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# DAILY MIRROR

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## Balochistan CM vows to Ensure Teachers' Appointment on Merit Basis

**APP**

QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti on Tuesday directed to make effective mechanism to ensure appointment of teachers on merit basis with the aim to prevent selling of jobs which was an intolerable process.

He gave this instruction while presiding over the meeting regarding the reforms in the education department and the appointment of teachers. Provincial Education Minister Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani, Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan and other concerned officials participated the meeting. During the meeting, the decisions were made to appoint teachers on vacant posts to make closed schools functional, appointment contract, and extension would be given on performance basis and effective legislation to be made for contract policy.

Balochistan Chief Minister directed in the meeting that Sardar Bahadur Khan Woman's University "SBKWU" test should be declared final according to the court orders.

He said that no jobs would be sold, appointments could be made on merit so that implementation of merit was essential for progress of education sector. He said that incumbent provincial government was taking practical measures to improve performance of all government related departments to ensure good governance.

## Finance minister says IMF has no objections to targeted subsidies

**ONLINE**

ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb has revealed that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has no objections to implementing targeted subsidies. These subsidies, he said, could be distributed to eligible recipients through the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP). To ensure uniformity, the minister indicated that discussions would be held with chief ministers this week, aiming to apply a consistent policy nationwide. He was speaking to the media in an informal discussion in parliament.

Additionally, he said, the federal finance secretary will coordinate with provincial secretaries to prepare a comprehensive national financial package alongside the provinces.

Addressing concerns over external financing, Aurangzeb disclosed a $2 billion gap and noted that negotiations are at an advanced stage to bridge this shortfall. He emphasized the importance of securing commercial loans.

"There is a need to secure an agreement for commercial loans at this time, not exactly their issuance," he added, stressing that talks for debt rollover are in their final stages and progressing positively. The minister anticipated that relevant institutions from allied countries would soon update their governments on these developments.

Regarding tax policy, Aurangzeb assured that the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) is set to meet its tax collection targets through enhanced digitalization and enforcement measures.

He also stated that there are no current plans to increase withholding taxes.

He further said that the demand for withdrawal of income tax on traders meant the tax should be collected from the salaried class and the manufacturing sector.

In response to demands from the trading community, he stressed that they would be extended every facility and their legitimate demands accepted. "Every sector of the society must pay tax without which the country cannot develop," the minister insisted.

## ECP refuses to brief Senate panel on 2024 polls' expenditures

**NEWS DESK**

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has excused itself from providing relevant information to the Senate's Standing Committee on Parliamentary Affairs regarding its internal expenses and overall expenditures on the February 8 nationwide polls.

The Senate body's session was held under the chair of Senator Mohammad Humayun Mohmand on Tuesday sought details of the salaries of the ECP members and employees, as well as their travel expenses and the expenditures for the 2024 general elections.

However, ECP Secretary Omar Hamid Khan sent a letter to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, a copy of which is available with Geo News, stating that the upper house's standing committee was exceeding its jurisdiction by questioning the commission's expenditures "which is 'charged' against Federal Consolidated Fund". "ECP is not obliged to provide the requisite information," the commission's secretary stated in a letter, saying that it is an "independent constitutional body" unlike other ministries, divisions, and its associated public bodies. It added that the poll organising authority was neither representing the federal government nor any provincial government and is therefore, outside the purview of the Senate body on parliamentary affairs.

QUETTA: CM Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti in a meeting with IG Police Balochistan Moazzam Jah Ansari.

Corps Commanders' Conference that held in Rawalpindi today with Army Chief General Syed Asim Munir in the chair.

## Top brass vows not to allow 'hard-earned successes' against terror to be undone

*Military commanders deliberate on measures to neutralise threats posed by Pakistan's external and internal adversaries*

**APP**

RAWALPINDI: Against the backdrop of surge in terrorism in Balochistan and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, top military commanders on Tuesday said the Pakistan Army will not allow the "hard-earned successes" against terrorism to be reversed. The statement came from the military's media wing after Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir presided over the Corps Commanders Conference at the GHQ in Rawalpindi. The top military brass reviewed the security situation of the country with particular focus on the recent incidents of terrorism in Balochistan and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa.

"In assessing the inimical forces, malicious actors, subversive proxies, and the facilitators of Pakistan's external and internal adversaries, particularly those active in Balochistan and K-P, the forum deliberated on a range of measures to neutralise these threats," read the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) statement. "The forum reaffirmed that the Pakistan Army, with the unwavering support of the people, will not allow the hard-earned successes against terrorism to be reversed," it added. Balochistan was rocked by coordinated terrorist attacks in 10 different distracts in Balochistan on August 26, killing scores and wounding many others. The deadliest terrorist attacks claimed by the outlawed Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA). Pakistan security forces conducted intelligence based operations to neutralise those who were behind the dastardly terrorist attacks. The ISPR statement said participants of the Corps Commanders Conference offered Fateha and paid profound tribute to the ultimate sacrifices made by the Shuhada of the armed forces, law enforcement agencies, and citizens who have laid down their lives in Balochistan and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa in pursuit of peace and stability of Pakistan. The forum was briefed on the prevailing geo-strategic environment, national security challenges, and strategic and operational responses to emerging threats.

## Hold talks with PTI to save country from crisis: Achakzai

**NEWS DESK**

ISLAMABAD: The leader of the Pakhtunkhwa Milli Awami Party, Mahmood Achakzai, has said the country can be saved from crisis by holding talks with the PTI.

Speaking in the National Assembly session on Monday, he said, "we are all brothers, let's not insult each other." He responded to Khawaja Asif, saying that negotiation should be held with the PTI to save the country from crisis.

"Everyone get ready for dialogue," he said, adding that Nawaz Sharif also stated everyone should sit down and talk, including the army chief.

Achakzai further said they had told the establishment that it was Pakistan's establishment.

Every party including Muslim League N, Pakistan Peoples Party, JUI-F, Sunni Ittehad Council and all other parties should be united to implement constitution in the country.

## Akhtar Mengal resigns from NA over govt's apathy towards Balochistan

**NEWS DESK**

ISLAMABAD: Sardar Akhtar Mengal, MNA and head of the Balochistan National Party (BNP), has announced his resignation from the National Assembly, citing deep frustrations over the handling of issues related to Balochistan.

In the absence of the National Assembly speaker from his chamber, Akhtar Mengal submitted his resignation to the assembly secretary.

Mengal, speaking to the media alongside Mehmood Khan Achakzai outside Parliament House, expressed his disillusionment with the indifference shown by the government and fellow parliamentarians toward the ongoing crises in Balochistan. "I had decided to raise the problems of Balochistan in the assembly today," Mengal said. However, he lamented that "people are not interested in the issue of Balochistan".

In a stern remark, Mengal stated, "A parliamentarian himself said that Balochistan is slipping out of our hands," but he went further, declaring, "Balochistan is not getting out of your hands, but it has already gotten out."

Mengal criticized the government's failure to address the bloodshed in Balochistan and called for unity among political leaders to tackle the province's problems.

## 5 dead in Balochistan, 4 in KP in rain related incidents

**INP**

QUETTA: Five children died across Balochistan while four people lost their lives in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa over the past day as monsoon rains continued to wreak havoc countrywide, officials said on Tuesday.

Deaths mount countrywide as various areas continue to receive monsoon showers along with the remnants of cyclonic storm Asna that brought with it heavy rains for Sindh and Balochistan. Since July 1, a total of 39 people have died in Balochistan in rain-related incidents, Younus Mengal, head of the Provincial Disaster Management Authority's control room, (PDMA) told.

The deceased include 19 children, five of whom died in three separate incidents on Monday, Mengal said. The PDMA official said a new spell of rain entered Balochistan a day ago and was expected to continue till tonight in 22 districts. Relief and rescue efforts were under way in the province, he added.

Detailing the deadly incidents, Mengal said a pair of brothers drowned in flashfloods in Zhob District, and their bodies were recovered by the district administration and the PDMA. In Khuzdar District's Tootak area, three children were "immediately rescued" by Levies officials after they fell into a dam but were taken to a hospital, where two of them passed away, the official said. A fifth minor, Mengal added, drowned in a flash flood passing by the Kech River.

## PTI seeks forgiveness only from God, not any one else: Omar Ayub

**INP**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Omar Ayub has asserted that his party seeks forgiveness only from God, not from any other entities.

Speaking to the media, he dismissed calls for apologies, stating that PTI has not committed any wrongful acts that would necessitate such gestures.

He also criticised political opponents and past administrations for the economic decline, claiming that they have misrepresented facts and failed to address economic issues effectively.

He accused various political figures, including General Bajwa, of driving the economy into a crisis, contrasting this with the economic improvements during Imran Khan's tenure.

He further challenged the release of CCTV footage from the May 9 incident, suggesting that such evidence would reveal the truth.

Ayub claimed that during PTI's governance, economic indicators were improving, contrasting with the current trend where people are reportedly queuing for passports to leave the country.

## Imran Khan's plea against 'possible' military trial faces objections by IHC registrar

**ONLINE**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan on Tuesday filed a petition in the Islamabad High Court (IHC) to stop his potential military trial in connection with the May 9 cases.

The plea filed under Article 199 of the Constitution comes amid speculations about a military trial of the deposed prime minister trial in a military court.

Last week, Federal Minister for Law and Justice Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar said that if needed, the Punjab government would decide to refer the PTI founder's case to a military court.

"The prosecution of May 9 cases is being done by the Punjab government and the provincial government will decide to refer the case to a military court," The News quoted him as saying in an informal talk with media persons on August 29.

Similarly, responding to the PTI founder's demand for an "open trial" of ex-spymaster General (retd) Faiz Hamid last month, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif hinted at the possibility of the deposed prime minister's trial in a military court for the May 9 riots.

Violent protests broke out across the country after the cricketer-turned-politician was arrested from the premises of IHC in a graft case on May 9, 2023. Amid the protests, the alleged PTI supporters vandalised military installations including General Headquarters in Rawalpindi and engaged in arson at the Lahore Corps Commander House.

After receiving Khan's plea, the IHC registrar's office raised objections on it:

- How can the petitioner seek relief without referring to any specific first information report (FIR)?
- No documentation or order has been attached to the petition.
- How can IHC be petitioned in the cases registered in Punjab.
- How can a petition be filed in a high court while the matter of military trials is subjudice in the Supreme Court?

It may be noted that the apex court in December 2023, in a 5:1 majority verdict suspended its October 23, 2023 order wherein it declared civilians' trials in military courts null and void in connection with the May 9 riots.

The verdict was announced on intra-court appeals filed by the federal and provincial governments and the defence ministry against the top court's verdict announced by Justice Ijazul Ahsan-led bench earlier that year.

## Suicide bombers administered injections to desensitise them, reveals detained terrorist

**NEWS DESK**

ISLAMABAD: A militant belonging to outlawed Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), Rooh Ullah, has revealed that suicide bombers were administered injections to desensitise them two days before their departure for the terror attacks. In a video statement, the detained terrorist made revelations about his and other suicide bombers' training in a seminary in Afghanistan and how they infiltrate the Pakistan-Afghanistan border via facilitators. He was caught by security forces who along with other suicide bombers illegally crossed the Afghan border to enter Pakistan to carry out bombings in a cantonment area.

## Inflation easing gradually, economy needs more stability: PM

*PM reassures MQM of action on demands, including power tariff cuts*

**ONLINE**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif chaired a federal cabinet meeting at the Prime Minister's House in Islamabad on Tuesday. At the start of the session, he expressed satisfaction over inflation falling into single digits in August.

"The efforts of the Ministry of Finance, the State Bank of Pakistan, and other relevant institutions in controlling inflation are commendable," Shehbaz said. "The burden of inflation is gradually easing. We need to bring more stability to the economy, and creating job opportunities remains our top priority."

The federal cabinet approved a post-facto framework trade agreement between MERCOSUR and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, following a recommendation from the Ministry of Commerce. The agreement was ratified, with Shehbaz noting that the South American market could be a valuable opportunity for Pakistani products, which have yet to benefit from it.

He directed swift action on all pending economic agreements and memorandums of understanding. "All agreements related to the economy that have seen no progress must be expedited," the prime minister instructed.

The cabinet also approved a memorandum of understanding for bilateral political consultations between Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Albania's Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs. Additionally, the cabinet ratified the convention on privileges and immunities for the Secretariat, its staff, and representatives of member countries for the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia.

In other decisions, the cabinet extended the tenure of Senior Joint

Secretary Syed Junaid Akhlaq as Chairman of the Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education until a regular officer is appointed.

Furthermore, the cabinet formed a committee to review draft policies on religious tolerance and interfaith harmony. This committee will consult with all stakeholders and present its report within a month.

The cabinet also endorsed decisions made during the Legislative Committee on August 26, 2024.

Therefor A delegation from MQM-Pakistan, led by Chairman Dr Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui, met with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday to present their demands and review agreements made with the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N).

According to the MQM spokesperson, the delegation raised concerns about the implementation of development packages for Karachi, Hyderabad, and other urban areas of Sindh. They reiterated their demand for a reduction in electricity tariffs.

Prime Minister Shehbaz assured the delegation of swift action on their demands. The MQM-P also urged the prime minister to intensify efforts to recover their missing political workers.

Acknowledging MQM-P as a crucial ally of the federal government, Shehbaz Sharif committed to addressing their issues.

He assured that efforts are underway to provide relief to the residents of Sindh's urban areas, find a lasting solution to their problems, and recover the missing MQM-P political workers.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar, Federal Minister Nazir Tarar, Syed Mustafa Kamal, Dr Farooq Sattar, Aminul Haque, Rana Sanaullah, and Javed Hanif.

# All past 'minus' formulae have failed, will this time too: Qureshi

NEWS D ESK

ISLAMABAD: Former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi has asserted that the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has a right to hold its rally scheduled for September 8, insisting that it should not be obstructed.

In an informal conversation with journalists during his prison trial on Tuesday, he emphasized the need for mutual respect, stating, "On August 22, we respected everyone, including institutions. Now we should be respected in return. The country will advance only through mutual respect."

Qureshi highlighted that whether anyone believed it or not, "the PTI is the reality of this country", and stressed that national stability cannot be achieved without engaging with his party.

He further stressed that "minus Imran Khan" there can be no PTI, adding that all the past minus formulae had consistently failed.

"Neither Bhutto was ever minused from the PPP nor was Nawaz Sharif from the PML-N. Similarly, Imran Khan can also not be minused," Qureshi maintained.

Shah Mahmood also reiterated that Imran Khan was contesting the election for Oxford University chancellor, which would be an honour for Pakistan.

"Those speaking against the Oxford election are showing narrow-mindedness. The election should be seen apart from the political party," Qureshi added.

"Understand the message your friendly countries are sending," he stressed.

He further expressed regret over the recent terrorist incidents in Balochistan, adding that

the solution to the province's issues lay in dialogue only. He also criticized Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi's statement that the terrorists could be eliminated by even an SHO.

"This statement shows he has no clue about the issues, which have been going on for years," Qureshi stated, adding that looking at the problems, it can be said the state policy in Balochistan is not correct.

"I have been a foreign minister and know a lot of things, but can't speak out because of the Official Secrets Act," he added.

QUETTA: CM Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti in a meeting with Chairman Balochistan Public Service Commission Advisor (R) Abdul Salik Khan.

# One more kidnapped from Shikarpur

By A.S Bhutto

SHIKARPUR: One more Mazda cleaner kidnapped from Kandhkot - Shikarpur Indus Highway road at Khanpur in the jurisdiction of Naparkot police station on Tuesday.

According to initial reports reached here that some group of armed men kidnapped the one Mazda vehicle cleaner identified as Sohail Ahmed Lashari on gun point and took him away towards katcha area of Khanpur.

Soon after the incident, the Mazda drivers gathered there and blocked the Kandhkot - Shikarpur Indus Highway road for hours in protest against the kidnapping of Mazda cleaner.

The angry protesters allegedly said that the outlaws looted the vehicles by conducting Naka easily without any fear of Police and Law enforcement Agencies and kidnapped the Mazda cleaner with them

The protesters have demanded of Shikarpur Police and Government of Sindh for early recovery of Kidnapped Mazda Cleaner.

No FIR was registered till late evening.

## Drowned body of man recovered from Surap river in Turbat

APP

Quetta: The Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) team recovered the body of the person who drowned in the Surap river area of Turbat and handed it over to the relatives.

The deceased person drowned while bathing in Surap Dam on Monday. According to PDMA, a person named Khalil Ahmed son of Rafiq Ahmed resident of Apsar drowned in Sorap Dam.

On which immediate action was taken by the PDMA team under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Ketch Ismail Ibrahim on special directives of DG PDMA Balochistan Jhanzaib Khan and Commissioner Makran Division along with Deputy Director PDMA Turbat Reehan Dashti.

The body of the dead person was taken out of the water by divers and handed the body over to the heirs.

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb held a meeting today with Mikko Keto, the Global CEO of FLSmidth, a leading global provider of engineering and equipment for the mining and cement industries.

## Ex- Sindh Governor Mohammad Zubair opens up on joining PTI

INP

ISLAMABAD: Former Sindh Governor Mohammad Zubair opened up on joining the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), stating that discussions are still underway on his potential move to join Imran Khan's party.

Speaking to a private TV channel, Mohammad Zubair said that no final decision has been made; however, he admitted that the discussions are underway. When asked if he would join the PTI once Imran Khan is released,

Mohammad Zubair responded, "I think we should just wait and see". He said that the PTI is currently facing difficulties due to their founder being in jail. The former governor of Sindh said that the 'false' cases against PTI should be quashed. He also demanded the formation of a judicial commission to inquire into the May 9 riots.

# CM Maryam vows to ensure economic empowerment of country's youth

By Maqsood Khalid

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz vowed on Tuesday to ensure the economic empowerment of the country's youth.

According to details, the Punjab chief minister chaired a meeting in line with the Punjab Skills Development Fund (PSDF). On this occasion, CM Maryam was briefed on the roadmap of the PSDF. It was decided that the process in line with the admission of youth for the internship and courses of IT will be purely based on merit.

"The youth will be trained considering the requirements of modern technology and the new generation for the competition in the global job market," the chief minister stated.

It was reported that the Punjab government decided to establish the Parks and Horticulture Authorities (PHA) in every district.

According to details, Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz chaired a meeting in line with administrative matters. On this occasion, CM Maryam urged the authorities to focus more on the beautification of the cities across the province.

She stressed the need for planting more trees and ensuring the functioning of the street lights across the province.

The Punjab chief minister had urged the need to ensure the cleanliness of every nook and cranny in both rural and urban areas.

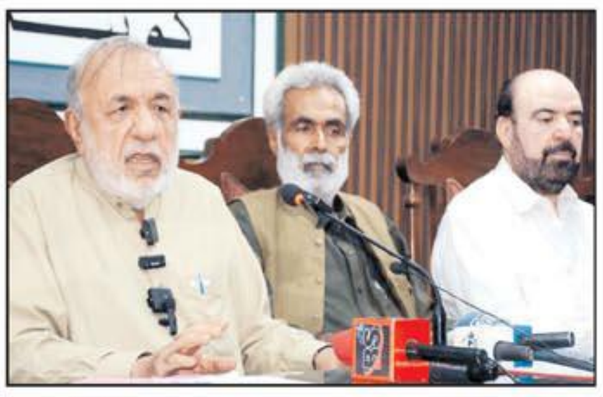
"The masses should witness the major difference in terms of cleanliness and other matters," she said.

The Rahim Yar Khan deputy commissioner had apprised CM Maryam of the artificial intelligence (AI) software for reviewing the implementation of the "KPI."

# Trump says he had 'every right' to interfere in 2020 election

By Khawaja Farooq

WASHINGTON: Former US president Donald Trump, who faces federal and state charges for allegedly trying to overturn his 2020 election loss to President Joe Biden, insists he had "every right" to interfere in the election. "Whoever heard you get indicted for interfering with a presidential election where you have every right to do it?" Trump said in a Fox News interview that aired on Sunday. A federal indictment accuses Trump of defrauding the United States by preventing Congress from certifying Biden's victory and depriving voters of their right to a fair election. He faced a revised federal indictment last month accusing him of illegally trying to overturn his 2020 election loss. Trump faces similar charges in Fulton County, Georgia, where he was also charged with racketeering, which is used to target members of organized crime groups and carries a penalty of up to 20 years in prison.



QUETTA: All Pakistan WAPDA Hydro Electric Workers Union Central President Muhammad Ramzan addressing a press conference .

# Home turf humiliation: Pakistan whitewashed by Bangladesh, lose Rawalpindi Test by 6 wickets


**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

The Executive Engineer, Communication Department (Roads) Pishin invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the works mentioned below based on Composite Schedule of Rates 2023, Government of Balochistan amended up-to-date from interested contractors / firms for the work listed below under BPPRA Rules. **Earnest Money 3% in Shape of Call Deposit, Tender Fee Rs.1500/- for each work.**

| S# | Name of Work | E/Cost |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | CONST OF BT ROAD KHANA MANDOZAI TO SHAKHA 3.5KM PISHIN. PSDP# 1709 Z2024.0099 **TSE-242508533923** | 34.664 M |
| 2 | CONST OF BT ROAD KAR TO KHASRO TO TOBA KAKARI BARSHORE 4 KM PISHIN. PSDP# 1713 Z2024.0102 **TSE-242508536233** | 39.621 M |
| 3 | CONST OF BT ROAD IBRAHIM KHAN TO SHEKH NIKA 4 KM PISHIN. PSDP# 1716 Z2024.0101 **TSE-242508536283** | 47.544 M |
| 4 | CONST OF BT ROAD ADIYA TO KASHMIR, AIDYA OTO TAKARAI 1KM PISHIN. PSDP# 1717 Z2024.0109 **TSE-242508536313** | 9.905 M |
| 5 | CONST: OF BT ROAD LINK ROAD AT AJRAM TAHSIL SARANAN DISTRIC PISHIN. PSDP# 1765 Z2024.0261 **TSE-242508536333** | 29.716 M |
| 6 | SMALL BRIDGE CULVERTS AT KILLI BAGARDZAI NALA TEHSIL HURAMZAI DISTRIC PISHIN. PSDP# 1774 Z2024.0266 **TSE-242508536383** | 19.802 M |
| 7 | CONST: OF BT LINK ROAD AT 1.2 KM KILLI TOR KHAIL SYEDAN AND PINDO BADEZAI TEHSIL HURAMZAI DISTRIC PISHIN. PSDP# 1780 Z2024.0270 **TSE-242509536693** | 19.811 M |
| 8 | CONST OF BT ROAD GULI TO AIDIYA TOBA KAKARI BARSHORE 3KM PISHIN. PSDP# 1793 Z2024.0105 **TSE-242509536703** | 29.715 M |
| 9 | CONST OF BT ROAD JALGA SAGI TEAZA ASHRAF LALA TOBA KAKARI BARSHORE 1 KM PISHIN. PSDP# 1798 Z2024.0108 **TSE-242509536713** | 9.907 M |

The procurement shall be carried out in accordance with Balochistan Public Procurement Regulatory, Rules 2014.and Pakistan Engineering Council By-Laws. **BASIC ELIGIBILITY:** The Contractor must have valid registration i.e with Pakistan Engineering Council in relevant Category & relevant discipline and fresh registration with tax authority's i.e (NTN, sales tax Department and BRA) where applicable. The bidder must have completed at least 03 similar nature assignments. As per BPPRA rule #25 (3) only one Bid can be submitted against one NTN. **METHOD OF PROCUREMENT:** (Single Stage –Two Envelop) bidding Procedure will be adopted Call Deposit and Challan should be attached with Technical proposal. Which will be verified accordingly. **BIDDING / TENDER DOCUMENTS:** The bidders can obtain the bidding document from the address mention below on production of green Challan form for an amount of Rs. mentioned above (Non- refundable) for each work deposited in the head of account C-02716 Civil works through Govt: Treasury/National Bank of Pakistan or can be downloaded from the website of BPPRA (wwe.bppra.gob.pk), from the date of publication of this invitation in newspapers till the last date of submission. The contractors/Forms who obtain bidding documents by downloading them from BPPRA website will also be required to provide deposited green Challan from of above mentioned Fee. The bids must be accompanied with bid security "in Technical Bid" for each work in the form of call deposit of amount specified above in the office name of the undersigned from a scheduled bank. **No any Bank Drafts & Banker Check will be acceptable. DEADLINE OF SUBMISSION:** Technical and financial proposals from intending contractors/firms sealed in two separate envelopes clearly marked with Work title & type of proposal must be deliveredby hand or through registered mail to the address mentioned below on or before **20th September, 2024. at 12:00 PM OPENING:** The envelope containing "Technical Bids" will be opened on the same day **20th September, 2024. at 1:00 PM** before procurement committee in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives who choose to attend with authority letter. Second envelope containing financial bids of technically qualified bidders will be opened later, the date of which will be communicated after evaluation of the technical bids. **BIDS VALIDITY:** Ninety (90) days **PLACE:** The place of issuance, submission, inquiries and opening will be the Office of the Executive Engineer (Roads), CWPP&H Department District Pishin. Telephone No. 0826920562. E-mail Address: EEIProvincialBandRDisttPishin@yahoo.com The Technical Qualification Criteria is incorporated in the detailed bidding documents uploaded on BPPRA website. The firms providing unsubstantiated and / or incorrect information are liable to disqualification and / or legal action. The undersigned reserves the right to reject all bids as per the BPPRA rules. Any person appearing / submitting bids other than the owner of the firm will need an Authority letter on stamp paper of Rs. 100 duly attested by a first class magistrate.

**PRQ No.846/03-09-2024**

**Executive Engineer (Roads)**
**CWPP&H Department District Pishin**

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RAWALPINDI: Bangladesh's players celebrate with trophy after winning the second and last Test cricket match between Pakistan and Bangladesh, at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium in Rawalpindi.

SPORTS DESK

Bangladesh beat Pakistan by six wickets in the second test to complete a 2-0 series sweep in Rawalpindi on Tuesday.

Zakir Hasan (40), Najmul Hossain Shanto (38) and Mominul Haq (34) chipped in with useful cameos as Bangladesh chased down the 185-run victory target with more than a session left in the game.

Chasing 185 to win, the visitors inched their way to the target for the loss of four wickets, 25 minutes before tea on the fifth and final day to complete a 2-0 series sweep.

At the start of play on the fifth and final day of the match, Bangladesh resumed their innings at 42-0 in pursuit of their 185-run target. Pakistan got the first breakthrough after 16 runs were added when Mir Hamza bowled Hasan with a delivery that moved away.

Fellow pace bowler Khurram Shahzad got in on the act when Shadman Islam miscued a drive, chipping to Shan at mid-off.

However, a lack of further breakthroughs and the shallow target meant that Bangladesh tightened their grip on the match and the series, reaching the 100-run mark in the 29th over.

Najmul Hossain Shanto on 33 and Mominul Haque, 20, dug in to stop any further inroads with the captain bringing up their fifty partnership off the last ball before lunch.

Shanto fell after the lunch break and Mominul threw away his wicket but veterans Mushfiqur Rahim, who made 22 not out, and Shakib Al Hasan guided Bangladesh home without any drama.

Shakib, who finished 21 not out, sealed the victory by hitting spinner Abrar Ahmed for four through the covers.

Bangladesh leads the two-match series 1-0 after a surprise win in Rawalpindi last month, their first in 14 tests against Pakistan.

They have only won two series away from home — against the West Indies in 2009 and Zimbabwe in 2021.

On the fourth day of the match on Monday, Hasan Mahmud took 5-43 while Nahid added 4-44 — both career-best figures — in dismissing Pakistan for 172 in their second innings and visiting openers Hasan and Islam raced to 42 without loss — with Zakir hitting two sixes and two boundaries — before rain clouds gathered and bad light suspended play one over after the tea break.

# Pegula returns to US Open quarters with win over Shnaider

SPORTS DESK

NEW YORK: Jessica Pegula returned to the quarter-finals of her home Grand Slam with a 6-4, 6-2 victory over Diana Shnaider .

On Arthur Ashe Stadium, the sixth seed needed an hour and 27 minutes to fend off rising 20-year-old Shnaider, the youngest player to reach this week's Round of 16.

With the win, Pegula moves into her seventh career Grand Slam quarter-final, and her second at the US Open. New York native Pegula previously made the elite eight at Flushing Meadows in 2022.

She extended her hot summer run in 2024, improving to an incredible 13-1 since the tour returned to North American hard courts.

Another tough opponent awaits the 30-year-old in the quarters — either world number one and 2022 US Open champion Iga Swiatek, or big-hitting 16th seed Liudmila Samsonova. Swiatek knocked Pegula out in the 2022 US Open quarter-finals.

Meanwhile, unseeded Czech Karolina Muchova knocked out Italian fifth seed Jasmine Paolini, beating the French Open and Wimbledon finalist 6-3, 6-3 to reach the quarter-finals.

Muchova, 28, had reached the US Open semis last year. She only returned to the tour in June after 10 months out with a wrist injury but has yet to drop a set at the tournament and knocked out two-time champion Naomi Osaka in the second round.

She next faces the winner of the clash between Caroline Wozniacki, the runner-up to Serena Williams in 2014, and Brazil's Beatriz Haddad Maia.

GAUFF EXITS

On Sunday, Coco Gauff's title defence ended in a 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 loss to fellow American Emma Navarro in the fourth round, the reigning women's champion becoming the latest big name to make an early exit at Flushing Meadows this year. Gauff had been looking to avenge her fourth-round loss at this year's Wimbledon but Navarro, who moves on to play Spain's Paula Badosa, stunned the crowd at Arthur Ashe Stadium with an aggressive all-round display to reach the quarter-finals for the first time.

Third seed Gauff fought her way back into the match after going a set down but ultimately 19 doubles faults and 60 unforced errors meant her first defence of a Grand Slam title was destined to end in disappointment.

Jasmine Paolini of Italy hits a return to Czech Republic's Karolina Muchova during their US Open fourth-round match at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center

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Chief editor Syed Mumtaz Shah

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# The way out

**OUR politicians seem to have no appetite for politics: they would all rather ride to power in a jeep than on the shoulders of the masses they claim to represent. Despite the wanton destruction wrought on the structural framework of Pakistani democracy over the last two years, neither its victims nor its beneficiaries seem to have had enough.**

Instead of reverting to the constitutional order, they want things to continue hurtling towards more instability and disorder. Politicians repeatedly reject the most sensible paths forward, thereby ensuring that any salvation for the country keeps being put off. This is an immense disservice to the people of Pakistan. Politics and leadership are not a zero-sum game, yet they are now regarded as such. Perhaps this is an inevitable outcome of the militarisation of politics, but the notion needs to be consciously rejected for the country to move forward.

The PTI has once again ruled out the possibility of talks with the government. The snub came in response to a proposal made by PML-N chief Nawaz Sharif for an all-parties effort to pull the country out of its crises. The PTI's position is that it does not see the PML-N or its allies in the coalition government as legitimate counterparties because it believes they won through a rigged election. Instead, the PTI only wishes to speak to the security establishment, which, paradoxically, it also repeatedly condemns as the main force behind its ongoing victimisation.

But if the PTI is willing to let bygones be bygones when it comes to the armed forces, why can it not extend the same courtesy to its rival parties, which, for all their flaws, represent the people of Pakistan? For this, it has no reasonable answer.

Meanwhile, the PML-N and its allies continue to dig deeper into the hole. Once seen as the protectors of Pakistan's democratic order, they have lately defaulted to using scorched-earth tactics in their desperation to keep the PTI out of power.

In April 2022, when they ousted the PTI government over its oppressive policies, few would have expected they would midwife Pakistan's rapid slide towards totalitarianism.

Yet here we are, with each day bringing with it a new scheme to thwart the Supreme Court or subvert the constitutional order. Due to their clumsy wielding of power, they have made it progressively more difficult for all stakeholders to retreat from their positions. For instance, negotiation and dialogue would have seemed much more plausible had the government kept its distance from the persecution of political opponents and refused to upend democratic principles in exchange for retaining power.

There are now only difficult ways out of this mess. Politics requires compromise. Till the civilian leadership accepts this, nothing can be expected to change.

## By Arifa Noor

# The arrested professor

**Over the weekend, a university professor in Karachi was picked up for some hours after he tweeted about the pressure on the university syndicate which was faced with a case about a student's degree.**

It may seem like a small, local issue, but it was not. Students, degrees and university administrations are hardly out of the routine. But as the professor spent hours at one police station and then another while his wife, colleagues and others tweeted up a storm of protest, those of us who were following it on X just couldn't look away.

And not just because of the professor's incarceration but because of who the 'student' he tweeted about was. A judge of the high court; the same high court, by the way, the judges of which had complained in a letter about being harassed.

And since then, it seems there is no end to the skeletons in their closet so much so that cases about their 'misconduct' have reached the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC). One of them had a fake degree and another dual nationality. And while the SJC slept on, the university where he studied was alerted to his 'fake' degree, after decades of his practice as a lawyer and years of 'judgery'.

But to return to the professor.

The manipulation by those in power is now about as subtle as Mr Bean's expressions.

He spent hours at two police stations, was then released after which he proceeded to speak publicly about the matter before the university syndicate. And how his 'arrest' (or was it a detention?) meant he was unable to voice his views during the syndicate meeting. And he wasn't wrong — because after his quick 'arrest' and return, the newspapers the next day reported that "a judge" has had his degree cancelled!

In some of the reports, the judge remained nameless while in others the cancellation was reported without any official confirmation. The ever-reliable zarai or 'sources' come to the rescue of those who matter. That the degree was revoked without the 'student' having been given the opportunity to defend himself is perhaps a minor issue. Very minor. To some extent, none of this was surprising. The manipulation by those in power is now about as subtle as Mr Bean's expressions or Joan Rivers' cosmetic procedures.

And yet, some think they can explain it away. So the next day, the police in Karachi put out a tweet (remember the app is banned) to 'explain' the 'incident'. Apparently, the police were informed about a 'wanted' (ishtehaari) and this is why the professor was brought in for questioning. But once he explained why the case had been registered against him but that he was acquitted by the courts, he was allowed to leave.

Indeed! In a country where militants carry out attacks on a regular basis, mullahs and others on the Fourth Schedule even leave the country for travel before returning and cases against politicians open and shut with surprising ease, the police in one thana became an efficient machine for a few hours and were not willing to relent till they had reached the truth in the case of one professor.

As Gen Z says, delulu is the solulu. And so the powers that be are convinced they will continue to fake it, till they make it because the rest of us have been lobotomised.

In Islamabad, parliamentary sessions are called abruptly, with much speculation over the agenda. As the government looks away, lone rangers in parliament, many of them newbies who are quick to please, present complicated legislative bills, as private members' bills. The government ministers bat their eyelashes like innocent Disney princesses while the backbenchers on the treasury benches along with allies all decide to vote for bills. Because the legislation put together by individuals was so brilliant, it was backed by all other individuals who just happen to be entire parties in the legislatures.

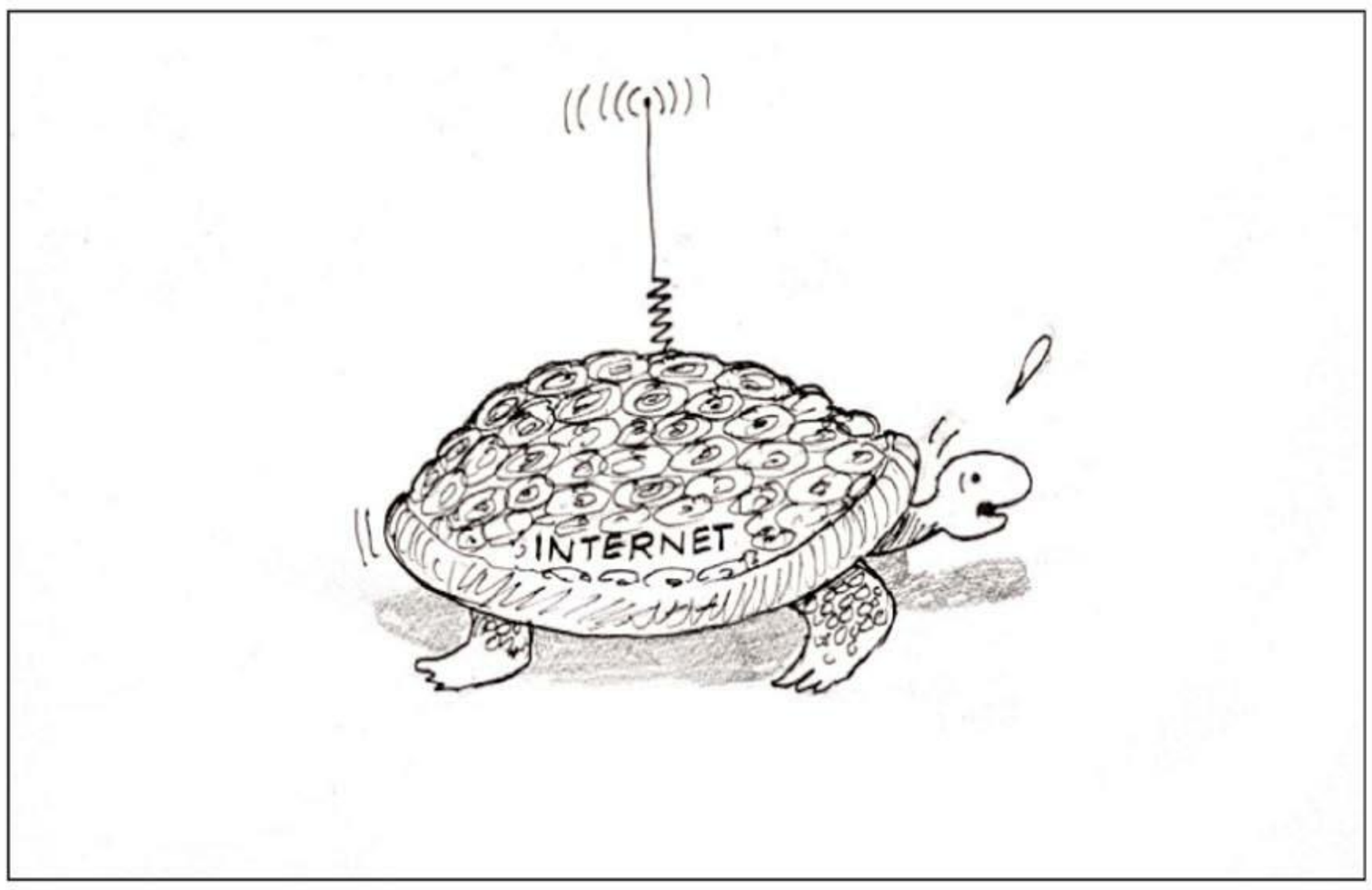
If these bills happen to deal with difficult decisions or judges who are causing a few headaches to some people somewhere on elections, and related matters, what a coincidence. Just like a meet-cute sets up for a rom-com which will lead to happily ever after and a couple of hours of oblivion for the viewers. No one is there to look for loopholes.

So if the judiciary wanted to give the independent members in parliament to be given the chance to join PTI, the new laws passed by our legislators say members can't make this choice after three days. Another new eager beaver has presented a bill, which as law, will give the government power to move judges from one high court to another. If these judges happen to include the one with the "fake degree" or "dual nationality" it will be another coincidence.

And why shouldn't the people believe it? After all, there was no ban on X for the longest; there was no firewall or 'fibre wall' slowing down the internet, till one day a web management system was being upgraded which then gave way to bad, bad VPNs slowing down the internet. But then it turned out the cables had been damaged. The issue will be fixed in October, though this remains subject to further updates.

And on the other side of the aisle, the PTI tells us it believes in democracy and the rule of law and will hence hold talks with the military establishment within the confines of the Constitution.

The boomers and Gen X have gone delulu, convinced that they will make it eventually by faking it. The rest of us watch on, knowing no one has a solulu.




## By Khawaja Farooq

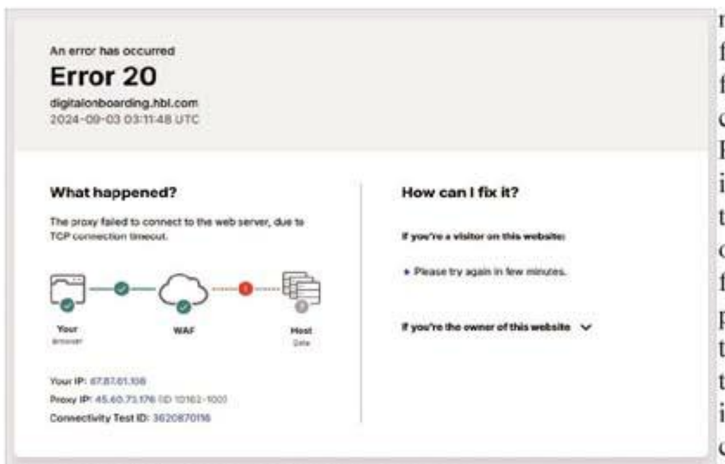
# "Frustration Mounts as Pakistani Banks Fail to Support Overseas Pakistanis with Roshan Digital Account Access"

**In an era where digital accessibility is paramount, Pakistani banks' failure to adequately facilitate overseas Pakistanis seeking Roshan Digital Accounts has become a growing concern. Despite the initiative's potential to bridge the financial gap between Pakistan and its diaspora, persistent issues with website stability and cumbersome documentation requirements are undermining its effectiveness.**

The Roshan Digital Account InitiativeLaunched to encourage investment from overseas Pakistanis, the Roshan Digital Account (RDA) offers a streamlined way for non-residents to access banking services, invest in Pakistan's financial markets, and contribute to the country's economic growth. The initiative, aimed at making banking accessible remotely, has the potential to significantly bolster Pakistan's economy by tapping into the substantial financial resources of its global diaspora.Persistent Website Issues. However, the RDA's website, intended to be a cornerstone of this initiative, has been plagued with frequent outages and technical glitches.

Many users report that the website is often down or slow, rendering it nearly impossible to complete essential banking transactions or even to initiate the account opening process. These technical difficulties not only frustrate users but also undermine confidence in the digital banking system.Documentation Drama.

Even when the website's server is functional, users face an equally frustrating hurdle: a repetitive and inconsistent documentation process. Applicants often encounter a litany of requests for additional documents,




many of which seem redundant or excessive. This not only delays the account opening process but also adds to the stress and confusion for overseas Pakistanis who may already be navigating different time zones and bureaucratic systems

.The documentation demands frequently include overly stringent or unclear requirements that further complicate the process. For instance, some applicants have reported being asked for documents that are either not relevant to their situation or that they have already submitted.

This repetitive scrutiny and lack of streamlined procedures can be particularly daunting for those unfamiliar with Pakistani banking norms.The Impact on Overseas Pakistanis. For overseas Pakistanis, these issues are more than just minor inconveniences—they represent a significant barrier to financial inclusion and engagement with their home country's economic opportunities.

The inability to access or efficiently manage their accounts can lead to missed investment opportunities and reduced participation in Pakistan's financial markets.Moreover, the frustration and dissatisfaction with the process can diminish trust in the Roshan Digital Account initiative itself, potentially deterring other overseas Pakistanis from engaging with the program. This is counterproductive to the initiative's goal of fostering a stronger economic connection between Pakistan and its diaspora.Call for Improvement. It is imperative that Pakistani banks and regulatory bodies address these issues with urgency. Immediate improvements are needed to stabilize the RDA website and ensure that it functions smoothly at all times.

Additionally, banks must streamline their documentation requirements, making them clear, concise, and relevant to the account opening process.Implementing these changes would not only enhance user experience but also strengthen the credibility and effectiveness of the Roshan Digital Account initiative. As the global landscape continues to shift towards digital solutions, it is crucial for Pakistani banks to adapt and provide the seamless, efficient services that overseas Pakistanis deserve.In conclusion, while the Roshan Digital Account initiative holds significant promise, its current execution is marred by technical and procedural shortcomings. Addressing these issues is essential to realize the full potential of this program and to better serve the Pakistani diaspora, which plays a vital role in the nation's economic development.

Wednesday, September, 04, 2024

DAILY MIRROR

# Gilani stresses focusing on human development, addressing climate change challenges

ONLINE

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani has emphasized the need for concerted and comprehensive endeavors in order to effectively prioritize focus on human development, invest in human capital and to address the climate change challenges.

He called for forging robust partnerships between government institutions, UN agencies, and civil society organizations to ensure a cohesive and effective humanitarian response in this regard.

Addressing the Pakistan Humanitarian Forum (PHF) annual report launch event to acknowledge INGOs' contributions to Pakistan here on Tuesday, Yousaf Raza Gilani acknowledged PHF and its member organizations for consistently providing the much-needed relief and assistance to the deserving and the affected during challenging circumstances over the years.

He said that true strength of a nation lies in its ability to empower the marginalized and vulnerable communities. "Coming from South Punjab, I can personally relate to the struggles and aspirations of communities seeking opportunities and support to not only uplift their own lot, but also fuel national progress", the Chairman Senate remarked in his address.

The Chairman Senate observed that inclusive development is not just a moral imperative but it is essential for the progress and prosperity of our country. "This belief is deeply rooted in the political ideology that has guided me throughout my career. An ideology that prioritized humanitarian values and betterment of deprived communities", he said. Former Prime Minister Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto championed this ideology.

He lauded PHF for playing a crucial role in building a more inclusive and resilient Pakistan. While referring to the report, he stated that the achievements highlighted in the Annual Report 2023 are a testament to their dedication and unwavering humanitarian zeal.

Yousaf Raza Gilani expressed his appreciation that PHF member organizations have reached over 21.2 million beneficiaries across 152 districts of Pakistan, with a funding volume exceeding 450 million dollars. He said that humanitarian assistance and development initiatives have not only alleviated

the sufferings of flood-affected communities, but have also laid the groundwork for sustainable development in marginalized areas. Natural disasters like floods can devastate entire regions, leaving behind a trail of destruction and despair, he added. The challenges we face are great, but so too is our resolve.

He assured his support for humanitarian and development endeavors besides acknowledging the contributions made by INGOs in addressing the needs of our people, especially in times of crisis and make humanitarian assistance even more timely, comprehensive, and inclusive.

The Chairman Senate hoped for positive outcomes of the discussions from this event saying that it will inspire us all to continue working together, fostering hope, resilience, and prosperity for every community in Pakistan.

**ISLAMABAD: A delegation of MQM (P) called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.**

## Pakistan Navy inducts two new warships: PNS Babar and PNS Hunain

APP

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's naval defence capabilities have been bolstered with the formal induction of two new warships into the Pakistan Navy.

The official ceremony for the integration of these vessels will be held on Defense Day, with President Asif Zardari scheduled to preside over the event, as announced by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR).

The Pakistan Navy is set to welcome PNS Babar and PNS Hunain into its fleet. PNS Babar, constructed in Turkey, will officially join the Navy, while PNS Hunain, an offshore patrol vessel (OPV) developed in Romania, will also be inducted. This significant event underscores Pakistan's ongoing efforts to enhance its naval capabilities.

PNS Babar, a Babur-class ship, began construction on June 4, 2020. The vessel was launched on August 15, 2021, and its commissioning took place on September 23, 2023.

Under a Pak-Turkey agreement, four Babur-class ships are being integrated into the Navy, with two being constructed in Istanbul and two in Karachi. Alongside PNS Babar, PNS Badr, Tariq, and Khyber are also under development.

## Most terrorists released under deal, operating from Afghanistan: Naqvi

*No plans for a military operation in Balochistan, interior minister informs Senate panel*

By Zahid Ahmed Khan

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi has informed the Senate Standing Committee on Interior that most individuals involved in recent terrorist activities in the country had been released under a previous agreement and were operating from Afghanistan.

While briefing the Senate committee on Tuesday, Naqvi stated that there were no plans for a military operation in Balochistan. He added, "The incident on August 26 was orchestrated by banned organisations, involving multiple groups."

Naqvi detailed an attack on an FC (Frontier Corps) camp, highlighting its intensity. "There were 14 towers at the building, and all of them were under fire. Alhamdulillah, our forces confronted them. Had they managed to breach the compound, the damage could have been catastrophic," he said.

The interior minister noted that operations in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa were being conducted based on intelligence. "Wherever there is information on the presence of terrorists, action is taken," he said.

Explaining the increase in terrorism, Naqvi pointed out that many attacks were being planned from Afghanistan, with a significant presence of Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) militants gathering there.

"Most of those orchestrating attacks against Pakistan are the ones released under the agreement. Our Home Secretary has already visited Afghanistan and provided all the evidence, urging them to take action," Naqvi stated.

Speaking about the situation in the riverine areas, known as 'Kacha', Naqvi emphasised the need for proper management before any operation. "We want to coordinate with the provinces to ensure that once we clear these areas, the situation does not revert in two years," he said. Naqvi concluded by mentioning ongoing discussions with Punjab and Sindh provinces, urging them to implement measures to prevent a recurrence of the current situation if the area is cleared.

## Grand National dialogue necessary to lower political temperature: Fawad

INP

ISLAMABAD: Former federal minister Fawad Chaudhry claimed on Tuesday that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) were ready for talks while suggesting the establishment to be open for the dialogue.

Speaking to media after his hearing in the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) contempt case, Chaudhry said that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and federal ministers stood nowhere closer to the PTI founder in the political arena, adding that people came out to vote for the PTI on Feb 8 despite multiple restrictions on the party.

He blamed the government for destroying everything in its pursuit of finishing Khan's politics, adding that Pakistan was isolated globally as China kept a distance from the country while criticising the government for mortgaging the economy to the global lender, the International Monetary Fund (IMF). He requested the ECP to soften its attitude towards him and the PTI founder, claiming that country was not running smoothly without the PTI founder.

He linked solution of all problems with talks between all stakeholders, suggesting that a grand political dialogue should take place on national level.

## Finance Minister stresses export-led growth model for economic development

INP

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb on Tuesday emphasized Pakistan's strategic shift towards an export-led growth model aimed at ensuring sustainable economic development across various sectors.

He was speaking during a meeting with Mr. Mikko Keto, the Global CEO of FLSmidth, a leading global provider of engineering and equipment for the mining and cement industries.

Ambassador of Denmark to Pakistan Mr. Jakob Linulf, senior officials from FLSmidth and the Finance Division attended the meeting.

On the occasion, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb also highlighted the government's ongoing efforts in the form of comprehensive reforms in the energy and power sectors, privatization of state-owned enterprises, and restructuring of the tax system and public expenditure.

Underscoring the government's commitment to facilitate private sector-led growth, with the state focusing on creating a business-friendly environment, he said: "We are determined to pursue our change agenda despite resistance from those favoring the status quo. The private sector must lead the way, and our role is to ensure maximum facilitation."

The Global CEO of FLSmidth, Mr. Mikko Keto expressed his appreciation for the support provided by the Government of Pakistan and shared insights into the company's growing presence in the country. He highlighted FLSmidth's increased investment in Pakistan's mining sector, which has led to enhanced local value addition, increased taxation contributions, and the creation of employment opportunities for locals. "We have a comprehensive understanding of the mining potential in Pakistan, and we are keen to explore further investment opportunities through local partnerships and collaborations," stated Mr. Keto.

The Finance Minister assured the delegation of Pakistan's dedication to providing a favorable and conducive investment climate for foreign investors.

Both parties expressed a strong commitment to strengthening the economic ties between Pakistan and Denmark, particularly in the mining and cement industries, which hold significant potential for growth and development.

## Planning Minister expresses resolve to expand tax net

APP

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal has emphasized the need to expand the tax net and promoting exports of the country. Presiding over a meeting of the Central Development Working Party held in Islamabad today, he said that over fifty percent of total expenditure is consumed by debt servicing.

Acknowledging the government's efforts to reduce the inflation rate from 35 percent to 9.5 percent, the Minister pointed out that in 2018, PML-N government left Pakistan's development budget at 1,000 billion rupees. However, six years later, the challenge remains to even maintain this figure due to the country's economic crises due to mismanagement of the previous government during 2018-2022. Ahsan Iqbal called on all provinces and ministries to exercise the utmost caution and responsibility when planning new projects. He urged that no compromise should be made on quality while preparing PC-I documents, and that national priorities.

**ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal delivering a key address at a workshop on National Integrated Energy Plan.**

## Senate Body approves Special Courts bill, addresses decline in overseas Pakistani employment

ONLINE

ISLAMABAD: Chaired by Senator Zeeshan Khanzada, the meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Overseas Pakistani and Human Resource Development was held at Parliament House on Tuesday.

The meeting was attended by Senator Shahadat Awan, Senator Zamir Hussain Ghumro, the Secretary of the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (MOPHRD), the Director General of the Bureau of Immigration Overseas Employment (BE&OE), and senior officials from the concerned department.

Senator Zamir Hussain Ghumro emphasized to the members that individuals residing abroad for more than six months have the legitimate right to be recognized as Overseas Pakistanis. He also highlighted that serious efforts are being made to address the property rights of Overseas Pakistanis, with actions to be taken within 15 days by the court order. The establishment of 'Special Courts' bill was unanimously approved by the Committee members. The Secretary MOPHRD added that this bill will be instrumental in resolving the issues faced by Overseas Pakistanis.

The DG BE&OE briefed the members on the background, legal framework, mandate, performance and the protectorate of emigrants of the Bureau of Emigration and Overseas Employment. It was noted that a total of nine courts have been established. He also explained the process flow for foreign employment, emphasizing that the Bureau of Emigration acts as a regulator, while the scrutiny of illegal immigration falls under the jurisdiction of the FIA. The Director General further stated that if a complaint is lodged against any agent or if a license holder is not affiliated with the Bureau, the matter is immediately reported to the FIA. The Chairman of the Committee pointed out that if a person goes overseas through a licensed agent and engages in beggary or illegal activities, it is the responsibility of the Bureau of Emigration to address the issue.

## Judicial reforms Govt's top priority: Law Minister

INP

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Law and Justice Azam Nazeer Tarar has said that judicial reforms are the top priority of the present government.

Speaking in the National Assembly on Tuesday, he said the government is actively working on it over the last five months. Eight bills were laid before the house on Tuesday. These included:

The Constitution Amendment Bill, 2024, (Article 184); The Criminal Laws Amendment Bill, 2024, the Constitution Amendment Bill, 2024 (Amendment in Article 51, 59 and 106); The Constitution Amendment Bill, 2024 (Article 177, 193 and 208); The Contempt of Court (Repeal) bill, 2024; The Constitution Amendment Bill, 2024 (Article 198); The Civil Servants Amendment Bill, 2024 and the Allocation of Special Seats for Deserving Persons in Universities Bill, 2024.

The chair referred the bills to the standing committees concerned.

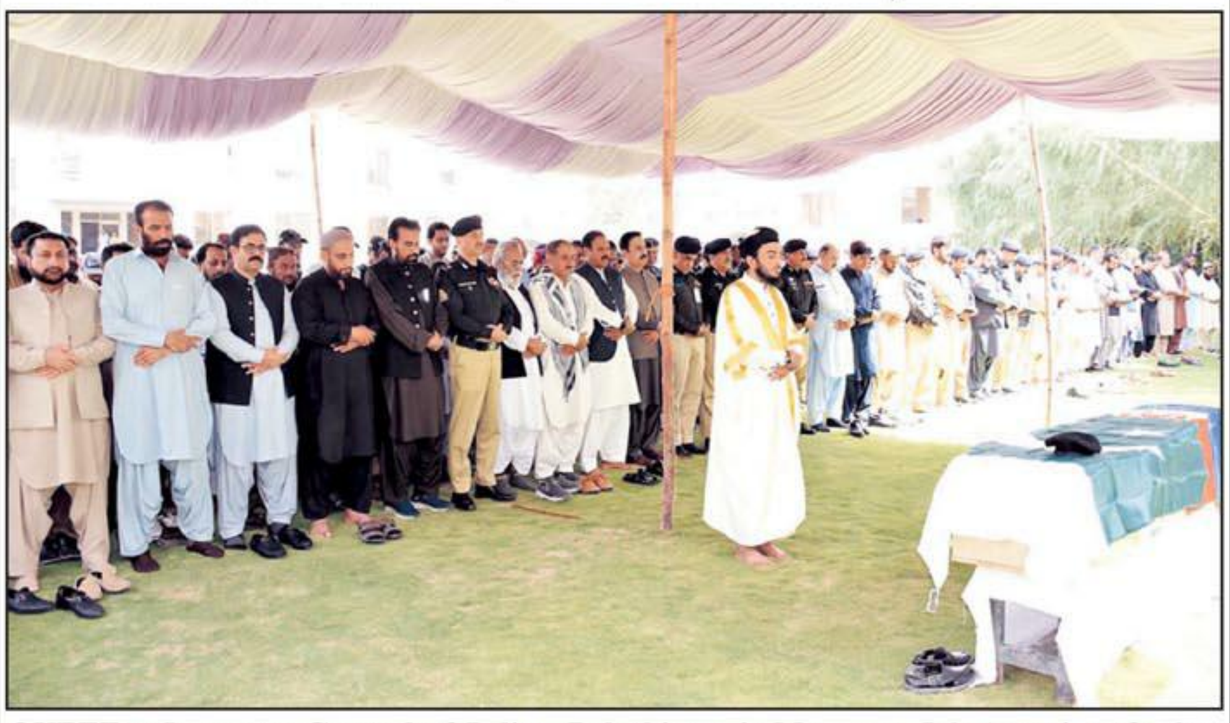
Meanwhile, the National Assembly today passed a resolution recommending the government to take immediate steps for the provision of state of the art medical facilities in federal capital hospitals and high quality healthcare for all patients.

## Pakistan, Thailand explore potential for joint cultural, art projects

APP

ISLAMABAD: An eight-member delegation of Thailand, led by Director General of Religious Affairs Chaiyapon Suk-leam, held talks with Additional Secretary (Asia Pacific) Ambassador Imran Ahmed Siddiqui in Islamabad today.

The discussions focused on strengthening bilateral relations and celebrating the deep cultural connection between Pakistan and Thailand, rooted in shared Buddhist heritage. The two sides also explored the potential for joint cultural and art projects and promoting mutual understanding and appreciation of their shared heritage.



**QUETTA: Inspector General of Police, Balochistan is Moazzam Jah Ansari, anf other offering funeral prayer of Sub-inspector who lost their live in last nigh firing incident.**

## Netanyahu not doing enough to secure Gaza ceasefire deal: Biden

By Khawaja Farooq

WASHINGTON: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu faces mounting international and domestic pressure after the killing in Gaza of six captives, with US President Joe Biden saying he is not doing enough to secure the release of hostages.

Britain said it would suspend some arms exports to Israel, citing a "clear risk" they could be used in a serious breach of international humanitarian law.

Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said he was "deeply disheartened" by London's decision, while the premier said he sought forgiveness for failing to save the latest hostages killed.

"Hamas will pay a very heavy price for this," he said during a televised press conference as he rejected making any "concessions" in Gaza ceasefire talks.

Abu Obeida, spokesman for Hamas's armed wing the Ezzedine Al-Qassam Brigades, said remaining hostages would return "inside coffins" if Israel maintains its military pressure on Gaza.

In Washington, Biden met US negotiators working alongside Qatar and Egypt to try to secure a truce deal that would free the remaining hostages in Gaza in return for Palestinian prisoners held in Israel.

Asked by reporters if he thought Netanyahu was doing enough to secure a deal for the release of hostages, Biden replied: "No."

Netanyahu said Monday Israel must retain control of the key Philadelphi Corridor on the Gaza-Egypt border — a significant sticking point in negotiations.

"Hamas has to make the concessions," said Netanyahu, whose critics have accused him of prolonging the war to stay in power.

Israelis were gripped by grief and fury after the military said Sunday the bodies of six hostages, all captured alive during Hamas's October 7 attack on southern Israel that triggered the war, were recovered from southern Gaza.

A strike announced by the Histadrut trade union seeking a hostage deal brought parts of Israel to a standstill Monday, although some cities were largely unaffected.

"This is our last chance! Deal now!" protesters chanted as

thousands marched Monday through the streets of Tel Aviv.

"Our hearts are burning" and "Enough with this blood government" read signs held by demonstrators as they pushed for a deal to free the remaining 97 hostages, including 33 the military says are dead.