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Arif Alvi calls for transparent inquiry into May 9 events



Soon Times Correspondent LAHORE
Former president Dr Arif Alvi has called for formation of an independent commission to ensure fair investigation into the May 9 riots and hold those involved accountable.
This demand came after his meeting with PTI leaders Yasmin Rashid, Umar Sarfaraz Cheema, and Ejaz Chaudhry at an anti-terrorism court of Lahore where they are facing charges related to the May 9 violence. During the meeting, Dr Alvi expressed solidarity with the detained PTI leaders, stating that the public stood behind them for their support for the party.
He emphasised the importance of respecting the choices made by the public in elections, alleging that PTI's mandate was stolen in the general elections. Dr Alvi said the PTI founder was the most renowned leader of Pakistan, asserting that his global recognition underscored his significance to the country.
He highlighted the need for a transparent trial process, advocating for the formation of an independent commission to investigate the May 9 violence and ensure the conviction of the main culprits.

Mohsin Naqvi lauds FC North Balochistan's role for peace and development



Soon Times Correspondent QUETTA
Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi visited the headquarters of Frontier Corps North Balochistan. Mohsin Naqvi was welcomed by FC North IG Maj Gen Amir Ajmal Chaudhry and saluted by troops of FC North.
Minister Naqvi paid homage to the martyrs by laying a wreath at the martyrs' memorial and reciting Fataha (prayers). He paid tribute to martyrs for their sacrifices for the nation.
During his tour, Minister Naqvi explored the museum and examined the latest tools utilised by FC North, showing keen interest in historical artifacts.

Pakistan's lunar mission 'ICUBE-Q' enters moon orbit



Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD
Pakistan's lunar mission (ICUBE-Q) entered the moon orbit on Wednesday.
Pakistan's historic lunar mission (ICUBE-Q) had been launched on Friday on board China's Chang'E6 from Hainan, China.
According to the IST, the satellite ICUBE-Q has been designed and developed by IST in collaboration with China's Shanghai University SJTU and Pakistan's national space agency SUPARCO.
ICUBE-Q orbiter carries two optical cameras to image the lunar surface. Following successful qualification and testing, ICUBE-Q has now been integrated with the Chang'E6 mission.
Chang'E6 is the sixth in a series of China's lunar exploration missions.
The launch activity was telecast live on the IST website and social media platforms.

Police arrest several lawyers after pitched battle outside LHC leads to casualties

Lawyers had gathered for General House meeting and protest - Model Town SP, Anarkali and Ichhra SHO's reportedly injured in clash



Soon Times Correspondent LAHORE
A contingent of police on Wednesday arrested several lawyers after a clash erupted between them outside the Lahore High Court (LHC) when lawyers attempted to enter premises of court.
The rally organised by lawyers from Awan-e-Adl to the LHC was meant to protest the transfer of civil courts to Model Town Kutcheri and alleged terrorism charges against some lawyers.
Tension escalated at GPO Chowk where a confrontation between police and lawyers led to a violent clash. Lawyers retaliated by erecting barriers outside GPO Chowk and LHC and pelted law-

enforcement personnel with stones.
In response, police resorted to baton charge, teargas, water cannons, and shelling to quell the unrest and disperse the protesting crowd.
In the melee, several lawyers were reportedly arrested by police. The situation aggravated when Model Town SP Akhlaq Tarar, Anarkali and Ichhra SHOs suffered injuries amidst the altercation.
A police spokesperson said no one would be allowed to take law into their own hands. The skirmish had ramifications beyond the immediate vicinity, causing disruptions to the traffic along Mall Road and GPO Chowk.
Commuters faced delays and detours due to the unrest. The police also brought several lawyers from courts where they appeared for hearing. The lawyers later announced that they would up the ante and stretch the protest to all over the province if their demands remained unmet.
The SSP operations said police resorted to shelling after lawyers pelted officials with stones without provocation. Brief patch-up between police and lawyers
Officials of Lahore High Court Bar Association and policemen led by DIG operations and SSP operations held a dialogue and agreed on certain terms.

CM Maryam Nawaz Turkmenistan envoy agree to boost trade ties



Soon Times Correspondent LAHORE
Turkmenistan Ambassador Atadjan Nurlyevich Movlamov called on Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz in Lahore on Wednesday. The views were exchanged to boost the

investment and trade between Punjab and Turkmenistan. The ambassador of Turkmenistan showed his interest to increase the trade ties with Punjab.
Speaking on the occasion, the chief minister said that Turkmenistan is a brotherly country of Pakistan. "There are vast opportunities of investment in energy, industry, livestock and agriculture sectors in Punjab. We can also increase our trade volume with Turkmenistan in sectors like textiles and pharmaceuticals," she added.

Pakistan desires to strengthen economic ties with Uzbekistan: Dar

Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD
Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar on Wednesday said that Pakistan



desired to enhance its ties with Uzbekistan in multiple sectors including trade and commerce. The bilateral relations were discussed in a meeting between Ishaq Dar and Uzbek Foreign Minister Bakhtiyor Saidov, who is here on a two-day official visit. On his arrival at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar received the guest, which followed their one-on-one meeting.
The deputy prime minister said that Pakistan and Uzbekistan enjoyed strong and friendly relations. The Uzbek foreign minister expressed his pleasure in visiting Pakistan, saying they considered Pakistan their second home. He said Uzbekistan greatly valued its relationship with Pakistan. Later, both leaders also held delegation-level talks wherein they held in-depth discussion on all aspects of bilateral relations including trade, investment, security and people-to-people contacts.



'I should be apologised to, I don't owe apology to anyone', Imran Khan on DG ISPR call

Soon Times Correspondent Islamabad
Incarcerated Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founding chairman Imran Khan has turned down the military's demand to

apologise for the May 9 events and distanced his party from the violent protests that broke out in the country last year soon after his arrest. "Why should I tender apology, it should

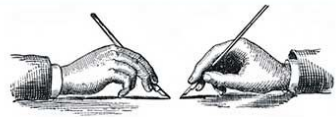
be sought from me," the deposed prime minister said during an informal conversation with journalists in Rawalpindi's Adiala Jail on Wednesday where he has been incarcerated.



بے حرمتی انکی گوارا نہیں
ہونے دینا اب دوبارہ نہیں
#9MayNeverAgain

وزارت اطلاعات و نشریات
حکومت پاکستان





Fertilizer Companies Undue Profit

The Federal Minister for Industries & Production Rana Tanveer Hussain on Wednesday said that fertilizer companies must not be allowed to take undue profit. Steps should be taken to ensure uniform price of the urea fertilizer across the country for the convenience of farmers, he directed while chairing a meeting of the Fertilizer Review Committee. Besides the Federal Secretary of

Industries and Production and agriculture secretaries of the four provinces, the representatives of Fauji Fertilizer Company Limited, Engro Fertilizer Company, Fatima Fertilizer Company and Kisan Ittehad attended the meeting. The minister regretted that the fertilizer companies had raised the prices of urea without realizing the plight of farmers. He asked the companies to roll back the

recently increased urea prices on their own, or otherwise the government would fix the same. The Minister said that as per report of the competition commission of Pakistan, the fertilizer companies are already earning huge profit as there profit margin is quite high in comparison to the production cost. They should pass on benefits to the farmers? It was suggested by the forum that all the

fertilizer companies and dealers should charge same price of the urea, he reaffirmed, adding the government had decided to get conducted third party audit to determine their cost of production and profit margin. The Federal Minister said the government was committed to ensure uninterrupted supply of gas to the fertilizer industry.

Love's Liberation: Breaking Free from Difficult Partnerships



Amina AG

romantic, but it's not true. This notion is often glorified in media and literature. True love should bring tears of joy, contentment, and fulfillment. It should be filled with compassion, selflessness, and understanding. Real love doesn't cause pain; it uplifts and nurtures. If your journey is marked by tears of sadness, manipulation, or neglect, it's a clear sign what you're experiencing isn't love. Too often, we find ourselves entangled with people who constantly demand proof of our love while giving little in return. This toxic dynamic eats away at our well-being, turning life into a battlefield of one-sided efforts. It's time to recognize our own worth. Love shouldn't demand more than we can give, nor should it chip away at our core. We deserve partners who meet us halfway, reciprocating our care and devotion. **Recognizing when love has turned sour is crucial. Signs of deception, abuse, or emotional neglect should never be justified as acts of love. We owe it to ourselves to set boundaries, keeping out those who don't value our hearts. Admitting we may have chosen the wrong person is scary, but it's the first step toward freeing ourselves.** In our quest for love, we must distinguish between the real and the fake. Some souls resonate with love's true essence; those who respond with kindness, cherishing our presence without conditions. These are the ones worth embracing, where love feels effortless and genuine. However, leaving should be the last option. Communication is key in healthy relationships, bridging misunderstandings and illuminating our darkest corners. If something bothers us about our partner, we must speak up openly and honestly. Through dialogue and understanding, we navigate the complexities of love, building bonds based on trust and respect. Understanding your partner plays an important role in

relationships, what your partner is anticipating and what makes them happy, sad, or angry. Try to accommodate it following healthy boundaries. Whenever you feel overwhelmed and it's only you who is suffering, STOP and take a break. Sit, think, evaluate, and ask yourself if the other person is worth it or not. If you think it's worth it, reevaluate your relationship, talk to your partner, communicate your true feelings, speak your heart, set your roadmap, and follow it. Do not forget to re-evaluate it at any point in time wherever you think it is not going well. Rethink everything, trust yourself, and take your move. Egoism can be the downfall of love and every other relationship in life. It's important to recognize when ego becomes toxic and when it's healthy. Healthy egoism should be welcomed in a relationship. We should learn to compromise and sometimes surrender for the sake of loving our partner, but without losing ourselves in the process. Remember, healthy egoism is the essence of a loving life. As Ehsan Segal said in his Poem;

If I kill my ego
I kill myself
If I don't
I kill my love
The dilemma
Between love and the ego
Force me to lie
So that I don't lose the love
And the ego

Breaking free from the cycle of loving difficult people requires courage and self-awareness. We must prioritize our own happiness, refusing to settle for anything less than mutual love. Though the path may be uncertain, it leads to liberation a place where love flows freely, without struggle or resentment. Let's commit to breaking free from toxic love, embracing the simplicity of loving those who uplift us. Let's value ourselves enough to walk away from those who fail to see our worth. In the vastness of humanity, there are souls waiting for us those who will love us effortlessly and unconditionally.

In today's age of rapid technological advancement and globalization, the sophistications of relationships and love often take a backseat amidst the hustle and bustle of life. With the rise of dating and marriage apps, the dating landscape has undergone a significant transformation, turning the search for love into a mere swipe game. Many individuals find themselves caught up in this whirlwind, engrossed in the process of swiping through potential matches rather than investing in meaningful connections. Even for those who seek genuine companionship, decoding the true intentions of others remains a tough challenge. While we hold onto the hope for future technological innovations that may one day unveil the true feelings of potential partners, we are left with no choice but to rely on our instincts and understanding of the essence of love in the meantime. In this context, the importance of love awareness cannot be overstated; it becomes essential to our well-being as the very air we breathe. Navigating relationships can feel like a delicate dance, where we're often drawn to people who challenge us and stir our emotions deeply. But amidst this attraction lies a tricky trap: loving difficult individuals. It's a familiar pattern, where we strive to please someone who seems indifferent to our efforts. Who decided this was normal? Love shouldn't feel like a burden. If it weighs heavily on your heart, it's time to take a step back and reassess. The idea that enduring hardships makes love stronger might sound

Women Empowerment Facts.

Nadia Muzaffar Mughal

Introduction.

Woman: A woman play a very important and significant role from her birth till the end of her life. **Empowerment:** The process of becoming stronger and more confident, especially in talking, control of one's life and asserting one's rights.

Women Empowerment: women Empowerment refers to the activities undertaken to improve the social, economic and political status of woman in the world. Women Empowerment is basically the creation of environment where woman can make their decision.

History of Women Empowerment.

In the Islam The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) talked a lot about the empowerment of women and give more principles to empower women. The Prophet (PBUH) said, "If someone has two daughters, he nurtured them with love, gave them good education and paid for their expenses. He will be with me in Paradise." And The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said about a woman that if a woman is a mother, there is paradise under her feet. Serve her and obey her. And thus the Prophet (PBUH) said: Be kind to your wife until you bring her what she needs. And if you have sisters, give them a share in the inheritance. In this way, The Prophet (PBUH) as told the rights of mothers, daughters, sisters and wife's. This shows how much encouragement is being given to women in Islam, and how much support has been given to them, that heaven is under the mother's feet.

And in the Western world, women's empowerment is often associated with certain stages in the history of the women's rights movement. This movement is generally divided into three waves, the first of which began in the 19th and early 20th centuries, when suffrage was a key feature. The second wave of the 1960s included the sexual revolution and the role of women in society. Third wave

feminism is often considered to have begun in the 1990s.

The empowerment of women and the promotion of women's rights emerged as part of a large global movement and continued in recent years. Days like International Women's Empowerment Day are also gaining momentum. But despite great progress, women and girls around the world still face discrimination and violence.

Women Empowerment Facts.

"Around the world there are countless examples of women rising, taking leadership, taking their destiny into their own hands, inspiring the world "...but after playing all the roles in efficient manner she is still considered weak. And today I got the opportunity to speak on the topic 'Women Empowerment'. When women live safe, fulfilled, productive lives, then they can reach their full potential. Women empowerment is the most crucial point for the overall development of a state or country. And Nobody can deny that women play a very vital role in human progress.

Women empowerment means power in the hands of women. Why there is need to empower women? Our history says that women were ill treated. There were crimes against women such as acid attack, Domestic violence, dowry system. Discrimination against women have been age old issue and still happening today. It becomes very important to empower Women.

The Women's Empowerment Principles.

The Women's Empowerment Principles, created in collaboration between the UN Global Compact and UN Women, are used to empower women in the marketplace, workplace and community. The seven principles are:

- Principle 1:** Create high-level leadership to promote gender equality.
- Principle 2:** Treat all people fairly at work, respecting and supporting non-discrimination and human rights.
- Principle 3:** Ensure health and well-being presence and safety of all employees, whether male or female.
- Principle 4:** Promoting

women's education, training and professional development.

Principle 5: Implementing supply chain, marketing practices and business development that empower women.

Principle 6: Promoting equality through community initiatives and advocacy through.

Principle 7: Measure and publicly report on progress towards gender equality.

How can we empower women?

In today's society, women have achieved a very active role, but it was not easy. They have gone through a road full of obstacles and have now reached the power of community participation. To eradicate evils like dowry system, child marriage, there are several government schemes for women empowerment like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao. Through these systems, we can empower women by encouraging the girls and women around us and making them feel special and strong. Valuing their opinions so they are never afraid to use their voice.

Government should make rules for many women and encourage them and allow them to read and write and give them every freedom. And when the government will provide all facilities to women, they will move forward. Women have got their rights in Islam too.

Sponsoring a girl: By sponsoring a girl, you can give her the means to get an education and the rights she deserves. It is a key way for girls to grow and influence their generation and the next.

Educate yourself by learning about issues that affect girls, such as child marriage. Find out what World Vision is doing to make a difference. Read more about our approach to helping girls overcome gender inequality. Shop for empowering gifts for women. World Vision offers a variety of gifts that help invest and build women and girls.

Women change the conversation.



DC Sargodha visits Thalassaemia Center on its World Day



Soon Times Correspondent Sargodha: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Captain Retired Aurangzeb Haider Khan visited Safe Life Thalassaemia Center on Wednesday. He met the patient's parents

and cut a cake with the patient children under treatment and presented them gifts on this occasion. While talking to media persons, the DC said that World Thalassaemia Day is celebrated all over the world to create awareness among the public regarding hazards of this disease. He said, "We all know the severity of the disease in our country, I request my young men to test them for thalassaemia before marriage so that this disease can be prevented very in the beginning." The DC said that it is sad to see these children because they are forced to live their lives with this disease and they need blood frequently to combat it. He also made a detailed review of the various parts of the center. He distributed shields to the members performing charitable services to save the lives of Thalassaemia children on this occasion.

Every complaint is decided within 60 days: Mushtaq Ahmed Awan

Soon Times Correspondent Sargodha:

In-charge Federal Ombudsman Sargodha Regional Head Mushtaq Ahmed Awan has said that petitioners are provided with immediate relief after the complaints are received in writing or on the Federal Ombudsman's portal in the Sargodha office related to federal institutions. He was informing about the performance of his organization as a special guest in Radio Pakistan program "Shaheen Sargodha". Program in-charge and station manager Ghulam Abbas Malik was also present on this occasion. Mushtaq Ahmed Awan said, the purpose of establishing the regional offices of the Federal Ombudsman is to provide speedy

justice to the people at their doorstep under one window. Complaints have to provide identity on plain paper and proofs related to complaint to submit their complaints. Under the automated system, the complainant receives a message on the given number about the registration of the complaint. Every complaint is definitely decided within 60 days. He added, the institution of Federal Ombudsman is the guarantor of improving the efficiency of Federal departments. Federal Ombudsman Ijaz Ahmed Qureshi conducts video link meetings in the first week of every month to review the performance of regional offices across the country and also conducts quarterly visits to these offices. He also answered questions from live callers.

Incidents of theft & robbery become norm in the limits of PS Chakian

Soon Times Correspondent Sargodha:

They have robbed the same truck stop for the third time at Chakian stop. According to the details, this incident of theft has happened for the third time at the same stop, just one kilometer away from Chakian Police

Station. It should be noted that earlier two thieves were arrested red-handed and handed over to the police, but the police let the real criminals go after a settlement. While someone else was presented in the court. This proves that Chakian Police is involved in these incidents in collaboration with the gang

of thieves. DPO Sargodha should take notice of this attitude of the Chakian Police and take notice of the incidents of theft and robbery in Chakian and surrounding areas. When SHO Chakian was contacted to take a stance, he did not give any statement.

PM reiterates commitment to complete trade, connectivity projects with Uzbekistan

Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday reiterated that Pakistan was committed to working with Uzbekistan to speed up and complete all bilateral trade and connectivity projects.

The prime minister, in a meeting with Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan Bakhtiyor Saidov, who is currently on a two-day visit to Pakistan, reaffirmed Pakistan's readiness to provide access to Uzbekistan to Pakistani Ports, a PM Office press release said.

He also emphasized the importance of the Uzbekistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan Railway Project and Pakistan's commitment to its



early completion.

The two sides discussed enhanced cooperation between Pakistan and Uzbekistan in trade and economy, security and defense, connectivity and people-to-people contacts. The importance of peace and development in Afghanistan for regional connectivity was also discussed. Congratulating the prime

minister on his re-election, the Uzbek foreign minister also conveyed the invitation of Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev for Prime Minister Shehbaz to undertake an official visit to Uzbekistan at his earliest convenience. The prime minister expressed his gratitude to President Shavkat Mirziyoyev and said that he was looking forward to meeting him.

Chances of Thalassaemia increase with intermarriage of malnourished people: Speakers



Soon Times Correspondent Sargodha:

May 8th is observed worldwide for

Thalassaemia Awareness. In this regard, through various events including seminars, workshops, photo contests and

awareness walks, awareness is raised among the people for the prevention and control of this disease. On May 8 Thalassaemia Awareness Walk organized by Health Department, District Faisal Masood Teaching Hospital and Sargodha Medical College in Sargodha was held. It was attended by Director, Deputy Director, MS Sargodha Faisal Masood District Teaching Hospital, Principal Sargodha Medical College Miss Humaira. In this regard, the participants said that Thalassaemia is now a curable disease. This disease can be eradicated by creating more awareness among the people. They further said that the chances of this disease are more due to intermarriage of malnourished people. With the efforts of the health department, this disease can be eradicated in Pakistan.

IHC orders transfer of Bushra Bibi from Bani Gala to Adiala jail



Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD

The Islamabad High Court (IHC) announced on Wednesday ordered the transfer of former prime minister Imran Khan's spouse, Bushra Bibi, from the Bani Gala sub-jail to the Adiala jail.

IHC Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb announced the reserved verdict on the petition filed by Bushra Bibi seeking her transfer to the Adiala jail — where her husband is currently incarcerated.

On May 2, the high court had reserved the verdict after hearing the arguments. The superintendent jail had relayed that they could not accommodate Bushra Bibi as the jail was already overcrowded and due to security issues.

The court also decreed that the notification declaring Bushra Bibi's residence Bani Gala as a sub-jail "null and void".

Bushra was placed under house arrest at her residence in Bani Gala on January 31, following her conviction in the infamous Toshakhana case. The authorities had declared the Bani Gala residence a "sub-jail" to confine the former first lady at the request of Adiala jail superintendent.

On February 6, Bushra had challenged the authorities' move to imprison her at Bani Gala to serve a 14-year sentence in the case. In the petition, Khan's wife maintained that like other political workers of the party, she was ready and willing to serve her sentence in the "Ordinary Jail Premises at Adiala Jail, rather than the declared sub-jail at her residence".

Moreover, the former first lady felt "unsafe" being confined alone in the premises of the sub-jail due to the potential security issues. The wife of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder had said the "special treatment" meted out to her went against the spirit of equality guaranteed under the Constitution and was consequently

discriminatory.

In view of the stated reasons, the petitioner had pleaded with the court to set aside the notification to declare her house sub-jail and shift her to Adiala jail in the "interest of justice".

Bushra, Khanjailed Bushra and Khan were awarded a 14-year jail term, each, when accountability court's Judge Muhammad Bashir announced the verdict in the case related to the illegal sale of state gifts from Toshakhana.

The court also disqualified the former prime minister for 10 years from holding public office besides imposing a fine of Rs1.57 billion — 787 million each — on the couple. Khan told the court that his wife had nothing to do with the case and was being humiliated by being forcibly dragged into it.

The case Under the rules governing Toshakhana — a Persian word meaning "treasure house" — government officials can keep gifts if they have a low worth, while they must pay a dramatically reduced fee to the government for extravagant items.

The Toshakhana has been under a microscope ever since the emergence of the allegations that Khan purchased the gifts he received as prime minister at throwaway rates and sold them off in the open market for staggering profits.

The 70-year-old cricketer-turned-politician was accused of misusing his 2018 to 2022 premiership to buy and sell gifts in state possession that were received during visits abroad and worth more than Rs140 million.

The gifts included watches given by a royal family, according to government officials, who have alleged previously that Khan's aides sold them in Dubai.

Moreover, seven wristwatches, six made by watchmaker Rolex, and the most expensive a "Master Grant Limited edition" valued at \$5 million Pakistani rupees (\$385,000), were also among the gifts. A reference was forwarded by National

ECP to make ex-commissioner's rigging charges probe public



Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD

The Election Commission of Pakistan

(ECP) has decided to disclose the findings of inquiry into electoral misconduct accusations levelled by former Rawalpindi commissioner Liaquat Chatha.

Sources in the Election Commission say the inquiry report will first be presented in a commission meeting before being made public.

More to read: PTI issues white paper on 'rigging' in Feb 8 polls

A one-member panel, chaired by Member Sindh Nisar Durani, was appointed by the Election Commission to conduct the investigation.

The report includes statements of district and returning officers, as well as a written submission from the former Rawalpindi commissioner.

Chatha had resigned from his post, citing substantial irregularities in the general elections.

Pakistan to see above normal temperatures, wet weather this week



Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD

As Pakistan is currently experiencing above-normal day temperatures, the Met Office has warned the mercury may jump up to 5 degree Celsius over average in some parts of the country from Wednesday to Friday (May 8 to May 10).

However, the heatwave won't last long because of a western disturbance that will start affecting the country on May 10 till

The westerly can produce violent thunderstorms and dust storms, especially in the plain areas, because of interaction between the hot and cold air.

Any weather system coming from the west — depending upon its strength — in May and early June usually bring extreme weather events as the westerlies brings

colder air at a time when the temperatures are very high in the region.

However, global warming — also called climate change — means the western disturbances are now carrying more moisture while Pakistan and other countries in the region have been heatwaves, thus making the interaction between colder and hotter air even more violent.

witnessing alarming rise in temperatures

and longer heatwaves, thus making the interaction between colder and hotter air even more violent.

According to the Met Office, the daytime temperature in Balochistan, Sindh, Punjab, Islamabad, Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan are likely to remain 3 to 5 degree Celsius above normal till Friday. However, the increase in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa would be 2 to 3 degree Celsius.

But on Friday evening or night and Saturday, a westerly will start producing wind storms, rain and thunderstorms in north-western Balochistan. Some areas of central and southern parts of the province may also experience strong winds and thunderstorms.

On the other hand, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa as well as upper and central Punjab are expected to witness rain, dust storms and thunderstorms from Friday evening or night till Sunday. Isolated cases of hailstorm have also been predicted.



Estonia summons Russian embassy chief over GPS jamming



HELSINKI
Estonia's foreign ministry has summoned the head of the Russian embassy in Tallinn to protest the jamming of GPS signals, the Baltic country said on Wednesday.
Estonia accuses neighboring Russia of violating international regulations by disturbing GPS navigation in airspace above the Baltic states, echoing concerns from airlines that say they have contended with such interference for months.
The Estonian foreign ministry on Wednesday summoned Russia's charge d'affaires to convey its message. Moscow and Tallinn last year expelled each other's ambassadors as relations deteriorated in the wake of Moscow's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022.



Survivor recounts moment he emerged from deadly South African building collapse



GEORGE
Moses Malala, a 34-year-old construction worker who escaped the wreckage of a five-storey building in George, South Africa, recalled the moment it collapsed and a cloud of dust engulfed him, as rescue efforts continued at the site 48 hours on.
Seventy-five construction workers, including Malala, were on site when the building crumbled on Monday. Thirty-six have been retrieved so far, including seven deceased, while 39 remain unaccounted for.
Malala survived with only minor injuries but said he is scarred by the death of a co-worker and unable to sleep.
"I see the dust coming up. Starting from the basement it's coming up... then I'm starting to see the slab is cracking, sliding to go down," he recalled.
"Every night I can't sleep," Malala said, adding he is thinking of the co-worker nearest to him who passed away. He has been returning to the site "to check our guys".
Local authorities in the city east of Cape Town said on Tuesday that the rescue teams were in contact with some survivors buried beneath the structure. Teams searched the site with sniffer dogs.
It is not yet clear how the building collapsed. South African President Cyril Ramaphosa has called for an investigation.
Alan Winde, premier for the Western Cape province, said more than 200 emergency service personnel were involved in the rescue on Wednesday.
"I cannot express the emotions I suddenly felt yesterday when the site would fidget to go completely quiet in the hope that our teams might be close to locating another survivor," Winde said.
Rescuers were met with applause when they pulled survivors from the debris, riddled with broken concrete slabs and twisted steel reinforcements.
Edna Ntseki waited for an update on her brother Charles Thangalimodzi, who is believed to still be under the rubble.

Three Taliban security personnel killed in north Afghanistan blast

Spokesperson says explosion took place as police convoy passing for purpose of opium poppy eradication

KABUL
Three Taliban security personnel were killed when a motorcycle carrying an explosive device blew up near a military vehicle in northern Afghanistan being used in opium poppy eradication operations, an interior ministry spokesperson said on Wednesday.
Protests have raged several districts in the northern province of Badkhashan where farmers object to Taliban security forces' attempts to wipe out opium cultivation - the backbone of many household incomes in impoverished Afghanistan.
"The explosion took place as the police convoy was passing for the purpose of opium poppy eradication," said interior ministry spokesperson Abdul Matin Qanice, adding that five other people were injured.
It was not clear who was behind the attack in the provincial capital Faizabad.
National and local Taliban administration spokespeople had said the previous day that calm had been restored to the protest-hit areas and teams sent from the national and provincial capital had held discussions with locals.
The protests, which began late last week, have resulted in the deaths of two people. The Taliban said they were considering providing financial compensation to the victims' families.
The Taliban have said they are seeking to restore order and security to the war-torn nation after taking over in 2021 as foreign forces withdrew.
Nevertheless, attacks have continued and the local branch of militant group Daesh, as well as resistance groups, have claimed attacks on Taliban security forces.

Brazil polls show mixed scenario for Lula's approval ratings

SAO PAULO
Brazilian opinion polls released this week show a mixed scenario for the approval ratings of President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva's administration, with two surveys indicating a decline while a third one sees an improvement.
Approval of his government fell to 33% in May from 35% in February, a GemaQuest poll showed on Wednesday, matching the disapproval rate, which declined just 1 percentage point.
While Lula's approval as president is at its lowest since he took office last year, Quast pollster Felipe Nunes said his decline has stopped in the more populous and affluent southeast Brazil, and among Evangelical Brazilians who tend to oppose him.
Earlier this year, polls showing his government's popularity declining prompted Lula to demand results from his cabinet ministers.
Lula is in the second year of his third non-consecutive term, after beating former President Jair Bolsonaro by a narrow



margin in 2022 elections.
On Tuesday, an opinion poll from CNT/MDA had also showed a new decline in the approval of his government to 37% in May from 43% in January. Disapproval increased to 30% from 28% in the same period.
However, a third poll, with a more recent comparison base, pictured a divergent scenario, with Lula's approval rising.
Brazilians seeing his government as good or great rose to 43% in May from 38% in March, according to the poll from AtlasIntel released on Tuesday. Meanwhile, those seeing his administration as bad or terrible stabilized at 41%.

Italy bans NGO planes from using airports close to migrant routes

ROME
Italy said that planes used by charities to track migrant boats in difficulty would no longer be able to fly from airports on the islands of Sicily, Pantelleria and Lampedusa that are close to the shipping routes.
The decision, announced by the Italian Civil Aviation Authority (ENAC), will make it much harder for non-governmental groups like Sea Watch to use its small planes to scout the central Mediterranean for boats in need of rescue.
"(This is) an act of cowardice and cynicism by those who criminalize the NGOs for political propaganda," Sea Watch said in a statement on X, adding that it still planned to take to the skies to help migrants in distress.
In a written ordinance, ENAC said the planes were "unwarranted," represented a burden for the official rescue teams and risked compromising the safety of undocumented migrants.

Sports & Showbiz News

Sultan Azlan Shah Cup: Pakistan beat Canada 5-4 to bag third win



ISLAMABAD
Pakistan hockey team on Wednesday defeated Canada 5-4 in their fourth pool match to solidify their position to earn a final spot in Sultan Azlan Shah Cup, underway in Johor, Malaysia.
With the win, Pakistan has accumulated 10 points in four matches and is now a strong contender for the title.
According to information made available here by Pakistan Hockey Federation, Canada took early lead in the 5th minute with a goal from Sean Davis and another in the 17th minute from Harbir Sidhu.
Pakistan's Abubakar Mahmood scored two goals in the 28th and 29th minutes, leveling the score.
After halftime, experienced goalkeeper Abdullah Ashfaq Khan took over the Pakistani goalpost. Arshad Liaqat, Rana Waheed Ashraf and Ghazanfar Ali scored goals in the 36th, 44th, and 45th minutes, respectively, solidifying Pakistan's lead.
Canada's Sean Davis scored a field goal in the 45th minute, and Avijot Butter scored another field goal in the 50th minute, reducing Canada's goal deficit.



Lahore, Karachi qualify for final of National Women's One-Day Tournament

FAISALABAD
Karachi defeated Rawalpindi by 22 runs in the tenth round of the National Women's One-Day Tournament at Bohranwali Ground, Faisalabad on Wednesday. Omaira Sohail's gritty half-century (67, 86b, 7x4s) led Karachi to post 167 all out in 41 overs.
Karachi's spinners led by Omaira (4-34) played a vital role in restricting Rawalpindi to 145 all out in 49.4 overs. Maham Manzoor and Syeda Aroob Shah shared five wickets.
In a low-scoring thriller at the Iqbal Stadium Peshawar defended their 110-run total against Multan, winning the game by a mere four runs. Peshawar's Aleena Shah helped her team reach 110 with a dugged 40 as Multan's Noor-ul-Iman spun a web around Peshawar batters taking five wickets for 15 runs.
In return, Multan looked comfortable with 76-2 on the board before losing eight wickets for 30 runs and falling agonisingly four runs short with six balls to spare.
At Jawad Sports Complex, after opting to bat first Quetta lost wickets at regular intervals as Khadija Chishti and Arjiah Haseeb top scored with 23 runs each taking their team to 105 all out in 49.1 overs. Lahore's Noreen Yaqoob and Ayesha Bilal picked up three wickets apiece while Quatrain dismissed two batters.
In reply, Dua Majid made light work of the chase with an unbeaten half-century (52, 71b, 6x4s) stitching a 55-run opening partnership with Samiya Afsar (31, 43b, 2x4s, 1x6) and an undefeated 53-run second wicket stand with Iram Javed (20 not out, 31b, 2x4s) to seal the chase in 24 overs.
Lahore and Karachi, having finished as the top two sides with nine wins each in the double round-robin stage will take on each other in the final of the tournament at Iqbal Stadium, Faisalabad on 11 May.

Indian actor Sonam Bajwa impressed with Sajal Ali



(Web Desk)
Sajal Ali has once again captured attention with her upcoming project, "Zard Patton Ka Bann," as the teaser trailer release has generated excitement among fans and industry insiders.
The buzz around the drama extends beyond Pakistani fans, as evidenced by a heartwarming exchange between Sajal and Indian actor Sonam Bajwa.
Bollywood diva Sonam Bajwa praised Lollywood's most talented and gorgeous actress Sajal Ali for her upcoming project "Zard Patton Ka Bann".
Talking to her Instagram handle, the showbiz personality shared the poster and teaser of the drama after which Sonam couldn't help.

Getafe keen to keep hold of Man Utd loanee Greenwood



competitions for Getafe, who are 10th in LaLiga.
"It was up to the lad, his parents and the club (Getafe). I think he would continue for another year," Torres told Radio Marca on Tuesday.
"But, regarding Manchester (United), the news that we have from last week where the (Getafe) sporting director went to England to see some games and was with them, is that, if a good offer comes along, they would want to sell because he is not going to go back there."
"We'll have to wait until the end of June... The people and the coach are very happy with him. I think he will remain with us for another season, or at least until January. He is a good footballer."
United's new co-owner Jim Ratcliffe said in February that the club was set to make a decision regarding Greenwood's future, while LaLiga president Javier Tebas has said he hopes the forward will extend his stay in Spain.