



## Online tax profiling system for 53m people unveiled

Confusion at FBR as banks told to give information of accounts with more than Rs500,000; deadline for amnesty scheme draws close.

By Mubarak Zeb Khan

**ISLAMABAD:** In what appeared to be a show of strength, the government said on Friday that it had issued two new circulars containing information of about 53 million people pertaining to their bank accounts, properties, travel history, etc.

In the evening, Prime Minister Imran Khan made a television appeal to people to declare their tax-evasion wealth through the government's assets declaration scheme (TADS) amnesty before the June 30 deadline.

It was a day of muscle flexing and whether or not it works will become obvious only when the scheme ends.

State Minister for Revenue Hassanul Azhar flanked by Federal Board of

Revenue (FBR) chairman Shabbar Zaidi announced the launch of the FBR portal during a morning press conference, showing the world all the data that is already available with the tax machinery.

Mr Azhar said data was spread over two portals available on FBR and National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra) websites. "Anyone can access their own data using CNIC to check their details at FBR portal," he said.

The tax profiling system can be accessed at [fbrtax.gov.pk/](http://fbrtax.gov.pk/).

**Avail amnesty plan to avoid trouble, says PM**

For FBR portal, taxpayers who are already registered with the FBR can use their Iris login account for getting their details. Those without an Iris account will have to first register with the FBR for seeking details.

The FBR portal has the data of 53m people.

The FBR chairman said that anyone — on the basis of their CNIC and cell phone number — can request access to their information. If a person wants to access their infor-

mation on FBR portal, they will have to send a message to 9996 to receive a code for registration on the system.

But contrary to this, the data which is available on the portal of Nadra can only be accessed with prior registration online for a Rs500 fee. For those who do not wish to pay the fee, Nadra allows walk-in requests at its offices, from where one can ask for the information after production of a CNIC.

**Security data**

Addressing security concerns, the FBR chairman claimed the public has nothing to worry about. "We will ensure the security of the data. We are not sharing the data even with regional tax offices," he said, adding that the data will be kept centralized at the FBR headquarters only.

The data will be used to make tax assessments, he said.

Mr Zaidi said that the data uploaded on the portal may not be used for issuance of notices to any person for the time being. However, he clarified that it can be used as reference in case of any assessment of the taxpayer.

The chairman further clarified that asset declaration scheme would not be-

Continued on Page 5



TEHRAN: General Amir Ali Hajizadeh (centre), the chief of the Revolutionary Guard's aerospace division, speaks to media near the debris of a drone reportedly recovered within Iran's territorial waters on Friday. — AFP

## Trump claims he vetoed Iran strikes at last minute

**US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and National Security Adviser John Bolton had okayed a plan to strike at three sites**

**WASHINGTON:** US President Donald Trump said on Friday he aborted a military strike on Iran because it could have killed 150 people, a disproportionate response to Tehran's downing of an unarmed drone.

President Trump said the plan was to hit three sites in response to the drone's downing on Thursday, which occurred in international airspace over the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

The drone incident aggravated fears of a direct military clash between the US and Iran, and its price tag of \$1 billion, along with the recent Trump's decision to conduct a retaliatory strike, said a senior Trump administration official.

"There was complete unanimity amongst the president's advisors and defense department leadership on an appropriate response to Iran's activities. The president made the final decision," said the official.

**Trump's message to Iran**

Easier on Friday, Iranian officials said Tehran had received a message from Trump warning that a US attack on Iran was imminent.

## Zardari's remand extended for 11 days

**NAB prosecutor says the ex-president expressed ignorance how a suspect got hold of official letterheads**

By Malik Asad

**ISLAMABAD:** The accountability court of Islamabad on Friday extended physical remand of former president Asif Ali Zardari till July 2.

A team of the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) produced Mr Zardari before the accountability court amid high security and sought his custody for a period of 14 days. Accountability Judge Mohammad Arshad Malik, however, granted further remand for 11 days.

Mr Zardari sarcastically said that instead of 14 days why shouldn't NAB seek 90 days' physical remand or

the National Accountability Ordinance (NAO), 1999 empowers the anti-graft watchdog to take an accused in custody for a period of 90 days subject to his production before the court after 14 days remand.

The deputy prosecutor general of NAB, Sardar Muftaq Khan Abbasi, told the court that Mr Zardari was being investigated in the fake accounts case and the Bureau requested his custody for further investigation.

He said the former president during the course of investigation admitted that he knew Nasir Abbasi, a proclaimed offender, in the fake account case. He further said that the joint investigation team (JIT) was investigating how a suspect from the Omri Group had got hold of the letterheads of President House and Bilawal House.

Mr Zardari expressed ignorance as to how these letterheads reached the suspect.

While Mr Abbasi was arguing, Mr Zardari rose

Continued on Page 5

## Pakistan gets FATF reprieve, but only till October

**Global watchdog acknowledges Islamabad has taken action to curb terror financing**

By Asim Iqbal

**WASHINGTON:** Pakistan has avoided the Financial Action Task Force's (FATF) blacklist, but only until October, when it will have to report back to the world financial watchdog that it has successfully implemented its own action plan to counter terror financing. FATF and Pakistan officials faced

“The FATF strongly urges Pakistan to swiftly complete its action plan by Oct 2019 when the last set of action plan items are set to expire,” the FATF said in a statement.

“Otherwise, the FATF will decide the next step at that time for insufficient progress.”

At the end of its plenary meeting in Orlando, Florida, on Friday, the FATF pointed out that Pakistan had already missed two deadlines for implementing the action plan. The first was agreed in January, and the second last month.

In Islamabad, the ministry of finance reviewed the FATF plenary meeting reviewing the compliance of a number of countries, including Pakistan, with the international standards on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism (AML-CFT).

The ministry noted that Pakistan was placed on an FATF compliance document in view of an action plan agreed in June last year to strengthen its AML-CFT regime.

“The FATF reviewed progress made by Pakistan towards the implementation of the action plan. It acknowledged the steps taken by Pakistan to improve its AML/CFT regime and highlighted the need for further actions for implementing the action plan,” the ministry said.

“FATF will undertake the next review of Pakistan's progress in October 2019,” the statement read.

The ministry assured the FATF of Pakistan's “commitment to take all necessary measures to ensure completion of the Action Plan in a timely manner.”

In a series of early morning tweets, Donald Trump said he was in no hurry to launch a strike and that US economic sanctions designed to force Tehran to curb

Iranian recursively exports of the joint venture of PTAFCI and the Asia Pacific Group (APG), which deals with Pakistan.

Pakistan, which can an extensive diplomatic campaign to avoid blacklisting in Orlando, now has two major tasks before it.

The first is to convince the FATF by October that it has implemented its action plan. And the second is to win over 15 out of 34 FATF members to come off a grey list of countries which are monitored to ensure compliance.

According to some estimates, Pakistan suffers an annual loss of up to \$10 billion because of the grey list.

Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi, who was recently in Britain, told the British government had agreed to support Pakistan's effort to move out of the list.

China, Malaysia and Turkey are the three friendly states that played a key role in enabling Pakistan avoid the classification in

Continued on Page 5

issued by the cabinet division under Section 3 of the Pakistan Commission of Inquiry Act, 2017. The commission will have the powers to co-opt or engage any person from public or private sector, local or abroad, as a member, consultant or

adviser to assist it.

Headed by Deputy Chairman of the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Hussain Asghar, a former grade-22 police officer, the commission comprises unnamed representatives of the Military intelligence, Inter-Services Intelligence Bureau, Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), State Bank of Pakistan, Federal Board of Revenue, Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan, Accountant General Pakistan Revenue and special secretary of finance division.

The commission shall furnish its final report within six months of its formation, with periodical interim reports on a monthly basis. The time limit may, however, be extended with prior approval of Prime Minister Imran Khan.

Under its terms of reference (TORs), the commissioners will determine significance of major infrastructure or public sector development works carried out from 2008 to 2018, and communicate them with the increase in public debt from Rs6,050 billion in 2008 to Rs10,546 billion Sept 2018.

The commission will also investigate about the award and implementation of any contract, agreement or project, and whether any debt was taken for a particular project or undertaken and the same was then spent on that project or not.

It will also conclude if the terms and conditions of any public contract were tainted, benevolent or artificially inflated to facilitate any kick-backs and, if so, who was involved.

It will also ascertain whether

any holder of public office or their spouse, children and any person connected to them expended any public funds in their personal or private expenditure, beyond what is permitted under the law and rules.

Interestingly, the commission will also investigate if “the cap prescribed under the Financial Transaction Reporting Act, 2005 has been breached” and if so, reasons and justifications thereof. It may be noted that all successive governments since fiscal year 2007-08 have been in breach of this law and reporting its reasons to the parliament every year.

The commission will also examine if the amendments to the 2005 act were made with the intent of shielding some persons from investigation and prosecution of the Constitution or not.

It will be required to get formu-

lae and special audits conducted through any reported transaction or local auditor or set of auditors to determine real nature, scope, volume, cost and trail of the investment or expenditure of any part of Rs 10 billion from Feb 2008 to Sept 2018.

The commission will be responsible to inspect any irregularities or anomalies found for investigation and prosecution of a relevant agency or department.

An appropriate budget will be sanctioned for the commission and it will be entitled to utilise and spend the funds in its discretion, the notification said.

The formation of the commission and its TORs were approved by the federal cabinet earlier this week.

**SJC to resume hearing of cases against two judges on July 2**

By Malik Asad

**ISLAMABAD:** The Supreme Judicial Council (SJC) is set to resume proceedings against the presidential references against Justice Qazi Faiz ul Haq and Justice K.K. Ahsan of the Sixth High Court on July 2.

Sources privy to the development told Dawn that during the proceedings, Attorney General Anwar Mansoor Khan is likely to argue the unconstitutionality of the references, besides informing the SJC about the government's stance on the references.

The SJC took up the references on June 14 while lawyers across the country staged protests and boycotted courts proceedings on the streets and walls of the Pakistan Bar Council (PBC), the apex regulatory body of lawyers. The Supreme Court Bar Association also observed a strike on the date.

However, a fraction of lawyers defied the strike and disbursed itself from the PBC premises.

Though the SJC did not issue any order after the proceedings, the Supreme Court's public relations office on June 15 issued a statement, confirming that the references against Justice Ishaq and Justice Ahsan were pending before the council and were in process.

It explained that 426 bar plaints, referred to the SJC and recovered by the SJC and all of them had been

Continued on Page 5

## ON OTHER PAGES



### Firdous irked by ECP notice to Imran

Chef spokesperson for the government Dr Firdous Asghar Aslam questions the Election Commission of Pakistan's decision to issue a notice to the prime minister for voting (Voted) ahead of a by-election on National Assembly seat to be held on July 18. The prime minister had gone to Gilgit to convey his respects over the death of a teacher there, she said, adding that there was no announcement about any package for the people of the area. Page 3



### PML-N leader rails against turncoats in NA

Pakistani Muslim League-Nawaz leader Chaudhry Asif Ali, while taking part in the budget debate in the National Assembly, says that all state institutions should work within their own domain and urges the government and all political parties not to interfere in the working of any institution. A number of MNAs from treasury and opposition benches also spoke on the budget on Friday. Page 4



## Body formed to probe public debt use by PPP, PML-N govts

**ISI, MI sleuths among 11 members of commission that will submit its report within six months**

By Khaleeq Khan



NAS deputy chairman Hussain Asghar will head the inquiry commission.

## 'Lawmakers on production orders have certain rights'

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** Hearing a petition challenging production orders of the arrested opposition leaders being issued by the speakers of the assemblies, a senior judge of the Lahore High Court on Friday observed that lawmakers attending sessions of the assemblies on production orders were not corrupt and they would have certain rights.

The petition questioned the production orders for former president and PPP leader Asif Ali Zardari, PML-N leader Khawaja Saad Rafiq and Leader of the Opposition in the Punjab Assembly Hanifa Shahbaz.

During the hearing, Justice Maureen Rashid Sheikh observed that attendance of the lawmakers in budget sessions was important. "A government can go home if its budget is not passed by the assembly," added the judge.

The judge observed that a lawmaker could not express his opinion unless they were seated on the budget in the assembly.

Opposing the petition, a law officer asked the court to decide the point of maintainability first.

The petitioner counsel said he wanted to correct the system as the new government had been facing problems. He said PML-N President Sharbat Sharif spoke for hours in the assembly but he started complaining bawarchi when it came to appearance before any court. He said law was violated while issuing production order of Mr Zardari.

The law officer said petitioner's counsel was more political than legal. Justice Shehzad Akbar advised the counsel to avoid political stuff and stick to legal arguments.

The counsel argued that issuance of production order of a lawmaker during physical remand amounted to interference in investigation by the speaker.

However, the judge adjourned hearing till next week and sought arguments on the maintainability of the petition.

## Three labourers electrocuted in textile mills

By Our Staff Correspondent

**FAISALABAD:** Three labourers were electrocuted and two others were injured in a textile mill in Khanianwala on Friday.

The incident occurred at the Azoo Textile Mills. The deceased were identified as Yasir, 23, of Narowal, Amjad, 40, of Leyyah, and Latif, 42, of Chak 102-BB.

Rescue 1122 shifted injured Zahid Iqbal, 25, of 103-GB, and Mohammad Youas, 23, of Chak 73-BB, to the Allied Hospital where their condition was stated to be critical.

Jamraula Division Superintendent of Police Hassan Afzal confirmed three deaths and injuries of two others and said investigation into the issue had been launched and action would be taken accordingly.

He said the reason for electrocution had yet to be ascertained.

## Benazir's birth anniversary brings PPP, PML-N closer

**LAHORE:** The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) celebrated its slain chieftain Benazir Bhutto's 66th birth anniversary by holding cake-cutting ceremonies at various points in the city on Friday.

Opposition parties in the Punjab Assembly also used the occasion to show their unity as PML-N leader Hanifa Shahbaz joined one such ceremony at PPP parliamentary leader Hassan Murza's chamber of the assembly secretariat.

Other events were organized at the party's provincial secretariat in Model Town, Lahore, a general secretary Israr Butt's residence and at district courts complex.

PML-N lawmakers Asra Zafar Bokhari, Samiullah Khan, Waqar Kalu, Sana Ashiq and Tahir Khalil Sindhu also accompanied Hanifa Shahbaz at the assembly event, hosted by Mr Murza, Asif Haider Gilani, Shaukat Abid and others.

Thanking the opposition leader for joining the cake-cutting ceremony, Mr Murza said they had always been in favour of adopting a joint opposition policy on various national affairs and would try to move forward in the company of the PML-N at per direction of the Bibi Shahbaz.

Mr Shahbaz commended Miss Bhutto for her bravery, saying she continued fighting and serving the masses through she knew that death was after her since the Karsaz bombing.

The Bibi Shahbaz continued serving the nation despite all threats and risks and at last lost her life for the cause. "The Model Town and district courts events were attended by Chaudhry Maroof, Aslam Gai, Samina Ghori, Aizaz Rehman Chishti, Israr Butt, PSF leader Musa Khokhar, Asif Haider Gilani and others."

Various speakers said on the occasion that the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) could not harass anybody workers as they had been trained by Ms Bhutto.

They said the party cadre would continue the mission of their slain chieftain and won't be frightened by the arrest of various leaders by NAB and other government agencies.—Staff Reporter



LAHORE: Boatmen end their day's work on the River Ravi as the sun sets on the longest day of the year.—White Star

## Rashid accepts responsibility for train crash, tenders apology

Says will resign if his conscience dictates him

By Khalid Hameem

**LAHORE:** Accepting responsibility for Thursday's train accident near Hyderabad, Federal Minister for Railways Shehzad Rashid sought apology from the nation on Friday.

"I accept responsibility for this accident and seek an apology from the nation. Such a portfolio is not important for me as I have become federal minister for the eighth time. And I will resign whenever I feel bound by my conscience," he responded when asked at a press conference here on Friday, if he would

resign in line with a similar demand made by PTI chief Imran Khan to Khawaja Saad Rafiq in 2015 following a train accident.

"This incident has happened due to a human error. So please wait for the report till Saturday (today)," he added. He said he would present himself before the nation for accountability on coming Aug 28, the day he took over charge of the railways last year.

The minister said the committee related to the failure of the Pakistan Railways in resolving various technical and operational issues leading to frequent derailments and accidents owing to deteriorated condition of the track. "I admit that no one paid heed to reliability of the track that was laid in 1961.

The issue is causing accidents. But after a long time, I am the person who raised the issue of ML-1 (main line) that is going to be rehabilitated under the CPEC," he claimed. Under this project, there would be no level crossings as the entire track would be fenced.

Advanced coordination delay in the completion of the tendering process for the procurement of new passenger coaches and goods' wagons, Mr Rashid announced to open the tenders by July 1 for the procurement of imported rolling stock. "We are facing acute shortage of coaches and wagons. So we have decided to issue bids by July 1 for the procurement of imported rolling stock," he added.

The recent launch of several new trains on the orders of the minister is the main cause behind the shortage since the rolling stock meant for use in emergencies was refurbished and induced into 'use' trains.

"Actually I don't want to award this contract on a single bidding pattern as has been done previously to facilitate a specific firm.

So I directed the officials concerned to prepare such terms of reference (TOR) that

could attract more and more companies in this tender. Our team has finalised this," he said. He announced that services of all temporary workers were being confirmed.

Unlike his routine practice of talking and responding to questions on policies, especially against the opposition parties' leaders, the minister gave more time to the PR issues. He rather told reporters that he wouldn't be taking part in the annual meet because in whose news reporters did not political agenda.

"If you want to talk politics, let me send my officers out of this press conference," he said, claiming that the PML-N was divided in two groups – one led by Shahbaz Sharif and other by Nawaz Sharif. He said Shahbaz Sharif and Faryal Talpur were the best options for Dhad (relaxation) in the ongoing accountability scenario.

Meanwhile, the train operation suffered badly following Thursday's accident.

NAB 'witch-hunt' Social Media Pakistan 0345-6738217

## IPPs may resort to international arbitration

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** The witch-hunt of independent power producers (IPPs) by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) or allegations, broadly speaking, of receiving 'excess payments' against the sale of electricity to the government could force them to use international arbitration to protect themselves as they are not liable for their power purchase agreements (PPAs).

"The witch-hunt started against the IPUs by the accountability watchdog is politically motivated and without any legal basis," said the chief executive officer of one of the six IPPs being investigated by the NAB for having received excess payments on condition of

anonymity.

He said the PPAs had provided that neither government nor any agency could demand revision of the agreements or tariffs. "The implementation agreements clearly state that only the IPPs could ask for changes in the agreements or tariffs. The accountability agency is just wasting public resources for reasons beyond our control on a wild-goose chase," he said.

To reinforce his point, the CEO referred to a statement made by Prime Minister Imran Khan in his meeting with the business leaders on Thursday in which the prime minister had said that the terms of the PPAs

couldn't be reviewed as the government had extended sovereign guarantees to the IPPs.

"If the government goes against the terms of the PPAs and starts reviewing the agreements, it will have to face legal repercussions for its actions at the international level as the IPPs can drag it to the international arbitration that is violating the agreements," the newspaper reported, quoting the participant.

The CEO said that apparently NAB is working against the explicit government policy of not reviewing the IPP agreements.

He told this reporter that the NAB investigations were affecting investment senti-

ments negatively and claimed that many Chinese companies had already told the government that they would not be able to invest in this country unless the sanctity of the agreements was ensured. "By continuing a baseless inquiry, and coercing and dragging businesses and investors to constantly anti-corruption agency is not serving the interests of the people or the economy."

"Unfounded charges against the IPPs are only spiking the risk premium for the prospective investors, meaning we would end up offering much higher returns on future investments even if anyone decided to bring his or her capital in this country," he concluded.



LAHORE: Labourers install a pedestrian bridge on the Canal Road near Habsimpur.—White Star

## LDA removes legal advisers over 'poor performance'

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** The Lahore Development Authority (LDA) has removed all its legal advisers for causing embarrassment to the senior officials by not plodding the authority itself in various court cases or not following them up properly.

Soon after taking charge, the LDA director general (DG) removed all legal advisers over poor performance in several court cases. Presently, "we are in a process of hiring new and competent advisers who can plead the LDA before implementation," DG Usman Moazzam said while talking to journalists during an open court on Friday.

He said the LDA decided to remove the post for which only senior officials were being developed to monitor and follow court cases besides various things related to people visiting LDA for work.

Earlier talking to Dastar, the DG said Lahore's vertical growth plan (construction of high-rise buildings) was at very initial stages which will be discussed with all stakeholders before implementation.

well in courts", DG Usman Moazzam said while talking to journalists during an open court on Friday.

He said the LDA decided to remove the post for which only senior officials were being developed to monitor and follow court cases besides various things related to people visiting LDA for work.

"A draft paper for introducing certain amendments in the building by-laws has been prepared; this draft will soon be circulated and discussed publicly in order to receive feedback of people from various walks of life after which the LDA will take a final decision," Mr Moazzam explained.

When asked whether the death had provisions related to upgrade/strengthening of sewerage infrastructure (sewerage/drainage systems), Mr Moazzam said: "The LDA would surely ensure doing so."

## PML-N wants 50 people be allowed to meet Nawaz

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** The PML-N has demanded that the government allow at least 50 people to meet former prime minister Nawaz Sharif in jail even on a weekly basis.

It demanded that the chief minister of the Punjab should meet the senior PML-N leaders from meeting Mr Sharif in jail on Thursday last.

The PML-N also submitted a resolution in the House condemning the government for imposing ban on Mr Sharif's meetings in jail. It demanded that the chief minister of the Punjab should meet the farmers as tax had been imposed on agricultural incomes.

Contested the government's claim that Mr Sharif allowed only five people to meet him in jail.

Speaking on the budget, Waqar Kalu said the PML-N government in the past had taken loan from the IMF or the World Bank on various occasions.

PML-N's Zafar Naeem and Prime Minister Imran Khan could have understood the situation of the people only if his own children were living in Pakistan. She said it was shameful that Rs 1.4 million had been spent on a poetry recital in the Parliament House.

PPI's Ali Haider Gilani demanded that the government give Muttahid the status of a 'bigot' and maintain proper sewerage system in the old city of Multan. He said the budget was aimed at the farmers as tax had been imposed on agricultural incomes.

Chaudhry Asif Majid of the PTI said this

time 35pc allocation of the current budget for south Punjab had been "ring-fenced" and nobody would be able to re-appropriate the allocated funds.

PTI's Umar Karar predicted that during the PML-N government's tenure the growth rate would remain at 1.5 percent per cent.

PML-N's Waqar Naeem Moazzam demanded increase of at least 40pc in the salaries of the government employees. He hit out at the government for giving preference to un-elected persons over the elected ones. He said the government was also giving development funds to the PTI's lost candidates.

PPI's Asif Majid of the PML-N insisted on sitting on his seat despite repeated requests by Deputy Speaker Dost Moazzam as the last speaker to speak on a point of order. Mr Majid challenged the chair to take any action against him but he would not sit and respond to the PTI's Asif Ali Bhatti who

alleged that Muttahid's forest wood had been used for the Sharif's residence. However, PML-N's other lawmakers evaded him down.

Salma Sulta Taimur asked the government to take the representatives of booby traps on confidence before inviting them.

Malik Ahmed said the allocated five minutes for each member for the budget debate was too short to register concerns.

Minister Chaudhry Zahooruddin said Asif Ali Zardari and Shahbaz Sharif should bring their money back after selling their properties in London and Switzerland.

Meanwhile, the PPP and PML-N cut a cake to observe the birth anniversary of the late Benazir Bhutto. The portraits of both parties paid tribute to the PPP leader.

The chair adjourned the proceedings till Monday.



## Firdous questions ECP notice to Imran for visiting Ghotki

Asks why the commission is silent over violations by Sindh CM, PPP ministers

By Iftikhar A. Khan

ISLAMABAD: Chief spokesperson for the government Dr Firdous Aslam Awais on Friday questioned the Election Commission of Pakistan's (ECP) decision to issue a notice to Prime Minister Imran Khan for visiting Ghotki ahead of a by-election on a National Assembly seat (NA-205) scheduled to be held on July 18.

The former minister had gone to Ghotki to convey his condolences over the death of federal minister Ali Mohammad Maha. There was no press conference and the prime minister did not announce any package for the people of the area," said Ms Awais, adviser to the PM on information.

Talking to reporters outside the parliament, she said it was strange that the ECP had issued a notice to prime minister for visiting Ghotki but it issued a letter two weeks ago to the Sindh chief minister opened off-limits for campaigning, or when sitting members of parliament went to places and tried to entice the electorate by offering lucrative development packages.

She said the Sindh ministers had officially been assigned dates for the election campaign. She said that not only the provincial ministers were blatantly violating ECP's code of conduct but also candidates of the Pakistan People's Party were violating their election campaign with Sindh police protection.

"Why is the ECP silent over these violations?" she questioned.

However, a spokesman for the ECP rejected Ms Awais's allegations and said that only four complaints had been received on which action had immediately been taken.

No such explanation had been sought from the Ghotki SSP for according protocol to a VIP. He said no action had been taken on the complaint of a violation in a provincial government department.

He said the ECP was acting on complaints received from all political parties in accordance with the law.

The prime minister had visited Ghotki on Wednesday to express his condolences on the death of federal minister for narcotics control Ali Mohammad Maha. Maha's death has necessitated a by-election for the NA-205 seat.

## Avail amnesty plan to avoid trouble, says PM

'Today, we are taking loans just to pay back the mark-up on the previous loans,' Imran tells people in a third televised address on the scheme

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan on Friday again asked people to avail the benefits of the tax amnesty scheme ending on June 26, by declaring all the assets to avoid any difficulties in the future. "I want you to face no troubles. Whole of the data is available with the FBR (Federal Board of Revenue). By visiting FBR's website, you can access your data and know what kind of information we have collected. I don't want you to face any difficulty. Therefore, I want you to take advantage of it quickly and get the maximum out of this difficult time," said Mr Khan in his televised message to the nation.

The PM, who had also addressed the nation twice on the subject on June 11, hours after the announcement of the federal budget 2019-20, and the country's foreign debt had swelled from Rs600 billion to Rs10,000 billion during the last decade, he said half of the tax revenue had been spent to repay the mark-up of the said loans. "Today we are taking loans just to pay back the mark-up on the previous loans," he said.

"We can come out of this (debt trap) easily. We have to collect Rs6,500 billion (tax revenue) during next (fiscal) year. I think, we can collect about Rs6,000 billion every year if nation decides so," he said.

This would help resolve all economic issues, making the country self-sufficient, end the people of poverty and brighten the future of next generation, he added.—APP

Launching mass contact drive from Nawabshah, PPP leader heaps scorn on Imran

By Zulqarnain Memori

KAWASHEEH: Pakistan Peoples Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari and on Friday that his party would not accept the 'popper government, controlled democracy, media censorship and economic murder of people'.

He was addressing a huge gathering of party workers and supporters on Sakrand road here where he launched his contact campaign.

He said the rulers thought they would silence them (PPP leadership)

by pressurising them and frightening them by instituting fake cases against them, but they were not afraid of such tactics and would never bow down.

Mr Bhutto-Zardari vowed that they would defend the 1973 Constitution till their last breath... and the PPP would not allow the federal government to snatch the rights of the provinces.

In a hard-hitting speech, he warned they would not allow the passage of anti-peoples federal budget at any cost.

"Asif Ali Zardari's crime is that he handled over powers back to parliament, launched projects like the Benazir Income Support Programme and China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, gave rights to the provinces, provided due share to the provinces through National Finance Commission award and got 18th Amendment approved," he said.

Nasir (Prime Minister) Imran

Khan used to say that he would make us cry but the world saw that I sent my father to jail with a smile and my father also went to prison with a smile," Mr Bhutto-Zardari said.

Asif Zardari had faced such fake cases in the past too, he said in a reference to the fake bank accounts and money laundering case. "Even my son was accused of corruption but the PIAF (PPM) did not file any case," he said.

He said PM Imran Khan should pray that Asif Zardari comes to power because he (Asif Zardari) would not take revenge. However, "if the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz government, his (the PM's) family would be in trouble, and if Maulana Fazlur Rehman comes to power, he would be forced to death," Mr Bhutto-Zardari said.

Calling Prime Minister Khan a "coward and shameless one", he said that he (Bilawal) was grandson of

## Qatari emir due in Islamabad today

Dawn Report

ISLAMABAD: Emir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani is due here on Saturday (today) on a two-day visit.

The Foreign Office said the Qatari ruler would be accompanied by a high-level delegation comprising key ministers and senior officials.

He is visiting Pakistan after a break of over four years. He last visited Islamabad in March of 2015.

The Qatari leader will hold talks with Prime Minister Imran Khan and also meet President Asif Ali Zardari.

The two sides will discuss wayward mutual building a robust and mutually beneficial economic partnership. During the visit, Pakistan and Qatar will sign MoU agreements for enhanced bilateral cooperation in different areas.

The visit of His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani is expected to further strengthen the close fraternal ties between Pakistan and Qatar and deepen bilateral cooperation in diverse fields," it added.

The candidate pointed out that the PM's visit to Ghotki was to visit the ECP's code of conduct and principles of schedule for the by-election had already been notified.

Earlier on Wednesday, PPP Senator Masood Nasar Khokhar, who is also the spokesperson for the PPM chairman Hassan Illohi Zardari, also accused the prime minister of violating the ECP rules. "The visit of the prime minister to the National Assembly's constituency 205 is illegal," Senator Khokhar had said in a statement.

He had asked the ECP to take notice of the violation of "independence" of the prime minister and federal ministers in election affairs. "If the Election Commission wants to protect its image from further deterioration, it should take action over the violations," he added.

Meanwhile, the ECP also took notice of the launching ceremony of "Janay Janay scheme" of the provincial assembly elections in erstwhile federally administered tribal areas (FATA) and issued a fine-koora to the people of the tribal districts affected by poverty and terrorism.

The ECP has directed the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chief secretary, finance secretary and other relevant officers to stop implementation of the scheme and not to release funds for it.

The chief secretary has been asked to submit a compliance report along with details of the scheme to the ECP on or before July 25.

**Security measures**

Intelligence-based operational Social-Media Pakistan 0349-6738227

the capital as part of security measures ahead of the arrival of the Qatari emir.

The operations are being conducted jointly by the paramilitary forces, the Counter Terrorism Wing of Capital and the capital police, a senior police officer stated, adding that in this regard intelligence wings of the forces, CTW and police's special branch mount vigilance all over the capital, especially rural areas, to collect information.

Similarly, the special branch of the capital police deployed officials all around the capital to gather prior information for necessary and precautionary measures, officials said.

Two units of Rangers along with the capital police would perform security duties throughout the visit of the Qatari emir, the official added, noting that the Red Zone would be partially sealed during the period for strictly restricting the entry of the uninvited persons.

In this regard different roads leading towards the Red Zone would be closed to the general public, the officials said. However, eight passes for officials and accredited guests of the Red Zone were also strengthened by deploying more security personnel.

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Vigilance would be mounted at the Margalla Hills by deploying personnel of the police and para-military troops, they stated, adding that two trials of the hills falling in the area of the Red Zone were closed for two days.



ISLAMABAD: Women walk past the portraits of Qatari Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Imran Khan on the Constitution Avenue on Friday. The Qatari ruler will arrive in Islamabad on Saturday for a two-day visit.—AFP

## Opposition senators urge govt to revisit finance bill

JI, PPP, PML-N and NP

members term the federal budget an anti-poor document

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Turning the federal budget for financial year 2019-20 "anti-poor budget" that could cause an increase in crimes, members of the opposition parties in the Senate on Friday demanded that the government review the financial document.

Taking part in the budget discussion in the house, they observed that the document lacked a direction and anti-poor document.

They also criticised the government for curtailing allocations in the health, education, development and agricultural sectors.

Jamiat-i-Islami (JI) chief Senator Syed Raif Haq said that the budget would burden a Pakistan for the affluent and another for the poor; the said if passed in the present form, the budget would leave most people below the poverty line and cause an increase in crime rates.

Terming it a "budget of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)", he said the government had apparently launched a "suicide attack" on the poor.

He said the budget lacked vision to promote industry and agriculture and was based on the principle of waste-laying, which would be a major instrument of the governing leases.

He demanded that a committee be formed to investigate a sudden rise in the prices of sugar. He said there were some individuals who owned a number of sugar mills in the country.

In his speech, former interior minister Senator Behman Malik of the Pakistan Peoples Party thoroughly examined the finance bill and said he did not find anything that could be

turned as relief for the common man.

He said the budget overburdened the people already finding it difficult to make both ends meet.

He said that former president Asif Ali Zardari had in his speech in the National Assembly on Thursday last presented a comprehensive roadmap to overcome the ongoing economic crisis in the country.

He said Mr Zardari suggested that the government and opposition should sit together to discuss issues affecting the economy and formulate a common strategy with a national consensus.

While rejecting the budget, Senator Malik urged the government to review the budget and make it a model of the governing leases.

Senator Muhsinulhaq Khan of the Pakistan Muslim League-Navaz insisted on the recent remarks of a top Supreme Court justice about the performance of parliament.

Senator Tahir Biyani of the National Party said the budget would give rise to extremism and terrorism.

The house will meet again on Monday at 4:30pm.

## Nuclear powers upgrading arsenals as number of weapons falls: SIPRI

Report claims India and Pakistan are developing new systems

Monitoring Desk

(North Korea) — possessed approximately 11,965 nuclear weapons.

This marked a decrease from the approximately 14,462 nuclear weapons that SIPRI estimated these states possessed at the beginning of 2018.

Of these 13,805 nuclear weapons, 8,750 were deployed with operational forces and nearly 2,000 were kept in a state of high operational alert.

The remaining states are considerably smaller, but all are either developing or deploying new weapon systems or have announced their intention to do so. China, India and Pakistan are increasing the size of their nuclear arsenals.

In India and Pakistan, which have 130 to 140 and 150 to 160 nuclear warheads respectively, were also developing more weapons.

"India and Pakistan are expanding their military ballistic material production capabilities on a scale that may lead to significant increases in the size of their nuclear weapon inventories in 2018, as nuclear weapon possessing states continue to modernise their nuclear arsenals."

At the beginning of this year, nine states — the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, France, China, India, Pakistan, Israel and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

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## Govt won't be allowed to commit 'economic murder of people': Bilawal

Launching mass contact drive from Nawabshah, PPP leader heaps scorn on Imran

By Zulqarnain Memori

KAWASHEEH: Pakistan Peoples Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari and on Friday that his party would not accept the 'popper government, controlled democracy, media censorship and economic murder of people'.

He was addressing a huge gathering of party workers and supporters on Sakrand road here where he launched his contact campaign.

He said the rulers thought they would silence them (PPP leadership)

by instituting fake cases against them, but they were not afraid of such tactics and would never bow down.

Mr Bhutto-Zardari vowed that they would defend the 1973 Constitution till their last breath... and the PPP would not allow the federal government to snatch the rights of the provinces.

In a hard-hitting speech, he warned they would not allow the passage of anti-peoples federal budget at any cost.

"Asif Ali Zardari's crime is that he handled over powers back to parliament, launched projects like the Benazir Income Support Programme and China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, gave rights to the provinces, provided due share to the provinces through National Finance Commission award and got 18th Amendment approved," he said.

Calling Prime Minister Khan a "coward and shameless one", he said that he (Bilawal) was grandson of

Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and son of Asif Zardari bin (the PM) should not forget that I am a nephew of Shaukat Mirza (Bhutto) and would make him accountable for every tear which came out of the eyes of my sisters".

He said, "The selected prime minister would also be made accountable of economic murder of poor peasants, labourers and poor and for the plight of millions of citizens."

A drama was being staged in the name of accountability as "selected prime minister says that he would not spare anyone and would not give any NRO", however, Ayesha Khanum, Khayber Pakhtunkhwa chief minister and many federal ministers are ministering NROs, he said.

He said PM Imran Khan should pray that Asif Zardari comes to power because he (Asif Zardari) would not take revenge. However, "if the PPM's family would be in trouble, and if Maulana Fazlur Rehman comes to power, he would be forced to death," Mr Bhutto-Zardari said.

Calling Prime Minister Khan a "coward and shameless one", he said that he (Bilawal) was grandson of

Tehsil-i-Sabzai but Asif Hussain's funding was wrong, properties of the PM's friends were legal but those of Asif Zardari were illegal.

Strongly criticising the federal budget, he said that it was inimical to the interests of people, the country and Sindh.

He said that now a man who struggled all his life to have Rs500,000 for maintenance of his daughter, Asif Hussain would have to answer from where he brought the money which was a pity.

He reiterated that the government was conspiring to wind up the 25th Constitution, reverse the 18th Amendment and take back powers and rights of the provinces. However, he said, the PPM was the biggest hurdle in the way of this conspiracy and Asif Zardari would guard the constitution at any cost. "If this is the concern of my father, I would also willingly commit

this crime," Mr Bhutto-Zardari said.

He said that his father belonged to a noble tribe of Sindh and his grandfather was an agriculturist and a businessman and was elected MNA in 1970.

"Our elder Hassan Ali Eltomi established the Sindh Madressah Eltomi where Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah studied," he said and added that his family were among the contributors. Jinnah others who established a hospital with the help of donations and then exploited this contribution for political gains.

Mr Bhutto-Zardari said he had launched the mass contact movement from today and would reach out to people all over the country. He urged the people to join his struggle come on.

Earlier he cut the cake of the 69th birth anniversary of his mother and former prime minister Benazir Bhutto.

## Murder convict's death sentence commuted to life term

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court on Friday converted the death sentence of a triple murder convict into life imprisonment.

The apex court's bench headed by Chief Justice Asif Saeed Khosa was hearing review petition filed by the convict Karim Nawaz.

Nawaz was found guilty of murdering his sister, brother and a sister-in-law in Mianwali. The Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) of Mianwali sentenced him to death on three counts of murder and one count of terrorism. The convict later approached the Lahore High Court which also upheld the decision. The convict later reconciled with his family.

Subsequently, the three convictions for murder were dropped by the trial court but the conviction under Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA) was not overturned.

The Supreme Court also upheld the conviction.

Nawaz then filed a review petition which was heard by the three-member bench comprising Chief Justice Asif Saeed Khosa, Justice Sardar Tariq Masood and Justice Qazi Mohammad Arain.

The additional prosecutor general said that the convict had murdered three people and is now seeking relief.

The chief justice remarked that it seemed the crime was committed in a fit of temporary rage. The bench deciding the review petition then converted the death sentence into life imprisonment.

## 'STEM schools to be set up in each district'

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Science and Technology Chaudhry Fawad Hussain on Friday said Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) schools would be set up in all districts.

At a meeting with Higher Education Commission (HEC) Chairman Tariq Banot, he expressed his resolve to make STEM school project a success.

The minister said initially seven reputed universities would be included in the project to impart STEM education to the students ranging from grade 6 to 10th.

Each university will be entrusted with the task of imparting STEM education to two schools.

The minister said the teaching staff of the selected university would be given incentives. Students of the universities participating in the project would also be asked to be a part of the STEM school project.

He said a unique syllabus would be formulated which would be in line with international standards of science education.

Moreover, criteria for selection of schools and of students for the project would be set. In this regard, National Testing Service (NTS) would be asked to conduct a screening test for the selection of students.

He said all provinces would be taken on board for the countrywide implementation and accomplishment of the project.

The HEC chairman said the commission would extend its technical and financial support for the project.



A MAN fills a tanker with water from a tubewell near Kharra Puri in Islamabad on Friday. Many localities are facing water shortage and rely on tankers for the supply.—Online

## Draft bill seeks 'Rifahi' committees at neighbourhood level in Islamabad

Senate body asks mover of Islamabad Community Integration Act to make changes to the bill for further discussion

By Kashif Abbasi

ISLAMABAD: A new legislation is on the cards for introducing a 'Rifahi' committee system in the capital city aimed at security, protection and well-being of the citizens. If all goes as proposed, there will be an elected non-party Rifahi subcommittee of 10 members for every 500 houses in the urban area and a village. There will also be a committee for every 2,000 houses.

The Senate Standing Committee on Interior, which moved a Parliament Lodges, discussed the draft "Islamabad Community Integration Act 2019" which proposes introduction of the Rifahi Community System—Social Media Pakistan 0345-6738217 could be no parallel system against the local government which was already functioning in Islamabad rather these Rifahi committees would submit their annual reports to the mayor of Islamabad.

After going through the bill and hearing arguments from its mover, PML-N Senator Rana Maqbool, the committee agreed to the essence of the bill in principle but asked the mover to make some changes to the bill such as freezing. The mover said the government would finalise the proposed committee.

The lawmakers said such committees were very much needed for social connections of people in Islamabad where people living in the same street were stranger to each other.

They said these committees would also be helpful in overseeing crimes in the neighbourhood.

However, appealing to the mover of the bill, the committee members said they should not be given government funding instead these committees should work as welfare organisations.

The participants said there should be no involvement of the government and the committees must be run at the local level and their election should be conducted by the deputy commissioners.

Earlier, the mover told the committee that the bill had been inspired by the message of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in a spirit of giving. He said that for Pakistanis to believe in Islam and practice it was important that measures be taken to integrate the community so that they would stand together at all times.

The Senate Standing Committee on Interior, which proposed introduction of the Rifahi Community System—Social Media Pakistan 0345-6738217 could be no parallel system against the local government which was already functioning in Islamabad rather these Rifahi committees would submit their annual reports to the mayor of Islamabad.

The statement of object and reasons for the bill stated: "It is a strategy for social change by introducing the Rifahi Community System and establishing small community

units in one sub-sector in a locality in the urban area and one village in the rural area with a cooperation-based mechanism."

It said to fulfil the basic needs of the citizens was the responsibility of the state and simultaneously the committee by an individual was a moral and ethical responsibility to meet by the fellow citizens for basic needs and problems.

After the discussion, the Senate committee agreed with the essence of the bill and directed the mover for some changes and decided to take up the bill at its next meeting.

The committee also took up the issue of six houses which were constructed in 1996 for Khatorey and Moizans but the CDA allotted three of them to irrelevant officers.

Senator Mehmud Ahsan Rehman raised the point regarding "Provision of safe and comfortable accommodation of Khatorey, Moizans and CDA members."

He said the unlawful allocation of such accommodation was stopped and those responsible brought to justice.

Committee Chairman Senator Abdul Rahim Matik directed the CDA to resolve the issue by allotting the designated houses to Khatorey and Moizans within six weeks and submit a compliance report to the committee.

Senator Javed Abbasi took notice of the absence of the minister for interior. The committee chairman requested the members to condone the matter for one last time after which a show-cause notice would be issued.

## Flaws detected in 'history sheets' of fourth schedulers

By Mohammad Asghar

being kept under surveillance by most of the police stations.

In most of the police stations, the history sheets of "Afghan-trained boys, tribal, untrained boys" and others were not prepared by the police.

Even the foot constables lacked knowledge about the record of the individuals having criminal history.

The history sheets of fourth schedulers, which were being prepared by police, did not have opinions of the SIRO or the senior officer concerned.

After examining the history sheets, the CPD observed that there was neither proper surveillance of the fourth schedulers nor any report about them in the history sheets.

history sheets.

Under section IV of the Anti-Terrorism Act 1997, any individual placed on the fourth schedule or watch list has to inform the respective police before leaving his hometown and goes return and about his activities in other places.

Such individuals are also bound to provide security bonds to the concerned police for good behaviour and peaceful conduct at relevant places.

The individuals placed on the fourth schedule are not supposed to visit government buildings, offices of educational institutions and they cannot get employment.

In case of a violation, the police are to take legal action against them under the

relevant law.

In a latest move, Superintendent of Police Rawalpindi Division Syed Ali has been seeking orders from court to force five fourth schedulers living in the limits of Airport police to visit the police station concerned twice in a week for one year to ensure their presence at their respective permanent residences.

The concerned police suspect that they are habitual criminals and could create law and order situation.

In the Rawalpindi district, the number of individuals placed on the fourth schedule has increased to 38 with the recent addition of five people in the list for having links with proscribed organisations.

## Call for joint strategy for projection of Kashmir issue

By Tariq Nasir

MEZAFFARABADI: Kashmir leaders on Friday urged both the governments of Pakistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) to evolve a joint strategy for effective projection at the international level and subsequent success of the freedom struggle in India-held Kashmir.

The demand came at a seminar on "Human rights violations in India-held Kashmir and world community's responsibility" jointly organised by JKSM, UK and Jammu and Kashmir Salvation Movement (JKSM).

TeK UK president Raja Farhan Khanvi was the "spoon of honour" at the seminar while other speakers included former Jamaat-i-Islami AJK emir Abdul Raheem Tarakai, PTI leader Chawla, Amjad Khan, MIA, Jammu Kashmir Salvation Movement (JKSM) chairman Altaf Ahmad Bhat, PML-N Youth Wing leader Shabid Mahmood Wani, Kashmiri migrant leader Umar Ahmed Ghani, Sheikh Aquib Rehman and Qazi Shahid Hamid.

Mr Tarakai, who is also chairman Public Accounts Committee in the AJK Legislative Assembly, said the AJK government had been created for the sole purpose of promotion of "Kashmiris" struggle for right to self-

slogans and one mission - exposing Indian atrocities in occupied Kashmir with logic and evidence. We will continue our struggle to make their vision successful," he said.

He said people in UK and Europe were all out to contribute for the noble cause of struggling Kashmiris.

Mr Bhat of JKSM said time had come to approach the world powers and brief them about the human rights situation prevailing in held-Kashmir due to the refusal of Kashmiris to accept India's illegal army.

"We have to make them realize that under the Narendra Modi-led Hindu extremist government Kashmiri people will suffer more losses at the hands of brute Indian army," he said.

Mr Majid Khan, who is also PTI parliamentary leader in AJK assembly, said Kashmir was being seriously discussed at the international level.

"Because of the main-blame sacrifices of the people on the other side of the divide," he said.

He said it was good to see both the political government and the armed forces of Pakistan on one page on all national and international issues, and that will help us have a joint strategy to move forward towards the ultimate attainment of Kashmiris' goals.

JKSM leader Wasif said Pakistani and Kashmiri leaders should speedily lift the UN resolutions and avoid floating new ideas and formulas.

# NAB criticises Fawad's remarks

By Our Staff Reporter

**ISLAMABAD:** The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has condemned recent remarks by Fawad Chaudhry, the federal minister for Science and Technology, that "accountability is being conducted by the government and not by the bureau".

According to the NAB spokesman, the anti-graft watchdog believed that the federal minister's remarks had not only cast aspersions on NAB, but also negated the efforts of its officials working with dedication, commitment and transparency to combat corruption.

Fawad said during a talk show on a private TV channel on June 16: "We had promised accountability. All those who had to be held accountable, we held them accountable successfully."

When the show's host interrupted the minister and asked whether the rising Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) was responsible for accountability or NAB, the minister replied: "No, we are responsible because there was NAB before." It was the first time that he had used the term 'before' made by Fawad Chaudhry over the past four months. The first case was taken when he was information minister and termed the arrest of PTI leader Ahsan Khan in February a "balancing act".

On the other hand, Fawad clarified his recent remarks through Twitter: "Prime Minister Imran Khan introduced a narrative against corruption in this country. It seemed as though corruption wasn't an issue here at all. The PTI created a culture of accountability. Institutions existed before us, but no one considered corruption as a bad thing."

The NAB press release said the performance of the bureau had been undermined by international institutions. "Fawad Chaudhry's remarks can affect and halt investigations."

The anti-graft watchdog maintained that it had not received a single corruption reference from the government.

The bureau's NAB chairman, retired Justice Javed Iqbal, directed the director general of NAB Rawalpindi to obtain a copy of Fawad Chaudhry's television remarks and take necessary action in this regard.

## IG lauds FC role in restoring peace in Balochistan

**ISLAMABAD:** Inspector General of the Frontier Corps (FC) Bacha Khan, Maj Gen Farooq Shah has said that FC has been securing porous borders in the province and its troops have been deployed to protect government installations and ensure public security.

He was addressing the participants of a national security workshop titled "Security of Balochistan:

FC's role and future vision" here on Friday.

"Security forces and people of Balochistan have bravely confronted the menace of terrorism and consequently peace has been restored across the province," Maj Gen Shah said.

The inspector general lauded sacrifices of martyrs of the FC Balochistan in protecting lives and properties of masses. —Staff Correspondent

## SJC to resume hearing

Continued from Page 1

processed. After going through different stages of the process, 200 cases have been disposed of and only 28, including the two presidential references, are pending.

The announcement said that all cases were in process and would be disposed of in the due course of time. Instead of issuing a show-caution notice to Justice Asif and Justice Agha, the SJC sent copies of the references to their residences in accordance with section 8(3) of the Inquiry Rules. This will require the accused judge to present himself before the court, which will provide him the information and the material required.

Both judges reportedly have been asked to volunteer, if they choose so, to clarify their position over the allegations levelled in the complaints against them.

The government in its reference has alleged that the sources to acquire foreign properties by Justice Asif and Justice Agha violated the law. Therefore, the SJC should probe into the matter to answer whether these properties have been acquired through money laundering. The government has also alleged that the judge

## Remand of Zardari extended

Continued from Page 1

from his seat and arrived at the courtroom to hear the court's judgement against him.

When Mr Abbasi asked if Mr Zardari wanted to say something, Senator Latif Khan Khosa replied that the president wanted to hear what information the pres-



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of the PML-Q, led by Chaudhry Shoaib Hussain, meets Prime Minister Imran Khan at the PM Office on Friday. —Online

## Kashmiris' struggle based on two-nation theory: Gen Hayat

By Tariq Noorani

**MUZAFFARABAD:** Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) President Sardar Masood Khan has said the Kashmiri people had linked their future with Pakistan even before partition.

He was speaking as a chief guest at a seminar on "Kashmir, Pakistan and Pakayat" held here at the Awanish on Sunday under the aegis of the Institute for Conflict and Security Studies (ICSS), an Islamabad-based think tank. The audience mostly comprised students of different universities and colleges.

Mr Khan made it clear that Kashmir had never been a part of India.

"That's why India has deployed 800,000 troops in the belt territory

who are committing every act of savagery to prevent her occupation of Kashmir," he said.

He maintained that the Kashmiri people had remained firm in their commitment to accede their state to Pakistan. "In fact they have written a chapter of sacrifice to materialise their commitment."

He said a strong, stable and economically powerful Pakistan guaranteed freedom of Kashmiri people from India.

"We are determined not to leave any stone unturned to make Pakistan a strong and stable in terms of defence and economy," he said.

Addressing the seminar, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee Gen Zubair Mehmood Hayat said that Pakistan was incomplete without

Kashmir, and similarly, Kashmir had no identity without Pakistan.

Pakistani people had common blood, sentimental and spiritual bonds with their Kashmiri brothers, he said.

Gen Hayat said the resolution theory presented by father of the nation Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah, Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and other elders remained valid till today because Hindus and Muslims were like rivers which could not be separated.

He asserted that Pakistan and Pakayat was not a new philosophy but it was the continuation of the resolution theory and Kashmiris were its part.

"The very theory is the driving force behind the heroic struggle of Kashmiri people."

## Improving security situation prompts UN to grant status of family station to Islamabad

By Our Staff Reporter

**ISLAMABAD:** The United Nations has restored the status of Islamabad as a "family station" for its international staff, the Foreign Office said on Friday.

The federal capital's status as a family station was restored with effect from June 14.

As per the correspondence between the UN International Civil Service Commission and Pakistan's Permanent Representative at the UN in New York, Dr Mehmood Lodhi, the non-family status of Islamabad was discontinued on the recommendation of the UN's under-secretary general for safety and security after evaluating the security situation in Islamabad.

A non-family station, according to the UN rules, is one where the United Nations Department of Safety and Security does not consider it safe for UN staff to reside separately or is restricted from being posted at the duty station for a period of six months or longer.

In a statement, the FO said: "Pakistan welcomes the United Nations' decision to restore the status of Islamabad as family station for its international staff, after a comprehensive review of the security situation. Such a determination and classification is a rightful acknowledgement of the environment in the security environment in Pakistan."

"We look forward to working closely with the United Nations system in Pakistan, facilitating the valuable work that the UN officials carry out throughout the country and extending a cordial welcome to their families," it added.

Social Media Pakistan 0345-6738217

## Online tax profiling system

Continued from Page 1

extended as Pakistan was going to enter into IMF programme from July 1. He went on to say that the FBR would have the upper-hand whether or not people avail the scheme.

Mr Zaidi said that Nadra had not been given access to the bank accounts of the people. He said information on both parties was available in the portal but the portal did not have any information regarding income tax of the people.

In response to a question, the FBR chairman said that Nadra could make estimation about the tax potential. However, he said that the assessment of tax remained exclusively the power of the FBR.

### Data collection

Data on the portal has been acquired from various sources. In this regard, a meeting was held with the chief financial officer of various banks on May 30 to get details of account holders.

In the first phase, the banks provided the data of withholding taxes from Jan 1, 2018 onwards with the CNOCs of such account holders to the FBR. This data gathering was completed by June 17.

The banks have already written letters to those account holders who are not declared with the FBR and have balances of more

than Rs500,000 as of April 30, guiding them to avail the amnesty scheme if the account holder is not declared by the end of June.

In the second phase, the FBR has reached an understanding with the Pakistan Banking Council (PBC) to resolve the long-standing issue over Section 165A taccos to banking information of the Income Tax Ordinance. The PBC gave a commitment to sign agreement with the FBR.

In addition, the data of all industrial and commercial power connections from power distribution companies; information of the people living in houses of two kanals or more from housing authorities; persons who own luxury vehicles of 24,000cc and above; and information of frequent foreign travellers is also to be examined.

The letter gave the deadline of June 15 and stated that this information was sought on the directive of the prime minister who will review the performance of the FBR in the collection of tax from a monthly basis.

"We have uploaded all this information on the FBR portal to let people know about their actual assets," a senior tax officer said.

Meanwhile, massive confusion prevailed at the FBR over the issuance of letters to banks asking for details of all those accounts that had been more than Rs500,000 deposited in them.

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The banks have already

## Pakistan gets

Continued from Page 1

Orkans, which would have been detrimental to an otherwise peaceful nation.

Pakistan took a number of key measures recently to combat terror financing and money laundering, which also helped convince FATF member states not to put Islamabad on the blacklist.

The measures include banning currency transactions with countries listed on FATF's "grey list" and market conversion of more than \$500 without submitting a copy of the national identity card, proscribing militant groups like Jamaatul-Dawa (JUD) and Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) and seizing their assets.

For the measures only earned temporary reprieve for Pakistan. The FATF-affiliated Asia Pacific Group (APG) reviewed the country's security mechanism and financial systems last year and placed Pakistan on its grey list in June.

While FATF acknowledged that Pakistan has made progress in combatting terrorism and money laundering, it also noted that "transnational associations" and "effective prosecution" to ensure there is no room for money laundering and terror financing.

## Two teenage brothers shot dead in Dera Bugti

By Salim Shahid

**QUETTA:** Two teenage brothers were shot dead in Dera Bugti town on Friday. In an incident in Dera Bugti's Pirkot gas field area, eight people, including some students of a religious seminary, were injured in a grenade attack.

Levies officials said that unidentified armed men barged into a house in Chabdar area, a locality on the outskirts of Dera Bugti town, and forcibly took with them the two brothers, who were identified as Abdulah and Hameedullah.

The armed men took the two brothers to a nearby area and opened fire on them. Both the brothers received multiple bullet wounds and died on the spot, the officials said.

After killing the two brothers the armed men escaped from the area.

A Levies officer said bodies of the two brothers were found in an open place.

After receiving information about the incident, Dera Bugti Deputy Commissioner Yousaf Bazir along with Levies officials visited the area.

Security personnel shifted the bodies to the district hospital.

The bodies were later handed over to the victim's family after completing medical formalities.

Levies officials registered a case and launched investigation into the incident. In the other incident, eight people, including some students of a seminary, were injured when unidentified people hurled a hand grenade at a tea stall in Pirkot gas field area of Dera Bugti.

A Levies official said that people were sitting at the tea stall when the grenade exploded near them.

The injured were taken to the district hospital for treatment.

The tea stall and nearby shops were damaged by the blast.

Meanwhile, Balochistan Chief Minister Jam Kamal Khan Alyani and Home Minister Zoufia Langoo condemned the killing of the two teenage brothers and the grenade attack.

They said security forces were investigating the two incidents and they had launched operations to arrest elements involved in them.

A member of the Balochistan Assembly Nawazullah Ghohram Bugti condemned both the incidents, terming the grenade attack a cowardly act.

"Strongly condemns the coward attack on innocent people in Pirkot area of Dera Bugti. Such kind of brutalities must be stopped," Mr Bugti said.

No group has so far claimed responsibility for any of the incidents.

## Malik urges world to ignore Indian propaganda on FATF issue

By Kashif Abbasi

**ISLAMABAD:** The chairman of the Senate Committee on Interior, Senator Abdul Rehman Malik, on Friday urged the Financial Action Task Force and the international community not to fall prey to Indian propaganda on the issue of FATF's black list.

Chairing a meeting of the committee, Mr Malik said the world should take into account Pakistan's sacrifices in the war against terrorism and remove Pakistan from the FATF's grey list.

He said that no country had done more than Pakistan to end terrorism and no country had suffered as much as Pakistan, both in terms of loss of human lives and damage to infrastructure, in the struggle against terrorism and extremism.

He said that each year Pakistan incurs a loss of Rs12 billion on account of its inclusion in the FATF's grey list.

Senator Malik welcomed Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's letter to Prime Minister Imran Khan and expressed the hope that the Indian leader would give up his anti-Pakistan policies and play a positive role for stability and peace in the region.



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# ECP orders troops' deployment inside polling stations in tribal districts

CM gets notice over violation of code of conduct

By Zulfiqar Ali

PESHAWAR: The Election Commission of Pakistan has ordered the deployment of armed forces and civil armed forces inside and outside polling stations during the upcoming elections for the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly in July.

An ECP notification said, "Pakistan Armed Forces/Civil Armed Forces shall be deployed inside and outside all the polling stations from July 15 to July 21 for provision of secure environment to assist ECP in conduct of election in free, fair and transparent manner."

Polling in seven newly-merged tribal districts and six subdivisions of the swat valley was to take place on July 20.

The ECP had issued a fixed July 20 deadline. However, the electoral process was delayed at the request of the provincial government due to security reasons.

The Awami National Party expressed reservation about the troops' deployment in polling stations and requested the ECP to withdraw its decision about it.

However, the request was turned down.

The Pakistan Peoples Party, Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl and Jamaat-e-Islami have also opposed the troops' deployment inside polling stations.

## CM reaffirms commitment to eradicate polio

PESHAWAR: Chief Minister Mahmood Khan has reaffirmed the government's commitment to eradicate polio from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and directed all government departments to undertake necessary steps to eliminate the crippling disease from the province.

The CM took notice of polio cases reported from different parts of the province at a meeting he chaired on Friday, according to a statement.

Mahmood Khan directed that all-out efforts should be made to ensure access of polio teams to every house and every child in the province.

He asked law enforcement agencies and other relevant government departments to extend complete support during the anti-polio campaign.

He said efforts should be made to address queries and doubts of parents so that vaccination of every child could be made possible in every anti-polio campaign.

Polsi committee Chairman Abdul Afridi briefed the minister on the ongoing anti-polio campaign conducted in Swabi, Dera Ismail Khan, Tank, South Waziristan, North Waziristan, Shangla, Buner and Torkhar districts. The meeting was informed that 24 polio cases had been reported in the country during current year, of which, 18 had been reported from various districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.—Bureau Report

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## The sugar dilemma

**F**OR a brief moment, it looked like former finance minister Asad Umar had carved for himself an important new role in the ruling party. In his speech in parliament, he surprised many by taking a contrary line to the one presented by the government in its budget. And then, in a few remarks, he spoke of the sugar industry and how the beneficiaries of its rising prices needed to be investigated. The context was the tax on sugar that the budget has brought in, and how it would fuel further price increases.

Each time the sugar industry is mentioned in such a context, it is time to pause. The sugar industry is to Pakistan what Wall Street is to American capitalism. That might not come across as an appropriate comparison, but it becomes clearer when one considers the clout that Wall Street wields in American politics, and the number of people who have served in high positions in Washington D.C., particularly in the Treasury department, and its influence on Capitol Hill. In Pakistan, it is worth bearing in mind that the leadership of the three large political parties — the PML-N, PPP and PTI — have all heavily invested in sugar mills. From Asif Zardari and Nawaz Sharif to Jehangir Khan Tareen, to name only a few, there are many who derive their strength and clout from sugar. This is the one sector that no government can reform, to the point where in some places its interests can lead to a ban on the use of unrefined sugar, or sugar. Mr Umar is right when he says the sugar sector needs to be investigated. But who will carry out the investigation? Its interests know no party, and have a special place in the power politics of Pakistan. Sugar is where state and capital are fused so tightly that no investigation by any arm of the state is likely to be able to advance.

Mr Asad also spoke on some of the conditions the IMF had originally asked for when he was leader of the negotiating team. According to him, the IMF had conditions that were far harsher than what we see in the budget, such as a near-doubling of gas prices and a sharper increase in taxes than what the present budget brings. All this may be true, but the required adjustment cannot be postponed indefinitely. Beyond firefighting, which is what is being planned at the moment, the government will have to make progress on badly needed and long-delayed structural reforms. If that does not happen, the same harsh conditions will return without the option of postponement.

## Abusing the team

**T**HE scathing criticism of the Pakistan cricket team's dismal World Cup performance is at an all-time high, especially after the team collapsed against India in a match in which the captain and most players appeared to have done everything wrong. In fact — other than a thrilling victory against England whom we narrowly beat by 24 runs — our team has lost three matches, against the West Indies, Australia and India, while the game against Sri Lanka was abandoned because of rain. In a nutshell, the team's World Cup 2019 stint has been utterly disappointing, leaving it last but one in the rankings, only slightly ahead of Afghanistan. Naturally, the disappointment from the losses — particularly the thrashing from India — has opened the floodgates of criticism and allowed the dams of anger to burst. From diehard cricket fans to former cricketers and analysts, scores of individuals are commenting on the poor show put up by Pakistan. While the players' performance is indeed cause for concern for the Pakistan Cricket Board and the team's management, it appears as if some elements have crossed the line and gone well beyond constructive criticism. Among them is former cricketer Shoaib Akhtar who has publicly called Captain Sarfraz Ahmed and the team management "brainless". Separately on social and mainstream media, a video is being circulated of the players at a night out with their families; the latter have also become the target of critics. This was evidenced by the response of Sania Mirza, wife of Shoaib Malik, who lashed out on Twitter at those "disrespecting her privacy" and bullying her online for the team's losses.

Although disappointment is a justifiable emotion in this case, the personal attacks and harsh words used against the players who are still very much in the World Cup are unfair. With four matches remaining — and victories needed in all to qualify for the semi-finals — unnecessarily vicious comments are taking away from constructive feedback and putting further pressure on a team that has been unable to handle the strain. There is no doubt that the team has made bad decisions, from choosing to bat second to playing consistently non-performing players and dropping catches — the list of careless mistakes is endless. In this situation, the focus of criticism should be on bad choices and poor strategy — and not on name-calling. Ridiculing the team will hardly produce positive results; commentators should know better and use a less belligerent tone to convey their concerns.

## Killing of policemen

**I**N a pattern reminiscent of a few years ago, law-enforcement personnel in Karachi are once again falling prey to criminal elements. Two policemen in plain clothes were gunned down in Orangi last Monday, bringing the number of law enforcers killed in targeted attacks in the city this year to 10. Police claim that the empties found on the scene matched those collected elsewhere in the same locality at the site of two earlier attacks on cops. In fact, at least half the policemen murdered in targeted killings since January were slain in Orangi. That may indicate the involvement of a local group familiar with the identity and routine of cops living in the neighbourhood. Similar attacks, however, have taken place in various other localities, including Hijrat Colony, Defence Society, etc.

Karachi, with its history of warring gangs, violent extremism groups, militant wings of political parties, etc, has not been easy to police, even though the force itself is riddled with corruption and known to partake in the proceeds of crime. The years leading up to the Karachi Operation in late 2013 were particularly perilous; in 2014 and 2015 too, with law enforcement taking on a slew of criminal elements, being a cop in the sprawling metropolis meant gambling with one's life. Police were ordered to patrol in groups, and many avoided wearing their uniform in public lest they be targeted. Even traffic police were not spared, prompting bulletproof vests to be issued to them. According to official figures, 165 police fell in the line of duty in 2013; the next year, the number was 136. By 2016, it had fallen to 29. However, the number of police fatalities so far this year may point towards a resurgence in criminal elements that had been lying low — or were driven out of the city by the Rangers-led crackdown. Targeting law enforcement adds to outlaws' sense of invincibility and demoralises the police. The attacks must be investigated thoroughly. Complacency is not an option.

## OPINION

BY REEMA OMER



## Bail and liberty

Under international standards, pretrial detention should be the exception.

"DEPRIVATION of liberty must be considered a punishment, unless it can be required to ensure that an accused person will stand trial when called upon." Countries around the world turn to the principle that punishment follows after conviction, and that every man is deemed to be innocent until duly tried and duly found guilty."

The Indian Supreme Court's observations in "Sanjay Chandra" (2018) aptly elucidate the link between the right to liberty and pretrial detention, an understanding that is strikingly absent in Pakistan's laws, practice and jurisprudence.

The right to liberty is one of the fundamental rights guaranteed in Pakistan's Constitution. Article 9 guarantees that "no person shall be deprived of life or liberty save in accordance with law", placing personal liberty on the same pedestal as the right to life. The right to liberty is also guaranteed under international law, including Article 9 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), to which Pakistan is a party.

Simply put, the right to liberty guarantees that the state cannot imprison or detain people unless the deprivation of liberty is reasonable, necessary and proportionate in the particular case.

Despite this clear guarantee in the ICCPR, the UN Human Rights Committee has said, "detention pending trial must be based on an individualized determination that it is reasonable and necessary taking into account all the circumstances..." Furthermore, the committee has said that courts must examine whether alternatives to pretrial detention, such as bail, electronic bracelets or other conditions, would render detention unnecessary in the particular case.

Pakistan's legal and jurisprudence, however, make a mockery of the right to liberty.

Criminal offences in Pakistan are divided into two categories: bailable and non-bailable offences. For bailable offences, bail is an accused person's right, whereas in non-bailable cases, bail may only be granted at the discretion of the court.

For non-bailable offences, Section 495 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) provides that accused shall not be given bail if there are "reasonable grounds for believing" that they are "guilty of an offence punishable with death, imprisonment

for life or imprisonment for ten years".

The designation of certain offences in Pakistan's Penal Code as "bailable" versus "non-bailable" is arbitrary, for example, kidnapping, assault, and accidental homicide are bailable, whereas hurting religious sentiment, sedition, and promoting enmity between different groups are non-bailable.

Most offences under special laws such as the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997, and the National Accountability Ordinance, 2009, also fall under the "non-bailable" category. Furthermore, these special laws allow for long periods of remand — where people are detained for the purpose of investigation — for up to 180 days. The National Accountability Ordinance also grants the jurisdiction of courts to grant an accused person bail on any ground whatsoever, which means that accused people have to approach the high courts for bail in their constitutional jurisdiction, the grounds for which are even more stringent.

These provisions on bail appear incompatible with the right to a fair trial and the right to liberty, as it makes courts' exercise of their decision to grant bail contingent upon the "tentative guilty" presumption. What this essentially means is that accused persons can be held in custody even if they make a determination as to whether or not the accused has committed the offence without granting the accused full rights to prepare a defense.

Decisions as to whether to grant or deny bail or impose bail conditions are — and must remain — unrelated to questions of guilt or innocence. To deny bail on unfounded suspicions of guilt undermines the principle of presumption of innocence, since it effectively applies a punitive sanction (pre-trial detention) in respect of the accused's pre-judgement in the absence of an actual trial.

Furthermore, under international standards, pretrial detention should be the exception, reserved only for situations where the likelihood exists that the accused would abscond or destroy evidence, influence witnesses, or flee from the jurisdiction of the state. Detention prior to trial is therefore classified not as punishment, but as a preventative measure aimed at averting frustration of justice or (further) harm.

Courts too have not interpreted these laws in a

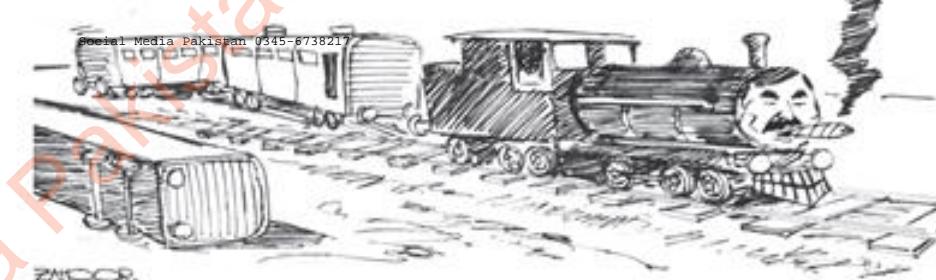
manner consistent with the essence of the right to liberty. Pakistan's bail jurisprudence appears to be haphazard and arbitrary, with courts refusing bail in a perfunctory manner without any serious explanation why arrest or pretrial detention is necessary. In practice, this has meant that grant of bail is dependent on extraneous factors such as the nature of accusation, the quantum of punishment, and public sentiment.

In a recent illustrative case, the Supreme Court dismissed a petition for bail related to a case involving allegations of corruption arguing that "the tendency for corruption in every field has become a threatening danger to the state and society and it is the duty of the judiciary to avert this menace at this stage". Therefore, according to the Supreme court, the courts must not show any leniency and refuse bail if the case is made out in facts at bail stage.

In its own surprise, therefore, that as of 2018, 48,780 out of 78,160 (62 per cent) of Pakistan's prison population were people accused of offences awaiting trial, which the UN Human Rights Committee also took notice of while assessing Pakistan's performance in the implementation of the ICCPR. It concluded that the Pakistani judiciary should take all measures necessary to ensure that pretrial detention is used solely as an exceptional measure and not for excessively long periods, in accordance with Article 9 of the Covenant.

The power of arrest and detention is an extraordinary one, which must be used with utmost deliberation and care — not arbitrarily as a tool of oppression and harassment at the hands of government authorities or the government of the day. When this discretion is not used properly it amounts to a violation of the right to liberty. At the minimum, this means parliament should reconsider the laws on pretrial detention and bail, and where there is discretion, judges should apply the provisions of bail to ensure their compatibility with international standards on the right to liberty and fair trial discussed above.

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BY ABBAS NASIR

## A technocratic heaven?

AN influential part of the country's ruling elite has preferred for obvious reasons governing via so-called technocrats rather than members of the elected parliament who are answerable to the people.

There is more than one example of this rule-by-technocrats, except that there is little conclusive evidence that this delivered better results when compared to how policy is evolved and implemented in a parliamentary democracy.

Often in our case, civil servants are mistaken for technocrats. You need only look at the Ayub Khan's decade in power to understand what I am driving at as the economy was run by them. They were not answerable to any parliament.

This is the period when Pakistan is said to have missed the bus not following an economic model proposed by the Harvard University group of economists headed by Dr George G. Poagsek. It has often been said the embrace of this model's recommendations transformed South Korea.

To examine whether this is one our favorite myths or South Korea's growth can actually be attributed to it would require a separate column. Even assuming we did indeed miss the bus, many Pakistanis still talk to not seem to agree.

They have an extremely romantic notion of the Ayub Khan era as a period of high economic growth. They completely ignore the fact that it was during this period that the economy was concentrated in the hands of the so-called 22 families; their wealth and power grew as the exclusion and alienation of a large segment of the country and the population.

One famous economist who had taken a complete U-turn by the late 1970s/early 1980s for arriking poverty at the grassroots level, used to be an advocate in the Ayub era of first making the size of the cake before everybody gets a slice in the end.

The seeds of the technocratic model can mainly be traced to this period. Denial of political rights to the people meant they had no avenue to peacefully agitate for their economic rights and, therefore, a pressure cooker-type situation developed.

The lid blew off in the aftermath of the 1970 election in which Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's Awami League won decisively in the then eastern wing on a platform of six points that called for autonomy for the province to an extent that bordered on

independence.

The vote in West Pakistan was no different as it was also a manifestation of deep discontentment with the status quo, coming on the heels of Ayub's much-touted 'decade of development', because a vast majority had never tasted the fruits of that development.

Perhaps, the only difference was that people in erstwhile East Pakistan blamed their West Pakistani rulers for their deprivations and, hence, eventually fought for separation; the western wing masses voted en masse for the 'roti, kapra aur malam' (bread, clothing, shelter) slogan as a manifestation of utter discontent with the status quo.

**The consumerism that easy cash fuelled in society can be blamed for many of our problems after Musharraf stepped down.**

There can be no denying that a degree of industrial and agricultural growth did happen under Ayub Khan even if redistributive justice was conspicuously absent as the workers were granted zero rights.

Whether this growth itself to the brilliance of the "technocrat" or was merely a payoff for Pakistan's willing participation in the US-camp during the peak of the Cold War is another matter. Two other periods of the technocrat-led 'growth' proved to be a bust.

These periods were witnessed during the times we had access to generous disbursements from the US. During the first, we played a role in undermining the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan. The second period must rank as one of the great ironies of our times. This was when we firmly thrust ourselves in the US camp when the decade and a half of religious indoctrination and militant training of students from around the world by the

US-Saudi-Pakistani alliance to battle Soviet Union in Afghanistan blew up in our faces with 9/11.

Who doesn't remember that President Bill Clinton came to Pakistan in the spring of 2000 after the military takeover of October 1999 and would not even shake hands in public with military ruler Gen Musharraf or being photographed with him?

Past-SNL leaders of the 'free world' were in a holding pattern over Islamabad waiting for their turn to land and extend all kinds of support, virtually with cheque books in hand, to the great leader who was helping them fight Al Qaeda which had taken responsibility for the attacks on the US.

The consumerism that easy cash fuelled in Pakistani society can be blamed for many of our problems after Musharraf stepped down.

Prime Minister Imran Khan has now appointed an inquiry commission comprising mostly law-enforcement officials rather than economists to ascertain how Pakistan's foreign debt was overwhelmingly over the resources of the past two civilian governments.

All he needed to do was to ask his own 'technocrats' from the civil service who served in similar roles in both the Musharraf and PPF set-ups that followed. The prime minister could also examine the debt of even developed nations following the global banking crisis of 2008.

Perhaps, the PML-N's contribution to adding to the foreign debt figure could be traced to the dramatic increase in the power generation capacity which required huge capital investment. He may have to explain this does not necessarily lie only in the locational factor.

More to the point he should concentrate on economic policy and ensure that his team of technocrats delivers more that we are not in bed with the US and being paid handsomely for our services. At some point, he will have to answer to parliament and the people. ■

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# OPINION

BY A.G. NOORANI



## Future of Congress

THE Indian National Congress suffered a terrible defeat in the recent election. The defeat was all the more dismalling for the fact that it had suffered a defeat in the 2014 polls too. All hopes of recovery were dashed. There was no silver lining to inspire hope in a scenario as in 2009 when it lost to the National Front. It lost again to the BJP in 1998 and in 1999.

To her credit, Sonia Gandhi revived the Congress by severing the dismissal of PV Narasimha Rao and his successor from the office of party president. Rao's tenure as prime minister (1991-96) was marked by corruption and all manner of shoddygerry.

Sonia Gandhi reigned supreme as president of the Congress till 2014 and health and the 2014 elections forced her to decide to give her son the office. Not long thereafter, The Economic's editor, Sanjiv Dahiya correspondent called him a chuk. This has proved him right. Rahul Gandhi's abuse of Narendra Modi showed him as a petulant adolescent ready for a fight, and so more.

All these years, there was clamour in the party for his sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's entry into active politics. She was never far from its workings. At long last she plunged into the 2019 election, and lost. Rahul and Sonia Gandhi's Adarsh Vriksh campaign was as instructive. It found brother and sister hopefully wanting. Rahul resigned as Congress' president, with a show of firmness, as co-thrivers in the party begged him to stay put. But both Rahul and Priyanka famously blamed the Congress cadre for the party's defeat. Priyanka, long expected by some as one who could set the Gang on fire, proved an absolute flop in her campaign. The approach was adopted by others after the party's dismal performance. Of the two, hers was the more fiery and sustained denunciation of the cadres than Rahul's. Sonia supports them, now and then, alike.

Together, these facts pose a question for the few senior courtiers with a backbone and the cadres. Why should they pledge their allegiance to leaders who, instead of brave acts, are always in the shadow of their brother, the rank and file? Sonia, Rahul and Priyanka seek to follow in the footsteps of the authoritarian Indira Gandhi, but without her talent for political compromise. There is good reason to suspect that were it not for her assassination in 1984, she would have failed in that year's poll. Bhutto had overruled her, as did her unstable son Rajiv. He did not know how to build the Congress. Sonia is more accomplished but she cannot discard the father's legacy either. Her arrival cost the Congress' chances. Her favourite "weapon" is the snub, administered to opponents and party men alike.

Rahul is no different.

Combined with this is the undermining of any who shares spine. Like Indira, her instigators take pride in undermining any state leader with a following and stature of his own. The "high command" plants its own nests in the cadre. Priyanka Chief Minister Amarinder Singh is seen as a threat because he enjoys respect in his own right. His cheetah-like colleague, Navjot Singh Sidhu, who covets the latter's post, cracks a snook at his chief, with the high command's blessings.

Why would Amarinder Singh support leaders who believe that for long? He is superior in stature to Rahul and Priyanka. In Punjab, he can give battle to Sonia. Therefore lies the point. The Congress has lost its leadership. Look elsewhere at the very prospect of state leaderships with a mass following of their own — lest they pose a danger to the national leadership. Indira promoted Rajiv who proved a "sheaf", as did Rahul and Priyanka and as Sonia has begun to show. In its lone dismal defeat, the Congress has no alternative leadership and a democratic, participative cadre. This is a direct result of the appointment of "Delhi-made chief ministers" since 1972.

A political party can flourish only when its leader commands wide respect, has colleagues who are able enough to be considered his successors, and not only has dedicated workers but also has a clear vision of the future. Dynamic politics has succeeded at times because the heir who succeeds "the leader" succeeds in commanding the support of seconds-in-command and the cadres. He loses power when critics or blunders undermine these vital props.

It is remarkable to write off the Congress as a sinking ship. It can still sail. Its impressive structure of old has survived past criticism. It is now time to bring in a new culture of democracy. That can be arrested provided some of its seniors put their shoulders to the wheel and agree to run the party, putting aside their ego conflicts. A tall order, this, as far as getting the three Gandhis to stay put, while relinquishing their hold on the reins of power. India needs a powerful opposition. Need I add that it is also for the two mainist parties to unite? In both cases, an ideological rethink is absolutely necessary. ■

The writer is an author and a lawyer based in Mumbai.

**Adversity tests individuals as well as institutions.**



BY IRFAN HUSAIN

## Cricket before dawn

I'M currently visiting my son Shakir in California, and given the eight-hour time difference, World Cup matches being played in the UK start at 2.30 am.

Shakir has paid for a channel showing cricket, and we watch the second half of a more reasonable hour. As far as he was concerned, having defeated England, all our team had to do was beat India and then fly home.

Last Sunday, I wake up before four and checked the score on a board on Cricket, the cricket website. When I saw that India were bating at over 80 without loss, I turned the light off and went back to sleep, knowing that we were heading for a thrashing.

When we turned on the TV at around eight, Shakir said he was doing well, but as so often in the past, the wickets began to tumble like dominoes.

Much has been written and said about the disgraceful manner of our defeat, as ED space readers may take on the match. But it's a fact that India was the far superior side, and thoroughly deserved their comprehensive victory. In an embarrassingly one-sided match, it was as though a club side of amateurs had been asked to play against a Test team.

In any sport, one side has to lose. But seven World Cup losses to India indicate a trend, and not just a bad patch. Compared to the agile, athletic Indian team, our boys came across as stiff and lacking focus and intensity. Our captain was all punch and no punch.

Although the Pakistani team has been cut and run across the social media, much of what has been said is true between the two teams. After all, there was a time, not that long ago, when our team regularly beat their traditional rivals. Why has this improved, while we have declined?

The causes lie beyond the boundary rope. The last 40 years or so have witnessed a steady fall in games played at school and college level. Street cricket has replaced the organised version. And while some talent has come through, by far large we no longer produce world-class batsmen and bowlers as we once did.

Imran Khan has advocated a restructuring of domestic cricket for decades. And it's true that for corporations and government departments to have their own teams is an anomaly that exists nowhere else as far as I know. However, if the current setup is replaced by teams representing districts and provinces, funding would be a lot easier.

Our education system is having a similar impact on every aspect of national life. Madrasahs don't equip young people to contribute to either personal or public welfare. And the less said about state education the better.

To put it all, I had bet £10 on Pakistan to win. ■

But expecting excellence in cricket while so much else is crumbling around us is unreasonable. While we were once world champions in hockey and squash, we no longer figure anywhere in the rankings. Cricket is about international standards and ours are caught up in internal rivalries.

The Pakistan Football Federation, for example, was alleged to have become the launch pad for dozens of foreign jockeys. Not much has been done for the sport, and there is little to show for all the FIFPro funds that flow in to raise standards. And did the prime minister have to make wholesale changes in the cricket board shortly before the World Cup? Couldn't he have waited a few months to see what Rajan Sethi, the successor, could do?

In a sense, cricket is a metaphor for much that is wrong with the country. Constant squabbling between institutions, a tendency to centralise power, and a need to seek personal benefit at the cost of the common good have become the norm.

In such an environment, talent has little chance to flourish. A lack of facilities and coaching ensures that we will seldom rise above mediocrity. But again, this only reflects what's happening in just about every other area from PLA to

the railways.

Connecting the dots at the heart of this development, after the dismantling of the military secret weapon, has been the privatisation of private schools and colleges by the PFF government in the early 1970s, two generations of Pakistanis have graduated from failing state institutions. Gen Zia's "Islamisation" has added to the menu.

This is not to suggest that the lack of a good education excludes you from sports. However, the mental discipline gained in a rigorous regime of strict regimen, people work hard and play hard, has made us compare Virat Kohli's self-confidence and Saffraz Ahmed's cringe-making press conferences, and you will get my point.

Our educational system is having a similar impact on every aspect of national life. Madrasahs don't equip young people to contribute to either personal or public welfare. And the less said about state education the better.

To put it all, I had bet £10 on Pakistan to win. ■

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## FROM THE PAST PAGES OF DAWN

1969 | Fifty years ago

Peshawar heat wave

**PESHAWAR:** The severe heat wave, which has gripped Peshawar for the last 24 hours, has claimed three lives in the suburban villages of this district, while scores of persons are reported to have fainted in the city, cantonment and University areas.

Till the early hours of this morning [June 21], several cases of heat stroke have been reported. Amongst the losses in the city, a man died yesterday as a standstill yesterday. A number of tonga houses also faultered on the streets yesterday.

The temperature, which rose from 106 [degrees Fahrenheit] to 114 yesterday, continued to be the same today. The two days have been recorded as the hottest of the season in this region.

It is feared that more lives may have been lost in the hills and Bannu, where the temperature is generally far higher than Peshawar. — Correspondent

[Measurable, as reported by an agency in Islamabad.] According to a generic notification issued by the Ministry of Finance, the Central Government has directed that from Aug 1, 1995, the old coins of the denomination of half anna, one anna and two annas shall cease to be legal tender at the offices of the Issue Department of the State Bank of Pakistan.

1944 | Seventy-five years ago

Metal or morale?

(EDITORIAL) Not until the Death Ray of fiction was invented did the Allies have really secret weapons. But not for long; unless all our agents have been killed in the meanwhile. Much had been made of the secret weapons with which the Germans would annihilate their enemies in this war but one by one their new inventions are turning out to be damp squibs. The magnetic mine in its initial introduction had taken a heavy toll of Allied shipping but counter measures were not long in coming and de-gaussing ships have resulted in making the mines徒劳.

If the plotless planes were intended to strike terror in Britain, the Allies seem already unperturbed by them. The waves of bombers that blitzed Berlin did more damage than these aircraft which projected on a dead course by radio control could effect disaster only ones by accident than by purpose. To eliminate the human control could mean a saving of pilots for the Nazis but nothing of maneuverability in the face of attacks the planes present almost a sitting target to anti-aircraft fire. [Underlining nothing more similar is polled out from the German army the Allies have little to fear. — Dawn Delhi

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters@dawn.com

Letters may be edited for purposes of clarity and space and should carry the writer's address, CRTC and phone numbers.

### Let's stand by the team

I WATCHED our cricket team play in the first test against England. England won the World Cup 2019. I honestly was very pleasantly surprised that our boys put up a good fight, they seemed more mentally strong and brave now than I had ever seen them.

Being a performer myself, I feel it is very, very important to keep one's spirit high before a performance. Performance is more of a mental attitude.

We all stand and practice very hard at times, but most of the time we do it as well publicly and there is a whole psychology behind it. That's why you have sports psychiatrists. Every bit matters.

Fear before a performance mars your performance. No matter how good you are, the "moment" that faces you is always new.

They gave a good fight and didn't lose interest till the end knowing the odds were against them.

I personally saw this as a big pleasure change in our team. We all know we are not such a strong team right now for a multitude of reasons. It's evident these boys have not travelled and played enough, however, had such opportunity to be in the big leagues where the entire atmosphere transforms and gives you that most needed experience.

It can be pretty scary if you're not used to it. This is the reason why we must be very understanding now and the general spirit of a place matters. More so, for years our team has been isolated from the international arena.

Hardly any international team has played tournaments in Pakistan owing to security reasons. This result was a given. The fact that they were not there and played was good enough for me.

It is a sign of insanity to think that our team is not invited from what has been our home for the last 11 years. It is only cricket that went for a nose dive. They are not only cricketers but Pakistanis too.

As members of society each one of them, I am sure, goes through the same ordeal as all of us who have to deal with negativity spewed against us on local and international media, sappling our energy. Only if it is them, that our team will be any different.

We take a lot of pride when an Atif Aslam or a Rahat Fateh Ali Khan, a Jhangiani Khan or an Imran Khan does well on the international arena, but how many of us realize that none of us had anything to do with their success? It was solely their own personal passion and very hard work that took them to such excellence and not a day they were doing so to us. We are just beneficiaries of their hard work and proud of them because they are Pakistanis.

Let's be more sensitive to our team and

ourselves. I am still very proud of all of them. I wish them luck in the coming matches and they should at least be cheering for them.

Time Said  
Karachi

### Gorakh hill station

GORAKH HILL station is the most attractive mountain peak situated at Kirthar mountain range 5km from Dadoha and at an elevation of 3,600 feet above sea level.

When the temperature is even 30°C, Gorakh Hill is surprisingly 20 to 25°C Celsius below the hill top.

Recently, I visited the hill station. It took us three and half hours to reach the top from Wazir Panahi, which is 45km north of Dadoha. The condition of roads was poor, especially from Wazir Panahi to Gorakh Hill.

Most part of the road was stony and is believed to be under construction, while the newly constructed road has been taken by several local drivers.

I strongly suggest visitors not to use their personal vehicles and motorbikes to climb the hill. They should travel to Wazir Panahi in their vehicles and hire local jeeps which are driven by professional drivers who know every inch of the steep cliff and stony roads.

Although there is a restaurant for visitors on every point, rates of edible items and drinks are high. There is no service society with the tourists as well, for one cannot see a single policeman in their vicinity.

The Pakistan Pediatric Association recommends that there should be legislation which allows a daycare centre to be set up as there are a minimum of five women with children working at an organization or business.

Dr Mashter Lakhani  
Pakistan Pediatric Association  
Karachi

However, to her disappointment, Ms Shireen was told that bringing children to the assembly was against the law.

Following the negative response from the provincial political circle, Ms Shireen said that she had decided to run a community-based daycare daycare facility in assemblies as well as in all government departments.

On Thursday, Balochistan Chief Minister Jam Kamal Khan Alyani decided to establish a daycare centre on the Balochistan Assembly premises to provide women parliamentarians the facility to bring their children to work.

I hope this will be replicated in other provinces as well. It will encourage more young mothers to work and bring their children to work.

The Pakistan Pediatric Association recommends that there should be legislation which allows a daycare centre to be set up as there are a minimum of five women with children working at an organization or business.

However, when I forwarded an online application for the transfer of my phone connection 24 days ago, on May 26, the operators assured me that my phone connection would be transferred within seven working days as per company policy along with Rs 200 as transfer charges.

But to my chagrin, after eight working days, on June 11, the company informed me that I had cancelled the request for the transfer.

When I got in touch, they apologized as they always do and assured me that my complaint had been forwarded to the department concerned and an investigation would be held regarding the issue.

Furthermore, they assured me that my request would be dealt with on a priority basis and in the next few days within 21 days. When I asked if I had to pay the bill for this period, they calmly replied "yes".

When I called them after three working days, they informed me that my request for the transfer of connection had been cancelled on June 11, and no complaint had been forwarded in that regard, and I would have to go through the procedure again.

I would highly appreciate it if someone could tell me what is going on.

Tauseef Sojial  
Multan

### CBF performance

GULSTAN-i-Jashn falls under the administrative control of Cantt Board (CBF).

The board has hundreds of thousands of rupees as property tax from the citizens and is responsible for maintaining cleanliness, yet all blocks around Jashn Chowranghi have small heaps of garbage and the debris of illegal shops which were demolished. Drains, if any, are filled with waste.

Footpaths are broken, there are potholes and cracks on service lanes, vegetable and fruit vendors occupy the main road near Gulistan-i-Jashn, leading to Gulistan-e-Bahar City and Daud Nizam Hospital, Torki, Sorkhi van and auto rickshaws are parked haphazardly. All this shows poor CBF management.

One polythene bags in every mock and corner flying in the air, creating an unhealthy and polluted atmosphere. Citizens are tired to this fifth.

Cars are delayed by the CBF appear after 6.00 am for cleaning sweeping against the internationally adopted principle of garbage removal from 4.00am to 6.00am.

Will the authorities concerned take note of this and ensure taxpaying public gets what it should get?

Name withheld on request  
Karachi

### Bank pension cut

THE management of the United Bank Ltd has made a 50 per cent reduction in the pension of its former ex-employees. On June 12, it got statement of account issued from the concerned branch. The statement revealed that no pension was paid in March whereas in April and May only 50% of the pension was credited to my account.

The pension amount is Rs 8,400 per month, whereas the amount being paid by the bank (April to May, 2019) is Rs 4,200 per month. May I ask the bank

management on what legal premise have they reduced the pension? As far as my knowledge goes there is no rule or law which allow the bank management to reduce the pension.

Haseeb Afzal  
Karachi

### EOBI pension

THERE is grave concern over the apathy of the government to the Employees Old-age Benefit Institution's pensioners who have been left out in the current budget.

Can Rs 250 a month suffice for an aged labourer to sustain his family in these harsh times? Dignity of labour is the

hallmark of developed nations, and an increase in his pension is a first step towards his betterment.

Kazeem Hussain  
Lahore

### Roads in Azizabad

THE roads in Karachi's Azizabad neighbourhood are in a terrible condition. The potholes on the roads are a major cause of concern. They have not been repaired for many years. Not only do they slow down the traffic, they also cause regular accidents. During the monsoon season, these potholes are filled with water and trash owing to which people face problems crossing the streets.

Recently, there were several accidents due to these conditions. It is a known fact that the people of Karachipay a large vehicle tax. It is therefore their fundamental right to have better roads for their vehicles.

I hope that the authorities concerned will look into the matter and take some prompt and necessary actions.

Masroobur Rehman  
Karachi

### 'Tax theft'

A PROPOSAL the editorial "Tax rates". The current budget shows a sharp increase in taxes to back the faltering economy. The government has faltered to handle the situation with an iron fist. It is necessary to take strict measures against non-payers. Despite a good plan to encourage people to pay taxes and a clear distinction between filers and non-filers, the previous government failed to bring the general public in the doorstep of the revenue tax office.

The public must cooperate with the state to bring the country out of this economic crisis.

Masood Manshukh  
Quetta

### Readers' Editor

IN keeping with the internationally recognized standard of general journalism, Dawn has its own internal ombudsman — Dawn Readers' Editor (DRE). The idea is to attend to our readers' complaints, professionally and to respond to them.

DRE is the investigating authority to whom all complaints are referred, and it is DRE who takes notice of any alleged violations of Dawn's code of ethics.

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# BUSINESS

## Doubts surround exchange rate stability

By Shahid Iqbal

KARACHI: Exchange rate remained relatively stable during the week ending on Friday but analysts fear the stability may be short-lived as foreign exchange reserves continue to decline.

Currency dealers in the banks said the dollar was traded at around Rs157 on Friday while some traders were conducted at Rs157.20.

This was slightly lesser than the rate at the start of the week on Monday when the greenback was traded at Rs157.50 in the interbank market.

"The market has eased up; there is enough liquidity to stabilise the exchange rate," said a senior banker adding the inflows have also improved.

Bankers noted that amid usual trend of higher outflows as the financial year draws to a close, the exchange rate stability is a welcome sign of improved market confidence.

They said the expectations from other bilateral partners like the World Bank have also improved the market sentiment.

On the other hand, dealers in the open market said the exchange rate remained steady during the week but were sceptical whether the stability will hold in the days ahead.

The open market also witnessed slight fluctuations in the exchange rate as the greenback was being traded at Rs157.

"The local dollar was in surplus as around 10 billion rupees were being deposited in banks every day."

"I believe enough depreciation of local currency has already been carried out and this

could likely be a part of the agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF)," said Exchange Companies Association of Pakistan (Ecap).

He said the confidence has visibly improved but it was not possible make any claims on the long-term stability of the exchange rate.

Moreover, analysts were also doubtful about the rate stability and fear that more devaluation may likely be on the cards mainly on account of declining foreign exchange reserves.

"We fear the rupee could weaken further by the month-end, until receipt of first tranche of IMF program (post IMF board meeting) is received," said a JI Research report issued on Friday.

The State Bank governor recently said the IMF would release its first tranche under the bailout package after board meeting takes the final decision on July 3.

"Particularly, given close to \$1bn per month of debt repayments, we anxiously await any positive developments on debt restructuring," said the report.

Dealers in the market said a low base of foreign exchange reserves, any sharp outflow of dollar would lead to further depreciation of the local currency, whereas an inflow would create a favourable reaction on the rupee," said the report.

These factors have played out in the last few weeks and this "new normal" will inevitably hold over the next twelve months.

"If we assume that the rupee has stabilised, it would imply that all the external funding requirement will be metified by an equal amount of inflows, whereas right now we are teetering at the very edge," said the report.

## Children among 30 killed in fire at matchstick factory in Indonesia

JAKARTA: At least 30 people, including several children, were killed when a fire ripped through a private house that operated as a matchstick factory in Indonesia on Friday, authorities said.

Pictures from the scene showed blackened corpses lying on top of each other in the burnt-out house after the blaze, which authorities said broke out early Friday afternoon.

TV footage showed plumes of black smoke billowing from the house in the town of Blitar in North Sumatra, about 70 kilometers west of provincial capital Medan.

"We don't know what caused the fire but it has been extinguished," the head of North Sumatra's disaster agency Rizaldi Lubis said, adding that at least three children were among the dead.

"We're very悲痛 there," he added.

Resident Idris Zulkifli was headed to the local mosque in the Muslim-majority nation when the fire broke out.

"I was about to go out to Friday prayers when there was a loud explosion," he said.

"But I don't know what blew up," Blitar police chief Sugiharto Tri Suryanto said a gas cylinder explosion may have caused the blaze, but that the cause still needed to be confirmed.

At least three people escaped but most victims may have been unable to flee the scene, he added, while local media said four women escaped.

"They were trapped in a room — there was no way out," Nuryanto told Tribun News, referring to the dead.

"We're still identifying the victims and scouring the scene." It was not clear why there were children at the scene. But one survivor, identified only as Pugit, said that they were visiting their parents who worked at the site.

"The children went there at lunchtime," she told Tribun News.

Relatives of the workers have flocked to a local hospital in Medan to identify their loved ones.

"My sister went home for a lunch break, but then she returned home to lose her life," a sobbing Suryadi, who goes by one name, said.

Deadly fires are not uncommon in Indonesia due to poor safety standards that are routinely flouted, while illegal businesses are also widespread.

This year, dozens were believed to have been killed when an unfinished building collapsed while, in 2017, at least 46 people were killed and dozens more injured in a blaze that tore through a fireworks factory outside Jakarta.

Seventeen people were killed when a fire ripped through a karaoke bar on Sulawesi island in 2015 and, in 2009, a fire killed 20 people at a karaoke bar in Medan, on Sumatra island.—AFP

## 672 arrested in global swoop on fake food and drink

LYON: Police in 75 countries arrested nearly 672 people as part of a coordinated global crackdown on potentially dangerous counterfeited food and drink, international police agency Interpol announced on Friday.

Packets of cheese and chicken on which the self-by dates had been swapped with ones that had been printed inesterday conditions and drinks containing dangerous substances were among the goods seized in raids on shops, markets and during transport checks.

In Zimbabwe, the authorities seized nearly 45,000 litres of soft drinks containing high levels of the active ingredient, a drug used to treat erectile dysfunction, which could be life-threatening.

using for unsuspecting consumers.

Boozing liquor accounted for a large part of the haul. In Russia, an underground vodka factory was shut down and 4,200 litres of counterfeited alcohol seized.

In Eritrea, authorities arrested members of a syndicate that had been selling counterfeit honey.

In other countries raids targeted goods that had been fraudulently labelled organic.

The goods seized in the operation, which was carried out between December 2018 and April 2019 and coordinated by France-based Interpol and EU law enforcement agency Europol, were worth over 17 million dollars, Interpol said in a statement.—AFP

—W.M.



NEW DELHI: Indian lawmakers perform yoga in front of parliament house to mark International Yoga Day on Friday.—AFP

## Hong Kong protests flare anew after demands unmet

HONG KONG: More than 1,000 protesters blocked Hong Kong police headquarters into the night Friday, while others took over major streets as the city's leader's latest speech showed no signs of shifting.

The latest protest came after a deadline passed the previous day for the government to meet demands over highly unpopular extradition bills that many see as eroding the territory's judicial independence.

Police called for the demonstrators to disperse but did not immediately take firm action to remove them.

While the protest began peacefully, the presence again of demonstrators on busy Harcourt Road and in the lobby of the Revenue Tower raised the possibility of violent confrontation.

"I now appeal to the members of the public to leave as soon as possible," said Wong Yiu-tai, 50, who said he was at a protest committee meeting.

Outside, activist Joshua Wong called on police to answer demands over heavily-handed tactics used during a mass protest on June 12, including the firing of 150 rounds of tear gas, rubber bullets and beanbag rounds, and the beating of unarmed protesters by police with truncheons.

"We... urge police to apologize to the people" over the use of such tactics and their labelling of the gathering as a riot, Wong said.

Police seemed reluctant to use force on Friday even as the protesters closed down roads in the centre of Hong Kong.

While anger seemed to be turning away from civil authorities and toward the police, the mostly black-clad protesters continued to try and disrupt the sitting government complex, as they have tried off-and-on for the past two weeks.

During the afternoon, some sought to build barriers on Connaught Road, the main thoroughfare in the area known as Admiralty, hurling barriers of stones, pyramids and other materials at police who responded by temporarily blocking traffic.

The Auxiliary Bishop of Hong Kong's Catholic diocese, the Rev.

Joseph Ha, appealed to the protesters to avoid violence. He warned that public opinion could turn against them.

"You have already been on the roads for a long time," he said on Cable TV, Hong Kong. "You've already done a lot. You have already expressed very clearly your hopes and wishes. But I am really worried about your personal safety.... Please, absolutely, do not use violence." Protest leaders have said they are determined to keep up the pressure on Hong Kong's leader Carrie Lam, who has delayed but not abandoned the extradition legislation. She has initiated the bills are needed to uphold justice, but critics see them as part of a campaign by Beijing to diminish Hong Kong's democratic institutions.

"I myself am not the type to get involved in violence," student protester Brian Cheung said. "I'm not sure if I will have any more energy to continue fighting, since our resistance, and keep the government paralyzed until it responds to us."

Another student, who would only give her first name, Yvonne, said she was determined to maintain the movement's momentum.

"I'm going to carry on coming out, and carry on protesting," she said.

Many protesters have been weary of giving their full names and have obscured their identities with face masks to guard their identities.

**Social-Media Pakistan 0345-6738217**

government or school authorities.

Government offices were ordered closed Friday due to security considerations, and hearings at the Legislative Council were suspended.

Since the confrontations June 12, police have engaged in a replay of 2014 protests, when officers unleashed 82 pounds of tear gas at protesters in the same location as the current protests. When the smoke from that response cleared, bigger crowds returned, angrier than before, and didn't leave for nearly three months.

The Hong Kong authorities should expand the scope of criminal suspect transfers to include mainland China, Taiwan and Macau. Legal and business groups in Hong Kong oppose the leg-

islation, saying critics of China's ruling Communist Party would be at risk of torture and unfair trials on the mainland and that it further undermines the "one country, two systems" framework under which Hong Kong has been governed since 1997.

That framework guaranteed the territory the right to retain its own legal, economic and political system for 50 years, but the Communist Party under Chinese President Xi Jinping has been pushing ever more aggressive policies to unify the two systems in Hong Kong. Beijing has repealed all reporting on the protests in mainland media and accused foreign forces of stirring up division in Hong Kong.

Opposition to the legislation has come from a broad range of civic, human rights, legal professionals and commercial organizations.

Many protesters have been weary of giving their full names and have obscured their identities with face masks to guard their identities.

Police arrested 1,322 suspects, including 262 foreigners, for allegedly hating or insulting Hong Kong, mostly after pressuring John Lam, the minister in charge of the police, to resign on June 12.

Officers appeared "out of control, placing a ban on peaceful protesters" who would otherwise "not cause any damage or injury," Man-Loon Tam, the group's Hong Kong director, said in a statement.

"The Hong Kong authorities should send a clear message that these failures in policing will not be tolerated. A thorough, independent and effective investigation needs to take place and any officers found responsible must face justice, at any level of the chain of command," Tam said.—AP

in the Chinese countryside struggle to find wives especially if they lack a car, house, or well-paying job.

Marriage agents that match couples are legal and accepted practice in China, and transnational marriages have become increasingly common. However, Chinese law bars marriage agencies from introducing foreign brides to deter trial婚姻.

The association also called for the setting up of an independent commission to investigate the June 12 violence, including whether guidelines existed on the use of force by police against demonstrators.

Amnesty International wants a step further, saying police must "end the unlawful use of force against peaceful protesters," and issuing a report documenting 14 incidents of apparent police violence on June 12.

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## Asif urges parties not to give 'turncoats' key positions

**Khurshed Shah deplores proposed reduction in allocations for education, health sectors**

By Syed Irfan Raza

**ISLAMABAD:** Pakistani Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader Khurshed Shah while taking part in the budget debate in the National Assembly on Friday said that all state institutions should work within their own domains and urged the government and all political parties not to allow turncoats to hold key positions.

A dozen of MNAs from treasury and opposition benches spoke on the budget, calling on the government to reduce taxes on items of daily use, improve agriculture growth and not to withdraw zero-rating tax regime on exports.

The session of the lower house of parliament started at 10:30am and continued till late night.

"The country will be in danger if the lines of the Constitution are crossed by the turncoats," Khurshed Shah said in his brief speech.

Vehemently criticising Adviser to the Prime Minister on Finance Dr Abdul Hafeez Shahid, he said the government had formed the inquiry commission on public debt to ascertain why the debt had risen from Rs100 billion to Rs10,000bn between 2008 and 2018 without realising that the adviser was responsible for the debt rising from the non-part and party of almost all successive governments since General Pervez Musharraf's regime in 2008.

He urged all political parties, including his own PML-N and the ruling Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), not to allow people to sneak into them from the backdoor. "In fact these people [turncoats] have created disharmony in the parliament by threatening to withdraw zero rating tax on us," Mr Asif said, adding that some of the MNAs in the present National Assembly had served all previous governments. "They used to sit besides Masrafi, Asif Ali Zardari and Benazir Bhutto of PPP and the PML-N's former prime minister Nawaz Sharif, and now they are with Prime Minister Imran Khan," he said.

"If you want to include them [turncoats] in your parties, do not give them front seats or sitting on the front rows is a right of the common people," he urged.

Talking on the budget, Mr Asif said the government should avoid taking such decisions which could put the federation under risk. He urged both treasury and opposition benches to avoid confrontation. "Confrontation between us ministers

## Airlines halt Hormuz flights amid US-Iran crisis

**LONDON:** Some of the world's leading carriers, including British Airways, Qantas and Singapore Airlines, on Friday suspended flights over the Strait of Hormuz as Iran-US tensions flare over the downing of a drone.

The suspensions will affect many thousands of passengers and came after the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in the United States issued a Notice to Airmen (NOTAM), "prohibiting US-regulated aircraft from operating over the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman."

"NOTAM was in response to heightened military activity and increased political tension. The media place commercial flights at risk," an FAA statement said, as Tehran and Washington

engaged in a war of words over Thursday's missile strike on the drone.

The FAA's notice applies only to US-registered aircraft, and United Airlines said it was grounding its Newark-Mumbai service in response. Both European and Asian operators were taking its chances.

"Our safety and security team are constantly liaising with authorities — including the likes of the FAA — around the world as part of their comprehensive risk assessment to ensure route we operate," BA spokesman said.

Germany's Lufthansa and Dutch airline KLM followed suit in bypassing the Hormuz area, although Air France said it was already flying further south.—AFP

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## China against India-specific NSG waiver

By Our Correspondent

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Addressing a media briefing, China's Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang said the group would not discuss the entry of countries who have not signed the NPT "before reaching a specific plan". "So there is no discussion on India's participation," he said.

While blocking India's entry into the NSG, China also called for a moratorium plan that stipulates the need for the NSG members to arrive at a set of principles for the entry of non-NPT states and then move forward discussions of specific cases.

Lu said that Beijing was not blocking New Delhi's entry and reiterated Beijing's stand that rules and procedures of the NSG should be followed.

With regard to blocking Indian membership, Beijing said the procedures in the NSG and members make decisions according to the procedures and proceedings. As far as I know, this plenary meeting is being held and there will be discussions on the NPT non-participation and the political and legal issues concerning that," he said.

Before reaching a specific plan, the NSG will not discuss on the participation of certain NPT non-party countries who have not signed NPT. So

there is no discussion on India's participation," he said. "As far as China's position is concerned, we respect the NSG rules and regulations and we will seek non-discriminatory solution that can be accepted by all," he said.

On India's assertion that majority of the NSG member states backed its entry while China continued to block it, Lu did not comment for India whether China is blocking it, but I must say that the NSG has its own decision-making mechanism, multilaterally and there are certain rules and procedures and all members must follow the rules and procedures. And the decisions must be based on consensus." "The entry of India or any other country I believe it is an internal affair of the NSG to discuss this. Since we are doing it totally in accordance with rules within this mechanism," he said.

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# ● Malinga stars as Sri Lanka stun England

LEEDS: Lasith Malinga and Angelo Mathews played key roles in Sri Lanka's stunning 20-run World Cup win over England that revived the race for semi-final berths at Headingley on Friday.

England were all but out of the match after dropping to 186-9 as they chased 233 for victory.

Ben Stokes' blistering 82 not out off 89 balls, including seven fours and fours times, got them to within sight of their target.

But Stokes' gamble gave Durbanite paceman Mark Wood the ball to face at the end of a nerve-wracking over which ended when the No.11 was caught behind as Sri Lanka won with three overs to spare.

Victory would have seen hosts England bidding to win the World Cup for the first time, go top of the 10-team table.

But they had their second surprise loss of the round-robin group stage after a 14-run defeat by Pakistan left them in third place with Sri Lanka now just two points adrift of the tournament favourites.

The top four at the end of the first phase qualify for the semi-finals, with England's closest rivals Australia — the table-toppers and reigning champions — at Lord's on Tuesday now even more important to their hopes of a last-four place.

Earlier, Mathews' pain-taking 85 not out of 115 balls, with just five fours, helped Sri Lanka recover

STANDINGS	
(Totalized under played, won lost record, points, net run rate)	
Australia	6 2 1 1 12 +6.049
New Zealand	4 4 0 0 8 -0.137
England	4 3 2 1 9 -0.137
Sri Lanka	4 3 2 1 7 -0.029
Sri Lanka	4 2 2 2 6 -0.319
Pakistan	3 2 2 1 5 -0.042
West Indies	3 2 3 1 3 +0.028
India	3 2 2 1 5 +0.000
Pakistan	3 2 2 1 2 -0.033
Afghanistan	3 2 3 0 3 -2.288

Updated after England vs Sri Lanka match on Friday  
Optional after England vs Sri Lanka match on Friday



Social Media Pakistan 0345-6738217

LEEDS: Sri Lankan spinner Dhananjaya de Silva celebrates with wicket-keeper Kusal Perera after dismissing England tailender Adil Rashid during their match at Headingley on Friday.—Reuters

from a top-order collapse to finish on 232-9.

The visitors had a below-par total but with paceman Malinga taking 4-43 and off-spinner Dhananjaya de Silva following up with three wickets in quick succession, it proved more than enough as Sri Lanka enjoyed another memorable day at Headingley — the ground where they sealed their first Test series win in England five years ago.

Malinga, renowned for his unorthodox "slingshot" action, dismissed Jonny Bairstow for a golden duck.

James Vince (34), bat-swinging for the injured Jason Roy, then fell in familiar fashion when an off-drive of Mendis' was caught by Mendis or directly.

English captain Eoin Morgan, fresh from his one-day international record 12 stins against Afghanistan, made a cautious 21, featuring a mere two fours, before



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ENGLAND batsman Ben Stokes reacts as Sri Lankan paceman Lasith Malinga celebrates dismissing Joe Root at Headingley on Friday.—AFP

Lasith Malinga held a sharp return catch to dismiss the Dubliner.

Joe Root made a patient 57 off 89 balls featuring just three fours.

For a four-over stand of 54 runs, Root and England's Root were caught behind down the leg-side off Malinga, who then produced a trademark touring-worker-to-homeopathian gesture to have his dangerous Jonny Bairstow bowled.

Stokes should have been out for 57 when he hoisted Malinga to deep square leg, but Mendis dropped the catch.

That was the cue for a furious assault by Stokes, the 35-year-old hitting sixes in as many balls off Edara, but Wood was the last man to fall as England's chase fell short on 212.

Earlier, England fast bowler John Archer took 3-52 to join Australia's Mitchell Starc as the leading bowler at this World Cup with 15 wickets.

Archer had opener Dimuth Karunaratne caught behind for one after the Sri Lanka captain had won the toss.

Two balls later, without another run on the board, Sri Lanka were three for two. Pather sliced Chris Woakes to Moon or third man.

But Fernando, in his first match of the tournament, revised the innings with a dazzling 49 that saw him hit 34 runs off just one Archer over.—AFP

## Learn art of adaptability from NZ, Lloyd tells lethargic West Indies

MANCHESTER: Two-time World Cup-winning captain Clive Lloyd has said the West Indies should learn the art of adaptability from New Zealand captain Kane Williamson as they fight to avoid early elimination.

Holder's side has managed only one win from five matches ahead of Friday's game against New Zealand at Old Trafford in Manchester.

The Black Caps, unbeaten in the round-robin competition so far, are fresh from their 100-run win over South Africa on Wednesday when Williamson made an unbeaten 106 as another tense chase at Edgbaston.

With their hopes of reaching the semi-finals fading fast, Lloyd, the leader of the West Indies side that won the World Cup in 1975 and 1979, believes his adversary should take a leaf out of Williamson's "masterful" playbook.

"The West Indies need to

raise their game if they are to have a chance against New Zealand at Old Trafford on Saturday," Lloyd wrote in his column for the International Cricket Council. "In Kane Williamson, the Black Caps

have a terrific captain and an even more impressive batsman. Eric Cartwright is kind of South Africa's way of doing things and the finest I have ever seen in an ODI game. He is a fantastic reader of the game and knows how to adapt to what is going on around him."

However, Lloyd still has high hopes for top order batsmen Eric Lewis and Shai Hope, both of whom scored half-centuries against Bangladesh. "Shai Hope has been playing extremely well for

Australia, England and Bangladesh.

Lloyd feels West Indies' loss to Bangladesh at Trent Bridge early this week was especially frustrating.

"I was disappointed with the West Indies' performance against Bangladesh. It would appear that they only have one way to play with no variation to their game plan," said Lloyd.

"They are trying to blast people out and I don't think they understand the English conditions."

Eric Lewis always does that best, though, during this competition he has been batsman friendly despite the rain. It might be gross but it doesn't always fly around."

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# METRO

South

KARACHI

Sunrise 07:26 pm

Sunrise (Tomorrow) 05:43 am

NEXT 24 HRS

Minimum 29 °C

Maximum 36 °C

Outlook Thunder storms



KORANGI Road glistens in the aftermath of Friday night's brief, but welcome, rain shower in the city.—Fahim Siddiqui / White Star

Report on Page 16

## MQM-P lashes out at PPP over 'ignoring' urban areas in Sindh budget

The party chooses to not criticise the PTI govt's tax-heavy federal budget

By Afzal ul-Ashfaque

KARACHI: The Muttahida Qaumi Movement Pakistan has condemned the Pakistan People's Party government's Sindh budget for financial year 2019-20 and said that it had "completely ignored" the urban parts of the province.

"For the past two decades,

Pakistan has been gripped by terrorism while the urban areas of Sindh have fallen prey to economic terrorism for the past decade," MQM-P convener Dr Khalid Masood Siddiqui told a press conference on Friday.

Dr Siddiqui, who is the federal minister for IT and telecom, was referring to the PPP's rule over Sindh for the past 12 years.

While the MQM-P rejected the PPP's Sindh budget, it did not use similar words for the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaaf government's tax-heavy federal budget.

The Karachi-based party is a junior coalition partner of the PPI government at the Centre with two

ministers in the federal cabinet. Recently Prime Minister Imran Khan announced that the MQM would get another ministry — apparently in return for its support in the passage of the federal budget.

According to a report in a local newspaper, Imran granted the MQM-P co-chairman Asif Ali Zardari in the National Assembly in which he attended by Undersecretary of state for Sindh.

He said despite its limited seats in the lower house the MQM-P was still the biggest representative party of urban Sindh.

He said that Karachi provided 20pc revenue to Pakistan and 10pc revenue to the Sindh govt but it returned it to a mere 10pc share.

The MQM-P convener Javed

out of the PPP and said that due to his affiliation with Undersecretary of state for Sindh.

He said that the Sindh government did nothing for the urban and rural parts of the province; it had completely destroyed the infrastructure of Karachi.

He said that instead of providing relief to the masses, the Sindh

budget was aimed at snatching the hard-earned money of the people by imposing "unjust" taxes.

KIV completion not in sight

Speaking on the occasion, senior leader Kamran Nasheed Jamil said that the most important project of the PPP government was KIV water supply scheme.

He said that due to the "incompetence" of the PPP government the estimated cost of the project rose to over Rs100 billion.

Mr Jamil, who is the parliamentary party leader of the

Continued on Page 16

## Govt censured for 'worst' economic policies

By Shazia Hasan

KARACHI: "Pakistan's recent agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) would be our 22nd agreement with the IMF and it is no doubt the worst ever," said well-known political economist Dr Akbar S. Zaidi.

He was speaking at a seminar on the Present Economic Crisis and the Budget 2019-20 organised by the Economic and Social Research (ESR) and the Dr Zaki Hassan Auditorium of the Jamiyah Medical and Dental College here on Friday.

"But the new governor of the State Bank, Dr Reza Baig, says that the economic crisis that we talk of is over. Don't forget that the

man was just a few days ago, and IMF

was going into agreements with the IMF in the first place. Though the current one is still pending approval there were some preconditions to it such as increasing the tax rate. Now it is that many here do not pay their taxes and it is the need of the hour but are we talking of things such as wealth tax and property tax or taxing the poor and salaried classes?"

Another condition to getting the loan is a minimum increase in utility bills by the third quarter, dropping the value of the rupee further against the dollar," he added.

Dr Zaidi said that the IMF claimed to be a non-political entity, but still they asked

"All the parties while campaigning dur-

ing the last elections were saying that there will be no increase in the TEF, but the

PTI was saying that they would never consent to increase than take that route. Now the people would be committing suicide thanks to their actions. In the last 10 months of this government our GSP rate has fallen from 5.8 per cent to 3pc. And seeing what the economic analysts are writing it will drop further to 2-4pc by next year," Dr Zaidi pointed out.

See box, Page 16

Dr Riaz Sheikh, dean of social sciences at Shahzad Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Institute of

Continued on Page 16



Malinga stars as Sri Lanka stun England

Pg. 24 SPORT

## Minor girl dies as van overturns

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: A minor girl died while six others, including her two brothers, received injuries when a van overturned on the Northern Bypass yesterday due to slippery road as rain lashed the city on Friday evening, according to a Ehsa Foundation spokesman.

The girl was identified as Sakineh Iram (3). The injured were her two brothers, namely Shahid, 35, and Zaid, 8, while others were Mrs. Majedunnisa, 40; her daughter Naseem, 20, and son, Wahab, 8, and a 12-year-old boy Shahzad Hamid.

They said that the apparently speeding Suzuki van carrying women and children skidded off the road and overturned near a restaurant on the Northern Bypass.

The injured and the body were shifted to Abbasi Shaheed Hospital to fulfil legal formalities.

### Extortionist among 21 suspects held

The Pakistan Rangers Sindh on Friday claimed to have apprehended 21 suspects, including a suspected extortionist linked with an "ethnic" party.

These arrests were made after raids in different parts of the metropolis said a paramilitary force spokesperson.

They conducted an action in the Ferozepur area and arrested one suspect identified as Tauseef Khan.

The held suspect was affiliated with the Multan Qaumi Movement-London who was "involved in bhatts (extortion)", claimed the Ranger's spokesperson.

Separately, they carried out actions in Korangi, Zaman Town, Shareef Farasi, Mansepur, Ferozabad, Soldier (Lazar), Kovani Industrial Area and Al-Faith and detained 20 suspects over charges of their involvement in robberies and street crimes.

## NAB recommends inquiry against USC over fraud

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has recommended an inquiry against Utility Stores Corporation (USC) over alleged embezzlement of Rs150 million.

"NAB Karachi has recommended an inquiry against Utility Stores Corporation Karachi in its Regional Board Meeting (RB) held under chairmanship of DG NAB Karachi for their alleged embezzlement of millions of rupees in their accounts and store inventories," said a statement.

It has been pointed out that the special internal audit of accounts of USC Karachi South was conducted for the period from July 2010 to March 2018, which revealed embezzlement of Rs110m from various stores of Karachi.

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## PRAYER

Fajr	4:55
Zuhar	12:32
Aср	5:22
Maghrib	7:26
Isha	8:56

Starting time in Karachi

## REFLECTIONS

66 TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OPPORTUNITIES BEFORE THEY TURN THEIR BACKS ON YOU. 23  
— HAZRAT ALI (A.S.)

THEHADIT

## The summer of collectors

By Peorzada Salman

KARACHI: Art collectors are a special lot. While they collect artworks first and foremost for aesthetic delight, something good for society at large, but also for personal preservation of art. But an exhibition at the Canvas art gallery — titled *The Summer Show — Works from the Collection of Rehema and Shafiq Saigai* — goes a step ahead. It intends to "light up other homes and be a source of pleasure to other collectors."

A note from Rehana Saigai highlights the intent behind the show: "The most pleasurable aspect of collecting art and objects you admire is to surround and immerse yourself in

displaying, arranging, rearranging your treasures." By putting some of their paintings on sale, the collectors and gallery are enabling others to experience the same pleasure, and what a pleasure it is, because on view are works by some of the finest artists that the country has ever produced.

All begins with Zulqarnain Haider's two acrylic-on-board exhibits, "Lahorewari" and "Landscape" (1988). It is a matter of speaking, nicely sets the tone for the show because the soft hues that the artist imparts to the serene atmosphere do well with the overall mood on the brushwork so that it makes the viewer more for more.

And why not more? Next up is Imran Qureshi's "Maharaja with Flower" (gouache) and tea

stained wash on wasli, 1997), which lends a historicity to the exhibition that richly adds to the initial idyllic feel. Qureshi is these days one of Pakistan's most internationally recognized and celebrated artists, and rightly so.

This continues the one and only Jamil Naqsh with his trademark "Pigeon" (gouache on paper, 1990). It is one striking piece of creativity with an overhead shot of two birds placing them in a setting where their backs are marked by the kind earthiness that lends human attributes to them.

And who can pass by, just like that, Arun Mehta Ahmed's remarkable portraits (pastel on paper, 1973)? The viewer can't help but marvel at the artworks for a longish time to absorb the



SOME of the art pieces put on display at the exhibition

Khan, Khadija Ali, Khalid Syed, Noorayya Durrani, R.M. Noor, Noorjanan Bhagani, Usrad Ali Hashmi, Qudrat Mirza, Mohammad Ali, Tassaduddin Sohail, Naseem Khan, Anwar

Saeed, Moeen Farooqi, Jamal Shah, Mian Ijaz ul Hassan and Naseer Rana.

The exhibition concludes on June 27.

## METRO EVENTS

## HOMAGE

A ceremony to pay homage to Muslim Ahmad Yusuf, Dr James Jaffar and Dr Anwer Saigai under the auspices of the Amman Taraqqi-i-Urdi at its office in Gulshan-e-Iqbal at 11am.

## ROUNDTABLE

A roundtable on 'Power politics in the Middle East: Iran, Saudi Arabia and the Gulf' organised by the Pakistan Institute of International Affairs in its library at 11am.

## REFERENCE



A conference reference for senior journalist Ameen Baikar at Arts Council's Manzar Ahsan Hall at 8:30pm.

## NAB put on notice in graft case

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: The Sindh High Court (SHC) on Friday issued a notice to the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) on the bid application of a former secretary of the Karachi Port Trust (KPT) in a corruption reference.

Former secretary Gulab Khan was arrested by the NAB authorities after the SHC dismissed his pre-arrest bail application a few days ago. Therefore, the suspect through his lawyer moved to post-arrest bail application.

A two-judge SC bench headed by Justice Mahmuud Karim Khan Agha issued the notice to NAB on the bid application for July 10.

## Minister warns industries lacking effluent treatment plants of action

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: Registering lack of action on part of industries in installing waste treatment plants despite orders of the Supreme Court-mandated water commission, the Sindh environment and climate change minister announced on Friday an event that the government was left with no option but to issue closure notices to non-cooperating industries.

He was speaking at a programme held to conduct a beach-cleaning drive at Seawell to mark World Environment Day.

"More than 800 people [industrialists] have started their work on effluent treatment plants but still there are a lot of industries, which are not cooperating with us and the government is left with no option but to issue clo-

sure notices to them [non-cooperating industries]," Environment and Climate Change Minister Muhammed Taimur Talpur said.

These notices could be issued to at least 800 industries in the next 10 to 20 days on their consistent failure to act upon the directives of the water commission to install an effluent treatment unit at their respective sites.

According to him, 85 per cent industries of Karachi didn't act upon the directives of the commission and they defied all deadlines given for the purpose.

High-level government initiatives in this regard, Mr Talpur said that even if in progress to install combined effluent treatment plants of different industrial zones of Karachi with the federal government's support.

He claimed that these combined effluent

treatment plants would reduce 70 to 80pc environmental damage currently being done to the sea.

## Plastic pollution

The minister also spoke about increasing plastic pollution and asserted that since he had assumed charge of environment department, instances of open municipal waste burning had been reduced to half in Karachi.

The provincial government will soon declare district South in Karachi a plastic-free zone by imposing a complete ban on waste products, adding, "In our view, we are proceeding that an earlier decision of the cabinet to impose ban on the use of polythene bags in Suleiman district could not be properly implemented."

## NAB seeks arrest warrant of Sharjeel Memon in another graft case

By NASEEM SAHQI

KARACHI: The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has approached an accountability court to arrest former provincial information minister Sharjeel Memon in a new case pertaining to alleged accumulation of assets beyond known sources of income.

The former Peoples Party minister along with a former information secretary and others is facing a trial in a reference pertaining to Rs 6 billion corruption in award of advertisements of the Sindh government's anti-terrorism campaign in the tribal media between 2013 and 2015.

On Friday, NAB investigating officer Usman Memon moved an application pleading with the court to issue a no-objection certificate to execute the arrest warrant for the former minister in a new case in prison and shift his case to a Sindh NAB headquarters for questioning in the matter.

He informed the court that the watching last month arrested Ifthar Hussain, the personal secretary of Sharjeel Memon since 2013, who disclosed to have absconded the former minister in allegedly illegally acquiring assets of state-owned and commercial properties located in SETH and DHA areas.

He also allegedly acted as his "frontman" and collected illegal gratification or "monthly" from different departments, it added.

Therefore, the IO informed that NAB launched a fresh inquiry into the alleged corruption against assets of the defence minister and the competent authority recently issued arrest warrants.

He maintained that major revelations were expected in the probe and it was required to arrest Sharjeel Memon and shift him from jail to NAB provincial headquarters for further questioning.

The IO requested the court to issue a NOC for execution of the arrest warrants for the accused in prison and shift the detained PPP leader to the NAB office.

On the other hand, Asif Raza Nagri, the defense counsel for Mr Memen, objected to the prosecution's demand to shift him to the central prison, saying that it was not mandatory to hand over the custody of his client, who was already detained in prison, to NAB once again.

However, the counsel maintained that the law provided that an accused already in judicial custody could be grilled inside the prison in connection with another case.

Mr Nagri pleaded with the court to reject NAB's plea and sought a direction for the prosecution to first furnish details of the new inquiry.

purposely started against his client for his power.

However, Link Judge Dr Sher Basir Karim fixed the matter on June 22 (today) to hear arguments on the 20's place since the court's time was over.

Last month, NAB obtained and booked two suspects, Ifthar Hussain and Mohammad Sohail, who have already been remanded in NAB custody for investigation till June 24.

The business claimed that Sohail, said to be an employee of a money exchange firm, was involved in laundering Rs 6 billion money of state-owned companies in the anti-terrorism campaign in the tribal media between 2013 and 2015.

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## City receives brief spell of rain

KARACHI: The city received much-needed rain on Friday after weeks of hot and humid weather conditions, but it proved short-lived as the Met Office said that "cumulonimbus cumulus cells" in Balochistan led to brief showers in the metropolis with no chances of the trend to continue at least in June.

The drizzle started in parts of the city just minutes before sunset, which turned stronger within an hour. An official at the Met office said that though the fresh rain came after the clouds had dissipated, it's coming from from Balochistan, they expect weaker weather within an hour or two.

"It was actually development of cumulonimbus cloud cells over Lashkhar in Balochistan which drifted towards Karachi leading to brief dust storm, lightning and the short spell of rain," said an official at the Met office. "The clouds dissipated within a couple of hours. There are no further chances of any heavy spell of rain in the city in the next few days, but hopefully from July, we expect off and on showers in the city."

He said the Met office's observatory at PAF Base Faisal recorded 1mm of rainfall while the facility at Nazimabad and Saddar recorded 1.2mm. The facility at the airport showed the count at 1.6mm, added the official.

— Staff Reporter



Dr Akbar S. Zaidi speaks at the programme held at the Jinnah Medical and Dental College here on Friday.—White Star

## Govt censured for 'worst' economic policies

Continued from Page 15

Science and Technology (SZSTC) spoke about the concept of a welfare state and social protection in Pakistan. "Social protection here was violated in the decade of 1970s. Article 38 was inserted in

the 1973 Constitution following the Employees Old-Age, Social Security, Social Services, Board Model, etc.

The National Social Protection Strategy-2007 also came but there was no major work done there. Then in 2008, there came the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) and this budget was added as Rs 133 per month there. Is it enough in the face of rising inflation?

"What is happening with the promise of five million houses for the poor? What of the promised 30 million jobs? Instead half the country is jobless and there is talk of a ministry to look into joblessness. There is also talk about signing an MoU with China to learn from them how to combat poverty. I

only see a lot of romanticism and no realism," he said.

## Only popular slogan

Dr Syed Jaffer Ahmed said that the PTI won the elections by raising popular slogans without any understanding or research on the country's economic needs.

"We already owe countries such as Saudi Arabia, UAE, and China. This is it enough in the face of rising inflation?" he asked.

Karim Ali, the executive director of the Pakistan Institute of Labour Education and Research (PILER), said that many industries such as the sugar industry, textile, garment, leather, oil, manufacturers, etc, have been reducing in the education budget at the federal level," he pointed out.

"Increase in sales tax to be hindrance"

experts. "Having industry and the manufacturing base as the labour force as inflation goes up also," he said. "And then it affects the health and education of the families of workers as they get less food, medicine or medical attention and education as they would be unable to afford all these basic necessities," he added.

"This time the government has not done the country to the IMF as their people will come and sit in your nerve centres. This time people who are not even born as yet have been indicted as they too would be paying back the IMF when they come to the IMF and the IMF says 'no more top,'" he said. "They are no brace themselves for no food, no medicine, no education, joblessness, homelessness, which are all coming this way."

"This time the government

has shifted the country to the IMF as their people will come and sit in your nerve centres. This time people who are not even born as yet have been indicted as they too would be paying back the IMF when they come to the IMF and the IMF says 'no more top,'" he said. "They are no brace themselves for no food, no medicine, no education, joblessness, homelessness, which are all coming this way."

## MQM-P lashes out at PPP over 'ignoring' urban areas in Sindh budget

Continued from Page 15

MQM-P in the Sindh Assembly, said that the current pace of work on the project is slow and that the vital scheme for the people of Karachi would not be completed in the next 10 to 15 years.

He said that Karachi was facing a severe water crisis and it seemed that the government was only interested in making an increased allocation in the head of K-IV project in the budgets of coming financial years.

He said that the provincial government had released Rs 800bs in the next financial year's allocation for the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation.

the remarks of a senior Supreme Court justice who said Sindh was the "most corrupt" province of Pakistan.

Former senator and opposition in the Sindh Assembly Khurram Derafshi Haider said that the Sindh government was trying to engineer "water wars" in Karachi only to divert attention from its incompetence and corruption.

Senior parliamentarian Mohammad Hussain said that during the 15-year rule of PPP more than Rs 5 trillion of tax had been collected from Karachi and to return a small amount of Rs 900bs was allocated for the development of the metropolis over one decade.

— Staff Reporter

## SUP holds rally against Sepco in Kandhkot

By Our Correspondent

**SUKKUR:** The Sindh United Party (SUP) took out a rally in Kandhkot city on Friday in protest against excesses of the administration of the Sukkur Electric Power Company (Sepco) for carrying out additional power loadshedding after the scheduled power outage of 12 hours daily.

Attended by a large number of men and women, the rally marched on different roads of the city and passed through the DC office, Clock Tower, roundabout, main bazaar and Library Chowk areas.

Led by Zurniyat Bajani, Dilmar Dahnai, Shah Nawaz Mammal, Ghulay Singh, Asghar Shaikh, Qasim Ali and Choto Jakhrani, the participants raised slogans against the injustices of Sepco.

The protesters in their speeches in front of the Kandhkot Press Club said that the town was one of hottest of the country where scheduled loadshedding was being carried out for 12 hours daily, but despite that additional unscheduled power loadshedding was also being observed. Infatuated bills were also being sent to consumers at a time when pole-mounted transformers developed faults almost every day, they added.

They said business activities were hit adversely while normal life of the people had also been paralysed due to the attitude of the Sepco administration.

The protest leaders demanded of the federal government as well as Sepco high-ups and other authorities concerned to take notice of the excesses of the power utility.

## Eight injured in clash

By Our Correspondent

**SUKKUR:** Eight persons were injured in a clash between two groups of the Mirani community in the Sultampur area of Panni Agil taluka in Sukkur district on Friday.

The rival groups fought a pitched battle after some children quarrelled over a petty matter and elders from the two sides got involved in a heated argument.

Bricks, clubs, iron rods and then hatchets were freely used in the fight causing considerable panic in the area. Eight persons from both sides were taken to the Panni Agil Taluka Hospital for treatment. Later, three of them were referred to the Sukkur Civil Hospital for their grave injuries.

## SRA militant involved in blast held: CTD

By Our Correspondent

**LARKANA:** The Larkana Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) on Friday claimed to have arrested a suspected militant and identified him as Mohammed Younis Tomic, saying that he was affiliated with the proscribed Sindhudesh Revolutionary Army (SDRA).

SSP Atta Mohammad Abbasi, the official in charge of the Larkana CTD, told local journalists at his office that Tomic was held for his alleged involvement in dislodging the July 25, 2018 election results by exploding a handmine bomb near the election camp near the Buraqa Phadar area. Four persons — Aslam Khan Shaukat, Asifullah Suleman Ghulam Muftahid Bhutto, Mohammed Yousaf Bhutto and Mohammad Saeed Lashari — were injured in the blast, he recited.

The SSP said that an FIR (No. 01/2018) was registered under relevant provisions of the Explosives Act and Anti-Terrorism Act at the CTD police station after the blast.

He said Tomic was a member of Arbab Colony and had been funded by the Jeay Sindh Muttahida Mahaz (JSM) and Jeay Sindh Qaumi Mahaz (JSQM).

The suspect was produced before the journalists during the SSP's talk.

# Human error may have led to trains' collision, says Railways CEO

By Our Staff Correspondent

**HYDERABAD:** Human error and delayed application of brakes by driver of the Jinnah Express leading to Thursday's tragic train accident cannot be ruled out.

This was stated by Pakistan Railways chief executive officer Malik Aftab Akbar during an inspection of the accident site on Friday.

The two train drivers lost their lives in a collision between the Lahore-bound passenger train and a coal-laden goods train near the Jappuoti track near the Hyderabad station.

Mr Akbar told local journalists that he could not rule out human error and lack of control over train on the basis of the information gathered so far in view of his drivers' statements.

He said that all technical parameters and aspects were being examined. He said that had the passenger train's speed been at around 25km per hour and brakes were applied in time, the train would have stopped. He said that the deceased driver was not being held squarely responsible for this incident but human error could not be ruled out.

He said that the train should have been run at a speed of 25km per hour because the next railway station was quite close and if brakes were applied in time then the train could have been stopped at a distance lesser than 300 metres away from the next train.

He said that the information of other drivers and passengers gathered so far indicated that the driver perhaps could not maintain control of the train or the speed of the train might have been faster than 25km



LABOURERS at work under PFR officials' supervision to rehabilitate the tracks on Friday. —PIB

per hour with the result that Jinnah Express hit the coal-laden train. He said that a thorough inquiry would be conducted by the federal government inspector of railways (FIR).

He told journalists the main line between Karachi and Lahore was being upgraded with proper fencing and required distances would be maintained by the drivers.

Pointing towards encroachments around the tracks where the accident took place, he said that all these structures would be removed.

under the upgradation process. He said that the process might be hitting delays but work was under way. He rejected the idea about any problem with the main track.

"The track can sustain new locomotives and coaches of 60 tonnes capacity," he said, adding that train accidents mostly happen when drivers drive across curves and when one train would clear the way for another one while entering the yard, where multiple number of railway tracks exist.

Mr Akbar said that in the case of Thursday's incident, every thing was being examined. The signaller system, behaviour of coaches and circle-shaped curve (alling between Unit 7 Bawali and Ghariab Nawaq bridge) around Khashki Maini, where the accident took place, were some of the factors to be checked.

He said the four senior officers were examining each railway station to find out loops in the system and lessen the chances of derailment. "Encroachments should

have been removed from near the track; Pakistan Railways bears 75pc responsibility for this menace because encroachments should not have emerged on and around the tracks in the first instance," he said, adding that an anti-encroachment drive was under way right from Karachi to Rawalpindi. He said that rail tracks, signals and other facilities must immediately be cleared because interventions in the railway system continued for the purpose of upgrade.

## Govt to make Sir Cowasjee Jehangir Institute of Psychiatry autonomous

By Our Staff Reporter

**KARACHI:** The Sindh government has decided to grant autonomy to 150-year-old mental health facility, Sir Cowasjee Jehangir Institute of Psychiatry (SCJIP), commonly known as Gilba Hospital in Hyderabad, and affiliate it with Liaquat University of Medical and Health Sciences (LUMHS) after upgrading it to a state-of-the-art institution of international standards.

Gilba Hospital was in fact the largest mental health institute of its kind in the country, said Sindh Chief Secretary Syed Munawar Ali Shah while presiding over a meeting at provincial secretariat on Friday.

He directed a committee that prepared initial feasibility report on the proposed institutionalisation of SCJIP within two months so that it could be submitted to provincial cabinet for finalisation and approval.

During deliberations on the feasibility report's draft, the members made some recommendations and decided to affiliate the institute with LUMHS.

Mr Shah asked secretary of health to prepare PCPs for the construction of a state-of-the-art building for the institute that met all international standards and said the government wanted to make the institute autonomous and sign a contract for the next 200 years as it had already existed for over 150 years.

He said the institute was also a national heritage. The government's top priority must be patients who were suffering from mental diseases, he said.

SCJIP medical superintendent Dr Ajiaz Khanbhai informed the chief secretary that established in 1865, SCJIP was the first mental hospital in Sindh. The institute had been catering to mentally ill persons of not only Sindh but of all provinces

of the country.

"The number of OPD patients is increasing every year. According to the institute's record, a total of 21,568 patients attended the OPD in 2009 while last year the number of patients was recorded at 27,264 that is more than double within a period of nine years," said Mr Shah.

He complained about encroachments and allotments within the premises. The SCJIP premises did not have a chief secretary because him that all encroachments would be removed and allotments cancelled.

Among others who attended the meeting were: secretary health Saeed Ahmed Awan, members of the committee LUMHS Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Bokha Ram, Sindh Mental Health Authority chairman Dr Karim Khanwala, Prof Dr Hassan, Dr Jamil Ahmad, Prof Dr Mehmood Ali Shah, LUMHS registrar Dr Marriam Deyo and officers concerned of the health department.

## HIV survey to be conducted in Sindh jails in July

By Our Staff Reporter

**KARACHI:** Officials in the Sindh health ministry and other stakeholders and experts on Friday decided on a survey that an HIV testing and biological survey would be conducted in all prison set-ups from July onwards as part of a plan to devise effective response to rampant HIV incidence in Larkana district.

"Such survey will begin from July onwards which would be spearheaded by the health ministry and the Sindh AIDS Control Programme," said an official.

The officials of the Sindh health ministry met with partners representing the United Nations and doctors belonging to various institutions from across the province for an interagency HIV response coordination meeting at a hotel.

During the meeting, the Sindh government's HIV outbreak response was discussed.

The officials said the HIV outbreak response plan included multiple targets like enhancing capacities of health workers and institutions for managing HIV outbreaks, strengthening health systems for continuous prevention, treatment, care and support services for HIV/AIDS, strengthening communities, social mobilisation, strategic planning, HIV advocacy and advocacy initiatives and sustainability of HIV services.

"All these efforts have been given specific timelines and the responsibilities have been distributed between Sindh health ministry, Sindh Blood Transfusion Authority, drug control department, drug regulatory body, Sindh Health Commission and district administrations," said an official.

He added that contributing partners for all such targets were World Health Organisation, Unicef, UNAIDS, Dow University of Health Sciences, population welfare ministry, UNFPA, USAID, Sindh Institute of Criminology and Forensic Sciences, Aga Khan University Hospital and Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Society of Pakistan.

The meeting participants were told that outbreak response plan was initially devised by the Sindh health ministry, SACIP and technical teams of the UN partners based on the initial response of WHO HIV Outbreak Investigation Mission in Larkana.

This immediate short-term plan which was based on four focused technical working groups — epidemiology, treatment, care, infection prevention and control and communication and advocacy — has been made fully functional with teams on the ground, the meeting participants were informed.

The participants added another group, a fifth component, to the plan in the shape of resource mobilisation. They said resource mobilisation group would support in oversight mechanism and functionality of all other groups formed earlier.

The meeting was attended by secretary and director-general of health Sindh, CEO PTHI, CEO SHCC, managers of various programmes, officials from SIUT, DHHS, AKUH and UN partners.

## Aesthetics of Bhitai's poetry discussed in SLA lecture

By Our Staff Correspondent

**HYDERABAD:** Delivering a lecture on linguistic aesthetic in the poetry of Sindh's poet Abdul Latif Bhitai, noted poet and writer Prof Noor Ahmed Janjhi delineated on a unique, innovative and simple diction of Bhitai and his three facets while describing him as a poet of the people.

The well-attended event was organized by the Sindh Language Authority (SLA) held here the other day and

moderated by SLA secretary Prof Shahzad Gil.

"Bhitai composes poetry in colloquial language that is why his writing is rich in linguistic aesthetic. He focuses on phonetic impression of words in their true context," Prof Janjhi said.

His study consisted of three facets, including statement, explanation and conclusion as he had a concise and compact diction, he stated while elucidating his theses and concluding accordingly. He said that it was innovative Sindh poetry which included changing relationship between sound,

its meaning and emotional reaction to them [words].

He said the Sindh derived words from Arabic, Persian, Hindi and other contemporary languages that particular era to make his poems unique. He explained his fascinating words to all people without language barriers. He said that it was a transformational message motivating people belonging to all walks of life as he was fond of travelling and obtaining experiences in each and every area of Sindh.

He said the poet discussed human behaviour in greater

content of nature, observing the local flora and fauna and all geographical zones of Sindh at that time.

He said that he narrated his messages through different folklore and depicted overall scenario of the society. He had good and sharp imagination and travelling experience from central Sindh to Kathi, India, where he was most popular during his own epoch.

"His poetry abounds with love, harmony, humanity, nature, sacrifice, religion etc. People enjoy themselves by reading Shah Jo Rasil and Shah Jo Gori," he concluded.

## OBITUARY

With profound grief, we announce the demise of our beloved father  
**Abdul Sami**  
on June 20, 2019.

Soyem will be held on Saturday, 22nd June, 2019 at House No. 16B, main Sunset Boulevard, 13 South Street, Phase 2, Defence between Asr and Maghrib Prayers.

Mr and Mrs Baseer Sami (Son)  
Samreen Sami (Daughter)  
Hina Sami (Daughter)  
Sana Sami (Daughter)

## PPP continues protest against leaders' arrest

Dear Report

**MITHI:** Workers of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) celebrated birthday of their slain leader Benazir Bhutto in a simple manner as they continued protest against the

arrest of party co-chairman Asif Ali Zardari and his sister Faryal Talpur in several Sindh towns.

They celebrated the birth and held demonstrations in Mithi, Nagarparkar, Badin, Kandhkot and their adjoining towns.

In Mithi, MPA Fazil Sher Mohammadi Bhilas and others who led a protest at Chak Charkhi on Friday morning said their leaders' arrest and said that people would never allow anyone to conspiring against Sindh government and warned leaders of Grand Democratic Alliance to "mend their ways". They were ready to render sacrifices for their party and demand their release.

**BURKH:** PPP workers celebrated the birth anniversary of Benazir Bhutto in a simple manner while their colleagues took out a rally in Nagarparkar to register protest against the leaders' arrest.

**BADDIN:** PPP activists held a demonstration in Tando Bagh town on Friday to record protest against the arrest of their party's top leadership.

Local leaders addressed the protesters and said that Imran Khan's government had failed miserably to deliver the goods and it was now taking verbal actions against political leaders to deflect people's attention away from its failures.

## OBITUARY

Our beloved Father

**MIR KHALID RASHID**

5/50 Mir Rashid Ahmed (LM) Passed Away on 21st June 2019

**NAMAZ-E-JANAZA** will be held

on Saturday, 22nd June 2019,

**NAMAZ-E-ASAR**

at Masjid Abu Bakar, Phase 2, DHA, Karachi

Mir Aized Rashid (0300-2171666)

Mir Adil Rashid (0333-3013010)

House # 7B, 1st Central Lane, Phase 2, DHA, Karachi







## SUDOKU ALPHA

QUICK

7	1		9	4	6			
3			7					
6	2	5	4	1				
		1		9				
5	9		8					
4	8	2	5					
2	8	6			5			
7	4	1		9				

A2943

TRICKY

6			8			9		
7	3	2				8		
5	2		7					
	9			6				
3	5	6	1	8				
6		8	1					
	1	9						
4		5						
2	4	1		9				

B2943

To solve this puzzle each 3x3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9. While the rules may be simple, there are numerous strategies to help you solve sudokus. For hints and information visit [www.sudoku.org.pk](http://www.sudoku.org.pk).

Source: Free Sudokus download at [www.sudoku.org.pk](http://www.sudoku.org.pk)

## HELP

### EMERGENCIES

Police Help	11 240 222 222, 110 000 000
CRUC	110 000 000
Fire Brigade	11 240 222 222
Bomb Disposal	110 000 000
All Complaints	110
Telephone Complaints	110 000 000
Railway Inquiry	110 000 000
Rail Inquiry	110 000 000
Flight Inquiry	110

### HOSPITALS

Allied Medical	110 000 000
Cad Hospital	110 000 000
Jamal Hospital	110 000 000
MCHD	110 000 000
Aga Khan Hospital	110 000 000
Indus Hospital	110 000 000
Tessco	110 000 000
Ziauddin Hospital	110 000 000
Karim Cancer Hospital	110 000 000
Liaqat National	110 000 000
Women Medical	110 000 000
K.D. Khan	110 000 000
Royal Hospital	110 000 000
Holy Family Hospital	110 000 000
Pearl Hospital	110 000 000
South City Hospital	110 000 000
Kidney Care Institute	110 000 000
Karimco Hospital	110 000 000

Temperature estimates are internationally recognized and may differ from local estimates.

## WEATHER

### Sunset & Sunrise

	Hyderabad	Islamabad	Karachi	Lahore	Peshawar	Quetta
Sunset	07:20pm	07:24pm	07:26pm	07:32pm	07:43pm	07:43pm
Sunrise	05:35am	05:36am	05:43am	04:57am	06:01am	06:27am

### Karachi

Yesterday: Th-Storms, Low 29°C, Winds WSW at 15 to 25 km.  
Today: Th-Storms, High 34°C, Winds SW at 15 to 25 km, Humidity 74%.  
Tonight: Th-Storms, Low 29°C, Winds WSW at 15 to 25 km.  
Tomorrow: Partly cloudy, High 34°C, Winds WSW at 15 to 25 km.

### Three Day Forecast

Today	Tomorrow			Day After
	Min	Max	Outlook	
25 - 30	30 - 35	Partly cloudy	26 - 30	Th-Storms
28 - 32	34	Partly cloudy	28 - 32	34
28 - 32	34	Partly cloudy	28 - 32	34
28 - 32	34	Partly cloudy	28 - 32	34
28 - 32	34	Partly cloudy	28 - 32	34
28 - 32	34	Partly cloudy	28 - 32	34
28 - 32	34	Partly cloudy	28 - 32	34

## HOROSCOPE

By Jacqueline Riper

### ARIES 1 June 21-April 19

\*\*\* You will let go and allow your imagination to create a special day of two. Your feelings give strong guidance, but a financial matter will need to have logic behind it as well. Tonight: Making the most of the moment.

### Taurus 21 April 20-May 19

\*\*\* Do not underestimate the power of your instincts and knowing what you want. Zero in on what your friends are planning and join them. You will discover how important a key friend might be to you. Tonight: Let out the romantic within.

### GEMINI 1 May 21-June 20

\*\*\* You suddenly become more aware of the implications of your finances and spending. You might want to build greater security in your life. Your domestic life becomes pivotal in creating a greater sense of well-being. Tonight: Let it all hang out.

### CANCER 1 June 21-June 20

\*\*\* Reach out for a friend or loved one at a distance. You could be questioning what is going on with him or her. Your mind often drifts to this person. Consider making plans in the near future to get together. Tonight: Where your friends are.

### LEO 1 July 22-Aug. 19

\*\*\* You can relate well on a one-on-one level. Understand what is happening with a loved one you care a lot about. Do not interfere or give your opinions. The unexpected occurs when dealing with a boss or higher-up. Tonight: Go along with a request.

### VIRGO 1 Aug. 20-Sept. 16

\*\*\* A partner has special plans that he or she might not share with you. This person would prefer to surprise you. In either case, be smart and play it passive. Allow the other party to have his or her way. Allow from a distance heads your way. Tonight: Share your news.

### LIBRA 1 Sept. 17-Oct. 16

You might be more concerned with your finances than you need to be. A sense of discomfort surrounds how you deal with a family member or a matter involving your home. Steer clear of major decisions. Tonight: Do not blow your budget.

### SCORPIO 1 Oct. 23-Nov. 19

Your creativity comes forward and delights you to no end. How you manage a problem for a child or loved one demonstrates how very caring you can be.

### SAGITTARIUS 1 Nov. 20-Dec. 19

You have your unique style and way of handling life. A family member would like you to spend more time with him or her, especially at home. You might find the next few days perfect for digging into a project at home. Tonight: Order in.

### CAPRICORN 1 Dec. 20-Jan. 19

Reach out to a sibling or a neighbor. You often share news with this person that sometimes turns out to be gossip. Your willingness to open up and chat with this person marks your bond. Tonight: Expect the unexpected.

### ARIES 1 June 21-April 19

You might be more concerned with your finances than you need to be. A sense of discomfort surrounds how you deal with a family member or a matter involving your home. Steer clear of major decisions. Tonight: Do not blow your budget.

### PISCES 1 Feb. 19-Mar. 20

You and others notice. You could find that someone who might be nearly a stranger walks up to you to speak to you or get to know you better. Do not even think you have any control here. Just be open, unless you have your eye on a special person. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

The scores above the boxes are of David, 21; Christopher, 21; Praveen, 21; Anil, 21; and Sajid, 21.

## CONTRACT BRIDGE

Bidding Quiz

By Steve Becker

### Bridge on a high level

South dealer

Neither side vulnerable

NORTH

♦ 10

♥ 10 9 8 2

♠ A 10 9

♣ K 6 5 4

WEST

♦ K 9 5

♥ 3

♠ Q 6 4 2

♣ Q J 9 3

EAST

♦ 8 7 6 4 3 2

♥ 5

♠ K J 7 5 3

♣ 10

SOUTH

♦ A 2

♥ A 5 4 3 2

♠ 6

♣ A 5 7 2

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass

Opening lead — king of spades.

This deal illustrates an important principle of declarer play. South is in six hearts and gets a spade lead. He uses the slam as sure to make unless he loses two club tricks. Two club losers are possible only if the missing clubs are divided 4-1 or 5-0.

Having no control over the distribution of the adverse cards, which is a matter of luck, declarer should take any security measures he can think of to overcome an unfavorable distribution if it exists.

Tomorrow: Magic act

### YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

Quick — A2942

Today — B2942

Tomorrow — C2942

Wednesday — D2942

Thursday — E2942

Friday — F2942

Saturday — G2942

Sunday — H2942

Monday — I2942

Tuesday — J2942

Wednesday — K2942

Thursday — L2942

Friday — M2942

Saturday — N2942

Sunday — O2942

Monday — P2942

Tuesday — Q2942

Wednesday — R2942

Thursday — S2942

Friday — T2942

Saturday — U2942

Sunday — V2942

Monday — W2942

Tuesday — X2942

Wednesday — Y2942

Thursday — Z2942

Friday — AA2942

Saturday — BB2942

Sunday — CC2942

Monday — DD2942

Tuesday — EE2942

Wednesday — FF2942

Thursday — GG2942

Friday — HH2942

Saturday — II2942

Sunday — JJ2942

Monday — KK2942

Tuesday — LL2942

Wednesday — MM2942

Thursday — NN2942

Friday — OO2942

Saturday — PP2942

Sunday — QQ2942

Monday — RR2942

Tuesday — SS2942

Wednesday — TT2942

Thursday — UU2942

Friday — VV2942

Saturday — WW2942

Sunday — XX2942

Monday — YY2942

Tuesday — ZZ2942

Wednesday — AA2942

Thursday — BB2942

Friday — CC2942

Saturday — DD2942

Sunday — EE2942

Monday — FF2942

Tuesday — GG2942

Wednesday — HH2942

Thursday — II2942

Friday — JJ2942

Saturday — KK2942

Sunday — LL2942

Monday — MM2942

Tuesday — NN2942

Wednesday — OO2942

Thursday — PP2942

Friday — QQ2942

Saturday — RR2942

Sunday — XX2942

Monday — YY2942

Tuesday — ZZ2942

Wednesday — AA2942

Thursday — BB2942

Friday — CC2942

Saturday — DD29

# METRO

## North

**ISLAMABAD**  
 Sunrise 06:24am  
 Sunrise (Tomorrow) 04:55am  
**NEXT 24 HRS**  
 Minimum 26 °C  
 Maximum 38 °C  
 Outlook: Sunny



A MAN hits a tanker with water from a tubewell near Khanna Puri in Islamabad on Friday. Many localities are facing water shortage and rely on tankers for the supply. — Online

## Draft bill seeks 'Rifahi' committees at neighbourhood level in Islamabad

Senate body asks mover of Islamabad Community Integration Act to make changes to the bill for further discussion

By Kashif Abbas

ISLAMABAD: A new legislation is on the cards for introducing a 'Rifahi committee' system in the capital city aimed at security, protection and well-being of the citizens.

If all goes as proposed, there will be an elected non-party Rifahi subcommittee of 10 members for every 100 houses in the urban area and a village. There will also be a committee for every 2,000 houses.

The Senate Standing Committee on Interior, which must ratify the bill before it can be passed, has approved the Community Integration Act 2019 which proposes introduction of the Rifahi Community System in Islamabad.

After going through the bill and hearing arguments from its mover, PML-N Senator Rana Maqbool, the committee agreed to the essence of the bill in principle but asked the mover to make some changes to the bill such as handing the mover said the government would hand the proposed committee.

## Dilapidated Burma Bridge to be reconstructed

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Capital Development Authority (CDA) has started the process to reconstruct the dilapidated Burma Bridge on Leftrar Road.

CDA Chairman Aslam Ali Ahmadi on Friday approved tender documents for the project and directed the directorate concerned to advertise them in the press in

## Flaws detected in 'history sheets' of fourth schedulers

CPO warns officials of departmental punishment if standard operating procedure for those on watch list is not followed

By Mohammad Asghar

RAWALPINDI: After finding flaws in the history sheets (records of crime and incidents) they placed on the fourth schedule of the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATC) 1997, the city police officer has warned officials concerned that they would face departmental punishment if the standard operating procedure (SOP) for the fourth scheduler was not followed.

The slackness of the police came to light when City Police Officer Mohammad Faizan Ramzan inspected the history sheets of all individuals placed on the fourth schedule and found that they were not being kept

the next two days.

Burma Bridge on Leftrar Road, built in the 1950s, is on the verge of collapse, which may prove fatal to motorists.

Due to its condition, the authorities concerned had stopped all vehicular movement on the bridge nearly seven years ago.

People living nearby had filed several applications with the civic body for the repair of the bridge but to no avail.

Under surveillance by most of the police stations.

In most of the police stations, the history sheets of "Afghan-trained boys, tribal semi-trained boys" and others were not prepared by the police.

Even the four constables lacked knowledge about the record of the individuals having criminal history.

The history sheets of fourth schedulers, which had been prepared by police, did not have opinions of the SPO or senior service officer concerned.

After examining the history sheets, the CPO observed that there was neither proper surveillance of the fourth schedulers nor any report about their presence at their respective permanent residences.

The police suspect that they are habitual criminals and could create law and order situation.

In the Rawalpindi district, the number of individuals placed on the fourth schedule has increased to 38 with the recent addition of five people in the list for having links with proscribed organisations.

Furthermore, due to closure and dilapidated condition of the bridge traffic jams had become a routine in the area.

The construction of the bridge will be completed at an estimated cost of Rs199 million. Once it is complete, the bridge will facilitate smooth movement of vehicles, Barsa, Karri, Taimai, Alegar, Faridkot, Muree, Abbottabad and Arsal Kachmar.

Meanwhile, the CDA chairman visited the dumping site in I-12 and appreciated the work being carried out by the civic body and MCI staff for covering the waste.

He directed the staff to carry out to plant trees in the area being covered with soil.

Amir Ali Ahmed also asked the staff of the authority to meet him with the MCI workers working and covering the dumping site, adding in this way, the residents of the adjoining sectors would be facilitated.



A NOMAD woman carries a bucket of camel milk as she walks a street in Islamabad with her animals. Many people buy the milk for medical reasons as well as nutritional benefits. — Photo by Mohammad Aslam



Malinga stars as Sri Lanka stun England

Pg. 24 SPORT

## Murder convict's death sentence commuted to life term

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court on Friday converted the death sentence of a triple murder convict into life imprisonment.

The apex court's bench headed by Chief Justice Asif Saeed Khosa was hearing review petition filed by the convict Karim Nawaz.

Nawaz was found guilty of murdering his sister, brother and a sister-in-law in Manwal. The Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) of Manwal sentenced him to death on three counts of murder and one count of terrorism. The convict later approached the Lahore High Court which also upheld the decision. The convict later reconciled with his family.

Subsequently, the three convictions for murder were dropped by the trial court but the conviction under Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA) was not overturned.

The Supreme Court also upheld the conviction.

Nawaz then filed a review petition which was heard by the three-member bench comprising Chief Justice Asif Saeed Khosa, Justice Sardar Tariq Masood and Justice Qazi Mohammad Amin.

The additional prosecutor general said that the convict had murdered three people and is now seeking relief.

The chief justice remarked that it seemed the crime was committed in a fit of temporary rage. The bench deciding the review petition then converted the death sentence into life imprisonment.

## Four fall unconscious in well

By Our Correspondent

TAXILA: Four people fainted while repairing a generator installed in a well in Mungiwala village about 15km from Attock city on Friday.

District engineer officer Dr Mian Mohammad Iqbal said that Mohammad Zubair, 26, climbed down the well to repair the generator which was installed with a water pump to keep it running.

He said he fell unconscious due to gas accumulation in the well, adding that when Mohammad Saeed, 45, went down the well to inquire after him he also fell unconscious. Noor Mohammad, 50, and Mohammad Aslam, 48, also met the same fate.

On observing the situation, people present there called Rescue 1122, whose personnel pulled them out and shifted them to District Headquarters Hospital. One of them was taken to CMH Attock due to his critical condition.

On June 11, three people died of suffocation inside a well while another fell unconscious while repairing a water pump in Attock area of Attock district,

## PRAYER

Fajr	03:16
Zuhar	12:13
Aср	05:13
Maghrib	07:24
Isha	09:08

Waking time is indicated

## REFLECTIONS

CC TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OPPORTUNITIES BEFORE THEY TURN THEIR BACKS ON YOU. 55

— HAZRAT ALI (A.S.)

7BAHUT

'STEM schools to be set up in each district'

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Science and Technology Chaudhry Fawad Hussain on Friday said Science, Technology Engineering and Maths (STEM) schools would be set up in each district.

At a meeting with Higher Education Commission (HEC) Chairman Tariq Banuri, he expressed his resolve to make STEM school project a success.

The minister said initially seven reputed universities would be involved in the project to support STEM education to the students ranging from grade 6 to 10th.

Each university will be entrusted with the task of imparting STEM education to two schools.

The minister said the teaching staff of the selected university would be given incentives. Students of the selected universities taking part in the project would also be asked to be a part of the STEM school project.

He said a unique syllabus would be formulated which would be in line with basic modern standards of science education. Moreover, criteria for selection of schools and of students will also be decided by him. In this regard, National Testing Service (NTS) would be asked to conduct a screening test for the selection of students.

He said all provinces would be taken on board for the countrywide implementation and accomplishment of the project.

The HEC chairman said the universities would extend its technical and financial support for the project. — Staff Reporter

## DC distributes bags among students

RAWALPINDI: Deputy Commissioner Chaudhry Mohammad Ali Randhawa on Friday distributed school bags among the deserving students in Government High School Bangash Colony, Peshawar.

The distribution ceremony was held at the school, which was attended by the District Education Authority and district administration. The school bags were arranged by Islamic Relief Pakistan.

Speaking on the occasion, the deputy commissioner said that the provincial government was working to improve the educational institutions and quality of the education.

He said the district administration was making efforts to bring all children to schools. He said the children were being provided better education and in this regard. — Staff Reporter

## PEOPLES SPEAK



Mohammed Shahroo, 11, Padooda seller

"My father sells Padooda during the summers and Awanot potato in the winters. He has been doing this work for the last 10 years. For the last three years, I have been helping my father during my school vacations."

I study in 4th grade at a private school. We are six siblings; three sisters and three brothers. I am the eldest among my brothers. We are from Gujranwala but I was born in Rawalpindi. My father lives here alone while the rest of the family resides in the village. Earlier we used to stay in Rawalpindi, but due to the rising cost of living, my father sent us back. All of us siblings study in private institutions. My father is very keen that all of us study.

I come to Rawalpindi during the holidays and stay with my father to help him in his work. My father and me set up our stall at 8am on City-Saddar Road. We buy the vermicelli from Narowali Bazaar, and the ice from a

nearby vendor.

Most of our customers are people visiting the District Headquarters Hospital, and the bulk of them come in the afternoon. I do the serving most of the time. I try to give as much rest to my father as possible. He works throughout the year, and the summer vacations is the only time when he can relax a little. He gives me Rs100 everyday, and that is more than enough for me. He earns around Rs600-Rs1,000 every day.

I return to Gujranwala about three weeks before the vacations end. I do that in order to complete the work given by my teachers for the holidays.

I will never discontinued my studies and disappoint my father. I hope I get to join the army. That is my passion and that is what I want to do in life."

— By Mohammad Asim

## Petitions challenging five judges' appointment remanded to AJK HC

Social Media Liaison 1345-6738217

In case of admission, the high court shall decide petitions within two months from the date of admission, the apex court bench orders.

By Our Staff Correspondent

MUZAFFARABAD: The Anad Jamma and Kashmir (AJK) Supreme Court on Friday set aside an order of the High Court (HC) whereby six petitions against the appointment of five judges were admitted for hearing in October last year.

The apex court bench, comprising Justice Raja Saeed Akram Khan and Justice Ghulam Munshi Mughal, remanded the case back to the HC to pass a fresh "speaking order" about admission or rejection of the petitions within a period of one month.

A "speaking order" is the one which discusses all the important legal points raised by the parties.

In case of admission, the HC shall decide the petitions within a period of two months from the date of admission, the court ordered.

On May 23, last year, the HC Chief Justice M. Tahseenul Afzal Arifi had admitted six cases to Raja Rana Ali Khan, then Advocate General, Chaudhry Muhammad Moiz, the then district and session judge, and advocates Mohamed Ihsan Khan, Chaudhry Khalid Yousaf and Raja Sohail Ahmed Khan from Rawalakot, Mirpur and Dibrikh, respectively, as HC judges — two days after the appointment was notified by the AJK Law Department in accordance with an advice from the AJK Commission.

However, the appointments were challenged in HC by Muzaffarabad, Rawalakot and Mirpur based lawyers through six separate petitions on different grounds, one of which was that the appointees were not the consensus nominees of both the CJs and therefore the appointment notification was liable to be declared void, ineffective and of no legal effect.

All those petitions were consolidated by the HC bench comprising Justice Arshar Saleem Babar and Justice Raja Mohammad Shaukat Kiani, and admitted for regular hearing on October 23.

The HC bench had sought written statement from the

government and private respondents (impugned judges) within one week and replication from the petitioners within next three days, while fixing Nov 27, 2018 for arguments from both sides.

However, the admissions order was held in abeyance by the apex court on Nov 9 last year after it was challenged there by the impugned judges in an appeal.

The first hearing of appeal was held on June 12. During the hearings, the impugned judges were represented by Raja Mohammad Hanif while the respondents (petitioners in the HC) were represented by Barrister Adnan Sialvi, Syed Shahid Riaz, Khalid Raheem Chaudhry, Saadur Shahzad Hussain, Fayyaz Ahmed Janjua and others.

Advocate General R.D. Khan had appeared on behalf of the respondent, prime minister, law secretary and other officials (two-forma respondents).

In its judgment, authored by Justice Khan, the apex court observed that the order passed by the HC, even at the preliminary stage, must be explicit; the agreement between the parties should be apparent and it should be manifested that the HC has passed the same after considering the substantial questions and objections raised before it.

"When the impugned order is adjudged on the non-acceptance of the principle of law, it becomes clear that the issue is a non-speaking order as it speaks not nothing about the facts of the case or consideration of the contents raised by the parties," it added.

The bench held that since the impugned

admission order did not clarify whether the HC had passed it after considering the respective contentions of the parties, a fresh order for admission or rejection of the petition was therefore required.

"At this stage, discussions on points which are yet to be considered and resolved by the HC shall be against the spirit of law, therefore we refrain ourselves from doing so and deem it proper to remand the case to the HC," the bench declared, while setting aside the impugned admissions order.

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# Workers vow to continue Benazir's mission on her birth anniversary

By Our Staff Reporter

**RAWALPINDI/ISLAMABAD:** Pakistan People's Party (PPP) workers on Friday celebrated the 66th birth anniversary of former prime minister and PPP chairperson Benazir Bhutto and pledged to continue her mission.

In Islamabad, two functions were held. Former president Asif Ali Zardari cut the cake at Parliament House. The function was attended by senior party leaders.

The second function was held at the PPP Central Secretariat where former chairman Senate Sajid Naseer Hussain Bukhari was the chief guest.

In Rawalpindi, PPP workers arranged a function in a local hotel near Liequat Bagh. PPP Punjab President Qamar Zaman Kaira and byed Nayyar Hussain Bukhari were the chief guests. A large number of PPP workers attended the event. The speakers on the occasion paid tributes to the services of the first woman prime minister of the country and the Muslim world and vowed to continue her mission to work for a more just and equal society in society.

They said Benazir Bhutto wanted to rid the country of the menace of terrorism and improve the soft image of the country in the world. They said Pakistan would have become leader of the Muslim world and Asia had Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto been assassinated after the military coup of Ziaul Haq.

Qamar Zaman Kaira asked the workers to end their differences and work for the party.

Criticising the government, he said when we talk about rights of the people the government says we want to have a deal. He said Imran Khan and his government were not able to implement the deal.

He said the government should launch an inquiry into the allegations of its own former finance minister Asad Umer who clearly said prices of sugar had been increased.

He said the government should fulfil its promises of giving employment to 3.5 million people and decrease electricity tariff.

Nayyar Bukhari said the budget would affect the salaried class and in the coming days trade unions would play an important role. He said the government had failed to provide any job to the people.

He said a political party backed by the establishment can never play its due role. He said rights of the citizens would be protected only by a political party supported by the masses.

## 16 injured in two road accidents

By Our Correspondent

**TOBA TEK SINGH:** At least 16 people were injured in two road accidents in the Toba area on Friday.

In the first accident, four persons of a family belonging to Suleiman were injured seriously when their van collided with a tractor-trailer on Goya.

According to the Rescue 1122, the family was going to Chakwari (Sahiwal) from Faisalabad in the van. When the van reached Chak 36/3B, Bahawalnagar, on Goya-Faisalabad Road, a tractor-trailer coming from the opposite direction collided with it. As a result, all four van riders were critically wounded.

They were brought out of van by cutting the vehicle's body. They were identified as Manzoor Ahmad, 60, his wife Salma Bibi, 55, and their two sons, Nadeem Ahmad, 35, and Waheed Ahmad, 25.

They were rushed to the Goja Tehsil Headquarters Hospital where doctors referred them to the district head-quarters hospital.

In the other accident, more than two dozen passengers were injured when a bus overturned due to speeding on the Rajana-Faisalabad road near Chak Torianwala.

The Rescue 1122 said the Faisalabad-bound bus was coming from Multan and all the injured were admitted to the hospitals of Toba, Rajana, Samundri and Faisalabad.

**LAZARO:** A woman and her son fell unconscious after taking a nap when a truck had accidentally fallen at Chak 32/3B, Rahim Yar Khan.

They were identified as Maqbool Bibi, 40, and her son Ali Riaz.

A neighbour woman, who had come to see them, found them in an unconscious state. She called the villagers who informed the Rescue 1122. Both the mother and the son were rushed to the DHQ Hospital until they had not yet regained consciousness when the report was filed.

**BENAZIR:** The 66th birth anniversary of Benazir Bhutto was celebrated here on Friday.

A colour was cut in a gathering at the residence of former Punjab women development minister and PPP district president Begum Neelam Jabbar Chaudhry at Bhera Tosa.

In her speech, she said the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government had made the life of the poor miserable and the new proposed budget had caused manifold hike in prices of commodities though it had not been approved by the parliament.

PPP leader Zulfiqar Ali and other office-bearers also spoke. They paid tribute to Benazir Bhutto and Asif Ali Zardari.



FORMER Senate chairman Nayyar Hussain Bukhari, ex-senator Farhatullah Babar and others cut a cake on the occasion of the 66th birth anniversary of former prime minister Benazir Bhutto at the PPP Central Secretariat in Islamabad on Friday. — Online

## Call for joint strategy for projection of Kashmir issue

Govts in Islamabad and Muzaffarnabad need to rise above their political affiliations and devise a policy on Kashmir issue, speakers say

By Tariq Naqash

**MUZAFFARABAD:** Kashmiri leaders on Friday urged both the governments of Pakistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) to evolve a joint strategy for effective projection of the international level and subsequent success of the struggle in India-held Kashmir.

The demand came at a seminar on "Human rights violations in India-held Kashmir and world community's responsibility" jointly organised by Tahrrik-e-Kashmir (Tek), United Kingdom (UK) and Jammu and Kashmir Movement (JKSM).

Tek UK president Ramzaan Khan

was the "guest of honour" at the seminar while other speakers included former Jamiat-Ul-Islam AJK emir Abdur Rashid Pervaiz, PIAI leaders Khawaja Farooq Ahmed and Abid Majid Khan MIA, Jamiat-Ul-Islam AJK emir Major General (JKSM) chairman Afzal Ahmad Shah, PML-N Youth Wing leader Shabir Mahmood Wani, Kashmiri migrant leader Usair Ahmed Ghousai, Shabir Asgher Rehman and Qazi Shabir Hamid.

Mr Tararai, who is also chairman Public Accounts Committee in the AJK Legislative Assembly, said the AJK government had been criticised for the sole responsibility of the Indian struggle for right of self-determination and it should dedicate its entire resources to carry out its responsibilities in this regard.

"In fact, both the governments in Islamabad and Muzaffarnabad need to rise above their political affiliations and ideologies and devise a national policy in consensus with all stakeholders to extend the much-needed help to the struggling Kashmiris," he said.

He said the view that the Foreign Office

should single out the UK as the "guest of honour" at the seminar was a "grave mistake".

"The central leadership of our party has assured us that the federal government will very soon vehemently raise Kashmir cause at diplomatic level to expose India's worst human rights record in held Kashmir," he said.

Mr Khan said the UK-based diaspora was ready to welcome every leader from Pakistan and AJK for the sake of the Kashmir cause.

"But I have one humble request... Our leaders should come with one slogan and one mission - exposing Indian atrocities in occupied Kashmir with logic and evidence. We will volunteer ourselves to make your voice heard," he said.

He said people in UK and India were all out to contribute for the noble cause of

struggling Kashmiris.

Mr Khan said time had come to approach the world powers and brief them about the human rights situation prevailing in held Kashmir due to the refusal of Kashmiris to accept India's illegal occupation.

"We have to make them realise that under the Narendra Modi-led Hindu extremist government Kashmiri people will suffer more losses at the hands of brute Indian army."

Mr Majid Khan, who is also PIAI parliamentary leader in AJK assembly, said Kashmir was being seriously discussed at the international level "because of the relentless sacrifice of the people on the other side of the divide."

He said it was good to see both the political government and the armed forces of Pakistan on one page on all national and international issues, and that will help us have a joint strategy to move forward towards the ultimate settlement of Kashmir dispute.

PMI-N leader Wani said Pakistani and Kashmiri leaders should spotlight the UN resolutions and avoid floating new ideas and formulas.

## 13 prison employees sacked for dereliction of duty

By Our Correspondent

**BABAULPUR:** The Punjab Prison Department has dismissed from service 15 employees of the Boratal Institution and Juvenile Jail, Babaulpur, on charges of dereliction of duty.

During January this year, employees had been blamed by the IG for lapses on the directive of the chief minister.

The action was prompted by the officials' act of sparing the jail without permission of their superiors who were waiting for arrival of CM Usman Buxdar on May 7.

Boratal Jail Acting Superintendent Ali Raza told Dawn by mobile phone that the CM was scheduled to visit the jail on May 7 but his arrival was delayed due to his visit to Rahim Yar Khan.

During this time, all senior officials

remained on duty while the 13 employees, who had been sacked, slipped away.

At this, DIG Prisons Shakoor Feroze took action against them and sent a complaint to the higher authorities who removed the said officials from service. Two other officials were given a warning.

**ARRESTED:** Kotli police arrested a man allegedly for uploading objectionable and hate material against the national institutions on social media on Friday.

According to spokesman for the DPO office, the suspect, Zulqarnain, was busy uploading the hate material when the police raided his house at the CGT Mohalla. The police seized his mobile phone and computer and arrested him under sections of the Maintenance of Public Order Ordinance 1960.

## Nust team excels at UAS Challenge in UK

By Our Staff Reporter

**ISLAMABAD:** Team Nust Air Works Beta seized the Grand Champions title at the IMechE UAS Challenge 2019, held at Snowdonia Aerospace Centre at Llanbedr Airfield, Northwest Wales, UK from June 16 to 19 this year.

A total of 32 teams from the United Kingdom (UK), Sri Lanka, Brazil, Netherlands, Canada, Pakistan and other countries participated in this year's challenge. Air Works Beta belongs to Pakistan Naval Engineering College (PNEC) Karachi, one of the 19 constituent institutions of Nust.

It said that overall two teams from Nust PNEC participated in the IMechE UAS Challenge this year — Team Nust Air Works Alpha for the most prominent business and marketing case; "Scrutinise Award" — Team Nust Air Works Beta for the best presented UAS that is fully compliant with the competition rules; and "Media & Engagement" Award — jointly won by both the teams.

## Govt urged to ensure health levy on cigarettes

Cabinet proposal on health levy is being delayed; there is need to expedite imposition of tax on cigarettes, speakers say

By Aamir Yasin

**ISLAMABAD:** Speakers at a workshop on Friday called upon the federal government to fulfil its promise and introduce a health levy on cigarettes to save the youth from the curse of smoking and reduce the health problems associated with smoking.

The workshop on "Post-budget media and parliamentarian session on health levy" was arranged by Human Development Foundation (HDF) at Marriott Hotel.

HDF Chief Executive Officer Asif Saleem spoke about efforts of the government in curbing the menace of tobacco consumption.

He said HDF and its partners welcomed the step-by-step revision of the three-tier taxation model proposed by FBR in 2017 and reverting it to the previous taxation structure.

He said the decision could help in reduction of cigarette consumption and health burden.

Referring to the much-awaited health levy on cigarettes, he said the cabinet proposal was being delayed.

The speaker said the cabinet proposal was being delayed.

Tobacco is the major preventable cause behind most of the non-communicable diseases.

He said imposition of the health levy on tobacco products would generate revenues.

He said the tobacco industry had made donations to the dam fund after Prime Minister Imran Khan is committed to imposing the health levy on cigarettes and in the federal cabinet he is the strongest advocate for this and would not bow before any pressure.

He said it was imperative to save the youth and children from seeing tobacco.

The most effective measure in this regard is the higher prices of tobacco products.

He with higher taxes and the proposed health levy should result in a considerable increase which would limit access to cigarettes and ultimately cut the overall consumption of all, particularly the youth.

Parliamentary Secretary on National Health Services Dr Nasheen Humid, who was the chief guest, said the government would soon introduce a health levy on cigarettes.

The government will impose health levy on cigarettes in a month or two. The matter is being discussed with Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) to introduce amendments to the federal excise duty (FED), she said, adding after the levy there would be an expected increase of Rs30 to Rs32 billion in FED to annually.

She said: "All such speculations are wrong that the government came under pressure of the tobacco industry after the latter made donations to the dam fund."

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# METRO

Central

LAHORE

Sunrise 07:13 pm

Sunrise (Tomorrow) 04:57 am

NEXT 24 HRS

Minimum 18.8 °C

Maximum 36.0 °C

Outlook Partly Cloudy



BOATMEN end their day's work at the River Ravi as the sun sets on the longest day of the year. — White Star

## Rashid accepts responsibility for train crash, tenders apology

Says will resign if his conscience dictates him

By Khalid Haasin

LAHORE: Accepting responsibility for Thursday's train accident near Hyderabad, Federal Minister for Railways Sheikh Rashid sought apology from the nation on Friday.

"I accept responsibility for this incident and seek an apology from the nation. Such a portfolio is not important for me as I have become federal minister for the eighth time. And I will resign whenever I feel burden on my conscience," he

responded when asked, at a press conference here on Friday, if he would resign in line with a similar demand made by PTI chief Imran Khan to Khawaja Saad Rafique in 2006 following a train accident.

This incident has happened due to a human error. So please withdraw the request till Saturday," he added. He said he would present himself before the nation for accountability on coming Aug 24, the day he took over charge of the railways last year.

The minister faced tough questions related to the failure of the Pakistan Railways in resolving various technical and operational issues leading to frequent derailments and accidents owing to deteriorated condition of the track.

He admitted that no one paid heed to rechristening of the track that Social Media Pakistan 0345-6738217

in 1961. The issue is causing accidents. But after a long time, I am the person who raised the issue of ME-I (main line-I) that is going to be rechristened under the CPEC to be claimed. Under this project there would be no less transparency. The entire track would be fenced.

Administrative delay in the completion of the tendering process for the procurement of new passenger coaches and goods' wagons, Mr Rashid announced to open the tenders by July 1 for the procurement of imported rolling stock.

"We are facing acute shortage of coaches and wagons. So we have decided to give bids by July 1 for the procurement of imported

rolling stock," he added. Media Pakistan 0345-6738217

in the main cause behind the shortage since the rolling stock meant for use in emergencies was refurbished and induced into new trains.

"Actually I don't want to award this contract on a single bidding pattern as it has been done previously to facilitate a specific firm. So I directed the officials concerned to prepare such terms of reference (TOR) that could attract more and more companies in this tender. Our team has finalized this," he said. He assessed that services of all temporary workers were being confirmed.

Unlike his routine practice of talking and responding to questions on politics, especially against the opposition parties' leaders, the minister gave more time to the PR issues. He earlier told reporters that he wouldn't be taking political questions but gave in when some reporters did put political questions.

"If you want to talk politics, let me speak in office," he said during this press conference.

He said the PMN was divided in two groups – one led by Shahbaz Sharif and other by Nawaz Sharif. He said Shahbaz Sharif and Faryal Talpur were the best options for Dholi (relaxation) in the ongoing accountability scenario.

Meanwhile, the train operation suffered badly following Thursday's accident.

## Benazir's birth anniversary brings PPP, PML-N closer

LAHORE: The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) celebrated its slain chairperson Benazir Bhutto's 60th birth anniversary by holding cake-cutting ceremonies at various points in the city on Friday.

Opposition parties in the Punjab Assembly also used the occasion to show their unity. Asim Ali Khan, former PML-N leader, Imran Khan and others attended the event.

Other events were organised at the party's provincial secretariat at Model Town, Lahore general secretary Farooq Sattar's residence and at district courts complex.

PML-N lawmakers Ahsan Zaidi Bokhari, Samiullah Khan, Waris Kallo, Sania Ashiq and Tahir Khalid Sindhu also accompanied Imran Khan at the assembly-level event, hosted by Asim Ali Khan, Ali Haider Gilani, Shazia Afroz and others.

Thanking the opposition leaders for joining the cake-cutting ceremony, Mr Mirza said they had always been in favour of adopting a joint opposition policy on vari-

ous national affairs and would try to move forward in the company of the PML-N as per direction of the Rabbani Shahid.

Mr Shahid commended Ms Bhutto for her bravery, saying she continued contracting and serving the masses though she knew that death was after her since the Kartarpur bombing.

The Rabbani Shahid continued serving the masses despite all threats and risks, and at last laid her life for the cause. "The Model Town and district courts events were attended by Chaudhry Mansoor, Aslam GH, Saeeda Ghorki, Arifur Rehman Chan, Asifur Rehman, PSLF leader Mehmood Khan, Ahsan Bhatti and others.

Various speakers said on the occasion that the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) could not harm any workers as they were the law-abiding citizens.

They said the party cadre would continue the mission of their slain chairperson and won't be frightened by the arrest of various leaders by NAB and other government agencies. — Staff Reporter

## NAB 'witch-hunt'

## IPPs may resort to international arbitration

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The witch-hunt of independent power producers (IPPs) by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) on allegations of receiving 'bribe payments' or 'kickbacks' from the government or any agency could demand revision of the agreements or tariffs. "The implementation agreements clearly state that only the IPPs could ask for changes in the agreement or tariffs. The accountability agency is not wasting public resources for such legal and economic processes on a wild-goose chase," he said.

The watchdog started against the IPPs by the accountability watching is politically motivated and without any legal basis," said the chief executive officer of one of the six IPPs being investigated by the NAB for having received excess payments on construction costs.

He said the IPPs had provided that no one government nor any agency could demand revision of the agreements or tariffs. "The implementation agreements clearly state that only the IPPs could ask for changes in the agreement or tariffs. The accountability agency is not wasting public resources for such legal and economic processes on a wild-goose chase," he said.

To reinforce his point, the CEO referred to a statement

made by Prime Minister Imran Khan in his meeting with the business leaders on Thursday in which the prime minister said that the terms of the IPPs couldn't be revised as the government had extended non-legal guarantees to the IPPs.

"If the government goes against the terms of the IPPs and starts reviewing the agreements, it will have to face legal repercussions (in its action) at the international level as the IPPs have invested public resources in the international arbitration process violating the agreements," the newspaper reported.

Continued on Page 26

## PML-N wants 50 people be allowed to meet Nawaz

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The PML-N has demanded that the government allow at least 50 people to meet former prime minister Nawaz Sharif in jail every Thursday.

"The PML-N demands that 50 people should be allowed to meet Nawaz Sharif in the Kot Lakhpat jail every Thursday," PML-N MP Waris Kallo said during a budget debate in the Punjab Assembly on Friday. He criticised the Punjab government's decision to ban the senior PML-N leaders from meeting Mr Sharif in jail on Thursday last.

The PML-N also submitted a resolution in the House condemning the government for impeding Mr Sharif's meetings in jail. It demanded that the chief minister allow Mr Sharif's family members and party leaders to see him in jail. The party

contested the government's claim that Mr Sharif allowed only five people to meet him in jail.

Speaking on the budget, Waris Kallo said the PML-N government in the past had taken loan from the IMF or the World Bank on its government's conditions.

PML-N MP Mansoor Ishaq said during a budget debate in the Punjab Assembly on Friday that the government had spent Rs 4.4 million on a poetry recital in the President House.

PTI's Ali Haider Gilani demanded that the government give Muttahid the status of a 'big-city' and maintain proper sewerage system in the old city of Multan. He said the best way was to assist the farmers as tax had been imposed on agricultural income.

Chaudhry Asif Majid of the PTI said this

time 35pc allocation of the current budget for south Punjab had been "ring-fenced" and nobody would be able to re-appropriate the allocated funds.

PTI's Umar Kardar predicted that during the PTI government's tenure the growth rate would increase up to seven per cent.

PML-N MP Mansoor Ishaq demanded increase of at least 40pc in the salaries of the government employees. He hit out at the government for giving preference to unelected persons over the elected ones. He said the government was also giving developmental funds to the PTI's lost candidates.

PtI Asif Rasool of the PML-N refused to sit on his seat despite repeated requests by Deputy Speaker Ehsan Mansuri as the former wanted to speak in a point of order. Mr Rasool challenged the chair to take any action against him but it would not sit and respond to the PTI's Abid Bibi who

alleged that Merree's forest wood had been used for the Sharif's residences. However, PML-N's other lawmakers coded him down.

Salma Sadiq Taimor asked the government to take the representatives of beauty parlours into confidence before imposing non-legal guarantees.

Marif Ahmed said the allocated five minutes for each member for the budget debate was too short to register concerns.

Minister Chaudhry Zahooruddin said Asif Ali Zardari and Shahbaz Sharif should bring their money back after selling their properties in London and Switzerland.

Meanwhile, the PPP and PML-N cut a cake to observe the birth anniversary of the late Benazir Bhutto. The politicians of both parties paid tributes to the PPP leader.

The chair adjourned the proceedings till Monday.



Malinga stars as Sri Lanka stun England

Pg.24 SPORT

## 'Lawmakers on production orders have certain rights'

LAHORE: Hearing a petition challenging production orders of the arrested opposition leaders being issued by the speakers of the assemblies, a senior judge of the Lahore High Court on Friday observed that lawmakers attending sessions of the assemblies on production orders were not convicted and they would have certain rights.

The petition questioned the production orders or former president and PPL leader Asif Ali Zardari, PML-N leader Khawaja Saad Rafiq and Leader of the Opposition in the Punjab Assembly Hamza Shehbaz.

During the hearing, Justice Mamnoon Hussain observed that attendance of the lawmakers in budget sessions was important. "A government can go home if its budget is not passed by the assembly," added the judge.

The judge observed that a lawmaker could not express his opinion unless they heard debate on the budget in the assembly.

Opposing the petition, a law officer asked the court to decide the point of maintainability first.

The petitioner counsel said he wanted to correct the system as the new government had been facing problems. He said PML-N President Shahbaz Sharif spoke for hours in the assembly but he started complaining backache when it came to appearance before any court. He said law was violated while issuing production order of Mr Zardari.

The law officer said petitioner's counsel were more political than legal. Justice Shehbaz also advised the counsel to avoid political stuff and stick to legal arguments.

The counsel argued that issuance of production order of a lawmaker during physical remand amounted to interference in investigation by the speaker.

However, the judge adjourned hearing till next week and sought arguments on the maintainability of the petition.

— Staff Reporter

## Three labourers electrocuted in textile mills

By Our Staff Correspondent

FAISALABAD: Three labourers were electrocuted and two others were injured in a textile mill in Khuniansar on Friday.

The incident occurred at the Arzoo Textile Mills. The deceased were identified as Yasir, 23, of Narowal, Amjad, 40, of Layyah, and Latif, 42, of Chak 102-BB.

Rescue 1122 shifted injured Zahid Iqbal, 21, of 105-GB, and Mohammad Yousef, 23, of Chak 73-BB, to the Allied Hospital where their condition was stated to be critical.

Zeraiwala Division Superintendent of Police Hassan Attaq confirmed three deaths and injuries of two others and said investigation into the issue had been launched and action would be taken accordingly.

He said the reason for electrocution had yet to be ascertained.

## Woman who burnt her minor kids sent to jail

LAHORE: A woman charged with causing burn injuries to her two minor children was sent to jail on judicial remand by a judicial magistrate of Cantt Court on Friday.

Gila Gujjar Singh police produced Anita and her two accomplices, Noreen and Anessa, before the magistrate. The investigation officer told the court that custody of the suspects was no longer required. He said the mother during preliminary investigation confessed to burning the children.

The magistrate sent the suspects to jail on judicial remand and directed police to submit an investigation report within the stipulated time of 14 days.

Two-year-old George and his elder sister Maryam, 3, suffered burn injuries on various body parts when their mother, Anita, allegedly tried to perform black magic on them.

As per the police, Anita took George and Maryam to her sister's house in Gila Gujjar Singh where they were locked in a room. The room was lit with candles and the minors were tied to beds with ropes. Police claimed that a goat was also brought and tied in the centre of the room. Father of the minors had rescued them and shifted to a hospital where doctors confirmed that the children were burnt with fire. — Staff Reporter



Dereliction of duty

# 13 prison employees sacked

By Our Correspondent

**BAHAWALPUR:** The Punjab Prisons Department has dismissed from service 13 employees of the Board Institution and Juvenile Jail, Bahawalpur, on charges of dereliction of duty.

It was learnt that the employees had been sacked by the IG prisons on the directive of the chief minister.

The minister was prompted to take the officials' act of leaving the jail without permission of their seniors who were waiting for arrival of CM Usman Baidar on May 3.

Boratal Jail Acting Superintendent Ali Raza told Dawn by mobile phone that the CM was scheduled to visit the jail on May 3 but his arrival was delayed due to his visit to Rahim Yar Khan.

During this time, all

senior officials remained on duty while the 13 employees, who had been sacked, slipped away.

At this, DPO Prisons Shadab Ferouz took action against them and a complaint was filed with higher authorities who removed the said officials from service. Two other officials were given a warning.

**ARRESTED:** Kowali police arrested a man allegedly for exploiting objectivists and have arrested against the concerned institutions on social media on Friday.

According to a spokesman for the DPO office, the suspect, Zafar Ali, was busy upstaging the state material when the police raided his house in the City Model.

The police ceased his mobile phone and courted him under sections of the Maintenance of Public Order Ordinance 1960.

## Kidnapped trader recovered; three suspects arrested

By Our Correspondent

**GUJARAT:** Police claim to have recovered a trader who was kidnapped from Lahore and arrested three suspects for their involvement in the kidnapping.

On June 19, the suspects had introduced themselves as officials of the Federal Investigation Agency and kidnapped Ahsan Saleem Butt of Sirdarpur near Kartarpur in the outskirts of the city. Later, they called Butt's father and demanded a ransom of Rs500,000 to release his son.

Police said a case had been lodged against unidentified suspects by the

Lahore police under sections 304-A and 305-A of PPC on the report of Saleem Butt, the father of the trader, and an investigation is underway.

District Police Officer Sardar Ali Mohsin told Dawn that soon after the call was made to the father, police started chasing the suspects after tracing their location.

The police raided a hideout, recovered Butt and arrested three suspects.

Later, police arrested another accomplice of the suspects, who was actually their local facilitator.

Ten of the suspects were residents of Jhelum district and third Bahria Town, Rawalpindi.

## Security company driver steals Rs4m

By Our Correspondent

Road while search for the driver is on.

**THRIE:** Villagers of Sialkot's Arifwala area forced him over to the police after beating him late on Thursday near Haldiald Haryali Pathak in the limits of Sialkot Police station. They suspected he was a thief.

One of the accomplices of the sedan was fled. In the last one and half years, the incidents of theft have been on the rise.

Villagers, with the help of community police, caught Ali Raza, 26, of village Chak 09, Khokhran in Arifwala. He was on the rooftop of a shop with the help of a ladder when the crowd was on the ground when he fled.

The police are looking into the matter.

## Doctors seek removal of encroachment

**MULTAN:** The local chapter of Young Doctors' Association has threatened to go on strike if the local authorities fail to remove encroachment from the Nishtar Road.

In a press release issued here on Friday, it said the administration had failed to remove encroachment and illegal occupation of Nishtar Road which was causing hardships for patients

and doctors as traffic remained stuck-up.

It said that a delegation of the association had met Commissioner Imrana Sikander Baloch and demanded action against illegal structures and corrupt traffic police.

"More than a month has passed from the date of submission and other authorities concerned did not take any action," it said.

— Staff Correspondent



FAISALA@AD: Vendors wait for customers in Kutchery Bazaar. — Online

## Lawyers and traders in tit-for-tat litigation

By Our Correspondent

**SAHIWA:** Both lawyers and traders have succeeded in launching cases against each other in Attock.

It all began when on Wednesday morning, lawyer Riaz Hussain parked his motorcycle in front of the shop of brothers Muhammad Asif and Mohammad Rajid at Thane Bazaar, Attock. As the lawyer was in the bazaar for 30 minutes shopkeepers asked him to remove his motorcycle as there needed space for a truck there. This led to an exchange of words.

The lawyer called his colleagues who broke windows of the shop.

Shop owners along lawyers stole Rs1G, 500 and auto parts from the

shop. Later, lawyers and traders both blocked Attock-Bahawalpur Road and approached the police.

Five lawyers, six law clerks, four shopkeepers and three traders severely thrashed them.

The Attock DPO called Elite Force and reserved force from Pakpatan to control the situation. The police used teargas shelling to disperse the crowd while the traffic remained suspended for three hours. Traders closed their shops while lawyers asked them to remove their motorcycle as there needed space for a truck there. This led to an exchange of words.

The lawyer called his colleagues who broke windows of the shop.

Shop owners along lawyers stole Rs1G, 500 and auto parts from the

shop. Later, lawyers and traders both got compensation registered against the DPO, 150 lawyers, 70 nominated, under the bar and other sections with the Attock police.

On Thursday, traders also got compensation case registered against 150 lawyers, 70 nominated, under the bar and other sections. On Friday, lawyers held a convention.

Traders told Dawn local political leadership and senior officials from the district administration should play their role to diffuse the situation.

Pakpatan Deputy Commissioner Ahmed Kamal Maan told Dawn officers were underway to pacify both sides. Also, on Friday, bars of Pakpatan and Sahiwal boycotted judicial proceedings to show solidarity with their Attock colleagues.

The Attock Tehsil Bar Association hosted an All Punjab Lawyers' Convention and twice blocked Bahawalpur Road. They raised slogans against the DPO, the SSP investigation and the Attock police for registering consumer version FIR against lawyers and demand their transfer.

They said they would not let any policeman into court premises in Attock and Sahiwal until FIR was withdrawn.

So far no senior official from the district administration, police and judiciary tried to calm the situation.



SAHIWA: A banner displayed by the Attock Bar Association. — Dawn

## Sarwar seconds proposal of Indian Sikh pilgrims bringing dollars

By Our Correspondent

**SHEIKHUPURA:** Punjab Governor Chaudhry Sarwar supports the proposal floated by the Sikh community leaders that the Indian Sikh pilgrims should carry dollars with them instead of rupees.

The adviser on finance and others will take a decision, he said, adding that the government had set out the annual target of \$3 billion revenue by promoting religious tourism.

Speaking to the media during a visit to Nankana Sahib on Friday, he claimed that funds had been allocated in the Punjab government's budget to construct the Baba Guru Nanak International University and work on the project would soon start.

Moreover, the main railway road leading to the

Gurdwara Janam Asthan would be constructed.

The governor said thousands of Sikh pilgrims from all over the world would participate in the 550th birth anniversary of Baba Guru Nanak in November. He said that 10,000 Indian and 100,000 international Sikh pilgrims would be accommodated.

The residence of Sardar Bhagat Singh would also be renovated and all projects including renovation of the railway station in Nankana Sahib would be completed before November, he said.

Former tehsil nazim Riaz Shahzad Khalid hosted the dinner for the governor and journalists and the PTI workers who attended it.

He said Prime Minister Imran Khan was trying to establish peaceful relations with India but the leaders of the latter country were showing obstinacy. "We will keep voicing concern at the Kashmir issue of all forums," he said.

## '292 held for water theft in two months'

**LAHORE:** The irrigation department has 292 suspects arrested and registered cases against 5,231 people in the last two months.

Irrigation Minister Mohsin Khan Leghari said that to ensure provision of canal water to stakeholders, his department has launched a campaign against canal water consumers who were stealing the water share of others by illegally uprooting their sugar canals from water channels.

"More than a month has passed from the submission of the application and other authorities concerned did not take any action," it said.

— Staff Correspondent

Since May 1, at least 6,951 incidents of water theft have been registered in 2,904 locations to their original share, he claimed.

In serious water theft cases, he further said, 292 suspects were arrested with the help of police, while cases against 1,521 were registered under the Canal Act 1873 and other relevant laws. The Act authorises the department to impose a heavy fine or have a case registered

or take both actions against suspects, the minister said.

He said most of the culprits of water theft had started to pay dividends as complainants of non-provision of water at tail-ends are on a decline.

"For the first time in years, water reached in some channels in Multan, Dera Ghazi Khan, Bahawalpur and other districts located at the tail-end of canals in Punjab," he added. — Staff Reporter

## 16 injured in two road accidents

By Our Correspondent

**TOBA TEK SINGH:** At least 16 people were injured in two road accidents in the Toba Tek area on Friday.

In the first accident, four persons of a family belonging to Sahiwal were injured seriously when their van collided with a tractor-trolley at Gora.

According to the Report 1122, the family was going to Chichawati (Sahiwal) from Faisalabad in the van. When the van hit a tractor-trolley at Gora-Paijani Road, a tractor-trolley coming from the opposite direction collided with it. As a result, all four van riders

were critically wounded.

They were brought out of van by cutting the vehicle. The victims were identified as Nasir Ahmad, 60, his wife Salma Bibi, 55, and their two sons, Nadeem Ahmad, 25, and Maseem Ahmad, 20.

They were rushed to the Gojra Tehsil Headquarters Hospital where doctors referred them to the district headquarters hospital.

In the other accident, more than two dozen passengers were injured when a bus overturned due to speeding on the Rawalpindi-Faisalabad road near Chak Tora.

The Report 1122 said the Faisalabad-bound bus was coming from Multan and all the injured were admitted to the hospital.

Tabs of Toba, Rajana, Samundri and Faisalabad.

**LAZARA:** A woman and her son fell unconscious after taking tea in which a fox had accidentally fallen at Chak 032 JB, Rehmati.

They were identified as Maqbool Bibi, 40, and her son Ali Raza, 11.

A neighbour woman, who had come to see them, found them in an unconscious state. She called the villagers who informed the Rescue 1122. Both the mother and the son were rushed to the DHA Hospital where they had not yet regained consciousness when the report was filed.

**BEZAIK:** The 650th birth anniversary

of Benazir Bhutto was celebrated here on Friday.

A cake was cut in a gathering at the residence of former Punjab provincial administrator and PPP district president Begum Neelam Jabbar Chaudhry at Bhera Town.

In her speech, she said the Pakistani Tehrik-e-Islami (PTI) government had made the life of the poor miserable and the new proposed budget had caused manifold hike in prices of commodities though it had not been approved by the parliament.

PPD leader Zulfiqar Ali and other office-bearers also spoke. They paid tributes to Benazir Bhutto and Asif Ali Zardari.

## OBITUARY

Our beloved Father

**MIR KHALID RASHID**

Bis Mir Raheem Ahmed (late) Passed Away on 21st June 2019

**NAMAZ-E-JANAZA** will be held on Saturday, 22nd June 2019, at Masjid Abu Bakar, Phase 2, DHA, Karachi

Mir Alized Rashid (0300-2171666)

Mir Adil Rashid (0333-3101010)

House # 782, 1st Central Lane, Phase 2, DHA, Karachi



## PESHAWAR

Sunset 07:35pm

Sunrise (Tomorrow) 05:01am

## NEXT 24 HRS

Minimum 22°C

Maximum 40°C

Outlook Mostly Sunny



## Govt asked to enact laws for safety of coal miners at workplace

By Our Correspondent

**SHANGLA:** The coal mine workers welfare association has decided to organise a hunger strike camp in Alpuri on July 11 to protest the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government's failure to enact legislation for ensuring safety of coal miners at the workplace.

The warning was issued at a meeting held at Karora here on Friday, where several office-bearers, including Sartaj Khan, Gul Khan, Ali Bash Khan, Atif Yar, Gulab Shahzad and Mian Sohrab spoke.

They said the government had promised that legislation would be enacted for protecting rights of coal miners, but to no avail.

"We held several meetings with the authorities and also presented our charter of demands, but the government is yet to take any action," Sartaj Khan lamented. He said receiving bodies of their loved ones had become a routine for the local people as about 70 per cent of coal miners belong to Shaheed.

"We have planned to set up a hunger strike camp on July 11 that will continue till acceptance of our demands," Atif Yar said.

He alleged that the authorities did not respond positively whenever they contacted them on the matter.

Mr Yar said they would continue struggle for the rights of coal miners. Gulab Shahzad said the hunger strike camp would be set up in front of the deputy commissioner's office in Alpuri. He said coal miners from across the district would join the camp.

Meanwhile, the rights activists alleged that due to lack of safety measures inside the Karora Hydroelectric Project's tunnel a labourer died and two others sustained injuries.

They demanded of the government to ascertain the cause of the incident. According to project officials, the incident took place on Thursday evening when the miners were busy in blasting inside the tunnel. The injured labourers were taken to the district headquarters hospital, Alpuri, where one of them was pronounced dead. The deceased was identified as Sartaj of Kot Kora.

## Noted Pashto film star Liaqat Ali Khan dies at 68

By Sohail Kakakhel



**NWFP:** Famed comedy actor of Pashto films of yore, Liaqat Ali Khan, commonly known as Liaqat Major died of cardiac arrest in Lahore on Friday, family sources confirmed. He was 68.

The actor, who was suffering from heart problems for quite some time, his body was brought to his home town in Nowhereh Kalay where his Nitama Janana will be offered on Saturday morning. He left behind a widow, two sons and a daughter.

Liaqat Major worked in around 200 films and received numerous awards, but after 40 years work he had called it a day in 2007 and joined Dewari Tabbiqah. He also helped two Pashto films, Khan Dehgan and Naikar, and his last film, titled "Zara Me Wazey Day" was released in January 2007.

The popular comedy actor had started his acting career in his school days from stage play but his passion drew him into Pashto film industry in its heydays and launched his career in films by playing a minor role in Pashto movie "Dera Khysten" produced by Habibullah Khan.

Known artist Allaudin introduced him to the film director who had offered him a role in a death scene.

His second Pashto movie was "Alaq Ghair" in which he played a minor role. He later known as a comedy actor he did many serious roles in some movies. The memorable comedy role in his last Pashto movie "Orbad" has been the early 70s because his identity.

Liaqat Major's popular famous dialogue still on the lips of his fans include: "Da sun new calendar year", Da suni Sardar chora da bawaseer ga gare pa yar suni deh and Sardar yam se kado karela na yam". He had also worked with iconic star like Ishaq Manan, Asif Khan and Soorya Khan.

"I am quite satisfied with my decision and vowed to continue producing more decent films. I have never worked for anyone but myself. I wish my old career just to recall the sweet old memories of my life. I have been offered roles in CID drama but I did not take up the offer, though I don't repeat working in movies as we made others laugh," the famed comedy actor had once said in an interview.

## Peshawar police get new chief

**PESHAWAR:** The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa police chief on Friday transferred deputy inspector general of police Mohammad Karim Khan and appointed him capital city police officer (CCPO) of Peshawar.

A notification issued here said the police chief under section 17(4) of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Police Act 2017 transferred CCPO Peshawar Qazi Junaid Rehman (BS-20) and promoted him to the rank of DIO.

Khan Khan (BS-20) was working as DIO special branch. A police statement said Mr Khan took charge of CCPD office on Friday evening. It said that Mr Rehman congratulated Mr Khan on being appointed as the city police chief. Mr Khan was also introduced with officials of city police.

Meanwhile, the government on Friday also transferred secretary forest Syed Nasir Hussain Shah (BS-20) and directed him to report to the establishment department. Mr Shah had long been serving as secretary forests, environment and wildlife department and also oversaw the execution of PTA's funding Billions Tree plantation project.

Shahzad Khan (BS-19) was also promoted and posted secretary forests.

Mr Shah's removal came at a time when provincial forests have seen a string of fires over past several weeks and as per media reports more than 90 such incidents have taken place. — Business Report

## OBITUARY

Our beloved Father

### MIR KHALID RASHID

(Sir) Mir Rashid Ahmed (Late) Passed Away on 21st June 2019

**NAMAZ-E-JANAZA** will be held on Saturday, 22nd June 2019,

**NAMAZ-E-ASAR** at Masjid Abu Bakar, Phase 2, DHA, Karachi

Mir Alized Rashid (0300-2171666

Mir Adil Rashid (0333-3013010)

House # 7B2, 1st Central Lane, Phase 2, DHA, Karachi



YOUNGSTERS jump into a stream in Ghizer district, Gilgit-Baltistan. — APP

## Kohat's all four cinemas converted into commercial centres

By Abdul Sami Paracha

**KOHAT:** All the four cinemas in Kohat city have been demolished replaced by commercial centres, thus depriving a large number of visitors of watching the movies on the big screen.

The cinemas were a big source of relaxation for the poor class which after daylong labour had an airconditioned environment as cheap as Rs50.

In the beginning families were attracted by the PAF cinema but with the passage of time, it also started playing Pashto movies featuring film stars and various characters created in its domain.

In early days it screened English movies during those days of the week but then abandoned the practice. Now the young boys and families go to

Islamabad to enjoy movies in quality picture houses even at the cost of paying many times more of rupees.

Mohammad Hashim, a regular visitor to Islamabad with his friends, said the history of watching a movie at a cinema and watching a movie on the domestic screen were mind-blowing.

Two famous cinemas were owned by the army and the Pakistan Air Force, with the former constructed outside the walled city by the British as aatorium for their families in 1935.

It has been demolished and now converted into a sweater hall.

The PAF cinema also vanished with the time. Constructed in 1958 at a commercially ideal place at a corner plot it has been

Social Media Pakistan 0345-678217

converted into a commercial plaza.



A COMMERCIAL plaza being constructed in place of the PAF Cinema, Kohat — Dawn

Still, only the structure has completed but the shops are being sold like hot cakes starting from Rs6 million to Rs10

million on premium with monthly rent.

The oldest of all the cinemas was started with the name of New

Royal in 1932 whose name was changed to Capital Cinema. Now, at its site stand a lone plane, a hospital, a bank, and shops.

Haji Mohammad Akram, who owned the Flex Cinema, built in 1948, while narrating the history of the pictures, termed the place as a dilapidated, but said the dying industry could not support their families. He said that people were more interested in building shopping plazas and nobody was ready to take the risk of constructing Peshawar or Islamabad-like cinemas with millions of rupees as nobody would buy even Rs100 per ticket.

Haji Mohammad Akram said commercial places should be preserved with the help of the government. He regretted that those nations who did not remember their past were forgotten forever.

## People advised against bathing in Indus River

**SWABI:** Chata Lakeh school student Sabir Khan advised the local people and visitors stay away from bathing in the Indus River to avoid drowning and loss of precious lives.

Talking to mediapersons here, he said that water level in the lake of Turbela Dam also increased significantly during the current period of summer. He said that they had installed signboards on the bank of the river in which the people had been warned against bathing.

He said that they had also arranged a campaign on social media to educate people about the imminent danger associated with bathing in the Indus River.

Answering a question, he said that it was their responsibility to educate the people about the high risk activity, adding the visitors should follow the instructions for their own safety.

Sources said that the district police officer and officials of the district administration had discussed the issue and

agreed to impose section 144, preventing the people from bathing in Potohar High Level Canal.

They said that the police would monitor the PIEC to stop people from bathing there. Three days ago, two workers of Gadoon Aman Industrial Estate drowned and their water supply to the canal was stopped for recovery of the bodies.

KILLED: A man was killed while his three friends were seriously injured when their car hit a roadside tree near Sardar Khan village in Kohat.

Police said that the four were on their way to Tandojai village when they ran into a road block.

Police said that the four were taken to Sardar Khan Hospital Complex, Shoshmanoor. Later, two of them were admitted to a hospital in Peshawar, but one Muhammad Zebaid succumbed to his injuries on way to Peshawar. — Correspondent

## Teachers demand increase in salary, allowances

**HARIPUR:** Tariqum Asrta Pakistan provincial president Khalidul Haq on Friday demanded of the government to increase the salary of teachers by 10 percent. Mr Haq also told a press conference along with education leaders Amra Arriqeq Siddiqui, Masood Rehman and Shabid Gorha that heavy taxes imposed on the 2019-20 budget would further shrink the purchasing power of the salaried people.

"We won't demand pay raise if the government announces that MNAs, MPAs and senators will not accept salary, allowances, perks and privileges from now onwards," he said.

The teacher leader said the government should increase the limit of monthly income to Rs1 million, decrease income tax from the proposed 4.5 percent to two percent, and give 20 percent pay raise to teachers after adjusting all adhoc relief being given to them for four years.

He demanded the payment of medical and conveyance allowances to teachers in line with the market value and Rs50,000 to women teachers as Mehran allowance in light of their rural hardships.

Mr Haq also demanded allotment of houses to teachers on retirement. He said the association would continue advocating primary education in local languages.

The teacher leader demanded the introduction of uniform education system after reforms to further the cause of education. He demanded increase in education budget and reforms in education boards.

KILLED: An elderly woman was run over and killed by the Karachi-bound Harsas Express near Model Town here. The incident occurred as Harsas Jan, 75-year-old resident of Kangri Colony, walked on railway tracks. — Correspondent

## Bara orchard growers get training

**LANDI KOTAI:** The agriculture department of Khyber tribal district in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations organised a workshop on orchard management training programme for Barakot growers of Akkakot Agriculture Cluster here.

Around 25 farmers selected from different tribes of Bara participated in the event.

They received fruit plants from the FAO and Agriculture Extension Department during the Rabri 2019 session.

Agency agriculture officer Zakia Mishti said that trainees were educated about plantation methodology, orchard management such as pruning,

fertiliser application, irrigation, disease and pest management, fruit picking, grading and packaging and marketing along modern lines.

She said the training programme was meant to assist farmers to get the maximum benefit from their fruit crops.

Ms Zakia said if planted correctly, the availability and better producing fruits, the livelihood of farmers would improve.

She said orange, pomegranate, guava and lemon plants were provided to farmers as the soil and environment was suited for them and the growers could cultivate them.

The officer said efforts were under way to bring more and more Barakot farmers under cultivation alongside making the agricultural projects more effec-

tive and operational.

"Around 2,000 Barakot farmers were registered with us. We are making all-out efforts to help them improve their agricultural yields."

"We have distributed free seeds of different vegetables and wheat among along with the local farmers," she said.

Ms Zakia said farmers in Turab valley were encouraged to grow fruit plants and they were provided with around 30,000 such plants.

Deputy Commissioner of Khyber district Mohammad Aslam Bhatti, who was shown up, asked farmers to follow the technical and scientific guidelines provided by the agriculture department to get better produce. — Correspondent

## Pashto melody queen Zarsanga cries for financial assistance

Official says culture directorate hasn't received any request from her family for help

By Sher Alam Shinwari



Minister Muhammad Khan to arrange for my free medical treatment and other expenses of my family. I am in a difficult position with my family. I want to contribute to Pashto folk music till my last. I am old but my voice is young," said the melody queen.

According to her son Shabzad, the issue was resolved by handing over their home to officials and reluctantly Zarsanga shifted her family comprising over 90 percent to Kohat where she has been living in a room alongside other meadow families in a miserable condition for the last over two years.

The singer-actress, folk singer told this scribe that she had been suffering from several health issues but could not afford medical treatment. She added that it had become almost impossible to feed her extended family comprising six married sons and grandchildren.

"Since I have fallen sick, no government or private organisation has tried to help me. If free treatment is provided, I will be able to perform because I

have a matchless voice," the folk singer said proudly.

She recalled that her late husband Mula Jan was a drummer and had composed 80 folk songs for her while late Khan Tafiq was not only her cousin but like a brother and their duo remained most popular, enjoying a large following in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Afghanistan.

She regretted that she had been forced to live in a tent under miserable circumstances due to her weak financial position.

An official of culture directorate, whom this scribe met, said that according to his information Zarsanga had been living in a free room rented house in a residential colony in Kohat whereby the monthly house rent of Rs10,000 was being paid by the local authorities under an agreement for two years and she had also been receiving monthly salary of Rs10,000.

He said that the culture directorate had received no application from family of Zarsanga for financial assistance yet.

## Boost your word bank

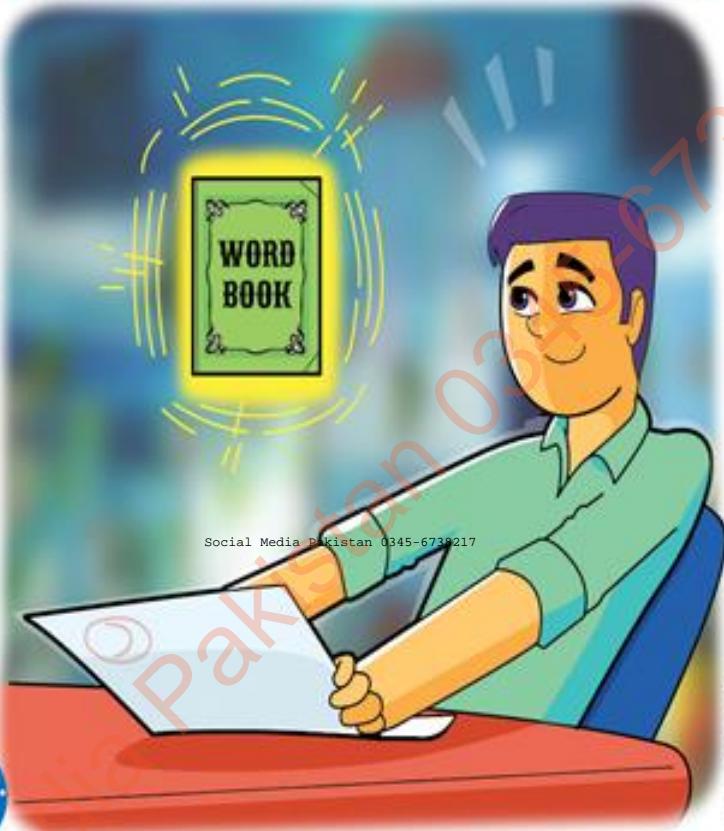
By Yasmin Elahi

**R**aheel's English teacher asked his class to write an essay on "A visit to a park". He was delighted at the easy topic and more so because he had gone to a park only last weekend. He described the park and its beauty in detail and was confident that he would get an 'A'.

But when the teacher handed out the assignments, he was disappointed to get a 'C'. Noting Raheel's and some other children's crestfallen looks, she explained to the class why some students scored better than others.

The teacher gave Raheel's example, who had written a first-hand description of the park, but had used the word beautiful for everything he saw over there. She gave a list of words that could have been used for describing the flowers, trees, plants, lights, benches and the weather. She shared a number of adjectives — 'stunning', 'striking', 'breath-taking', 'enchanting', 'amazing'

Cont...  
pg 4



It's alarming! D'Land doesn't seem to have enough healers!

Is there anything the leaders of D'Land can do?

To find out, turn to page 5

K&N

Refresh Your Mind & Find the Difference

Lite Lite Refreshing

Jam-e-Shirin is made up of 100% pure extracts of rose and sandalwood. These natural ingredients are always found on the Jam-e-Shirin packaging. Mark the differences between the two labels, click a picture of it and share it on our Facebook page [/JamEShirin](#) to get highlighted in one of our posts.

Find 07 Differences



## In defence of technology

This is regarding the article "In defence of technology" by Istaara Amjad (YW, June 8). The ideas of the writer redefined my perception of technology in a positive way, keeping aside its negative impacts.

Indeed, technology has become an important part of our lives. From the never ending communication all over the globe to entertainment and information, technology has multiple impacts on our lives. In short, technology has made our lives easier than ever before — all we need to do is use it in a positive and purposeful manner.

Jhaman Rahwani,  
Mithi

## A relic of the past

This is with reference to the story "A relic of the past" by Sidra Hafeez (YW, May 11). The story was well-written and was full of suspense. The story was also rich in vocabulary and grammar, and the way it ended was marvellous.

Mohammad Rehan,  
Karachi

## A mother's love

I really liked the way the article "The power of a mother's love" by Arif Iftikhar began with a story of an infant son and her mother in the beginning. A mother is a person who teaches us how to speak, eat, walk and so on.

We should be thankful to have a mother in our lives.

Imagine those who don't have a mother, how much they would be missing their mothers at every step, at every achievement.

For me, my mother is my heaven in this world. I really like these lines of writer that you need mother at every stage of your life because only she can understand everything you are going through.



## Mailbox

I want to request everyone to give respect to their mother and give her as much time as they can. Indeed, a mother is a precious gift from God.

Iqra Bisma,  
Sukkur

## Scary clowns

This is regarding the story "Scary clowns" by Rattil Hussain (YW, April 30). Frankly speaking, friendship is one of God's blessings. But sometimes our so-called friends try to make life miserable by making fun of their friends.

It is better to always stay away from friends who are not sincere and are making your life difficult.

Muhammad Ali Channa,  
Jacobabad, Thul

## An Eid tragedy!

This is with reference to the story "An Eid tragedy" by Hana Marfani (YW, June 1).

The story portrayed a realistic picture of how suddenly things can turn out the wrong way, but when the story ended, everything settled and the readers felt relief.

Sohaib Ahmed,  
Rawalpindi



Your contributions should mention your full name, age, class, school, address and telephone number/email address. If you are under 18, you need to give your parent's or guardian's name too with their CNIC number. Young World accepts original contributions only.

# Quotes

"Don't just read the easy stuff. You may be entertained by it, but you will never grow from it."

— Jim Rohn  
(Motivational speaker)

"If you have good thoughts, they will shine out of your face like sunbeams and you will always look lovely."

— Roald Dahl (Writer, poet)

"People often say that motivation doesn't last. Well, neither does bathing – that's why we recommend it daily."

— Zig Ziglar (Motivational speaker)

"You've got to do your own growing, no matter how tall your grandfather was."

— Irish Proverb

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

— Winston Churchill  
(Statesman)

"Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing about."

— Benjamin Franklin  
(Author, Political theorist)

"Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life."

— Steve Jobs  
(Business magnate)

## Word search

Find the words related to weights and measures hidden in the grid:

P	L	R	M	K	E	R	A	T	C	E	H
I	M	E	G	A	P	A	R	S	E	C	Q
C	P	Z	O	L	L	Q	T	V	V	Q	Y
T	Q	H	N	J	X	R	H	S	C	Y	V
O	R	Z	U	G	S	I	G	P	G	O	P
G	M	Z	M	C	G	R	I	N	A	O	H
R	I	J	N	Q	N	R	E	I	L	C	P
A	C	F	K	U	O	E	W	E	L	C	L
M	R	P	L	A	L	T	D	K	O	E	R
R	O	A	W	R	R	E	E	S	N	C	E
Z	G	C	D	T	U	M	R	S	Q	N	W
T	R	C	A	Z	F	A	D	E	J	U	U
R	A	D	I	A	N	G	N	F	E	O	K
E	M	S	T	O	N	E	U	V	K	M	S
Q	N	O	R	C	I	M	H	N	X	B	E

Wordlist:  
STONE  
MICRON  
GALLON  
MEGAPARSEC  
FURLONG  
QUART  
SKEIN  
PICTOGRAM  
OUNCE  
HUNDRED-WEIGHT  
MICROGRAM  
MEGAMETER  
ZOLL  
RADIAN  
HECTARE

**Thunderstorm**

Strong winds are blowing,  
Lightening is striking.  
People are fast pacing.  
As thunder clouds are racing,  
The wind is howling like a wolf,  
Rain is pouring from the sky,  
Soon, no place is going to be dry.  
Deep down, in the ground,  
Earthworms are making their way out,  
The rain clouds save us from the hot summer sun.

Ayzah Umar, Javeria and Inaya,  
All 10 years, Rawalpindi

**The snow**

I love snow.  
It melts and flows;  
It is very bright,  
Like a galaxy of light,  
At night in the moonlight,  
It shines with full might.  
It is the beauty of the hill,  
And the source of land's chill.  
It is a blessing from God,  
Against global warming of the Earth.

Nimra Anwar,  
10 years, Peshawar

**My sweet mother**

I miss my mother, when problems come my ways,  
I miss my mother, when I feel alone on any day.  
Mother is a blessing in the life of a child,  
Without mothers the world will go wild.  
She is the one who changes tears into pleasures,  
For a child, she is not less than a treasure.  
We all are grateful to God for this beautiful gift,

We all pray from the depths of our hearts for our mothers.

Robina Bahram,  
10 years, Turbat

**On my trip**

I went on a trip,  
The mountains were green,  
And the sky was clean.  
Rain was pouring,  
And I was skipping,  
There were narrow roads,  
I ate some oats,  
Delicious food with scary routes,  
High trees and cold breeze,  
I packed my bag, on my way back,  
Ready for sudden accidents and bad incidents,  
Avoid these boring rides,  
They are not worth the fights.

Wania Quyyum,  
11 years, Lahore

**Jobs**

There are many jobs in the world,  
So when you are old,  
What job would you have?  
Plumbers fix pipes and leaks,  
Scientists do experiments in a lab.  
You can be a doctor and help the ill,  
And restore them to health with only one pill.  
You can run a business,  
Or you can become a dentist!  
You can be a mechanic and fix cars,  
Or become an astronaut and go to Mars!  
You can be a farmer and grow crops,  
You can be a butcher and cut mutton chops!  
I want to be an athlete;  
Yes, that is what I pick,  
I want to be a footballer and score goals,  
With my powerful kick!  
So, pick any job from this poem,  
Tell everyone what you want to be!

Sarim Abro,  
11 years, Karachi

**Swinging colours**

I can change in any colour,  
I am a reptile and eat insects,  
With my long sticky tongue,  
Some animals try to eat me,  
But I have a colourful camouflage.  
I am a chameleon,  
I swing in tree branches all day.  
I am a chameleon,  
The only reptile who can change its colours.

Ahmad Sohaib,  
8 years, Kashmore

**Dream**

Last night, I saw a dream,  
I woke up and screamed.  
It was very fearful.  
I saw a dangerous bull,  
It ran madly after me,  
While I was giving the zoo fee,  
I climbed up on a ladder,  
But he saw me in a secret manner,  
He hit the ladder and I fell down,  
I lay among the laughing crowd.

Khaiman Khatwar,  
10 years, Turbat

**Poet's corner****Ice cream**

Ice cream every day,  
A perfect treat in every way;  
Cold and nice,  
Just like a scoop of ice.  
Chocolate, vanilla and strawberry,  
Ice cream is just extraordinary.  
It can be sticky, but sweet,  
It's my favourite treat.

Qasim Mustafa,  
7 years, Lahore

**Farewell teacher**

Inside a room with a big window,  
Sunlight gently filters through the trees,  
That day when we met you,  
Somehow felt so distant,  
One by one,  
Memories we spun together,  
Really warmed my heart,  
Inside a small room,  
You gently taught us,  
About bonds of hearts;  
When the new session will start,  
We won't be able to have you,  
But we definitely won't forget.

Waris Shah,  
12 years, Lahore

**New class**

Bye bye, Grade IV,  
Hello, Grade V.  
My friends and I will be in different sections,  
But we will be given same instructions.  
I do not want to leave Grade IV,  
But I am excited for Grade V,  
To learn new things,  
And have new teachers.  
I will make new friends for life.

Zainab Shahzad,  
10 years, Karachi

**Spot the difference**

There are 11 differences in these pictures, see if you can spot them. You can find the answer on Page 11

# Boost your word bank

and 'delightful to sight', etc. — that could have been used instead of repeating 'beautiful'.

Friends, you must have noted that the writing comes very easily to some of you. There are children who can easily describe an incident or write an essay or a story without wasting another minute. Words flow easily to them and they have a big variety to choose from. The second group is of students who are found struggling for expressions when asked to write an essay or describe something. Often times, their writings do not catch the interest of the reader because they are at a loss for synonyms and repeat the same words again and again, which becomes irritating and boring.

The same situation applies when different children are part of a discussion. Some of you are fluent and can speak comfortably in class, during debates or when you are just hanging around with friends. Others find it hard to express their thoughts in the right way and do not feel confident enough to voice their views or feelings.

Have you ever wondered about the reason for this difference in the writing/speaking skills among your peers? The foremost explanation is that the children who have a better word bank and command over their vocabulary are always among those who can express themselves easily, both in writing and speaking. I am sure all of you would like to be amongst the first group.

All of us do not possess the same IQ level; for some children learning new words is easy; when they look up the meaning of an unfamiliar word, using it later on is effortless for them. Others find it difficult to remember new words and their meanings, and are confused about how to use them in their speech or writings.

Enhancing your word bank is not as difficult as some of you may think. You can build and keep on expanding your vocabulary by following some simple steps. Today, I would like to give you some easy tips to improve your writing and speaking skills, so that you can be more fluent vocally and when you pen down your thoughts. This would boost your confidence level and improve your grades in school.

## Read a lot

The main issue with the young generation is that they do not want to read. Reading for them is a chore, rather than an interesting hobby. The advantages of reading are so many that I would have to write a separate article on it.

I only want you to know that,

**Cont...  
pg1**

if you want to learn new words, reading daily is an absolute must. You do not have to read for hours. Set aside 15 to 30 minutes daily to go through the newspaper, a magazine or a storybook you find interesting.

- Keep a pencil handy and keep on underlining the words new to you.

## Maintain a vocabulary book

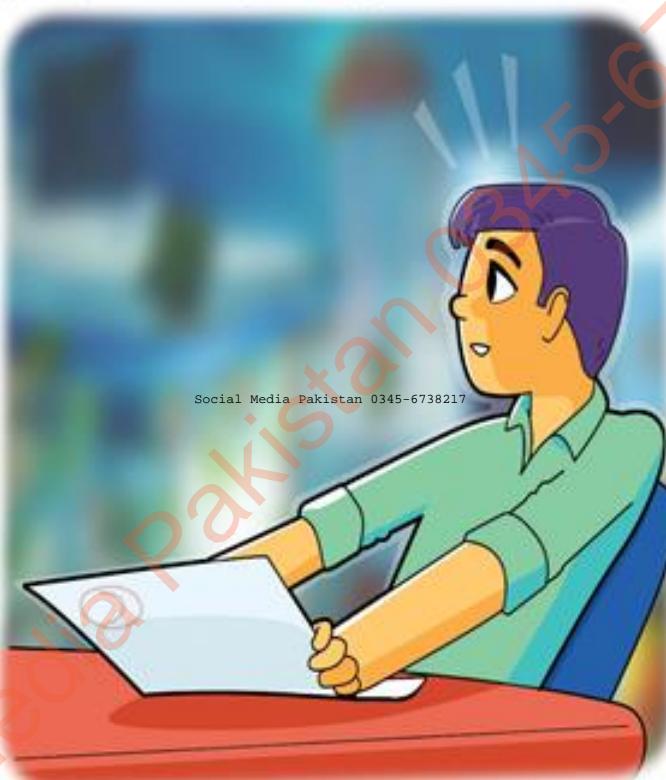
The next step in your vocabulary building exercise is to pen down in a notebook all the new words you had marked. Looking up meanings while you are reading can be

- fident about your language skills. Slowly and surely, you will learn a number of synonyms for the words you want to use, enabling you to avoid repetition.

## Set a target

When you start on your vocabulary enhancement project, give yourself a daily target. The slow learners amongst you may learn one to two words every day. In the beginning, you may struggle remembering them, but as you keep on working diligently on your vocabulary book, your interest will increase.

- You may then increase your target to five to ten words daily. There



time-consuming and can also spoil your interest. So when you have put down whatever you were reading, write down the words, and look up their meanings in your dictionary.

After noting down all the meanings, take out some time to re-read the passage. You will be surprised at the difference of comprehension and interest level you will feel. Keep going through your vocabulary book whenever you have free time. This will help you to remember the new words you had come across.

## Never hesitate to use new words

Be sure to use the words you had noted and looked up earlier, as soon as possible. When you use them while speaking or doing a school assignment, you will feel more con-

- is no limit for the quick learners, as they learn the meanings of new words with ease.

## Seek help where needed

Some children are shy to ask the meaning of the word a teacher, parent or peer had used. Do not feel ashamed or be afraid to appear ignorant if you find a new word incomprehensible or confusing. Remember that every language has unlimited words and it is humanly impossible for anyone to know them all.

- Make it a habit to inquire confidently, but politely, "What does that word mean?"

You will usually find people more than ready to help and explain the meaning.

- If you hear a new word from a stranger, in a park or a supermarket,

- ket, or in any situation where you cannot ask right away, make a mental note, or scribble the word in your pocketbook. Look up the meaning as soon as possible, so that you do not forget it.

- Make a habit of carrying a pocket dictionary and thesaurus with you. You can also use online apps and websites if you are allowed to and have a smartphone or gadget with you.

Often we are on a long drive, stuck in a traffic jam or have to wait for our turn at the doctor/dentist's. Instead of fidgeting and wondering how to pass the time, you can utilise these minutes to boost your vocabulary.

Study a few words which you find new and interesting, and with the help of the thesaurus, find out how you can use them in different sentences.

## Play board games and solve crossword puzzles

Board games like Scrabble and Upwords are not only a good mental exercise, but they help you in learning new words. You also come across root words and discover how you can use them to make different terms.

In the same way, crossword puzzles boost your thinking skills as you experiment to use various words to solve the puzzle. These games are not only productive means to utilise your leisure time, their additional advantage is the improvement in your mental sharpness and word bank.

## Build your confidence level

Children who do not have a good command on their vocabulary usually feel shy to take part in a discussion. They lack the courage to participate in debates or essay competitions. Always remember that you can improve only when you are confident enough to involve yourself in all language building activities. You may not perform well in the beginning, but do not be disheartened. If you keep on trying hard and working on your word bank, you will find yourself among the top performers.

I want all my friends to remember that we all should be learners from cradle to grave! I am nearly 70, but I find myself learning something new every day. Never feel bad about yourself if you feel you know less than your peers. We cannot excel at the same things as each of us has different capabilities. Most of the time, working hard is the key to all problems. If you want to be successful, keep on learning, not only in school but in every walk of life. ■

## Advice

By Nabeel Hassan

**H**ave you ever felt that when you talk, nobody cares about what you say? Or nobody gives you attention when you are telling something? If yes, then you will probably find a solution of this problem in this article.

First of all, you have to analyse why other people don't hear or give importance to you. Are they more mature than you are? Or are they more educated, richer or are they just arrogant? Maybe the problem lies somewhere else, maybe it has something to do with you!

Yes, it could be that you speak too much or too less, or it may be that you speak when there is no need for you to say anything. Or perhaps you don't fully understand the point of view of others and you speak without having a clue of what the discussion is all about.

Yes, these could be some of the reasons why people don't give you importance to what you say. If you had ever listened to the interviews of any celebrities and influential people like Bill Gates, Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos or Steve Jobs, notice that they speak less than it is necessary. If you haven't done the homework of speaking on any topic, or are not mature enough to discuss a topic, you are

# Make your words count



likely to repeat your phrases. So the more you talk, the more you decrease the value of your words.

What you have to do is to join a social gathering of three or more

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people. When you see them totally engrossed in a discussion, speak a few words in a polite manner when a pause comes in their discussion. Now notice if they build up their discussion on your point or continue with their own discussion and completely ignore your words. This will make you realise if you are speaking right on the point and if not, then you really need to focus on what others are talking about and where do you need to correct yourself.

Apart from that, there comes a time, when someone argues with you for no real reason, as some people have the habit of proving themselves always right. At such times, just give your explanation precisely and leave the scene. This will prevent the argument from accelerating and maybe when this person has the time to reflect, they will remember your words and

realise their true meaning.

Another main cause of the importance of your words decreasing could be your presence. For example, if you meet a person daily and they don't give you the respect you deserved, stop meeting that person for some time if it is not necessary for you. Giving gap between visiting the same place and same people can make others to miss you, and they may start recalling the good things about you.

Often times, there is someone who gives you a 'tit for tat' reply. You may get this response for a couple of reasons, (a) they are arrogant for no reason and always spreading negativity among their peers and (b) you may not have given importance to them earlier, thus as a revenge, they start ignoring you. So stop meeting them and completely ignore them.

Lastly, I would say it matters more how you represent your ideas than how much actually they are worth. So, try to speak politely with little pauses, don't shout and don't repeat. By implementing these techniques you will notice that people will start giving you and what you say more attention. ■

## Story time

Kulsoom Rahimtoola



# No shortcuts to life

**L**ucy is an intelligent and well-behaved girl who had always topped her class. She would always get high marks and outperform others. Her room was filled with awards and certificates.

Through all of her years at school, she remained confident and responsible with her work and duties. She never found any of her work too difficult at any time.

One day, whilst preparing for her math test, she faced many problems. She found the work tough and challenging. She kept thinking about how to solve the tough practice sheet for the test.

She put a lot of thought into her work, then said to herself, 'I'm never going to get decent grades in this

test and everyone will think of me as a failure. What should I do? Wait ... I should cheat. No wait, I shouldn't.'

She kept on thinking whether she should cheat or not, and finally decided to cheat and save herself from embarrassment in front of the class. Her decision was based on the fact that most kids didn't study much, put in a brief effort and yet they got decent results. So taking a 'shortcut' to success was not all that bad.

Her plan was to go to the playground and hit the beehive on the tree so all the bees could come out and then she could tell the teacher, "There's a whole bunch of bees outside trying to sting people!"

Then Mr Long would run outside and try to help the people being

stung by the bees. Then she would run to the teacher's desk to get the test answers. It was the perfect plan!

She changed her mind and the next day she decided to distract her teacher in another way.

She shouted, "There's a blue bottle bee in the room!"

The whole class began searching and so did Mr Long. Meanwhile, she went to Mr Long's desk and took out the test answers and quic-



ly returned to her seat. When Mr Long asked where the insect was, Lucy innocently said, "It probably flew out."

Lucy memorised all the answers in the paper she had taken out. Her parents saw her and they smiled that she was working so hard. They didn't know she was preparing to cheating.

On Monday she went to give her test and realised the questions didn't match the answers. She realised that the answer sheet she had taken was of another test paper. She felt lost and upset. Still she filled in some answers and handed the paper.

Despite the fact that she had not done well in her test, she still acted confident due to her habit of getting good results consistently.

The results came out a week later and she failed. The whole class was stunned and Mr Long specifically was very upset. Lucy too was in a state of shock. She then admitted to her teacher what she had done and how sorry she was about it. She promised to herself never to do any such thing again.

Shortcuts in any form never give desired results. Hard work, consistency and effort will always pay you back. ■

# Book review

## The Great Houdini

By Omair Alavi

You may all know that Harry Houdini was the greatest escape artist ever, but what we don't know is the story behind the creation of Harry Houdini. Born Ehrich Weiss, how he became Harry Houdini and why he chose to become an escape artist is what this book, *The Great Houdini*, tells you.

It explains a lot about the youngster who was in love with acrobats as well as knew how to open locks at an early age, and how he used his talent to impress the world!

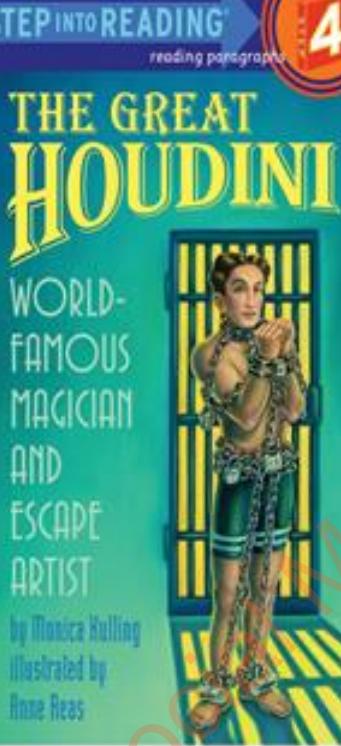
Author Monica Kulling points out the reasons why 'Ehrie' became 'Harry' in an America where foreigners weren't greeted as graciously as they are today. It had more to do with his idol Jean Eugene Robert-Houdin than anything else, because by adding an 'I' to the magician's name, Ehrich Weiss became Harry Houdini.

At first, he wasn't so popular and had to do a tour of Europe, where he was more appreciated, to become 'world famous'. Who wouldn't be impressed by a magician who baffled the Scotland

Yard to make his point, right?

In the beginning, life was hard for Houdini. He had to quit school to help his family and took up odd jobs, with one such job giving him access to locks, all kind of locks. It was there that he studied locks and decided to become the greatest magician of all time, performing tricks that no one dared to.

This book and the accompanying illustrations give accurate details of what were Houdini's tricks and how he was able to escape without damaging his body in the process. There was a trick where he could es-



cape from a straitjacket and one where he was locked in a box, with his hands handcuffed, yet he came out as if it was a piece of cake for him.

In his attempt to become a great performer, Houdini practiced day and night, giving sleepless nights to others. Through this Step 4 book, you get to read about his genius in the simplest of ways, with the help of images, as if someone is explaining it as you read along.

You may have heard a lot of stories about Houdini regarding his escapes, magic tricks and disappearance, and all are true except the last one. He didn't disappear in his final act, but died because of his reputation as someone who was strong. During one of his shows, two students punched him hard before he could prepare himself, damaging his appendix and thus sending him towards his death.

Despite taking the secrets of his tricks to his grave, Houdini remains alive due to his legacy and the many magicians who continue to emulate him. ■

By Aamnah Arshad



## Cook-it-yourself Quick mango kulfi

Summer brings sizzling temperatures and sweet mangoes. And it is only natural to use this king of fruits to beat the heat, like we will do today with a quick and easy recipe of mango kulfi.

Now the traditional kulfi recipe calls for hours of cooking the milk on slow heat to thicken it, but who wants to spend too much time in the kitchen in this heat? So we will use a shortcut and still come up with an authentic taste that will appeal to any kulfi or mango lover. The kulfi flavour also comes from cardamoms and for that we will be using cardamom powder.

### Ingredients

- 1 packet or cup thick cream
- 1 can condensed milk
- 1 1/2 cups mango pulp
- 1/4 teaspoon cardamom powder
- Chopped almonds for garnishing

### Method

Put all the ingredients in a blender or food processor, and blend until smooth. Viola! The kulfi is ready!

Pour into kulfi or popsicle moulds and freeze overnight for best results. Serve with sliced almonds, pistachios or just plain.

Since I did not have kulfi moulds, I got creative and used small-sized paper cups and inserted an ice lolly stick into it and kept it in the freezer. Ideally an ice cream or kulfi should be frozen in an airtight container to avoid the formation of ice crystals.

Frankly, this kulfi did have a touch of ice on the top, exposed surface, but it didn't make any difference to the taste. It was the simplest, yet most creamy and luscious mango kulfi I have come across.

You can also just freeze it in a plastic box with a cover if you do not have individual moulds and cut out pieces to serve. Frankly, when a chilled dessert is served in this heat, everyone is too busy trying to gulp it down before it melts that they hardly bother with the look and presentation. ■



Photo By: The Writer



# THE FISHIN' MAGICIAN



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## Names and words

1 A fortnight is a unit of time equal to how many days?

2 On which popular website do users send tweets?

3 What is the common term for a list of things a person would like to do before they die?

4 What is the Latin plural form of the word cactus?

5 Dendrophobia is the fear of what?

6 What is the name of the meringue-based cake believed to have been created in honor of a Russian ballerina?

7 On the popular social website Reddit, what does AMA stand for?

8 Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak, and Ronald Wayne founded what company in 1976?

9 A word that is spelled the same forwards and backwards is called a what?

—Ahzam Ahmed

1. 14 days
2. Twitter
3. Buckle list
4. Cacti
5. Trees
6. Pavlova
7. Ask Me Anything
8. Apple Computer, Inc
9. Palindrome

## ANSWERS



# Spotlight

## Rihanna 'secretly becomes friends' with Meghan Markle

Rihanna hasn't exactly struggled to make new pals since moving to London, with reports



claiming she and Meghan Markle, the Duchess of Sussex, have become 'friends'. The singer recently revealed that she is now living in London after swapping the bright lights of New York City and Los Angeles for England.

According to sources, Rihanna, and Meghan, 37, have found similar interests to bond over and both appreciate the need for maintaining privacy. It is said that, "They actually have a lot in common in terms of style and a shared need for total privacy in their lives."

It seems Rihanna has joined Meghan's inner circle of celebrity besties, which includes Serena Williams and Priyanka Chopra, both of whom attended her and Prince Harry's wedding in 2018. ■

## BTS World mobile game to debut June 25

South Korean boy band BTS World announced in a press release it will release its mobile game on June 25, on iOS and Android.

BTS teamed with Netmarble Corp. on the story-based simulation game. Users play BTS' manager and help guide the boy band to stardom.

BTS World features missions where players use, collect and upgrade BTS member cards to complete objectives and progress in the game. Players can also interact virtually with BTS members.

Pre-registration for BTS World is open on the game's official website. The site features a playable 'mini game' demo, a sneak peek of the 'mobile function' that allows players to interact virtually with BTS, and a mini-game. ■

## Peace at last between Swift and Perry

Music superstars Taylor Swift and Katy Perry have ended their long time feud. Swift and Perry celebrated their truce on Instagram after years of bad blood.



Perry shared a photo of a plate of chocolate chip cookies with 'Peace at last' written out in red icing. She tagged "Let's Be Friends" as the location.

"Feels good," the star captioned the post, adding a orange heart emoji. "@taylorswift." ■

Swift responded with 13 heart emojis in the comments. In addition, friends and fans voiced their happiness and hopes for collaboration between the singers. ■

# The weekly weird

## Woman gets stuck in child's plastic car

Zoe Archibald, climbed into the plastic toy car for a joke, but ended up being stuck that there was no way out. She tried to wriggle free for an hour, but in the end the whole car had to be sacrificed to set her free. Her dad Kevin used a bread knife to saw through the plastic chassis and free her.

Her nephew Matthew Shepherd-Bull, who filmed her release, said: 'There was no way she could get herself out. She was in there for an hour. We had to cut the back off the car to get her out.'

"No matter what we did, she wasn't able to get out. Everyone found it funny, even Zoe. She was a bit panicked but mainly found it funny. It was just a joke. Her dad had to cut her out. The best thing we could find was a bread knife.... It took about 15 minutes to cut through the plastic." ■



## World's largest terrarium

A shopping mall in Warsaw, Poland, has the world's largest terrarium, Guinness World Records has confirmed.

The terrarium, defined as a sealed container in which plants are grown, weighs 2,244.74 pounds. The massive glass container, with the phrase "Najwiekszy las w sławku," or "Largest forest in a bottle" was created by Warsaw's Galeria Polnocna shopping mall, and sits within the 200-store mall. ■



## Pink tap water in Ohio village

Residents in Coal Grove reported the water coming out of their taps was bright pink, leading village officials to initially warn locals not to drink the odd-coloured liquid.

Officials later said the pink colour came from a malfunction at the water treatment centre that saw a large quantity of sodium permanganate end up in the water. Stephen Burchett, the water treatment plant operator for Coal Grove, said the chemical is not dangerous if ingested, but it could dye clothes washed in the affected water.

The village flushed the water at the treatment plant several times and officials said the water will return to its usual transparent appearance once all of the pink water has been run out of the pipes. ■

## Island covered in millions of locusts

Farmers on an Italian island shared video of a massive swarm of millions of locusts that have descended on the area.

Coldiretti, Italy's farming association, said the grasshoppers are causing damage to crops and posing a danger to livestock near the city of Nuoro in Sardinia.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organisation said the cause of the swarm is unclear. Coldiretti officials theorised an unusually cool May could be to blame for the influx of insects. They said the sudden warming of temperatures this month may have caused eggs laid in the autumn to hatch all at once.

The farming association said it is looking into options to prevent similar swarms from occurring in the future. ■



## Story time

By Shifa Nizami



# Be thankful

**I**t was raining hard and Huda sat on the windowsill, wondering. She again asked her granny the same question, "Granny, why my parents died so early? All my classmates have parents, but I don't. Why did this happen to me? I am an orphan, right?" Tears were rolling down her eyes.

Her grandmother's wrinkled old hands rested on her shoulders as she said, "See, orphans are those who have no parents or family, but you have me." She then gave her a cookie and said, "It is ten already, time to go to bed."

Before falling asleep, Huda took the picture of her parents from her side table, kissed them goodnight and closed her eyes. Huda's parents died in a car accident when she was only five years old, miraculously Huda remained safe in that fatal crash. Despite having a loving grandmother, she could not forget her parents and desperately wished them to be with her.

The next morning in the school, one of her friends said, "Our annual function is due next week, if your parents intend to attend it, here is a slip, have them sign it and give it to me tomorrow."

Huda took the slip from her hand and took a deep breath. What

so she simply ignored it or just smiled. Every night she would wonder why were her parents taken from her at such a young age? She would spend all her time complaining about her life which made her more lonely. She even began to hate school, because it was the place where she had to face such questions. Her grandmother also

ting ready to go somewhere.

"What are you ready for?" asked Huda.

"Come with me and you will find out, but first change your uniform, get fresh and have lunch quickly," said grandmother and served her lunch.

Huda was excited, but confused at the same time. She quickly changed, had her lunch and went off with grandma in the car. Soon the car stopped before a building. Grandma got off from the car and asked Huda to come out as well. Huda was a bit nervous, but came out as her grandma had reached the gate of the building.

Just then she read a board in front of the gate that had 'Orphanage' written on it. Her grandma brought her to a hall where beds were setup in a row, with each having a child sitting, playing or lying in some way. Some were crying, while others were sleeping.

There was a warden of the orphanage who welcomed them and introduced them to the children. Huda and her grandmother spent some time talking and playing with them. The kids were very happy to have visitors.

When it was time to leave, grandma turned to Huda and said, "Do you see dear, they are orphans, they have no one, no parent, no guardian and no close family. But they are not complaining about their life. They are accepting and enjoying the circumstances they are living in."

Huda felt uneasy and guilty about her habit of being thankless. Huda turned to her grandma and hugged her tight, and promised never to complain again. She thanked God that she had a loving grandma who was there to love and take care of her. ■



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phyle

could she even say? Sometimes her other friends would ask her: "Why don't your parents pick you up?"

Huda was tired of hearing these types of difficult questions, she didn't want to answer to each one,

began to feel concerned about Huda's confusion and resolved to make her content and confident with what she had.

One day, coming back from school, she saw her grandma get-

## Website review: Search, the kid-friendly way

By Asif Ali

review

**W**hen going online to either search something leisurely or research for your school assignment, you may have been asked by your elders if the websites are safe.

Chances are you are not sure. So, to search stress-free and keep your parents satisfied while remaining online, it is better to search safe at <https://www.kiddle.co>

Kiddle.co is a web search engine and online encyclopaedia emphasising safety for children. It is powered by Google custom search and employs safe search, with minor refinements, however, it is not affil-



iated with Google LLC.

All you have to do is open Kiddle instead of any other search engine and search whatever you need to search. Kiddle search engine will satisfy your elders' requirements,

with its filtered sites and with no explicit or deceptive content.

When you write anything that you are searching for in the 'Search bar', you will get all kids-oriented results. According to the creators, the search results will bring back sites

that are safe and trusted; sites which are not specifically written for kids but have content written in a simple, easy way for kids to understand. There will also be results of the sites that are famous

and written for adults with expert content, yet filtered and still safe in their content as they are handpicked and checked by Kiddle editors.

Apart from that, you will find most Kiddle search results illustrated with big thumbnails having large Arial font, this makes it easier to scan the results, differentiate between them and click the most appropriate results to your query. Thumbnails serve as visual clues and are especially beneficial for you because, as kids, you may not read as fast as adults do.

Kiddle claims that it doesn't collect any personally identifiable information, and their logs are deleted every 24 hours.

For a safe search, use: [www.kiddle.co](http://www.kiddle.co) ■



How can I get more people to see my work?



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Jannat  
8 years, Karachi



Anoushey Khan  
12 years, Karachi



Kaneez Fatima  
11 years, Hyderabad



Javeria Javed  
7 years, Karachi



Ammar Asim  
7 years, Karachi



Ayesha  
9 years, Karachi

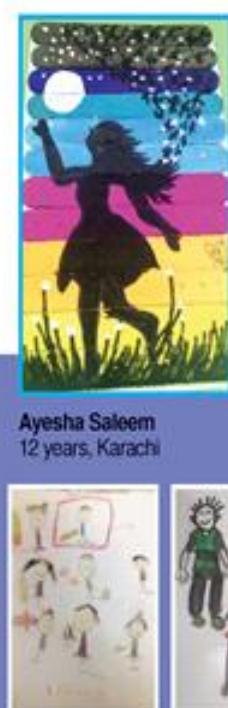


Dua Karim  
6 years, Karachi



Abdullah  
8 years, Karachi

Hadiya Noor  
7 years, Karachi



Sameeha Osman  
6 years, Karachi



Mahnoor Abdullah  
4 years, Karachi



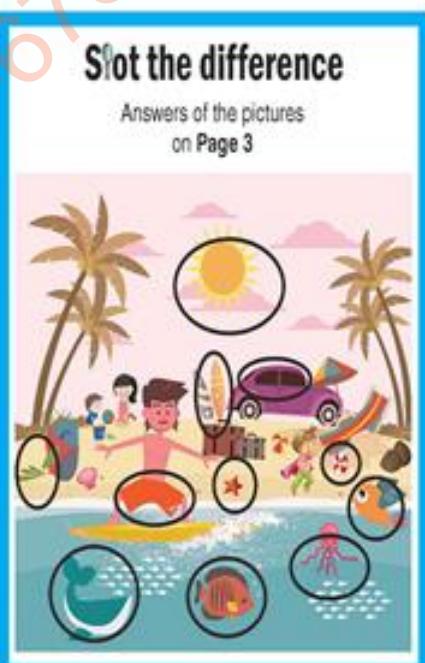
Hassan Mundiya  
7 years, Karachi



Hafsa Khadim  
9 years, Karachi



Sumaira Rashid  
10 years, Karachi



### Spot the difference

Answers of the pictures  
on Page 3



Habiba Noman  
10 years, Karachi



Abdullah Bin Rehan  
5 years, Karachi



Muhammad Ali Haji  
11 years, Karachi



Arya Ibaad Lari  
4 years, Karachi



Saad M. Tahir  
6 years, Karachi



Abdullah bin Asif  
7 years, Karachi



M. Rayyan Khan  
6 years, Karachi



Javeria  
11 years, Karachi



S.M. Rayyan  
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## Viewpoint

By Sumbul Qaiser

**Y**our time is precious, but some moments are priceless!

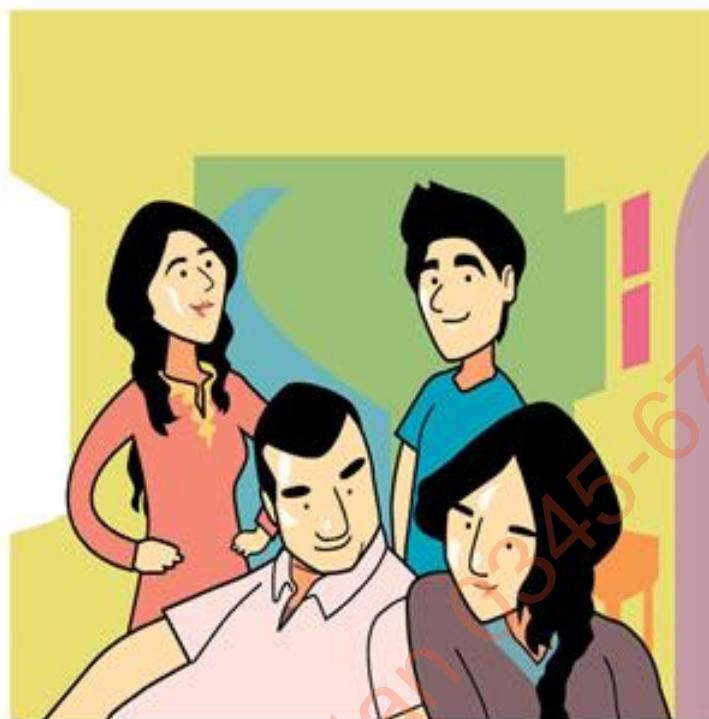
Today's fast moving life has made us more competitive than our ancestors. A perfect house, a perfect car, perfect health, perfect work, perfect family, in short, a perfect life is what everyone is striving for!

Have we ever noticed that this 'running for the perfect life' took some most important moments of our lives? It is to be understood that this life is perfect with all its imperfections. It's good to be successful along with all the beautiful moments cherished.

For instance, for the future of their children, parents opt for jobs that offer handsome salary but such jobs demand long working hours. In this case, they don't have time to spend with not just their kids, but even for themselves. When a child is emotionally and physically neglected by a parent, the result is not very good.

To understand life and answer the emerging questions, children spend more time on gadgets such as phones and on the laptops. They visit various websites, use social media to find friends and people with whom they can talk and solve the mysteries of life. As time passes by, the gap between children and parents become more prominent, and slowly and gradually, they become emotionally as well as physically detached from their

# In search of a perfect life



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parents. This is the reason why children of the current era are less active, less cheerful and less obedient than the children 20 to 30 years back.

If we look back to a time when

money was not just the sole purpose of life and human values were more than monetary values, people used to meet and greet each other on all occasions. They did not just spend time with family, but also with

relatives, neighbours, friends and colleagues. There used to be get-togethers where honesty and simplicity prevailed, unlike today when such occasions become an excuse to display wealth and social status.

Elders are not giving enough time to the youth because money has become the chief objective of life and this is why they are failing miserably in raising their children properly. Time is precious and very important, and time which passes never comes back.

Therefore, time should be utilised in a better way, such as spending it with loved ones, raising the younger ones by talking and teaching them about life and its values, helping each other and learning something new, playing sports, planting trees, cooking together, watching a movie or reading a book, keeping oneself truly happy and being thankful for everything.

There are many subjects in the degree of life and one must try to succeed in all instead of topping one and flunking the other. Spend your time with family — children, parents, uncles and aunts — and friends because, according to Bertrand Russell, "Time you enjoy wasting is not the wasted time." ■

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<img alt="Carton of Yum Milk Vanilla Flavoured

Rita, the robin, was sick and her soft groans filled the class.

"She must be taken to a doctor," suggested Ms. Thrush, who was taking their Math class. "She has been in pain since morning. Dazel, can you take her to Dr. Owl's clinic, please, before she feels even worse."

Dazel nodded at once and led Rita out the Aviary School premises. Dr. Owl's clinic was some distance away from the school and Rita was too weak to fly fast.

When they finally did reach the tree house built on a large oak tree where Dr. Owl attended to his patients, they saw a sign which said: "CLINIC CLOSED FOR THREE DAYS."



"Oh dear," cried Dazel while Rita whimpered from the pain in her stomach. "Dr. Owl must have gone for his annual visit to the Northern Mountains."

Dazel looked around frantically. She knew that Dr. Trish dealt with the dinosaurs but she lived too far in Fruit Park. The only other healers in D'Land were Dr. Lobo, the lobster who was a tooth doctor at the Southern Beach and Dr. Madderick, the rabbit who dealt with eye ailments while Dr. Solomon, the salamander, was a mind doctor.

"I'll take you to my home. You can rest there, until I find a remedy for your stomach pain," Dazel suggested.

Once Robin was resting in a bed of fresh green grass at the edge of Dazel's artificial pond, Dazel gave her a few mint leaves growing on the outskirts of the pond. "Mint is supposed to have soothing and cooling properties; perhaps it will make you feel better."

As the robin nibbled weakly at the leaves, the duck then rushed to Wiz Rooster's office at the Aviary School.

"Sir, Dr. Owl is on leave and Rita is

# Wanted - Healers in D'Land!



suffering from a severe stomach ache. I have left her to rest at my pond," Dazel explained hastily to her principal.

Wiz Rooster shook his head, "I have always felt a need for a healer at school. Not just at the Aviary School but also at the Terrestrial and Aquatic schools for students who fall ill due to minor ailments."

"What shall we do about Rita right now? Sir? She is too weak to fly to Dr. Trish," Dazel asked urgently.

"The only thing you can do is fly to Dr. Trish yourself and tell her Rita's symptoms. Bring back whatever she prescribes... and to inform Rita's mother about her condition," Wiz Rooster said. With those instructions, Dazel flew to Dr. Trish's clinic. Luckily, because it was still early part of the day, there were very few patients.

"It's a good thing that you have given her mint leaves. Take this ginger tonic and give her a sip every hour," Dr. Trish advised. "Also, tell Wiz Rooster I want to call a meeting of all the healers of D'Land. We need to train more healers so that no one has to run around for a doctor like you did today."

When Dazel had given the ginger tonic to Rita and dropped her off in her mother's care, she delivered Dr. Trish's message to Wiz Rooster.

"I agree with her a hundred percent! I'll send a message through the pigeon post to

all the leaders and healers of D'Land and we can meet at the Aquatic School premises," the rooster agreed.

So, that Sunday evening, in the flickering glow of the ever cooperative fireflies and the light of the gently rising full moon, the leaders of D'Land including Wiz Rooster, the healers - Dr. Owl, Dr. Trish, Dr. Lobo, Dr. Madderick and Dr. Solomon.

A light dinner had been arranged by the Aquatic School management. "Let's get down to important business" Dr. Trish said in her brusque manner. "We need to train more healers. Dr. Owl and I are the only general healers here; the rest of you specialize in specific ailments."

"We are all getting old with each passing year and we must pass on our knowledge and expertise to the younger generation," Dr. Owl agreed.

"We need you all to choose apprentices," Wiz Rooster suggested. "Each one of you needs to choose one or two young creatures who can assist you in your clinics and learn your trades. They can, in time, substitute you when you are not available. In the mornings they can come to school so that if there is a medical emergency, someone is trained to handle it."

"This will also ease the work load for each of you," Old Rex added. "Ever since Dr. Trish has been elected as the leader of the dinosaurs, she feels exhausted juggling her clinic as well as her administrative work."

"You all must start choosing students for apprentices who are graduating from our schools this year. Interview them, take suggestions from their teachers who know their skills and interests," Olly the octopus advised.

"This is a good way to start," agreed Dr. Owl and the other healers agreed unanimously.

In the next few weeks all the schools of D'Land were abuzz with excitement regarding interviews of the graduating students.

"It will be a matter of such pride for whoever is chosen as an apprentice," said Dazel as she and her best friends relaxed at the lake bank one evening.

"Dr. Trish has already chosen David, the stegosaurus, to be her apprentice," shared Din Din. "David is the school topper and very responsible. He was thrilled to be chosen because he loves Science. Boris, the bear, might also be chosen to assist them."

"That's wonderful! The interviews at the Aviary School have concluded and most creatures are sure that Ralph the raven will be selected by Dr. Owl. Ralph deserves this position," Dazel revealed.

"Maybe some day, when we have graduated from school, one of us could be a healer's apprentice," Delma said wisely. The other two nodded in awe. "It's great to have a goal to look forward to," Dazel quipped.



## HelloKids!

Why is it important to have good health care personnel? Do you have any interest in medicine? Share your ambitions with us at [DLand@KandNs.com](mailto:DLand@KandNs.com)



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- ۵۔ انگلش اور سندھ میگزین
- ۶۔ کرکٹ اپڈیٹس
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- ۸۔ پاکستانی دی ڈرامے
- ۹۔ پاکستانی نیوز جوائز ناک شوز
- ۱۰۔ پاکستانی یکم شوز،
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## **نوت**

- ۱۔ نقالوں سے ہوشیار رہیں اور پر دیجئے گئے نمبرز کے علاوہ کسی دوسرے نمبر پر فیس ادا نہ کریں
- ۲۔ اگر کوئی میمبر سوشن میڈیا پاکستان کے نام پر گروپ بنانے کر فیس لے رہا ہے  
ایسے کسی فرد سے سوشن میڈیا پاکستان کا کوئی تعلق نہیں۔
- ۳۔ ایسا میمبر گروپ سے بنائی کسی وارنگ کے رسیوکر دیا جائے گا
- ۴۔ آئیے واٹس ایپ کے سب سے بڑے گروپ کا حصہ نہیں

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