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Punjab CM champions tech to boost government accountability

She also brainstormed approaches to incorporate public opinion in policy making.



Soon Times Correspondent LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz stressed the need for integrating technology into government departments to improve monitoring mechanisms. She expressed these views during a meeting with the Chairperson of the Chief Minister's Directorate of Evaluation, Feedback, Inspection, and Monitoring, Brigadier (R) Babar Alaudin. Both sides discussed issues of improving governance and transparency at the administrative level. They also brainstormed approaches to incorporate public opinion in policy making and government decisions. The CM asked Mr Alaudin to develop a latest mechanism to improve the training mechanism of police and administration. She believes that by leveraging technology, it will surely open up new avenues for better monitoring of government departments' performance. She claimed that the introduction of the performance index has created a sense of accountability among the government officials. She asked the concerned departments to keep a close eye on the performance index and monitor it strictly.

ATC slams door on Qureshi's video link plea in May 9 cases



Soon Times Correspondent LAHORE: The anti-terrorism court, Lahore has turned down the request of senior leader of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, Shah Mahmood Qureshi, to appear via video link in the May 9 cases. During the hearing of May 9 cases on Monday, the counsel of Qureshi requested the court for appearance through video link. However, the judge rejected the plea. The court directed Qureshi to appear in person for the trial. The former Foreign Minister is behind the bars in Adiala Jail.

Salman Akram Raja moves SC for restoration of election tribunals



Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) legal czar Salman Akram Raja on Monday moved the apex court for the restoration of the election tribunals. Raja has filed an application to review the SC's July 4 judgment. According to the petition, the applicant said that the Supreme Court had the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to consult with the Lahore High Court (LHC) chief justice for the appointment of judges to

DG ISPR criticises propaganda targeting Pakistan military

During a press conference, Lt Gen Ahmed Sharif denounces misleading propaganda targeting military

Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD: Director General Inter-Services Public Relations Lieutenant General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry on Monday highlighted the critical need to address the escalating disinformation and propaganda targeting Pakistan military. He expressed these remarks during a press conference in Rawalpindi. Referring to Pakistan's earlier major military operations, Operation Zarb-e-Azb and Operation Radd-ul-Fasad, which resulted in large-scale displacements, a reporter inquired if similar displacements would occur during the current operation, Azm-e-Istehkam.



security efforts. "We have trivialised matters of national survival," DG ISPR lamented. He provided updates on counter-terrorism efforts, stating that 22,409 intelligence-based operations had been conducted this year, averaging over 112 daily operations by the military and law enforcement agencies. "The operation aims to reinforce the National Action Plan and empower law enforcement agencies through effective legislation, not to displace people," he added. The military's spokesperson criticised the politicisation of crucial national security issues, reiterating that Azm-e-Istehkam is designed to strengthen counter-terrorism measures without replicating past military operations involving large-scale displacements.

Toshakhana case: Physical remand of Imran Khan, Bushra Bibi extended by seven days



Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD: An accountability court on Monday extended the physical remand of PTI founder Imran Khan and Bushra Bibi by seven days in newly filed Toshakhana

'They're planning to send me to military jail': Imran Khan



Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) supreme leader Imran Khan on Monday expressed concerns that he and his wife, Bushra Bibi, might be sent to a military jail in connection with the 9 May cases. Speaking to the media during a hearing of the \$190 million reference, Khan stated, "They plan to send me to a military jail for 9 May incidents."

He clarified that he had called for peaceful protests outside General Headquarters (GHQ) if arrested but never authorised any violent actions. Khan accused Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) of stealing CCTV footage related to the May 9 events and condemned the arrest of party spokesperson Raouf Hassan. Addressing Ataulullah Tarar's claims about his VIP jail conditions, Khan invited the

media to visit his cell, stating, "If Tarar is telling the truth, he should meet me. Let the media see my cell for two minutes." He lamented the biased treatment of PTI workers detained in military jails, suggesting a plan to also incarcerate him under similar charges. He also mentioned that the Toshakhana reference had been politicized, with selective action against him while ignoring cases against Nawaz Sharif and Asif Ali Zardari.

Islamabad police arrest PTI chief Barrister Gohar, Raouf Hassan

- Police besiege PTI's central secretariat and cordon off the routes leading to it
- Police deny arrest of Barrister Gohar, women during raid



Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad police on Monday arrested Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Barrister Gohar and Secretary General Raouf Hassan on the allegation of encroachments. Sources said the Capital Development Authority (CDA) and Islamabad police launched a joint operation against encroachments in the G-8 sector, which resulted in the arrest of higher-ups of the PTI. A contingent of Islamabad police besieged PTI's central secretariat and cordoned off the routes leading to the secretariat. Imran Khan's lawyer Ali Ijaz Buttler claimed that PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan and Information Secretary Raouf Hassan had been arrested by the Islamabad police

from the party's office. "I just received a call from the party's office informing that 300 to 400 policemen arrived at the [party's] office and arrested PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar and Information Secretary Raouf Hassan," Buttler wrote on X. The party condemned the move through its official X account and lambasted the Islamabad police. "It's absolutely shameful how Islamabad Police continues to completely mock and disregard every law in this country," the party said. The PTI also shared footage on the X platform, showing several police vehicles and police personnel outside the party's central secretariat. Meanwhile, the Islamabad police have denied arrest of Barrister Gohar but said a team had arrested Raouf Hassan. They also denied arrest of four women and the claim that police took away a laptop and documents from the PTI Secretariat.

Cabinet set to decide on PTI ban on Tuesday

Federal cabinet to meet tomorrow to discuss imposing a ban on PTI and review the political situation

Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has called a federal cabinet meeting for tomorrow to discuss the potential ban on the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). Sources indicate that the cabinet will seek approval for the ban and deliberate on the current political climate in the country. Recently, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Ataulullah Tarar announced in a press conference that the federal government plans to impose a ban on PTI. He stated that legal action under Constitution's Article 6 would be pursued against former President Anwar Ali, PTI Founder Imran Khan, and Deputy Speaker Qasim Suri. Tarar added that the cabinet's approval



would lead to a reference being sent to the Supreme Court. Measures such as blocking their passports and identity cards and passing a parliamentary resolution will also be considered, with actions being carried out within the bounds of the constitution and law.

Urban Flooding Prevention

President Asif Ali Zardari has called for devising a comprehensive plan on a priority basis to prevent urban flooding in Karachi. He said that the Government of Sindh should adopt a sustainable and long-term strategy, based on international best practices, for effectively managing sewage and stormwater to save the Metropolitan City from urban flooding. The President expressed these while chairing a meeting on saving Karachi from urban flooding and environmental degradation and promoting sustainable water resource development, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, today.

Chief Minister Sindh, Syed Murad Ali Shah, Adjutant General Lt General Muhammad Asim Malik, Minister for Local Government Department of Sindh, Mr Saeed Ghani, Mayor Karachi, Barrister Murtaza Wahab,

Chief Secretary Sindh, Syed Asif Hyder Shah, CEO Karachi Water and Sewerage Corporation, Syed Salahuddin, Country Head Herrenknecht Pakistan, Col (r) Danyal Naveed Ahmed, senior government officials, and local and international water management experts attended the meeting. The President was given a comprehensive presentation by international water and sewage management experts and proposed various solutions to address the challenges of urban flooding and sewage in Karachi on the pattern of the tunnel sewer systems of Washington DC, the London Super Sewer Project, and the Deep Tunnel Sewerage System of Singapore. During the briefing, it was proposed that a network of small and large sewer tunnels under existing roads in high-flood zones of Karachi

may be developed. It was highlighted that underground tunneling using modern techniques would not disturb the public, city traffic and land ownership. The experts informed that Karachi generated almost 450 million gallons per day (MGD) of sewage. They added that sewage and stormwater were collected in small and large open drains which fell into the Lyari and Malir rivers and were released untreated into the sea, polluting the marine ecosystem. It was further informed that the existing network of drains had limited capacity and absorbed around 50% of the rainwater under normal circumstances. The meeting was told that excess water was not absorbed by the system, causing urban flooding. Speaking on the occasion, the President underlined the need for

completing the feasibility study to control flooding in Karachi through tunnelling options within three months. He stated that Karachi and its coastal areas need to be made clean and brought at par with other Metropolitan cities of the world. He said that since the proposed project would have significant environmental impacts, therefore, Government of Sindh should approach international donors to seek environmental financing for the project. He said that the construction of the wastewater treatment system would also help supply treated water to Balochistan for agriculture, besides promoting the fisheries sector. The President remarked that the city of Hyderabad was also facing urban flooding and sewage issues that also needed to be addressed on priority.

Woman As a Lead



Shabana Mehmood

emotional cue-taking, consensus-building, risk-taking, mutuality, and questioning is often misconstrued as a "less-than" leadership style. More multicultural and diversity training must occur for women and men to wholly embrace their differences and understand that it is diversity and difference that make us stronger and more competitive. Women are still performing the majority of domestic and childcare responsibilities in the home, even when both spouses are working full-time. As long as women are bearing the children in our species, they will prioritize child-rearing and childcare responsibilities differently than men. Women's perspectives and priorities around these responsibilities differ, and acknowledging this is important. In many organizations, corporate women are still considered "less than" in terms of leadership capability. While changes are happening, they are not fast enough. Embracing diversity and creating a secure, comfortable workplace, and education programs for men and women are essential to paving the way for more women in corporate leadership. This requires change on all levels individual, organizational, and global. What one step can YOU take – either as a female committed

to achieving more leadership authority or as a female or male leader with the power and influence to bring about true change in your organization? Will you DO? Furthermore, female leaders are often more empathetic and collaborative, leading to a more supportive and empowering work environment. They are also more likely to prioritize work-life balance and employee well-being, which can create a more positive and productive workplace culture. Additionally, women in leadership roles can serve as role models and mentors for other women in the organization, inspiring them to reach their full potential and break through the glass ceiling. In addition, having diverse leadership teams that include women can help organizations better understand and meet the needs of their customers, who are also diverse in terms of gender, race, ethnicity, and background. Overall, having a woman as a leader in an organization can bring about positive change by promoting diversity, inclusion, empathy, and collaboration, ultimately leading to better decision-making, higher employee satisfaction, and improved overall performance.

The Feudalistic structure within Pakistan's



Anjud Rana

The administration and organization of the lord's estates, including agricultural production, resource management, and labor control. The feudalistic structure within Pakistan's societal framework has exerted control over all domains, both official and unofficial, since the country's inception in 1947. This system has primarily benefited a select group of feudal lords and tycoons who wield considerable influence over governmental bodies, including assemblies and the senate. They craft laws and policies that serve their own interests, neglecting the welfare of the Pakistani populace. Over the past 76 years, the working class, intellectuals, and bureaucratic elite have remained subservient to these feudal lords, failing to bring meaningful relief to the people, Pakistan's founder, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, envisioned a free and prosperous nation where all citizens could thrive, but this dream remains unrealized. Following Jinnah's passing, successive governments have been unable to complete full terms due to interference from feudal lords. These feudal families control key government positions, ensuring their continued dominance. The electoral process, meant to be transparent and fair, has been marred by their influence. For the past four decades, two political dynasties have monopolized power, with their members amassing immense wealth through illicit means, stashing funds in foreign bank accounts and acquiring luxurious properties. They shield corrupt feudal families from accountability while burdening the middle and

working classes with utility bills and taxes. State officials enjoy extravagant privileges, including free luxury vehicles, electricity, gas, and fuel—all at the expense of ordinary citizens. Approximately 500 feudal lords and their cohorts manipulate the system, perpetuating inflation and hardship among the innocent masses. This state of affairs is a disgrace for the nation. In conclusion, the entrenched feudalistic system in Pakistan, controlled by a privileged few for over seven decades, has hindered the nation's progress and deprived its citizens of true democracy and prosperity. This system, which benefits a select group of feudal lords and political dynasties, has perpetuated corruption, undermined governance, and stifled the realization of Muhammad Ali Jinnah's vision for a free and equitable society. The continued dominance of feudal families in key government positions has led to the erosion of democratic principles and the subversion of fair electoral processes. This has resulted in instability and an inability of governments to serve the people effectively. Meanwhile, the excessive privileges enjoyed by state officials contrast starkly with the struggles faced by ordinary Pakistanis, who bear the brunt of rising utility costs and taxes. To overcome this entrenched system of feudalism and corruption, Pakistan must prioritize genuine democratic reform, strengthen institutions, and empower the voices of the marginalized and disenfranchised. Only then can the nation fulfill its potential and honour the aspirations of its founding father. Pakistan Feudalism community have been controlled all domains who belongs officially or unofficial organizations since 1947 when was Pakistan declared as free country state...every one knows that the only beneficiary Feudal

lords tycoons captured all the Assemblies including senate in which making all the rules Favor of them expect of the people of Pakistan. Whereas belongs to Labour and Middle class intellectual bureaucracy are obeying orders of the Feudal lords from 76 years .. these highly elite class wish to provide relief to the people, the founder of the Pakistan Muhammad Ali Jinnah has tried to make free country state in which all the masses livings peace and calm but unfortunately after death of the Founder of the Pakistan The people of Pakistan have not receive their humans rights and neither complete Quade dream yet .. Due to interference of the Feudal lords all the previous prime ministers did not complete their five years tenure .. All the key posts of the Govt department are holdings by the Feudal lords families .. The laws of the Pakistan include Pak ions has also in their hands and resulted every elections did not holds free and fair yet... In this regard last 40 years two political families are continuing rule in country and their family members has become billionaires and neither have courage to any one to ask question about their illegal foreign banks account include luxurious flats and other side they also oblige those feudal families who have already involve in corruptions..127 billions loans country in which state officials are using free luxurious cars include free electricity ,Gas, petrol lavishly as just like honor of Pakistan and unfortunately the people of middle and lab our class are paying all the utility bills including all tax. However this is become of corruptions state in which approximately only 500 fuddle lords and their business partners have captured state machinery in which they playing all the tricks in which innocents masses are supporting him in the shape of inflations, this is shameful for us.

Agriculture Exports of Pakistan A Potential Boost to Support it's Declining Economy



Ifkhar Uddin Anjum

export potential. These challenges range from outdated farming practices, limited access to modern technology, inadequate infrastructure, water scarcity, to unpredictable weather patterns exacerbated by climate change. Do you know what is current state of agriculture exports of Pakistan? Pakistan's agriculture exports have shown promise but remain below their true potential. The country primarily exports rice, cotton, fruits and vegetables. Rice, particularly basmati rice, is a significant export commodity renowned for its quality worldwide. Similarly, fruits such as mangoes and citrus fruits are highly regarded for their taste and aroma, presenting lucrative opportunities in international markets. Can you imagine only in last 41 days Pakistan's mango exports were 61 million dollars. However, the export performance of Pakistan's agriculture sector has been inconsistent due to various factors, including price volatility, trade barriers and quality control issues. In recent years, Pakistan has faced challenges in meeting international standards and maintaining consistent supply chains, which has affected its competitiveness in global markets. To revitalize Pakistan's economy through agriculture exports, several strategies can be implemented. Investing in modern farming techniques, irrigation systems, and agricultural machinery can enhance productivity and quality, making Pakistani agricultural products more competitive in international markets. Strengthening quality control measures and ensuring compliance with international

standards is crucial for maintaining market access and enhancing consumer trust abroad. While Pakistan excels in traditional exports such as rice and fruits, diversifying into high-value crops, processed foods and value-added products can open new avenues for export growth. Improving transportation networks, cold storage facilities, and logistics infrastructure is essential for reducing post-harvest losses and ensuring timely delivery of agricultural products to export destinations. Negotiating favorable trade agreements and reducing tariff barriers can facilitate greater market access for Pakistani agricultural products in international markets. Despite the potential for growth, several challenges must be addressed to harness Pakistan's agriculture sector fully. Pakistan faces significant water scarcity issues, impacting agricultural productivity and sustainability. Erratic weather patterns and climate change pose risks to crop yields and agricultural production. Inadequate infrastructure, particularly in rural areas, hinders the efficient movement of agricultural products. Inconsistent policies, bureaucratic hurdles, and governance issues affect the business environment for agriculture. The Government of Pakistan recognizes the pivotal role of agriculture in economic development and has launched several initiatives to support the sector. Providing subsidies on inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides to reduce production costs for farmers. Investing in agricultural research, extension services, and technology transfer to promote innovation and productivity.

We all know that Pakistan is a country with rich agricultural heritage, but it faces economic challenges that have intensified in recent years. Amidst these challenges lies a significant opportunity leveraging agriculture exports to rejuvenate and stabilize the economy. Today we will discuss the potential and challenges of Pakistan's agriculture sector as a key driver for economic growth through increased exports. The Foundation of Pakistan's Agriculture Sector was based on old agricultural methods and techniques which is also an important reason of low average production of crops. Pakistan's agriculture sector forms the backbone of its economy, employing a large portion of the workforce and contributing significantly to GDP. The sector is diverse, encompassing crops, livestock, fisheries and forestry. Major crops include wheat, rice, cotton, sugarcane and fruits such as mangoes and citrus. Livestock products, including meat and dairy, are also vital contributors to agricultural output. Despite its inherent potential, the agriculture sector in Pakistan faces numerous challenges that hinder its growth and



Russia says intercepted US bomber planes 'approaching' its border in Arctic



MOSCOW
Russia on Sunday said two US bomber planes had approached its border in the Arctic and that it had scrambled fighter jets to make them turn away. Moscow has previously accused the United States of making reconnaissance drone flights over neutral waters in the Black Sea to help Ukraine, and has said it could lead to "direct confrontation" between Russia and NATO.

Russia said Sunday that it scrambled fighter jets to prevent two US strategic bomber planes from crossing its border over the Barents Sea in the Arctic.

US presidential elections: Kamala Harris eyes America's last glass ceiling



WASHINGTON
After Joe Biden announced his exit from the US presidential election race on Sunday, Vice President Kamala Harris is gearing up to win the Democratic nomination for the November election. Harris aims to secure a historic victory by defeating Donald Trump. However, the Democratic Party faces a significant gamble, as Harris's candidacy will confront challenges of sexism, racism, and a mixed political record.

For years Kamala Harris faced criticism that she was not up to the job of being a heartbeat away from the US presidency.



Israel's latest airstrikes in Gaza Dies at least 15 including children

Israeli airstrikes killed at least 15 people including women and children overnight in Gaza.

GAZA
Israeli airstrikes killed at least 15 people including women and children overnight in Gaza, according to hospital officials and a body count by an Associated Press journalist.

The latest strikes occurred as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu prepared to leave Monday for the United States, where he is expected to meet with President Joe Biden and address Congress to make his case for the nine-month war against Hamas while cease-fire negotiations continue.

The already precarious humanitarian conditions inside besieged Gaza have worsened with the discovery of the polio virus as water and sanitation services have suffered for the territory's population of 2.3 million, most of it displaced. Traces of the virus were found in sewage samples in Gaza. The World Health Organization has said no one has been treated for symptoms caused by infection.

Israel's military said soldiers would be vaccinated, and it would work with organizations to bring in vaccines for Palestinians.

Israel's latest airstrikes were in the Bureij refugee camp in central Gaza, where nine people including two children were killed, and the southern city of Khan Younis.

Bangladesh calm a day after top court scrapped some job quotas

DHAKA (Reuters)—Bangladesh appeared calm on Monday amid a curfew, but widespread disruption of telecoms prevailed a day after the Supreme Court scrapped some quotas for government jobs that sparked protests this month that killed scores.

Clashes between protesters and security forces killed at least 139 people across the South Asian nation after the high court last month reinstated job reservations removed by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's government in 2018.

On Sunday, however, the Supreme Court ordered that 93% of government jobs should be allocated on the basis of merit, against earlier quotas of 56% for groups such as families of freedom fighters, women, and people from underdeveloped areas.



There were no reports of violence or protests on Monday morning and media said curfew would be relaxed for three hours in the afternoon, extended from two hours the previous day, so that people could buy essentials.

Student protesters have said they plan to continue demonstrations, however, until the release of detained protest leaders, and have demanded the government lift the curfew and re-open universities shut since Wednesday. They have set a 48-hour deadline for the government to act on the demands.

Last week's protests saw thousands injured as security forces fired tear gas, rubber bullets, and sound grenades to scatter the demonstrators.

Hezbollah says fires rockets, drones at Israel



BEIRUT (Lebanon)
Lebanon's Hezbollah said it fired Katyusha rockets and drones at Israel after strikes which the Israeli army said targeted Hezbollah weapons storage facilities.

Hezbollah has traded near-daily cross-border fire with Israeli forces in support of Hamas since the Palestinian militant group's October 7 attack on southern Israel triggered war in the Gaza Strip. Six people were wounded in the overnight Israeli strike, according to the official Lebanese National News Agency.

In retaliation, Iran-backed Hezbollah, an ally of Hamas, said in separate statements that on Sunday it targeted two Israeli military positions in northern Israel with Katyusha rockets and drones.

An earlier statement by the group had said its fighters also struck the Dafna area with Katyusha rockets "in response to the Israeli enemy's attacks that targeted civilians in the town of Adlun, injuring several of them".

Israel's military had said its air force "struck two Hezbollah weapons storage facilities in southern Lebanon, containing rockets and additional weaponry" overnight Saturday to Sunday.

Hezbollah on Sunday also said that three of its fighters had been killed in southern Lebanon.

The Lebanese army also reported that two of its soldiers were wounded "moderately" on Sunday when Israeli fire hit a watchtower in the south of the country.

The violence since October has killed at least 518 people in Lebanon, according to an AFP tally. Most of the dead have been fighters, but they have included at least 104 civilians.

On the Israeli side, 18 soldiers and 13 civilians have been killed, according to Israeli authorities.

Sports & Showbiz



Pakistan's Asim Khan wins Jones Creek Open Squash



Sports Desk
Pakistani squash player Asim Khan emerged victorious at the Jones Creek Open Squash Championship held in the USA.

The final, which offered a prize money of 12 thousand dollars, saw Asim Khan defeating his fellow countryman Ahsab Irfan by 1-3.

The final match in Johns Creek, Georgia, was a thrilling all-Pakistani affair. Asim Khan, currently ranked World No. 73 and Pakistan's top squash player, made a remarkable comeback after losing the first game to secure victory against Ahsab Irfan.

The second-seeded Asim triumphed over third-seeded Ahsab with scores of 11-7, 7-11, 4-11, and 4-11. This victory marks Asim Khan's third PSA title of the year and the 10th of his career. Earlier in 2024, Asim had already clinched two titles, winning the Wild Card Challenger in Washington and the Squash Inspire Challenger in March.

His consistent performance has further solidified his position as a leading figure in the squash world.

The all-Pakistani final at the Jones Creek Open highlights the growing prowess of Pakistani players on the international squash stage.

Pakistani talent bags medals at International Maths Olympiad



ISLAMABAD:
Students from Pakistan shined bright at the 65th International Mathematics Olympiad (IMO) 2024 as they secured silver and bronze medals at the global competition.

According to the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC), the competition was held from July 11 to 22, in Bath, United Kingdom.

Razi Hasan Mansoor, a student from Karachi, claimed the silver medal, while Muhammad Ahmad Bhatti of Karachi School won the bronze medal.

Additionally, Muhammad Mehdi Arif of Lahore's Sundus School bagged "Honorable Mention" for Pakistan at the international event.

This success follows closely on the heels of another achievement, with two Pakistani students clinching bronze medals at the International Biology Olympiad in Astana, Kazakhstan.

The Pakistani team participated in the Olympiad under the auspices of the STEM Career Program, a joint program of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan and the Pakistan Institute of Engineering and Applied Sciences (PIEAS) University.

The mathematics team was trained at Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS) University, Lahore Campus and was mentored by Prof. Dr. Sarfaraz Ahmed and Dr. Hani Shakir.

Under the auspices of the PAEC, PIEAS University conducts National Science Talent Competition every year in four subjects: Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Biology.

In the competition held in 19 cities across Pakistan, selected students are sent to participate in the International Olympiad under the Stamp Career Program.

Internationally, the American, Chinese and South Korean teams were winners.

India's Olympiad total score of 167 ranks fourth, just one notch behind third-place of South Korea. The total score of the US's winning team is 192.

All 609 students in Olympiad including 528 males and 81 females participated in IMO 2024 in which 108 countries participated.

Indian team's Aditya Mangodi's performance ranked him fifth — the best performance so far by any member of the Indian team.

Speaking to international media, the winning team said that the IMO "provided them with an opportunity to meet past medal winners, experts and their peers from over a hundred countries."

In the Indian team, Mangodi, Ananda Bhadruri, Guwahati Talwar, Rasil Mathur from Mumbai won gold medals.

Actress, former Miss Teen Esta TerBlanche dies



(Web Desk) - 'All My Children' star Esta TerBlanche has died, her manager confirmed to PEOPLE.

"We are deeply saddened by this news," her manager Annie Spoliansky said in a statement to PEOPLE. "As for a personal statement, I'd like to say that Esta was such a kind, loving, giving, and caring person."

"She cared so deeply for all people and animals," she added. "Her two cats and recent kittens that she cared for as her own children."

"Esta was never anything but generous and lovely to me, and I'm grateful to have known her for the time that I did, and devastated to learn of her passing," her statement concluded. The cause of the South African actress' death is unknown.

Five-wicket Bashir excites Stokes as England seal West Indies series

Ben Stokes said Shoaib Bashir "showed the world" he belonged in international cricket after the 20-year-old off-spinner bowled England to a series-clinching victory over the West Indies in the second Test at Trent Bridge.

Bashir took 5-41 as the West Indies collapsed to 143 all out on the fourth evening, with England triumphing by 241 runs to take an unassailable 2-0 lead in a three-match campaign.

It was Bashir's third five-wicket haul in five Test visits but first in England after he twice achieved the feat on spin-friendly Indian pitches earlier this year.

His latest exploits were all the more impressive given Bashir did not bowl a single ball and was out for a duck during England's innings and 114-run thrashing of the West Indies in the first Test at Lord's.

Bashir removed Kirk McKenzie, Kavem Hodge and Alick Athanaze -- all top-order batsmen -- in quick succession before bowling Jason Holder an last man Shamaz Joseph as West Indies, set 385 to win, slumped to 143 all out.

"Pretty cool. 'I think what Bash has done today is to show the world what he can do," said England captain Stokes.

"That wicket hardly offered anything for a spinner throughout the whole Test match and look at what he was able to do today."

