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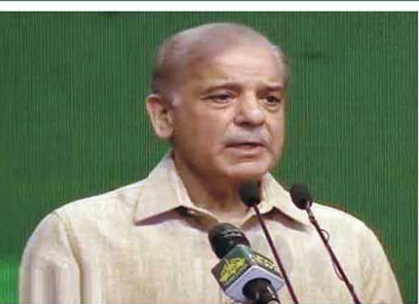
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## Law will take its course to prevent future incidents similar to May 9: PM Shahbaz

"I promise you all that law will take its course and such an incident will not recur in the country,"



**Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD**  
Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday said that the government will punish all those involved in the May 9th violent actions assuring that the unfortunate violent incidents will never occur again in the country.  
"I promise you all that law will take its course and such an incident will not recur in the country," the prime minister said while addressing the families of the martyrs here at a ceremony.  
The ceremony, organized by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, was held to mark the first anniversary of the May 9th violence and to express solidarity with the martyrs and their families.  
The prime minister said the martyrs had sacrificed their lives to ensure the safety of the people and the country which will be remembered forever. He regretted that an organized group of people belonging to a

negative mindset had humiliated the martyrs' memorials on that day.  
He emphasized that those who engage in treasonous acts, attempting to divide the state's institutions and the public, will face severe consequences. Such individuals, he warned, will receive exemplary punishment so that they should not date to repeat such actions in the future.  
Paying tribute to the martyrs, the prime minister said they sacrificed their lives, to save hundreds of thousands of children from becoming orphans.  
"The whole nation is proud of its heroes for their utmost love for their country."  
During the event, he also requested the audience to rise to their feet as a mark of respect and tribute to the martyrs and their families. PM Shehbaz maintained that whenever the country faced challenges whether it is war or a natural disaster, the brave officers and jawans of the Pakistan Army had always been ready to cope with the challenges.

## Nation stands with PTI founder: Alvi



**Soon Times Correspondent RAWALPINDI**  
Former president Dr Arif Alvi said that the PTI founder is the most popular leader in the world.  
Alvi said in a press conference that the people from the army who were involved in May 9 were punished. He said that PTI also said that those involved should be punished.  
Arif Alvi said that former army chief Qamar Bajwa had said that the army would not take part in politics. He said that everyone knows how the army interfered in the election which damaged the image of the army. The nation stands with the PTI founder, he said, adding that the mandate, given to the PTI, should be respected.

## May 9 executors don't deserve forgiveness: Maryam Nawaz



**Soon Times Correspondent LAHORE**  
The nation will neither forget nor forgive the May 9 violence, said Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz who added that it was necessary to bring the planners of hatching conspiracy against Pakistan to justice.  
In a message issued on Thursday, Maryam described May 9 as a dark episode of Pakistan's history and said those greedy of capturing power had executed a plan which even the country's

## May 9 Plotters To Be Held Accountable, Coas Munir

**Soon Times Correspondent RAWALPINDI**  
Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Asim Munir resolved on Thursday that planners, abettors, facilitators and culprits of May 9 tragedy will be brought to justice according to the law of the land.  
Army Chief expressed it during his visit to Lahore Garrison on first anniversary of the May 9 riots. He said, "...our patience not to respond to daily provocations in this regard made in brazen violation of the constitution has limits and it must never be misconstrued as weakness".



COAS laid floral wreath at Martyrs' Monument and paid solemn tribute to the Shuhada who sacrificed their lives for the motherland. He was given detailed briefing on operational preparedness of the formation.  
While addressing the Garrison officers and soldiers at Corps Headquarters, COAS said that 9th May will undoubtedly remain a black day in the history of Pakistan when deliberately indoctrinated and insidiously guided miscreants

attacked the symbols of the state and national unity, disgracefully desecrating the martyrs' monuments.  
Due to these deplorable acts of criminally orchestrated violence, enemies of Pakistan were provided the opportunity to mock the state and the nation. He deplored that now the same plotters were brazenly and shamelessly trying to twist the narrative and implicate the state in this despicable endeavour.  
"This mindset is precisely the reason why there can be no compromise or deal with the planners and architects of this dark chapter in our history. Those gullible elements who did not understand the real motive behind this criminal enterprise and were used as cannon fodder for the political ambitions of the masterminds have already been accorded reasonable benefit of doubt on the direction of Supreme Court of Pakistan.

## Marwat 'booted out of PTI's top decision making bodies on Imran Khan's order'



**Soon Times Correspondent Islamabad**  
Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Sher Afzal Marwat has been expelled from the party's core and political committees on the directives of party founder Imran Khan, said PTI Secretary General Omar Ayub Khan on Thursday.  
The development came a day after outspoken Marwat publicly blasted the PTI top leaders, refusing to work under them.  
"I refuse to work with Shibli Faraz and Omar Ayub [...] they didn't allow me to meet Imran Khan [in prison]," Marwat said while speaking to the media outside Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi on Wednesday.  
Speaking to the media after meeting jailed PTI founder in Adiala Jail today.

## Police release PTI leader Rehana Dar moments after arrest



**Soon Times Correspondent SIALKOT**  
The police released the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Rehana Dar hours after her arrest on Thursday in Sialkot, according to media reports.  
Rehana Dar is the mother of

PTI leaders Usman Dar and Umar Dar and she had contested the election against PML-N veteran and Defence Minister Khawaja Asif from Sialkot.  
Umar Dar confirmed the news that his mother was arrested in the morning.  
"The police arrested my mother and some other woman PTI workers on the directions of Defence Minister Khawaja Asif," Umar Dar said.  
He added that his mother had given a protest call for May 9 but the police arrested her moments before the rally.

## Pakistan rejects US report on religious freedom as 'faulty'



**Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD**  
The Foreign Office on Thursday rejected the US Commission on International Religious Freedom's report as faulty and non-reflective of ground realities in Pakistan.  
At her weekly news briefing in Islamabad, Foreign Office spokesperson Murtaza Zahra-Baloch said the report was based on unsubstantiated allegations.

She said Pakistan believed that USCIRF's annual exercise of designating countries was unwarranted and futile.  
"The futility can be gauged by the fact that since 2020 the US State Department has ignored its recommendations to declare India a country of particular concern," she said and added this exercise would have more credibility if it were free of double standards and

geopolitical considerations, and if it paid increased attention to the glaring rise of Islamophobia.  
The spokesperson said, "Such arbitrary designations also undermine the objective of fostering understanding and cooperation which can be achieved through dialogue and constructive engagement."  
Responding to a question, the spokesperson said no dialogue was taking place with India.

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## President Asif Zardari calls for further broadening bilateral ties with Uzbekistan

**Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD**  
President Asif Ali Zardari has called for further broadening bilateral cooperation with Uzbekistan in the areas of trade, economy, culture and tourism.  
He expressed these views while talking to Uzbekistan Foreign Minister Mr. Bakhtiyor Saidov, who called on him, in Islamabad on Thursday.  
The President said Pakistan attaches utmost importance to its ties with Uzbekistan, which are centuries old and based on shared religion, culture and history.  
He said both countries have great potential to increase bilateral trade and economic ties for the mutual benefit of the two sides.  
He highlighted that Pakistan is committed to regional connectivity, and the Central Asian countries need to take advantage of its geographic location.

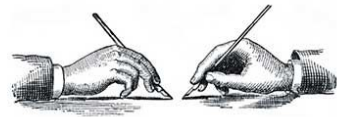


Asif Ali Zardari also suggested barter trade and using local currency to enhance bilateral trade between Pakistan and

Uzbekistan, besides opening banks in the two countries to facilitate and improve business and commercial relations.  
He underlined the need for further promoting people-to-people and tourism linkages to bring the two nations further closer.  
Speaking on the occasion, the

Uzbek Foreign Minister called for developing a roadmap to further deepen bilateral ties and accelerate the partnership for the mutual benefit of the two countries.  
He also urged the need for an action plan to boost bilateral trade and economic cooperation. He

expressed the hope that the transport corridor between the two countries would further improve bilateral ties.  
The visiting foreign minister also conveyed the warm regards of Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev for President Asif Ali Zardari.



## OIC resolutions on Kashmir

Pakistan/Pakistan on Thursday said that the resolutions and pronouncements of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) were the collective voice of the Islamic world which reinforced Pakistan's call for settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions. Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch, at her weekly press briefing, welcomed the reaffirmation by the OIC of its strong and unequivocal position on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute during the 15th Islamic Summit of the OIC held in Banjul, recently. She said, "the Summit's Final Communiqué and the 'Banjul Declaration' reaffirmed unwavering support and solidarity with the Kashmiri people, called on India to revoke all unilateral and illegal actions taken since 5 August 2019 in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) and respect the rights and freedoms of the people of Jammu and Kashmir." Besides, she said the OIC

Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir was the only OIC contact group that met on the sidelines of the Islamic Summit, reflecting OIC's strong solidarity with the people of Jammu and Kashmir and their right to self-determination. "Pakistan also welcomes the report of the OIC Secretary General's Special Envoy for Jammu and Kashmir on his visit to Pakistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir. The report highlights India's continuing violations of international law in IIOJK," the spokesperson said and reiterated Pakistan's continued political, diplomatic and moral support to Kashmiri people. Apprising the media of the diplomatic engagements, she mentioned the ongoing visit of Uzbek Foreign Minister Bakhtiyor Saidov to Pakistan and his meetings with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar and other cabinet members. He will also call on President Asif Ali Zardari and military

leadership, she added. In the meetings, the two sides reaffirmed multi-faceted and robust partnership between Pakistan and Uzbekistan and agreed to enhance close cooperation in security, defence, economy, trade, investment and connectivity, besides reaffirming commitment to the Uzbekistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan Railways Project. She told the media that Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Qatar, Dr Mohammed bin Abdulaziz Al-Khulaifi, arrived in Islamabad on Thursday morning as a special envoy of the Qatari Prime Minister. During the visit, two sides will discuss areas of bilateral engagement and cooperation with a particular focus on energy-related cooperation and deepening of trade and investment ties. Regional and global developments are also on the agenda. Coming to the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)'s report, spokesperson Baloch said the document was based on faulty

assumptions and unsubstantiated allegations and was non-reflective of the ground realities in Pakistan. "We believe USCIRF's annual exercise of designating countries is unwarranted and futile. The futility of USCIRF's recommendations can be gauged by the fact that since 2020 the US State Department has ignored its recommendation to declare India a "Country of Particular Concern". This exercise would have more credibility if it were free of double standards and geo-political considerations and if it paid increased attention to the glaring rise of Islamophobia." The spokesperson strongly condemned Israeli settlers' attack on a Jordanian aid convoy carrying humanitarian assistance to occupied Gaza. "Pakistan condemns in the strongest terms the invasion and seizure of the Rafah border crossing in southern Gaza by Israeli occupation forces in defiance of international warnings and acceptable international behaviour," she remarked.

## New security system established on Margalla Hills to protect trekkers



Soon Times Correspondent  
Islamabad  
Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Thursday formally inaugurated the Margalla Trails Patrol Unit, a new security system established in just seven days.

Inspector General of Police (IG) Islamabad, Ali Nasir Rizvi gave a briefing about the Margalla Patrol Unit and introduced the patrolling unit to the minister. The minister inspected the motorcycle and cavalry unit and also met the police officers of the Margalla Trails Patrol Unit and advised them to perform their duties diligently.

A force of 60 police officers will patrol the Margalla trails and the unit has been formed to protect people on Margalla trails, the

minister was briefed. This unit consists of foot patrol, motorcycle patrol and horseman and the purpose of setting up the Margalla Trails Unit is to provide a safe environment to the citizens visiting the trails. The Foot Patrol consists of 10 police officers who will patrol the trails on foot in full protective kit while the motorcycle unit consists of six motorcycles and 16 officers and the horsemen will patrol the trails on eight horses. Naqvi said that if a citizen lost his way or there was an emergency, these officers would reach for immediate help. He directed the officials to take immediate steps to solve the problem of mobile signal in the Margalla Trails area. He also directed the officials concerned to review the location for the installation of the mobile towers.

## Imran Khan assigns Arif Alvi 'important responsibility' as PTI seeks talks with 'real power'



Soon Times Correspondent  
RAWALPINDI  
"Incarcerated Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan has assigned an 'important responsibility' to former president Dr Arif Alvi, who had been making efforts to bridge the gap between the establishment and former ruling party, revealed the party's Secretary General Omar Ayub Khan on Thursday. The development came a day after the PTI founding chairman turned down the military's demand to apologise for the May 9 violent and distanced his party from the events and protests that broke out in the country last year soon after his arrest. Addressing a press conference flanked by Alvi outside the Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi, Ayub said: "The PTI founder has assigned important responsibility to Arif Alvi [during his maiden meeting with Khan after leaving the Presidency]. For his part, the former president said: "The PTI founder is ready to render [more] sacrifices [for the country]."



the entire party was crashed." The May 9 violence was triggered almost across the country after the deposed prime minister Khan's arrest in the \$190 million settlement case last year. Hundreds of PTI workers and leaders were put behind bars for their alleged involvement in violence and attacks on military installations. Dozens of the PTI leaders parted ways with the party or quit politics after the incident. During the protests, the miscreants targeted the civil and military installations including—the Jinnah House and the General Headquarters (GHQ) in Rawalpindi. The military had termed May 9 "Black Day" and decided to try the protesters under the Army Act. Alvi further said that their mandate was stolen in the February 8 general elections, adding that they had evidence about it. The former ruling party believed that their mandate was stolen as PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan last week said: "We won the 180 seats in the [February 8] elections. Our seats were given to other parties through Form 47." The former president termed the PML-N-led coalition government a product of "Form 47". Responding to a question about the ISPR's presser, Alvi said: "I also stated yesterday that the wrongdoer

should ask for pardon, not the oppressor." Director General Inter-Services Public Relations (DG ISPR) Major General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry Tuesday demanded "those involved in the May 9 violent protests to apologise" and shun politics of "anarchy" before holding any dialogue. Commenting on the presser, Alvi while speaking to the media outside the Punjab Assembly, emphasised the need for an impartial investigation into the May 9 incidents. "The oppressor should seek forgiveness. Forgiveness is the only answer to all disputes." "Those having real powers" should initiate the dialogue process, he had reiterated. Referring to his party's alleged popularity among the masses, the former president said that "a new logic of democracy is being presented by saying that "70% people were wrong and a few people are right". Stressing the need for dialogues to steer the country out of political crisis Alvi said: "[The establish] will have to talk to the people [PTI] having 70% mandate." It is pertinent to mention here that Dr Ali has been trying to bridge the gap between the establishment and the PTI for a long. In his maiden presser after leaving the Awan-e-Sadr in March, Alvi said: "I tried to resolve things from every angle... Even now, I'm trying to resolve things." In January 2023 too, Alvi offered to mediate between the Shehbaz Sharif-led then government and PTI to lower the rising political temperature in the country. "I have tried to end such misunderstandings," Alvi had said. "Being the president, it is my responsibility to keep this federation together. Cooperation is better than discord for Pakistan and such is also my advice."

## Global warming



Shayan Khanzada, Nawabshah

Global warming is the long-term increase in Earth's average temperature. It's a phenomenon that has been going on for a long time, but its pace has significantly increased in the last hundred years due to human activities. The late 18th century saw the start of the Industrial Revolution, which was a significant turning point in human history. It introduced new manufacturing techniques and paved the way for rural communities to develop industrialized metropolitan centers. During this time, the number of fossil fuels burned—especially coal—to power factories, steam engines, and eventually electricity production increased dramatically. Burning these fuels releases large amounts of greenhouse gases, particularly carbon dioxide (CO2), into the atmosphere, contributing to the greenhouse effect and subsequent global warming. Causes of Global Warming The increase in greenhouse gases in the Earth's atmosphere is the primary cause of global warming. These gases include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxides, and others. The burning of fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and natural gas, especially since the Industrial Revolution, has significantly increased the concentration of these gases. The greenhouse effect is a natural process where certain atmospheric gases trap heat, preventing it from escaping into space and thus warming the Earth.

However, human activities have intensified this effect, trapping more heat and consequently raising the Earth's temperature. Determining the origin of global warming—natural climate contrarians, or human activity, as argued by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change—is very crucial. This study revises our previous calculations, which indicated that human activity was the primary source of the observed global warming. Singular spectrum analysis and climate model simulation are the two distinct techniques for analyzing the temperature readings. The two approaches, which combined 13 more years of temperature data from 1998 to 2010, reveal that human activity, not natural processes, is responsible for the rise in Earth's global temperature since the 19th century. EFFECT OF GLOBAL WARMING The effects of global warming are widespread and significant. It causes glaciers and ice sheets to melt, sea levels to rise, and weather patterns to change. This can result in more frequent and severe heatwaves, storms, and floods. Global warming also impacts ecosystems and biodiversity. Rising temperatures force many species to migrate, disrupting ecosystems as they struggle to survive in their current habitats. According to NASA and the IPCC, the world's temperature has risen by 1.4 degrees Fahrenheit since 1880. CO2 levels have reached 400.71 parts per billion, 1.5 million square kilometers of forest cover have disappeared since 2000, 287 billion metric tons of land ice have melted annually, sea

levels have risen by 3.2 mm annually, and the arctic ice cover is melting at a rate of 13.3% per decade. There is a growing danger of permanent alterations as a result of the significant changes in the climate system, which could lead to the extinction of many vulnerable species like amphibians, aquatic birds, reptiles like sea turtles, and ocean corals. Global warming poses a serious threat to life on Earth. We must understand its causes and effects before we can take appropriate action to mitigate its impact. This includes reducing greenhouse gas emissions, adopting sustainable practices, and promoting the use of renewable energy sources. Adaptation tactics are just as vital as mitigation initiatives. Communities must become resilient to the unavoidable changes caused by global warming. This includes constructing infrastructure that can endure extreme weather events and cultivating agriculture that can adapt to changing climate circumstances. Investment in clean energy technologies is also critical since it represents a long-term solution for reducing dependency on fossil fuels. The fight against global warming is a collaborative effort that demands cooperation from all segments of society. Strengthening international cooperation and basing decisions on solid scientific data are critical. Education and public awareness are essential to instilling a culture of environmental responsibility. As we face this global crisis, it is our collective responsibility to act quickly and purposefully to ensure a habitable planet for future generations.



## Commissioner Sargodha gives strict directions regarding price control



**Soon Times Correspondent Sargodha:** Commissioner Sargodha Division Muhammad Ajmal Bhatti has directed all the four deputy commissioners of Sargodha Division to immediately convene a session of price magistrates and substitute ineffective Price Control Magistrates with immediate effect. He emphasized the active role of Assistant Commissioners regarding price control. He urged that special attention should be given to price control in urban and rural areas. Deputy Commissioner Sargodha Captain (Retired) Orangzeb Haider Khan was also present whereas deputy

commissioners from Khushab, Mianwali and Bhakkar, participated via video link. The commissioner instructed deputy commissioners to take ownership of enforcement data. "Instead of confining operations against violations to specific urban markets, all entrenched and temporary violations should be immediately eradicated in towns and villages", he added. The DCs were directed to establish village boards in rural areas and ensure daily visits by tehsildars and patwaris. The Commissioner stressed the need to expedite crackdowns on smuggled petrol and to monitor transportation on inter-

provincial borders of Bhakkar and Mianwali. Directions were issued to deputy commissioners to take immediate action against such unregistered technical educational institutions and close them until they are registered with the TEVTA. He welcomed the newly appointed deputy commissioners of Sargodha, Mianwali and Sargodha. Deputy commissioners were also briefed on actions against price control, operations against violations, Clean Punjab initiative, crackdown on smuggled oil and actions against hoarding of wheat, sugar and fertilizer.



## Lawyers are committed to protecting their rights: Protesters

**Soon Times Correspondent Bhera:**

On the appeal of the Punjab Bar Council, the lawyers of Tehsil Bar Bhera staged a strike and court boycott for the second day. The lawyers also took out a protest rally against the alleged police raid at the house of the former Prime Minister's lawyer Chaudhry Naeem Haider Panjotha Advocate and the alleged police violence on Waqas Munawar Gondal Advocate. President of Tehsil Bar Bhera Chaudhry Muhammad Anwar Bola, Advocate Muhammad Shahid Qamar Bhatti Advocate, Chaudhry Khalilur Rehman

Tahir Gondal Advocate, Maher Muhammad Nawaz Advocate and others condemned the violence of the police on the lawyers outside the High Court. They said, the elements involved in the violence should be immediately exposed and punished. Lawyers are committed to protecting their rights and will not be swayed by any government maneuver. Lathi charge for expressing solidarity against the targeting of lawyers is tantamount to obstructing the professional affairs of any lawyer. They said that all lawyers are united and their unity will continue.

## PA speaker emphasises promotion of Pak-Australia bilateral ties



**LAHORE** Australian High Commissioner Neil Hawkins met with Punjab Assembly Speaker Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan at the Punjab Assembly on Thursday. During the meeting at the speaker's PA

chamber, the two leaders discussed the promotion of Pak-Australia bilateral relations, increasing cooperation in the fields of health, education, agriculture and culture. Speaking on the occasion, Speaker Khan said that Pakistan valued its friendly

relations with Australia, adding that there were great investment opportunities for Australia in the fields of information technology and tourism. Khan said that increasing parliamentary ties and economic cooperation would be beneficial for both countries. He also welcomed Australia's cooperation in the fields of education and health. The speaker also briefed the Australian high commissioner about the legislation and committee system in the Punjab Assembly. Commissioner Hawkins said that Australia considered Pakistan as its trusted friend and important economic partner. He told the speaker that Australian investors were willing to invest in Pakistan. He also agreed to take steps to promote cooperation in various fields with the Punjab government.

## WPJP demands Banned IOM illegal activities in Diplomatic enclave Islamabad

**ISLAMABAD (Staff Reporter)** County Head, WPJP Sadia Khan (Khan Bibi) Demands WPJP reiterates its concern regarding the growing illegal activities within Islamabad and the diplomatic enclave. In light of recent



developments, During the previous press conference on 22nd April, WPJP emphasized the urgent need to safeguard Islamabad and called for the prohibition of unlawful activities within the diplomatic enclave. A formal letter was dispatched to the Interior Ministry, urging action to address these pressing issues. Regrettably, despite the letter dated 5th January 2024 (ref letter no F.No.2/38/2021-ICT-2) forwarded to key authorities, including the Chief Commissioner ICT Islamabad, Chairman CDA, and Inspector General of Police, no substantial measures have been taken thus far. The presence of Afghan

nationals associated with IOM activities within the diplomatic enclave continues unabated. WPJP remains resolute in its commitment to preserving the sanctity of Islamabad and will pursue legal recourse if necessary, including approaching the Supreme Court if required. The agenda of WPJP extends beyond mere advocacy; it is a solemn commitment to safeguarding Islamabad and advancing the prosperity of Pakistan as a whole. In conclusion, WPJP reaffirms its unwavering dedication to advancing Pakistan's development agenda and fostering peace and prosperity across the nation.

## 7 barber shop staffers hailing from Punjab shot dead in Gwadar

**Deceased employees belonged to Punjab's Khanewal district**

**GWADAR:** Web Desk  
At least seven people were shot dead on Thursday while they were sleeping in their residential quarters in Balochistan's port city.



According to Gwadar Police Station Station House Officer (SHO) Mohsin Ali, unidentified gunman opened fire on a residential quarter near the Gwadar Fish Harbour in the Surbarand area, leaving seven dead and one injured.

a cowardly move, terrorists will be dealt with strictly.

The police official said that the dead and injured individuals used to work in a barber shop in the area and belonged to district Khanewal in Punjab. The SHO told Media that the dead bodies and the injured individual have all been shifted to the Gwadar Hospital.

Meanwhile, provincial government's spokesperson said that the families of the workers are being contacted. "Cowardly act of enemies" In the wake of the brutal killing, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif issued a strong condemnation, terming the terrorism incident a cowardly act of the enemies of the country.

At least five among the seven labourers murdered in Gwadar belonged to Mian Channu, the Tehsil's assistant commissioner told Geo News. Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfraz Bugti condemned the killing of the barber shop workers in Gwadar extending his sympathies towards the families of the victims.

"We are determined to eradicate the scourge of terrorism," he said. PM Shehbaz shared his grief for the victims' families. PPP chairman condemns workers' killing Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhattoz-Zardari has condemned the killing of the workers.

CM Bugti also sought a report on the matter, maintaining that "all kinds of force will be used to arrest the terrorists and their facilitators". Balochistan Home Minister Mir Zia Ullah Langau has ordered an investigation into the killing of the seven deceased, terming it "open terrorism". The minister said the killing of workers is

"Brutal killing of innocent workers is open terrorism," the politician said, adding that people of the entire country, including Balochistan, are extremely angry over this brutality. "The monsters involved in the crime should be brought to justice," the PPP chief maintained. This incident comes at least three weeks

after unidentified assailants gunned down 11 people in separate terror incidents in the Nushki district of Balochistan.

At least 11 people were gunned down by unknown assailants in two separate terror incidents in Nushki district of Balochistan. Nine of the deceased, who belonged to Punjab, were travelling in a bus on the National Highway from Quetta to Taftan when they were stopped by the militants, pulled out of the bus and abducted.

The police launched a search operation for the abductees, however, their bodies were found under the bridge near a hill. All of them had been shot dead.

The murdered men belonged to the Mandi Bahauddin, Wazirabad and Gujranwala areas of Punjab. According to Nushki Superintendent of Police (SP) Allah Bukhsh, the deceased men were labourers.

The police said that six people belonged to Mandi Bahauddin and were from the same village Chak Fateh Shah. Their family members said that the men had left for Iraq three days before Eid. Meanwhile, two more were dead and three others sustained injuries in another incident in the city the same day.

Similarly, on March 20, security forces acted swiftly and foiled a fierce attack after a group of gunmen stormed the Gwadar Port Authority (GPA) colony. Eyewitnesses said that they heard multiple explosions after firing in the complex which houses passport office, Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) office, and other government offices.



## Rallies Held in favour of army in Sindh

**KARACHI**

Rallies were organised across Sindh in favour of the martyrs and the Pakistan Army on the completion of one year of May 9 tragedy when miscreants ransacked the military installations over the arrest of former prime minister and the PTI founder.

People from different walks of life took out rallies in Sajawal, Thatta and Badin, Hyderabad, Sukkur, Tando Muhammad Khan and Kashmirore among other places. In Larkana, Jacobabad and other cities

people raised slogans in favour of the Pakistan Army.

The participants said that May 9 is a dark chapter in the history of Pakistan, and the elements involved should be punished. They could not tolerate the desecration of martyrs. They said that even after a year such elements continue to escape punishment.

They further said that people love the Pakistan Army. They said the love of the army cannot be erased from the hearts of the people.



Islamabad: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a special meeting of the Federal Cabinet on 9th May, 2024.



## Biden says US won't supply weapons for Israel to attack Rafah, in warning to ally



WASHINGTON President Joe Biden said that he would not supply offensive weapons that Israel could use to launch an all-out assault on Rafah — the last major Hamas stronghold in Gaza — over concern for the well-being of the more than 1 million civilians sheltering there.

Biden, in an interview with CNN on Wednesday, said that the U.S. was still committed to Israel's defense and would supply from Dome rocket interceptors and other defensive arms but that if Israel goes into Rafah, "we're not going to supply the weapons and artillery shells used."

Biden acknowledged that "civilians have been killed in Gaza" by the type of heavy bombs that the U.S. has been supplying — his first validation of what administration critics have been loudly protesting, even if he still stopped short of taking responsibility.

## British government tries to avert the type of unrest seen on American



LONDON British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on Thursday called for an end to antisemitism on campus as he met with university leaders in an effort to prevent the type of unrest seen on American campuses in recent weeks.

Sunak summoned the vice chancellors of Britain's top universities to his Downing Street offices after the government said "antisemitic abuse" was disrupting learning amid a growing number of pro-Palestinian protests.

Ahead of the meeting, Sunak warned of "students and academic staff being targeted, threatened, and assaulted simply for being Jewish."



## Latest obstacles to bringing humanitarian aid into Gaza

**Aid workers say airdrops and plans to deliver aid by sea are no substitute for land deliveries.**

JERUSALEM One major land crossing into Gaza was shut down after a Hamas rocket attack, another by an Israeli incursion. And only a trickle of aid is entering through a third crossing that just opened in recent weeks.

The latest developments threaten to worsen the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza more than seven months into the Israeli onslaught launched in response to Hamas' Oct 7 attack.

The head of the U.N. food agency has said northern Gaza is already experiencing "full-blown famine" and experts say nearly all of the territory's 2.3 million Palestinians are facing severe hunger. The Israeli offensive has caused widespread devastation and made domestic food production nearly impossible, leaving Gaza totally dependent on aid groups for food, medicine and basic goods.

Aid workers say airdrops and plans to deliver aid by sea are no substitute for land deliveries.

Here's a look at the state of Gaza's crossings:

But the U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees, the main provider of aid in Gaza, says no aid has actually entered Gaza from Kerem Shalom because of the security situation on the Palestinian side.

Foreign aid is typically trucked in from the Israeli side, unloaded in a central area and then picked up by Palestinian drivers who take it to distribution points.

Hamas has continued to launch rockets and mortar rounds at Israeli troops stationed near the crossing, including a strike on Wednesday after it reopened, and Israel regularly launches airstrikes in and around the nearby city of Rafah.

## Russia celebrates victory in World War II as Putin accuses the West of fueling global conflicts



MOSCOW Russia on Thursday wrapped itself in patriotic pageantry for Victory Day, as President Vladimir Putin celebrated the defeat of Nazi Germany in World War II by hailing his forces fighting in Ukraine and blasting the West for fueling conflicts around the world.

Even though few veterans of what Russia calls the Great Patriotic War are still alive 79 years after Berlin fell to the Red Army, the victory remains the most important and widely revered symbol of Russia's prowess and a key element of national identity.

Putin has turned Victory Day — the country's most important secular holiday — into a pillar of his nearly quarter-century in power and a justification of his military action in Ukraine.

Two days after beginning his fifth term in office, he led the festivities across Russia that recall the nation's wartime sacrifice.

"Victory Day unites all generations," Putin said in a speech in Red Square that came on the coldest May 9 in decades amid some snow flurries.

"We are going forward relying on our centuries-old traditions and feel confident that together we will ensure a free and secure future of Russia."

## Trump-affiliated group releases new national security book outlining possible second-term approach



WASHINGTON Making future military aid to Ukraine contingent on the country participating in peace talks with Russia. Banning Chinese nationals from buying property within a 50-mile radius of U.S. government buildings. Filling the national security sector with acolytes of Donald Trump.

One of several groups trying to lay the groundwork for a second Trump administration if the former Republican president wins in November is out with a new policy book that aims to articulate an "America First" national security agenda.

The book, shared with The Associated Press before its release Thursday, is the latest effort from the America First Policy Institute. Like the Heritage Foundation's "Project 2025," the group is seeking to help Trump avoid the mistakes of 2016, when he entered the White House largely unprepared.

Beyond its policy efforts, the institute's transition project has been working to draft dozens of executive orders and developing a training program for future political appointees. Heritage has been building an extensive personnel database and offering its own policy manuals.

Both groups stress they are independent from Trump's campaign, which has repeatedly tried to distance itself from such efforts, insisting that the only Trump-backed policies are those the candidate articulates himself.

"We hope this is where he is. We're not speaking for him, but I think he will approve," said Fleitz, who formerly served as the National Security Council's chief of staff.

He said he hopes the book will serve as "a guidebook that will be an intellectual foundation for the America First approach" to national security "that's easy to use."

"It's a grand strategy," added Kellogg. "You don't start with the policies first. And that's what we've done."

# Sports & Showbiz News



## Mohammad Amir 'issued visa' ahead of Pakistan-Ireland T20I series



LAHORE: Left-arm fast bowler Mohammad Amir is set to depart for Dublin after getting a visa ahead of the three-match T20I series between Pakistan and Ireland commencing from May 10, Geo News reported citing sources.

The development comes after Amir's visa was delayed and he wasn't able to leave for Ireland with the Pakistan team on Tuesday.

PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi took immediate action to ensure that Amir got clearance to travel to Ireland, sources added.

The PCB actively engaged with

Cricket Ireland regarding Amir's visa situation. All players, including Amir, had their visa applications processed immediately after the Kakati camp, but anxiety had gripped the PCB headquarters after Amir's didn't get his visa.

Amir was banned from international cricket for five years by the International Cricket Council (ICC) along with Mohammad Asif and Salman Butt, in a spot-fixing case in 2010. Amir also served half of a six-month custodial sentence in young offenders institutes in Feltham and Dorset.



## Atalanta and Roma face off in battle For Champions League spot

Web Desk Serie A will have five clubs in next season's revamped Champions League, and this weekend Atalanta host AS Roma with both sides aiming to finish in the top five and make a return to Europe's top competition.

Atalanta currently occupy that all-important fifth spot and have a game in hand on Roma in sixth, with the teams level on 60 points. They have a four-point gap to Lazio in seventh, so Sunday's game in Bergamo could prove decisive.

Roma reached two European finals in the last two seasons, winning the Conference League in 2022 and losing the Europa League final on penalties to Sevilla last year, but Champions League football has been missing since 2019.

When Daniele De Rossi replaced Jose Mourinho as manager in January, he declared Champions League qualification as his main goal despite the fact that Roma were ninth in the standings at the time, and is close to making that objective a reality.

Their recent dip in form, however, has allowed Atalanta to regain the upper hand, with Roma recording just one win in their last four league games, while Atalanta have won three in the same period.

Atalanta had to wait until 2019 to make their Champions League debut, but after three consecutive appearances in the competition, they missed out in the last two seasons.

Last season just one point separated these two in the league table, Atalanta finishing fifth with Roma in sixth, but this season that fifth place is a much more attractive proposition.

The sides drew 1-1 at the Stadio Olimpico in January, so whoever wins this weekend's clash will have the better head-to-head record should they finish level on points when the seasons end.

Bologna can take a major step towards clinching their place in the Champions League at Napoli on Saturday. Bologna are fourth, with a four-point advantage over Atalanta and Roma, and sit two points behind Juventus in third.

## Spiderman' director Sam Raimi faces marital woes



Sam Raimi, known for his directional work in Spiderman, is parting in a way with his wife Gillian Greene after 33 decades of marriage.

According to the court documents reviewed by TMZ, the 56-year-old director's wife filed for divorce on Wednesday, May 8.

As per the filed documents, the reason stated for the separation is that the couple had "irreconcilable differences."

Moreover, in the filing, Greene requested spousal support and urged to prevent Raimi from getting alimony.

Additionally, no prenuptial agreement was added to the court papers, as per the publication.

## Pakistan, Japan qualify for final of 30th Sultan Azlan Shah Cup Hockey



MALAYSIA (Web Desk) Pakistan and Japan have qualified for final of the 30th Sultan Azlan Shah Cup Hockey tournament.

Final of the tournament will be played on Saturday in Ipoh, Malaysia. The match will start at 17:30 pm Standard Time.

Meanwhile, Pakistan in their fifth match will play against New Zealand at Ipoh in Malaysia tomorrow (Friday). The match will start at 1:00 pm Pakistan Standard Time.

Pakistan have already won their three matches against Malaysia, South Korea and Canada while third match between Pakistan and Japan ended in a draw. Japan also have same number of wins and a draw.