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PM assures foolproof security arrangements for Chinese nationals

IHC grants release to Fawad Chaudhry in NAB case



Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD Islamabad High Court (IHC) has ordered to release former federal minister Fawad Chaudhry. IHC's Chief Justice Aamer Farooq and Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri has accepted the bail plea of Fawad Chaudhry in Jhelum property case filed by National Accountability Bureau (NAB). Fawad Chaudhry's counsel Qaiser Imam appeared before the court during case hearing. It is pertinent to note that Fawad Chaudhry is currently detained in Adiala jail on judicial remand in Jhelum property case filed by NAB.

Supreme Court takes suo motu notice of IHC judges' letter

CJP Isa-led seven-member larger bench to hear case on Wednesday, April 3



Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court (SC) took suo motu notice on Monday of the letter written by six IHC judges regarding the interference of intelligence agencies in judicial functions. All judges available in the Islamabad principal registry will hear the petition on Wednesday at 11:30AM. A seven-judge larger bench led by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa, comprising Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Justice Yahya Afridi, Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhel, Justice Athar Minallah, Justice Musarrat Hilali and Justice

Naeem Akhtar Afghan will hear the case. It is learnt that being the chairman of the committee, CJP Isa suggested taking the suo motu notice, whereas committee members Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah and Justice Munib Akhtar endorsed his suggestion. The move comes days after the federal government appointed former chief justice of Pakistan Tassadduq Hussain Jilani as the head of an inquiry commission tasked with investigating allegations of intelligence agencies meddling in the affairs of the IHC. The decision to approve the formation of an investigation

body and to nominate Jilani as its head was made during a meeting of the federal cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. On March 27, six judges of the IHC - Justices Mohsin Akhtar Kayani, Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri, Babar Sattar, Sardar Ejaz Ishaq Khan, Arbab Muhammad Tahir and Saman Rafat Imtiaz - penned a letter to the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC), expressing their concerns about the "interference" of the intelligence agencies in the affairs of the court. Against the backdrop of escalating clamour for inquiry, CJP Isa convened a full court meeting of the top court judges the next day.

CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif Announces To Establish Model Agriculture Centre In Each District of Punjab



Soon Times Correspondent LAHORE. Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif and Qaid Muhammad Nawaz Sharif co-chaired a meeting to review challenges of agriculture in Punjab. Qaid Muhammad Nawaz Sharif said, "The lack of quality seeds even after the lapse of four decades is a

matter of grave concern." He added, "Effective steps should be taken to plug the wastage of 37 MAF water from wastage in Punjab." He emphasised on the need to use modern methods of irrigation for this purpose. The Secretary Agriculture in his briefing on various projects for the development of agriculture in Punjab apprised that 1.7 MAF of water can be saved by sowing 7300 water courses (Khalas) in Punjab. A proposal to return rainwater to the ground by reverse pumping to improve groundwater levels was also reviewed in the meeting. Moreover, necessary measures to increase the rate of farm mechanization from 35 to 60 percent in Punjab were also discussed. It was decided in the meeting that Rs 150-billion loan will be given to farmers for Rabi and Kharif crops. Qaid Muhammad Nawaz Sharif directed to formulate a simple eligibility criteria for the farmers to avail loans. Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz

Sharif said, "When a farmer applies for a loan, it should be ensured that the loan is issued as soon as possible." She added, "The Department of Agriculture should devise a fool-proof system of monitoring and feedback of the loan scheme." Madam Chief Minister also gave in-principle approval of a pilot project for the recruitment of Agriculture Officers and Field Assistants against their vacant posts. She directed to ensure adherence to merit in the recruitment process. Madam Chief Minister also gave approval to establish research endowment fund worth Rs 500 million for Ayub Research Center. Moreover, it was decided to ensure coordination of the sub-institutions of Agriculture Department for research, better performance and good governance. It was also decided in the meeting to amend the Fertilizer and Pesticide Act. Senior Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb, Information Minister Azma Zahid Bukhari, Agriculture Minister Ashiq Hussain Kirmani, Senator Pervaiz Rashid, MPA Samia Ashiq, Secretaries Agriculture, Finance, President Bank of Punjab and other relevant officers attended the meeting.

Former CJP Jilani recuses himself from heading judges' letter inquiry commission

Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD: Former chief justice of Pakistan Tassadduq Hussain Jilani has recused himself from heading the inquiry commission tasked with investigating allegations of intelligence agencies meddling in the affairs of the Islamabad High Court (IHC).



"Since the letter is addressed to the members of the Supreme Judicial Council and its chairman the Chief Justice of Pakistan, it would be violative of judicial propriety for me to inquire into a matter which may fall within the jurisdiction of a constitutional body which is the Supreme Judicial Council or the Supreme Court of Pakistan itself," said the former chief justice in a letter sent to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, dated April 1. Thinking the premier and the cabinet for reposing confidence in him to head the commission, the retired judge stated the terms of the reference for the inquiry are not "strictly" relevant to the subject under consideration. Justice (ret'd) Jilani further added

that the request made in the letter is for an "institutional consultation", with the terms of the mechanism suggested in the letter. He further added that the letter may not strictly fall within the parameters of Article 209 of the Constitution. "For the afore-referred reasons, I recuse myself to head the commission and proceed with the inquiry. The federal government on Saturday appointed former chief justice of Pakistan Tassadduq Hussain Jilani as the chief of an inquiry commission tasked with probing allegations that the country's intelligence agencies are meddling into the affairs of the Islamabad High Court (IHC).

IHC suspends Imran, Bushra Bibi's sentences in Toshakhana case



Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) suspended on Monday former premier Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi's sentences in the Toshakhana case. The decision came as the high court heard the ex-premier and his wife's appeals against the sentences. At the outset of the hearing, IHC Chief Justice Aamer Farooq asked whether the

appeal was scheduled for hearing today. The judge then remarked that the court would not hear the appeal today, asking the parties to argue the suspension of the sentence instead. However, PTI's counsel Barrister Ali Zafar said he would argue the appeal instead of the suspension. At this, the judge observed that the cyber case conviction appeal was scheduled for tomorrow; it will be wrapped up soon. "We cannot hear the Toshakhana case today, and schedule it for tomorrow," he stated. Justice Farooq further observed that the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) is to begin its arguments in the cyber case, and "we don't know how long they will take". The judge maintained that the court would schedule the hearing of the Toshakhana case after Eid. Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb inquired from the

National Accountability Bureau's (NAB) prosecutor regarding his stance on the sentence being suspended. In reply, the prosecutor stated that the verdict had been looked into and it was a case of suspension of sentence. The court commended NAB on the stance taken and expressed its appreciation. The counsel for the PTI founder prayed to the court to not "suspend the sentence but also suspend the verdict in the case. However, Justice Miangul stated that the matter of the verdict itself was under review at the apex court. Later, the IHC suspended the sentence in light of the NAB's stance, that the decision pertained to suspending the sentence. Toshakhana conviction On January 31, an accountability court judge found the PTI founder and his spouse guilty of misusing the state's gift repository during Imran's tenure as prime minister and sentenced them to 14 years in prison.

We are grateful to Commissioner Sargodha for taking notice of sewage problems at General Bus Stand: Abu Bakr Awan

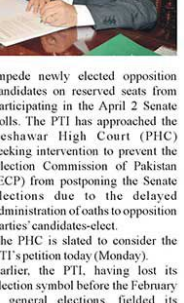
Soon Times Correspondent SARGODHA: Commissioner Sargodha Division Muhammad Ajmal Bhatti has issued instructions to Deputy Commissioner Captain (R) Shoaib Ali and Chief Officer Municipal Corporation Sargodha Muhammad Tariq Paroyta to restore the sewage system of General Bus Stand Sargodha on an emergency basis. After that, Nadeem Bajwa, officers of engineering department of the corporation and other related staff visited the general bus stand. They assessed the measures to restore the sewerage line and reviewed the obstacles faced. The Deputy Commissioner directed DRTA Malik Tahir, in charge of the General Bus Stand, that the sewage line should be made functional immediately. 45 horse power motor of disposal should be repaired immediately. It should be remembered that under the leadership of General Secretary of Anjuman Tajran General Bus Stand, Malik Abu Bakr Awan, the traders and residents of the area had protested and demanded Commissioner

Sargodha Ajmal Bhatti to save the business of the 600 tenant shopkeepers of General Bus Stand and the residents of the area. Immediate measures should be taken to reduce the difficulties. The emergency measures taken by Commissioner Sargodha on the demand of traders have been appreciated by the business community and local residents who have expressed the hope that the sewage will be controlled and restored and the stench and mosquitoes will be eradicated. Deputy Commissioner Sargodha Captain (R) Shoaib Ali has said that he will immediately implement the orders of Commissioner Sargodha to restore the general bus stand's sewage system to restore the beauty of the most beautiful bus stand in Pakistan and to solve the problems of businessmen and citizens. Malik Abu Bakr Awan has thanked Commissioner Sargodha Ajmal Bhatti for his initiatives and personal interest in solving the problems.

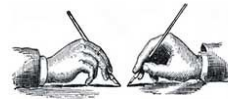


K-P governor advocates unopposed Senate polls

Soon Times Correspondent PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) Governor Haji Ghulam Ali has offered his good offices to political parties in the province to reach a consensus ahead of April 2 Senate elections and get their candidates elected to the upper house of the parliament unopposed. "Like Punjab and Balochistan, senators should also be elected unopposed in the K-P. The Governor House is open for politics of reconciliation," Ali said on Sunday while speaking in an event held at the Governor House in connection with distribution of a Ramadan package. Uncertainty shrouds the Senate elections in K-P as the PTI-backed provincial government employs delaying tactics to



impede newly elected opposition candidates on reserved seats from participating in the April 2 Senate polls. The PTI has approached the Peshawar High Court (PHC) seeking intervention to prevent the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) from postponing the Senate elections due to the delayed administration of oaths to opposition parties' candidates-elect. The PHC is slated to consider the PTI's petition today (Monday). Earlier, the PTI, having lost its election symbol before the February 8 general elections, fielded its



Economic Hurdles

A delegation from the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) met with Minister Jam Kamal to address economic challenges through close collaboration. Led by Atif Ikram Sheikh, President of the FPCCI, the delegation held discussions with Federal Minister of Commerce Jam Kamal Khan on Monday to address pressing economic matters. During the meeting, the delegation congratulated the minister on his new appointment and pledged their

full support towards collaborative efforts to address issues facing the business community. Minister Jam Kamal Khan assured the FPCCI delegation of his commitment to addressing their concerns, emphasizing the importance of regular coordination meetings to facilitate smoother operations. Minister Jam Kamal Khan acknowledged the challenges faced by the business community, particularly in the areas of electricity and gas, and assured the delegation of his

commitment to addressing these issues along with the rest. The delegation highlighted the establishment of a think tank within the FPCCI, led by Former Commerce Minister Dr. Gohar Ejaz, aimed at shaping the vision for 2030 and requested close coordination with ministry departments for improved efficiency and ease of doing business. The minister appreciated the concept and extended full support. He assured the delegation of full support and promised to extend a l

facilitation. Discussions also revolved around strategies to boost exports, with the minister reaffirming his intention to involve the delegation in ongoing efforts, emphasizing their collective role as a team. Prominent figures within the delegation included Ghazanfar Bilour, former president of FPCCI, Karim Aziz Malik, Chairman, Malik Sohail Hussain, Chairman Coordination FPCCI, Zaki Ejaz, Vice President FPCCI, and Mian Zahid Hussain, Chairman FPCCI Budget Advisory Council.

The New Conservative Era in Iran



Dr. Muhammad Akram Zaheer

Hassan Rouhani, who both served two terms from 2005 to 2021.

Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has been mediating between different groups trying to gain power and influence for a long time. In the past 20 years, this process, usually done in private, increasingly needed his direct involvement and became more public. This was most noticeable during the Ahmadijhad era (2005-13) when the then-president not only clashed with fellow conservatives but also opposed Khamenei in his second term. This made divisions among conservatives more pronounced, especially when the U.S. imposed more sanctions. To address this, Khamenei allowed the return of pragmatic conservative forces. In the 2013 elections, Rouhani, a pragmatic conservative, won decisively. This move helped Khamenei in two ways. First, it restored public support for the regime, which had suffered from the controversial 2009 elections and the subsequent uprising. Second, it created room for Tehran to negotiate a nuclear agreement with the U.S. amid severe sanctions.

Despite serious financial difficulties and the need for domestic stability, talks with the U.S. caused divisions in the Iranian political establishment. Rouhani's pragmatic approach clashed with the more ideologically driven clerics and the IRGC. The 2015 nuclear deal was a win for the pragmatists, but it didn't last. The Trump administration's 2018 decision to withdraw from the deal and reinstate sanctions undermined Iran's pragmatic conservatives. In response, Iran retaliated, leading to the U.S. killing Qassem Soleimani in early 2020, further strengthening the ideologues and weakening the pragmatic conservatives, who had already lost ground during Rouhani's second term (2017-21). Before the 2021

presidential elections in Iran, the Guardian Council limited the candidates to ensure Ebrahim Raisi, a strict and influential figure, would win. This move also weakened the power of others, like Ali Larjani, who was disqualified despite attempts to reverse the decision. Over the years, Supreme Leader Khamenei's influence declined and the IRGC-led security establishment gained strength. Raisi's presidency marked a shift to a more conservative government.

To solidify control, especially after protests due to economic hardships, Raisi's administration enforced stricter public restrictions, especially for women's dress codes. This led to the death of Mahsa Amini in 2022, triggering widespread protests that lasted almost a year. The government faced criticism from within, with senior figures expressing concerns about the regime's stability. Khamenei had to defend the government's actions and there were promises to revise laws related to women's dress codes, although no concrete actions followed. The protests eventually subsided in mid-2023. Amidst public discontent, economic challenges, and internal power struggles, the upcoming elections were crucial. Ideologues aimed to secure a majority in the parliament and the Assembly of Experts, which plays a role in choosing the next supreme leader. While ideologues controlled the Guardian Council, runoffs for parliamentary seats were expected and the Assembly's composition remained uncertain. With widespread dissatisfaction, economic issues and power struggles among elites, the future of the Iranian regime might hinge on the armed forces which are not immune to public sentiments.

Exploring Academic Dishonesty: Unveiling the Hidden Facts

Muhammad Adnan Shad

Academic dishonesty is a widespread problem at educational institutions across the globe that harms the authenticity of academic operations. Academic dishonesty, such as cheating and plagiarism, compromises the integrity of learning itself and puts students' and institutions' trustworthiness in danger. This essay addresses the complicated issues concerning academic dishonesty, including its fundamental roots, wide-ranging effects and possible solutions. Academic dishonesty is frequently encountered as a result of several kinds of conditions. Despite all, there is an excessive amount of competition on students to do well academically. To be able to keep their financial aid or get outstanding grades in the highly demanding educational atmosphere of today, students may turn to cheating techniques. Additionally, it is now simpler for students to commit plagiarism or cheat without getting detected because of the widespread accessibility of technological advances and online resources. The issue is also made worse by educational institutions that put less emphasis on honesty and moral guidance. The fundamental component of the educational procedure is academic integrity, which ensures that learning configurations encourage confidence, transparency and authenticity. But from plagiarism to inappropriate conduct, violations of academic conduct may negatively impact the credibility of the educational institution. Representing the work of someone else as its own without providing proper acknowledgment is known as plagiarism and it diminishes the values of innovative thinking and educational discourse. In comparison, using illegal study materials or manipulating data to cheat on a test affects the validity of the outcomes and reduces the significance of academic success. Academic honesty is additionally harmed

by cheating and copying because they mix individual responsibility with teamwork. Academic achievements lose credibility when duplicated submissions and self-plagiarism occur and the attempt of knowledge becomes distorted when facts have been altered and replications are used. The development of knowledge is made difficult by the gradual integration of illegal techniques into academic investigations through manipulation, bogus and material theft. Academic dishonesty, covering everything from cheating to fraudulent references is a dishonor to the learning community and an offense of trust. Institutions have to enforce strict regulations for educational conduct in order to safeguard the quality of education. They additionally need to foster an environment in which authenticity is valued, secured and acknowledged. A culture of transparency, trustworthiness, and brilliance in study can be created by academic groups that collaborate by means of awareness-raising, education and obligation. Academic dishonesty has a profound effect on students and the credibility of the educational institution as a whole, going well beyond basic educational penalties. Academic punishments highlight the extent of misconduct while educational corrective measures emphasize the importance that academic honesty is. The implications, however, go beyond school walls; an individual's reputation and loyalty among peers and potential pupils can be adversely affected and a lack of academic achievement could negatively impact future educational and professional opportunities. Academic dishonesty can have substantial professional effects including the termination of qualifications especially in careers that entail ethical behavior. In addition, severe situations involving dishonesty might have implications for law. Academic dishonesty seems to be individually connected to feelings of shame,

regret and a lack of self-esteem which influence the individual as well as the larger academic community as a whole. Moreover, untruthful conduct damages the image of the institution and undermines the achievements of genuine pupils. Preventative steps are needed to address these problems such as educational strategies like integrity seminars or counseling in order to build a culture of ethical behavior and avoid further violations. Cases of apparent favoritism in dealing with academic misconduct could lead to these effects, compromising community trust and harming the institution's reputation. Therefore, maintaining academic honesty and the reputation of the educational institution depend significantly on ensuring transparency, fairness and honesty during the handling of disciplinary matters. A comprehensive approach involving administrators, teachers and the pupils themselves is required to address dishonesty in education. First and foremost, it is essential to promote an atmosphere of academic excellence through instruction and publicity campaigns. Teachers must emphasize the value of ethical behavior and offer exact guidance on the various styles of citation and academic necessities. Moreover, the use of powerful evaluation approaches including diverse exam structures and actual tasks may discourage plagiarism and cheating. On top of that, using technological instruments like software that detects plagiarism can help detect and prevent academic dishonesty. In the end, addressing the root causes of unethical conduct calls for developing an encouraging educational atmosphere where learners are encouraged to ask for guidance while engaging in honest discussions about education. Recognizing, understanding and implementing academic dishonesty's solutions into practice develop credibility and collective efforts to maintain academia's spotlight of learning.



Brutal father killed his daughters & committed suicide

Soon Times Correspondent Bhera: The funeral prayers of the two daughters who were killed by their father and the father who committed suicide were offered at Peeli Kotli Ground in Bhera in which hundreds of people participated. Last night, the accused shot at his 3 daughters due to domestic violence and also shot himself, killing 10-year-old Manahil Rabi and 17-year-old Ruhama Noor

and the accused himself. In the FIR registered in the complaint of Mehreen, the wife of 40-year-old Mudassar Iqbal, it has been said that the three girls were living with their mother due to domestic violence. At the time of the incident, the accused Mudassar Iqbal called the girls to his home on the pretext of meeting them on the phone. He had them sit in the kitchen and threatened their mother over the phone that you should also return home or else I will kill the girls.

When she went to the house of the accused, he demanded to withdraw the case filed in the court. On her refusal, he shot himself in the head after firing at the girls. Manahil Rabi, Ruhama Noor and the accused Mudassar Iqbal died. While Bisma Rabi was referred to District Headquarters Hospital Sargodha where her condition is described as unsatisfactory. The accused is said to be addicted to drugs.



ISLAMABAD: April 1, 2024-A delegation led by Atif Ikram Sheikh, President of the FPCGI meeting with Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal to address economic challenges through close collaboration.

Police raided the house of senior journalist Ayyaz Shuja, harassed the family

Soon Times Correspondent Lahore: A heavy contingent of Lahore Police raided the house of senior journalist Ayyaz Shuja last night. Despite the repeated inquiries of the family, the police officials refused to give the

details of the action against Ayyaz Shuja or the registration of the case and its details. Police personnel were present at Ayyaz Shuja's residence for two hours, searching and harassing the family. President Lahore Press Club Arshad Ansari strongly condemned the police raid on Ayyaz

Shuja's residence and called it another attack by the government on freedom of press. Other journalistic organizations have also strongly condemned the raid of the Lahore Police at Ayyaz Shuja's house and called it an attack on freedom of expression.

Bardasht Sargodha & ICHR organized Iftar Dinner in honor of the orphan girls



Soon Times Correspondent Sargodha: On the occasion of Orphan Day, Bardasht Sargodha and International Commission for Human Rights

organized an "Ikram-e-Yatim" Iftar Dinner in honor of the orphan girls studying at Al-Khubaib Girls College. On this occasion, President District Bar Association Syed Mohsin Raza Shirazi,

Malik Abid Hussain Awan, Sadia Huma Sheikh, General Secretary Khubaiab Sheikh Nauman, Principal Al Khubaiab Girls School and College Ms. Sarwat Ansar and others including about one hundred and fifty orphan girls of Khubaiab College, DC Welfare Association Special Children and others participated. Principal Al Khubaiab College Ms. Sarwat Ansar delivered the welcome speech. Chairman Khubaiab Foundation Nadeem Ahmed Khan thanked ICHR and Bardasht for organizing the Iftar dinner. He elaborated on the excellence of Khubaiab College girls in the field of education and sports. Earlier, the girls performed tableau and karate. Renowned singer Saqib Ali Sher presented Natia Kalam in the event. Mohsin Shah Raza Shirazi, Malik Abid Awan and Dr. Atiqah Rehman expressed their views and assured their all possible support. Qazi Nigha Mustafa made prayer at the end. A lavish iftar dinner was organized in honor of the participants.

BHU center Siddiqueabad staff absent from duty



Soon Times Correspondent Nowshera Soon Sakesar: Abdul Hadi, a student of third class from Islamic International School Siddiqueabad, suddenly fainted. He

was immediately rushed to Primary Health Center Siddiqueabad where Doctor, LHV and other hospital staff were not present. The student was brought to THQ Hospital Nowshera where the blood

pressure of the student was extremely low. He was given immediate medical attention. Principal of the school Idrees Awan has demanded from the Chief Minister Punjab that the staff including doctors, LHV's posted at BHU center Siddiqueabad are sitting at home and receiving salaries while the patients are being humiliated. If the patient did not reach THQ hospital, who would be responsible for his death? He has demanded action against the hospital staff.



Dausu (Upper Indus Kohistan): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif interacts with engineers of the China Gezhouba Group Company (CGGC) working at the Dausu Hydropower project on April 1, 2024.

Elites are getting relief & the middle class is deprived: Idrees Butt

Soon Times Correspondent Sargodha: The people of Pakistan cannot bear the burden of inflation any more. The increase in the prices of electricity, petrol and gas by the government to get loans from the IMF can make them suffer from mental illnesses. The job of governments is to provide relief to the people. Here the elites are getting relief but the middle class is deprived of this relief. These views were expressed by the well-known businessman and leader Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Idrees Butt. He said, a man whose total salary is 20 thousand rupees has four children and the



house is rented, he will buy house ration or rent the house with this 20 thousand rupees is a question mark. Neither the government has thought about it nor the institutions are paying attention to it. That is why the number of patients with mental disorders is increasing every year which is very dangerous. The government should provide immediate relief to the people.

Malik Muhammad Ayub was martyred in an encounter with terrorists



Soon Times Correspondent Nowshera Soon Sakesar: A young Pakistani Army resident of Uchhala Soon Valley has been martyred. Malik Muhammad Ayub was martyred fighting bravely in an encounter with terrorists in Waziristan. When the dead body of the martyr was brought, every eye was filled with tears. While his relatives expressed their pride and said that our dear

Malik Ayub has made us proud by sacrificing his life for the sake of the country and nation. Malik Ayub Shaheed was cremated with full military honors at Badliwala Cemetery. Thousands of people participated in the funeral prayer apart from the dignitaries of the area. On this occasion, armed forces of Pakistan Army saluted. The officers of the Pakistan Army laid a wreath on the grave of the martyr.

PMD reveals likely date for Eidul Fitr

Soon Times Correspondent Islamabad: The sighting of the Shawwal moon, marking the end of Ramadan, is likely on Tuesday, April 9, across Pakistan, according to the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD). According to (PMD), the birth of the Shawwal moon is expected to emerge on the night of April 8 at 11:21 pm local time. By April 9, the moon's age is expected to range between 19 to 20 hours, with an anticipated duration of moon sighting after sunset of more than 50 minutes on the horizon. Clear skies are forecasted for most locations across the southern regions of the country, including Karachi, on April 9. However, northern areas may experience cloudy conditions during the moon sighting.

گھنٹا نماہر سرگودھا کینال ڈوہن ایل۔ ہے۔ سی سرگودھا

2023-2024

تاریخ	تعداد	تعداد	تعداد
2023-2024	100	100	100

سرگودھا کینال ڈوہن ایل۔ ہے۔ سی سرگودھا



Pakistan cricket holds crisis talks after Afridi statement furore



KARACHI The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) will hold crisis talks on Monday after replaced captain Shaheen Shah Afridi reportedly denied he had made comments backing new skipper Babar Azam that were quoted in a PCB statement. After dropping Azam as captain over last year's World Cup flop, the PCB on Sunday reinstated him as white-ball captain, replacing Afridi after less than five months in charge. The PCB statement said Afridi had "nothing but respect" for the returning skipper. "I will try to help him on and off the field. We are all one," Afridi was quoted as saying. But a source close to Afridi denied he had signed off on the statement that implied a harmonious transfer of the top job. The source added Afridi resented being replaced after being in charge for just one Twenty-20 series. "This is not Shaheen's statement and he has contacted PCB to clarify this," the source told AFP. "Shaheen will meet PCB chairman Mohsin Naqvi on Monday to clarify this."

An Indian court sends a top opposition leader, Arvind Kejriwal, to jail until April 15



NEW DELHI A court in India on Monday placed a top opposition leader in two weeks of judicial detention after his 10 days in the custody of a federal agency expired, in a case that opposition parties say is part of a crackdown by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government on rivals ahead of a national election later this month. Arvind Kejriwal, the leader of the Aam Aadmi Party, or Common Man's Party, is the top elected official in the city of New Delhi and one of the country's most consequential politicians of the past decade. He was arrested by the federal Enforcement Directorate on March 21. The agency, controlled by Modi's government, accused Kejriwal's party and ministers of accepting 1 billion rupees (\$12 million) in bribes from liquor contractors nearly two years ago. The arrest triggered days of protests by hundreds of party activists supported by other opposition parties.

India's Modi questions rival Congress about island ceded to Sri Lanka



NEW DELHI India's half-century-old decision to end a territorial dispute with Sri Lanka over a tiny island has become a hot-button election issue, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's party accusing the rival Congress of compromising fishermen's rights. A 1976 agreement barred Indian fishermen from waters around the 285-acre (115-hectare) island in the Palk Strait that divides the neighbours, two years after a pact on maritime boundaries gave Colombo rights over it. On Monday, Foreign Minister Subramanyam Jaishankar said Sri Lanka had detained more than 6,000 Indian fishermen and 1,175 fishing vessels over the last 20 years, following the 1976 deal on the island, located 33 km (21 miles) off India's coast. His comments come a day after Modi accused the Congress of having "callously" given away the island, called Katchatheevu. "Weakening India's unity, integrity and interests has been Congress' way of working for 75 years and counting,"



Israeli troops leave Gaza's Shifa Hospital a wreck in sea of rubble

That leaves hospitals such as Al-Aqsa Martyrs caring for an overwhelming number of patients with limited supplies and staff.

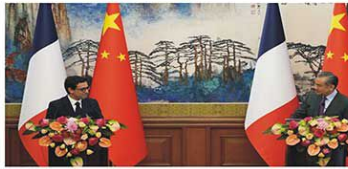
JERUSALEM/CAIRO Israeli forces have withdrawn from Al Shifa Hospital in Gaza City after a two-week operation, the Israeli military said on Monday, leaving behind a wasteland of destroyed buildings and Palestinian bodies scattered in the dirt of the complex. Hundreds of residents rushed to the area around the Gaza Strip's largest hospital to check on damage to the surrounding residential districts after fighting between Israel and the Palestinian Hamas group that administers Gaza. The Israeli military said it had killed and detained hundreds of gunmen in clashes in the area of the hospital, and seized weaponry and intelligence documents. Hamas and medical staff deny that Palestinian fighters have any armed presence in hospitals. A spokesman for Gaza's Civil Emergency Service said Israeli forces had executed two people whose bodies were found at the complex in handcuffs, and used bulldozers to dig up the grounds of the complex and exhume buried bodies. Reuters could not verify the allegation of executions and Israel's military did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Footage circulated on social media and not yet verified by Reuters showed the bodies of dead Palestinians, some covered in dirty blankets, scattered on the ground around the charred hulk of the hospital building, many of whose outer walls were missing. It showed the grounds heavily ploughed up, and numerous buildings outside the facility either flattened or burned down. "I haven't stopped crying since I arrived here, horrible massacres were committed by the occupation here," said Samir Basel, 43, speaking to Reuters via a chat app as he toured Al Shifa.

Japan's Nakajima dominates Indian Open for first DP World Tour win



New Delhi Japan's Keita Nakajima cruised to a wire-to-wire victory at the Indian Open on Sunday to lift his maiden DP World Tour title by four strokes. Nakajima, 23, finished with a 17-under par total of 271 with fellow Indian Veer Ahlawat, Sweden's Sebastian Soderberg and American Johannes Verman sharing second on 13-under. The former amateur world number one led after every round at the DLF Golf and Country Club near New Delhi and had a four-stroke cushion over Malaysia's Gavin Green starting the final day. "It feels amazing," said Nakajima, who became the fifth Japanese player to win on the European-based circuit. "It was a little nervous and I had a tough back nine but I hit some great shots." "Fortunately I had a few strokes in the bank which I can credit back to my strong play on the front nine and the earlier rounds this week, so overall very proud of my performance." "I want to try and finish in the top 10 on this tour and then go to the PGA Tour in 2025," Nakajima began the final round in untroubled fashion, opening up a nine-stroke lead at the turn.

France presses China on trade and Ukraine ahead of upcoming Xi Jinping visit



BEIJING The French foreign minister pressed China on trade issues and the war in Ukraine on Monday ahead of a planned visit to France by Chinese leader Xi Jinping later this spring. Stéphane Sijourin, in talks with his counterpart Wang Yi in the Chinese capital, largely echoed positions that have been laid out by European leaders, including Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte on a visit to Beijing last week. "The rebalancing of our economic partnership is a priority, as it is for our European partners," Sijourin said at a joint news conference with Wang. "The European Union is a very open market, the most open in the world. But the current deficits with a certain number of countries, including China, are not sustainable for us." European officials have expressed concern that a flood of low-priced Chinese-made

electric vehicles could disrupt production and displace jobs in Europe. The EU is investigating whether Chinese government subsidies for EVs give an unfair advantage to Chinese auto exporters. European companies operating in China are complaining that recent changes to national security laws have made it riskier to invest and do business in the country. On the Chinese side, officials have raised concern about a "de-risking" strategy being pursued by the EU to ensure that it is not overly dependent on any one country for vital supplies and minerals. Wang expressed understanding for the European position but said he hopes it doesn't negatively affect business sentiment. "I believe the facts have proved and will continue to prove that China constitutes opportunities

Turkey election monitors say 'more needs to be done' to ensure freedom of expression



ANKARA (Reuters) - Turkey's local elections on Sunday were competitive and gave citizens many options but took place in a "starkly polarised environment" where more needs to be done to ensure freedom of expression, a European group of observers said on Monday. Turkey's opposition logged a thumping victory over President Tayyip Erdogan's AK Party (AKP) in the local polls, reasserting themselves as a political force. It marked the worst defeat for Erdogan and the AKP in their more than two decades in power, and could signal a change in the country's divided political landscape. "Election day was overall calm and organised in a professional manner," said a high turnout showing a strong commitment of citizens to democratic processes," David Eray, the head of the observation mission carried out by the Council of Europe, told a press conference in Ankara. "While we welcome the competitive nature of these elections, that voters were able to choose between many options, we can only note 2024 local elections in Turkey took place in a starkly polarised environment and were only partially conducive to local democracy," deputy head of delegation Vladimir Prebilic said. Some of the Council of Europe's

long-standing concerns over Turkey's election practices remain unaddressed, Prebilic added. "In line with the Council of Europe principles of democracy, rule of law, and human rights, more needs to be done to ensure a political and media environment where there is a genuine freedom of expression and reasonable and well implemented frameworks overseen by independent judiciary," he said. "The biggest concern now is the state of electricity production, the part of it that balances the system - hydro and thermal generation. This is obviously a global (large-scale) level of damage," Kudrytskyi said. But he said that the country's energy system was not near to collapsing. "We are definitely not one step away from collapse. A collapse is an uncontrolled shutdown of most or the entire power system. This has not happened and will not happen, this scenario we consider as unlikely," he said. Kudrytskyi said that Ukraine may see "localised problems" in separate regions, such as in the country's eastern city of Kharkiv or in Odesa in the south. The energy system of the Soviet Union, and later Ukraine, was traditionally based on huge power plants, but such facilities are extremely difficult to protect from missile shelling. "First of all, we need to think about our generation mix and we need to think about how to protect.

Indonesian president-elect visits China after decade of close ties



BEIJING Indonesia's President-elect Prabowo Subianto is expected to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing on Monday for high-level talks, less than two months after winning the race to lead Southeast Asia's biggest economy. Prabowo is visiting at Xi's invitation to discuss two-way ties, even though the 72-year-old political veteran will only be sworn in as the next leader of Southeast Asia's most populous nation in October. China becomes the first foreign nation Prabowo has visited as president-elect, ahead of Indonesia's neighbours in the region, underlining the close partnership built up in the past decade under his predecessor, Joko Widodo. In contrast, Jokowi, as the incumbent Indonesian leader is also known, did not travel abroad as president-elect before being sworn in. But Jokowi's first visit after his inauguration was to China, for an annual summit of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) leaders in 2014. That was followed by six more over 2023. China has become Indonesia's top trading partner during the last decade, as its natural resources such as coal and nickel help to power the world's second-largest economy. China has also ploughed billions into Indonesian infrastructure and industrial projects, including the Jakarta-Bandung high-speed railway. Prabowo, now Indonesia's defence minister, is widely seen by analysts to have the backing of Jokowi, who has bet on his former political rival-turned-ally to preserve his legacy. But it remains to be seen how Prabowo will navigate other issues, including the jostling for influence between China and the United States in Southeast Asia. Prabowo has previously said Indonesia was committed to its policy of non-alignment and would keep good ties with both China and the United States.



Ukraine's energy system fall from collapse despite weeks of Russian strikes

KYIV Recent Russian attacks have caused significant damage to the Ukrainian power system, but a total collapse is unlikely, the head of Ukraine's national grid company Ukrenergo Volodymyr Kudrytskyi said on Monday. Since March 22, the Russian forces have been attacking Ukrainian thermal and hydropower stations as well as main networks on an almost daily basis, which has led to blackouts in many regions of the country. "Their (the Russians) goal is to impose blackouts in some major Ukrainian cities, and our goal is to prevent it," Kudrytskyi told Reuters in an interview. The country's largest private energy company, DTEK, has said the attacks damaged five of its six power plants, which lost 80% of their capacity. DTEK, which meets about a quarter of the country's needs, has seen its thermal power stations and other facilities repeatedly hit by Russian missiles, drones and artillery in more than two years of war. The missile attacks have also significantly damaged the largest Ukrainian hydropower station in Zaporizhzhia, as well as the Kaniv and Dnister stations.