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No one holds a candle to PTI in politics, says Barrister Saif



PESHAWAR
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Advisor Barrister Saif said on Monday that no one could compete the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) in political arena.
Mr. Saif stated that the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) government wanted to keep the PTI in trouble. He claimed that the KP government had resolved the matter in Bannu while taking potshots at federal ministers Atta Tarar and Amir Muqam by saying that the duo held the PTI responsible for the turmoil in Bannu.

"People who aim to gain political mileage are trying to worsen the situation. No one can compete us politically. We can defeat them in an hour. We haven't sent any message to anyone. I reject the accusations that we are working against the state," he asserted.

He blamed the government for building barriers between the PTI and the establishment, recalling the woes of being denied a level playing-field during the elections.

Arshad Sharif murder case: matter handed over to SC's three-member committee



SOON TIMES CORRESPONDENT ISLAMABAD
The matter related to formation of a larger bench on suo-motu case for investigation of Arshad Sharif murder has been handed over to the Supreme Court's three members committee.

The apex court's three-member bench heard the suo motu case for investigation of Arshad Sharif murder. Justice Naureen Akhtar Afghani, Justice Mansoor Ali Shah and Justice Shahid Bilal Hassan were members of the bench.

During the hearing, Justice Mansoor Ali Shah remarked that this matter wasn't presented before the bench.

The Attorney General responded to the court that interim reports have been presented to the court.

The Attorney General contended that a document for joint legal assistance has been devised and it will be approved in the next session of cabinet.

K-2 mission: Pakistan Army rescues six climbers



SOON TIMES CORRESPONDENT RAWALPINDI

A team of Pakistan Army has rescued six foreign climbers scaling K-2.

The Pakistan Army has rescued six climbers belonging to America, Chile, Macedonia and Nepal through helicopter.

Climbers were present in K-2 base camp to scale K-2 mountain. Climbers suffered from high altitude sickness in K-2 base camp during campaigning. Climbers contacted the Pakistan Army for rescuing them and the force responded swiftly.

The Pakistan Army rescued climbers and shifted them to Skardu hospital.

Climbers paid gratitude to the Pakistan Army for rescuing them.

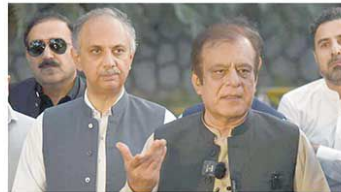
CM Maryam, British High Commissioner vow to cooperate in various sectors

Maryam Nawaz welcomes the British companies' investment in solar project



SOON TIMES CORRESPONDENT LAHORE
Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz and British High Commissioner in Pakistan Jane Marriott held a meeting and vowed to strengthen bilateral ties.
Both sides agreed to boost cooperation in health, education and other sectors, during the meeting.
Punjab CM informed the British High Commissioner about Punjab's first Women Virtual Police Station and Child Safety Virtual Centre.
Maryam Nawaz stated that concrete measures have been taken for the safety and security of women and children.
She also highlighted the solarisation project to provide economic relief to citizens through solar panels in Punjab kicking off from August 14.
Punjab CM was ready to welcome British companies for investment in the solar project. She emphasised that the bidding process for solar projects would be transparent and merit based.
Maryam Nawaz also highlighted her government's efforts for mitigation of environmental pollution. She also shared her vision of making Punjab, the biggest digital hub of South Asia.
British High Commissioner commended the Punjab Sikh Marriage Act and Child Marriage Bill.
Jane Marriott also hailed Punjab government measures for minorities' protection, children and women safety initiatives.
Maryam Nawaz also lauded the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office's (FCDO) welfare and development projects in Punjab.
Senator Pervez Rasheed, Senior provincial Minister Maryam Aurangzeb, Additional Secretary Sara Hayat and others also attended the meeting.

PTI leaders' bail confirmed in judicial complex vandalism case



SOON TIMES CORRESPONDENT ISLAMABAD
Islamabad's anti-terrorism court (ATC) has confirmed the bail of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leaders including Omar Ayub, Shibli Faraz and others in a judicial complex vandalism case.
ATC judge Tahir Abbas Sipra heard the judicial complex vandalism case.
PTI lawyer Babar Awan and other lawyers appeared before the court. PTI leaders Omar

Ayub, Shibli Faraz, Amjad Niazi, Ali Nawaz Awan and others appeared before the court.
Counsel Babar Awan requested the court to issue judgement on bail pleas of accused who appeared in the court today as some couldn't appear.
Judge Tahir Abbas inquired about the accused in the case, Ali Amin Gandapur's whereabouts.
During the case hearing, Ali Amin Gandapur's lawyer Raja Zahoor informed the court that Ali Amin Gandapur was busy in Kurram due to law and order situation therefore his exemption from appearance has been filed.
Lawyer Babar Awan informed the court that Omar Ayub was due to appear before a JIF in Lahore.
Judge Tahir Sipra remarked that all accused were gathered and pleas would be dismissed and verdict on them would be issued simultaneously.

Physical remand of Imran Khan, Bushra Bibi extended in new Toshakhana reference



SOON TIMES CORRESPONDENT RAWALPINDI
The physical remand of PTI founder Imran Khan and his spouse Bushra Bibi was extended in new Toshakhana reference.
According to details, the physical remand was extended for 10 days and both the suspects would be produced with the investigation report on Aug 8.
An Accountability Court judge Muhammad Ali Warraich gave the remand of 10 days during the jail trial of the suspects.
Imran Khan and Bushra Bibi were arrested in a NAB Toshakhana reference, hours after their acquittal in the Iddah nikah case earlier this month.
According to the NAB inquiry report, the PTI founder is accused of taking and selling seven precious watches which include Rolex, diamonds, and gold watches. The gifts were sold without taking ownership as per the law.
Imran Khan and his wife were arrested for not cooperating in the inquiry.

Govt to deal hate-mongers with an iron fist, warn federal ministers

Khawaja Asif and Ahsan Iqbal says misguided elements are targeting CJP Faez Isa



SOON TIMES CORRESPONDENT ISLAMABAD
Federal Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif on Monday warned that attempts of bloodletting were being made on the pretext of religion.
He was speaking at a press conference alongside Federal Minister for Development Ahsan Iqbal.
Referring to the ongoing campaign against Chief Justice of Pakistan Quazi Faez Isa, the defence minister said that few misguided people were targeting the CJP for a recent SC verdict which, he said, had nothing to do with the CJP.
He cautioned that the state would swing into action if the campaign against the CJP continued unabated.
In a thinly-veiled reference to a religious-political party, he said few elements were missing the religion for their petty political gains, stressing that true face of Islam should be shown to the public instead of threatening or killing people in the name of religion.
"The state will not accept any turmoil on the basis of religion and will take action according to the law and constitution," he warned.
Sharing his viewpoint at the presser, Minister Ahsan Iqbal recalled that a political party was created to foment chaos in 2018.

Govt should not keep agreements with IPPs under wraps, insists Hafiz Naeem

Ji chief blames govt for oppression against women workers in Lahore. Demands withdrawal of some perks and privileges from civil servants

SOON TIMES CORRESPONDENT RAWALPINDI
Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Emir Hafiz Naeemur Rehman on Monday demanded that the government make "illegal" agreements with the Independent Power Producers (IPPs) public.
Addressing the participants in the JI sit-in which entered the fourth day, he slammed the government for the exorbitant power bills leading to suicides.
He lauded the participants for creating a history by coming in droves and showing immense courage to weather all storms during the sit-in.
He claimed that no other party could become the true representative of 250



million people of Pakistan, except the JI. Naeem criticised the government for creating hurdles for the JI women workers in Lahore, adding that it spoke of the government's cowardice.
Taking the government to task over capacity payments to the IPPs, the JI Emir said people were not supposed to pay the taxes and the power bills, adding that "we have put across our demand to lift the capacity charges on electricity bills." He also asked the government to conduct audit of all IPPs, adding that Rs2.60 billion circular debt had taken a huge toll on people's lives.
He also demanded the government to take back facilities of fuel and electricity from the civil servants, lamenting that civil servants used 1300cc cars which was just limited to using 1000cc cars in former premier Junejo's time.
Speaking about the petrol prices, he called for removing petroleum levy and adjusting petroleum products' prices accordingly.

Monsoon Rains-wind, thundershowers

National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) on Monday issued an advisory highlighting that monsoon currents from Bay of Bengal are likely to penetrate central and southern parts of the country from July 27th and likely to remain till August 3rd whereas under its influence heavy to hefty rainfall is expected in upper catchment areas of western and eastern rivers of country from July 28th to August 4th. "Flash flooding is expected in Northeastern parts of Punjab including Deg, Basemter and Bein nullahs of River Ravi, Aik & Palku areas in catchment of Chenab as well as Neelum Valley, Muzafarabad,

Rawalkot, Poonch, Hattian, Bagh, Haveli, Sudhanoti, Kotli, Bhimber of AJ&K while Mardan, Swat, Dir, Kohistan, Shangla and Malakand of Upper KP province," the NDMA said.

Low to Medium level flow is expected in rivers Jhelum Upstream of Mangla, Kabul, and its tributaries, Chenab at Marala, Khanki, and Qadirabad*. Low to medium-level flows are expected in the River Indus at Tarbela and hill torrents of DG Khan division, and increased flows are expected in the Nullahs of Zhob. Urban flooding is expected in Northern & Northeastern parts of Punjab i.e

Lahore, Faisalabad, Sialkot, Narowal, Gujranwala, Sargodha, Gujrat, Rawalpindi/Islamabad, and surrounding areas while southern parts of Sindh including Hyderabad, Jamshoro, Sanghar, S. Benazirabad, and Karachi* also face urban flooding during forecasted period. NDMA has issued instructions to all relevant departments to take necessary precautions to mitigate the possible effects of flooding and extreme weather. Flash floods can strike suddenly, catching people off guard. Population at risk is advised to avoid flood waters and find a safe location away from flood-

prone areas. Even a mere six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet, and just one foot of moving water can sweep away a vehicle. Bridges can be hazardous during floods. Avoid crossing them if water is flowing rapidly. Avoid staying in weak structures. In case of intense rain, seek shelter in safe places such as schools, government buildings, or any concrete buildings. NDMA has launched the Pak NDMA Disaster Alert application, available on Google Play Store and iOS App Store, to provide timely alerts, advisories, and guidelines to the public.

Gilgit Baltistan's Health Coundrum:

Muhammad Junaid

Despite being a major tourist destination, Skardu city faces significant health challenges that impact both the tourism industry and the overall health statistics of the region. Skardu, one of the largest districts in Gilgit-Baltistan, is served by a single Regional Headquarter Hospital (RHQ). This hospital also provides healthcare facility for residents from other districts of the Baltistan division, leading to a constant struggle to provide adequate services to patients from remote areas. What are the underlying reasons for this situation? The reasons for this situation are numerous, including a shortage of doctors and their frequent unavailability, a lack of trained paramedical staff and their unprofessional attitudes towards patients, insufficient laboratory facilities, and the absence of state-of-the-art medical equipment and machinery. Due to these deficiencies at the number of government hospital, the only government hospital in Skardu city is rapidly increasing. These private hospitals offer necessary services but at a high cost, making them inaccessible to poor patients. If private hospitals can provide such facilities, why can't the government do the same? People who can afford to travel to bigger cities like Gilgit and Skardu for medical treatment often overcrowd the outpatient clinics and emergency rooms. These facilities have few specialist doctors and limited treatment options. As a result, patients often have to travel further to major cities in the south for better care. Many people, especially those living in remote towns and villages near areas like K2 and Siachen, can't access or afford these tertiary care hospitals. They are left to rely on fater suffer in silence.

Since doctors are rarely available, only a small number of laboratory investigations are being conducted, there is a severe shortage of trained laboratory and operating theater technicians as well as trained nursing staff, and no basic medicines are available, the DIQs, THQs, BHUs, and dispensaries provide very little benefit to the community. Life-saving medications are scarce at accident and emergency rooms, which are in a terrible shape. Even the emergency room is lacking a wheelchair, which is a need, and the necessary medications, which should be available at the emergency department, must be

provided at a nearby pharmacy. Standard operational procedures for hospital laundry collection, disposal, and segregation are lacking in hospital setups. Furthermore, there is hardly any hospital waste management policy. There are also serious problems with water supply shortages in some hospitals, which makes it very difficult to provide basic hygiene and maintain hospital cleanliness and patient care. Winter is hard; patients trickle into hospitals and other facilities constantly, but there isn't a well-managed, 24-hour heating system available for adult and pediatric ward patients, as well as for caregivers in waiting rooms.

The silver lining in this crisis are the Lady Health Visitors (LHV), Lady Health Workers (LHW), and Dai (Traditional Birth Assistant, TBA), they are the caretakers of maternal and child health at the grass root level. They offer door to door antenatal checkups and assisted home deliveries. Despite of this there are many reported cases of complications during labor and delivery such as obstructed labor and postpartum hemorrhage, due to the unskilled management of patients by untrained health workers and TBAs. International NGOs, donor organizations, and public-private collaborative projects have frequently made donations to health facilities, providing laboratory equipment, examination apparatus, dental chairs, examination couches, and other essential hospital items. However, it is crucial to use these donations properly; otherwise, they risk being wasted, as has happened in the past due to misuse or neglect. It is frequently asserted that the unfortunate state of health facilities is solely the result of a lack of funding; however, it would not be incorrect to assume that, if used wisely and honestly, the funds available or allocated to the respective health departments are adequate commensurate with the population load. However, it is equally important to emphasize how crucial physicians are to enhancing the state of healthcare in this challenging location. Most doctors are extremely hesitant to travel to remote, inhospitable areas that are hard to reach from the rest of the nation and lack appealing facilities in order to provide medical care. These medical professionals should assiduously acknowledge their obligation to provide their services to their own people. Unfortunately, despite recent efforts by the Gilgit-Baltistan government to lure doctors with a financial incentive package, the death of doctors continues. In order to

address this at an early stage, medical education must be restructured to significantly include the aspects of primary and secondary health care and their unmatched importance in enhancing health indicators; this will define the core responsibilities of social physicians and public health specialists for medical students. The supply and delivery of life-saving medications should also be guaranteed to every healthcare facility in GB, and the medicine supply chain should be managed and maintained extremely carefully.

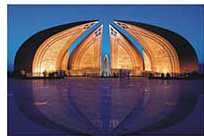
In order to provide healthcare in a more professional manner and lower the likelihood of complications during labor and delivery for both mother and child, LHVs, LHWs, dais, and other paramedical staff also require refresher trainings and knowledge of the most recent guidelines regarding maternal, neonatal, and child health care. Last but not least, a creative health care model that updates the infrastructure, trains medical staff effectively, and equips healthcare institutions to manage fundamental medical emergencies should be developed and put into practice. Overcoming all of this should be wise leadership and insightful management, whose critical function in the efficient implementation, management, and redesign of the present health program cannot be overstated. It is depressing to witness the average person denied access to basic healthcare facilities, while developed countries, like the United States, have championed the provision of affordable and high-quality healthcare by instituting universal health-care coverage plans and have made access to cutting-edge healthcare the primary indicator of their rapidly expanding economies. However, we have made the decision to overlook the dire circumstances facing our healthcare system and the suffering of those who are less fortunate than us. Health represents one of the lowest spending categories in Pakistan, accounting for 0.9% of the country's GDP when including provincial and federal levels combined. This small figure clearly illustrates the government's indifference and disregard for healthcare. Private hospitals are largely used by the wealthy, leaving the impoverished to suffer in quiet and finally vanish from view. The state of government hospitals around the country is terrible.

The Story Behind the Pakistan Monument & History of Islamabad City.



Iftikhar Uddin Anjum

Islamabad, the capital city of Pakistan, is known for its modern infrastructure, scenic beauty and strategic significance. Unlike many cities with ancient roots, Islamabad's history as a city is relatively recent, though the region itself has a rich historical backdrop. Do you know history of its evolution of Islamabad, from its pre-independence background to its development as Pakistan's capital, highlighting the key events and factors that shaped its growth? Before the creation of Islamabad, the region was largely rural, with small villages and agricultural land. The area that now forms Islamabad has historical significance dating back to ancient civilizations. It is believed that the region was part of the Gandhara civilization, with Taxila, an important center of learning in ancient times, located nearby. Archaeological excavations in and around Islamabad have revealed artifacts and remains from these early civilizations, indicating the area's historical importance. After gaining independence in 1947, Pakistan initially chose Karachi as its capital. However, by the late 1950s, several challenges associated with Karachi led to the decision to establish a new capital. These challenges included Karachi's location in the far south, making it geographically distant from many parts of the country, and its vulnerability to sea-based threats. Additionally, the growing population and commercial activities in Karachi created congestion and administrative difficulties. In 1958, Late Ex President Ayub Khan decided that a new, purpose-built capital was necessary for effective governance and strategic reasons. The goal was to find a location that was centrally located, easily accessible, and secure. After considering various options, the current site of Islamabad was chosen, primarily due to its moderate climate, scenic beauty, and proximity to the Rawalpindi district, which could serve as a temporary administrative center during the city's construction. The master plan for Islamabad was developed by the Greek architect and town planner, Constantinos Apostolou Doxiadis, in 1960. Doxiadis envisioned a city that would combine modern architecture with natural landscapes, ensuring a balance between urban development and environmental preservation. The plan was designed to accommodate the administrative functions of the capital while providing a high quality of life for its residents. The city was divided into different zones, each serving a specific purpose. These zones included administrative, diplomatic, residential, commercial, and educational sectors. The layout was meticulously planned, with wide roads, green spaces and modern infrastructure. The construction of Islamabad began in the early 1960s, with significant progress made by the mid-1960s. In 1963, Islamabad was officially declared the capital of Pakistan, and government offices started relocating from Karachi. The transition was gradual, with Rawalpindi serving as the interim capital until the completion of Islamabad's major administrative buildings. The early years of Islamabad's development focused on constructing key infrastructure and



government buildings. The construction of the President's House, the Prime Minister's Secretariat, the National Assembly and the Supreme Court were among the priority projects. Residential areas for government employees and diplomats were also developed during this period. In the 1970s, Islamabad's growth continued with the establishment of educational institutions, healthcare facilities and commercial centers. The city attracted professionals and government officials from across the country, leading to a diverse and vibrant community. The construction of the Faisal Mosque, one of the largest mosques in the world, began in 1976 and was completed in 1986. The mosque, financed by King Faisal of Saudi Arabia, became an iconic symbol of Islamabad. From the 1980s onward, Islamabad experienced significant modernization and expansion. The city's infrastructure was further developed to accommodate the growing population and administrative needs. New residential sectors were planned and constructed, providing housing for an increasing number of residents. The Capital Development Authority (CDA) played a crucial role in overseeing the city's development and ensuring adherence to the master plan. Efforts were made to preserve Islamabad's natural beauty, with green belts, parks, and tree-lined avenues integrated into the urban landscape. The Margalla Hills National Park, located on the city's northern edge, became a popular recreational area for residents and tourists. Islamabad's economic and cultural landscape also evolved over the years. The city became a hub for international diplomacy, hosting numerous embassies and diplomatic missions. The presence of international organizations and non-governmental organizations contributed to the city's cosmopolitan atmosphere. The establishment of educational institutions, such as Quaid-i-Azam University and the Pakistan Institute of Engineering and Applied Sciences (PIEAS), positioned Islamabad as an educational center. The city's cultural scene flourished with the opening of art galleries, theaters and cultural centers. Events such as the Islamabad Literature Festival and various cultural exhibitions became regular features, attracting participants from around the country and abroad. Despite its planned development, Islamabad faces several challenges. Rapid urbanization has put pressure on the city's infrastructure and resources. Traffic congestion, environmental degradation and housing shortages are among the issues that need to be addressed to maintain the city's livability. To tackle these challenges, the CDA and other government bodies have initiated various projects aimed at sustainable development. These include upgrading public transportation, expanding road networks, and implementing green initiatives to preserve the city's environment. The development of new sectors and the improvement of existing ones are ongoing efforts to accommodate Islamabad's growing population. Islamabad's journey from a

rural area to a modern capital city is a testament to Pakistan's vision and ambition. The city stands as a symbol of progress, unity and strategic planning. Its rich history, combined with its contemporary significance, makes Islamabad a unique and important city in Pakistan's narrative. As Islamabad continues to grow and evolve, it remains a focal point of the nation's aspirations, blending modernity with cultural heritage and natural beauty. Perched on the picturesque Shakarparian Hills in Islamabad, the Pakistan Monument stands as a symbol of national unity and a testament to the country's rich history and culture. Its imposing structure and artistic design draw visitors from around the world, eager to understand the essence of Pakistan's journey as a nation. This article delves into the story behind the Pakistan Monument, exploring its conception, design, and the significance it holds for the people of Pakistan. The idea for the Pakistan Monument was conceived in 2001 during the tenure of President Pervez Musharraf. The primary objective was to create a national monument that would represent the four provinces of Pakistan—Punjab, Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Balochistan—as well as the three territories—Gilgit-Baltistan, Azad Kashmir, and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). The monument was envisioned as a symbol of unity, celebrating the diverse cultures and histories that together form the fabric of Pakistan. In addition to its symbolic representation, the Pakistan Monument was intended to serve as a space for public gatherings and national events. It was designed to inspire a sense of pride and patriotism among the citizens, reminding them of the sacrifices made during the struggle for independence and the ongoing efforts to build a prosperous nation. The design of the Pakistan Monument was selected through a national competition, won by the renowned Pakistani architect Arif Masoud. Masoud's design is rich with symbolism, reflecting the nation's aspirations and its historical journey. The monument's structure resembles a blooming flower, with four large petals and three smaller petals encircling a central platform. Each of the four larger petals represents one of the four provinces, while the three smaller petals symbolize the three territories. The petals are crafted from granite and decorated with intricate murals that depict significant events and landmarks in Pakistan's history. These murals, created by a team of skilled artisans, include scenes from the Indus Valley Civilization, the Mughal Empire, and the Pakistan Movement, among others. At the heart of the monument lies a central platform, which houses a bronze sculpture of the crescent and star, the symbols of Pakistan's flag. This central feature underscores the unity and integrity of the nation, bringing together the diverse elements represented by the petals. The construction of the Pakistan Monument began in 2004,

Uniqueness Of Regional News papers In Social Media Frenzy

Today's world is at the peak of speed and change, where a new news emerges every moment. Everyone has a smartphone in their hands. Social media has changed our social system and made access to information easier. But, in these turbulent times, the importance and uniqueness of regional newspapers still remains. Newspapers, which were once a part of our daily life, are still standing on their strong foundations and are proving beneficial to us in various aspects. Interpreting Local Issues: Where major global news is discussed on social media, regional newspapers highlight the issues of our own region. News like water scarcity, poor sanitation, electricity loadshedding, local development projects and local government initiatives reach us through regional

newspapers. These are the problems that directly affect our daily life and their solution is necessary for our betterment. Testimony Of Fact: Social media is full of fake news and rumours. It is often difficult to understand which news is true and which is fake. Regional newspaper news is verified through investigative process. Journalists understand their responsibility to check the facts and convey the correct news to the public. Thus, we trust these newspapers and know that what we are reading is factual. Protecting Language and Culture: Regional newspapers are published not only in Urdu but also in other regional languages. These newspapers keep our local languages and culture alive. Protecting language and culture is an important part of our identity and these newspapers play an important role in this. They keep the

new generation connected with their language and culture and play an important role in their training. Economic Stability: Regional newspapers are an important part of the local economy. It publishes advertisements of local businesses, which helps in the growth of these businesses. Apart from this, these newspapers also create employment opportunities for local people. These newspapers not only help in the development of local businesses but also strengthen the local economy. Means Of Social Communication: Regional newspapers strengthen our social connection. These newspapers provide information on local events, festivals, and other important occasions. This keeps us aware of every news of our area even while living in our social circle.



Commissioner Initiates Rainwater Drainage Operation In Low-Lying Areas Of The City

Soon Times Correspondent
Sargodha: Commissioner and Administrator Municipal Corporation Muhammad Ajmal Bhatti visited the low-lying areas of the city and also checked the disposals. The commissioner reached the houses in the lowlands. Water had entered the houses in the heavy rain. The Commissioner reviewed all the circumstances and issued

the orders. Emergency operation of rainwater drainage has been started in low lying areas. Power is off at some disposal sites but generators are being used. Sucker machines are also being used to drain rainwater from low lying areas. Efforts are being made to improve the situation in all areas by night. These views were expressed by the Commissioner. He added that all the machinery and manpower of the MC are

engaged to provide relief to the people. The citizens were glad to have the commissioner in their midst in the present situation. They said that if the administrative and municipal institutions remain active in the same way, we will get relief soon. CO MC Tariq Paroya and COO WASA Rana Shahid Imran were also accompanied by the commissioner.



DC Appoints Monitoring Officers At 12 Disposals To Ensure The Drainage of Rainwater

Soon Times Correspondent
Sargodha: Deputy Commissioner Captain Retired Aurangzeb Haider Khan went to the field with his entire team as soon as the heavy rain began. He stopped on Monday afternoon and ADCR Mohsin Salahuddin and all Assistant Commissioners got engaged to ensure drainage of rainwater under their supervision till late night. DC appointed monitoring officers at all 12 disposals in the

city and directed that all means be used to ensure drainage of rainwater in less time. Also, lights are being arranged to continue the operation even at night. He asked the citizens to cooperate with the municipal bodies in the prevailing situation. The state is engaged in providing relief to them. He said citizens should stay away from electrical installations and keep children at home to avoid any untoward incident.

No one has right to issue fatwas to kill anybody, says Ata Tarar

● Tarar announced to deal with iron hands who issued fatwa against CJP Isa



Soon Times Correspondent
RAWALPINDI: Federal Minister Information Ata Tarar said that no one has the right to issue fatwas to kill anybody. Talking to the media along with PML-N leader Hanif Abbasi and religious scholars he said that there are political motives behind issuing fatwas adding they will become a wall in the way of those who spread hatred by issuing fatwas. Federal Minister said that if when explanatory statement surfaces, what is

the scope for issuing fatwas for killing? Now this is a work beyond condemnation, he said. Minister Tarar further highlighted the role played by his elders and Justice Qazi Faiz Isa's father, a colleague of Quaid-e-Azam, and his grandfather who provided services for Muslims. He said that it is the responsibility of the state to implement the law and that an FIR has also been registered on what has been done. He said that there is no room in our society to make such announcements for

political purposes. Ata Tarar said that everyone has the right to talk about Islam not only one group of society. He announced to deal with the one who made the statement about the Chief Justice with iron hands. Hanif Abbasi on the occasion said that they and their children are ready to die in the name of the holy prophet. Anarchy will not be allowed to spread in Pakistan. He blamed that some have been trying to topple the government and use whatever tool they can for it. Hanif Abbasi said that whoever gave this fatwa does not have this right. The enforcement agencies should arrest such people and bring them to justice. The Chief Justice is being targeted by using social media and everyone is joining it for personal purposes. I am very grateful to our scholars who guided us. If the Chief Justice can be accused, who has a whole history, then they can also be accused, Abbasi said. He said that Israel is the enemy. He said that a resolution was passed for a political party in a country.

A Large Number Of Devotees Attend Funeral Prayer Of Hamidi's Mother

Soon Times Correspondent
Novshela Soon Sakas: Sajida Nishin Astana Aliya Makan Sharif Sahibzada Muhammad Hamid Aziz Hamidi's mother and Sahibzada Aziz

Hasan Hamidi, Sahibzada Hamidul Hasan Hamidi's grandfather has passed away. Her funeral prayer was attended by people of every school of thought, representatives of political and social organizations, lawyers,

doctors and journalists, among other followers and devotees in large numbers. Khatame Qul Sharif will be held tomorrow on July 31 at 11 am in Astana Aliya Makan Sharif for the recompense of the deceased.

Imran Khan once again admits to calling for 'peaceful' GHQ protest

● Says he instructed party to hold a peaceful protest outside GHQ and cantonments if army and Rangers arrested him

Soon Times Correspondent
Islamabad: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founding chairman, Imran Khan, has confirmed and clarified his call for a protest outside the General Headquarters (GHQ) during an informal conversation with journalists at Adina Jail on Monday. Khan stood by his statement about calling for a peaceful protest outside GHQ prior to the events of May 9. He stated, "My statement about the protest outside GHQ was presented as if I confessed or committed a crime on May 9. I made three vlogs and mentioned it 12 times in police investigations."



He alleged that there were plans to kill him outside the Judicial Complex on March 18, with evidence in his possession. "I instructed the party to hold a peaceful

protest outside GHQ and cantonments if the army and Rangers arrested me," Khan added. When questioned about the violence on May 9, Khan responded, "The protest wasn't peaceful because it was pre-planned. CCTV footage is not being released because our people are not in it, and it would prove our innocence." Khan announced his intention to go to court over the missing CCTV footage and to file a case against the Rangers for his alleged abduction from the High Court premises. He questioned who ordered the Rangers to arrest him and who commanded the attack

Solider martyred, 16 injured as violent mob attacks security forces in Gwadar

RAWALPINDI
Web Desk: A soldier was martyred and 16 others suffered injuries after a violent mob in garb of so called Baloch Raji Muchi assaulted security forces employed for security duties in Gwadar on Monday. The Inter Services Public Relations in a statement said: Sargay Shabbir Baloch embraced martyrdom in the attack.



"In addition, the unprovoked assaults by the violent protesters have resulted in injuries to sixteen soldiers including an officer. While on the other hand, fake and malicious propaganda is being spread on social media using doctored pictures and videos by the propagandists to gain sympathy and support for the unlawful violent march," ISPR said. Security forces have displayed extreme

restraint to avoid unwarranted civilian casualties despite provocations. The violent actions of the mob are unacceptable and those responsible will be brought to justice. All citizens are urged not to fall prey to the propaganda, remain calm and peaceful, and to cooperate with law enforcement agencies in maintaining public safety and order.

TLP top leader 'arrested' from Okara for issuing threats to CJP

● Pir Zaheer Hasan faces charges of causing public disorder, intimidating judiciary, and obstructing legal functions

Soon Times Correspondent
Islamabad: Police have arrested the Deputy Amir of Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP), Pir Zaheer Hassan Shah, for issuing threats to the Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa. Sources revealed that Shah was apprehended in Okara, where he had been hiding at an undisclosed location. Earlier, an FIR had been registered against Shah for issuing death threats to CJP Isa. The case was filed at the Qila Gujjar Singh police station by SHO Hamid Hussain. The charges against Shah include sections of the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA), inciting religious hatred, causing public disorder, intimidating the judiciary, obstructing the judiciary, interfering in official duties, and obstructing legal functions. According to the FIR, during a protest



outside the Press Club, Pir Zaheer Hassan Shah incited hatred against the judiciary and announced a reward of PKR 10 million for anyone who brings the head of Justice Faez Isa. The FIR also includes charges against 1,500 TLP workers. In response, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif stated that strict action would be taken against those issuing death threats to

the Chief Justice, emphasizing that the state will not tolerate such fatwas. During the press conference, Asif condemned the inflammatory remarks made against CJ Isa and highlighted attempts on social media to incite the public to commit murder. He warned that permitting such rhetoric could lead to the disintegration of the state's structure. The Defence Minister pointed out that there are efforts to incite violence in the name of religion, with CJ Isa being targeted through various pretexts. The minister reiterated that the state would not accept any group dictating terms, emphasizing the importance of upholding the rule of law and justice in the country.

INVITATION FOR BIDS

(1/24) Dated: 24 July 2024
The District Police Officer, Sargodha invites sealed tenders (Frame Work Contract) based on the Punjab Procurement Rules-2014 (amended upto date) from well reputed firms, registered with income tax and sales tax department for purchasing/repairing of following miscellaneous items for the financial year 2024-25. The estimated cost of the tender would be as per following estimates:-

S. NO.	HEAD OF ACCOUNT	ESTIMATED COST (M)	BID SECURITY
1	Hot & Cold Weather Charges	1 (M)	2% of estimated cost.
2	Lubricant	15(M)	2% of estimated cost.
3	Stationary	6(M)	2% of estimated cost.
4	Printing Charges	5(M)	2% of estimated cost.
5	Cost of Other Store	2(M)	2% of estimated cost.
6	Computer Stationery	5(M)	2% of estimated cost.
7	Others Items	10(M)	2% of estimated cost.
8	Feeding charges	7(M)	2% of estimated cost.
9	Bed & Boxes	1(M)	2% of estimated cost.
10	Sport Funds	1(M)	2% of estimated cost.

- Bidding process shall be conducted through e-procurement procedure (Single Stage-two Envelope) and as specified in the Punjab Procurement Rules PPR-2014 (amended upto date).
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain bidding documents and further information through online e-procurement system (punjab.procure.gov.pk).
- Requisite bids for tender (frame work contract) will be uploaded on e-procurement system after having been registered at the system. Bids can be made on or before 12:00 P.M on 15th August, 2024 and must be accompanied by a Bid Security as mentioned above in the form of CDR, Pay Order, Demand Draft, from a Scheduled Bank of Pakistan. Bid security will be collected from the bidders before opening of bids electronically.
- Bids will be opened in the presence of Bidder or bidders' authorized representatives as the case may be, at 12:30 P.M on 15th August, 2024, in the Office of District Police Officer, Sargodha through e-procurement system.
- The bidders are requested to give their best and final prices as no negotiations are expected.
- Taxes will be deducted as per applicable government rules. NTN and Sales Tax registration certificate must be provided.
- For obtaining any further information or clarifications, please contact the number mentioned below.



Erdogan says Turkey might enter Israel to help Palestinians

ANKARA
President Tayyip Erdogan said on Sunday that Turkey might enter Israel as it had done in the past in Libya and Nagorno-Karabakh, though he did not spell out what sort of intervention he was suggesting.
Erdogan, who has been a fierce critic of Israel's offensive in Gaza, started discussing that war during a speech praising his country's defence industry.
"We must be very strong so that Israel can't do these ridiculous things to Palestine. Just like we entered Karabakh, just like we entered Libya, we might do similar to them," Erdogan told a meeting of his ruling AK Party in his hometown of Rize.



Beirut airport cancels flights amid fears of Israeli attack

(Reuters) — Some flights at Beirut airport have been cancelled or delayed, with Lebanon's Middle East Airlines (MEA) saying disruptions to its schedule were related to insurance risks, as tensions escalate between Israel and armed political group Hezbollah.
A rocket strike that killed 12 teenagers and children in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights on Saturday has added to concerns that Israel and the Iran-backed group could engage in a full-scale war. Israel's security cabinet on Sunday authorised the government to respond to the strike. Hezbollah denied any responsibility for the attack, the deadliest in Israel or Israeli-annexed territory since Hamas' Oct. 7 assault sparked the war in Gaza, which has since spread to several fronts.
Lufthansa and Eurowings have cancelled three flights to Beirut scheduled for Monday afternoon, according to the information board at the airport and flight tracking website Flightradar24.



Khamenei officially endorses relative moderate as Iran's president

The offensive has left Gaza in ruins, killed more than 37,400 people

DUBAI (Reuters) — Iran's supreme leader formally endorsed Masoud Pezeshkian as the country's president, after he won an election this month by pledging a pragmatic foreign policy and easing repression at home.
Pezeshkian, a relative moderate who will be sworn in on Tuesday, is taking office at a time of escalating Middle East tensions over the Israel-Hamas conflict in Gaza and Iran-backed Hezbollah in Lebanon.
Iran warned its arch foe Israel on Sunday against what it called any new adventure in Lebanon, after Israeli authorities blamed Hezbollah for a rocket attack on Saturday that hit a football ground in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights killing 12 people, and vowed to inflict a heavy response.
Hezbollah denied any responsibility for the strike.
In a ceremony broadcast live on state television, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei gave his approval for Pezeshkian, and in a speech afterwards, the supreme leader reiterated Iran's longstanding anti-Israel stance.
"The Zionist regime (Israel) is not a state, it is a criminal gang, a bank of killers, and a terrorist band," Khamenei said in his speech, while praising the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas for its resistance against Israel in Gaza.
With the supreme leader calling the shots on all state matters, Pezeshkian is not expected to usher in major shifts on Iran's policies like Tehran's support for militia groups across the region.
The top authority in regional policy is not the president, but the powerful Revolutionary Guards, who answer only to Khamenei.
Pezeshkian's victory lifted hopes of a thaw in Iran's antagonistic relations with the West that might create openings for defusing its nuclear dispute with world powers.

Bangladesh restores internet as students call off job-quota protests

DHAKA
Bangladesh said it had restored internet services as conditions return to normal after students called off protests against reforms to job quotas that killed nearly 150 people this month.
The agitation, which began in universities and colleges last month, flared into nationwide protests that injured thousands as security forces cracked down, leading to curfew, army patrols on the streets and internet suspension to rein in the violence.
"The broadband and mobile internet connectivity has been restored with full functionality by now," the foreign ministry said in a statement on Sunday.
"Other forms of communications, including land-based and mobile telecommunications, were functional through the entire period of unrest and violence."
It added, "The government wishes to assure all international partners that the overall situation is turning back to normal, thanks to the timely and appropriate measures taken by the government and the people."
The United Nations, international rights groups, the US and Britain were among critics of the use of force against protesters while asking Dhaka to uphold the right to peaceful protest.
Rights groups and critics say Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has grown more autocratic during 15 years in power, marked by mass arrests of political opponents and activists, forced disappearances and extrajudicial killings, charges she denies.



Venezuela's Maduro, opposition each claim presidential victory



CARACAS
Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro and his opposition rival Edmundo Gonzalez were each claiming victory in a presidential election on Monday morning, after a vote marked by accusations of underhand tactics and isolated incidents of violence.
The country's electoral authority said just after midnight on Monday that Maduro had won a third term with 51% of the vote, despite multiple exit polls which pointed to an opposition win.
The authority said opposition candidate Gonzalez won 44% of the vote, though the opposition had earlier said it had "reasons to celebrate" and asked supporters to continue monitoring vote counts.
Maduro, appearing at the presidential palace before cheering supporters, said his reelection is a triumph of peace and stability and reiterated his campaign trail assertion that Venezuela's electoral system is transparent.
He will sign a decree on Monday to hold a "great national dialogue," Maduro added.
Fireworks sounded over Caracas, as lit torches formed a brightly-colored image of Maduro in the sky above the presidential palace.
Opposition leader Maria Corina Machado said Gonzalez had won 70% of the vote and that multiple independent exit polls and quick counts decisively showed his victory. "Venezuela has a new president-elect and it is Edmundo Gonzalez. We won and the whole world knows it," she said in a joint statement with Gonzalez.
Gonzalez said he was not calling for supporters to take to the streets or commit any acts of violence.
A poll from Edison Research, known for its polling of US elections, had predicted in an exit poll that Gonzalez would win 65% of the vote, while Maduro would win 31%. Local firm Megalim predicted a 65% vote for Gonzalez and just under 14% for Maduro. US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said the United States had "serious concerns that the result announced does not reflect the will or the votes of the Venezuelan people."

Sports & Showbiz

Swiatek beats Begu, and rain, to start gold quest



PARIS
Poland's Iga Swiatek launched her bid for Olympic gold with a 6-2 7-5 win over battling Romanian Irina-Camelia Begu in the opening round of the singles.
Fifty days after clinching a fourth French Open title, the 23-year-old Swiatek returned to the Parisian clay and showed why she is favourite to add the Olympic crown to her resume.
The opening day of the tennis event was disrupted by heavy rain with thousands of spectators without tickets for the two main show courts left frustrated after queuing to get in. Play will not start until 3pm local time on the non-overset courts, organisers said.
Action began on time under the Court Philippe Chatrier roof, however, and on Court Suzanne Lenglen where Italy's fourth seed Jasmine Paolini, runner-up to Swiatek in the French Open, beat Romania's Ana Bogdan 7-5 6-3. Men's top seed Novak Djokovic, bidding to win his first Olympic gold, takes on Australian Matthew Ebden later while second seed Carlos Alcaraz faces Lebanon's.



Dujardin's shame leaves mentor Hester to rally British Olympic

PARIS
Charlotte Dujardin's withdrawal from whipping a horse repeatedly has heaped the pressure on her mentor Carl Hester who must rally his teammates if Britain are to regain the Olympic team dressage title from 2012. At 57, Hester will be the oldest British rider and competing in his seventh Games — he was once the youngest ever when he rode in the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.
Hester, who gave Dujardin her first job in the sport as a groom in 2007, roundly condemned her actions in a letter.
Dujardin became known as "The Girl on the Dancing Horse", due to her partnership with Hester's horse Valegro, winning double Olympic gold in 2012 followed by another gold and silver in Rio four years later. Now, though, having once told AFP he is sometimes too laid-back and needs a "kick up the bum", he has to reboot the morale of his two teammates ahead of next Tuesday's competition.
He will team up with 2022 world champion Charlotte Fry — the 28-year-old was part of the team which took bronze in Tokyo in 2021 — and Beshy Moody, 44.
Dressage is never short of glamorous surroundings for the riders to perform in but the Paris Games venue will take some beating — the grounds of the Chateau de Versailles, built for Louis XIV, the "Sun King".
"Yes I very much want to be the Sun King," a chuckling Hester told AFP, speaking before the Dujardin revelations.
"Versailles, what a stunning backdrop."
Hester already had a gold postbox to his name on the island of Sark, where he was brought up — all British gold medalists from the London Games in 2012 were given the honour.
It has been quite some journey for Hester to the extent he is to be the subject of a biopic, "Stride".
"It goes up to 2012 and that is very lovely," he said.
"The producers approached me years ago, by the way, it did not just materialise now."

Mahira Khan shares glimpse from sets of film with Fawad Khan



(Web Desk)
Mahira Khan recently posted a video of herself on Instagram dancing and singing along to music from the sets of Neelofar, which also stars Fawad Khan.
The movie, which centres on a writer and a blind woman falling in love, was directed by Ammar Rasso, and it released earlier this year. She captioned her post: "I realised this recently - I don't think anything in the world makes me escape as quickly as music does. I was going through old videos and deleting them, and I realised this.
It's my thing. I like to have my music on. And when I can't resist (which is quite often) I have to get up and dance. Even on days when my heart is breaking or I'm feeling sad... a song can take me somewhere else."

Argentina rally for 3-1 win over Iraq, Spain beat Dominican Republic

PARIS
Web Desk
Argentina earned a 3-1 win over Iraq in Lyon and Spain outclassed the Dominican Republic 3-1 in Bordeaux in the second matchday of the men's Olympic soccer tournament.
Argentina recovered from their chaotic opening losses to Morocco and boosted their chances of reaching the next round as they went top of Group B on goal difference.
Debutants Dominican Republic's first Olympic goal was not enough to stop the Spaniards who scored twice in the second half to clinch a quarter-final spot with their second Group C win.
Argentina opened the scoring after 14 minutes thanks to a Thiago Almada's volley after Julian Alvarez set him up but Iraq captain Yamen Hussein equalised seconds before halftime with a brilliant header.
Substitute Luciano Gondou restored Argentina's lead with a close-range finish before a superb strike by Ezequiel Fernandez six minutes from



time secured all three points for the 2004 and 2008 gold medalists.
Spain dominated from the early stages and went ahead in the 24th minute when Fermin Lopez pounced on a poor clearance by the Dominican goalkeeper to score.
Angel Montes de Oca equalised with a towering header from a corner in the 38th minute but the Dominicans' hopes of a shock suffered a major blow with Edison Azconza's red card for a foul on Pau Cubarsi.