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PM Shehbaz Sharif leaves for Makkah to perform Umrah

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President Zardari, Erdogan discuss bilateral relations



Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD

President Ashraf Zardari held a telephonic conversation with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Sunday, the President's House Press Wing said in a statement.

The two leaders discussed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest, with the president stressing the need to strengthen bilateral relations in various fields.

Tarar rebuts Imran's 'fabricated, baseless' allegations about Toshakhana case

Last year, Imran had challenged the army chief to prove any corruption case against him and his wife.



Soon Times Correspondent Islamabad

Information Minister Attaulah Tarar on Sunday rebutted former prime minister Imran Khan's allegations against the senior military leadership in connection with the Toshakhana case, saying they were "false, fabricated and baseless".

The former premier had alleged that the senior military leadership "implicated" him and his wife Bushra Bibi in the Toshakhana reference "in an attempt to stifle my spirits".

Imran and his spouse were sentenced to 14 years in jail in the case in January, days before the February 8 general elections.

Last week, the Islamabad High Court suspended the sentences. However, appeals against the convictions in the case are still pending.

A post shared on Imran's official account on X gave a transcript of his conversation with reporters at Adiala Jail — where he is currently incarcerated — on Saturday. Imran claimed that the senior military leadership was "driving the state affairs". The PTI founder, referring to a "London Plan" — which he has also spoken about on previous occasions — alleged that it was "plotted with the nexus" of the current army chief and former premier Nawaz Sharif, and that "in order to execute it, judges were onboarded, and they were appointed by the Inter-Services Intelligence".

The former premier further claimed that he had also relayed a message to the military leadership through former president Arif Alvi that he knew about the so-called "London Plan" and that "we are not your enemies".

Two terrorists killed in trade of fire in North Waziristan: ISPR



RAWALPINDI

Two terrorists were killed in an exchange of fire with security forces on the night intervening April 6 and April 7 in North Waziristan, the military's media wing stated on Sunday.

According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), there was an intense exchange of fire between security forces and terrorists in North Waziristan, resulting in the deaths of both terrorists.

The ISPR reported that weapons and ammunition were recovered from the deceased terrorists.

"Sanitisation operation is being conducted to eliminate any other terrorists found in the area as the security forces of Pakistan are determined to wipe out the menace of terrorism from the country," the ISPR said.

CM Maryam Nawaz initiates comprehensive health reforms

Soon Times Correspondent LAHORE

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz has initiated comprehensive health reforms under the visionary programme "Sehatmand Punjab," aimed at improving healthcare accessibility and services across the province.

Key components of the initiative include the introduction of free medicines and home delivery services, slated to commence soon.

The establishment of 32 field hospitals in remote areas and a program deploying 200 mobile clinics to serve residents of "katchi abadis" (informal settlements) are in progress.

The upgradation of 2500 basic and 300 rural health centers has been initiated.

Maryam Nawaz emphasized the completion of the target to build three medical cities in South, Central, and North Punjab regions, highlighting the government's commitment to enhancing healthcare infrastructure.

Addressing the on Health Day, CM Maryam Nawaz underscored the significance of health



reforms as a top priority. She urged individuals to adopt a healthy lifestyle, emphasizing the importance of health awareness.

CM emphasized that a healthy populace was essential for societal and national progress, emphasizing that individual health influenced the entire family's well-being.

Punjab CM pledged to ensure equitable access to healthcare for every citizen and stressed the need for widespread awareness regarding healthy living. She urged the public to embrace a balanced diet rich in nutrients.

Punjab govt set to ban plastic bags from June 6

Soon Times Correspondent LAHORE

In a decisive move to combat environmental pollution especially smog, the Punjab government has announced imposing a ban on the use of plastic bags across the province.

The decision was made during a smog eradication session presided over by Senior Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb, where the performance of various departments and stakeholders involved in addressing air pollution was closely monitored.

Senior Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb declared that the ban on plastic bags would be enforced throughout Punjab starting from June 6.

She emphasized the importance of public awareness campaigns regarding smog eradication initiatives.

Marriyum Aurangzeb also revealed plans to subsidize the production of solar panels at the



local level across Punjab, praising the commendable efforts in this regard.

She disclosed that all government buildings would undergo solarization under the Solar program.

Highlighting the significance of vehicle emissions in exacerbating smog, provincial minister stressed the necessity of fitness certificates and annual inspections for all vehicles as part of the efforts to tackle air pollution effectively.

The announcement underscores the Punjab Government's commitment to addressing environmental challenges and promoting sustainable.

'Restoration of peace top priority of Sindh govt', PPP tells MQM-P



Soon Times Correspondent KARACHI

In response to fresh criticism against the "poor" law and order in Karachi by MQM-P leaders, Sindh Minister for Department of Energy, Planning and Development Nasir Hussain Shah Sunday clarified that restoration of peace is the top priority of the provincial government.

Earlier today, MQM-P leaders Khawaja Izharul Hassan and Senator Faisal Sabzwari slammed the Sindh government over the woeful law and order situation and said robbers have been given the 'licence to kill' in Karachi, a business hub of Pakistan.

In a statement on Sunday, the Sindh minister said that Chief Minister Murad Ali

Shah had already directed the top police officials to restore the law and order at all costs. Police and Rangers were conducting "targeted operations" to curb street crimes in the metropolis, he added. "Sindh needs police officers who can comprehend the situation."

Referring to Izharul Hassan's criticism, the PPP leader said, "Why did Khawaja Izharul Hassan feel so bad about the appointment of an IG of good reputation?"

Last month, Ghulam Nabi Memon, a grade 21 officer of the Police Service of Pakistan, was appointed as Inspector General of Police Sindh for the second time with the approval of the federal government.

Hassan should not be worried, he said,

adding that the provincial government would improve the law and order at all costs. The motive behind the MQM-P leader's presser on the "poor" law and order situation in Karachi was "political", the Sindh minister said. It seemed Hassan has become the spokesperson of PML-N, he added.

Earlier, slamming the PPP-led Sindh government, MQM-P leader Senator Faisal Sabzwari said the Home Ministry is with the Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari-led party for the last 16 years and the law and order in the province is still deplorable.

Addressing a press conference in Karachi, he said dozens of citizens were killed while resisting robberies during Ramadan.

MQM-P blasts Sindh govt over alarming rise in Karachi street crimes



Soon Times Correspondent KARACHI

The rising crimes in Karachi are not possible without police acting as accomplices, said MQM-P leader Faisal Subzwari who also asked why the federal government wasn't taking notice of the alarming situation.

Subzwari censured the Sindh home minister over his comments in which he had blamed media for disproportional coverage of crimes in Karachi. He must speak only after thinking properly, otherwise, remaining silent was the best option, he remarked.

The MQM-P leader said how it was possible that the police didn't receive a share from the criminals snatching mobile phones from citizens when they had been getting money from those involved in illegal business of Iranian oil and the goods meant for Afghan transit trade.

Police arrest key trafficker linked to Pakistanis killed in Greece boat tragedy



Soon Times Correspondent SARGODHA

The Phularwan Police claimed on Sunday to have arrested another key individual responsible for trafficking a number of Pakistani citizens who died in the Greece boat tragedy in June last year.

Sources indicate that the police apprehended the suspect, Yasir, and seized illegal weapons during his

arrest. Upon investigation, it was discovered that Yasir had played a central role in trafficking the Pakistanis who lost their lives in the boat wreck.

Yasir had allegedly extorted millions of rupees from them and facilitated their illegal transportation on the vessel. The boat capsized near Greece, resulting in the tragic

PPP MNA seeks army chief's help against crimes in Sindh

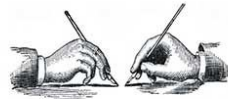
Soon Times Correspondent Islamabad

Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Member of National Assembly (MNA) Makhdoom Jameel Uz Zaman has appealed to Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir to carry out an operation to end the crimes in Sindh.

Speaking to the media persons in Matiari, Zaman said that crime rate had multiplied in Sindh, so the army should come once and eradicate it. "The army chief is requested to take action and save Sindh from this calamity forever. All the stakeholders should sit at a



table. How long will we protest and run movements?" he said. Karachi has been gripped by street crimes claiming the lives of dozens of citizens who have fallen victim at the hands of criminals for the past few weeks. Many have been killed while resisting robberies and snatching incidents, particularly in the month of Ramadan during which criminals seem to have been let loose.



Climate Change Governance

The Prime Minister has constituted a high-level committee to review Climate Change Governance and Mechanisms to access Climate Funds and nominated Climate Change Minister, Romina Khurshid Alam and Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Dr Abid Suleri as its members alongwith other senior members. The Minister of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination has issued a detailed notification explaining the context, mandate, terms of reference (TORs) and list of the members of the Committee. The committee will be chaired by the Deputy Chairman Planning Commission that comprised of government officials, parliamentarians, representatives from civil society and environment NGOs, private sector, research institutes, and expert/advisors with

knowledge on specific topics. The members are Deputy Chairman Planning Commission, Mohammad Jehanzeb Khan (chair), Coordinator to PM on Climate Change, Roinina Khurshid Alam, Senator Ayesha Raza Farooq, MNA Bilal Kiyani, Executive Director, SDPI, Dr Abid Suleri, Kashmala Kakakhel Climate Finance Expert, Rizwan Mehboob, Climate Expert, Ali Tauqir Sheikh Climate Expert, Ahsan Kamran Climate Finance Expert, Nadia Rehman, Member CC PC, Secretary MoCC&EC (Secretary of the Committee), Secretary Ministry of Commerce, Secretary MoPDSI and Secretary Ministry of EA and Additional Secretary (EF) Ministry of Finance. The Committee will suggest approach that involves mainstreaming climate considerations across all government organizations and operations, as well as integrating them into the

development agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It includes evaluating the effectiveness of existing and proposed institutional mechanisms such as the National Climate Change Council, SIFC, proposed Climate Change Authority, Climate Change Fund, National Disaster Risk Management Fund, and coordination with key ministries. Additionally, there is a need to review institutional mechanisms and policies to mobilize climate finance, including climate funds and innovative financial instruments. The appraisal of institutional mechanisms and policies to mobilize carbon finance is also crucial. Furthermore, assessing institutional mechanisms and policies to attract private capital from various sources such as Development Finance Institutions (DFIs), Pension Funds, Insurance Companies, Commercial Banks, Venture

Capital, and Private sector firms is essential. Examining institutional mechanisms and policies to enhance engagement with Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to reduce the cost of finance and leverage private sector investment through grants, guarantees, and concessional climate funds will also be recommended by the Committee. The committee will make recommendations to strengthen climate governance, access climate and carbon finance, and mobilize the private sector to drive decarbonization of industry, integrate into green value chains, and boost exports in alignment with evolving international regulatory mechanisms such as carbon border adjustments. Additionally, the role of media, academia, and research entities in policy advocacy and formulation should be articulated.

Alexei Navalny's Journey in Russian Politics



Dr. Muhammad Akram Zahoor

results with some limited measures introduced to enhance transparency and accountability in government. However, broader systemic changes remain elusive as the Kremlin maintains a tight grip on power and resists substantial shifts towards greater democratization. The future of opposition politics and political reforms in Russia hinges on complex dynamics between state controls societal demands for change and international pressure for respect of democratic norms.

Asa prominent Russian opposition leader and anti-corruption activist, Alexei Navalny has gained international recognition for his outspoken criticism of the Russian government under President Vladimir Putin. He born on June 4, 1976 and grew up in Russia and initially pursued a legal career. However his experiences with corruption and injustice in the country led him to become a vocal advocate for political reform. Navalny's activism gained momentum in the late 2000s when he started blogging about corruption

in Russian politics. His blog which he called "LiveJournal," became widely popular for exposing the alleged financial misdeeds of Russian officials and oligarchs. Navalny's sharp wit and straightforward style resonated with many Russians who were disillusioned with the systemic corruption prevalent in their country.

In 2011, Navalny played a crucial role in organizing and leading protests against alleged fraud in the parliamentary elections. He coined the term "party of crooks and thieves" to describe the ruling United Russia party and this phrase gained widespread use in public discourse. Despite facing arrests and harassment, he continued to challenge the government, using social media and online platforms to disseminate information and rally support. In 2013, he ran for the position of Moscow mayor, finishing second in the election with a strong showing that surprised many observers.

However, his political ambitions were hindered by legal troubles. In 2014, he was convicted of embezzlement charges, which he and his supporters contended were politically motivated. The European Court of Human Rights later ruled that Navalny's conviction was arbitrary and manifestly unreasonable. Navalny's most significant challenge to the Russian government came in 2020 when he was poisoned with a nerve agent known as Novichok. After falling seriously ill, he was airlifted to Germany for medical treatment. Subsequent investigations by independent laboratories confirmed the presence of Novichok in his system, leading to widespread condemnation and accusations against the Russian government. Navalny accused Putin of orchestrating the poisoning, an allegation that the Kremlin vehemently denied. Upon recovering from the poisoning, Navalny returned to Russia in January 2021, despite

facing the imminent threat of arrest. He was promptly detained upon his arrival, sparking protests across the country. In February 2021, Navalny was sentenced to two and a half years in prison for violating the terms of his probation, a decision widely criticized as politically motivated.

Due to critic of the Russian government he faced imprisonment and was sent to a prison in the Russian Arctic after being poisoned the year before. The circumstances surrounding his demise raise questions, as the cause of death was undisclosed, and the customary practice of handing over the body for burial to family members was not followed. This deviation from the norm may stem from Russian President Vladimir Putin's desire to prevent a thorough examination of the body by doctors and to instill fear in the population. There are two potential motivations behind this unusual handling of Navalny's death. Firstly, Putin may be avoiding scrutiny into the

cause of death, and secondly, he might be attempting to intimidate and terrorize the public. While it's conceivable that Navalny died of natural causes, the peculiar actions taken by the Russian authorities raise suspicions. The narrative takes a geopolitical turn as Russia achieves success in Ukraine, with Putin hinting at potential further conquests in the west and north, as revealed in his interview with Tucker Carlson. Publicly making such threats poses a military risk, considering the United States is viewed as Putin's primary adversary. Putin seems to gauge a divided U.S. stance on Ukraine and a potential weariness of the ongoing conflict. Consequently, he may believe that by escalating Russia's ruthlessness, the U.S. could be swayed to abandon its support for Ukraine.

The current week presents two strategic moves for Putin: the capture of a significant Ukrainian city and the willingness to

resort to Stalinist tactics, blaming the U.S. for compelling him into such actions. Thereby undermining the U.S. position further, Putin's focus appears to be on the United States, and he aims to demonstrate his readiness for ruthless actions. This calculated move is deemed low-risk, as even if it fails, it maintains the status quo while sowing discord and destabilizing the U.S. stance. While speculative, these observations suggest that Putin has carefully considered his course of action. Despite the challenges and risks he faced, Alexei Navalny remained a symbol of opposition to the Russian regime, inspiring many Russians to question the status quo and demand political change. His activism and resilience underscored the complexities of dissent in contemporary Russia, where opposition figures often face suppression, legal challenges, and, in Navalny's case, even physical harm.

Saudi crown prince invites PM Shehbaz to Iftar



Web Desk

ISLAMABAD

Saudi Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohamed bin Salman Al Saud on Sunday extended special invitation to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for an Iftar.

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz and members of the federal cabinet were also invited to

Iftar. Earlier on Sunday, PM Shehbaz arrived in Makkah Mukarramah to perform Umrah.

At the Makkah railway station, Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan Nawaf bin Saeed Al-Malki and senior officials received the premier.

On Saturday, PM Shehbaz offered Isha prayer and nawafil at Riazul Jannah,

Masjid-e-Nabwi in Madina Munawarah.

He visited the Roza-e-Rasool (PBUH) and prayed for the development and prosperity of the country, as well as for the Muslims of Palestine and Indian occupied Kashmir.

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz also visited the Roza-e-Rasool and prayed for the progress and prosperity of the country.

Upon his arrival in Saudi Arabia, PM Shehbaz was welcomed by Madina Munawarah Governor Prince Salman bin Sultan.

The prime minister is on a three-day official visit to Saudi Arabia. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif arrived in Makkah Mukarramah on Sunday to perform Umrah.

At the Makkah railway station, Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan Nawaf bin Saeed Al-Malki and senior officials received the premier.

Earlier, PM Shehbaz accompanied by his cabinet members left for Makkah Mukarramah.

On Saturday, PM Shehbaz offered Isha prayer and nawafil at Riazul Jannah,

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• MUZARAK •

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RAMIIR SULTAN CHEEMA
Ex-MNA NA 85 Sarogodha

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Political Social Leader, Chairman
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Asher Adeel
Chief Executive Officer, Sarogodha
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To Muslim Ummah Across the Globe

Adrees Butt
Businessman & PTI Leader



Anjuman Behbood e Mareezan distributed Eid ration to the poor

Soon Times Correspondent
Nowshera Soon Sakasir: Anjuman Behbood e Mareezan distributed Eid ration to the deserving, poor and indigent men and women from different areas of Soon Valley. Social Welfare Medical Officer Najma Al-Nisa Malik, Malik Ghulam Fareed Cheghi and Malik Akbar Sultan Nisal said, taking care of the poor and deserving people in Ramadan is of great importance.

Millions of families across the country have been financially affected due to the recent wave of inflation. Today, the poor man is unable to meet the needs of life apart from the necessities of life. In this difficult time, Anjuman Behbood e Mareezan did not forget the deserving people with the support of the members of Nowshera and the philanthropists of the area. At the end of the month of Ramadan, Eid ration packages have been

prepared in the amount of 3,000 to 5,000 which have been distributed. Medical Social Welfare Officer Najma Al-Nisa Malik said that the philanthropists of Soon Valley deposit their zakat, donations and charity in Anjuman Behbood e Mareezan's accounts, thanks to which free medicines are provided to poor and deserving patients throughout the year, as well as free medical camps are organized in different villages.

Police report reveals arsenic presence on threatening letters received by judges

Soon Times Correspondent
ISLAMABAD
The Islamabad Police have forwarded the investigation report concerning the threatening letters received by judges of the Islamabad High Court to the Ministry of Interior.
The report reveals that the letters were tainted with arsenic powder, although the amount was not lethal.
Also, data regarding the pens used to write the letters has been gathered, and the names of the sender(s), along with CCTV footage, have been transmitted to the ministry. The report also indicates that analysis of the postal stamps affixed to the letters is ongoing, and anti-terrorism teams have



been established for Rawalpindi and Islamabad.
The report further states that daily updates are being compiled and submitted to both the Supreme Court and the Islamabad High Court.

Alleged connivance of Livestock Department; Butchers sale meat at arbitrary prices



Soon Times Correspondent
Bhera.
Due to the alleged negligence and connivance of the Livestock Department, the meat of sick, emaciated and female animals is being sold at high prices in the city. The butcher hangs pieces of mutton and beef on the stall set up in the model mart due to nepotism of the livestock in charge and disappears after a while and the meat is also taken back from there. Butchers are slaughtering animals at homes instead of slaughterhouses where livestock staff allegedly receive bribes and butchers are charging arbitrary prices for meat. Muhammad Ashraf, Ijaz Ahmed, Muhammad Ali, Bashir Ahmed and Muhammad Yusuf have demanded the Deputy Commissioner Sargodha and Assistant Commissioner Bhera to take notice and improve the situation.



Ambassador of Iran to Pakistan called on Federal Minister of Industry and Production and National Food Security Rana Tanveer Hussain in Islamabad on April 06, 2024

Islamabad starts work to complete 80km section of Pak-Iran gas pipeline

Soon Times Correspondent
ISLAMABAD:
With Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi's expected visit to Pakistan on April 22, authorities have commenced the work to begin the construction of the 80-kilometre section of the Pakistan-Iran gas pipeline from Gwadar to a point where it can be connected with the Iranian section of the project.
As per the publication, citing a senior official of the Energy Ministry, the Inter-State Gas Company (ISGS) has already issued tenders seeking the much-delayed re-valuation of survey and Front-End Engineering Design (FEED) by consultants. The development comes amid the United States' explicit opposition to the bilateral project, coupled with warnings of potential sanctions, which has faced a nearly decade-long delay as it was set to be completed in December 2014 followed by its operationalisation in January 2015.
Over the years, Pakistan maintained that it could not materialise the project in its territory because of the US sanctions imposed on Iran, a view which authorities in Tehran have never subscribed, saying the US sanctions are not justified.
However, in January, Tehran issued the last notice to Islamabad seeking the completion of its side of the pipeline by February-March 2024 or face a \$18 billion penalty

under the penalty clause of the Gas Sales Purchase Agreement (GSPA) of the 781-kilometre project.
According to the official, the laying down of the 80-km section of the pipeline is essential to avoid arbitration in France which may lead to the imposition of the aforesaid penalty on Pakistan.
Furthermore, he also added that re-valuation of early survey and FEED is crucial as the 80-km section provisions two compressors one at the border and one at Gwadar as the 80-km part of pipelines would absorb 100mmcf initially compared to the 750mmcf which the project is expected to take-off for 25 years.
Once this process is completed, the authorities will commence the land acquisition process which will then be followed by the awarding of Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contract.
With the project slated for completion in 24 months at the cost of Rs44 billion, the Energy Ministry official noted that the Petroleum Division would seek a substantial amount for the project in the budget 2024-25 from PSDP amid the Finance Ministry's expected inability to provide the necessary funds from the head of Gas Infrastructure Development Cell (GIDC).

Commissioner Sargodha inspects work on new block at BISE:



approval of the Board of Governors, work on the three-story building is underway with a cost of Rs. 430 million. This building will be constructed within a record time of 18 months. An on spot briefing apprised that the ground floor of the new building will include the Security Branch, Metric Record Hall, Intermediate Record, and Store. The upper floor will house the General Press, Store, and Record Branch Staff, Security Hall, General Branch, Estate Branch, Engineering Branch, Research Branch, Waiting Area, OM&R Section, and all other branches' head offices. The first floor will accommodate the Metric Staff and Record Hall, Intermediate Staff, and Record Hall, IT Department, Welfare Branch, Physical Education Branch, Finance Branch, and their respective head offices. The Commissioner further stated that the construction of the new block of the Educational Board would mark the beginning of a new chapter in the institution's progress. Deputy Director Technical, SDG Building and Board Engineer were also present on this occasion.

Soon Times Correspondent
Sargodha:
Commissioner Sargodha Division and Chairman Educational Board Muhammad Ajmal Bhatti paid a surprise visit to the new under construction block of the Board of Intermediate & Secondary Education (BISE) Sargodha on Sunday. He meticulously examined the pace and quality of work and directed the contractor to ensure completion within

the specified timeframe. He also ordered immediate actions for the construction and maintenance of the General Press Store Building, Sports Stadium and Security Branch, as well as procurement of furniture for the Multi-Purpose Hall. It's worth noting that the old building of the Board's office was declared unfit by the Punjab Disaster Management Authority (PDMA). Taking note of this, the Commissioner promptly ordered to start construction of a new building. With the

Nation pays tribute to martyrs of Gayari Sector tragedy on 12th anniversary

Soon Times Correspondent
RAWALPINDI
The nation paid tribute on Sunday to the martyrs of the Gayari Sector tragedy, marking the 12th anniversary of the devastating loss of soldiers on April 7, 2012, when a massive avalanche struck an army unit in the Siachen Glacier.
According to an Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release, the Northern Light Infantry (NLI) battalion headquarters was completely destroyed in the incident, and none of the individuals present could be rescued alive.
A total of 129 soldiers were martyred in the avalanche.
Although foreign rescue teams had deemed the mission impossible, the Pakistan Army, particularly the Engineers Corps, undertook



the task with remarkable courage and bravery.
In remembrance of the martyrs, the Yadgar-e-Shuhada monument was erected on the high peak of Siachen.
"In remembrance of the martyrs, a monument was erected at the lofty heights of Siachen as a tribute. Today, the nation pays homage to these martyrs of the Gyari Sector, whose supreme sacrifices will always be remembered," stated the ISPR.



Lahore: A delegation of Istanbul Grand Airport (IGA) calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on 6 April 2024.



By: Shah Muhammad Awan

Special Edition

“
Pakistan Sports Board Workers Union Electronic Media Association, All Pakistan Newspaper Federation (APNK) GJ Association, Various Journalism Organizations and Press Clubs condemned Rao Furqan.
”



Journalist community Expresses solidarity with

MD APP

Asim Khichi

(Condemnation of Rao Furqan on false allegations)

The journalist community across the country stands with MD APP Muhammad Asim Khichi; Strongly condemned the baseless, fabricated allegations made by civil servant of APP Rao Furqan

Journalist organizations have demanded that Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, Federal Information and Broadcasting Minister Attaullah Tarar, Secretary Information Shahera Shahid should take strict action against Rao Furqan.

Electronic Media Reporters Association (EMRA), PFUJ Dastoor, RIUJ Dastoor, Crime and Court Association Young Journalists Association expressed solidarity with MD APP.

The journalist community across the country stands with MD APP Muhammad Asim Khichi and strongly condemn the false allegations against him. Prominent journalistic organizations across the country have demand

ed Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, Federal Information and Broadcasting Minister Attaullah Tarar, Information Secretary Shahera Shahid to take strict action against Rao Furqan. Popular journalist organization of Pakistan Electronic Media Reporters Association (EMRA), PFUJ Dastoor, RIUJ Dastoor, Crime and Court Association, Young Journalists Association, Pakistan Sports Board Workers Union, GJ Association, Electronic Media Association, All Pakistan Newspaper Federation (APNK), various journalistic organizations and press clubs across the country expressed their solidarity with MD APP and strongly condemned Rao Furqan's despicable action. A delegation of journalists from Lahore reached APP under the leadership of President of EMRA Muhammad Asif Butt and Joint Secretary of PFUJ Dastoor Rana Abdul Rehman and congratulated the entire panel including newly elected President of APP Malik Khizr Zaman, General Secretary Nadeem Iqbal and Joint Secretary Khalid Iqbal Rabbani. The delegation condemned APP employee Rao Furqan's despicable act of making baseless allegations against MD APP Asim

Khichi. Malik Saleem Akhtar, the revolutionary leader of works across the country, Sharjeel Amjad Rao, president of PFUJ Dastoor,

going on by the MD in the institution. On this, the journalistic community and journalistic organizations across the country have strongly criticized the

“ **The Ministry of Information and the journalistic community know that Asim Khichi is a worker-friendly person. We condemn the false allegations against him: President EMRA Asif Butt** ”

union member Rao Zulqarnain, Chaudhry Saeed and others were also present on this occasion. On this occasion, President of PFUJ Dastoor Sharjeel Amjad Rao said that in the recent APP election, an

baseless and fabricated allegations made by a government employee on Asim Khichi, the most senior and well-reputed officer of the 21st grade and the head of the national news agency APP. President of EMRA Muhammad



employee named Rao Furqan was saddened by the defeat of his group and victory of the winner Ramzan Adil, Malik Khizr group and their supporters. He started making inflammatory speeches and slurs against them. This led to repeated and fierce sloganeering between

Asif Butt, Joint Secretary of FUJ Dastoor Rana Abdul Rahman and other journalist leaders said that Rao Furqan did a very despicable thing and tried to spoil the reputation of the organization by making false accusations against his own benefactor. They have said that the

“ **Rao Furqan has committed the crime while being a government employee. Departmental action should be taken against him. We stand by MD Asim Khichi in every way: Rana Abdul Rahman** ”

Rao Furqan and supporters of the winning group, Rana Imran and others. On the basis of this process, Rao Furqan filed an application in the Aabpara police station and by issuing a video statement put all the blame on MD APP Muhammad Asim Khichi, which has no truth whatsoever. Rao Furqan started propaganda on social media against MD APP and tried to get posting in China illegally by blackmail and unsuccessfully tried to stop the investigation against corruption

leadership of the Ministry of Information and the National Press Club, the journalistic community knows that MD Asim Khichi is a worker-friendly and reputable officer and such false allegations against him do not flatter anyone. They have said that departmental action should be taken against Rao Furqan for the crime he has committed while being a government employee. Journalist leaders said that we stand with MD Asim Khichi in every way.