukhari was highly

regarded for his contributions to poetry gatherings, literary circles, and socio-political activities. He was a founding member of the Shahdadpur Citizens' Action Committee and a leader of Al-Mashriq Art Academy. Widely recognized as a newspaper and civil agent in Sanghar and other districts, he played a key role in the media and social sphere.

His passing drew condolences from political and social circles. His funeral prayer was attended by numerous dignitaries, traders, lawyers, religious leaders, journalists, scholars, literary personalities, and citizens from across the city.

He was laid to rest at the Abani Graveyard with hundreds in attendance, and tributes continue to pour in from the Hurdas Pura area of the city where he resided.

Umerkot Thunders with Massive Rally for PPP's 58th Foundation Day

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: The Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Umerkot organized a grand rally at Burhanuddin Kumbhar House to cele-

brate the party's 58th Foundation Day. A large screen was installed for participants to watch the live address of PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. Party workers and supporters

gathered in huge numbers to express their loyalty, love, and commitment to the party. The celebration concluded with the ceremonial cutting of the Foundation Day cake.

Ex-Servicemen Society Stages Grand Gathering in Haq Madina Village

By Yousif Rind

NAWAB WALI MUHAMMAD: In Haq Madina village near Nawab Wali, Muhammad, Pakistan Ex-Servicemen Society, Taluka Qazi Ahmed, organized a grand ceremony led by Joint Secretary Noor Muhammad Arain. The event was

presided over by Taluka Qazi Ahmed President Yaseen Khan, while special guests included General Secretary Abdul Sattar Chandio and Captain (R) Dr. Sikandar Ali Mari from District Shaheed Benazirabad.

The program began with the recitation of the Holy Quran. Speakers highlighted that all former personnel of the Pakistan Armed Forces are united under the platform of the Pakistan Ex-Servicemen Society, and stressed the importance of maintaining this unity while guiding and including the next generation of members.

METRO KARACHI

Bilawal Champions Constitutional Courts as Guardians of Democracy at PPP Rally

KARACHI: Addressing the Pakistan Peoples Party's (PPP) Foundation Day rally in Karachi, PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari emphasized the significance of the constitutional court in upholding democracy. He stated that by establishing the court, the PPP preserved the "Character of Democracy" initiated by Benazir Bhutto.



Bilawal explained that

the constitutional court is now fully functional and will handle only constitutional matters, while the Supreme Court will focus on timely resolution of public cases. He expressed hope that the constitutional court would restore public confidence in the judiciary.—RT

IG Sindh Applauds Karachi Police Gains and Credits Community Policing for Turnaround

KARACHI: IG Sindh, Ghulam Nabi Memon, has praised the police force for the significant reduction in crime rates in Karachi, calling the crowds in hotels and markets a symbol of peace in the city. He expressed his appreciation for Additional IG Karachi during a dinner held at the Garden Headquarters in honor of officers and personnel.



IG Memon said that peace across the province, including Karachi, is the result of

the hard work and dedication of the police. He emphasized that activities against ethics, religion, and law cannot bring mental peace. He acknowledged that some tough decisions had been taken which ultimately proved beneficial for the police, and stressed that discipline is maintained by punishing wrongdoing and rewarding good work.—RT/Agency

Altaf Shakoor Demands Government Shield Parents from Private School Exploitation

KARACHI: Pasban Democratic Party (PDP) Chairman Altaf Shakoor on Sunday criticized private schools for what he described as turning into a "white-collar mafia," accusing them of exploiting parents through unjustified fees and repeated charges. He said that with the deteriorating standard of government schools, a majority of



parents are forced to rely on private institutions despite

the financial burden. Shakoor noted that many private schools increase fees without justification, charge for unnecessary activities, and impose additional costs that most families cannot afford. He urged the government to introduce strict regulatory measures to ensure transparency in fee structures and to protect parents from exploitation.—RT

IGHD Climate Summit Wraps Up with Urgent Call for Stronger National Resilience

KARACHI: The IGH Annual Conference on Climate Change and the Built Environment concluded on Sunday after two days of high-level scientific discussions, policy dialogue, and cross-sector collaboration aimed at

strengthening Pakistan's resilience to the escalating climate crisis.

Organized by the Aga Khan University's Institute for Global Health and Development (IGHD) in partnership with the Sustainable De-

velopment Solutions Network (SDSN) Pakistan, the conference brought together leading experts in architecture, engineering, environmental sciences, public health, and urban planning.—RT/Agency

Pakistan Unveils Ambitious 300-Day Plan to Brace for 2026 Monsoon Threats

KARACHI: The Government of Pakistan has unveiled a comprehensive 300-day national strategy to prepare for the 2026 monsoon season, focusing on flood recovery and disaster preparedness.

Federal Minister for Cli-

mate Change and Environmental Coordination, Dr. Musadik Malik, announced the initiative while addressing the "Climate Change and the Built Environment: Promoting Resilience and Adaptation in Low-Income Settings" conference organized by the Institute of Global Health and Development at Aga Khan University. The conference brought together experts, professionals, and policymakers to discuss climate-aware development and sustainable urban planning.—RT/Agency

Keamari Gate Collision of Two Launches Leaves Woman Dead and Several Injured

KARACHI: Near Keamari Gate 1, two launches collided, causing passengers on board to fall into the sea. Rescue teams recovered the body of a woman, while seven others were rescued in a semi-conscious state and taken to a hos-

pital.

According to rescue officials, each launch was carrying between 20 to 25 people. SSP Amjad Sheikh stated that the injured have been shifted to a private hospital, and the condition of two rescued children is critical.

He further explained that the affected launches were traveling from Keamari Manora towards Baba Bhit. Additional Keamari police personnel have been deployed at the site to manage the situation.—RT/Agency

UAE National Day Message Sparks Strong Sentiment of Unity and Brotherhood

KARACHI: On the 54th UAE National Day, H.E. Dr. Bakheet Ateeq Al Remithi extends warm greetings to the people of Pakistan and the UAE community in Pakistan. He highlights the nation's unity, progress, and commitment to peace and



prosperity. Emphasizing

the deep-rooted brotherly ties between the UAE and Pakistan, he reaffirms a shared vision of continued cooperation, friendship, and growth. He concludes by wishing everyone a joyful and proud 54th UAE National Day.—RT

Pakistan's Fashion and Beauty Boom Accelerates as Experts Predict Global Breakthrough

KARACHI: Karachi's top fashion designers, jewellers, and beauty experts say Pakistan's style industry is expanding at an exceptional pace, gaining strong international attention. Speaking at the SRF Fashion Show's concluding ceremony, industry figures including Shoukat Dada, Junaid Iqbal, Taj and Shahbaz Ali, Sana Muzammil, Kulsum Yousuf, and Seemi Khan highlighted the rising global demand for Pakistani apparel, jewellery, and makeup artists.



They emphasized that as people increasingly seek quality clothing, jewellery, and makeup, the industry continues to flourish. Fashion shows, they noted, offer vital platforms to showcase creativity. The experts urged

the government to provide recognition and support, stressing that with proper patronage, these sectors could significantly boost Pakistan's economy through increased foreign exchange.—RT

Sindh Bar Poised to Make Judicial History Under Haseeb Jamali, Says Kashif Nizami



KARACHI: Chairman of the Mohalla Committee Landhi Karachi, Kashif Nizami, has extended heartfelt congratulations to Advocate Haseeb Jamali and his entire panel on their remarkable victory in the recent Sindh Bar elections.

Nizami said the success of Jamali's team reflects the trust and confidence the

PPP Founding Day Fires Up Supporters as Nasir Shah Calls Party History A Struggle Written in Blood

KARACHI: On the 58th founding anniversary of the PPP, Minister Syed Nasir Hussain Shah paid tribute to Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Shaheed Benazir Bhutto, President Asif Ali Zardari, and Chairman Bilawal Bhutto. He said the PPP's foundation is marked by sacrifice, courage, and service to the people. Shah highlighted Bhutto's legacy as architect of Pakistan's nuclear program and the 1973 Constitution, and



praised Benazir's heroic fight for democracy. He called Bilawal the torch-bearer of the martyrs' mission and a rising leader shaping Pakistan's future.—RT

Karachi Rolls Out Major Expansion Drive to Tackle Burial Space Crisis



KARACHI: The city of Karachi is grappling with a severe shortage of burial spaces, creating concerns for residents and authorities alike. In response, the local administration has announced a comprehensive expansion plan to develop new cemeteries and extend existing graveyards across the city.

Officials stated that the initiative aims to provide adequate burial facilities to accommodate the growing population and prevent overcrowding in current graveyards. The plan includes land acquisition, proper layout designs, and improved maintenance standards to ensure orderly and dignified burial services.—RT/Agency

Almarah Foundation Debuts Sindh Chapter with Gala Dinner Raising Over 20 Million

KARACHI: The Almarah Foundation, led by its visionary Founder and CEO, DIG Mahboob Aslam Lillah, successfully held its Founder's Fundraiser and Launch of the Sindh Chapter during a grand ceremony in Karachi, generating over 20 million in funds to support its humanitarian initiatives.

The event was graciously hosted by Dr. Danish Aman, President of the Sindh Chapter, alongside Mr. Zahid Hameed, marking a significant milestone in expanding the foundation's mission across the province.

The evening was elevated by the presence of senior officials, community leaders, and prominent personalities, as well as celebrated TV and film stars who expressed their wholehearted support for the foundation's noble cause. Notable attendees included Bushra Ansari, Hamza Ali Abbasi, Adnan Siddiqui, and Humayun Saeed.—RT/Agency

UBG and BMP Forge Landmark Alliance to Confront Business Community Challenges

KARACHI: In a landmark development, two of Pakistan's most influential and traditionally rival business groups—the United Business Group (UBG) and the Businessmen Panel (BMP)—have announced a unified alliance to push for solutions to long-standing issues facing the business community amid a challenging economic climate.—RT

Sindh Reports 232 New Dengue Cases in 24 Hours; Karachi Records Highest Number

KARACHI: The Sindh Health Department reported 232 new dengue cases across the province in the last 24 hours, with Karachi recording the highest number at 127 cases. According to authorities, dengue cases are on the rise throughout Sindh. In the same period, 34 patients were admitted to government hospitals and 17 to private hospitals, bringing the total number of currently hospitalized dengue patients in the province to 44. Meanwhile,

38 patients from government hospitals and 34 from private hospitals have recovered and been discharged in the last 24 hours. DG Health Sindh stated that 2,432 dengue tests were conducted across the province, out of which 232 came back positive. Karachi laboratories reported 123 positive cases, while Hyderabad recorded 109 positive cases, highlighting the growing spread of dengue in urban centers.—RT/Agency

Sindh CM Congratulates PPP on Its Historic 58th Foundation Day

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah extended heartfelt congratulations to the public, party workers, and leadership on the occasion of the 58th Foundation Day of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP).

Murad Ali Shah stated that the PPP has always championed the rights of the people and democracy. Upholding democratic supremacy, protecting the Constitution, and ensuring people's governance re-



main the core mission of the party. He emphasized that following the mission of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Shaheed Benazir Bhutto is a steadfast commitment of the PPP.

He further noted that

the leadership and struggle of the PPP have shaped the direction of national politics, highlighting the party's resilience during periods of dictatorship and its role in paving the way for democracy. Murad Ali Shah acknowledged the guidance and efforts of Shaheed Bhutto, Shaheed Benazir, President Asif Ali Zardari, and Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari as enduring sources of inspiration.—RT

Saeed Ghani Points to Rising PPP Momentum in Karachi Ahead of Anniversary Rally

KARACHI: Senior Sindh Minister Saeed Ghani, while reviewing preparations for the Pakistan Peoples Party's (PPP) 58th Foundation Day rally, spoke to the media about the choice of Korangi as the venue. He explained that the decision was made because PPP had not held a major rally in the city for decades.

Ghani said the rally also aims to counter the narra-



ative that PPP is "anti-Karachi" and does not contribute to the city. "We want to show that Karachi residents still look to PPP

with hope and trust," he added. He further emphasized that holding the rally in a challenging area demonstrates the party's strength. "We chose a tough locality so that no one could say that PPP only holds rallies in areas where it is already strong. InshaAllah, today's rally will prove that PPP is equally popular in Korangi as it is in Keamari, Lyari, or Malir."—RT

Sindh Kicks Off Forceful Week-Long Human Rights Day 2025 Campaign

KARACHI: The Sindh Directorate of Human Rights has announced a dynamic week-long celebration for Human Rights Day 2025, beginning in early December. Director Agha Fakhur Hussain visited Government Girls Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary School Kala Kot, Lyari, to finalize activities focusing on children's and students' rights. The program in-



cludes art activities, painting and debate competitions, and a one-kilometer community awareness walk in Lyari. School and Education Department officials pledged full support, with formal notifications to be issued next week. Special Assistant Rayjeer Singh Sodha is expected to attend.—RT

Sindh Declares Climate Change a Full-Scale Human Rights Emergency

KARACHI: The Sindh Directorate of Human Rights hosted a high-level Round Table Meeting on climate change, chaired by Director Agha Fakhur Hussain, with government officials, civil society, and climate experts in attendance. Hussain warned that climate change now poses the biggest human rights threat in Sindh, impacting life, health, water, education, and disproportionately



harming women and children. Participants reviewed findings from Manchar Lake, highlighting displacement, poverty, and barriers to jus-

tice. Hussain urged climate-resilient schools, mobile NADRA units, livelihood restoration, and stronger child protection mechanisms.—RT

Karachi Climate Conference Exposes Dire Environmental Threats and Offers Survival Roadmap

KARACHI: The IGH Annual Conference 2025 concluded after two days of powerful scientific briefings and policy dialogue on climate change and the built environment. Hosted by Aga Khan University's IGH with SDSN Pakistan, experts revealed alarming findings on rising sea levels along Karachi's coast, extreme heat

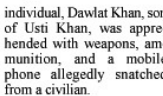


risks, failing infrastructure, and mounting climate-linked illnesses. Researchers also

showcased promising solutions, including climate- and earthquake-resilient housing models from interior Sindh and indigenous community-led adaptation approaches. Federal Minister Dr. Musadik Malik urged empowering young innovators, while AKU leadership stressed turning research into national action.—RT

Suspect Taken into Custody After Alleged Shootout Near Sohrab Goth Supermarket

KARACHI: Police in Karachi reportedly arrested a suspect following an alleged shootout near Sohrab Goth Supermarket. According to media reports, the arrested



individual, Dawlat Khan, son of Usti Khan, was apprehended with weapons, ammunition, and a mobile phone allegedly snatched from a civilian.

Authorities stated that during routine patrolling, police signaled a suspicious motorcycle carrying the suspects to stop.—RT/Agency

Gold Prices Climb Sharply Nationwide

KARACHI: Gold prices in Pakistan continued their upward trend on Sunday, with the latest rates showing a significant increase across all karats. According to the updated market figures, the price of 24-karat gold reached Rs. 449,000 per tola, reflecting strong de-



mand and ongoing volatility in the international bullion market.

The rate for 22-karat gold was recorded at Rs. 411,580 per tola, while 21-karat gold stood at Rs. 392,875 per tola. Meanwhile, 18-karat gold was priced at Rs. 336,750 per tola.—Agency

"So many books, so little time."

—Frank Zappa

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Bilawal Sounds Alarm That Rolling Back 18th Amendment and NFC Award Is Playing With Fire

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari has warned that those who want to undo the 18th Amendment or the National Finance Commission (NFC) Award are "playing with fire."

Addressing a public rally held in Larkana on the 58th foundation day of the PPP, Bilawal said: "If there is any power in any amendment after the 17th Amendment, it is in the 18th Amendment."

His remarks came days before the National Finance Commission (NFC) meeting scheduled for December 4.

Referring to the 27th Constitutional Amendment, he said that the PPP recently passed a constitutional tweak in collaboration with the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N).



He said the PML-N had sent a delegation proposing a constitutional amendment related to Article 243 of the Constitution and the executive magistracy system. He added that the federal government intended to remove the constitutional protections that the PPP had secured for the provinces.

He maintained that, due to the PPP, the constitutional protection was not violated. "We fulfilled the clause of the Charter of Democracy by forming a Constitutional Court and giving equal representation to the provinces," he added.

"When the PPP itself brings a constitutional amendment, it makes revolutionary legislation," Bilawal

added. He maintained that they got an opportunity to abolish the amendment made during the "dictatorial era."

The PPP leader hoped that the Constitutional Court would look into the major issues of the country.

"The Constitutional Court will provide immediate relief to the common people," Bilawal hoped.

"Some people are trying to make the Constitutional Court controversial," Bilawal said, adding that the court would prove these people wrong through its role.

He said that legislation is the job of Parliament, adding that they would not allow any other institution to interfere in the sphere of the House.

"PPP will not support any decision that weakens the

federation," he added.

Talking about the country's overall political situation, Bilawal said: "There is a political crisis in the country at the moment, and it has to be addressed."

Speaking on the occasion, the PPP chairman lauded the armed forces for their victory during the recent war against India.

Pakistan downed seven IAF fighter jets, including three Rafale, and dozens of drones. After at least 87 hours, the war between the two nuclear-armed nations ended on May 10 with a ceasefire agreement brokered by the United States.

"By shooting down seven Indian aircraft, our Air Force has made Pakistan's name famous all over the world," —RT/Agency

Kundi Trumpets PPP's Job Delivery Record, Stands Firm Behind Security Forces

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi has said that whenever the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) came to power, it created employment opportunities for the public.

Addressing PPP's foundation day ceremony in Peshawar, Kundi said that the country nuclear technology and that the party has always played a significant role in national politics.

He praised the armed forces for giving a strong response to Indian aggression, saying Pakistan inflicted a "humiliating defeat" on India. He added that Bilawal Bhutto effectively presented Pakistan's case at the international level.

Kundi highlighted that the Benazir Income Sup-



port Programme is benefiting ten million families and reiterated that PPP has always believed in public welfare. He said the party has consistently safeguarded labour rights and will continue to do so.

The governor noted that the armed forces remain determined to eliminate terrorism, while Afghan soil is still being used for terrorist activities.

Kundi stressed that the provincial government cannot function without coop-

eration from the federal government, and that development is impossible unless both governments remain on the same page.

He said federal and provincial authorities must work together to maintain law and order. Addressing party workers, he urged them to support security forces for peace and development in the province.

"Every family has differences, but we must unite to strengthen the PPP," he added. —RT/Agency

Tarar Tears Into Imran Khan's Sisters for Turning to Indian TV Platforms

ISLAMABAD: Information Minister Attaulah Tarar has slammed Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founding chairman Imran Khan's sisters for "harming" the country's reputation by appearing on Indian media platforms.

Addressing a press conference in Lahore on Sunday, the information minister alleged that these appearances were being used to spread "propaganda" against Pakistan.

"Why did they [Imran's sisters] not raise the Kashmir issue or Marka-e-Haq when speaking to Indian channels... they appeared on Indian channels to defame the country... propaganda is being spread today on Indian and Afghan media," he said.

"I wish Noreen Niazi had talked about the seven planes that were shot down. Instead, she goes there and cries for a person facing a £190 million corruption case," Tarar added.

The information minister further said that Imran's sisters "should be ashamed"



for giving interviews on Indian platforms that, according to him, work against Pakistan's interests.

He also targeted senior PTI leadership, claiming that those close family members of the party's founder had actively participated in what he described as anti-Pakistan narratives abroad.

The minister further accused the PTI of attempting to weaken national institutions through misinformation and political agitation.

Speaking about governance in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), the information minister said the provincial government had failed to curb non-custom-paid vehicles, illegal mining and drug

trafficking. He accused the KP government of protecting "drug cartels" and claimed that billions in potential tax revenue were being lost. "The pockets of those in power in KP are being filled," he said, adding that the tobacco sector could generate significant revenue if taxed properly.

Tarar also linked the issue to criminal networks and political influence. "One reason is the political-terror-crime nexus," he added. He said the security forces responded strongly to recent cross-border attacks, stating: "When there is infiltration from Afghanistan, our army gave a full response." —RT/Agency

Kim Jong Un Demands Fiercer Nuclear Air Power as North Korea Marks Air Force Milestone



SEOUL: North Korean leader Kim Jong Un highlighted the Air Force's role in exercising nuclear war deterrence as he celebrated the Air Force's 80th anniversary along with his young daughter, state media reported on Sunday.

Photos released by North Korea's Rodong Simmun newspaper showed Kim observing what appeared to be unmanned aircraft and mobile missile launchers among others.

North Korea has launched mass production of small, short-range First Person View (FPV) drones, as well as larger medium-range battlefield attack drones, a Ukrainian intelligence official told Reuters earlier.

Dressed in long leather

coats, Kim and his daughter watched an air show to mark the anniversary and toured a display of aircraft such as an airborne early-warning aircraft that North Korea unveiled earlier this year, state media photographs showed.

The country's expectations for the Air Force which, "will play a role in the exercise of the nuclear war deterrent" are truly "great," state media KCNA cited Kim as saying. "The Air Force should resolutely repulse and control all sorts of espionage acts and possible military provocations of the enemies," Kim said, according to KCNA.

Kim added the Air Force would be given new strategic assets, without elaborating. —RT/Agency

Peshawar FC HQ Attackers Exposed as Afghan Nationals, All Three Identified

PESHAWAR: The investigation into the suicide attacks at the Peshawar Federal Constabulary (FC) Headquarters is under way, with authorities confirming that all three killed terrorists were Afghan nationals. The National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra) has verified the Afghan nationality of all three suicide attackers involved in the 24 November incident, according to the investigators.

However, further personal details of the attackers have not yet been provided to investigators. Officials said that more than 100 suspects have been questioned so far as part of the inquiry. The development comes nearly a week after three FC personnel were martyred, and as many terrorists were killed when security



forces foiled an attack on the FC Headquarters in Peshawar. Meanwhile, the investigators have also obtained CCTV footage showing the attackers' movement from Rehman Baba graveyard to the FC Headquarters. They revealed that the suicide bombers did not carry any mobile phones on the day of the attack, making the investigation more challenging. According to the investigating officials, they are actively working to identify and locate any accomplices or facilitators linked to the attackers. The blasts, which targeted the Federal Constabulary Headquarters on 24 November, resulted in significant casualties and prompted a wide-scale security review in the area. —RT/Agency

Indonesia and Thailand Scramble for Survivors as Flood Disaster Toll Climbs Toward 500

INDONESIA: Indonesian and Thai authorities raced on Sunday to clear debris and find hundreds of people still missing after devastating floods and landslides that killed at least 480 people across Southeast Asia.

Heavy monsoon rain overwhelmed swaths of Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia this week, leaving thousands of people stranded without shelter or critical supplies. At least two cities on Indonesia's worst-affected Sumatra island were still unreachable on Sunday, and authorities said they had deployed two warships from Jakarta to deliver aid. "There are two cities that require full attention due to being isolated, namely Central Tapanuli and Sibolga," National Disaster agency head Suharyanto said in a statement. The ships were expected in Sibolga on Mon-



day, he said. The death toll in Indonesia rose to 316, while 289 were still missing, according to the latest figures from the disaster authority. In Sungai Nyalo village, about 100 kilometres (62 miles) from West Sumatra's capital Padang, floodwaters had mostly receded on Sunday, leaving homes, vehicles and crops coated in thick grey mud. Authorities had not yet begun clearing roads, residents told AFP, and no outside assistance had arrived.

"Most villagers chose to stay; they didn't want to leave their houses behind," said Idris, 55, who, like many Indonesians, goes by one name. Across the island towards the north coast, an endangered Sumatran elephant lay buried in thick mud and debris near damaged buildings in Meureudu town in Thailand, where at least 162 people were killed in one of the worst floods in a decade, authorities continued to deliver aid and clear the damage. —RT/Agency

Iran Intercepts Eswatini-Flagged Ship in High-Seas Fuel Smuggling Bust



DUBAI: Iran seized on Sunday an Eswatini-flagged vessel carrying 350,000 litres of smuggled fuel, the semi-official Tasnim news agency reported.

"We seized a vessel carrying smuggled fuel in the form of gasoline and flying Swaziland's (Eswatini) flag. It was brought to Bushehr's coast following a judicial order and its content will be unloaded," a Revolutionary

Guards navy commander said, adding the vessel's 13 crew were from India and one neighbouring country.

Iran, which has some of the world's lowest fuel prices due to heavy subsidies and the plunge in the value of its national currency, has been fighting rampant fuel smuggling by land to neighbouring countries and by sea to Gulf Arab states. —RT/Agency

Family Gathering Turns Deadly as Four Killed and 14 Shot in Stockton, California

CALIFORNIA: Four people died after 14 people were shot at a family gathering in Stockton in northern California, police said. The shooting took place at a child's birthday party, Stockton's Vice Mayor Jason Lee said in a Facebook post.

"I am in contact with staff and public safety officials to understand exactly what happened, and I will be pushing for answers," he said.

Police said they received reports shortly before 6:00 pm local time (0200 GMT) of a shooting that occurred near the 1900 block of Lucile Avenue in Stockton.



"We can confirm at this time that approximately 14 individuals were struck by gunfire, and four victims have been confirmed deceased," San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office said in a post on X. —RT/Agency

Australian Pilot Dies After Suspected Mid-Air Collision Sparks Aviation Probe

AUSTRALIA: Two light planes reportedly collided mid-air during a formation flight over Sydney's outskirts on Sunday, sending one of them crashing to the ground and killing its solo pilot, authorities said. Responders found the pilot's body in bushland near the airport in Wedderburn, a southwestern suburb of Sydney, New South Wales state police said.

"Police were told two light planes had collided mid-air, before one of the planes crashed nearby in bushland," they said in a statement. "Responding emergency services located



the body of the pilot, believed to be the sole occupant of the aircraft," police added. The other plane landed safely at the airfield, and the pilot was uninjured. "The Australian Transport Safety Bureau said it was investigating a collision between two Van's RV-7 aircraft — two-seater, single-engine — homebuilt kit planes." As reported to the ATSB, the two aircraft had been involved in a formation flight of four aircraft that was returning to land at Wedderburn Airport when the collision occurred, it said in a statement. —RT/Agency