

Anchorperson rearrested in fresh case

LAHORE: Police on Thursday arrested anchorperson Imran Fiaz Khan in a new case after a judicial magistrate discharged him in an FIR of monetary fraud.

Nishtar Town police produced him before the magistrate on expiry of his one-day physical remand and sought his judicial remand. However, Magistrate Kamran Zaher discharged Imran Fiaz in the case.

Earlier, Advocate Mian Ali Ashtar presented arguments on behalf of Imran Fiaz, saying his client was implicated in a bogus case. He said the complainant in the case had been a polling agent for Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz.

The lawyer requested the magistrate to discharge the media person from the case.

The case against Imran Fiaz, who is known for supporting the 'agenda' of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, involves charges of criminal breach of trust.

According to the FIR, he is accused of not returning Rs25 million to complainant Asad Aft, who is owner of Al Rehman Real Estate Center.

Sources said police arrested the anchorperson in a new case to frustrate his release. The police may produce him before a magistrate for remand on Friday (today).

—Staff Reporter



LAHORE: Torn budget copies litter the floor of the Punjab Assembly after the session on Thursday.—White Star / M. Aft

BUDGET 2024-25

Punjab raises health budget by 24pc, earmarks Rs539bn

Rs109bn allocated for free medicines and health insurance

By Asif Chaudhry

LAHORE: The Punjab government has earmarked Rs539.1bn for the health sector for the financial year 2024-25 with a 24pc increase compared to the last budget.

A major chunk of the total budget — Rs55bn — has been allocated for provision of free medicines to the poor and deserving patients in the outpatient departments (OPDs) of the public hospitals and Rs48bn for the Universal Health

Coverage under the health insurance programme in the province.

Of Rs45.35 bn, Rs410.5bn has been proposed for the non-development work 15pc increase and Rs128.6bn for the health sector development schemes, making an increase of 15pc from the previous annual budget.

The government has allocated Rs42.4bn under the head of development schemes for the primary and secondary healthcare sector, 54pc more than the last budgetary allocation.

It has allocated Rs16bn under the head of the revamp programme Phase-I and Rs7.5bn for the Phase-II.

Similarly, Rs80bn have been proposed for the development schemes for the specialised healthcare and medical education department.

According to documents, an amount of Rs1.1bn has been earmarked under the head of the ongoing schemes while Rs6.2bn for the new schemes of all the government teaching institutes of Punjab for the financial year 2024-25.

For the Pakistan Kidney & Liver Institute (PKLI), the provincial government has proposed Rs1bn.

It has allocated Rs4bn each for the revamp of 581 basic health units of south Punjab and 552 of north and central Punjab. The documents say Rs500m have been earmarked for the Integrated, Reproductive Maternal Newborn and Child Health.

The government allocated Rs17m for strengthening of the provincial TB programme, Rs1.8bn for Punjab family planning scheme, Rs2.7bn for National

Health Support Programme, Rs7.3bn for preventive healthcare, Rs1bn for research and development and Rs500m for the Screening Children for Disease scheme.

The Punjab government has also made special allocations of Rs4bn for establishment of Nawaz Sharif Institute of Cancer Treatment and Research Lahore and Rs1bn for Nawaz Sharif Institute of Cardiology Sargodha.

It has also made an allocation of Rs200m for establishment of 100-bed Mother & Child Hospital Multan, Rs1.5bn for construction of Emergency and Trauma Centre at the Jinnah Hospital Lahore.

The government has proposed Rs1.3bn for reconstruction of the Lady Willington Hospital Lahore, Rs200m for the revamp of the Services Hospital Lahore.

Rs64bn allocated for agri sector

Rs30bn earmarked for tubewells' solarisation

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Punjab government on Thursday spent over Rs64 billion for agriculture sector, which included Rs30bn for tubewells, Rs10bn for solarisation of tubewells and Rs75bn for interest-free loans to farmers.

Announcing the provincial budget, the provincial finance minister said that the government allocated Rs64.6bn for the sector, which was 12pc more than the last year's allocation.

The agriculture sector, he said, has been subjected to "tumors and misadventure" over the last few months. That is

why, he said, the government has decided to distribute Rs75bn among 500,000 farmers in the province through the "Kissan Card Scheme," which would mitigate impact of inflation on their cost of production.

The minister said over 7,000 tubewells in the province would be shifted to solar energy to further help the farmers. It would also save the amount to be spent on import of eight million liters of diesel and Rs3 million kilowatt hours of electricity. This, he said, would be in addition to saving environment, which the diesel-run tubewells were polluting.

The Punjab has also been running a

four-year (2021-22 to 2025-25) Agriculture Transformation Plan and would spend Rs13bn on it this year, out of which Rs6bn would be spent on promotion of mechanisation of agriculture for better crops. Besides, he said, quality seed production would cost it Rs1.9bn and privatisation of extension services another Rs1.4b.

Critics, however, believe that two chief ministerial initiatives would be counterproductive. They say that the massive solar initiative (shifting of tubewells and houses up to 100 units on solar energy) will further reduce dependence on national grid and increase burden of capacity payments

on the sector, worsening the circular debt crisis.

Similarly, they say, the Green Tractors, for which a massive amount of Rs30bn has been allocated, will also be counterproductive, arguing that the government and the industry are already in courts over payments of the last such scheme.

Though the details of the current tractor scheme have not been made public, the industry fears it may end up facing old issues. The industry thinks that regular customers stop, or at least delay, purchase when they apply for subsidised agricultural implements, affecting the market.



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Threats to judge from 'intelligence agencies' being probed, LHC told

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab Inspector General of Police (IGP) Usman Arif on Thursday told the Lahore High Court (LHC) that an investigation had been launched into the alleged threats to a judge of an anti-terrorism court (ATC) of Sargodha and his harassment by the intelligence and law enforcement agencies.

The IGP and other police officials appeared before the court following a notice issued on a complaint by District & Sessions Judge Muhammad Abbas, the presiding judge of ATC Sargodha.

Asked about the blockade of roads leading to the ATC Sargodha, the police chief said the security measures had been taken in the wake of the serious threats.

He said a probe had also been initiated into the threats to the special judge.

Chief Justice Malik Shahzad Alam Khan asked the IGP to find out who wanted to meet the judge.

The special judge, in his complaint, alleged that a message was conveyed to him that some officer in the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) wanted to meet him in his chamber.

The chief justice observed that stopping people from going to courts sent a wrong mes-

sage and asked the police chief under what law could lawyers and litigants be prevented from accessing the courts.

The chief justice asked the police how fundamental rights provided by the Constitution could be usurped.

"If excuses are to be made, then the courts should be closed," he said.

The questioned how police had arrested a large number of people in the May 9 events and could not make a single arrest for the attack on the high court.

He said apparently the power was at the authorities' discretion. The chief justice reserved the verdict on the matter.

Justice Abbas also alleged that since his posting at ATC Sargodha, he had been receiving some other oral reports from his family members who were still staying at his previous residence alleged to him as the judge of an anti-corruption court in Bahawalpur that some unidentified persons at night time damaged the Saigas motor installed outside the house.

He said an electricity bill for the previous month with a huge amount had been received by his family, which was apparently a fake and possibly could not be ruled out that the said bill had been sent with the concurrence of Disco concerned by an employee of the intelligence agency.

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Political acrimony overshadows budget discussion in Senate

Aimal Wali deplores increase in defence budget, seeks to abolish lawmakers' perks and privileges; Taj Haider says PPP not taken into confidence on budget

By Hishar A. Khan

ISLAMABAD: Political acrimony overshadowed budget discussion in the Senate with the government and opposition holding each other responsible for the economic woes of the country.

Opening the debate, Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Faraz said the PMU-N and the PPP have been governing the country since 1973 including the terms of military dictators.

He said the PTI and a large majority of people of the country were on the one side, while representatives of the elite and those part of the "illegitimate government" were on the other side.

"They are least concerned about sentiments of the people as they have not been given the mandate by the people and they lack moral strength and legitimacy," the PTI leader said, adding that it was an open secret how they have been brought to power.

He said not a single voice in India was raised about the fairness of the recently-held Lok Sabha elections, adding that over 800 million people cast their votes and there were thousands of polling stations with some polling stations even established for just one voter in a place.

"The entire month-long exercise was conducted with the help of EVMs. Was there a single voice claiming that the election was rigged?" Mr Faraz asked.

He said the budget for the next fiscal year carried no economic vision to steer the country out of the debt trap. He welcomed the enhancement in the minimum wage, but regretted the increase in taxes on the salaried class.

He said the target for revenue was over-ambitious and expressed fears that it would add to fiscal deficit and force the government to obtain more loans.

Mr Faraz said the opposition had tried to blackmail the PTI government at the time of FATF negotiations by seeking to practically legislate corruption.

He said later the PDM government introduced ridiculous amendments to the accountability law that almost legalised the white-collar crime and corruption below Rs200 million.

He said that NAB recovered Rs295 billion from 2000 to 2017 while an amount of Rs426 billion was recovered from 2018 to 2021 when the PTI was in power. He said that political stability and the rule of law were two

essential prerequisites to attract foreign investments.

Participating in the debate, PMU-N parliamentary leader in the Senate, Irfan Siddiqi, asserted there was no crisis in the country as all institutions were working and the parliament was also functioning. He said the courts were functioning and the PTI was getting relief from the judiciary.

He defended the government's taxation measures saying widening the tax base was important to take the country towards self-reliance and economic growth for the welfare of the people.

Mr Siddiqi said the PTI dented the KP government legitimacy as it has won elections from the province, but it alleges rigging and electoral fraud in the rest of the country where it lost.

Awami National Party (ANP) parliamentary leader Senator Aimal Wali Khan deplored 12.6 per cent increase in the defence budget under the given circumstances. "We should be advised. The budget reflects, for whom Pakistan came into being. Gun, tank and atom bombs are our priority," he said.

He pointed out that the country was heavily indebted and there was a proposal to increase the retirement age to save money on pensions. He also referred to the cut in education and health budget. "What has this defence institution done for the country over the last 70 years. No citizen of the country is safe".

He also sought to know details of properties owned by generals of armed forces and wondered when the armed forces have to do with commercial properties.

The ANP leader called for adopting tough austerity measures and said this should start from parliament and that there must be accountability of all.

He said that all the perks and privileges of the senators should be abolished and the same should be done by the national and provincial assemblies. He said Pakistan was created on August 14, but it was not liberated.

PPP leader Senator Taj Haider in his speech said the PPP had not been taken into confidence on the budget.

He requested the finance minister's claim that the budget documents had been prepared under the guidance of senior political leadership, including party chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari.

"It is wrong to associate Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari with such a document that only reports failed policies, having nothing to do with the ground reality," the PPP leader said.

He said the budget would have a different shape if Mr Bhutto-Zardari had given his input on it.

Terming the budget IMF dictated, he said an expression of happiness was being given between the lines that international lender was satisfied with the government and the entire system was going to be reconstructed.

Detention of ex-spy facing espionage charge challenged

By Our Staff Reporter

RAWALPINDI: Justice Saqib Ali Khan of the Lahore High Court (LHC) Rawalpindi bench has questioned the indefinite detention of a former intelligence official by military authorities and sought detailed records of the proceedings against the man, who faces espionage charges.

The inquiry came during the hearing of a petition filed by Saima Hassan, the wife of the detained official, Hassan Bin Aftab.

Ms Hassan, represented by her counsel Imrath Hashim, stated in the petition that her husband, a retired military officer who served for 27 years, had not returned home after leaving for his routine activities on Sept 19, 2023.

She claimed that he was taken into custody under the Official Secrets Act and the Pakistan Army Act.

She stated that "in case of any allegation of violation of the Official Secrets Act, the said Act provides a mechanism for the arrest as well as the trial of the offender", but Mr Aftab had been denied meaningful access to his family and legal counsel and was being kept in illegal custody.

Justice Khan inquired about the date Mr Aftab was taken into custody.

Mr Hashim confirmed that Mr Aftab had been detained since Sept 19 and had not been produced before a magistrate as required by law.

Justice Khan questioned as to why the military authorities could not detain any suspect for an indefinite period.

Additional Attorney General Sajid Iqbal Bharti deflected the military's actions, stating that Mr Aftab, as a military officer, was arrested under relevant provisions of the Pakistan Army and Official Secrets Acts.

He informed the court that Mr Aftab had been presented before the relevant commanding officer and was under investigation.

Justice Khan sought the details about the proceedings against Mr Aftab.

Mr Bharti pointed out that the officer is being dealt in accordance with Section 73 that states: "Any person subject to this Act who is charged with any offence may be taken into military custody."

Subsection 2 of this Section says, "Any such person may be ordered into military custody by any superior officer."

The hearing was adjourned, with Justice Khan stating that the court would review the evidence, legal provisions before making a decision on the petition.

During his military career, Mr Aftab served with the country's premier intelligence agency and the Pakistan High Commission in London as a consul.

After retirement, he was involved with consultancy firms specialising in security, counterterrorism, strategic planning and government relations.



LAHORE: Volunteers donate blood at Ganga Ram Hospital, on Thursday. World Blood Donation Day will be observed on Friday.—Online

Imran gets clean chit in another 'Azadi March' case

By Malik Asad

ISLAMABAD: A local court in Islamabad on Thursday acquitted former prime minister Imran Khan, Shah Mehmood Qureshi, Sheikh Rashid Ahmed and others in a case registered with the Industrial Area police station in connection with the 'Azadi March'.

Judicial Magistrate Malik Imran ordered their acquittal for want of evidence. The police reg-

istered the FIR against Mr Khan, Mr Qureshi, Sheikh Rashid, Rashid Ali Shah, and Ali Nawaz Awan over violation of Section 144 and vandalism.

It may be mentioned that the PTI leadership was booked in over a dozen FIRs in connection with the Azadi March on May 25, 2023, which was launched following the ouster of the PTI government through a no-confidence move.

Identical FIRs in different police stations of Islamabad were registered under Sections 109

(abettment), 148 (rioting armed with deadly weapons), 149 (unlawful assembly), 186 (obstructing public service), 188 (obedience), 323 (assault on public servant), 427 (causing damage) and 435 (arson by fire or explosive substance with intent to cause damage) of the Pakistan Penal Code.

The former prime minister has already been acquitted by courts in multiple cases registered by the Karachi Company and Khanna police.

Missing Japanese climbers spotted by helicopters

By Jamil Nagri

GILGIT: Two Japanese climbers, who went missing while attempting to summit the 7,527-metre Spantik Peak, were located by Pakistan Army helicopters on Thursday.

A ground rescue team will attempt to reach Ryusaki Hirooka and Atsushi Taguchi early on Friday and bring them back to the base camp.

Shigar Deputy Commissioner Wajidullah Falahi told Dawn that the Japanese climbers were missing at Camp 2, situated at an altitude of 5,100 metres, on Tuesday while attempting to summit the Spantik Peak, also known as Golden Peak, situated between Shigar and Nagar Districts of Gilgit-Baltistan.

According to sources at the base camp, two separate Japanese expedition teams, one consisting of two climbers and the other comprising seven climbers, had begun their attempts to climb the Spantik Peak separately from the base camp on the Shigar side. Although the teams shared base camp services, they had different strategies for ascending the peak.

Ryusaki Hirooka and Atsushi Taguchi reached Camp 2 on Monday. They were climbing in Alpine style (without porters) and planned to ascend the peak directly from Camp 2. On Tuesday, the remaining members of the other Japanese climbing team also reached Camp 2.

Upon arriving at Camp 2, the seven-member Japanese team discovered that the two climbers, Hirooka and Taguchi, were missing. The team suspended their expedition and started search for the missing climbers fol-

lowing their footprints and other traces.

However, they were unable to locate their fellow climbers and subsequently descended to the base camp, where they reported the incident to the tour operator and base camp staff on Wednesday.

Deputy Commissioner Falahi said that on Thursday morning an aerial search operation was launched to locate the missing climbers. Two Pakistan Army helicopters, crewed by high-altitude climbers and experts, took part in the search operation.

In the initial search round, the helicopters scouring the Spantik Peak area failed to locate the climbers. However, in the second round, the missing climbers were finally spotted at an altitude of approximately 5,000m.

But due to the challenging terrain and weather conditions, the helicopters were unable to land or hover in the area to rescue them.

"Three high-altitude climbers from Sadoora, Skardu, who were affiliated to the Spantik base camp by the army helicopters, will join the Japanese climbers already present at the base camp to embark on a rescue mission early Friday morning," Mr Falahi said.

"The team will attempt to reach the location of the missing climbers and bring them to safety."

He said all available resources are being utilised to locate and rescue the missing climbers.

The base camp sources confirmed that the climbers have been spotted at an altitude of over 5,000m, but their condition remains unclear. It is unknown whether they are alive, injured, or dead.

They said the climbers' condition will be clear when the rescue team reach their location.

PAC, 39 other NA panels constituted, finally

Continued from Page 1

chairmanship to the opposition SBC as per the past tradition and in line with the Charter of Democracy (CoD) signed between the PPP and PML-N in May 2006.

It may be mentioned that the PTI-SBC had initially nominated Sher Afzal Marwat for the office of the PAC chairman, but later decided to nominate Sheikh Waqas Akram for the post. Interestingly, the list of the PAC members notified by the NA Secretariat shows that Mr Marwat is not even a member of the PAC.

According to the notification, the PAC members are Sardar Yousaf Zaman, Defence Minister Khawaja

Azif, Dr Tariq Faiz Chaudhry, Jamshed Arora Chaudhry, Sheraz Mansab Khara, Raza Hayat Harraj and Raza Qasim Noon of PML-N; Marwat Mehmood, Sharif Marvi, Syed Hassan Tariq, Syed Nawaz Qasim and Hina Ballooni Khair of PPP; Opposition Leader Omar Ayub Khan as an independent; Sarwarullah Mamikhalil, Jamil Akhtar, Raza Khan, Waqas Akram, Aamir Dogar and Khawaja Sheraz Mehmood of the SBC; Moiz Ameer Pirzada of the MQM-P and Shahida Begum of the Jamaat Uloom Islam (JUI-F).

Finance Minister Muhammad Awanzeb will be an ex-officio member of the PAC.

Moreover, the Senate chairman

will also nominate eight senators for the constitution.

It was due to lack of understanding and some differences that the government and the opposition had failed to agree on the composition and the chairmanship of the committees, even more than three months after the election of Sheikh Sharif as the prime minister.

Under the rules, the committees were required to be formed within 30 days after the prime minister's election which took place on March 3.

The delay in the formation of the committees is not only a violation of the assembly rules, but it had also started affecting the legislative business.

BHC reserves verdict in wheat procurement case

By Saleem Shahid

QUETTA: A division bench of the Balochistan High Court (BHC) has reserved its judgement in a case relating to alleged irregularities in wheat procurement and the distribution of gummy sacks among the growers.

On Thursday, the bench comprising Chief Justice Hashim Khan Kakar and Justice Shaukat Ali Rakhshani heard the petition filed by the food department's director general regarding his transfer and alleged irregularities.

Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfaraz Bugti appeared before the court after being summoned along with the chief secretary. The latter didn't appear due to official engagements.

During the hearing, the CM stated that 150,000

gummy bags (burlap) had been distributed among farmers at a cost of Rs41 million.

He requested permission to procure 150,000 bags of wheat, with the remaining allocated funds for grain procurement to be spent on other welfare initiatives.

The chief minister stated that welfare work will be carried on in Jaffarabad and Nasirabad with the remaining funds.

A technical college will be established through a public-private partnership in Nasirabad and Jaffarabad. Projects for clean drinking water and a hospital will be initiated in Nasirabad, similar to Gandhar in Sindh.

Chief Justice Kakar remarked that the wheat purchased by the food department in either smuggled to Afghanistan

or runs in warehouses.

He added that the chief minister's proposals were commendable.

The chief justice said Section 144 imposed on transportation of wheat should be lifted.

The National division produces 12 million bags of wheat every year, but the government only buys 500,000 bags by enforcing Section 144 and over nine million bags go to waste in the growers' godowns.

The chief justice also noted that there were many complaints regarding the Balochistan chief secretary and his performance, which was satisfactory in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa but has not been replicated in the province.

The bench then reserved the decision in the case, which will be announced later.

ECP challenges LHC's order on election tribunals in SC

Petition seeks determination on who has superiority in appointing appellate bodies

By Nasir Iqbal

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission has challenged Lahore High Court's (LHC) decision to appoint six tribunals to settle election disputes in Punjab.

In a petition moved before the Supreme Court on Thursday, the electoral watchdog also questioned whether the ECP or LHC has the final say in the appointment of tribunals.

On May 19, while hearing petitions filed by PTI-backed independent candidates

Advocate Salman Akram Razi and Rasool Hashim Khan who had lost the general election, the LHC decided that under Article 219(c) read with Article 222(b) of the Constitution, the LHC chief justice of has pre-eminence in the appointment of the election tribunals under Section 140 of the Elections Act, 2017.

Moved through senior counsel Sikandar Bashir Mahomed, the ECP recalled the entire chronology of events regarding consultations with the LHC CJ for the appointment of judges.

On Feb 14, ECP requested a panel of serving judges for their appointment to election tribunals.

In response the LHC CJ nominated Justices Naadir Muhammad Sarfraz Dogar and Sakhan Tarver Ahmad where appointments were notified by the ECP on Feb 20.

However, on April 4, the LHC CJ nominated six more judges for election tribunals, of which the ECP notified two on April 26.

On the same day, the ECP also sought more names of sitting judges to be appointed as election tribunals in Rawalpindi and Bahawalpur.

In reply, the LHC CJ objected to the ECP's demand, stating that in the past, ECP never sought names of judges for their appointment to election tribunals.

The LHC registrar's reply also urged the commission to immediately issue notification of election tribunals comprising judges already nominated by the CJ.

In response to the LHC registrar, ECP stated that according to this demand would mean that the tribunals were appointed solely by the CJ and not after "meaningful consultation" with ECP, which was not in

line with Section 140(3) of the Elections Act. The said section states that the ECP will appoint a sitting judge as election tribunal "in consultation" with the chief justice of the high court concerned.

The commission also informed the LHC that in 2018 when the then chief justice sought to replace a judge he had recommended for election tribunal, the then chief election commissioner said if the request was accepted, it would amount to the appointment by the CJ.

The said request was then placed before ECP and it was approved with an added note that a single nomination would not be approved in future.

This precedent clearly established that not only does ECP have primacy in the appointments of tribunals, the commission has even asserted it previously, the petition said.

The petition highlighted that in conferring absolute primacy to LHC CJ over ECP in the consultation process for the appointment of election tribunals, the May 23 LHC order failed to even consider past precedents.

The commission's petition recalled that in 1977, 41 high court judges were nominated or recommended for election tribunals, of which only eight were appointed by the ECP.

Likewise, in 1985, five judges were nominated, but none were appointed, whereas in 2002, 14 high court judges were recommended, and only seven were notified by the ECP.

The petition continued that in 2013, 61 retired district and session judges were nominated out of which only five were appointed by ECP.

IHC asks sessions court to decide Iddat case within a month

By Malik Asad

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday directed the sessions court to decide appeals of former prime minister Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi against their conviction in Iddat case in a month.

IHC Justice Mirzaig Hassan Aurangzeb also issued directions to the sessions court of making a decision on releasing them on bail in 10 days and disposed of their petitions.

Mr Khan and Bushra Bibi petitioned before the IHC seeking suspension of their sentences.

Senior Civil Judge of Islamabad Qudrattullah on Feb 3 convicted them for contracting marriage during Iddat period. They were sentenced seven years in jail, along with Rs500,000 fine each.

Mr Khan contended in the petition that the District and Sessions Judge exonerated himself from the case while he was scheduled to announce the decision on the appeals against the conviction.

He sought from the court to issue direction to the sessions judge for announcing the judgement.

Bushra Bibi was seeking suspension of her sentence, in addition to setting aside the conviction.

During the course of hearing Mr Khan's counsel Saleem Akram Raja requested the IHC to hear the petition or transfer it to the sessions court with a direction to adjudicate the matter within certain timeframe.

Advocate Raja Razaan Akram on the other hand opposed the petition saying that their application seeking similar relief was pending adjudication before the sessions court.

Boy killed in toy bomb explosion

By Jamil Nagri

GILGIT: A 14-year-old boy was killed while his father and sister were injured when a toy bomb exploded in Harghoul village of Kharmang district of Gilgit-Baltistan, adjacent to Kargil, the Line of Control (LoC) between Pakistan and India.

SP Kharmang district of Gilgit-Baltistan, told Dawn that the boy Faizal his father and sister resident of Harghoul village in Kharmang district had gone to nearby village to graze their cattle.

Kharmang SP said that Faizal picked the toy bomb to play with it assuming it a toy and it suddenly exploded.

The boy died on the spot while his than Anghar and sister sustained minor injuries.

Kharmang SP said police and district administration has visited the scene inspected the area to investigate the incident.

He said police didn't get anything to send for forensic.

In the past about six incidents of explosion of toy bombs occurred near line of control between Pakistan and India in Kharmang district in which many child were injured.

Indian controlled Kargil and Kharmang border is control line between Pakistan and India.

According to the local people, during the 1999 Kargil war, a large number of toy bombs dropped by Indian Army in Kharmang jurisdiction, which resulted in many such incidents.

Two and a half years ago, such an incident took place in Harghoul as a result of which two children were injured.

Local people of the area said that the government should take steps to deal with such incidents in future. They also protested with India for such inhuman activities and demanded government to take the issue at international level to expose Indian atrocities.

The conditions of the injured father and sister of the deceased said to be stable while body of the deceased buried in his native village Harghoul in presence of government officials, religious scholars and a large number of local people.

Chief Justice seeks IIUI board meeting to stem 'rebellion'

Letter addressed to President Zardari says varsity admin 'perpetuating' wrongs

By Dr. Iqbal Jaleel

ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa has written a letter to President Asif Ali Zardari to call a board meeting of the International Islamic University and take notice of the declining ranking of the university.

"Six months have elapsed since the Board of Trustees of the International Islamic University...met on December 11, 2023, but minutes of such meeting are still awaited. Reminders have been ignored by the university administration. The Board had decided that its next

meeting be held in April 2024, but till date, it has not been convened. The board had noted, with concern, several aspects of maladministration and the university's decline, including its ranking. The International Islamic University Ordinance, 1985 mandates periodical meetings of its statutory bodies, but these too have not been held," CJP Isa, who is a member of the board, informed President Zardari, who acts as the chancellor of the university.

"The board of governors has not met in nine months, violating section 20 of the ordinance, which mandates that its meetings have to be held at least every three months. Other statutorily mandated meetings are also not held. [The] director general, deans, and chairpersons continue to act on an ad-hoc basis and till further orders, which is in complete violation of the ordinance, the status of the university, and good practice. Instead of rectifying the wrongs, which were also

highlighted in the board's meeting, the administration is obstinately persisting and perpetuating them. This is not the way to run any institution, let alone a public sector university on which huge amounts from the public exchequer are spent," he stated.

"The Board in its meeting had noted serious allegations against Dr. N. R. Jumanji but he remains indispensable, which brings into question what services he and Mr. Abbas, another noted vocal, render. The administration continues to patronise those against whom serious complaints of sexual harassment have been made," the letter said.

According to the CJP's letter, the president of the varsity in March this year stated in a letter to the chancellor that the decisions of the board 'hold no value for me'.

"Could there possibly be a greater affront and transgression by an employee? The sustained and systematic

destruction of the University at the hands of its administration must not be perpetuated," he said.

"The board in its June 2020 meeting had directed the university to propose the criteria for the appointment of the president of the university, but this decision has not been implemented and the criteria are still awaited after over four years. To arrest the further decline and destruction of the university, a meeting of the board is called to consider steps to be taken to stem the rebellion by the university's administration and to consider the appointment of a new president of the university," the letter added.

According to the letter, Hafiz Hameed Akhtar's term expires on July 16 this year and the law does not permit extending the tenure of the president. "As a member of the board, I am deeply concerned and I am sure my concerns are shared by all other members and by yourself," the letter concluded.

Development work to start in Murree after Eid

By Our Staff Reporter

RAWALPINDI: The Punjab government will start development work in Murree after Eidul Azha, said Commissioner Rawalpindi Asim Khattak at a meeting held to review the Murree Development Plan.

The meeting also reviewed arrangements for tourists during the Eid holidays.

Deputy Commissioner Rawalpindi Dr. Hassan Waqar Chishti, Director

Development Nania Siddiqui and heads of other concerned departments participated in the review meeting.

The commissioner said that along with execution of development schemes in Murree, special arrangements should be made on account of upcoming influx of tourists in expected on Eid days, necessary arrangements should be made to facilitate tourists as well as locals," he said.

The commissioner was told that 16 kanals of Murree Improvement Trust had been identified for a parking place in Murree which will initially provide parking facilities for 324 vehicles.

However, keeping in view the history of landslides in the

area, a geotechnical/feasibility study will be started soon in order to ensure the sustainability of the project. Apart from this, work is going on the parking yard, including two washrooms, near the general bus stand, which will be completed and made functional in the next two days.

The commissioner directed that banners with necessary information should be displayed outside parking places so that tourists do not face any problem regarding parking.

He said that public washrooms should be constructed at 12 places for convenience of locals and tourists. In this

regard, an estimated cost has been sent to the additional secretary communication and works for inclusion in ADP 2024-25.

Places for public washrooms have been identified at Lower Tops, Upper Jikka Gully Road, Jikka Gully Bazar, Mall Road, Kashmir Point, Sunny Bank & MTF, Lower Mall, Kuldana, Blueban, PTA Park, DC Annex Bank Road and Municipal Corporation parking places.

The commissioner added that the average water demand in Murree was 2.15 million gallons per day while the current water supply was 1.32 MGD. To

meet this shortage, various channel schemes as well as rooftop rainwater harvesting projects are being given special attention.

He directed that to maintain and preserve the beauty of Murree, Rawalpindi Waste Management Company should take special care of the hill station's cleanliness by deputed additional sanitary workers during Eid.

Moreover, illegal constructions spoiling the beauty of Murree should be strictly stopped and legal action should be taken against them under the supervision of the deputy commissioner, he added.

Three members of Ahmadiya community detained under MPO

By Nabool Anwar Dhanu

CHAKWAL: The district administration of Chakwal has put three leading members of Ahmadiya community under one month detention allegedly to prevent them from offering sacrifice of animals on the occasion of upcoming Eidul Azha.

Chakwal's Deputy Commissioner Qasim Ali Malik issued three separate orders for the detention of the three men on June 10 and the police later arrested them and sent them to Jhelum prison.

All the three men belong to Dulmiyal village which witnessed a mob attack on a worship place of the same community in December 2016 resulting in the death of two persons. The worship place, a historic mosque built in the middle of the 19th century, had been sealed by the local administration after the attack and its fate still hangs in balance.

DC Malik in two orders, copies of which

are available with Dawn, has stated that she received a report from the district police officer in which the latter alleged that all the three men "may cause deterioration for law and order situation in the area" and requested for the issuance of their detention orders under Section 3 of the Maintenance of Public Order 1960.

The matter was discussed in the District Intelligence Committee held on June 10 which unanimously recommended that in order to prevent the sectarian conflict as well as law and order situation, all these three persons be detained.

Talking to Dawn, a spokesperson of Jamaat-Ahmadiya Amir Mahmood said all the three persons had been called for a meeting with the

police officials and the assistant commissioner Chas. Nadeem Shah regarding the upcoming Eidul Azha on Monday.

"There was also the presence of the complainants (opponents of the Ahmadiya community) in that meeting. Immense pressure was placed on the Ahmadiya delegation not to perform the Qurbani. Furthermore, while being harassed they were told to submit a security bond stating that neither them nor any other Ahmadi in the district will perform Qurbani", he said.

Meanwhile, Amnesty International through a

tweet urged the Punjab government to immediately release the three men and ensure that the Ahmadiya community was provided protection, particularly during Eidul Azha to ensure they are able to peacefully exercise their religious beliefs.

NATIONAL BANK OF PAKISTAN INVITATION TO e-BID

MAJOR RENOVATION WORKS - REPAIRING & PAINT WORKS AT THE ELEVATION OF NBP HQ BUILDING KARACHI

National Bank of Pakistan, invites electronic bids from the eligible contractors/bidders, who comply with the following criteria; for above said works.

- The bidder should have an active status on FBR Active Taxpayer List and with Sindh Revenue Board.
- The bidder should have a valid registration in Pakistan Engineering Council in financial category C-6 or above with Specialization Code CE-10 & EE-04 on bidding date.
- The bidder should have completed at least two projects of similar nature, costing not less than Rs. 4.0 Million during last five (05) years.
- The bidder should not have been blacklisted and hence debarred due to involvement in corrupt and fraudulent practices, or performance failure or due to breach of bid security declaration by any Organisation / Department / Institution.

2. e-bidding documents as per regulations, containing detail terms and conditions, specifications and requirements etc., are available for the registered bidders on EPADS at <https://epads.gov.pk>.

3. The electronic bids, prepared in accordance to the instructions contained in the bidding documents along with bid security instrument and required documents, must be submitted by using EPADS on or before July 11, at 11:30 am. Manual bids, shall not be accepted. In case of any technical difficulty in using EPADS, prospective bidders may contact PPRA Team, Director M&P Room No.109, 1st Floor, PSC building Sector G-5/2, Islamabad. Contact Number 051-111-137-2037.

4. Original Bid Security instrument MUST be submitted to the under signed before closing hours of the bids submission time; otherwise respective bid will not be opened. Electronic bids will be opened on the same day at 12:00 noon through EPADS in the presence of Procurement Committee and bidders who opt to participate at the following venue:

The Engineering Wing Head Office, Engineering Group, LCMG, 3rd Floor, National Bank of Pakistan, Head Office Building, 11, Chundrigar Road, Karachi.

Note: Notification of the GRC constituted in terms of Rule-48 of PPRA rules, 2004 is provided on EPADS at <https://epads.gov.pk>.

This advertisement is available on NBP website at <https://www.nbp.com.pk/ITENDER> and PPRA website at www.ppra.org.pk.

If office remains closed on the bidding date for any reason, the bids will be opened in similar manner on next working day at the same time and venue.

Divisional Head, Procurement Division, LCMG, 3rd Floor, National Bank of Pakistan, Head Office 11, Chundrigar Road, Karachi. Tel. +92-21-96220331, 021- 36960435

Government of Pakistan
PLANNING COMMISSION
M/O PLANNING DEVELOPMENT & SPECIAL INITIATIVES PROJECTS WING

REQUEST FOR HIRING OF CONSULTING FIRM OF NATIONAL LEVEL (SINGLE FIRM / CONSORTIUM / JOINT VENTURES) FOR THIRD PARTY VALIDATION (TPV) OF NEELUM JHELUM HYDROPOWER PROJECT (NJHPP), MUZAFARABAD, AJ&K

In continuation to this ministry's advertisement published in the print media vide PID (I) No. 6841/23 dated 12th May, 2024 the process of which was annulled later on.

Now the Government of Pakistan, Planning Commission, Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiatives again invites sealed Request for Proposal (RFP) from well reputed firms/Consultants duly registered with Income Tax and are on Active Taxpayer List (ATL) of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) for acquiring services for "Third Party Validation" (TPV) of "Neelum Jhelum Hydropower Project (NJHPP)" Muzafarabad, AJ&K.

Potential firm will be hired to undertake TPV as per approved ToRs for the instant project to complete the exercise expeditiously. Bidding mode will be on a single stage, two envelope basis. Reputable firms of national level (single firm / consortium / joint ventures), with the requisite expertise are invited to submit technical and financial proposals.

How to Apply

The detailed ToRs indicating scope of work and eligibility criteria and procurement procedure is available on the Planning Commission and PPRA websites at www.pc.gov.pk & www.ppra.gov.pk. The proposals may reach to the address indicated below on or before 1st July, 2024 by 1400 hours, which will be opened on the same date at 1430 hours in the presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives (if any) in Committee Room No. 1, first floor, P-Block, M/O PD&SI, Pak. Secretariat, Islamabad. Pre-bid meeting/conference will be held on 27th June, 2024 at 11:00 AM in the Committee Room No. 1, first floor, M/O PD&SI, P-Block, Pak. Secretariat, Islamabad. In case of any issue/holiday announced by the GoP, the same will be opened on the next working day. No query will be entertained at the time of bid opening date and time. The Ministry has the right to reject one or all proposals prior to acceptance in accordance with PPRA rules.

(ENGR. AMIR ZAMIR AHMED KHAN)
PROJECT DIRECTOR (M&E)
Room No. 243, P-Block, M/O PD&SI, Pak. Secretariat, Islamabad.
Tel. 051-9269788/0300-5922668

PID (I) No. 700023

CDA CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY #HumCDA

STREET LIGHTS DIVISION-II
INVITATION FOR BIDS

Sealed tenders are hereby invited on Single Stage - Single Envelope Procedure for the following works from contractors/firms duly enlisted with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) in appropriate category & codes having valid of PEC license. Electronic copies issued by Electrical Inspector Islamabad and NTR & GST registration with FBR for execution of Electrical Works in Rawalpindi / Islamabad region.

S. No.	Name of works	Estimated cost	Latest Money	Date & time of sale of tender	Date & time of opening of tender
1.	Replacement of conventional street lights with LED street lights at Gharana Park, Sector 14, Islamabad.	Rs. 999,000/-	Rs. 26,870/-	28-06-2024 11:30AM	28-06-2024 12:00PM
2.	Repair / Replacement / replacement of conventional street lights with LED lights at Street No. 111-0 sector 7-02 Islamabad.	Rs. 888,750/-	Rs. 26,760/-	28-06-2024 11:30AM	28-06-2024 12:00PM
3.	Provision / Repair / Replacement of LED lights to street light system at Street No. 111-01 sector 0-04 Islamabad.	Rs. 888,000/-	Rs. 26,800/-	28-06-2024 11:30AM	28-06-2024 12:00PM
4.	Provision / Repair / Replacement of LED lights to street light system at Street No. 111-01 sector 0-04 Islamabad.	Rs. 888,000/-	Rs. 26,800/-	28-06-2024 11:30AM	28-06-2024 12:00PM
5.	Provision / Repair / Replacement of LED lights to street light system at Street No. 111-01 sector 0-04 Islamabad.	Rs. 888,000/-	Rs. 26,800/-	28-06-2024 11:30AM	28-06-2024 12:00PM
6.	Provision / Repair / Replacement of LED lights to street light system at Street No. 111-01 sector 0-04 Islamabad.	Rs. 888,000/-	Rs. 26,800/-	28-06-2024 11:30AM	28-06-2024 12:00PM
7.	Provision / Repair / Replacement of LED lights to street light system at Street No. 111-01 sector 0-04 Islamabad.	Rs. 888,000/-	Rs. 26,800/-	28-06-2024 11:30AM	28-06-2024 12:00PM
8.	Provision / Repair / Replacement of LED lights to street light system at Street No. 111-01 sector 0-04 Islamabad.	Rs. 888,000/-	Rs. 26,800/-	28-06-2024 11:30AM	28-06-2024 12:00PM
9.	Provision / Repair / Replacement of LED lights to street light system at Street No. 111-01 sector 0-04 Islamabad.	Rs. 888,000/-	Rs. 26,800/-	28-06-2024 11:30AM	28-06-2024 12:00PM
10.	Provision / Repair / Replacement of LED lights to street light system at Street No. 111-01 sector 0-04 Islamabad.	Rs. 888,000/-	Rs. 26,800/-	28-06-2024 11:30AM	28-06-2024 12:00PM
11.	Provision / Repair / Replacement of LED lights to street light system at Street No. 111-01 sector 0-04 Islamabad.	Rs. 888,000/-	Rs. 26,800/-	28-06-2024 11:30AM	28-06-2024 12:00PM

1. Tender Documents can be purchased up to 22-06-2024 before closing hours against payment of Rs. 5,000/- tender's cost fee (including GST) in cash or by bank draft from the office of Deputy Director Street Light Division, Shop No. 21, Sector No. 21, Street No. 21, Sector G-4/4, Islamabad. The bank drafts for tenders will be received after business days and time. Tenders will be issued only to those firms / contractors who are registered with PPRA and EPADS as vendors (Proof of PEC registration should be enclosed with the application to purchase the Bidding documents).

2. Tenders will be issued only to those firms who provide following documents along with the request / application for successful tenders.

- Valid PEC License having Codes EE-04, EE-05.
- Valid Electronic License issued by Electrical Inspector Islamabad for execution of Electrical Works in Rawalpindi / Islamabad region.
- NTR & GST registration with active status and valid Professional fee certificate.
- Proof of completion of at least 02 work orders in the relevant field within a last five financial years.

3. Bid Security / Earnest Money shall also be submitted with the bid as the stamp of Director of Civil (DDC) clearly indicating the Name of firm issued by local authorized bank in favor of Deputy Director, Street Light Division-II, CDA, Cash / Cheque or open CDR without indicating name of firm will not be accepted and tenders / bids without Bid Security / Earnest Money will be treated as non-responsive. (The prospective bidders shall also upload scanned copy of Bid Security on EPADS and a copy of the same shall also be provided with the application for issuance of tenders).

4. If the contractor fails to participate in the tendering through representation, the contractor will provide general / special power attorney duly attested by respective court and only to legitimate attorney/bidder would be allowed to sign tender documents.

5. The prospective bidders are also required to submit their bids online through EPADS at <https://epads.gov.pk> before opening date & time.

6. Original bids in accordance with the provisions of Rule 26(a) of Public Procurement Rules 2004 and terms & conditions defined in the Bidding documents must be submitted in the office of Deputy Director for Street Light Division, Shop No. 21, Sector No. 21, Street No. 21, Sector G-4/4, Islamabad on or before the date and time.

7. Tenders will be opened in the office of Deputy Director Street Light Division, Shop No. 21, Sector No. 21, Street No. 21, Sector G-4/4, Islamabad on scheduled date and time.

8. In case the total bid amount is less than 10% of the GT amount, the bidder shall enclose last document (CPR) in original with the bid in addition to bid security on Performance Security equal to the difference between GT amount and unopened amount less 10% of GT amount. That is, required Performance Security = GT Amount (-) total bid amount (-) 10% of GT amount. Bids having more than the 10% of GT amount carrying the bid deposit (CPR) shall be rejected.

9. The prospective bidders are also required to submit an undertaking on Stamp Paper duly attested by notary public worth not less than Rs. 50/- that the firm / contractor are neither involved in any litigation nor black listed by any government, local government or autonomous body in Pakistan and also undertake that if any information or document provided by him for issuance of tender document is found incorrect or false then the firm is liable for declassification and legal action under the law (provided the undertaking/bidder will not be issued in time).

10. CDA may reject all bids or proposals at any time prior to the acceptance of a bid or proposal and conditional bids will also be rejected at the discretion of per PPRA Rules.

11. The Bid Security / Earnest money of successful bidders will be retained / deposited in CDA bank account and released in the favor of firm's account only after acceptance of bid.

12. Tender forms can be taken & downloaded on both CDA website www.cda.gov.pk and PPRA website www.ppra.org.pk.

Deputy Director,
Street Lights Division-II, CDA. Contact No. 851-9284782

PID (I) 700023



Budget and politics

FINANCE MINISTER Muhammad Aurangzeb on Thursday expressed his 'resolve' to increase Pakistan's tax-to-GDP ratio to 13pc in the next three years. Addressing a post-budget media briefing, he said: "Our basic principle while framing this budget was to expand the tax base." Given this statement and his earlier declaration at the launch of the *Economic Survey* that "countries cannot be run on charity but taxes", it was expected that the new budget would have significant measures to broaden the tax base. The reality of the taxation measures announced by him in the budget, however, does not match his rhetoric.

Before we delve into the reasons for this gap, it should be acknowledged that the budget does propose the revocation of certain tax exemptions being enjoyed by certain privileged sectors of the economy. That, though, has been done to raise the annual tax collection to Rs12b.97tr, a size quite non to qualify for the three-year Extended Fund Facility being sought from the IMF. One does not have to be a financial wizard to see that the budget still follows the same tried, tested, flogged and, therefore, off-rejected trope of milking those already in the tax net even more. A large part of the additional revenue measures being proposed target the same two segments — the salaried classes and documented businesses — which already pay the bulk of personal and direct taxes. At best, the government can only hope that its proposal to levy higher taxes on non-filers trying to buy or sell property will force them to join the tax net voluntarily. At worst, it will force more people to engage in cash transactions and, thus, increase tax evasion.

The next budget, in fact, reflects the ruling PML-N's political concerns more than its economic reform agenda. For one, it has left its traditional support — traders — virtually untouched. Nothing except such political imperatives explain why the finance minister did not levy any direct taxes on retail trade even when the government has talked a lot about it of late. Similarly, while there is a proposal to levy federal excise duty on property, real estate developers and agents have been shielded from any additional tax burden. This, too, stems from political expediency: the PML-N cannot afford to anger the middle class other than those sections that have already turned against it. The budget, therefore, lacks both imagination and courage. It shows that the finance team did not envision any structural changes to broaden the tax-to-GDP ratio and, instead, chose to stick to old formulae. It also shows that the ruling party is scared of taking bold steps lest it loses whatever little public support and legitimacy it has. Consequently, the budget it has presented signifies nothing but a lost opportunity to fix the system.

New talks?

WILL this prove another false start, or may we expect a more sincere effort this time? Reference is made to the recent green signal for talks given by the PTI chief to his party, which has rekindled a spark or two of hope for a political turnaround. The circumstances certainly do not seem conducive, and it appears that it will be entirely up to the political leadership to make things work. But though neither side may want to make much of an effort at this stage, the opportunity, as uninviting as it may seem, must not be squandered. As weeks of impasse have turned into months and then years, the people have gradually lost all hope in the political system's capacity to make things better. If Pakistan's future is to remain democratic, politicians on both sides of the aisle now need to demonstrate that they are serious. The faction representing the PTI must publicly affirm that it will remain committed to the process, however frustrating it may be, while the government should build confidence by ordering the immediate release of all political prisoners, beginning with the many women who continue to be imprisoned without any trial.

Admittedly, there have already been quite a few efforts to ignore some kind of rapprochement between the two factions, and none has borne any fruit. Yet, we must not give up hope: hope that Imran Khan has finally realised that he must share the future with men and women he does not like and may even despise, and hope that the Sharifs and the Zardaris have realised that they cannot keep their legacy intact with the kind of abominable mistakes they have made in recent years. It has been quite frustrating that the future of the federation has lain in the hands of these politicians all along, and yet they have done everything to demonstrate their unworthiness for the immense responsibility entrusted to them by the public. It is hoped that they finally realised that they must set down new rules for political engagement and then abide by them, come what may. Politics is, after all, an evolving art. There are lessons aplenty in the experiences shared by those parties that can enable them to envision a better, fairer future together. They must demonstrate that the public's expectations of them are met.

A non-starter

WHILE the UN Security Council had earlier this week adopted a US-backed resolution calling for a ceasefire in Gaza — which was basically an endorsement of President Joe Biden's "peace plan" and supposedly designed to stop the slaughter — Israel's actions both before and after the resolution's adoption indicate it is in no mood for peace. Before the resolution was passed, Israel raided the Nuseirat camp to rescue a number of hostages. Palestinians have described the operation as a massacre, resulting in nearly 300 fatalities. Even after the resolution was passed, Tel Aviv has continued its relentless gunning of Gaza. As these lines were being written on Thursday, the Israeli war machine was unleashing destruction on Rafah. The Americans, meanwhile, have publicly called on Hamas to ratify the deal. The problem here is not the Palestinian factions; it is Israel. Hamas had earlier welcomed the UNSC resolution, though it called for a permanent ceasefire and a withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza. The Israeli leadership, meanwhile, has maintained ambiguity over its stance on the ceasefire. In fact, their continuing bloodbath forces into Gaza indicate Israel's true feelings about the peace plan.

America's focus appears to be misplaced. Instead of piling pressure on the Palestinians, Washington needs to tell its "friendly" allies in Tel Aviv to immediately end hostilities. But that is unlikely to happen, as the US, at all international forums, has acted as Israel's primary advocate rather than a neutral peacekeeper. Moreover, Mr Biden's push for peace is not likely influenced by any empathy for the over 37,000 dead Palestinians Israel has butchered, November approaches, and the US leader is more worried about a messy Middle East war dampening his chances of re-election. Only a ceasefire that demands all sides immediately silence their guns can work, that too if the international community threatens to isolate Israel in case of non-compliance. Without that, hopes for peace are fanciful.

OPINION



BY TARIQ PARVEZ

Tackling the lethal troika

The essential starting point for Pakistan is to set its own house in order.

NODUR Wali Mehsud, ameer of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, stated recently that their 'jihad' against Pakistan had entered a "decisive phase". He expressed the determination to "liberate their lands and enforce the divine laws therein". Mehsud's newfound confidence is due to the provision of a sanctuary in Afghanistan by the Afghan Taliban government, as well as the commitment of the Afghanistan-based Al Qaeda, to monitor the TTP in carrying out its terrorist campaign in Pakistan. Pakistan must immediately review its strategy of tackling this security challenge from the lethal troika, which is more experienced, committed and battle-hardened today than ever before.

To prepare for war, Sun Tzu states "of supreme importance... is to attack the enemy's strategy". It follows that Pakistan's main goal in defeating the TTP should be to proactively neutralise its anticipated terrorism strategy. This is best achieved by having our national response on four pillars: creating an environment in Pakistan conducive to an effective national counterterrorism (CT) effort; an external dimension in targeting the use of Afghanistan as a sanctuary by the TTP; Al Qaeda; sustained and coordinated kinetic measures; and a holistic plan for comprehensive, well-resourced, non-kinetic measures.

It might be a cliché to state that a poor and divided nation is likely to find it difficult to counter a serious challenge to its security. But sadly, that is what Pakistan looks like today. The political polarisation is unprecedented, economic conditions are dire and getting worse, and social cohesiveness is at its lowest. All this saps resolve and the capability to fight terrorism. Therefore, the essential starting point for Pakistan in its war against the lethal troika is to set its own house in order by resolving its political polarisation, alleviating the common man's economic woes, and moving towards building a more cohesive society through a government trusted by its citizens, and by improving the rule of law, adherence to fundamental rights, and accountability.

The second pillar — the external dimension — is crucial because the centre of gravity of the revived TTP and Al Qaeda is their sanctuary in

Afghanistan. To make this sanctuary restrictive for the terrorist groups, we need to engage with the Afghan government at three levels — bilateral, regional and global. Bilaterally, a mutual approach should be adopted to make it more hard official for the Taliban to restrict the activities of the two terrorist groups on their soil. Regionally, it should be stressed that the groups' revival in Afghanistan poses a threat to regional security. We can use the forum of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, which has a CT mandate implemented through the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure. Globally, Pakistan can use different fora like the UN to keep the world updated about the implications of TTP/Al Qaeda sanctuaries in Afghanistan for global security.

It is pertinent to point out that while sanctuary in Afghanistan is an asset for the TTP/Al Qaeda, it is also a constraining factor, because in the 2020 Doha accord, the Taliban had committed to not allowing their territory to be used for terrorism against any other country. It follows that a primary goal of the two groups would be to capture some territory in Pakistan and proclaim that they were not based in Afghanistan. To defeat this strategy, we should give the highest priority to preventing the TTP from capturing territory in Pakistan, particularly along the Afghan border.

As regards the third pillar, kinetic measures are an essential part of the CT toolkit. But we need to analyse why the military operations in ex-Fata and Swat, which successfully subdued the TTP from 2014 to 2020, could not prevent the group's revival from 2021 onwards. One factor was the US withdrawal from Afghanistan. The other was our inability to realise that military operations, to be effective in the long term, have to go hand in hand with capacity building of local police and other civilian departments, so that in due course, when the military withdraws or takes a back seat, the civilian departments are capable of taking over.

Coming to the fourth pillar, if capacity building of state institutions for combating terrorism is important, no less crucial is the building up of the resilience of society to counter the terrorist

threat. We witnessed how the people of Swat forced the TTP to withdraw again to Afghanistan in 2022. This resilience of the people against violent extremism must be expanded and strengthened. It can best be done by non-kinetic measures.

While there is a wide array of non-kinetic measures recommended by the UN for countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism, four areas deserve more attention in Pakistan — increasing socioeconomic opportunities, reducing political marginalisation, improving governance and neutralising social networks that propagate violent extremism. Being the front-line province, KP deserves the highest priority in terms of allocation of resources, both for CT and PVE. In this regard, Pakistan can learn from international initiatives like the EU's Radicalisation Awareness Network.

The above-mentioned measures have been suggested earlier also, but are rarely implemented. This can be broadly attributed to 1) lack of political ownership of the national CT/PVE effort, 2) the perception that national security is the military's domain, with nominal input from civilians, and last but not the least, 3) non-allocation of required resources to civilian institutions. To address these, an essential step is to civilise the concept of national security, with the military playing a supportive role. Else, this vicious cycle of terrorism, military operations, dislocation of terrorists, peace accords and then terrorists' revival shall continue.

It is time we realised that in CT, which Report Smith defines as a "war amongst people", the military's utility is critical but limited and is likely to be short-lived, unless the political, economic and governance dimensions are simultaneously addressed. For that, we need civilian supremacy in CT/PVE decision-making. The future of our nation against the Afghanistan-based lethal troika depends on whether we learn this lesson or not. The choice is ours. ■

The writer is a former police officer who was Nacra's first national coordinator.

BUDGET BLUES



BY AL KARIM DATOO

Education emergency: a social X-ray

THIS prime minister recently declared an education emergency, a much-needed and welcome call to action. Our education system is in critical condition and experts must now step forward to revive it. International donors and NGOs must be watching keenly to see what happens this time. Academics may be expecting iterations, pulling their PowerPoint presentations, inserting the new slogan 'Education Emergency' in large fonts, saving files on colourful USBs, and securing them in shiny leather bags. Here come the reforms.

This time, the focus is on the social margins — out-of-school children — an area that falls under the United Nation's SDG-4. We need a dual-lens microscope to address this issue: one lens to focus on the complex challenge of educational access for the out-of-school children, and the other to critically examine society and the systems that have allowed this issue to swell to such an extent. The existence of 26.2 million children who have stopped going to or never have seen the inside of a classroom cannot be an overnight development, nor one that took shape over the course of a decade. It requires sustained neglect, apathy, and deep indifference to reach such a sorry state of affairs.

As a sociologist of education, I shall explore how sociology can help us better understand this intricate issue and inform our response. The task of sociology and anthropology is to make the familiar strange, so it can be viewed in a new light. As self-help author and motivational speaker Wayne Dyer said, "When you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change." So, let us examine the challenge of educational access and continuity for the OOSC through the lens of sociology.

First, consider the social ecology of these children. The issue is not solely educational but fundamentally a socio-historical and political production. It is the result of long-term exclusion and marginalisation, forming the social context within which the issue has grown. Over the years, numerous policies and initiatives have attempted to address this, yet they often fail to tackle the root causes. These initiatives often lack a comprehensive understanding of the deep-seated issues that perpetuate educational inequality. It is a case of the slow death of development, an invisible social virus more dangerous than Covid-19, visible only through its symptomatic multi-generational

poverty, social injustice, health inequalities, oppression, human rights violations, violence, corruption, child abuse, intolerance, and hypocrisy.

These factors have nurtured the root causes of educational inequality, of which the out-of-school children are a symptom. Exclusion of these children has been an incremental process through history, where society cuts itself up, driven by self-destructive forces, like an autoimmune disease. The powerful centres reproduce peripheries, which in turn produce social margins whose existence becomes almost invisible. Their condition is reminiscent of the insect in Kafka's *Metamorphosis*, ambivalent and alienated.

Education as a social institution alone cannot resolve this problem caused by multiple societal

Education as a social institution alone cannot resolve the problem of out-of-school children.

failures. It needs support and protection through values of social justice, human rights, and freedoms. The issue of out-of-school children should be seen in its social ecology, a symptom of broader system failures. We must recognise that the challenges of educational inequalities cannot be addressed in isolation; interventions should be supported and sustained through global and national commitments to social justice and civic responsibility. A composite response to the challenges of out-of-school children requires multi-sectoral, multi-institutional, and multidisciplinary inputs. Therefore, achieving SDG-4 needs to be supplemented with other SDGs, especially SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, and 17.

Second, consider the variability within out-of-school children. This group is not homogeneous but diverse in demographic character, physical location, degree of mobility, and range of visibility. This category includes street children, rag pickers, child beggars, nomads, children of seasonal migrants, child inmates, and child labourers. Each subgroup faces unique challenges and

barriers to education, necessitating tailored approaches and interventions. Education for all means all these children have a fundamental right to not just education, but health, and freedoms. Therefore, a one-size-fits-all solution is inadequate. Different strategies are needed for different groups.

Third, we must diversify the curriculum and pedagogy. Inclusion means attending to differences, and the diverse needs of this group require corresponding diversified pedagogical methods. Traditional schooling is not a panacea. School shortages and distances are major obstacles to educational access. We need to provide flexible, situationally relevant learning opportunities tailored to the material and social realities of marginalised children. Both educational content and pedagogical methods need innovation. We should focus on learning instead of schooling. Schools are place-dependent institutions, while learning can be spatially mobile, online, media-based, hybrid, or distance-based. The concept of learning opens up multiple possibilities independent of physical schooling. It is also less costly. However, the learning model needs proper understanding of non-formal educational approaches, which are currently underexplored in our context.

Additionally, Unicef's Temporary Learning Centres, which proved viable during the 2022 floods, can be multiplied. A comparative educational analysis, such as innovations for out-of-school children in Bhutan, Sri Lanka, and Kerala (India), offers valuable lessons. In these regions, adaptable and community-centred educational models have shown significant success, demonstrating the importance of context-specific solutions.

These thoughts aim to inform the response to the prime minister's call for educational revival. We need fresh thinking and action, not rhetoric. As Einstein reminds us, "We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them."

May our education system heal quickly, so no child is left behind. ■

The writer is a sociologist of education and an anthropologist. He holds a PhD degree from McGill University and is an assistant professor at the Sukkur-BM University.
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OPINION



BY ZUBEIDA MUSTAFA

A helping hand

IN a country without institutionalised social security, how do people of limited means survive in an emergency? A wage earner might lose his job unexpectedly, a young woman may find herself widowed, or a serious illness might strike. The well-to-do have their savings and insurance to help them tide over the emergency. But for the indigent, the options are limited. At best, they can beg, borrow or steal.

It is in this context that the social work system has assumed great significance. Many large communities existed even before Pakistan, such as the Ismailis, Memons, etc. Several legends are relatively new, having been formalised after 1947 when populations were uprooted and needed support. The fact is that communities have stepped in to fill the vacuum created by the failure of the state to provide economic and social security to its citizens. A well-known community is the Anjuman-i-Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen of Paritagarh, a district of Awadh.

These communities are structured diversely and perform complex functions. I have more about them from Summa Liaquat of the Anjuman-i-Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen, Paritagarh (Awadh). Summa's father died in 1974. She is grateful to the AIMPG as it came to her mother's rescue when she was left with four young children. The community assigned her a stipend, which arrived, without fail, every month at her doorstep until her eldest son began to work and support the family. "When my mother requested for the stipend to be discontinued, a committee member was dispatched to check if all was well," Summa recalls.

The AIMPG is an urban community though its founding members traced their origins to various villages of Paritagarh, a district of Awadh. It was not based exclusively on common paternal descent but included the fraternity of households of the area.

Following partition, 100-odd Paritagarhians migrated to Karachi to test the greener pastures promised by the Muslim League. There followed the migration of families, Muzaffarabad, the sight of a woman from Paritagarh begging on a Karachi street upset the pioneers so much that they decided to set up a welfare society in 1955 so that no one would have to beg. The idea was also to connect members with relatives with whom they had lost touch. There was no looking back after that.

The community's membership has risen to 6,000, comprising a number of highly educated and socially and economically well-placed individuals. It had started as a group of illiterate men, mostly unskilled workers such as gardeners, peons, drivers and chowdhis. The Anjuman now boasts a 99 per cent literacy rate and has PhD doctors, a veteri-

narian, an MP/MLA (in fact), an MNA, two MPs and lawyers in its ranks. For many, it has been a story of rags to riches.

I was impressed by the AIMPG's self-help spirit. Its focus has been on humanitarian service, the Shohai-Khidmat-i-Khas being its most important department. When I asked the organisation's president Khadija Qureshi what he took most pride in, he replied: "We have delivered stipends or assistance to those on our list on the first of the month for the last 69 years without fail. Today, 82 families between them receive Rs2,000,000 every month."

Mr Qureshi, who is commercial manager at Port Qasim, also speaks proudly of the 60-bedded Anjumi General Hospital, a healthcare centre and the Anjumi Public School that provides education to 400 children — 100 of them receiving fee subsidy.

The Anjuman raises its own funds. The membership fee is a token one rupee, which was fixed in 1955. But members and non-member beneficiaries are generous with their zakat, fitra and other donations.

The administration is structured democratically. It is divided into 19 wards in the city (Karachi) with a representative to monitor the well-being of the members under his jurisdiction.

Above the wards is a three-member council consisting of a president, general secretary and finance secretary assisted by an auditor. Elections are held every two years.

Events held periodically are well-attended and help the members bond. Membership is entirely voluntary and those who choose to join demonstrate a strong sense of brotherhood, which means a lot in a country that has failed to give its people a sense of citizenship. The AIMPG has been progressive in its outlook and had managed generational change effectively. No wonder all children are attending schools, and the emancipation and empowerment of women in an extremely patriarchal community has proceeded smoothly.

How does the government feel about such communities? Obviously, it welcomes them because they are apolitical and do not challenge the state's power. The wealthier communities contribute a lot to the national economy. But with membership hardly amounting to anything in a country of 245 million, the communities make no impact on the social security situation in the country. ■

www.zubeida-mustafa.com



BY UMAR FAROOQ

Protecting the coast

PAKISTAN'S coastal and marine ecosystems, such as the Indus delta, Karachi's mangroves, and the Makran coast, are not merely scenic beauties but foundational to the country's environmental and economic stability. The Indus delta mangroves alone encompass about 130,000 hectares (321,237 acres) serving as vital carbon sinks that store approximately 14.4 million tonnes of carbon annually. Yet, these ecosystems face critical threats — industrial pollution, rampant overfishing, and the overarching impacts of climate change compromising their ability to perform essential functions.

In Karachi, the unchecked discharge of industrial pollutants has severe consequences on its marine ecosystems. Notably, the city's reliance of about 90 per cent of its untreated wastewater into the Arabian Sea introduces pollutants such as heavy metals and hydrocarbons, with the tanning industry releasing toxins that have been shown to damage sensitive mangrove roots and reduce the water quality, affecting the health of fish and other marine life. The recent controversial construction of the expressway along the route of the Malir river, poses a direct threat to these ecosystems resulting in increased sedimentation that might suffocate the mangrove forests, which are crucial nurseries for many species of fish.

One solution to these problems is the establishment of a national marine data repository. This centralised data system would enable better management and monitoring of marine environments by providing accurate and timely information on pollution levels, biodiversity health, and the effectiveness of conservation efforts. The data on pollution levels, including concentrations of heavy metals and chemicals from industrial discharges, will help identify pollution hotspots and guide regulatory enforcement. Biodiversity data, tracking species populations and health, monitoring the health of the mangroves and coral reefs through satellite imagery, and field surveys and data on water quality indicators such as pH, dissolved oxygen, and nutrient levels would help in tracking the broader environmental health of the blue ecosystems.

Strengthening regulatory frameworks is essential to addressing the threats faced by Pakistan's marine ecosystems. One specific policy would be the introduction of a 'marine pollution control act' which would mandate industrial facilities to install and maintain wastewater treatment plants to remove harm-

ful pollutants before discharge. The act should be reinforced with the setting and offsetting of toxin release. Additionally, a permit system for factories along the coast, mandating the treatment of wastewater before the release and investment in catchment restoration, should be introduced. This would be in the form of 'marine credits' for funding coral reef restoration or seagrass meadow rehabilitation, which could then be used to offset their pollution footprints. These permits would be linked to regular inspections and hefty fines for non-compliance, ensuring a deterrent effect that would encourage industries to adopt cleaner practices.

Community involvement is equally critical for sustainable outcomes. Local and indigenous communities, which have depended on Pakistan's coastal and marine ecosystems for generations, are often overlooked in policymaking processes. These communities are key stakeholders, possessing invaluable traditional knowledge and a deep connection to the environment. Yet, policymakers frequently impose regulations without consulting them, leading to ineffective and unsustainable outcomes. True progress can only be made by genuinely engaging these communities, earning their trust, and implementing tailored awareness campaigns where needed. Without their involvement, no policy will be effective or enforceable.

Looking at international examples, community-led initiatives were one of the key components in the success of Marine Protected Areas, which helped to revitalise coral reefs. Ensuring justice means recognising these communities' rights, incorporating their insights, and creating inclusive conservation strategies that honour their roles as stewards of the environment.

In the words of a local fisherman, "We protect what we love, and we love what we understand." Just as the tides sustain the shores, so, too, we must sustain our efforts to protect these vital ecosystems. For the future of our oceans, and the communities that depend on them, it is a shared responsibility we cannot afford to ignore. ■

The writer is a UK-based research scientist. umar.farooq@gmail.com

FROM THE PAST PAGES OF DAWN

1974 | Fifty years ago

Just solution

LAHORE: Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto declared here tonight (June 13) that he would place the Ahmadi issue before the National Assembly immediately after the Budget session. In a 75-minute address to the nation over radio and television, the Prime Minister counselled patience and tolerance and urged the people not to take the law into their own hands under any circumstances. The Prime Minister said if the Members of the National Assembly decided that the matter be referred to the Council of Islamic Ideology or the Supreme Court, he would have no hesitation to do so, and called upon the people to refrain from playing into the hands of those who wanted to give a political twist to the Rakhwahi incident for achieving their ulterior motives.

"Where would you kill, and whose property would you burn. Everything which may be harmed belongs to Pakistan," he added. The Prime Minister categorically declared: "Imha Allah, the decision on the Ahmadi issue will be taken during our stay in the office." He said the issue was a religious one and its solution "must be such which does not affect the solidarity and sovereignty of the country and represents the feelings and aspirations of the people." — News agencies

1949 | Seventy-five years ago

'All are Pakistanis'

KARACHI: "Those people who had come here to settle down permanently are Pakistanis, they are no more Muhajirs," declared Miss Fatima Jinnah on Sunday (June 12) addressing the Martyrs Day meeting at Quaid-i-Azam's Mausoleum. She stated that it would be in the interest of Pakistan to give up the question of Muhajirs and Arians as soon as possible and become true Pakistanis. While denouncing 'provincialism and partyism', Miss Jinnah advised the people not to continue this narrow-minded policy. — Staff correspondent

[Meanwhile, as reported by news agencies in Rawalpindi,] Mr Liaquat Ali Khan, Prime Minister of Pakistan, received His Excellency Sir Francis Maudslayi, Governor of the West Punjab, this morning (June 13) at Circuit House. ... The Prime Minister then met the members of the Election Inquiry Committee, West Punjab. ... The report prepared by the ... Committee ... regarding the holding of elections in the province was discussed in detail for about an hour.

A deputation of the West Punjab Muslim League leaders met Mr Liaquat Ali Khan this evening and discussed with him Punjab affairs and the Kashmir situation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

letters@dawn.com

Letters may be edited for purposes of clarity and space. All letters should carry the writer's address, CNIC and phone numbers.

Wait and watch as India starts afresh



THE recent general elections in India have dealt a significant blow to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's stated ambition of getting an absolute majority in the legislature. The election campaign, which had been kicked off with the inauguration of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya in January, witnessed a symbolic setback as the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) faced defeat in Ayodhya itself.

The elections marked a notable change for the BJP, which, after a decade of dominance, now has to make do with a simple majority within the National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

Despite expectations, the BJP failed to galvanise its base, including the voters of its parent organisation, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). The atmosphere of fear created by Modi and his close associates alienated even the RSS from the campaign. Modi's usual tactic of leveraging Hindutva and making sarcastic remarks about Muslims proved ineffective this time. He barely managed to retort in his own language. The BJP's decline can be attributed to rising inflation, unemployment, controversial military recruitment reforms, and Modi's aggressive and divisive electoral campaign, in particular.

Modi's ability to govern unilaterally will be curtailed. This development bodes well for a stronger opposition that can actively challenge government actions. The results also suggest a resurgence of the Congress party, which is positive news for secular India, providing relief to minorities who have been distressed by Hinduva rhetoric and discriminatory policies.

For the people of occupied Kashmir, too, the results offer a glimmer of hope.

The BJP-led administration has inflicted severe repression since the revocation of the occupied valley's special status, and the outcome of the elections may lead to some reversionment of these harsh policies.

Gulab Ullah
Turbat

Power curtailed

THE recent general elections in India have given the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), led by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), a weak mandate to govern the country. Narendra Modi received a massive setback, but he and his party were brought down by their own hubris. The repeatedly expressed desire of absolute majority in parliament stands completely shattered. More than that, however, Modi and BJP have suffered a reputational damage as they have failed to get even a simple majority. This will surely weaken the man politically inside the party. As prime minister, Modi will struggle to showcase his ill-famed decision-making powers.

BJP's defeat in some of its core areas means Modi will be facing more resistance to keep good harmony. Besides, major legislative changes cannot be enforced without consensus within the ruling coalition, and the will of the opposition.

Now that Modi knows that his tough-handedness and arrogance did not serve his cause in the elections, he might revise his strategy, and opt for the soft touch.

All said and done, the general elections have again shown that India remains a competitive electoral democracy. Elections in India have always worked as a corrective mechanism, and this time was no different.

Shaji Ahmed Khanwaja & Dr Pooja Merchant
Hyderabad

The population myth

THERE are many who have for long been saying that the country's population is increasing at an alarming rate and that there will soon be a situation when not enough resources will be available to sustain the masses. Is our population really growing at a rapid speed? Is it true that our population will be doubled soon? The very first indicator to understand the population trajectory is the total fertility rate (TFR), which is the average of a woman giving birth. Pakistan's TFR in 1951 was 6.8, with a population of 33.7 million in West Pakistan. Due to the high TFR, the population nearly doubled in 1971 with 62.5 million people.

Now, as per the 2023 census, we are a nation of 241.4 million people. The estimated fertility rate in 2021 was 3.47, which decreased to 3.3 in 2023, a city where

2023, and is now 3.18 in 2024. There has been a continuous decline which is evidence of a steady fall in TFR terms. As of now, we can infer that our population will not be doubled anytime soon.

TFR value of 3 means there will be a 50 per cent increase within a generation, which means 20-30 years. That is to say that in 2050, the population of the country will be somewhere around 362 million. On the other hand, Goldman Sachs, an investment banking firm, has estimated that the country's gross domestic product (GDP) will increase from \$175 billion today to \$3.3 trillion by 2050.

The numbers speak for themselves. There is a need to minimise negativity by spreading despair and myths. For a better Pakistan, let us be positively realistic.

Tajir Ahmed Kandhro
Karachi

Sheer lawlessness

FOR the last three decades or so, I have been reading in the newspapers about the increasing pace of street crimes as well as robberies in Karachi. Literally, every second person in the city has been a victim of one crime or another. No one gets caught and the looted valuables are rarely recovered.

My house was targeted in 2005 when the criminals took away the jewellery of my sister. A report filed with the nearby police station yielded no results. We were so traumatised at the brazen intrusion that our mental and emotional state remained deeply affected. I would remember the details of the incident often, but slowly the pain began to fade. On June 2, 2024, it all came back with much more.

On my way to hospital for a medical check-up at around 2.45pm, my car was checked by two young men on a motorbike. They asked my driver to stop, and when he did, one of them pointed a gun at me and the other reached into the car and pulled at the gold chain, a memory of my sister, from my neck. As he snatched it, the chain broke. Then he took my hands and began to pull out the rings I was wearing; again a present from my sister. One was so difficult to remove that my knuckle was injured.

The bike-rider took up my wallet that was lying on the seat, and took Rs6,000 that I had kept for the doctors' fee and medicines. They then rushed away. It all happened in a matter of minutes. No passerby intervened. I was left almost paralysed.

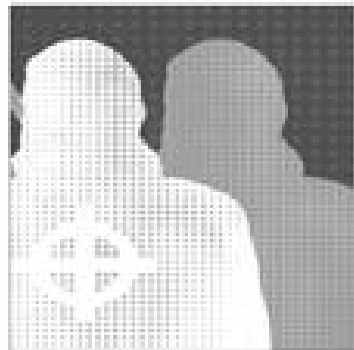
I have tried to approach the Citizens Police Liaison Committee (CPLC) to get an FIR lodged. Although accommodating and supportive, the officials have not been able to be productive. I have been told more than once that I should be glad that I am still alive in a city where

people are killed every day. I have been appalled that I did not offer resistance.

I am still in a state of shock and disbelief. But, most of all, I feel hopeless. There is no hope for this city, and there is no hope for the people in this country. There is no much rot that people are forced to live in a constant state of despair.

Nikhat Karim
Karachi

The actual culprit



ARMEDS can eliminate terrorism, but the real menace is extremism that lies deeper in our mind, and influences all our decisions, actions and attitudes in life. It steps in from thinking logically and forces us to believe only in what we already believe. Extremists consider all others who think differently from them as sinners and liable to be eliminated.

To change such a mindset is an uphill task as the extremists are not willing to open their minds and do not believe in any logic, reason, rationality or empirical thinking. Their mindset is like hard rock that can neither be moulded nor configured.

In Pakistan, steps are being taken to address terrorism, and organisations, like the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA), have been formed, but nothing is being done to soften the minds of extremists.

In fact, extremism is being glorified, and laws like blasphemy law encourage people to adhere to their extremist thoughts and harm people of different views. Our education system supports this, our culture encourages this mindset, and even our scientists and pseudo-intellectuals are happy to name some ancient Muslim scholars and scientists rather than doing some scientific research themselves. It is a pity, and surely one of the greatest obstacles in the way of our progress.

Khuggam Durrani
Karachi

Executive Summary

The order was issued by a bench consisting of Justice Jee Anwar and Justice Syed Arshad Ali during the interim multiple petitions filed by several members of MUI RoGo, including chairman of the Khyber Teaching

AG Shah Faizal Uthmanlii contended that these petitions were not maintainable and may be dismissed.



WAPDA INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

WARAKA POWER STATION

Bid Ref. No. ITN-05

1. Requested Engineer Power Station WAPDA, Waraka, services invited bids from the following Manufacturers / contractors, delivery, / installers registered with Income Tax and Sales Tax Department and who are on Active Taxpayers List (ATSL) of the Federal Board of Revenue for supply of ELECTRICAL & MECHANICAL SPARES FOR OVERHEAD CRANE MASTER & SLANT (20 TON EACH) FOR WARAKA POWER STATION FOR HYDEL POWER STATION WARAKA on F.O.B basis. The period for performance of the Contract is 180-days.
2. Bidding documents, containing detailed terms and conditions, method of procurement, procedure for submission of bids, bid security, bid validity, opening of bid, evaluation criteria, certification / rejection of bids, performance guarantee etc. are available at the office of **01 General Manager (Hydel) Operation WAPDA, 185 WAPDA House, Lahore, Contact No. 342-9035238, 342-9035231-2310 & 01 Assistant Engineer Hydel Power Station WAPDA Waraka, contact No. 091-2389154. E-mail: waraka@wppa@gmail.com**
3. Price of the bidding documents is Rs. 3000/- (three-thousands) in shape of cash on demand draft in favour of **01 Manager Finance (Hydel) WAPDA, House, 175-175, WAPDA Lahore, payable to Account No. 001350130000403 HBL, Pakistan High Court Branch Lahore, & 01 Assistant Engineer WAPDA Waraka payable to Account No. 001604814 of HBL Waraka Sub Branch. U.S. Branch Code: 1600.**
4. Bids will be publicly open in the office of President Engineer WAPDA Waraka Power Station, General Postoffice, Dist. Faisalabad.
5. The bids, prepared in accordance with the instructions in the Bidding Documents, must reach on or before following dates:

Bid Documents	Bids to be ready on or before (Engineer and/or Proc. and/or Revenue)	Last Date of opening Bidding Documents	Place of opening of Bids on last calendar day closing day	Closing Time and Date of submission of bid	Date & Place of opening of bids
01-4 Mechanical Spares for Overhead Crane Master & Slant (20 Ton each) 02-1 Electrical Spares for Overhead Crane Master & Slant (20 Ton each)	4.7.2005	01.07.2005	01 General Manager, WAPDA, Waraka Power Station	25.07.2005/25.07.2004 10.30 AM & 11.30 AM	01 General Manager, WAPDA, Waraka Power Station

NOTE:

1. The procuring Agency reserves the rights to accept/reject the bid under the provision of PMSA Rules.
2. Tender received after closing time will not be entertained.
3. Bid validity may be extended from 180 days and EMD's validity.

IN ORDER TO REQUEST WAPDA
WARAKA POWER STATION
Phone No. 091-2389154 / E-mail: waraka@wppa@gmail.com

This notice is also available at PMSA Website: www.pmsa.org.pk

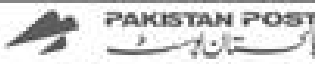
PCN: 00001 Website: www.wapda.gov.pk EMail: waraka@wppa@gmail.com

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 PIRELLA GÖTTSCHE LOWE

He added that currently, the MUI Appellate Tribunal was non-functional as only its chairman was appointed, whereas the members had not been appointed and therefore, the petitioners had to approach the high court for relief.

ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR HUMAN RESOURCE (TM)
Headquarters Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority
Terminal-4, Jinnah International Airport, Karachi, Tel: 021-99072067-8

MISCELLANEOUS



PAKISTAN POST
OFFICE OF THE POST MASTER GENERAL
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TENDER NOTICE FOR STATIONERY ITEMS

Post Master General, Postmaster South Circle, Hyderabad invites offers from the firms, registered with Sales Tax Dept., and having past experience of supply of stationery items, well known from India based firms are welcome, to supply the office materials. The Office official and officers under its jurisdiction, till the year 2024-25 to separate sealed Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal, which should reach in the Office of tendering latest by 11:00:00 AM on 11.06.2024. Every envelope should be marked "TENDER FOR STATIONERY" and "POSTMASTER, SOUTH CIRCLE, HYDERABAD" in bold letters. Sealed proposals will be opened under key at 11.00 am in the office of Post Master General, Postmaster South Circle, Hyderabad in the presence of Public or their representative. Whomever the Financial proposals of the firm, who qualify to bid tender proposals, will be opened on 12.06.2024 at 11.00 am.

- Tenders will be invited according to PPR-1 rules.
- Interested firms may obtain the Tender Paper from Postal Head Office, established at H. Hyderabad, District office below, by making payment of Deposit Tender Document and Fee Tendered (Rs. 2,500/-) (Tender Document Fee is not paid office and return in receipt (NOTED) by the tender firm will be issued after 12.06.2024 at 11.00 am.
- Supplier rates should be clearly all applicable items.
- There should be official or guaranteed from only. Offer rates should be valid up to 30.06.2024.
- Tenders should accompany a Bank Draft of Tender Document deposit (Rs. 2,500/-) in the name of Post Master General, Postmaster South Circle, Hyderabad to secure money. Tender related money return will not be accepted.
- Every firm should attach printed copies of sales tax receipt for registration and C.O.D. of the sales and other documents, otherwise the tender will not be accepted.
- The name of the firm or its representative with address below will be invited to attend the tender meeting.
- The successful bidder will be required to complete the supply the stationery within fifteen (15) days of issue of work order. Price including the supply will be required to be not exceed the tendered price. The work order will be issued to the successful bidder.
- The receipt money will be returned and the firm will be paid based according to PPR-1 rules.
- The acceptance of proposed rates in the tender will be subject to such the satisfactory check with the price specifications.
- The Unsuccessful Authority can cancel all or any offer completely or partially in accordance with PPR-1, 2004.

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Postmaster General, Postmaster South Circle, Hyderabad

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PARCO **PAK-ARAB REFINERY LIMITED**
A Pakistan Arab Refinery Joint Venture

TENDER NOTICE

Pak-Arab Refinery Limited (PARCO) invites sealed bids from the qualified foreign entities of Petroleum Products for the sale of its HSDO 160/50 and at Seller's option.

Item Description

EXPORT OF HIGH SULFUR FUEL OIL (HSFO) 160/50 with Tender Doc No. PARCOEXPORT/2024/04/05

Notes: Detailed Terms and Conditions are specified in our Tender Document.

Lot Details & Tender Submission Date	Bid Submission & Opening Date & Time
Lot Details: USD 25,000/- Bid Receipt: USD 25,000/- Tender is available: From 14.06.2024 to 24.06.2024	Bid Submission: Opening Date & Time: 25-06-2024 Bid Submission Time: 11:00 hrs. Bid Opening Time: 11:00 hrs.

Further information is available at our website: www.parco.com.pk

Interested parties may obtain Tender Documents against a written request on their Company's letterhead. Local agents of foreign parties are required to submit the copies of valid ATN certificates as well. PARCO reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to cancel the entire bidding process without assigning any reason whatsoever before or after the Bid Opening.

Manager Materials

UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, LAHORE
TRUTH, THE ULTIMATE VIRTUE

ADDENDUM

Reference to the University of Education, Lahore Job Advertisement (VACANCIES FOR TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING POSTS) under IP-2024 published in Express (Jang dated 05.06.2024 and Dawn dated 05.06.2024). The following additions / modifications have been made:

- The applicants are required to attach and submit attached copies of CNIC, domicile, all educational documents/certificates, experience certificates and any other relevant documents along with deposit receipt, deposited system generated fee status sheet as per the following approved rates, on or before the closing date.

Category	Stipend	Annual (one-year) stipend
IP-2024 to IP-2025-21 & 22-23 Posts	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 1,00,000/-
IP-2024 to IP-2025-23	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 1,00,000/-
IP-2024	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 1,00,000/-

- An appointment, other than under the tenure track system or faculty shall be made from amongst the candidates shortlisted in the Punjab.

Registrar
University of Education, College Road, Township, Lahore, Pakistan
Phone: 042-66222277, E-mail: uol@ue.edu.pk

IP-2024

NOTICE OF EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

IN THE MATTER OF SCHEME OF COMPROMISES, ARRANGEMENTS AND RECONSTRUCTION BETWEEN MCB BANK LIMITED AND MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED UNDER SECTIONS 279 TO 283 AND 285 READ WITH OTHER ENABLING PROVISIONS OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2017

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Order dated May 27, 2024, of the honorable Lahore High Court, Lahore passed in C.O. No. 23028 of 2024, an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting ("EGGM" / "Meeting") of MCB Bank Limited ("MCB" / "Bank") will be held on **Wednesday, July 03, 2024, at 11:00 AM**, at Grand Ball Room-A, 4th Floor, The Nishtar Hotel adjacent to Emporium Mall, Abdul Haq Road, Johar Town, Lahore, to transact the following Special Business:

To consider and if thought fit, to approve and adopt the Scheme of Compromises, Arrangements and Reconstruction the "Scheme" between MCB and its wholly owned subsidiary, MCB Islamic Bank Limited ("MIB") by passing or otherwise the following resolution with requisite majority, with or without modifications, additions or deletions:

"RESOLVED THAT, the Scheme of Compromises, Arrangements and Reconstruction (the Scheme) between MCB Bank Limited and its members and its wholly owned subsidiary, MCB Islamic Bank Limited and its members, as placed before and considered by this Meeting, for inter alia, transfer of banking business including assets, liabilities and operations of 39 branches of MCB Bank Limited along with all rights and obligations pertaining thereto (Damaged Undertaking) as detailed in the Scheme and vesting of the Damaged Undertaking with and into MCB Islamic Bank Limited in accordance with the Scheme be and is hereby, approved, adopted and agreed subject to any modifications or conditions as may be required/needed by the honorable Lahore High Court, Lahore."

"FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the President & CEO and/or the Company Secretary and/or the Chief Financial Officer of MCB Bank Limited, singly, be and are hereby authorized to take any steps/measures for the implementation and completion of the Scheme."

Chairpersons of the Meeting	
-Sd/- Mr. Muhammad Aftab Advocate Supreme Court 410-Aftab Building, Mall Road, Lahore 0300-4199625 amnas.advocate@gmail.com	-Sd/- Mr. Ali Hussain Gilani Advocate High Court House No. 189, Block G-6, WAPDA Town, Lahore 0304-2222010 ali.gilani@caslaw.pk
June 14, 2024 Lahore	-Sd/- Fahd Ahmed Company Secretary MCB Bank Limited

- Notes:**
- The Statement under Section 281 of the Companies Act, 2017 (the "Act") read with Statement of material facts under Section 134(3) of the Act (the "Statement") setting forth, inter alia, the terms of the compromises, arrangements and reconstruction and explaining its effect, along with a copy of the Scheme of Compromises, Arrangements and Reconstruction (the "Scheme") are being circulated along with Notice of EGGM to the members and other persons entitled to receive Notice of EGGM.
 - Copy of the Scheme can also be obtained, free of charge, from the Registered Office of MCB Bank Limited ("MCB") located at MCB Building, 15-Main Gate, Jinnah Road, Lahore during usual business hours (09:00 a.m. to 05:30 p.m., Monday to Friday) by the members and other persons entitled to attend the EGGM by making application addressed to the Company Secretary-MCB, at MCB Building, 15-Main Gate, Jinnah Road, Lahore.
 - Copies of the Scheme, the Statement, the latest annual audited/quarterly financial statements of MCB along with all published or otherwise required accounts of all prior periods of MCB along with copies of its Memorandum and Articles of Association, Statement of net assets of Damaged Undertaking along with auditors' factual findings report thereon, requisite approvals/and other related information/documents have been kept at the Registered Office of MCB which can be inspected during the business hours (09:00 a.m. to 05:30 p.m.) on any working day (Monday to Friday) from the date of publication of this notice till the day before the EGGM by the members and other persons entitled to attend the EGGM. In case of any difficulty, the same should be brought to the notice of the mentioned Chairpersons.
 - Notice of EGGM along with the Statement, the Scheme and the latest annual audited/quarterly financial statements have also been placed on website of MCB.
 - The Share Transfer Books of MCB will remain closed from **July 01, 2024 to July 05, 2024** (both days inclusive). Transfers received at MCB's Share Registrar and Transfer Agent's Office, i.e., M/s THK Associates (Pvt.) Limited, Plot No. 32/C, Jam Commercial Street 2, D.H.A., Phase VI, Karachi at the close of business hours on **June 28, 2024** will be treated as being in time for the purpose of attending, speaking and voting at EGGM.
 - A member entitled to attend and vote at EGGM may appoint another member as his/her proxy to attend and vote on his/her behalf at the EGGM. No person shall act as a proxy, who is not a member of the Bank. A corporate entity, being a member, may authorize through resolution of its board or other governing body, an individual to act as its representative and the individual so authorized shall be entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of the corporate entity which he represents.
 - In order to be effective, the proxies and in case of corporate entity, a witnessed/signed copy of the power of attorney or resolution of the board of directors or other governing body (if any) under which it is signed, must be deposited at the Registered Office of the Bank not later than 48 hours (no account shall be taken of any part of the day that is not a working day) before the time for holding the Meeting, and must be duly stamped, signed and witnessed.
 - If a member appoints more than one proxy, and more than one instrument of proxy is deposited by a member, all such instruments of proxy shall be rendered invalid.
 - Proxy Forms, both in English and Urdu languages, are being sent to the members, along with Notice of EGGM. The Proxy Forms are also available on website of the Bank i.e., www.mcb.com.pk
 - Central Depository Company of Pakistan (CDDC) Accountholders with further have to follow the guidelines as laid down by Circular No. 01, dated January 26, 2004, issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan ("SECP").
 - Members having physical copy of shares are requested to immediately notify the change, if any, in their registered addresses and e-mails, in writing, to the Share Registrar and Transfer Agent of the Bank, whereas, CDDC Account holders are requested to contact their CDDC Participant/CDDC Investor Account Services.
 - The procedure for E-Voting and Voting through Ballot Paper, in accordance with the requirements of the Companies (Postal Ballot) Regulations, 2018 ("Postal Ballot Regulations") as amended from time to time, is given below:

- Procedure for E-Voting:**
- E-voting facility will be provided by M/s THK Associates (Private) Limited ("THK Associates"), the Share Registrar & Corporate Consultants, acting as E-Voting Service Provider, appointed by the Board of Directors.
 - Details of E-Voting facility will be shared through an e-mail to those members of the Bank who have their valid CNIC numbers, cell numbers, and e-mail addresses (Registered e-mail IDs available in the register of members of the Bank as of June 28, 2024). Members who intend to attend the EGGM through E-Voting shall provide their valid cell numbers and e-mail addresses to "THK Associates" before the close of business hours June 28, 2024.
 - Identity of the members intending to cast vote through E-Voting shall be authenticated through electronic signature or authentication for login.
 - Members shall cast their votes for agenda item as mentioned in the Notice of EGGM online through the web portal provided by THK Associates from 09:00 AM (Pakistan Standard Time ("PST")) July 03, 2024 to 05:30 PM (PST) July 03, 2024. Votes shall only be casted during this schedule, and
 - A vote once cast by a member, shall not be allowed to be changed, subsequently.
- Procedure for Voting Through Ballot Paper:**
- Members may alternatively opt for voting through Postal Ballot. As per the requirements of Postal Ballot Regulations, the Ballot Paper will be published in the newspapers and will also be uploaded on Bank's website www.mcb.com.pk not later than seven days before the EGGM. The members must ensure that the Ballot Paper, duly filled-in, signed and accompanied with a copy of valid Computerized National Identity Card ("CNIC") / copy of passport in case of foreigner must reach the Chairpersons of the EGGM through post at the following address and/or through email at amnas.advocate@gmail.com (Mr. Muhammad Aftab) and at ali.gilani@caslaw.pk (Mr. Ali Hussain Gilani). The Postal Ballot should reach the aforementioned office on or before 05:30 PM, July 03, 2024.
 - Mr. Muhammad Aftab (Advocate Supreme Court, 410-Aftab Building, Mall Road, Lahore, 0300-4199625, amnas.advocate@gmail.com)
 - Mr. Ali Hussain Gilani (House No. 189, Block G-6, WAPDA Town, Lahore, 0304-2222010, ali.gilani@caslaw.pk)
- Any Ballot Paper received after this timeframe shall not be considered for voting.
- In case of an individual, signature on Ballot Paper should match with signature on CNIC, NICOP/Passport (in case of foreigner's passport, in case of a representative of a body corporate, corporation or Federal Government, the Ballot Paper must be accompanied by a copy of the CNIC of an authorized person, an attested copy of Board Resolution/Power of Attorney/Autorization Letter etc., in accordance with Sections 129/130 of the Act. In the case of foreign body corporate etc., all documents must be attested by the Consul General of Pakistan having jurisdiction over the member, and
 - Incomplete, unsigned, incorrect, detached, torn, mutilated, over written Ballot Paper will be rejected.

Requirements to attend the EGGM through Video-Link

As per the requirements of the SECP, the Bank is also providing Video-Link facility for participation in the EGGM. The members or their proxy holders who wish to attend the EGGM through Video-Link are required to register themselves by providing the following information along with valid CNIC/ Passport (both self-attested copy of board resolution/power of attorney as applicable through email at: corporateaffairs@mcb.com.pk of the Bank on or before **July 02, 2024**.

Name of Shareholder	Folio/CDD Account Number	Number of Shares Held	Valid CNIC/NIC/Passport Number	Mobile Number and Email Address

The members or their proxies who are registered after necessary verification shall too provided a Video-Link facility by the Bank on their email addresses.

Statement under Section 281 (1) (a) read with Section 134 (3) of the Companies Act, 2017

This Statement sets out material facts concerning the special business to be transacted at EGGM and the terms of the Scheme of Compromises, Arrangements and Reconstruction ("Scheme") and explains its effect in particular, the material interest if any of the directors including the chief executive (of MCB Bank Limited ("MCB") whether in their capacity as such or as members or directors or otherwise and the effect on these interests of compromise or arrangement and in so far as, it is different from the effect on the like interest of other persons and other ancillary information.

MCB and MCB Islamic Bank Limited ("MIB") through Joint Petition (Civil original No. 23028/2024) under Section 279 to 283 and 285 of the Companies Act, 2017 (the "Act") filed with the honorable Lahore High Court (the "Court") have prayed for the sanction of the Scheme for inter alia demerger of 39 branches of MCB and merger of the same with and into MIB. The honorable Court vide its order dated May 27, 2024 has directed inter alia that separate meetings of the members of MCB and MIB may be convened under the supervision of the Chairpersons, appointed by the honorable Court, for seeking their approvals to the Scheme by passing the resolution proposed in the notice of the Meeting with requisite majority.

A copy of the Scheme has been enclosed with the Notice of EGGM circulated to the members. A copy of the same can be obtained from the Registered Office of MCB, free of charge during usual business hours (09:00 a.m. to 05:30 p.m., Monday to Friday) on application prior to the date of EGGM. The notice issued and published in the newspapers for convening the special meeting of the members as directed by the honorable Court for the purpose of presenting the proposed Scheme to the members and passing inter alia of resolution sanctioning the Scheme by a majority representing three-fourth in value of the issued ordinary shares held by the members as are present in person or by proxy and voting at the EGGM.

The Scheme:
The principal object of the Scheme is to separate and demerge banking business, operations, assets and liabilities of 39 branches of MCB i.e., Damaged Undertaking as detailed and defined in the Scheme and to transfer the Damaged Undertaking to MIB, which is wholly owned subsidiary of MCB against payment of net assets by MCB/MIB in cash without further act or documents being required to be executed, registered or filed in respect of such transfer, vesting and/or assumption.

The Scheme is subject to the sanction of the Lahore High Court, Lahore in its present form or with any modification therein or addition thereto as the honorable Court may approve.

Approval of the Scheme:
The resolution specified in the Notice of EGGM has to be passed by a majority representing three-fourth in value of the issued shares held by the shareholders present in person or by proxy and voting at the EGGM. Notice of EGGM along with Statement under Section 281(1)(a) read with Section 134(3) of the Act has been circulated to the members and other entitled persons. The sanctioning of the Scheme and the making of other appropriate orders in connection therewith will be considered by honorable Court after the members have approved the Scheme by requisite majority at the meetings of MCB and MIB convened for the purpose.

Filing of the Scheme:
A copy of the Scheme has been filed with the Registrar, Company Registration Office, Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan, Lahore.

Proposed Terms adopted by the Board of Directors:
The proposed terms of the Scheme drawn up and adopted by the Board of Directors of MCB and MIB are contained in the scheme.

Report adopted by the Board of Directors:
The Board of Directors of MCB and MIB have approved the Scheme. MCB and MIB have only one class of members. The effect of the Scheme on the interests of Directors/CEO does not differ from the effect on the like interest of other members except as stated herein and under the Scheme and that the directors of MIB are nominee directors of MCB and independent directors.

Consideration:
Upon coming into effect of the Scheme and in consideration of the Damaged Undertaking, the payment of net worth as certified by the auditors of MCB shall be paid within 45 days from the Effective Date.

Statement of Net Assets:
The Statement of net assets of 39 branches as of March 31, 2024 has been duly certified by external auditors of MCB. The net assets shall be subject to adjustments on the Effective Date and shall be certified by the auditors of MCB.

Benefits of the Merger:
MIB having business of Islamic banking is a wholly owned subsidiary of MCB. The demerger of 39 branches from MCB will rationalize the branch network of MCB and increase the network of MIB, which is striving to promote Islamic banking as per strategy of the State Bank of Pakistan. The Damaged Undertaking will stand converted into Islamic Banking branches on the Effective Date pursuant to the compliance with the applicable regulatory permissions and services. The business performance and shareholders' value of both banks will be enhanced.

Interest of Directors/Chief Executives:
All the Directors of MCB and MIB who are nominees of MCB are interested to the extent of their respective shareholdings (as applicable and mentioned herein) that are held by them in MCB and MIB. The directors who are performing full time executive functions are also interested to the extent of remuneration, benefits and allowances as per the respective policies of both banks.

The effect of the Scheme on the interests of Directors/CEO does not differ from the effect on the like interest of other members except as stated herein and under the Scheme.

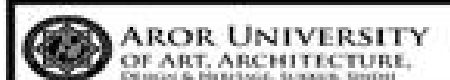
No director of MCB and MIB will be relinquishing their respective offices in the said companies as a result of the sanction of the Scheme.

Shareholding of Directors:
Following are the present shareholdings in MCB and MIB by the Directors / Presidents/CEOs of MCB and MIB (along with their spouses), respectively:

DIRECTORS AND THEIR SPOUSES	SHAREHOLDINGS	
	MCB As on May 07, 2024	MCB Islamic As on May 07, 2024
MCB Bank Limited		
Mr. Muhammad Mansha	10,000,834	Nil
Mrs. Nuz Mansha (Spouse of Mr. Muhammad Mansha)	28,698,844	Nil
Mr. Muhammad Tariq Ball	86,891,385	Nil
Mrs. Nighat Tariq (Spouse of Mr. Muhammad Tariq Ball)	5,715,023	Nil
Mr. Umar Mansha	24,216,616	Nil
Mrs. Iqra Hassan Mansha	8,032,101	Nil
Mr. Hassan Mansha (Spouse of Mrs. Iqra Hassan Mansha)	34,539,042	Nil
Mr. Muhammad Ali Zeb	500	Nil
Mr. Muzil Suhail Amir Buresh Bin Abdullah	884	Nil
Mr. Yaseen Buresh	500	Nil
Mr. Saadman Khattab Butt	49,000	Nil
Mr. Shahzad Hussain	500	Nil
Mr. Masood Ahmed Puri	1,000	Nil
Shahid Muhammad Javed	2,800	Nil
Mrs. Umeed Javed (Spouse of Shahid Muhammad Javed)	3,243,251	Nil
Mr. Ghosh Munir (President & CEO)	Nil	Nil
MCB Islamic Bank Limited		
Mr. Raaz Mansha	25,908,069	01
Mrs. Amira Raaz Mansha (Spouse of Mr. Raaz Mansha)	22,804,177	Nil
Mr. Ibrahim Shamir	71,548	01
Mrs. Nahma Ibrahim (Spouse of Mr. Ibrahim Shamir)	278,610	Nil
Mr. Omar Sattar	Nil	01
Ms. Seema Ali	Nil	01
Mr. Fawzan Khalid	Nil	01
Mr. Ahmad Ebrahim Hasham	160,303	01
Mrs. Anushey A. Hasham (Spouse of Mr. Ahmad Ebrahim Hasham)	100,000	Nil
Mr. Javed Iqbal	5,624,267	01
Mr. Zargham Khan (Director (President/CEO))	Nil	Nil



MISCELLANEOUS



TENDER NOTICE

Tender # HIT/AUS/PC/2024/19

Sealed bids are invited from individuals/authorized organizations/individuals/organizations to supply and install computer lab equipment for the following item(s):

"Single Stage Two Envelope tender"

S.NO.	ITEMS
01	SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF COMPUTER LAB EQUIPMENT

Details of specifications and quantity are mentioned in the tender documents, which can be obtained on provision of demand draft/pay order for Rs. 3000/- (Non-refundable) in favor of The Aror University of Art, Architecture, Design and Heritage, from the office of the Procurement Officer, on any working day from June 13, 2024 to June 28, 2024. The last date for submission of bids is June 28, 2024 up to 03:00pm. The tenders will be opened on the same day at 03:00pm in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives (who may choose to be present). The financial proposals of only technically eligible bidders will be accepted/opened. Bid security is 3% of the tender amount (Refundable) in shape of bank draft/pay order in the name of The Aror University of Art, Architecture, Design and Heritage must be attached with the bid documents. The Procuring Agency reserves the right to reject any or all bids subject to relevant provisions of LPP Rules 2010 and may cancel the bidding process at any time prior to the acceptance of a bid or proposal under Rule 25 of said Rules and as per PPSA rules.

PLEASE SEND YOUR SUBMISSION TO: procurement.officer@aror.edu.pk

PROCUREMENT OFFICER
Aror University of Art, Architecture,
Design & Heritage, Sukkur
RCV/ Rohri Bypass, Sukkur, Sindh.
Ph: 071-5651900 Ext. 363
Web: www.aror.edu.pk

PH: 011-455331

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS

PUBLIC NOTICE

INVITATION OF SUGGESTIONS FOR SUITABLE PERSONS FOR APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON, NATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

The Federal Government invites suggestions for appointment of Chairperson, National Commission on the Status of Women to perform functions as required under National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) Act, 2012

1. Eligibility:

A Chairperson, who shall be a woman with experience of working on issues related to women's rights for more than fifteen years, and is committed to the cause of women's empowerment under sub-section 2(a) of Section 3 of NCSW Act, 2012. The Chairperson shall hold office for a term of three years.

2. General Provisions:

Citizens or organizations / entities e.g. Pakistan Bar Council, Provincial High Court Bar Associations, Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists etc. are encouraged to send their suggestions.

3. Suggestions may be sent along with necessary details / documents to the office of the undersigned by post or courier within 15 days of the publication of this advertisement at the address given below.

(Rukhsana Omer)
Deputy Director (IC-II)
Ministry of Human Rights,
9th Floor, Kohsar Block, Pak Secretariat, Islamabad. Ph: 9208737

RAVI URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
INVITATION TO BIDS

Ravi Urban Development Authority (RUDA) herewith referred to as "Procuring Agency" intends to invite sealed bids for "Installation of networking and security cameras in the new office buildings of the Ravi Urban Development Authority (RUDA)".

Interested companies, who are providing above services and registered with relevant authority Income tax and sales tax department are invited to participate.

Tender document can be obtained from the Procurement Wing of Ravi Urban Development Authority (RUDA), 181 Abu Bakr, Block Garden Town, Lahore on deposit of pay order amounting PKR 5,000/- (non-refundable) being the tender cost, issued by any scheduled bank of Pakistan having validity of 90 days, in favor of Ravi Urban Development Authority on any working day (Monday to Friday) during office hours. A copy of tender notice and bidding document is also available on the website of Ravi Urban Development Authority (RUDA) www.ruda.gov.pk. However, such submission will only be accepted if a pay order amounting PKR 5,000/- is attached with the bidding document.

The procedure for bidding shall be single stage. Two Envelopes as specified under Regulation 41(2)(b) of RUDA Procurement Regulations 2009 (amended) which can be downloaded from RUDA website www.ruda.gov.pk (password: ruda) and which would be the operative law and is open to eligible bidders as defined in the bidding documents.

Sealed bids must be submitted at the mentioned office address on or before **1st July 2024 by 11:00 AM** and must be accompanied by a bid security in favor of Ravi Urban Development Authority amounting to PKR 500,000/- valid for a period of 90 days against the bid validity of 90 days issued by any scheduled bank in Pakistan and must be obtained along with the technical proposal. Technical proposal submitted without bid security shall not be entertained and accordingly declared non-responsive. Late proposals shall not be entertained.

Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives who choose to be present at **11:00 AM on 1st July 2024** in the Office of Ravi Urban Development Authority. Late proposals shall not be entertained. Incomplete and correction bids will be rejected. Multiple submissions from a firm shall not be entertained.

RUDA will not be responsible for any cost or expense incurred by bidders in connection with preparation or delivery of bids.

In case of official holiday or any local holiday falling on last submission date the next working day will automatically be the last date of submission and opening of the bid.

The bidders are required to quote their best competitive final prices inclusive of all applicable taxes for carrying any further information or clarifications, please contact the person named below:

Mr. Ravi Urban Development Authority
The Procurement Wing, Ravi Urban Development Authority
181 Abu Bakr, Block Garden Town, Lahore. Ph: 35822222

P/1-0585

MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED

NOTICE OF EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

IN THE MATTER OF SCHEME OF COMPROMISE, ARRANGEMENTS AND RECONSTRUCTION BETWEEN MCB BANK LIMITED AND MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Order dated 27 May 2024, of the honorable Lahore High Court, Lahore passed in O.O. No. 20208 of 2024, an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting ("EOGM") / "Meeting" of MCB Islamic Bank Limited ("MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED") / "Bank" will be held on **Saturday, July 06, 2024, at 12:00 PM**, at Imperial Ball Room 3, 4th Floor, The Nishtar Hotel adjacent to Emporium Mall, Abdul Haseeb Road, Johar Town, Lahore, to transact the following **Special Business**:

To consider and if thought fit, to approve and adopt the Scheme of Compromise, Arrangements and Reconstruction (the "Scheme") between MCB Islamic Bank Limited ("MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED") and its holding company, MCB by passing or otherwise the following resolution with requests majority, with or without modifications, additions or deletions:

"RESOLVED THAT, the Scheme of Compromise, Arrangements and Reconstruction (the 'Scheme') between MCB Bank Limited and its members and its wholly owned subsidiary, MCB Islamic Bank Limited and its members, as placed before and considered by this Meeting, for inter alia, transfer of banking business including assets, liabilities and operations of 39 branches of MCB Bank Limited along with all rights and obligations pertaining thereto ('Dismembered Undertaking') as detailed in the Scheme and vesting of the Dismembered Undertaking with and into MCB Islamic Bank Limited in accordance with the Scheme be and is hereby approved, adopted and agreed subject to any modifications or conditions as may be required/imposed by the honorable Lahore High Court, Lahore"

"FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the President & CEO and/or the Company Secretary and/or the Chief Financial Officer of MCB Islamic Bank Limited, singly, be and are hereby authorized to take any steps/measures for the implementation and completion of the Scheme"

Chairpersons of the Meeting

Mr. Muhammad Afraz
Advocate Supreme Court
410-Afraz Building, Mall Road, Lahore
0300-4166625
afraz.advocate@gmail.com

Mr. Ali Hussain Qazi
Advocate High Court
House No. 169, Block G-8, WAPDA Town, Lahore
0334-2222919
ali.qazi@thescales.pk

Maimoona Cheema
Company Secretary
MCB Islamic Bank Limited

June 14, 2024
Lahore

Notes:

- The Statement under Section 281 of the Companies Act, 2017 (the "Act") read with statement of material facts under Section 134(3) of the Act (the "Statement") setting forth, inter alia, the terms of the compromise, arrangements and reconstruction and explaining its effect, along with a copy of the Scheme of Compromise, Arrangements and Reconstruction (the "Scheme") are being circulated along with Notice of the EOGM to the members and other persons entitled to receive notice of EOGM.
- Copies of the Scheme can also be obtained, free of charge, from the Registered Office of MCB Islamic Bank Limited ("MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED") / "Bank" located at 59-1 Phase 8 CHA, Lahore during usual business hours (9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday to Friday) by the members and other persons by making application addressed to the Company Secretary MCB Islamic Bank Limited, 59-1 Phase 8 CHA, Lahore.
- Copies of the Scheme, the Statement, the latest annual audited/quarterly financial statements of MCB / MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED along with all published or otherwise required accounts of all prior periods of MCB and MCB Islamic Bank Limited along with copies of Memorandum and Articles of Association, Statement of net assets of Dismembered Undertaking along with auditors factual findings report thereon, requisite approvals/and other related information/documents have been kept at the Registered Office of MCB Islamic Bank Limited which can be inspected during the business hours (9:00 am to 5:00 pm) on any working day (Monday to Friday) from the date of publication of this notice till the day before the EOGM by the members and other persons. In case of any difficulty, the same should be brought to the notice of the mentioned Chairpersons.
- Notice of EOGM along with the Statement, the Scheme and the latest annual audited/quarterly financial statements have also been placed on website of MCB and MCB Islamic Bank Limited.
- The Share Transfer Books of MCB Islamic Bank Limited will remain closed from **June 28, 2024 to July 06, 2024** (both dates inclusive). Transfers received at MCB Islamic Bank Limited Company Secretary's Office at 1-59, CHA (Phase 8), Lahore at the close of business hours on **June 28, 2024** will be treated as being in time for the purpose of attending, speaking and voting at EOGM.
- A member entitled to attend and vote at EOGM may appoint another member as his/her proxy to attend and vote on his/her behalf at the EOGM. A corporate entity, being a member, may authorize through resolution of its board or other governing body, an individual to act as its representative and the individual so authorized shall be entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of the corporate entity which he represents.
- In order to be effective, the proxies and in case of corporate entity, a notarized/certified copy of the power of attorney or resolution of the board of directors or other governing body (if any) under which it is signed, must be deposited at the Registered Office of the Bank 1-59, CHA Phase 8, Lahore not later than 48 hours before the time for holding the Meeting, and must be duly stamped, signed and witnessed.
- If a member appoints more than one proxy, and more than one instrument of proxy is deposited by a member, all such instruments of proxy shall be considered null.
- Proxy Forms, both in English and Urdu languages, are being sent to the members, along with Notice of EOGM. The Proxy Forms are also available on website of the Bank (i.e., <https://www.mcbislamicbank.com/>)
- Members are requested to immediately notify the change, if any, in their registered addresses and e-mails, in writing, to the Share Registrar and Transfer Agent of the Bank.

Statement under Section 281 (1) (a) read with Section 134 (3) of the Companies Act, 2017

This Statement sets out the material facts concerning the compromise, arrangements and reconstruction ("Scheme") and explains its effect in particular, the material interest if any of the directors including the chief executive of MCB Islamic Bank Limited ("MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED") / "Bank" whether in their capacity as such or as members or creditors or otherwise and the effect on those interests of compromise or arrangement if, and in so far as, it is different from the effect on the like interest of other persons and other ancillary information.

MCB and MCB Islamic Bank Limited ("MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED") through Joint Petition (Civil original No. 20238/2024) under Section 278 to 283 and 285 of the Companies Act, 2017 (the "Act") filed with the honorable Lahore High Court Lahore (the "Court") have prayed for the sanction of the Court for sanction of 39 branches of MCB and transfer of the same with and into MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED. The honorable Court vide its order dated 27 May 2024 as directed inter alia that special meetings of the members of MCB and MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED may be convened under the supervision of the Chairpersons, appointed by the honorable Court, for seeking their approvals to the Scheme by passing the resolution proposed in the notice of the Meeting with requisite majority.

State Bank of Pakistan has issued its Objection dated 29 April, 2024 approving the Scheme for filing before the Honorable Lahore High Court, Lahore for sanction / approval.

A copy of the Scheme has been enclosed with the Notice of EOGM circulated to the members. A copy of the same can be obtained from the Registered Office of MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED, free of charge during usual business hours 48 on application prior to the date of EOGM. The notice issued and published in the newspapers is for convening the special meeting of the members as directed by the honorable Court for the purpose of presenting the proposed Scheme to the members and passing inter alia of resolution sanctioning the Scheme by a majority representing three-fourth in value of the issued ordinary shares held by the members as are present in person or by proxy and voting at the EOGM.

The Scheme:

The principal object of the Scheme is to separate and demerge banking business including assets, liabilities and operations of 39 branches of MCB i.e., Dismembered Undertaking as detailed and defined in the Scheme and to transfer the Dismembered Undertaking to MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED, which is wholly owned subsidiary of MCB against payment of net assets by MCB/MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED in cash without further act or documents being required to be executed, registered or filed in respect of such transfer, vesting and / or assignment.

The Scheme is subject to the sanction of the Lahore High Court, Lahore in its present form or with any modification therein or addition thereto as the honorable Court may approve.

Approval of the Scheme:

The resolution specified in the Notice of EOGM has to be passed by a majority representing three-fourth in value of the issued shares held by the shareholders present in person or by proxy and voting at the EOGM. Notice of EOGM along

with Statement under Section 282(1)(a) read with Section 134(3) of the Act has been circulated to the members and other entitled persons. The sanctioning of the Scheme and the making of other appropriate orders in connection therewith will be considered by honorable Court after the members have approved the Scheme by requisite majority at the meetings of MCB and MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED convened for this purpose.

Filing of the Scheme:

A copy of the Scheme has been filed with the Registrar, Company Registration Office, Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan, Lahore.

Proposed Terms adopted by the Board of Directors:

The proposed terms of the Scheme drawn up and adopted by the Board of Directors of MCB and MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED are contained in the Scheme enclosed herewith.

Report adopted by the Board of Directors:

The Board of Directors of MCB and MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED have approved the Scheme enclosed herewith. MCB and MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED have only one class of members. The effect of the Scheme on the interests of Directors / CEO does not differ from the effect on the like interest of other members except as stated herein and under the Scheme and that the directors of MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED are nominees of the MCB / independent Directors.

Consideration:

Upon coming into effect of the Scheme and in consideration of the Dismembered Undertaking, the payment of net worth as certified by the auditors of MCB shall be paid within 45 days from the Effective Date.

Statement of Net Assets:

The Statement of net assets of 39 branches as of March 31, 2024 duly certified by external auditors of MCB is enclosed. The net assets shall be subject to adjustments on the Effective Date and shall be certified by the auditors of MCB.

Benefits of the Scheme:

MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED having business of Islamic banking is a wholly owned subsidiary of MCB. The demerger of 39 branches from MCB will reduce the network of MCB and increase the network of MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED, which is striving to promote Islamic banking as per strategy of the State Bank of Pakistan. The Dismembered Undertaking will stand converted into Islamic banking branches on the Effective Date pursuant to the compliance with the applicable regulatory permissions and sanctions. The business performance and shareholders' value of the Bank will be enhanced.

Interest of Directors/Chief Executive:

All the Directors of MCB and MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED (who are nominees of MCB) are interested in the extent of their respective shareholdings (as applicable and mentioned herein) that are held by them in MCB. The directors who are performing full time executive functions are also interested to the extent of remuneration, benefits and allowances as per the respective policies of both banks.

The effect of the Scheme on the interests of Directors / CEO does not differ from the effect on the like interest of other members except as stated herein and under the Scheme.

No director of MCB and MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED will be relinquishing their respective offices in the said companies as a result of the sanction of the Scheme.

Shareholding of Directors:

MCB Islamic is a wholly owned subsidiary of MCB which holds its 100% shares including shares held in the name of directors of MCB Islamic. Following are the present shareholdings in MCB and MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED by the Directors / Presidents / CEOs of MCB and MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED, respectively:

DIRECTORS AND THEIR SPOUSES	SHAREHOLDINGS	
	MCB As on May 07, 2024	MCB Islamic As on May 07, 2024
MCB Bank Limited		
Mr. Muhammad Mansha	10,007,604	Nil
Mrs. Nay Mansha (Spouse of Mr. Muhammad Mansha)	28,592,944	Nil
Mr. Muhammad Tariq Razi	25,091,265	Nil
Mrs. Nighat Tariq (Spouse of Mr. Muhammad Tariq Razi)	5,715,000	Nil
Mr. Umar Mansha	34,216,616	Nil
Mrs. Syra Hassan Mansha	9,007,987	Nil
Mr. Hassan Mansha (Spouse of Mrs. Syra Hassan Mansha)	34,539,042	Nil
Mr. Muhammad Ali Zaid	550	Nil
Mr. Mohd Suhail Amir Suresh Bin Abdullah	684	Nil
Mr. Yahya Saleem	500	Nil
Mr. Salman Khurid Butt	45,000	Nil
Mr. Shahzad Hassan	500	Nil
Mr. Masood Ahmad Pan	1,000	Nil
Shahzad Muhammad Jawad	2,500	Nil
Mrs. Unesa Jawad (Spouse of Shahzad Muhammad Jawad)	3,247,251	Nil
Mr. Shoaib Mumtaz (President & CEO)	Nil	Nil
MCB Islamic Bank Limited		
Mr. Raza Mansha	25,938,069	01
Mrs. Ammi Raza Mansha (Spouse of Mr. Raza Mansha)	22,904,177	Nil
Mr. Ibrahim Shamsi	773,58	01
Mrs. Roshni Ibrahim (Spouse of Mr. Ibrahim Shamsi)	278,610	Nil
Mr. Omar Sattar	Nil	01
Mr. Seema Aziz	Nil	01
Mr. Hammad Khaliq	Nil	01
Mr. Ahmad Elbrahim Hasham	150,333	01
Mrs. Anshaya A Hasham (Spouse of Mr. Ahmad Elbrahim Hasham)	100,000	Nil
Mr. Jawad Iqbal	5,024,267	01
Mr. Zaigham Khan Duran (President & CEO)	Nil	Nil

Inspection of documents:

Copies of the Scheme, the Statement, the latest annual audited / quarterly financial statements of MCB / MCB Islamic Bank Limited along with all audited and unaudited accounts of all prior periods of MCB and MCB ISLAMIC BANK LIMITED along with copies of Memorandum and Articles of Association, Statement of net assets of Dismembered Undertaking along with auditors factual findings report thereon, requisite approvals / and other related information Documents have been kept at the Registered Office of MCB Islamic Bank Limited 1-59, CHA Phase 8, Lahore which can be inspected during the business hours 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on any working day (Monday to Friday) from the date of publication of this notice till the day before the EOGM by the members and other entitled persons. In case of any difficulty, the same should be brought to the notice of the mentioned Chairpersons.



UN asks Taliban to ease curbs on women education

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The head of Pakistan-based United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), Malick Cressy, has said easing restrictions on women's access to education and employment and an inclusive system of governance by Taliban rulers of Afghanistan will pave the way for their recognition by the international community.

Speaking at the fourth round of Pak-Afghan religious scholars dialogue, organised by the Centre for Research and Security Studies (CRSS) in the federal capital on Thursday, the UN mission head said though Taliban have allowed Afghan women to work in some public offices related to passport, immigration, healthcare and agriculture, these concessions have been overshadowed by the ban on the remaining women's access to employment and girls' education beyond grade six.

He said the UNAMA is also engaging with all Afghans to help them achieve a broad-based governance system that includes everybody.

In his interaction with participating religious scholars from the two countries, Mr Cressy said: "Islam never says that women should not go to school, and Islam never says that women should not go to work. Which version of Islam and which holy Quran says that? It's not found in there," he said.

He urged the Taliban rulers to attend a conference on Afghanistan later this month, stating that it would help return the much-needed global attention to the crisis-ridden Afghanistan, as Ukraine and Gaza wars had dramatically shifted the international attention from Afghanistan and that's a concern for the United Nations. "We don't want Afghanistan to be forgotten," he said. "We are hopeful that this time around, the Islamic Emirate will send its representatives (to Doha) to be able to engage with the international community in a constructive and effective manner," the UN diplomat said.

Russia to try US reporter over alleged CIA work

MOSCOW: Russian prosecutors said on Thursday they had sent the case of detained US reporter Evan Gershkovich, to court after concluding he had been collecting information for the US Central Intelligence Agency about a Russian tank factory.

Gershkovich, 32, was arrested on March 29, 2023, in the Urals city of Yekaterinburg on charges of espionage that carry up to 20 years in prison after the FSB, the main successor agency to the KGB, said it had caught him "red-handed" trying to obtain military secrets.

He denies any wrongdoing and his employer, The Wall Street Journal, said in

a statement on Thursday after the latest Russian move that he was facing "a false and baseless charge" based on what is called "calculated and transparent lies."

President Joe Biden has called his detention "entirely illegal".

The Journal spoke out after the office of Russia's General Prosecutor said in a statement it had approved Gershkovich's criminal indictment and that his case would be heard by a court in Yekaterinburg. It did not say when the case would be heard or whether the trial would be closed to the public as is common in such cases.—Reuters



BUENOS AIRES: A car belonging to a radio station is on fire during a protest outside Argentina's parliament, on Wednesday. Protesters took to the streets across the country after senators started debate on an austerity package prepared by the government of ultra-right President Javier Milei.—AFP

G7 to lend Ukraine \$50bn by using Russian assets

BORGIO IGNAZIA: Leaders of the Group of Seven (G7) major democracies agreed on Thursday to provide \$50 billion of loans for Ukraine using interest from Russian sovereign assets frozen after Moscow invaded its neighbour in 2022.

The political agreement was the centrepiece of the opening day in southern Italy of the annual summit of G7 leaders, attended for a second consecutive year by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

He said he had signed a 10-year security accord with Japan on the sidelines of the summit, and that Japan would provide Ukraine with \$4.5 billion this year. Zelenskyy will also sign a new, long-term security accord with US President Joe Biden later in the day. The G7 plan for Ukraine is based on a multi-year loan using profits from some \$300 billion of imposed Russian funds.

The technical details are to be finalised in the coming weeks, a G7 diplomatic source said. The source, who asked not to be named, said the additional funding would arrive by the end of this year.

The United States had agreed to provide up to \$50 billion itself, a senior US official said, but that amount could decline significantly

as other countries announced their participation.

The aim of the deal was to ensure it can run for years regardless of who is in power in each G7 state—a need to concerns that US Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump may be much less sympathetic to Kyiv if he beats Biden in November's election, according to a person close to the talks.

Russia regards attempts by the West to take income from its frozen assets as criminal. Foreign ministry spokesman Maria Zakharova said on Thursday, adding that Moscow's response would be very painful for the European Union.

Many of the G7 leaders are struggling at home but determined to make a difference on the world stage as they also seek to counter China's economic ambitions. "There is a lot of work to be done, but I am sure that in these two days we will be able to have discussions that will lead to concrete and measurable results," Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni told her G7 guests as their talks started in a luxury hotel resort in the southern region of Puglia.

While Meloni is flying high after triumphing in weekend European parliament elections, leaders of

the other six nations—the United States, Japan, France, Germany, Britain and Canada—face major domestic woes that may undermine their authority.

The G7 leaders also expressed their concerns about the situation on the Israel-Lebanon border and endorsed US efforts to secure a ceasefire in the Gaza war, according to a draft communiqué due to be released following the summit.

In addition, they called on Israel to refrain from a full-scale offensive in the southern Gaza city of Rafah, "in line with their obligations under international law".

Western nations were also concerned in their concern over China's industrial overcapacity, which they say is distorting global markets, and their determination to help African states develop their economies, diplomats said. The G7 may have a very different complexion next year.

Biden faces an uphill battle to win re-election in November. British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak looks certain to lose power in a national election next month, while French President Emmanuel Macron dissolved his country's parliament on Sunday after his party was trounced in the European vote.—Reuters

Biden, Zelenskyy sign 10-year defence accord

BORGIO IGNAZIA: US President Joe Biden and Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy signed a 10-year bilateral security agreement on Thursday aimed at bolstering Ukraine's defence against Russia.

The deal, signed on the sidelines of the G7 summit in Italy, aims to commit future US administrations to support Ukraine, even if former president Donald Trump wins the November election, officials said.

It will be a framework for a long-term effort by the United States to help develop Ukraine's outdated armed forces and serve as a step towards the country's eventual Nato membership, according to the text.

"Our goal is to strengthen Ukraine's credible defence and deterrence capabilities for the long term," Biden said. Zelenskyy has long sought Nato membership, but the allies have stopped short of taking that step. The Western alliance regards any attack launched on one of its 32 members as an attack on all under its Article Five clause.

The parties recognise this agreement as supporting a bridge to Ukraine's eventual membership in the Nato alliance," the text says.

In the event of an armed attack or threat of such against Ukraine, top US and Ukrainian officials will meet within 24 hours to consult on a response and determine what additional defence needs are required for Ukraine, the agreement says. Under the agreement, the United States retained its support for Ukraine's defence of its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

"To ensure Ukraine's security, both sides recognise Ukraine needs a significant military force, robust capabilities, and sustained investments in its defence industrial base that are consistent with North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato) standards," the text says.—Reuters

X makes 'likes' private 'to protect users'

SAN FRANCISCO: Former Twitter platform X on Thursday said "likes" on the platform will now be private in an effort to protect users and drive up engagement.

With the change, which includes the removal of the "likes" tab on a profile page, users will no longer be able to track the likes of other users to figure out their interests or political leanings.

The change comes as the platform has become a home for right-wing content since the takeover by Elon Musk in late 2022, with more left-leaning users fleeing the site or dropping engagement.

"We are making Likes private for everyone to better protect your privacy," the platform told users in a pop-up message. "Liking more posts will

make your 'For You' feed better," X added.

The "For You" feed is a personalised list of videos or posts recommended for each individual user based on their interests and past engagement. "It's important to allow people to like posts without getting attacked for doing so," Musk said in a social media post.

In another post, Musk said X saw a "massive increase" in likes after they were made private.

Ahead of the change, X's head of engineering, Haofei Wang, said public likes "are incentivizing the wrong behavior."

"Many people feel discouraged from liking content that might be 'edgy' in fear of retaliation from trolls or to protect their public image."—AFP

Trump criticises Ukraine aid, talks tax cuts and tariffs with Republicans

Former president encourages House Republicans not to push a national ban on abortion

WASHINGTON: Donald Trump on Thursday criticised US aid to Ukraine, urged Republican lawmakers to cut taxes on gasoline and talked up tariffs in a visit to Capitol Hill, participants said, as he sought to build party unity ahead of

the Nov 5 election.

In a closed-door meeting, Trump said he would work to expand the party's narrow 218-213 House of Representatives majority and help re-elect even the two remaining Republican House members who voted to impeach him after the Jan 6, 2021 assault on the US Capitol by his supporters.

Trump also encouraged House Republicans not to push a national ban on abortion and encouraged them to abandon the inter-party squabbling that has hindered their effectiveness, lawmakers said.

"We have to plan to win because

there's so many problems to fix," House Speaker Mike Johnson told reporters afterward. Trump was due to meet Senate Republicans for lunch to discuss campaign strategies.

Trump and Democratic President Joe Biden each enjoyed unified governments during their first two years in office, but saw their parties lose control of the House during midterm elections, which impeded their ability to pass legislation.

The Republican presidential candidate is also due to speak on Thursday to the Business Roundtable, a Washington,

DC-based association of more than 200 corporate chief executives.

Republicans hope to see Trump defeat Biden, restore their current razor-thin House majority and take control of a Senate that Democrats currently lead 51-49. Trump urged lawmakers to cut taxes on income from tips, an idea he first floated on Sunday to appeal to service workers.

Trump criticised a \$60-billion aid package for Ukraine that recently passed with Republican support, lawmakers said. "It's like, if Ukraine wins, what will be the benefit?" Republican Representative Dan Bacon told reporters.

Bacon said Trump voiced support for the tariffs on Chinese goods. "He just said tariffs are a strong tool for the executive branch. And you can use it in your negotiations with China and get concessions." Hard-line Republican Representative Matt Gaetz said Trump voiced support for tariffs to protect the US steel industry.

Trump used tariffs aggressively during his 2017-2021 term in office, placing levies of up to 25% on a wide range of Chinese products as one of many efforts to thwart competition.

Trump told Republicans that they should allow states to set their own

policies on abortion, rather than push for a nationwide ban following the Supreme Court's 2022 decision that ended the nationwide guarantee of abortion access. Many in the party want to outline the procedure early.

"He reiterated he thought that was the right decision, that some states will do one thing and some states will do another," Republican Representative French Hill told reporters. Trump also encouraged far-right Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene, who led an unsuccessful effort to oust Johnson, to work constructively with him, lawmakers said.—Reuters



HILLA (Iraq): A woman carries hand-made straw mats on her head as she takes them to a market in the city.—AFP



HOLLYWOOD (Florida, US): Vehicles sit in flood waters on Wednesday as tropical moisture passes through an area after heavy rains.—AFP

NEWSMAKERS



PEOPLE drink water from a fountain as a heatwave hit Athens, on Thursday.—Reuters

Greece closes ancient tourist sites as heatwave persists

ATHENS: Greece shut more ancient tourist sites in Athens on Thursday and elderly people took refuge at designated air conditioned spots as the first heatwave of the summer persisted for a third day.

The famous Acropolis, set on a rocky hill overlooking the capital, and other nearby tourist attractions were closed on Thursday afternoon as winds from North Africa pushed temperatures towards 43 degrees Celsius (109 degrees Fahrenheit).

Many primary schools and nurseries across the country were closed to protect students from the heat, which was expected to recede on Saturday. In Athens, tourists snuggled in drinking fountains to cool their heads and necks. Locals sat in air conditioned rooms set up by the city, using hand-held fans to create a breeze.

Firefighters who put out several wild fires on Wednesday remained on high

alert as strong winds were expected to hit several parts of the country.

Greece is one of the most heat-hit countries by global warming in Europe, with rising temperatures fueling deadly fires and erratic rains in recent years.

Athens, a city of five million people which sits in a coastal bowl jammed with apartment blocks and flanked by mountains, is one of the hottest cities in Europe.

Scientists warn that summer temperatures there could rise by an average of 3 degrees by 2050. Athens mayor Kostas Yiolakas has tried to create more shade by planting 2000 trees.

Our first goal shall be to lower the median temperature, the felt air temperature," he told Reuters. "There are areas where the temperature is 15 or 20 times higher on cement or a city road, compared to a shady area."—Reuters



SINGAPORE: People interact with Art ZERO, a light art installation by Australia's Studio James Tapscott, during a festival at the Marina Bay, on Thursday.—Reuters



LIUZHOU: A village clears tree branches stuck on the bridge after rain flooded a region in south-western China's Guizhou province, on Thursday.—AFP

G7 urges Hamas to accept Gaza truce proposal

Palestinian resistance movement says its fighters are battling Israeli troops near the besieged Strip's border with Egypt

ROME (Italy) G7 leaders on Thursday called on Hamas to accept a roadmap towards a ceasefire in Gaza announced by US President Joe Biden in May.

The UN Security Council had supported the plan and "now it is important that everyone implements it," German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said at the Group of Seven summit in Italy.

"We therefore call on Hamas in particular to give the necessary consent so that this can now work," he said. Biden launched a new US effort late last month to secure a truce and hostage release.

However the deal remains uncertain as Hamas officials have insisted that any ceasefire agreement must guarantee a permanent end to the war — a demand Israel has firmly rejected.

Italian Prime Minister Giorgio Meloni, who is leading the summit, said the conference "the unanimous support for the US mediation proposal for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza".

The G7, which also includes Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Japan and the US, also called for the release of all prisoners, and for a significant increase in humanitarian assistance to the civilian population of Gaza, who said.

Rafah battles

Israeli helicopters struck Gaza's Rafah on Thursday, residents said, with Hamas reporting street battles in the southern city after top US diplomat Antony Blinken said a truce was still possible.

Israeli ground forces have been operating in Rafah since early May, despite widespread alarm over the fate of Palestinian civilians there, and a ruling by the International Court of Justice later that month.

Western areas of Rafah came under heavy fire on Thursday from the air, sea and land, residents said.

"There was very intense fire from warplanes, Apache (helicopters) and quadcopters, in addition to Israeli artillery and military battle ships, all of which were striking the area west of Rafah," one said. Hamas said its fighters were battling Israeli troops on the streets in the city, near the besieged Gaza Strip's border with Egypt. —AFP



SMOKE plumes rise from a fire in a field after rockets launched from southern Lebanon landed near Kalandia, in the Israeli-annexed Golan Heights, on Thursday. —AFP

Hezbollah attacks nine Israeli military sites with rockets, drones

BEIRUT Hezbollah said it had launched rockets and weaponised drones at nine Israeli military sites in a coordinated attack on Thursday, ramping up hostilities on Lebanon's southern border for the second consecutive day.

The attacks were carried out in retaliation for an Israeli strike on Tuesday that killed a senior Hezbollah field commander. A security source told Lebanon it was the largest attack waged by Hezbollah since October, when the group started exchanging fire with Israel in parallel with the Gaza conflict.

Hezbollah said in a statement it had fired volleys of Katyusha and Fatah rockets at six Israeli military locations. Its Al-Manar television reported more than 100 rockets fired at once.

Hezbollah's statement said it had also launched attack drones at the headquarters of Israeli's northern command, an intelligence headquarters and a military barracks.

A security source said that involved firing at least 30 attack drones at once, making it the group's largest drone attack to date in the eight-month-old war.

Hezbollah and Israel have been trading sporadic fire since the eruption of the Gaza invasion in October, but the last two days have seen a sharp rise following the Israeli strike that killed the Hezbollah commander.

The Wednesday, Hezbollah said it carried out at least eight attacks that day in retaliation.

Air raid sirens sounded across cities in northern Israel on Thursday and Israeli officials said about 40 rockets had been fired from Lebanon in the afternoon.

State broadcaster Kan aired footage of numerous missile interceptions of rockets above Israeli towns, including in Sded, some 12 km (7.5 miles) from the border.

Two people were wounded by shrapnel, Israeli's national ambulance service said.

Israeli strikes have killed more than 100 Hezbollah fighters in Lebanon — more than it lost in 2006, when the sides last fought a major war, according to a tally.

The number of civilians killed is around 80, the tally says. Attacks from Lebanon have killed 58 Israeli soldiers and 59 civilians, Israel says. The exchange of fire has a displaced tens of thousands of people on both sides of the border.

"Diplomatically or militarily, peace will be returned to our north. Israel will defend itself. There should not be any doubt about this whatsoever. This (situation) cannot be a sustained reality," Israeli government spokesperson David Menzer said.

Group of Seven leaders meeting in Italy said in a draft communique that they were very concerned by the situation on the Israel-Lebanon border. —Reuters

Over half of cropland in Gaza has been damaged, says UN

GENEVA: More than half of Gaza's agricultural land, crucial for feeding the war-ravaged territory's hungry population, has been degraded by conflict, satellite images analysed by the United Nations show.

The data reveals a rise in the destruction of orchards, field crops and vegetables in the Palestinian enclave, where hunger is widespread after eight months of Israeli bombardment.

The World Health Organisation warned on Wednesday that many people in Gaza were facing "catastrophic hunger and famine-like conditions".

Using satellite imagery taken between May 2017 and 2024, United Nations Satellite Centre (UNOSAT) and the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) found that 57 per cent of Gaza's permanent crop fields and arable lands essential for food security had shown a significant decline in density and health. "In May 2024, crop health and density across the Gaza Strip showed a marked decline compared to the average of the previous seven seasons," UNOSAT said on Thursday.

"This deterioration is attributed to conflict-related activities, including razing, heavy vehicle movement, bombing, and shelling." The decline, UNOSAT said, marked a 30pc increase in damaged agricultural land since it published its last analysis in April.

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said on Wednesday there were more than 8,000 children under five years old in Gaza who had been treated for acute malnutrition.

As well as damage to crop fields and orchards, greenhouses across the Gaza Strip had also sustained significant damage, UNOSAT said. —Reuters

Fire erupts on ship after attack off Yemen

DUBAI: A merchant ship caught fire after being attacked off Yemen, a British maritime security agency said on Thursday, following months of attacks in the area by Houthi rebels.

The ship was hit by "two unknown projectiles, which has resulted in a fire on board", said the maritime United Kingdom Maritime Operations (UKMTO), which monitors security incidents.

According to security firm Ambary, the ship was hit by a missile in the Gulf of Aden, south of western Yemen, the Arabian Peninsula's poorest country.

"Merchant shipping is advised to stay well clear of the affected vessel and halt crew deck movements," Ambary said, adding that the ship "aligned with the Houthi target profile". —AFP

'Neutral' Pakistan will skip Ukraine summit

Continued from Page 1

abstentions including China, and several important countries from Global South, which have shown unwillingness to join an anti-Russia forum and peace discussions in Moscow's absence.

Beijing rejected the allegation.

Expectations for tangible outcomes are modest because of Moscow's absence.

Islamabad's decision about skipping the conference is a diplomatic move to maintain neutrality in the conflict, especially since Russia is not participating in it. Pakistan has historically maintained good relations with Ukraine, having purchased weapons systems from it in the past, but has also been strengthening ties with Russia in recent years.

"We reiterate our call for immediate cessation of hostilities and stress the need for diplomacy and dialogue for an early negotiated end to the conflict between Ukraine and Russia," the spokesperson said.

"Pakistan stands for universal and consistent application of UN Charter principles, including non-use or threat of use of force, respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of states, peaceful settlement of disputes, and equal security for all states," she added.

IRGK attacks

Spokesperson Baluch rejected Delhi's allegations of involvement in latest surge in violence in India-held Kashmir.

"The Indian occupation authorities and media have a habit of making such irresponsible statements. No one takes these allegations seriously," she said. Responding to another question, she said there were unsubstantiated news reports that did not merit her comment.

Police in India-held Kashmir have accused Pakistan of orchestrating a series of attacks that resulted in the deaths of 12 individuals and left dozens injured over the past three days.

UN report

Pakistan welcomed the report of the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory including East Jerusalem and Israel, saying time has come for Israel to be held accountable.

The spokesperson said: "We call on global conscience to force Israel towards an immediate and unconditional ceasefire. It is also critical to bring an end to the war on the people of Gaza."

She also welcomed the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2715 and hoped for a permanent and sustainable ceasefire and an end to the suffering of the Palestinians in Gaza.

THIS SUNDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS: EOS

PERSPECTIVES ON SOCIETY, CULTURE, IDEAS.

COVER: DINING ROOM'S 1500-YEAR REICH

The politics of food and dining and their economic impact, discussed by Roshni Khanna and the EIP has been a hot topic in the Indian economy. **Editor's Verdict:** questions whether Indian democracy has pulled back from the brink, or will this foodies lead to Modi dipping in his back? **ALSO:** Award Naps on Why the Pakistan Is in All Wrong

SOCIETY: LEVELLING THE PLAYING FIELD

Despite efforts to increase women's participation in the workforce, Pakistan continues to face gender inequality in the workplace. What can be done to level the playing field?

WORLD: WHY EUROPE IS GETTING RIGHT

The president claims that Israel's immigration is the cause of the rise of far-right politics in Europe is challenged by evidence that outward migration is a greater factor.

BOOKS: WORDS

Book reviews: **Unleash Your Creativity** by South Asia Policy Institute and **Unleash Your Creativity** by South Asia Policy Institute and **Unleash Your Creativity** by South Asia Policy Institute. **ALSO:** The Fall of the Roman Empire: A History

PLUS: Pakistan's Pakistan

Plus: Pakistan's Pakistan: A History of Pakistan's Past, Present and Future. **ALSO:** The Fall of the Roman Empire: A History

ICON

INSIGHT INTO ENTERTAINMENT, PERFORMING ARTS, STYLE, CELEBRITY.

THE ICON INTERVIEW: ARMAN SIDDIQUI

The actor has become a part of history and is also regarded as one of the most powerful actors. But it's his versatility as an actor, more than his stardom, that really sets him apart. Does he face the challenge of playing roles that are not the typical leads?

LEADS: THE FUTURE OF LEADS

What is the future of the leading actor in the industry? The leading actor is still a very important role in the industry. But why do we need leading actors, popular globally, but to find leading in the country? And can there be a Pakistan lead in the future?

PLUS: Review of the Day

Review of the Day: **Unleash Your Creativity** by South Asia Policy Institute. **ALSO:** The Fall of the Roman Empire: A History

HESCO HYDERABAD ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED

INVITATION TO BID

Hyderabad electric supply company (HESCO) a power Distribution Company; its core function is to supply, distribute and sell power (Electricity) in the area of 13 District of Sindh Province invites sealed bids from the firms, who have valid PDC license (Renewed for the year 2024-25), registered with Sindh sales Tax and income tax department and who are on active taxpayer list of SFR and Federal Board of Revenue for the following works.

Tender No.	Name of work	Bid Security	Dropping Date & Time	Bid Opening Date & Time
Tender 2023-24 KEN/ Civ-43	M&R and Renovation / Rehabilitation of establishment for Transformer Reclamation Workshop in - CTC HESCO Jamshoro	Rs. 735,300.00	05.07.2024 02:00 PM	05.07.2024 02:30 PM

Bid Security of BQO Cost in the Shape of call deposit in favor of Executive Engineer Civil Works Division HESCO Hyderabad.

Other Conditions

- Tender/ bidding documents could be purchased upto 02.07.2024 during office hours, from the office of undersigned at PDCS/E OSO Office at 132KV Grid Station Colony Gujratabad Hyderabad price of bidding documents of Rs. 3000/- (Non Refundable) by the owner or his authorized person having current authority letter with original CNIC alongwith Bid security must be accompanied with the application.
- The tender documents will be issued on the written request along with CNIC mentioned for particular work on original letter pad of the firm, duly attested by Notary Public (only one authorized representative can purchase tender for one firm).
- Un-sealed / improper sealed tenders will be rejected straight away rate should be carefully mentioned (in figure & words) in the B.O.Q as well as on tender documents otherwise the tenders will be rejected.
- Affidavit in which the bidder undertakes that he is not involved in any litigation, Affidavit in which it should be undertaken that the information provided is true and correct duly attested by Oath Commissioner.
- Affidavit in which it should be undertaken that he has not been Black listed by any government / autonomous body duly attested by Oath Commissioner.
- The Bidder will show the Original Documents & (submit one set attested copy) at the time of Purchase/ Sale of Tender.
- 10% Performance Guarantee from any scheduled Bank in Pakistan or Bank Guarantee from an Insurance Company having atleast AA rating from PACRA/CR, will be provided by the lowest bidder at the time of letter of acceptance.
- The CDRs of those firms who dropped their tender in tender box will not be returned till the finalization of Bid Evaluation.
- Under rule 33(1) of PPRA Rule 2004, the HESCO Authority reserves the rights to accept or reject any or all bids or proposals at any time prior to acceptance of bid or proposal.

This advertisement is also available on PPRA website at www.ppra.org.pk and HESCO website at www.hesco.gov.pk.

(ZAFAR ALI SOOMRO)
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CIVIL WORKS DIVISION HESCO, HYDERABAD
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PRO/HH-2023

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN BENAZIR INCOME SUPPORT PROGRAMME F-BLOCK, PAK SECRETARIAT, ISLAMABAD

Procurement Notice (PN) No. 04(119)/BISP/Admin/2014

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT (E-PADS)

- Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) has reserved Funds for the procurement planned for FY 2023-24. BISP intends to apply part of the proceeds of this Fund to cover eligible payments under the contract for the Tyres supply facility for BISP's vehicles. BISP shall award this contract for a period of **Thirty-Six (36) Months** during which services to be rendered upon placement of Call off Contracts / Individual Work Orders.
- BISP hereby invites applications for Pre-qualification of Tyres Suppliers from the eligible applicants who are registered with PPRA for E-procurement on "e-Pak Acquisition and Disposal system (e-PADS)", having Income & Sales Tax registration and are on Active Taxpayers List (ATL) of FBR. For using the e-PADS, unregistered applicants/suppliers may first register on website <https://eprocure.gov.pk/SupplierRegistration>; in case of any technical difficulty in registration or using e-PADS, the prospective applicants may contact PPRA's technical team.
- The complete set of Pre-qualification documents containing description and detailed terms & conditions are available on the websites of PPRA (www.ppra.org.pk), BISP (www.bisp.gov.pk) and e-PADS (www.eprocure.gov.pk) and can be downloaded free of cost. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Room No. 136, Benazir Income Support Programme, F-Block, Pak. Secretariat, Islamabad, Tel: 051-9246389 during office hours.
- All e-applicants must be submitted through e-PADS. Manual submission of applications without e-PADS will **NOT** be accepted/ entertained. Sealed applications (as prescribed in Application Data Sheet of the Pre-qualification Document) of the submitted e-PADS application Prints in accordance with e-PADS Regulations should be submitted to the Benazir Income Support Programme, F-Block, Room No. 136, Pak. Secretariat, Islamabad on or before **2:30 PM by 2nd July, 2024**. E-applications will be opened on the same date at **3:00 PM** in the presence of the applicants or their authorized representatives, who may choose to be present.
- In case opening date(s) is declared as a Public Holiday by the Government, the next working date shall be deemed to be the date for submission and opening of tenders at the same time and place. BISP may reject all bids at any time prior to the acceptance of a bid by invoking rule 33 of Public Procurement Rule (PPR), 2004.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR (GM)

Room No. 136, BISP HQ, F-Block, Pak. Secretariat, Islamabad
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Afghans remain largest refugee population globally

Pakistan among five top refugee-hosting countries

By Anwar Iqbal

UNITED NATIONS: Afghans continue to make up the largest population of refugees worldwide, with the majority seeking refuge in Iran and Pakistan, maintaining a trend observed in previous years, according to a UNHCR report released on Thursday.

The UN refugee agency's 2024 Global Trends Report includes estimates of internally displaced persons, pointing out that the years 2023 and 2024 saw historically high levels of forced displacement worldwide.

The report also features an assessment by the UN agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA), which estimates that about 75 per cent of the population in the Gaza Strip — approximately 1.7 million people — have been displaced.

Syria, however, holds the record for the highest number of people forcibly displaced, with 13.8 million displaced both within and outside its borders.

"Behind these stark and rising numbers lie countless human tragedies. That suffering must galvanise the international community to act urgently to tackle the root causes of forced displacement," said Filippo Grandi, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, while commenting on the report.

Afghans constitute one in six of all refugees under UNHCR's mandate. Over the past year, more than 6.4 million Afghans were hosted in 108 countries, marking an increase of 741,400, or 13 per cent, from the previous year. This surge is primarily due to the rise in the number of Afghans in refugee-like situations in Iran (5,327,300) and Pakistan (4,189,800).

Major host countries

Nearly three in four refugees (73 per cent) originate from just five countries, and 87 per cent come from only 10 countries, maintaining consistency with the previous year.

The largest refugee-hosting countries include Iran with 5.8 million, Turkey with 3.3 million, Colombia with 2.9 million, Germany with 2.6 million, and Pakistan with 2.6 million.

Most refugees in Iran and Pakistan are Afghans, and nearly all refugees in

Turkey are Syrians.

Afghan refugees

Globally, nearly 10.9 million Afghans remained displaced, with most staying within their country or in neighbouring countries. In 2023, the number of Afghan refugees increased by 741,400, totalling 6.4 million, mainly due to new population estimates from Iran and Pakistan.

"Opportunities for sustainable return are limited, as almost half of Afghanistan's population of over 40 million faces acute food insecurity, and millions remain displaced within the country," the report adds.

Humanitarian crisis in Gaza

The report notes that the conflict in the Gaza Strip has had a devastating impact on the Palestinian civilian population. The humanitarian situation is extremely dire, with all 2.2 million inhabitants facing acute food insecurity and an imminent threat of famine.

UNRWA estimates that between October and December 2023, up to 1.7 million people (over 75 per cent of the population) have been displaced within the Gaza Strip, with many forced to flee multiple times.

By the end of 2023, there were 6 million Palestinian refugees under UNRWA's mandate, with 1.6 million in the Gaza Strip. Thousands of these refugees have become internally displaced in 2023, compounding their existing vulnerabilities.

Displacement in Myanmar

Escalating violence following the military takeover in Myanmar in February 2021 has displaced more than 3.3 million people within the country in 2023, bringing the total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) to over 2.6 million by the end of the year. Most of them are Rohingya Muslims.

A major contributor to the alarming numbers in the report is the conflict between rival militaries in Sudan, which resulted in 10.8 million people being uprooted by the end of 2023.

Additionally, millions were internally displaced in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Myanmar last year. The 2024 Global Trends Report by UNHCR paints a grim picture of the state of global displacement, highlighting significant challenges and the urgent need for international cooperation to address the root causes of forced displacement.

Shehbaz asks ex-ally Fazl to join ruling coalition

JUI-F spokesperson says offer turned down by party chief

By Syed Irfan Raza

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday invited JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rahman to become part of the ruling coalition led by the PML-N, as he visited the residence of his former ally to inquire about his well-being.

The premier also proposed the formation of a committee to address the prevailing political issues and asked the Maulana to join it. A source in the PM's office confirmed that the JUI-F leader was asked to join the ruling alliance and also play his part by joining a proposed committee to resolve political tensions in the country.

A JUI-F spokesperson also confirmed this development. He said the Maulana refused to join the government at the request of the premier. "I don't think it's



PRIME Minister Shehbaz Sharif shakes hands with JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rahman in Islamabad, on Thursday.—PPF

true (that the JUI-F will join the government). Seeking power is not a part of our politics. We already had a better offer before the formation of the present government," he claimed.

It may be noted that Maulana Fazl led an opposition alliance, namely the Pakistan Democratic Movement, during the PTI govern-

ment. The PDM later formed a government in the Centre, led by PM Shehbaz Sharif, after the ouster of Imran Khan via a no-confidence motion in April 2022.

Task Management System

Separately, PM Shehbaz instructed federal secretaries and heads of departments to person-

ally utilise the Task Management System (TMS). He issued these instructions while chairing a meeting to assess the implementation progress of directives requiring federal ministries and departments to use the Task Management System. The TMS is a modern software of international standards used to monitor instructions issued by the prime minister to federal ministries, and progress in this regard.

In a separate meeting on task reforms, digitisation of the economy, and measures to boost revenues, the PM vowed to launch a crackdown against tax evaders and their facilitators.

Emphasising the importance of the Federal Board of Revenue, the prime minister said the tax watchdog played an important role in "nurturing the economic wheel" and pledged to provide all necessary resources for its human resource development and digitisation. He claimed during the budget preparations, he had issued "clear directives to bring more people in the tax net and that the elite should be made to pay their dues too".

Petrol rates expected to go down by Rs9 tomorrow

By Khadeeq Kiani

ISLAMABAD: The government is expected to pass on the impact of lower international prices to consumers with a cut in the rates of petrol and high-speed diesel (HSD).

In the upcoming fortnightly review of prices on June 15, petrol is expected to go down by about Rs9 and HSD by Rs5 per litre.

According to sources, the prices of petrol and HSD had declined in the international market by about \$1.75 and \$2.7 per barrel, respectively, in the last two weeks.

This was on top of about \$12 and \$8 per barrel drop in the price of petrol and HSD, respectively, in the previous two fortnights. The price of petrol had gone down to about \$90 per barrel from about \$94 per barrel while HSD price reduced to \$95 from \$98 per barrel.

The import premium on petrol has slightly decreased in the last

fortnight to \$5.50 per barrel from \$5.70. On the other hand, the value of rupee has also remained stable. Depending on the final calculation, including inland freight equalisation margin (IFEM), the price of petrol is projected to come down by Rs9 per litre and that of HSD by Rs5 per litre.

The final price will include the Petroleum Development Levy (PDL), for which the government has already achieved the maximum permissible limit of Rs60 per litre under the law on both petrol and HSD.

This has contributed Rs7200n to the government kitty in the first nine months of the fiscal year ending March 31.

The government had set a budget target to collect Rs6000n in PDL during the current fiscal year under the commitments made with the International Monetary Fund, which has now been revised to Rs6600n.

At present, the government is charging about Rs60 per litre tax

on both petrol and HSD, including about Rs15.20 per litre customs duty.

This was despite the fact that the general sales tax is zero on all petroleum products.

Petrol and HSD are the major revenue spinners with their monthly sales of about 700,000 to 800,000 tonnes per month compared to just 10,000 tonnes of monthly demand for kerosene.

Petroleum and electricity prices have been the key drivers of high rate of inflation. Petrol is mostly used in private transport, small vehicles, rickshaws and two-wheelers and has a direct bearing on the budget of the middle- and lower-middle class.

On the other hand, HSD price is considered highly inflationary as it is mostly used in heavy transport vehicles, trains and agricultural engines like trucks, buses, tractors, tube wells and threshers, and particularly adds to the prices of vegetables and other staples.

ICAO team carries out safety assessment

By Mohammad Asghar

RAWALPINDI: A team of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) has concluded a seven-day visit during which it assessed the safety measures implemented by the Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority (PCAA).

The scheduled ICAO Coordinated Validation Mission (CVM) took place from June 5 to 12, according to a PCAA statement issued on Thursday.

The team conducted an extensive validation of corrective actions taken by the PCAA and visited the Pakistan International Airlines engineering and flight safety department, a senior official said.

The four-member team also assessed the implementation of ICAO's safety-related standards, airworthiness of aircraft, operational and emergency capabilities.

A PCAA spokesman said the team are ready to Karachi as per schedule for extensive validation of corrective actions taken by PCAA after the last ICAO audit in December 2021.

Aviation Division Secretary and CAA DG Rafi Anjum and Deputy DG Nadir Shahi accompanied the team during its visit.

The team held a closing meeting on June 12, attended by the PCAA DG, deputy DG and directors.

The mission shared its preliminary report during the closing meeting, which will be followed by a detailed report in future, the statement added.

Indian top court bars release of movie 'insulting to Muslims'

Says if teaser is so offensive, then what about whole movie

By Our Correspondent

NEW DELHI: A movie insulting to Muslims, which was to be released on Friday, has been stopped by the Indian Supreme Court that described the teaser as "so offensive".

The top court on Thursday directed the Bombay High Court to rule on a petition alleging that the movie *Mawana Bazar*, directed by Kamal Chandra, was derogatory to the Islamic faith and married Muslim women in India, reports said.

The Supreme Court stayed the theatrical release of the film, directed by Kamal Chandra, which has been accused of containing anti-Muslim tropes, until the Bombay High Court rules on a petition challenging the movie's release, reported *Live Law*.

The top court, while passing the directive on an earlier high court order permitting the film's release, observed that its teaser was offensive enough to warrant concern over the contents of the full movie.

The petition filed in the high court had alleged that the film, which was earlier set to release on June 7, was derogatory to the Islamic faith and married Muslim women in India, adding that the trailer also misquoted

a verse from the Holy Quran.

It said the release of the film would violate Article 19(2) of the Constitution pertaining to reasonable restrictions in the interests of security and sovereignty, and Article 25 pertaining to one's freedom of profess, practice and propagate their religion.

The petition had sought a directive from the high court to the Central Board of Film Certification to revoke the film's certification and restrain its release.

The censor board, however, told the high court that the certification for the film was granted after following procedures and that any objectionable scenes and dialogues had been deleted. It said that seg-

ments of the film released on various platforms were not certified trailers.

The high court had initially found a prima facie case in favour of the petitioner and stayed the release of film till June 14, *Live Law* reported. It then directed the censor board to form a review committee to watch the film and give its feedback. However, the panel sought time to file a detailed response and the high court subsequently permitted the release of the film.

The petitioner then moved the Supreme Court challenging its release. On Thursday, the petitioner, represented by advocate Faaris Shakil, told the bench that the high court had directed the censor board,

which is an "interested party", to form the panel, *Bar and Bench* reported.

In response, the counsel for the filmmaker said the objectionable scenes were removed from the trailers of the film. However, the bench rejected the claim and said: "We are the teaser today morning and all scenes are there."

The court also added that the "teaser is an offensive that the High Court granted [initially] an interim order [against the film's release]," *Live Law* reported.

The counsel for the filmmaker also said that losses would be incurred because of the stay order. The bench responded: "If teaser is so offensive then what about the

whole movie?"

The bench then asked the high court to decide on the merits of the case and stayed the film. It also granted the petitioner the liberty to make objections regarding the constitution of the censor board's review committee, *Live Law* reported.

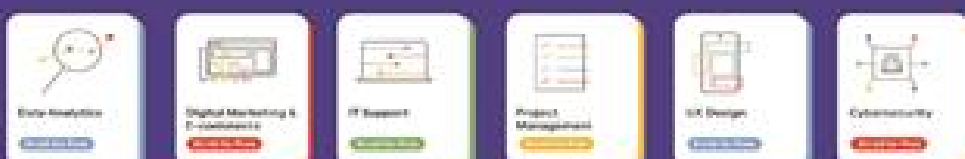
This came after the Karnataka government had on June 5 barred the release of the film for two weeks on the grounds that it posed "possibilities of communal rift".

The government was responding to petitions moved by several Muslim organisations alleging that *Mawana Bazar* showcased the community in a "provocative and insulting manner".

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SPORT



BLANKENHAIN: England players in action during a training session on Thursday.—Reuters

Germany braced for Euro 2024 kick-off with France, England the favourites

BERLIN: Euro 2024 kicks off on Friday in Germany as the continent's footballing heavyweights prepare to fight it out over the next month with the aim of taking the crown away from reigning champions Italy.

Germany play Scotland in the opening game in Munich and the host nation are hoping their journey will continue all the way to the final in Berlin on July 14.

It is the first time the country has hosted a major men's international tournament since the 2006 World Cup, and it is a month's waiting until the underwhelming nature of the last European Championship.

Euro 2020 was delayed by a year because of the pandemic, finally taking place in 2021 in front of limited crowds.

It was also staged in cities all across the continent, from Seville to Tokyo, and those factors stripped away much of what makes these tournaments so special.

This time all supporters will descend on Germany, where matches will be played in 10 stadiums, from Hamburg in the north to Munich in the south.

Germany are hoping for a repeat of 2006, when many fell in love with their national team again after a period in the doldrums similar to what they have experienced in the years leading up to this competition.

Philipp Lahm, the captain of Germany's 2014 World Cup-winning team and now Euro 2024 tournament director, also hopes the competition will bring people together at a time of division and dissent across the continent.

The tournament begins less than a week after far-right parties made significant gains in EU parliament elections, while

Europe is still dealing with the crisis of the war in Ukraine.

"I hope at the very least the Euro will lead to a more united Germany again," said Lahm.

A good performance by Germany in the field would help, and the outlook is more positive for Julian Nagelsmann's team now than a few months ago.

A group also containing Hungary and Switzerland should be straightforward enough given the quality in Germany's ranks, from veteran playmaker Toni Kroos to younger stars Florian Grillitsch and Jamal Musiala.

Despite their 2022 World Cup disappointment, a string of terrible results since, including a 4-1 home defeat to Japan back in September, and a change of coach a month later, the Germans still have their eyes on the big prize.

Coach Nagelsmann, who took over in October 2023, made that clear only days before the tournament.

"The normal ambition: we want to win it," Nagelsmann said of the team's goal. "It's the same in all other tournaments. It's probably not best for us to make this big claim that we're going to become European champions. We will have to work hard. It is a huge task, it will be challenging, and it's certainly not a chance that comes around very often."

Apart from success on the pitch, the host country is also banking on a wave of enthusiasm from their own fans as well as an estimated 2.7 million visitors for the June 14-July 14 event.

Large fan zones have been set up across all major cities, including Berlin's massive fan zone, stretching from the iconic Brandenburg

gate far into the west of the city.

The fan zones were an overwhelming success during the 2006 World Cup in Germany, helping to fuel the party atmosphere of that tournament, dubbed locally the 'summer fairytale'.

Conditions are not quite the same this time, with more than one in four Germans having no interest in the Euros, and security being top of the agenda.

Thousands of police will be deployed around the clock in an attempt to head off potential threats from Islamists, neo-fascists, violent individuals and cyberattacks.

"It is a major effort when it comes to the deployed forces," Interior Minister Nancy Faeser said. "Each day we have 22,000 police officers in action for the Euros."

MILITARY MISSION

There are good reasons why France and England are so strongly latched to raise the first De Gaulle trophy on July 14.

France are Europe's top-ranked nation and have been in the last two World Cup finals. Fresh from sealing his move to Real Madrid, Kylian Mbappe is eager to make up for a disappointing showing at the last Euros, when his penalty miss sealed a shock defeat to Serbia in the last 16.

"Kylian is our captain and a great leader. We will need him to be at his best," admitted France coach Didier Deschamps.

England have never been European champions, although they came mighty close in 2021 when they lost the final on penalties to Italy.

Optimism about their prospects this time is fuelled by the fact that star players Harry Kane, of Bayern Munich, and Jude Bellingham, formerly of Borussia Dortmund, should feel so at home on German soil.

"We want to make history," said England midfielder Declan Rice this week. "We say it all the time, but genuinely we have a group, a manager, that really believes. We have a confidence that we can go there and do something really special."

England begin their tournament against Serbia on Sunday in Gelsenkirchen, home of Italian German giants Schalke 04.

The French and English will be on course to meet in the semi-finals if they both top their groups.

The prospect of Italy — who are in the same group as Spain — successfully defending their title seems slightly remote, but it would be foolish to rule them out.

"This Italy team is underrated and very competitive," insisted legendary former Arsenal goalkeeper Glen Johnson.

Portugal, champions in 2016, are genuine contenders even if they are still led by Cristiano Ronaldo, now aged 39 and playing club football in Saudi Arabia.

This Euros is the third since the competition was expanded to feature 24 teams, a move that has afforded a chance to some smaller nations, including Georgia, debutants this time.

However, injuries at the end of a long season are taking their toll on some leading players.

Freddie de Jong, the Barcelona and Netherlands playmaker, has been ruled out with an ankle injury, while his club colleague Robert Lewandowski will not play in Poland's opening match due to a thigh problem.—Agencies

Nadal to skip Wimbledon to focus on Olympics

LONDON: Rafael Nadal confirmed on Thursday he will miss Wimbledon to focus on the Paris Olympics, which will be played on the clay courts at Roland Garros.

Spanish tennis chiefs announced Wednesday that 22-time Grand Slam winner Nadal and newly crowned French Open champion Carlos Alcaraz would be part of the country's team at the Games next month.

Nadal, 38, lost in the first round at Roland Garros last month and indicated he was likely to skip Wimbledon, played on grass courts, where he was champion in 2008 and 2010.

The injury-plagued Spaniard, who has slumped to 264 in the world, said after his exit to eventual runner-up Alexander Zverev in Paris that switching surfaces would not be "smart".

The 14-time French Open champion, only returned to competition in April after missing most of the past 10 months through injury.

On Thursday he confirmed on social media that he would not be travelling to London to take part in the third Grand Slam on the tennis calendar.

"During my post-match press conference at Roland Garros I was asked about my summer calendar and since then I have been practising on clay," he tweeted. "It was announced yesterday that I will play at the summer Olympics in Paris, my last Olympics." He added: "With this goal, we believe that the best for my body is not to change surface and keep playing on clay until then."

"It's for this reason that I will miss playing at the Championships this year at Wimbledon. I am saddened not to be able to live this year the great atmosphere of that amazing event that will always be in my heart, and be with all the British fans that always gave me great support."—AFP

Wimbledon serves up record prize pot

LONDON: Wimbledon announced record prize money of 50 million pounds (\$63.94 million) on Thursday and revealed plans to honour Andy Murray should this year's tournament turn out to be a farewell to the former winner.

The total pot is 11.9%, or 5.1 million pounds, more than the All England Lawn Tennis Club (AELTC) paid out at last year's tournament and double the amount on offer in 2014.

The men's and women's singles champions will each receive 2.7 million, compared to 2.35 million last year, and first-round losers will get 60,000 pounds, a rise of 5,000 pounds on 2023.

Leading British player will be paid 14 million each.

The grasscourt Grand Slam runs from July 1-14, with Spaniard Carlos Alcaraz and Czech Marketa Vondrousova the defending champions.

Wimbledon reported turnover of 380.2m pounds last year and an operating profit of 53.8m.

AELTC chair Debbie Jewson told a news conference that organisers had sought a balance between supporting those who relied on prize money to fund coaching, travel and expenses and rewarding the top-level players.

"Interest in attending Wimbledon has never been greater, with unprecedented demand for tickets through our public ballot and corporate hospitality," said Jewson.

"A thriving, successful Championships gives us the chance to give back to the sport, to our local community, and to strategically invest for the future."

This year's tournament could be the last for 37-year-old former world number one Murray, whose 2011 title made him the first British Wimbledon men's singles champion since Fred Perry in 1936. He also won in 2006.

AELTC chief executive Kelly Bellon said very adaptable plans were in place to honour the host.

"We are ready and prepared but ultimately it's Andy's decision and we will very much be led by him, and we can amend our plans accordingly," she said. "We're clear about what we want to do but it's really important that this is Andy's call."—Reuters

Osaka given green light to play at Paris Olympics

TOKYO: Former world number one Naomi Osaka has been given the green light to compete for Japan at next month's Paris Olympics, the country's tennis association said on Thursday.

Former US Open finalist Kei Nishikori has also been cleared to play.

Four-time Grand Slam winner Osaka is the candidate at the opening ceremony of the Tokyo Games in 2021, where she went on to make the third round. She has since become a mother and returned to tennis last year after a 15-month maternity break. Osaka is currently ranked 125th in the world.

The singles event at the Olympics is limited to 64 players with a maximum of four from each nation.

The International Tennis Federation cleared her to compete in Paris by awarding her a special ranking for players who have been away from the tour, the ITA said. She also qualifies as a former Grand Slam winner, the ITA said.

Nishikori, whose world ranking slipped to 286 after a series of injuries, was also given a special ranking that allows him to compete at the Olympics.

Osaka, who played for Japan in the Billie Jean King Cup, said that she would love to play in Paris. "Growing up watching the Olympics on TV, I felt that it was a celebration of sport," she said. "I thought it brought everyone together and just to be able to be an athlete there and interact with other athletes is one of the fondest things that I've ever done."—AFP

Messi to miss Olympics

MIAMI: Eight-time Ballon d'Or winner Lionel Messi has confirmed in an interview with US broadcaster ESPN that he will not attempt to win a second gold medal with Argentina at the Paris Olympics this summer.

"I spoke with [Argentinian Olympic coach Javier] Mascherano, and we immediately agreed on the situation," Inter Miami forward Messi said in the interview broadcast on Wednesday. "It's a difficult moment, because there's the Copa America, and that would mean two or three consecutive months away from my club. At my age, I don't want to play everything and I need to make the right choices," added Messi, who was a member of Argentina's 2008 Olympic gold medal-winning team.

Messi will be with defending champions Argentina at the Copa America from June 20 to July 14 in the US, a few weeks before the Olympic start. But Messi has not closed the door on taking part in a record-breaking sixth World Cup, to be held in 2026 between the US, Canada and Mexico.

"It's great to have records and continue to achieve things but I won't take part in a World Cup just to say 'I've done it,'" said Messi. "If I feel good and everything is in place for me to be there, fine, but I won't go just to say 'It's difficult to imagine what can happen because it's still two years away. I don't need to come right now.'"—AFP



ORLANDO (US): Christian Pulisic of the US (second L) scores past Brazil goalkeeper Alisson Becker during their international friendly at the Camping World Stadium on Wednesday. In a first tune-up for both sides ahead of the Copa America, the US bounced back from their 5-1 defeat to Colombia to earn a morale-boosting 1-1 draw. Skipper Pulisic's rising free kick in the 26th minute ensured a share of the spoils for Gregg Berhalter's side after Brazil had taken the lead through Real Madrid striker Rodrygo after 17 minutes. The Copa America runs from June 20 to July 14 in the United States. Nine-time champions Brazil kick off their Group 'D' campaign against Costa Rica on June 24 before facing Paraguay and Colombia. The US play Bolivia on June 29, followed by matches against Panama and Uruguay in Group 'C'.—Reuters

McKeown swims second-fastest 200m backstroke in history



AUSTRALIA'S Kaylee McKeown competes in the 200m backstroke final during the Australian Swimming Trials at the Brisbane Aquatic Centre on Thursday.—AFP

BRISBANE: Kaylee McKeown swam the second-fastest 200m backstroke of all-time on Thursday while Ariarne Titmus laid down an Olympic marker in the 800m freestyle a day after smashing the 200m world record.

Rio Olympic champion and Tokyo silver medalist Kyle Chalmers was also firing on day four of the Australian trials in Brisbane, ensuring he will again contest the 100m freestyle in Paris this summer.

The 22-year-old McKeown, the reigning Olympic champion and world record holder, surged to the wall in 2:05.03, 10secs to reinforce her status as the overwhelming favourite at the July-August Games.

Her time was just a fingertip outside the world leading 2:03.14 she set last year.

"The first half of this meet I've

been quite nervous, so I really just wanted to enjoy tonight," said McKeown, adding that she was not aware of the crowd roaring her on. "I was in my own little world, but I've got a ticket to Paris."

Such was her dominance that she finished four seconds clear of second-placed Jaclyn Barclay — just 17 — who also qualified.

Veteran Emily Seebohm, swimming just months after having a baby, failed in her attempt to make a fifth Olympics, finishing fifth.

McKeown has now booked three individual events in Paris.

She swam the second-fastest 100m back of all-time on Tuesday, with her 57.41 just shy of her own world record 57.33.

That came a day after she posted the quickest 200m medley since the 2016 Olympics, another event where she will be a serious

medal contender.

Titmus is also in sparkling form. She produced a sensational 200m freestyle on Wednesday to smash Molly O'Callaghan's world record, days after recording the second-fastest 400m ever.

Titmus is the Olympic champion in both those events, but only managed silver behind American legend Katie Ledecky in Tokyo over 800m and going one better in on her radar.

She comfortably qualified in 8:14.06, with only Ledecky faster in 2024.

Lani Pallister also made the grade, with her 8:18.46.

"I just tried to forget about it (200m world record) as much as I could because I had a job to do here tonight," said Titmus. "To be completely honest, I'm disappointed with the result, but have another chance in Paris to do better."

Chalmers came through a stacked field to top the clock at 47.75 and make a third Olympics, finishing ahead of William Yang, 17m. Southam and Jack Carverright who did not qualify but will join him on the relay team.

"Very special, very, very happy with that," said Chalmers.

He will have his work cut out in France, with Chinese world record holder Pan Zhanke, ex-world record holder David Popovici and reigning Olympic champion Caeleb Dressel all set to be in the mix.

Commonwealth champion Elizabeth Beekun (2:06.01) and Abbey Connor (2:06.82) both made the grade for the women's 200m butterfly.

But no one met the stringent Australian qualifying time — which is stricter than the Olympic standard — in the men's 200m medley.—AFP



New Zealand facing exit after Rutherford rescues WI

PORT KAITUMA: Shortlane Rutherford rescued the West Indies with the bat and their bowlers contained New Zealand to complete a 10-run victory in a Group C match of the T20 World Cup in Trinidad on Wednesday.

Rutherford's unbeaten 68 off 39 balls (two fours, six sixes) lifted the home side from the depths of 30 for five in the seventh over to a competitive 149 for nine after they were put in.

Thrashed in their opening match by Afghanistan in Guyana and therefore in a virtual must-win situation, the Black Caps never developed any momentum in the chase as being restricted to 136 for nine.

Pacer Alzarri Joseph (4 for 19) and spinners Gudakesh Motie (3 for 25) and Akmal Hossain (1 for 21) kept the home side in control to clinch their third consecutive victory and a place in the Super Eight phase of the competition with one group match still to come against Afghanistan on Monday in St. Lucia.

Only Glenn Phillips (40 off 33 balls) caused any real worries for the West Indies but when he fell to Joseph in the 18th over the match was effectively over as a contest, despite Mitchell Santner belting three sixes off Romario Shepherd in the final over.

"This second consecutive network effectively ends New Zealand's hopes of advancing out of the group stage, unless a few miracles can come to work in their favour. The Kiwis will be eliminated if Afghanistan defeat Papua New Guinea on Thursday.

"Keeping it simple and sticking to my skills, I think that was the key," said Rutherford in explaining his formula for success on the night after receiving the "Man of the Match" award.

PLAY A BLINDER

"Looking at their bowling line-up I knew they were short two overs and I told myself to just be there at the end to make the most of it...and I thought I did that," Rutherford received invaluable support from the lower order, adding 28 with Akmal Hossain for the sixth wicket, 27 with Romario Shepherd for the eighth and then plundered all 37 runs in the last two overs of the innings, bowled by Daryl Mitchell and Santner, with last man Motie happy to look on from the non-striker's end.

Earlier, Trent Boult led New Zealand's much-improved, finishing with the excellent figures of three for 16. Lockie Ferguson and the recalled Tim Southee complemented that effort with two wickets each as the 2021 beaten finalists looked much sharper in the field than against the Afghans.

"We knew it was going to be difficult to get runs on this wicket which is why the quality of Shortlane's innings was of the highest," acknowledged losing captain Williamson. "We took a decision to try to bowl them out, but unfortunately it didn't come up for us today."

After victories over Papua New Guinea and Uganda at the Guyana National Stadium, West Indies' batting seemed unprepared for the challenge, until Rutherford intervened to transform what was shaping up as an abject capitulation.

"It is good that, after finding ourselves in so much trouble early on, the guys dug deep and we were able to pull this one out," said West Indies captain Rovman Powell. "From the hotel the message was that someone would have to play a blinder."

"We always believe that individual brilliance is needed sometime in T20 cricket and Shortlane's knock was a fantastic effort. It gave us confidence and at the halfway mark we believed [we could do it]."—AFP



WEST Indies batter Shortlane Rutherford plays a shot during the Group 'C' match against New Zealand at the Brian Lara Stadium.—courtesy ICC



NE THE PHILANDER batter Bas de Leede is dismissed by Bangladesh wicket keeper Liton Das off the bowling of spinner Rishad Hossain during the Group 'D' match at Aron Vale Ground on Thursday.—courtesy ICC

Shakib stars as Bangladesh edge closer to Super Eights

KINGSTOWN: Veteran all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan hit a half-century as Bangladesh defeated the Netherlands by 25 runs on Thursday to edge closer to the second round of the T20 World Cup.

Shakib, the 37-year-old former captain, recorded his 13th fifty in the format as Bangladesh made 159-5 in their 20 overs.

Shakib went on to finish undefeated on 64 off 46 deliveries, leaving the crunched nine hours an international cricket returned to Aron Vale for the first time in 10 years.

In reply, the Dutch made 134-8 off their 20 overs.

The win took the Tigers to four points from three games and ideally placed to join already qualified South Africa in making it out of Group D and into the Super Eight second stage.

Opener Tanvir Hasan was also in the runs, striking 35 off 26 balls with five fours and one six after Bangladesh were put into bat by the Dutch.

Bangladesh started their campaign with a two-wicket win over Sri Lanka before suffering an agonising four-run loss to South Africa.

The Dutch also went into Thursday's game with two points after defeating Nepal by six wickets before losing to South Africa by four wickets.

Off-spinner Aryan Dutta was drafted into the Dutch side in place of Teja Nidamanuri and repaid his team's faith by taking the first two Bangladesh wickets to fall.

The next back skipper Najmul Hossain Khan (one) and Liton Das (one) to have the Tigers waiting at 23-2.

Shakib and Tanvir



SINCE 1953 WE ARE TRUSTED NOT TO COMPROMISE



West Indies Vs New Zealand		Bangladesh Vs Netherlands	
WEST INDIES: 1. King & Conway to New Zealand 2. Charles & Smith 3. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 4. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 5. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 6. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 7. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 8. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 9. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 10. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 11. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 12. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 13. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 14. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 15. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 16. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 17. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 18. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 19. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand 20. Joseph & Conway to New Zealand		BANGLADESH: 1. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 2. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 3. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 4. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 5. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 6. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 7. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 8. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 9. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 10. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 11. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 12. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 13. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 14. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 15. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 16. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 17. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 18. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 19. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands 20. Tanvir Hasan to Netherlands	
NEW ZEALAND: 1. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 2. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 3. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 4. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 5. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 6. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 7. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 8. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 9. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 10. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 11. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 12. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 13. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 14. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 15. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 16. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 17. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 18. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 19. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand 20. Conway & Joseph to New Zealand		NETHERLANDS: 1. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 2. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 3. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 4. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 5. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 6. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 7. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 8. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 9. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 10. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 11. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 12. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 13. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 14. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 15. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 16. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 17. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 18. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 19. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh 20. Tanvir Hasan to Bangladesh	

Standings	
Group A	
1. India	4
2. Pakistan	3
3. Bangladesh	2
4. Sri Lanka	1
5. Nepal	0
6. Afghanistan	0
7. Zimbabwe	0
8. Scotland	0
9. Ireland	0
10. United States	0
11. Canada	0
12. Oman	0
13. Kenya	0
14. Papua New Guinea	0
15. Uganda	0
16. Rwanda	0
17. Sierra Leone	0
18. Lesotho	0
19. Liberia	0
20. Malawi	0

decent position at 111-3 in reply with Michael Levitt (18), Max O'Dowd (12) and Vikramjit Singh (29) all reaching double figures.

Singh's runs came off 16 balls and featured three sixes.

However, when Sylvestre Engelbrecht's overrunning 33 off 22 balls ended in the 15th over, Dutch hopes faded.

Bas de Leede (naught), skipper Scott Edwards (25) and Logan van Beek (two) all fell in the space

of six runs as they tried to force the pace.

Left-spinner Rishad Hossain was the pick of the Bangladesh bowlers with 3-31 from his four overs.

In their final group game, Bangladesh face Nepal who will harbour Super Eight hopes of their own if they defeat the Tigers and Sri Lanka.

So far four teams have booked their spots in the Super Eight — South Africa, India, West Indies and Australia.—AFP

Florida rains may further dampen Pakistan's qualification hopes

PORT LAUDERDALE: A state of emergency has been declared in Port Lauderdale due to the life-threatening flash floods in Florida, the Press Trust of India news agency reported on Thursday.

Hundreds of flights bound to and from South Florida have been cancelled by the local authorities. As a result, the Sri Lankan team was left stranded in the city.

The first match that Port Lauderdale was supposed to host at the Central Broward Park was Sri Lanka's encounter against Nepal, however that match got washed out due to heavy rain. It is supposed to host three more important games including sides like India, Pakistan and USA.

Sri Lankan team was supposed to fly out from Port Lauderdale to the Caribbean islands on Wednesday, but heavy rain and flooding has forced them to delay their departure.

While USA play Ireland on Friday, Babar Azam's side take on the same opponents on Sunday. If USA beat Ireland or the match gets washed out, they will join India as the second team from Group 'W' to qualify for the Super Eight.

This means that Pakistan's match on Sunday will have no relevance as they will get knocked out if the Ireland-USA encounter ends up being abandoned.

However, if USA do end up losing against Ireland then Pakistan will have a huge chance to qualify for the Super Eight if they can beat the same opposition on Sunday.—Agencies

USA coach won't blame stop-clock penalty for India loss

NEW YORK: The United States became the first team to be penalised under the game's stop-clock rules but coach Stuart Law said it did not play a part in his team's seven-wicket loss to India at the T20 World Cup on Wednesday.

Using stop clocks to regulate the time taken between overs was made mandatory earlier this year in an effort to speed up over rates.

Fielding sides must start a new over within a minute of completing the previous one and a five-run penalty is imposed after a third such failure.

Chasing 111 for win, India were 76-3 after 15 overs when they were awarded five runs in the two-second contest after the USA fell foul of the rule.

"We had a few warnings in earlier games, and it's something we do talk about to get through faster between the overs," Law said, "I think that we're only a fledgling team. There's plenty to learn. There's not just the cricket aspect of the game of cricket, but there's also the other intricacies that need to be embedded."—Reuters

India were 76-3 after 15 overs when they were awarded five runs in the two-second contest after the USA fell foul of the rule.

Sharma relieved after India advance to next round

NEW YORK: India skipper Rohit Sharma on Wednesday admitted it wasn't easy playing on a two-paced newly-laid pitch at Nassau County ground and the team had to stick through till the end to notch up wins in each of their three matches in the ongoing T20 World Cup.

India recorded the highest successful chase at this venue when they scored 111-3 in reply to USA's 110-8 after Arshdeep Singh (4-30), Suryakumar Yadav (50 not out) and Shreyas Dubee (31) played key roles.

"We knew it would be tough. Credit to us for the way we held our nerve and got that partnership. Credit to Surya and Dubee for showing the maturity and taking us through," Sharma said after the match.

The skipper seemed relieved more than happy that they have crossed the first hurdle at the global meet.

"Being in the Super Eight is a big relief playing cricket here isn't easy (as) it could have been anyone's game," he said. "We had to stick through till the end in all three games. We will take a lot of confidence from these wins."

The Indian captain had praise for each of the three

key performers while applauding Yadav for changing his aggressive approach to anchor the chase.

"He (Yadav) showed he has a different game to him, that's what you expect from experienced players," noted Sharma. "Credit to the way he stuck through today to take the game deep and win it for us."

"We knew bowlers had to take the last (as) run scoring was difficult. All the bowlers did the job, particularly Arshdeep."

Sharma believed said since seamers were expected to dominate, the team decided to give Dubee a chance to roll over his arm too.

"You want options and we should be able to use them as and when we can," he observed. "Today, the pitch favoured the seamers so wanted to use him."

Sharma was also full of praise for the USA players, a number of whom the right-hander was familiar with ahead of the T20 showpiece.

"(As) lot of these guys have played cricket together, very happy to see their progress," he said. "Saw them last year in MLC as well, they are all hard-working guys."

Having produced the best T20 figures for India, Arshdeep said he wanted to make full use of a seam-friendly surface.

"In the last two games, I gave away little more runs, (and) I wasn't happy with that," said the left-arm seamer.

"The team always shows belief in me and keep backing me, I had to deliver for them."

"The wicket is very conducive to fast bowlers and it's helping us get some seam movement. The plan was simple, pitch it in the wicket and let the ball do the talking. Don't give away balls to score, our batsmen are also facing difficulties to score runs."

USA's stand-in skipper Aaron Jones, meanwhile, felt his side were competitive but fell a few runs short.

"We were 10-15 runs short," he said. "If we got 130 then it would have been a tough total, that's how it goes sometimes."

"The boys were very disciplined, really proud of the bowling unit. (It) feels good, this is what we wanted for USA cricket, enjoying it. We will recalibrate now, have a few meetings and come back strong."—Agencies



INDIAN captain Rohit Sharma in action during the Group 'A' match against the USA at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium.—AFP

KARACHI

Sunset 07:23 pm
Sunrise (Tomorrow) 05:41 am

NEXT 24 HRS

Minimum 29°C
Maximum 34°C
Outlook Partly Cloudy

METRO South



Germany braced for Euro 2024 kick-off

Pa.21 SPORT

Cop lauded by judge for refusing Rs1.6m in bribe

By Sumair Abdulah

KARACHI: A district and sessions court upheld the verdict of a magistrate for dismissing an application seeking return of Rs1.6 million allegedly offered as a bribe to a policeman for the release of confiscated smuggled goods.

The police had confiscated the offered money and declared it the case property after registering an FIR against the suspect.

Head Constable Ajaz Ali lodged the case at the Madhira police station against Ajaz Khan (the applicant) and others for smuggling total sum in various bags in a truck.

When HC Ajaz was registering the case against the suspects, Ajaz Khan offered Rs1.6 million bribe to the head constable to release the confiscated goods. However, HC Ajaz refused to take the bribe and filed a complaint against the suspects.

After hearing and recording the evidence from both the prosecution and the applicant sides, Additional District and Sessions Judge (West) Shaukat Ahmad Memon dismissed the application and upheld the magistrate's order.

The judge observed that the money in question was directly linked to the alleged offence of bribery.

The judge remarked, "The refusal of a significant bribe by a lower-ranking officer to allow alleged smuggling goods exemplifies an act of remarkable integrity and courage. Despite the potential temptation of financial gain, the officer chose to uphold the law and ethical standards, demonstrating a steadfast commitment to their duty and the principles of justice."

"This kind of behaviour is crucial for maintaining public trust in law enforcement and the legal system," the court observed, adding that "the officer's actions can serve as an inspiration and a benchmark for others, emphasising the importance of ethical conduct in both professional and personal life."

The court noted that the case was the 'tip of the iceberg' that showed smuggling elements 'causing huge losses to the national exchequer'. The court suggested the inspector general police Sindh to set up high-resolution CCTV cameras and install scanning equipment at strategic locations to monitor and record activities in real time.

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HRCP paints bleak picture of Sindh law and order

- Enforced disappearances, gross violations of human rights continued in 2023, says commission
- Report notes journalists faced restrictions, alarming increase of street crime in Karachi

By Shazia Hassan

KARACHI: The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan's (HRCP) annual report on the State of Human Rights in 2023, launched at the Karachi Press Club on Thursday details the deteriorating law and order situation in Sindh, particularly the marked increase in street crime, about 11 per cent in Karachi, and kidnappings.

According to Qazi Khizar, the vice chairperson of the HRCP Sindh region, enforced disappearances of political workers, nationalists, lawyers and journalists continued unabated.

He spoke about the 2,259 cases of enforced disappearances that remained unresolved until the end of 2023.

During the year, in 4,411 cases, the victims returned home, in 594 cases, the victims were traced to internment centres, in 644 cases, the victims were traced to prisons and in 261 cases, the victims' dead bodies were found. "As in previous years, HRCP believes that these numbers are vastly underreported and holds the Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances, formed by the government in 2011, responsible for not holding perpetrators to account," he said.

Violations of civil and fundamental rights continued to take place throughout the year.

During the May 9 riots, a number of public and private properties were damaged. In an excessive crackdown by the state, over 25 Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leaders, including the former Sindh governor, Imran Ismail, were arrested.

The rights of vulnerable groups in Sindh also took a hit as scores of Afghan refugees and migrants were arrested and deported following the federal caretaker government's executive order to deport illegal foreigners.

Violence against women and children remained a persistent issue with at least 546 cases of child abuse reported in Sindh during the year.

Speaking on the occasion, senior educationist and teacher of



HRCP members and rights activists display the report during the press conference on Thursday. —Fahim Siddiq / White Star

journalism, Dr Taseer Ahmad Khan, pointed out that the space for civilians seemed to be shrinking because new restrictions were imposed on media freedom.

"Presses stopped the media from coverage of the PTI, anchor persons like Imran Riaz Khan were missing. Three other journalists also went missing in Sindh. Nawazullah Gadani, before he was killed this year, was also arrested last year. And the media is pressured to not publish news about missing journalists. Social activists were and are also targeted. For 15 times last year there was also no internet, which is also a violation of human rights and a black information," he said.

Sadia Baloch, secretary general of the Pakistan Fisherfolk Forum, pointed towards climate change and frequent flooding that takes place in Sindh. "The government must look into reducing carbon dioxide emissions. Karachi emits the most carbon dioxide in the country leading to chest diseases and sinus trouble, and it is all due to air pollution," he said.

Riaz Ahmed Shaikh, dean of social sciences and education at Seaton, said that in all of South Asia, Pakistan has the most private education students. "And 42 per cent of students in Sindh attend private schools. It shows that people don't have faith in government schools," he said.

"Sindh was worst hit by the 2022 floods. Many schools were affected due to that. Why is state money not being spent on education? There is no data on how many schools are back to normal and how many closed. Meanwhile, there is state level denial about education as children are working or begging on the streets," he said.

Sadia Baloch pointed out the many cases of blasphemy in Sindh. "There were 41 people, including two women, accused of blasphemy in Sindh last year. Two places of worship, one Hindu and the other Ahmadiyya, were attacked while the police who were nearby did nothing," she said.

"In Kashmir, a temple was attacked by rocket launchers.

There is too much enforced migration of the Hindu community and lots of kidnappings too. The alarming situation needs to be questioned," she added.

In terms of labour rights, Zehra Khan, of the Home-Based Women Workers Federation, said that the workers' minimum wage had been wrongly calculated at Rs12,000. "The living wage in these times of inflation is Rs24,000. Besides, workers' safety is at risk and unemployment is also on the rise," she said, adding that the HRCP report mentions all these issues, too, and serves as a charge sheet against the government.

Mahmud Rahman of the Aarav Foundation while pointing out the problems faced by women regarding health and family planning, also pointed to some positive things such as the Pink Bus service started by the government of Sindh that has helped women feel safe while commuting and mentioned Rana Anwar, who was made first-ever woman leader of opposition in the Sindh Assembly.

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4,000 devices for e-tagging of criminals, drug dealers to be acquired

Police given 14 drone cameras to monitor dacoits' movement in kutchia area, CM told

Dawn Report

KARACHI: In order to control rising street crime in the province, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murtaza Ali Shah has decided to acquire 4,000 devices for e-tagging of repeat offenders involved in street crime and drug trafficking.

The decision was taken during a meeting on worsening law and order situation in Sindh which was chaired by the CM here on Thursday.

The chief minister decided to implement geotagging and GPS (Global Positioning

System) utilisation in order to prevent street and drug-related crimes in the hotspot areas of the city. He also instructed the Inspector General of Police (IGP) to provide 14 drones, which were procured last month, to the police in Sukkur, Ghotki, Kashmore, and Shikarpur Districts to monitor the movement of criminal-dacoits and their hideouts.

"I know that the police, with the coordinated support of Rangers and other law enforcement agencies, have made progress in controlling law & order, including street crime in the city and kidnapping for ransom in the Kutchia area but we should take benefit of the latest technology in curbing the crime," the CM said and added he had already provided enough funds to the police for equipment.

The meeting was held at the CM House and was attended by provincial ministers, Sherjeel Memon, Nasir Shah, Zia Lariq, Mayor Karachi Murtaza Wahab, Chief

Secretary Asif Hader Shah, SMER Baqutullah Umar, IG Police Gharlan Nails Memon, Commissioner Karachi Hassan Naezi, AIG Karachi Imran Yakoobi, Secretary Local Govt Khalid Hyder Shah, Secretary Finance Javed Jatoi, Secretary to CM Rabeem Shaikh, Secretary Law, Secretary E&T Sakran Rajput and provincial heads of other law enforcement agencies.

The CM was of the view that one future generations and society at large would fully become prone to the use of drugs if action is not taken, which would consequently lead to crimes and lawlessness.

"I am committed to making Karachi a drug-free city," he said. On this, the IG Police told the CM that 524 drug dealers had been identified in the province, of them 299 had been rounded up and put in jail, five were eliminated and 270 were at large but would

Continued on Page 16

Sindh budget today with likely pay rise for govt employees

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: The Sindh government is expected to announce up to 30 per cent increase in the salaries of government employees with 'no new tax' in the provincial budget 2024-25 scheduled to be announced on Friday (today).

The budget session of the Sindh Assembly is slated to begin after the Friday prayers and Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murtaza Ali Shah, who also holds the portfolio of provincial finance minister, would present the budget. Government sources said the CM was expected to announce up to 30 per cent increase in the government employees' salaries.

Giving a briefing on the upcoming budget, Minister for Energy Syed Nasir Hussain Shah said the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) government would provide relief to the salaried class and poor people in the budget. He said President Asif Ali Zardari and PPP chairman Bilawal Bhutto wanted that the increase in the salaries should be proportional to inflation.

"Providing water facilities and low-cost electricity to the people of Sindh are the top priorities in the budget and Bilawal Bhutto wishes that no new tax be imposed on the people," he said.

Last year, the Sindh government had passed Rs2.25 trillion budget for 2023-24, proposing a massive hike in salaries in line with the federal budget and a significantly higher development expense of Rs200 billion, which accounts for 31 per cent of the outlay.

Missing boy found raped, murdered

KARACHI: A missing boy was found raped and murdered on the outskirts of the metropolis on Thursday.

Police said that the body of a child, aged around eight-year, was recovered from bushes near 'Tent City' established for the flood-affected at Link Road. The corpse was shifted to the Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre for medico-legal formalities.

Steel Town SHO Ghulam Hussain Peracha while quoting the doctors said that the boy was killed with a hard and blunt instrument that was hit on his head. The doctors also told the police that the boy was subjected to sexual assault before being murdered.

The officer said that the boy belonged to a flood-affected family. He had left his home in Tent City on June 11 to sell chips but could not return home at night. Next day, his mother lodged a report at Steel Town police station about his missing.

Robber lynched in Surjani

A suspected robber was lynched in Surjani Town on Thursday, police said.

Surjani Town SHO Asadullah Agha said that two suspects snatched cell phones and other valuables from three citizens at gunpoint in Sector-51-A near Pichkashaw stand. As they were fleeing, the victims and other people chased them and caught one of them.

The angry people gave him a severe beating, which resulted in his killing on the spot. His accomplice, however, managed to escape. The SHO claimed to have recovered the looted valuables. The body was shifted to the Abbasi Shahnad Hospital where his identity could not be ascertained immediately. — Staff Reporter

Bodies formed by govt on missing persons termed 'eyewash'

BYC to organise another march soon, announces Dr Mahrang Baloch: vows not to back off from her 'peaceful struggle'

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: Human rights activist Dr Mahrang Baloch of the Baloch Yekjehi Committee (BYC) on Thursday pointed out the failure of all commissions and committees formed by the government to look into the cases of missing persons and enforced disappearances and termed such efforts 'eyewash'.

"They are all eyewash. There is a huge difference in the numbers of missing persons given by the gov-

ernment and what we are reporting. There is a complete collapse of law and order when it comes to missing persons and enforced disappearances here," she said in response to a question during a press conference at the Karachi Press Club.

The presser was called to highlight the struggles of the Baloch community that she said has been in dire straits for long.

"Things have been getting from bad to worse for the Baloch community. Last year, the Baloch Yekjehi Committee started a big campaign, where we marched from Turbat to Islamabad. In Islamabad we organised an extended sit-in and returning from there we also held a huge rally in Quetta," said Dr Mahrang.

"From the time of its formation, the BYC has been working for human rights and the interest of the Baloch. We have been peaceful throughout. We never believed oth-

erwise during our long march or our rallies. Then why are we being threatened and harassed? Our people are continuously being arrested

under fake cases. We constantly face harsh treatment and torture at the hands of government agencies," she alleged.



Dr Mahrang Baloch speaks at the press conference. — White Star

"So today, through this press conference I want to make clear that despite so much wrongdoing against us, including torture, enforced disappearances, fake cases, threats, harassment, we will not back off from our work and our struggle. In fact, we have become stronger and will fight with more vigour and purpose for our cause. We will carry on fighting for our rights. But in doing all this we will not forget that we are a responsible and aware movement. We are not playing politics here. Neither do we intend to do it in the future. Therefore, the state should stop pushing us into doing something that we do not intend to do."

"We have, however, informed all local and foreign human rights defenders, committees and journalists about what we are being made to endure. We ask the state to also behave as responsibly as we are

behaving and respect the law and the Constitution," she said.

"We are preparing for a Baloch national protest, the Baloch Raji March, for which we are also in the process of preparing a booklet. We ask people from all Baloch areas to join our movement for this planned march, details of which will be shared later," she said.

To a question regarding FIRs registered against BYC members, she said that there are some 25 FIRs filed against them. Most of the cases have been registered in Balochistan with some in Sindh and Karachi in particular, she added.

To another question about joining the government, she said that the Baloch want to be part of democracy. "Our parliament should be based on civil democracy but currently it is a hostage. It drowns voices instead of raising voices," she said.

PRAYER

Fajr	4:11
Juma	12:32
Asr	5:22
Maghreb	7:34
Isha	8:52

Starting time in Karachi

REFLECTIONS

‘‘WEAKNESSES AND STRENGTHS ARE NOT THE THINGS TO TALK ABOUT’’

— HAZRAT ALI (A.S.)

TRANSLATED

Mansoor Rahi extolled as master artist at condolence reference

By Peerzada Salman

KARACHI: A condolence reference for painter Mansoor Rahi was held at the Arts Council of Pakistan on Wednesday evening, participated by a decent number of his admirers. Rahi passed away on May 12 this year.

Painter Farrukh Shadab went down memory lane to tell the attendees that it was the Arts Council which initially invited Mr Rahi to display his talent. He had taught at the council for a short period as well.

Artist Maher Afrase said she had a brief but close association with Mr Rahi. ‘‘When I came to Karachi, Pakistan, in 1971 [from Lucknow], I didn’t know much about the city. I had been

said that there were two sisters [Rahi and Hajra] in Karachi. Coincidentally, I checked upon the Karachi School of Art (set up by Rahi and Hajra). That’s how I first met Mr Rahi [who was married to Hajra].’’

She said the late painter always gave invaluable advice. For example, once when she made a new painting, he told her that she shouldn’t sell it because he thought the kind of experimentation she had come up with in the artwork would help her in the future.

Art critic Nishtar Farooq said she didn’t know the late painter that well but when Farrukh Shadab invited her to the reference, she agreed to come because Mr Rahi was an influential and important artist.

‘‘Interestingly, I heard

about him for the first time in this very building [the council]. The way people used to talk about him made me want to meet him. He was a good teacher. What you give to your students is very important.’’



PRESIDENT Arts Council Mohammad Ahmed Shah speaks on the occasion. — Dawn

‘‘Rahis Zahedi, Rahi Sahib and Hajra were pillars of the Karachi School of Art. The school produced a big number of artists. We shouldn’t forget this. Whenever the history of the city is written, the school’s

contribution will be mentioned in it. One of his students from Islamabad [name he had shifted to the capital city] had told me that he was a generous teacher. His drawings were very good. My last conversation with him was about that. I said to him that he should exhibit his drawings. For decades he did a certain type of work. He adopted cubism and according to critic Akbar Naeqi, he evolved cubism through Picasso, which is right. He was mainly influenced by Picasso’s Guernica.’’

T U Shrooof said she’s a fan of Mr Rahi and was introduced to him when she worked as a journalist for Dawn.

Arts Council’s president Ahmed Shah said Mr Rahi spent a great deal of time in

Karachi. He used to transfer what he knew. He was the last great master of his generation. ‘‘We have the works [at the council] of six Bengali masters, including that of Rahi Sahib.’’

Theatre person Anwar Jafri said he had known Mr Rahi for the last six decades. ‘‘When I was 17 or 18 years of age, I went to Miss Art School in Narimabad. I saw big canvases there for the first time. The kind of image that we usually have an artist — a red dress, long hair etc. — Rahi Sahib was not like that. He looked like a body builder. That was my first meeting with him.’’ He also highlighted the ‘discipline’ of the late artist.

Jamal Shah, Chitra Pritham and Abdul Sattar Rind, among others, also spoke.

Sachal police ordered to record statement against local govt officials

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: A sessions court on Thursday ordered the Sachal police to record the statement of a man against the commissioner of the Saeeda Town Municipal Corporation and other local government officials, and to proceed according to the law.

The case pertains to an accident in which a car fell into an open manhole, resulting in damages and injuries to the members of a family.

‘‘The petitioner is directed to visit police station Sachal. The SHO is directed to record the statement of the petitioner and to proceed according to law,’’ the court ruled.

Aamjad Ali, a lawyer by profession, had filed an application before Additional District and Sessions Judge Liaquat Ali Khoso under sections 22-A and 22-B of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC), seeking directions for the registration of an FIR and the recording

of statements against Saeeda TMC commissioner Munawar Mallah and other local bodies’ officials.

He (applicant) alleged that their (respondents) negligence and carelessness led to damages to his car, causing injuries to his family members.

The applicant submitted that last month while travelling with his family on route from Cantonment Saddar, their car fell into an open manhole near Ghazi Road, causing injuries to his minor children and wife. He also stated that the vehicle was also damaged in the accident, which he attributed to the negligence and carelessness of the local bodies’ officials in Saeeda TMC.

The applicant stated that he had approached the concerned police station to lodge a complaint against the local bodies’ officials and to record his statement under Section 154 of the CrPC. However, he alleged that his complaint was not duly acknowledged.

4,000 devices

Continued from Page 15

be arrested soon.

The CM was told that 4,000 devices would be procured for E-tagging of repeat offenders which includes street and motorcycle dealers. At this, the CM said that he had given a budget to the police for the installation of trackers in police vehicles that must be ensured. The CM was told that 3,300 police vehicles had been equipped with tracker system.

The CM was also told that on his instructions, hotspot areas of street crime and narcotics selling had been identified in most affected districts of Karachi. Necessary installations to carry out patrolling and use line GPS systems with associated technologies to prevent street crime and drug activities efficiently.

Mr Shah said that he had already issued instructions for monitoring of entry and exit points of the province. Over that he was told that exit points of the province had been provided with facial recognition/ANPR cameras.

The CM was told that under the first phase of Karachi Safe City, the work of installation of 1,300 cameras has been started. The CM said that he had already released Rs5.5bn for the Safe City project.

To a question, the CM was told that 14 drones had been purchased and given to Kohistan, Ghoski, Kuchino and Shikarpur Districts police to monitor the movement of criminals/drugs and their hideouts.

CM Shah directed the police to adopt the technology of laser-guided fencing to log them on the borders. He directed the IG police to coordinate with the National Radio & Telecommunications Corporation, and explore its ways and means and then report him.

The CM was also told that GPS or related technology would be used to forestall the possibility of any drug related criminal activity through efficient monitoring.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client has entered into an agreement of sale for acquiring rights to INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY BEARING PLOT OF LAND MEASURING 5 ACRES SITUATED AT A-1 NATIONAL HIGHWAY, SINDH INDUSTRIAL TRADING ESTATE, ROTHE, SANDH TOGETHER WITH ALL CONSTRUCTION THEREON WITH ALL EXISTING FITTING & FIXTURES AND UTILITIES CONNECTIONS (‘‘Divided Property’’) with physical possession along with all of its rights, claims, shares, interest and other benefits with M/S PHILIP MORRIS (PAKISTAN) LIMITED (FORMERLY LAMSON TOBACCO COMPANY LIMITED), INCORPORATED UNDER THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE, 1984 (NOW REFERRED TO AS COMPANIES ACT 1971), AND HAVING ITS REGISTERED OFFICE SITUATED AT 6TH FLOOR, CORPORATE OFFICE BLOCK, DOLMEN CITY, NO-3 BLOCK-4 CLIFTON, KARACHI-PSE-8 PAKISTAN, free from all encumbrances, liabilities, litigations, claims, liens, mortgages, charges, disputes and outstanding dues or objection of whatsoever nature, with transfer of title and delivery of vacant and peaceful possession.

Any person, or persons, banks and financial institutions, the concerned Site Industrial Trading Estates Karachi-Sindh, Sub-Registrar Court having any objections, claims, rights, title, charges, liens, litigation, mortgage, interest or dispute with regard to sale / purchase of the aforesaid property should notify the undersigned or concerned land authority in writing with documentary proof and evidence by Registered Post within 07 days from the date noted below which claims or objections if any shall be deemed to have been waived and sale/transfer be completed in favor of our client.

Syed Ali Hassan Shireen - A&O
Karwan Ahmad - A&O
Ajmal Shireen & Company
Advocates and Legal Consultants
Office No. 65, 6th Floor, Farid Chambers
Abdullah Haroon Road, Saddar, Karachi
Tel: +92-21-38623344
Email: ajmal.shireen@yahoo.com
Website: www.ans.org.pk

‘Floating’ solar energy plant on Keenjhar Lake planned

Minister says 550MW project is environmental friendly and will prevent ‘water evaporation’

Dawn Report

KARACHI: The Sindh government has planned a scheme to produce affordable electricity by setting up a 550 megawatt ‘floating’ solar energy plant on Keenjhar Lake.

In this connection, Sindh Energy Minister Syed Nasir Shah participated in a ceremony on Thursday to sign a memorandum of understanding between the department of energy and Go Energy Pvt Limited.

Secretary of Energy Mohammad Ahmed Khan, CEO of Sindh Transmission and Dispatch Company (STDC) Salim

Shahid, CEO Go Green Amar Ali Talat and Director of K-Electric Harris Siddiqui were also present.

Syed Nasir Shah said that Go Energy Private Limited was making this project with the cooperation of the STDC, the energy and irrigation departments.

STDC Keenjhar Lake Power Project will lay a 220kV transmission line of about 60km to K-Electric grid station at Dhabaji in Karachi.

‘‘K-Electric is the off-taker of the 550MW floating power project for which K-Electric has provided Letter of Intent [LoI] and the Energy Department has also provided a Letter of Intent [LoI],’’ the minister said.

He said that this project would be environmentally friendly as it would help prevent water evaporation and would be beneficial for aquatic life.

‘‘The project would also benefit land conservation which will promote green energy in Sindh and provide a source of affordable electricity.’’

The minister said that the project would boost the economy of the province by creating jobs.

Nasir Shah said the government of Sindh was trying hard to utilize renewable energy resources at a faster pace and make it more affordable for the common people.

Apart from tariff reduction, renewable energy will also contribute to the achievement of sustainable development goals to create a clean, reliable and sustainable environment, he added.

‘‘We hope to complete the project by the end of 2026.’’

The secretary of energy said that on special directions of minister of energy, work was underway on several projects to provide cheap and free electricity to the people.

He added that mini-grid stations would be set up at the district levels to provide electricity — and environment friendly electricity to the remote areas of Sindh.

The energy secretary said that the

cost of electricity generated from this floating plant would be Rs15 per unit which would be much lower than the price of other power generation plants.

CEO of STDC Salim Shahid said that compared to K-Electric, STDC line had never tripped and while its line losses never gone above 1.5 per cent. ‘‘Nepal has allowed line losses up to 2pc,’’ he added.

Go Energy Chief Officer Amar Ali Talat said that it was a unique idea.

‘‘Keenjhar is the world’s largest clean water lake, where a floating project has been developed with the support of government, and Energy Minister Syed Nasir Shah and K-Electric and the MoU has been signed and I am thankful to all contributors,’’ Mr Talat added.

He said that experts from Singapore had studied this project which will prevent a quarter of the lake’s water from evaporating.

Earlier, STDC CEO Salim Shahid and Go Green Energy CEO Amar Ali Talat signed the MoU.

Two suspects shot dead in ‘encounter’

KARACHI: Two suspected robbers were shot dead in an ‘encounter’ in Defence Housing Authority on early Thursday morning.

Police said that the encounter took place near Qayyumabad, where after an exchange of gunfire, two suspects, Zulfiqar Ali and Piyar Ali alias Piyaro, were shot dead.

The police claimed to have recovered two pistols along with rounds, mobile phones and a scratched motorcycle from their custody. The bodies were shifted to the JPMC.

South-DIG Syed Anas Rana said that both the deceased suspects originally hailed from Rahim Yar Khan. They had past criminal records in Karachi and Ghoski, respectively, he added.

South-DIG Syed Anas Rana said the suspects were involved in killing of industrialist Asif Balwani in DHA. — Staff Reporter

Executive for Small, Meet For The Ready

OURBANI

ESTABLISHED 2014 187-40

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TENDER NOTICE

Case No. 115A

To Signal Contract Support Unit Main Contracting Unit (SCU) has been established in the form of a Tender and Active File with (TAF) and not classified by any Government (Department) for undetermined works on account of Defence Work budget for the financial year 2023-24. The rates will be valid upto 30 June 2024. Detail of following works may be obtained through contact number mentioned below:

- Construction of Building at Wing
- Construction of Building at Wing Zero
- Roof replacement of Building at Wing Zero
- Roof replacement of Building at Wing Zero and Other Sector

Tender will be purchased from Accounts Branch on any working day (except holidays). The last date of bids submission is 28 June 2024 before 11:30 hours and tender shall be opened on same day at 12:30 hours in the presence of bidders of their authorized representative who may like to be present. The tender is also available on PPA website ppa.gov.pk. In case of any query tender will be opened on next working day. The meeting officer retains the right to accept or reject any tender on technical/administrative grounds under Rule 33(1) of PPA Rules 2024. Contact Number: 0344-5780038

GOVERNMENT OF SINDH

OFFICE OF THE PROJECT DIRECTOR

SINDH FLOOD EMERGENCY REHABILITATION PROJECT (SFERP-P&DD COMPONENT)

PLOT # 1, BLOCK 3, KDA Scheme 5, Clifton, Karachi, Pakistan
Dated: 13th June, 2024

Corrigendum

The last date of the submission of EOI under Para-8 of the advertisement No. **INF/CRY/1874/24** published in national and local dailies during 02nd Week of June, 2024 has been amended and shall be read as 28th June, 2024.

All other conditions of the advertisement shall remain unchanged.

Project Director
Sindh Flood Emergency Rehabilitation Project (SFERP)
0092-21-99332330
PLOT # 1, BLOCK 3, KDA Scheme 5, Clifton, Karachi, Pakistan
Web: <https://sferp.gov.pk>

ADMISSION NOTICE

FOR POSTGRADUATE IN P.D.M.S COURSES, ACADEMIC SESSION (JUNE-2024)

Applications on prescribed forms (Online) are invited for admissions in following M.D/M.S courses. Postgraduate Programmes for the Academic Session (June 2024) at Liaquat University of Medical & Health Sciences, Jamshoro.

Sl. No.	Name of Courses	Duration	Sl. No.	Name of Courses	Duration
01	M.D. Cardiology	03 Years	07	M.D. Paediatrics	03 Years
02	M.D. Dermatology	03 Years	08	M.D. Pathology	03 Years
03	M.D. Endocrinology	03 Years	09	M.D. Psychiatry	03 Years
04	M.D. Gastroenterology	03 Years	10	M.D. Radiology	03 Years
05	M.D. Geriatrics	03 Years	11	M.D. Surgery	03 Years
06	M.D. Hematology	03 Years	12	M.D. Thoracic Surgery	03 Years
07	M.D. Infectious Diseases	03 Years	13	M.D. Urology	03 Years
08	M.D. Internal Medicine	03 Years	14	M.D. Vascular Medicine	03 Years
09	M.D. Medical Oncology	03 Years	15	M.D. Neonatology	03 Years
10	M.D. Nephrology	03 Years	16	M.D. Obstetrics & Gynaecology	03 Years
11	M.D. Neurology	03 Years	17	M.D. Ophthalmology	03 Years
12	M.D. Rheumatology	03 Years	18	M.D. Radiology	03 Years
13	M.D. Speech & Language	03 Years	19	M.D. Thoracic Surgery	03 Years
14	M.D. Transfusion Medicine	03 Years	20	M.D. Urology	03 Years
15	M.D. Vascular Medicine	03 Years	21	M.D. Vascular Medicine	03 Years

General Information:

- Guidelines for the students for eligibility criteria and fees structure are available on website of the University for more details visit www.lumhs.edu.pk
- The candidates have to deposit non-refundable fees (application processing and their EOI submission) fees of PKR 20,000/-.
- The University reserves the right to conduct an interview/assessment, partly or all of above.
- The Postgraduate Directorate reserves the right of any modification in the available courses due to unforeseen circumstances.
- The University reserves the right to change the rules and regulations for Postgraduate studies from time to time.
- The Postgraduate Directorate reserves the right to cancel any admission.
- In special Circumstances will have to obtain an admission certificate from their employer for applying in Postgraduate courses. However, they must send a copy in advance along with reference documents.
- The separate fee will be paid by the candidates for entry test/assessment, consultation and materials submitted to visit the website for further updates. Incomplete applications forms or any document will not be considered.
- Application forms can be filled & submitted online from University website with effect from 20.06.2024 to 02.07.2024.
- For further information / queries please contact: Directorate Postgraduate Medical Centre, LUMHS Jamshoro. Tel: 021-9215000 & 9215004.

Dr. Iqbal Khan
President University of Medical & Health Sciences, Jamshoro

INF-075 No. 1875/24

By Our Correspondent

The patients' relatives told journalists that the morning tea had turned poisonous as it transpired later that the milk used in the tea had a lizard in it. The condition of the seven inmates currently being treated at CMCH was also improving, they said.

Correspondence: H. H. H. van den Bosch, M.D., Department of Internal Medicine, University Hospital Groningen, P.O. Box 30.001, 3000 RB Groningen, The Netherlands. Tel.: +31 (0) 931 206111; fax: +31 (0) 931 206112; e-mail: h.van.den.bosch@azg.azg.azg.nl

These observations are discussed in the context of

They said that they took out the body and rushed it to civil hospital where doctors pronounced him dead.

The sources said that the murder might be an offshoot of a running feud between two rival groups of Jaisi clan — Correspondent

[illegible]

The VC was sent on Twitter leave¹ by the chief minister, being the chancellor, amid an uproar within the faculty and employees over a video showing the VC indulging in highly indecent and immoral acts. The video had gone viral on the social media late last year making the VC to strongly react to the "attempt to defame me". He maintained that the "fake video was doctored with technological tools".

Over the last few months, VC's aggression had been running a crippling protest movement badly affecting academic activities and administrative affairs. They kept insisting removal of this VC. In order to restore normality till vacancy of the post was established, the CM sent VC, Prof Hopen on forced leave. The VC, however, challenged the action against him in the South High Court which, a couple of weeks back, allowed him to resume his office.

A four-day business seminar for all levels

The situation turned from bad to worse when Sala Registrar Nasir Ahmed Mangroo refused to abide by any notification issued by Prof Duggan upon the latter's return to his office. Mr Mangroo disregarded the notifications concerning the shredding of exam papers and computer equipment and note postings and transfers. One of the VC's latest notifications was about appointment of Prof Farman Ali Masei as the registrar. Mr Mangroo refused to hand over the charge to Prof Masei maintaining that he and his group (calling itself the "join action committee") would obey only the orders of the chancellor (chief minister) so far as the VC's current status was concerned. No such notification had been issued by the CM or the department of universities and boards, by

Both the regentate on Thursday visited the administrative block and different departments to ask workers to follow their respective notifications.

By Our Staff Correspondent

Domestic consumers were also facing serious issues due to unavailability of LPG and gas bunkering because they had already switched to LPG, they pointed out. People were compelled to get petroleum products directly from Oil and Natural Gas Company.

They said that they also assured the administration that they would follow all its standard operating procedures (SOPs) as well as those of the Saudi government. Therefore, they should be allowed to resume their business as they had to earn money for their families.

These experimental effects, however, should be viewed

They urged the Shillong government and district administration to give a sympathetic consideration to their appeal. They said they would not support any illegal LPG activities. They also appealed to the Hyderabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (HCCI) to play its role in getting the situation of the distressed producers.

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He stated that Reles each should be granted an compensation for each deceased and \$2.5m for each of the injured. He said that in his earlier meeting with the PM, the latter had promised to settle the Government's liabilities.

By Our Correspondent

The party leaders, including the central president Lal, Jawara, central general secretary, Moe Ahmed Kattar, advanced labor leader, Sarwan Jato, Habib Malimo and Mahmud Ahmed, said reporters after offering condolences to slain journalist Nasrullah Chaudhri's family in Ghana on Thursday that the proposed commission should comprise sitting judges of Supreme Court and it should not ignore all the suspects involved in aiding and abetting crime against the slain editor of NATO magazine, a

They pledged unremitting political and legal support to Godara's family and integrity of free press. Godara's tragic death was not an isolated incident but rather part of a broader scheme to silence dissent and suppress collective conscience of Sindh, they said.

They hampered criminal role of authorities in failing to apprehend perpetrators of such crimes, thereby allowing them to continue with their activities.

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They criticized the government's passive stance towards criminals and asserted that local tribal chiefs, feudal lords and government officials harbored criminals and thus caused chaos to perpetuate.

They urged Chief Justice of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa to take a suo moto notice of these grave injustices and called upon the Supreme Court to fulfill its constitutional mandate of upholding rule of law and safeguarding fundamental rights.

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[illegible]

Work Description	Issues of Work	Duration of Project
Consulting services for design/prepare drawings and obtain engineering for the National Construction of Road/Urban Roads	Design & design/prepare and technical supervision during construction of project as mentioned in the TOFs	2 years

ELIGIBILITY (MANDATORY): Valid Registration with Investor Promoting Council and being Present in the Code Book 2014-2015 & 13133 Registration with Pakistan Council of Architects and Survey Planners (CPASP), Income Tax Registration, Social Security Fund Registration, and the consultant must have registration with Securities & Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP), and where Registration with Insolvency Administrator (Mandatory). The RFP documents feature a detailed list of eligibility criteria and conditions.	5. EVALUATION CRITERIA: 4.1 Applications with required documents attached will be evaluated, and firms scoring 70% or higher will be considered as qualified 4.2 Applications of low-rated firms will not be considered. 4.3 The applicant will be disqualified if the Issuing Agency discovers, at any stage, that the information submitted for qualification is not sufficiently accurate or incomplete.
6. RFP (DOCUMENTS): Applications are invited from Indonesian National Firms according to Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Method (QCBS as 80% Weightage for Technical and a 20% Weightage for Financial). The list of documents to be submitted are: Two sets of the Procurement on per (PPT) Paper (10% (Awarded upon date), The bid shall comprise a single package containing two separate envelopes. Each envelope will contain respectively the "Financial Proposal" and "Technical Proposal". The Request for Proposal can be obtained by interested Consulting Firms from the address mentioned below. The request must clearly state "Request for PPT" as well as the title of the assignment. The RFP documents are available at non-refundable fee of Rs. 10000/- which shall be in shape of pay order in digital receipt against work.	7. BID SECURITY: 5% of the bid amount in shape of Cash Deposit or Pay Order / Demand Draft from any scheduled Bank of Pakistan in favor of Project Director, South Division, Income Taxation & Customs, should be submitted along with the financial proposal, otherwise such firms will be rejected. 8. BID VALIDITY: 90-days. Interested Consulting Firms should address their Enquiries and submit their applications to the following: Office of the Project Director, Office No. 7, 4th & 5th Floor Ibrahim Trade Tower Main (Maindoor)-Pleasant Karsana
9. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF RFP DOCUMENTS: RFP Documents will be issued to interested consulting firms on any working day beginning with the date of publication of the RFP Notice in newspapers and continuing until July 1, 2014 at 4:00 pm.	10. The Procurement Authority reserves the right to reach out to all bidders in accordance with SPPFA Rule 20.10 (extended upto date).
11. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: July 1, 2014 and Financial Proposal and attached with necessary performance must be delivered to address mentioned below at or before 09:00 hrs on 01-07-2014.	11. In case government announces any public holiday on scheduled dates, the bid if it is being submitted will be submitted / opened on the next working day on the same schedule in accordance with Rule 41.15 of SPPFA, Rule 20.15 (Awarded upto date).

SELECTION COMMISSION



Table 1

 CORRIGENDUM

It is to be construed in reference to tender notices BPPRA TSE No. 23240544/2091 PRG No. 2726/91-5-2024 TSE No. 23240544/1901 PRG No. 2731/91-5-2024 TSE No. 23240544/2091 PRG No. 2726/91-5-2024. The deadline for submission of bids is extended by 22, June, 2024 till 10:00 AM and opening on the same day at 11:00 am on the same venue. The deadline for submission of bids and opening is also updated on BPPRA website. Other Conditions will remain the same.

**DISTRICT HEALTH OFFICER
KECH**

PRG No.2060/14-6-2024
www.bppra.gov.pk www.dhso.gov.pk www.dhs.gov.pk



TENDER NOTICE

The Girls Cadet College Qazvin makes bids from engine battery for supply of following items: **TSE-23240644/1901** **Notes: In All Procurements of GCS Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA.**



No. Classes of Object **Bid Security**
1. Electrical & Electronic Items (Total Items) Count: 4) 2%

Proceedments shall be made under the Information Public Procurement Rules – 2014. **Eligibility of Bidders:** Assignments of Similar Nature and Complexity 3,00,00,000 in Previous 3 Years. Turn over of at least 2,50,00,000 PRR in 3 Subsequent Previous Years. Presence in Active Tax Payer List. Sales Tax Certificate. The bidding firm must not be currently blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. It is not permissible. Submission of the required Bid Security in case Bid Security is not found as required during financial evaluation the bidding firm shall be declared as ineligible and co-operative. Submission of the required Bidding document. Fee.

Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure. **Bid Security:** The bids must accompany the Bid Security in the form of Deposit at least of 2 % specified above in the name of the undersigned firm at a scheduled bank. **Tender Documents:** The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the undersigned 1,000 PRR Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 27 June, 2024 during office hours on working days Last date of bid submission: The Bidders must be submitted latest by 27 June, 2024 till 10:00 AM. **Tender opening:** All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the undersigned at 11:00 AM. **Address:** Girls Cadet College Quetta, Sohy Road, Near Benazir Bly Over Quetta. Phone no: 0812829903
Email: gcccqf@ptaf.com

**PRINCIPAL
GIRLS CADET COLLEGE
QUETTA**

AB No.565-12-4-2024

OFFICE OF THE



OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE SANGHAR

No. MGS&GB/14-6/2024
Bangalore, Dated: 09/06/2024

AUCTION NOTICE

The recovery rights for collection of following taxes / fees of Municipal Committee Sanghar for the period from 01-07-2024 to 30-06-2025 are to be auctioned under the supervision of Chairman Auction Committee Municipal Committee Sanghar on 24-06-2024 at 11:00 AM. In case of failure of first attempt the next attempt will be held on 25-06-2024 at 11:00 AM in the office of the Municipal Committee Sanghar.

S. No.	Name of Council	Particulars of Contract	Official Bid	Security Deposit 10%
01.	Municipal Committee Sanghar	1. Cattle Tax Fee 2. Parking Fee / Road Service 3. Pollution / Advertisement fee 4. Corporate fee 5. Water / Sewer fee 6. Generator Fee	8700000/- 810000/- 8000000/- 1000000/- 1070000/- 440000/-	870000/- 81000/- 800000/- 100000/- 107000/- 44000/-

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- Interested parties / companies and firms are invited to participate in the auction after depositing 10% amount of the official bid shown against each at shape of cash deposit only in the name of Municipal Committee Sanghar. No cash / travelling cheque will be accepted. The deposit will be refunded to the unsuccessful bidders on the next day.
- The defaulters of any Council will not be allowed to participate in the auction.
- The payment of income tax and sales tax and GST Tax must be paid by the successful bidder after auction.
- The successful bidder will have to pay one equal installment before taking over the charge.
- Auction will be held under the presiding or the undersigned.
- The terms / conditions and schedule can be seen in the office of Tax Branch, Municipal Committee Sanghar during office hours on any working day. The Chairman Auction Committee Municipal Committee Sanghar reserves the right to accept or reject any bid or all bids in accordance with the Sixth Public Procurement Rules (2003).

PEOPLES STEEL MILLS LTD

PROFESSIONAL STEEL MILLS LTD.
Javedan Nagar, Manghopir, Karachi

Sl. #	Ref. No.	Description	Qty.	Submission Date
1	FP-KH/ PR-1444-A-24	MOLY METAL Offer on F.O.R / CFR basis.	07 MT	27.06.2024
2	FP-KH/ PR-1444-B-24	NICKEL METAL Offer on F.O.R / CFR basis.	25 MT	27.06.2024
3	FP-KH/ PR-1444-C-24	COBALT METAL Offer on F.O.R / CFR basis.	05 MT	27.06.2024
4	FP-KH/ PR-1444-D-24	TITANIUM METAL Offer on F.O.R / CFR basis.	02 MT	27.06.2024
5	FP-KH/ PR-FeSi-24	FERRO SILICON LUMPS Offer on F.O.R / CFR basis.	50 MT	27.06.2024
6	FP-KH/ PR-FeCr-24	FERRO CHROME (H/C) Offer on F.O.R / CFR basis.	25 MT	28.06.2024
7	FP-KH/ PR-FeMn-24	FERRO MANGANESE (H/C) Offer on F.O.R / CFR basis.	25 MT	28.06.2024
8	FP-KH/ PR-SiMn-24	SILICON MANGANESE Offer on F.O.R / CFR basis.	25 MT	28.06.2024
9	FP-KH/ PR-CE-24	CRUSHED ELECTRODE Offer on F.O.R / CFR basis.	25 MT	28.06.2024
10	FP-BB/ PR-2024-24	1. TOP POURING MOULD 2. CRACKING MOLD	04 Nos.	02.07.2024

11	FP-88/ PR-1598-24	CERAMIC FIBER BLOCK WITH ANCHOR Offer on F.O.R / CFR basis.	27 Nos.	03.07.2024
12	FP-88/ PR-22040-22407-24	HIGH ALUMINA CEMENT, CA-50 Offer on F.O.R / CFR basis.	96 MT	03.07.2024
13	FP-88/ PR-1235/24	DOUBLE RAIL DOUBLE GIRDER CRAB Offer on F.O.R / CFR basis.	02 Nos.	04.07.2024

Tender(s) must be submitted on the submission date by 15:00hrs and the opening will be carried out at 15:30hrs on the respective submission date.

Interested bidder may obtain complete tender documents containing specifications and terms & conditions on payment of Tender Fee Rs.500/- (non-refundable) against each tender through Pay Order/Demand Draft in favour of M/s. Peoples Steel Mills Ltd, Karachi against a written request on their Company's letterhead. Companies wishing to receive documents through courier must add extra Rs.100/- in shape of Pay Order/Demand Draft.

NOTE: The Tender Notice is also available at www.ppra.org.pk and www.psmiltd.com

HEAD PROCUREMENT
PEOPLES STEEL MILLS LTD.
JAVEDAN NAGAR, MANGHOPIR, KARACHI - PAKISTAN

پروٹوٹائپ: سلسلہ ۱۰ وزارت مٹی، سسٹم

ISLAMABAD

Sunset 07:21pm
Sunrise (Tomorrow) 04:54am

NEXT 24 HRS

Minimum 27°C
Maximum 43°C
Outlook Mostly Sunny

METRO
North

Germany braced for
Euro 2024 kick-off

Pg.19 SPORT



FIRECENTERS trying to extinguish fire in Ghora Gali in Murree on Thursday. The fire that broke out on Wednesday is still raging. — White Star

Chief Justice seeks IIUI board meeting to stem 'rebellion'

Letter addressed to
President Zardari
says varsity admin
'perpetuating' wrongs

By Ihtam Juraidd

ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice Qazi Faez Ishaq has written a letter to President Asif Ali Zardari to call a board meeting of the International Islamic University and take notice of the declining ranking of the university.

"Six months have elapsed since the Board of Trustees of the International Islamic University, met on December 11, 2023, but minutes of such meeting are still awaited. Reminders... have been ignored by the university administration. The Board had decided that its next

meeting be held in April 2024, but till date, it has not been convened. The board had noted, with concern, several aspects of maladministration and the university's decline, including its ranking. The International Islamic University Ordinance, 1985 mandates periodical meetings of its statutory bodies, but these too have not been held," CJP has, who is a member of the board, informed President Zardari, who acts as the chancellor of the university.

"The board of governors has not met in nine months, violating section 26 of the ordinance, which mandates that its meetings have to be held at least every three months. Other statutorily mandated meetings are also not held. [The] director-general, deans, and chairpersons continue to act on an ad-hoc basis and till further orders, which is in complete violation of the ordinance, the status of the university, and good practice. Instead of rectifying the wrongs, which were also

highlighted in the board's meeting, the administration is obstinately persisting and perpetuating them. This is not the way to run any institution, let alone a public sector university on which huge amounts from the public exchequer are spent," he stated.

"The Board in its meeting had noted serious allegations against Dr. N. B. Jumaat but he remains indispensable, which brings into question what services he and Mr A Basim, another noted legal expert, render. The administration continues to postpone these against whom serious complaints of sexual harassment have been made," the letter said.

According to the CJP's letter, the president of the varsity in March this year stated in a letter to the chancellor that the decisions of the board hold no value for me.

"Could there possibly be a greater affront and transgression by an employee? The sustained and systematic

destruction of the University at the hands of its administration must not be perpetuated," he said.

"The board in its June 2020 meeting had directed the university to propose the criteria for the appointment of the president of the university, but this decision has not been implemented and the criteria are still awaited after over four years. To arrest the further decline and destruction of the university, a meeting of the board be called to consider steps to be taken to stem the rebellion by the university's administration and to consider the appointment of a new president of the university," the letter added.

According to the letter, Nathul Hameed Akhtab's term expires on July 15 this year and the law does not permit extending the tenure of the president. "As a member of the board, I am deeply concerned and I am sure my concerns are shared by all other members and by yourself," the letter concluded.

Police book five over June 10 'encounter'

ISLAMABAD: As the Islamabad police booked five suspects in a terrorism case in connection with an alleged encounter near Ferozabad on June 10, the contents of the FIR registered over the case stood in contrast to the initial version shared by the police.

The case registered at the Sabzi Mandi police station also includes Section 7 of the Anti-Terrorism Act and various sections of the Pakistan Penal Code, including the one concerning attempted murder.

The FIR said that a seven-member police team was on duty at the Carriage Factory Chowk when it stopped a motorcycle on which three persons were riding. Instead of stopping the bike riders started shooting at the police with their handguns. Subsequently, Constable Fahad Amin sustained a bullet injury in his leg. In the meantime, another motorcycle on which two persons — said to be accomplices of the three suspects — were riding appeared on the spot and started shooting at the police with automatic weapons, causing injuries to their accomplices.

The police, however, fired in the air and took cover to escape the volleys of bullets whereas the suspects managed to escape.

Soon after the shootout, a man named Gul Sher appeared on the scene and told the police that the suspects had robbed him of his motorcycle. According to the FIR, a report over the incident was registered at the police station at around 6:35am. Later, the FIR was also registered in reference to the report. — Munawar Azam

IHC asks sessions court to decide Iddat case within a month

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday directed the sessions court to decide appeals of former prime minister Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi against their conviction in Iddat case in a month.

IHC Justice Mirzaul Hassan Azamgarib also issued direction to the sessions court of making a decision on releasing them on bail in 10 days and disposed of their petitions.

Mr Khan and Bushra Bibi petitioned before the IHC seeking suspension of their sentence.

Senior Civil Judge of Islamabad Qudratullah on Feb 3 convicted them for contracting marriage during Iddat period. They were sentenced seven years in jail, along with Rs300,000 fine each.

Mr Khan contended in the petition that the District and Sessions Judge refused himself from the case while he was scheduled to announce the decision on the appeals against the conviction.

He sought from the court to issue direction to the sessions judge for announcing the judgement.

Bushra Bibi was seeking suspension of her sentence, in addition to setting aside the conviction.

During the course of hearing Mr Khan's counsel Salman Akram Raja requested the IHC to hear the petition or transfer it to the sessions court with a direction to adjudicate the matter within certain timeframes.

Advocate Raja Mirwan Abbasi on the other hand opposed the petition saying that their application seeking similar relief was pending adjudication before the sessions court. — Malik Asad

Development work to start in Murree after Eid

By Our Staff Reporter

RAWALPINDI: The Punjab government will start development work in Murree after Eid-ul-Azha, said Commissioner Rawalpindi Asim Khattak at a meeting held to review the Murree Development Plan.

The meeting also reviewed arrangements for tourism during the Eid holidays.

Deputy Commissioner Rawalpindi Dr Hassan Waqar Cheema, Director Development Naria Staffan and heads of other concerned departments participated in the review meeting.

The commissioner said that along with execution of development schemes in Murree, special arrangements should be made on account of upcoming Eid-ul-Azha. "Since huge influx of tourists is expected on Eid days, necessary arrangements should be made to facilitate tourists as well as locals," he said.

The commissioner was told that 16 kanals of Murree Improvement Trust had been identified for a parking plan in Murree which will initially provide parking facilities for 324 vehicles.

However, keeping in view the history of landslides in the

area, a geotechnical/feasibility study will be started soon in order to ensure the sustainability of the project. Apart from this, work is going on the parking yard, including two washrooms, near the general bus stand, which will be completed and made functional in the next two days.

The commissioner directed that banners with necessary information should be displayed outside parking places so that tourists do not face any problem regarding parking. He said that public washrooms should be constructed at 12 places for convenience of locals and tourists.

In this regard, an estimated cost has been sent to the additional secretary communication and works for inclusion in ADP 2024-25.

Places for public washrooms have been identified at Lower Taps, Upper Jikka Gully Road, Jikka Gully Road, Mall Road, Kashmir Point, Sunny Bank & Hill, Lower Mall, Koldara, Wharrah, PEA Park, DC Azeem Bank Road and Municipal Corporation parking plaza.

The commissioner added that the average water demand in Murree was 2.15 million gallons per day while the current water supply was 1.32 MGD. To meet

this shortage, various channel schemes as well as rooftop rain-water harvesting projects are being given special attention.

He directed that to maintain and preserve the beauty of Murree, Rawalpindi Waste Management Company should take special care of the full station's cleanliness by deploying additional sanitary workers during Eid.

Moreover, illegal constructions spoiling the beauty of Murree should be strictly stopped and legal action should be taken against them under the supervision of the deputy commissioner, he added.

Wasa directed to clear 19 vulnerable points along Leh Nullah by July 15

Section 144 imposed
along nullah to check
dumping of waste into
waterway, says DC

By Aamir Yasin

RAWALPINDI: Deputy Commissioner Dr Hassan Waqar Cheema on Thursday gave July 15 deadline to the Water and Sanitation Agency (Wasa) to clear 19 vulnerable points along Leh Nullah to avoid flooding in the monsoon season.

The district administration on the directives of the Provincial Disaster Management Authority and the Punjab government has imposed Section 144 along the nullah to stop people from dumping solid waste and construction material waste into the waterway.

The deputy commissioner visited Leh Nullah and inspected the cleaning work at Gwalmandi Bridge.

"The cleaning work of Leh Nullah and drains should be completed before monsoon rains,

Timely preparations for the monsoon will save life and property of the people," he said.

He directed Wasa officials to remain on alert during the coming three months and work in full coordination with the Meteorological Department.

He said that after getting forecast of rains, machinery and staff would be deployed in the low-lying areas. "To deal with any kind of emergency situation, Punjab government has provided funds and Wasa has started the cleanup work on time which will be completed before the monsoon. Section 144 has been imposed around drains and strict action will be taken against those dumping solid waste and construction material in the nullah," he said.

Meanwhile, Wasa said it had started cleanliness of Leh Nullah and 11 other drains in downtown areas.

Wasa Managing Director Saleem Ashraf said the agency had accelerated preparations before the monsoon. Cleaning of Leh Nullah from Katarian bridge to Murree Road is being carried out and will be completed before the monsoon,

he added. "Machinery is being used to clear blockages in the drains and this process will continue during the monsoon. Similarly, cleaning of major drains across the city will be completed before June 30," he said.

Five flood response units have been established at Jinnah Park, Mori Market, Commercial Market, Bagh Sarfar and Khayaban-e-Sir Syed with deployment of staff and heavy machinery.

The last flood that the Leh Nullah witnessed was on July 23, 2001. A rain of 500mm just in few hours resulted in the devastating floods in the city's history in which 35 people were killed and many shops swept away.

In case of heavy rains in the twin cities, the water level in Leh Nullah would rise to touch the dangerous level mark of 18 feet. Leh Nullah is about 30 km long, stretching from Islamabad to Rawalpindi. As many 11 other nullahs in the city also discharge into Lehar. If torrent points, Leh Nullah itself discharges into Soan River near the building of Lahore High Court's Rawalpindi bench.



PEOPLE give a bath to sacrificial animals at a service station near cattle market in Bhatta Chowk in Rawalpindi on Thursday. — Photo by Mohammad Asim

Pindi contonment board, RWMC chalk out separate cleanliness plans

By Our Staff Reporter

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi Waste Management Company (RWMC) and Rawalpindi Contonment Board (RCB) made their separate plan for cleanliness during Eidul Adha.

RWMC has also started distributing biodegradable bags to the citizens for dumping sacrificial animals waste on Eidul Adha. An awareness camp was also set up where biodegradable waste bags were given to the citizens and pamphlets containing helpline number 1135, mobile app Clean Rawalpindi and social media link were also distributed for registration of complaints.

It urged the people not to dispose of waste on streets and roads rather put it in the biodegradable waste bags and give them to RWMC workers.

Meanwhile, RCB announced new plan while dividing 90 wards into different sections, control room set up for all three days. In the cleanliness operation, 150 heavy vehicles will participate in the campaign. As many as 200 employees will be on duty on all days of Eid. All collection points (garbage collection areas) were cleaned by Rawalpindi Contonment Board before Eidul Adha.

A Central Complaints Cell has also been set up in the RCB office which will be operational round the clock. RCB's 14 mini tippers, seven dumpers, eight tractor trolleys, two Suzuki pickups, three compactors, five trucks and five shovels will be part of the plan.

A special team has also been formed for monitoring. In case of possible rain and floods, Rain Emergency Cell will also work 24 hours.

Housing society can't annul allotment of plot: LHC

RAWALPINDI: Justice Jawad Hassan of the Lahore High Court (LHC) Rawalpindi bench on Thursday observed that the private housing society lack power to annul the allotment of plot even in the case of default.

Justice Hassan while hearing petitions of senior journalists Mohammad Asghar and Abdul Latif filed against denial of plots to them by the management of Media Town despite allotment and clearance of all the dues.

According to advocate Saad Yousaf Khan, counsel for the petitioners, the management deprived the senior journalists from their plots in order to compensate an influential figure and also

produced a satellite image of the encroached land before the court. Justice Hassan directed the counsel for the housing society and the representative of the Punjab government to give possession of plots to journalists by June 27, when he would resume hearing of this matter.

He pointed out several judgements of the superior courts in which the issue of allotment of the plots has been thrashed out in detail.

Justice Hassan also handed over a recent judgement authored by himself to the counsel of the Media Town and directed him to seek the guidelines from the said judgement.—Malik Asad



A MAN selling household items takes a nap under a tree at roadside greenbelt during scorching hot weather in Islamabad on Thursday — APP

Over 10,000 glaciers in GB, Chitral receding: experts

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan is home to over 13,000 glaciers spanning the Karakoram, Hindu Kush and the Himalayan mountain ranges, making its northern region the largest reservoir of glaciers outside of the Polar Regions.

However, with striking changes in the climate, these glaciers and the habitats surrounding them are deeply troubled with 10,000 glaciers reported to be receding.

This information was shared with participants of an event held to discuss the glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs) project.

The project, implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in partnership with the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination and supported by the Green Climate Fund is focused on overcoming the climate vulner-

abilities of valleys in Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP).

According to a statement, the project aims to protect communities from the impacts of GLOFs. In collaboration with China Pakistan, the project is rolling out awareness sessions at various universities and colleges in GB and KP, leading up to a climate-change hackathon to incubate ideas and solutions based on local knowledge to propel climate adaptation mechanisms and programming.

Dr. Alisha Datta, Associate Professor/Chairman Department of Environmental Sciences at Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University Sheringal, Dir, said, "Collective efforts in engaging our youth through such initiatives will pave the way for innovative solutions to combat the severe impacts of climate change in our region."

Sumaira Gul, a student from Karakoram International University, Chilas (Diamer)

campus, stressed the need to invest in climate-centric solutions to overcome the impacts of global warming.

"The severity of the situation has encouraged me to participate in this hackathon, hoping to contribute to sustainable solutions that will protect our communities and environment," she added.

UNDP's GLOF project works in 16 valleys of Gilgit-Baltistan and eight valleys in KP. It empowers communities to identify and manage risks associated with GLOFs and related impacts of climate change, strengthens public services to lower the risk of disasters related to GLOFs and improves community preparedness and disaster response.

The project also supports the development of sustainable livelihood options in project areas with a particular focus on the participation of women in ensuring food security and livelihoods.

Three members of Ahmadya community detained under MPO

By Nabes Arwar Dhakoo

CHAKWAL: The district administration of Chakwal has got three leading members of Ahmadya community under one month detention allegedly to prevent them from offering sacrifice of animals on the occasion of upcoming Eidul Adha.

Deputy Commissioner Qasim Ali Malik issued three separate orders for the detention of the three men on June 10 and the police later arrested them and sent them to Jhelum prison.

All the three men belong to Duhail village which witnessed a mob attack on a worship place of the same community in December 2016 resulting in the death of two persons. The worship place, a historic mosque built in the middle of the 19th century, had been sealed by the local administration after the attack and its date

will change in future.

DC Malik in her orders, copies of which are available with Dawn, has stated that she received a report from the district police officer in which the latter alleged that all the three men "may cause deterioration for law and order situation in the area" and requested for the issuance of their detention orders under Section 3 of the Maintenance of Public Order 1960.

The matter was discussed in the District Committee held on June 10 which unanimously recommended that in order to prevent the sectarian conflict as well as law and order situation, all these three persons be detained.

Talking to Dawn, a spokes-

person of Jamaat-e-Ahmadya Amir Mahmood said all the three persons had been called for a meeting with the police officials and the assistant commissioner Ghous Kader Shah regarding the upcoming Eidul Adha on Monday.

"There was also the presence of the complainants (opponents of the Ahmadya community) in that meeting. Immense pressure was placed on the Ahmadya delegation not to perform the Qurbani. Furthermore, while being har-

assed they were told to submit a security bond stating that neither them nor any other Ahmadi in the district will perform Qurbani", he said.

Meanwhile, Amnesty International through a tweet urged the Punjab government to immediately release the three men and ensure that the Ahmadya community was provided protection, particularly during Eidul Adha to ensure they are able to peacefully exercise their religious beliefs.

P E D O
PAKHTUNKHWA ENERGY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
GOVERNMENT OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Date: 11-06-2024 | ADP No. 368/220912
Bid Reference No. PEDO/SOLAR/SSL/24

Pakhtunkhwa Energy Development Organization (PEDO) intends to invite bids on Single Stage Two Envelope Procedure on "below / below / at or" basis on Engineer's estimate as per KPPIA rules for the project

Installation of Solar Street Lights at Race Course Garden near Excise office, Peshawar Cantt. and KC Road near Peshawar Gold Club, District Peshawar under ADP No. 368/220912.

The scope of work includes Procurement, Supply, Transportation, Installation of Solar Street Light including civil works and all ancillary works that shall enable the Commissioning, Testing and Handing/Taking Over of the Project. The following terms and conditions shall apply:

- The bidder must have a valid Pakistan Engineering Council registration in the category C3 or above with a mandatory EE11 (Solar) and EE21 (no) Street Lights specialization Code.
- The bidder must be registered with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Revenue Authority (KPRRA) and Federal Board of Revenue (FBR).
- The bidder must have project specific authorization from manufacturer of PV modules, inverters and batteries.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents can be purchase and downloaded from etender.pedo.pk by an interested bidder on submission of a written application addressed to PD (Solar) upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 1000/-.
- A pre Bid Conference will be held on 26th June, 2024, 11:00 Hrs at Office of the Project Director (Solar) at House # 21 B-II Abdara Road University Town Peshawar. All interested bidders may attend.
- Bidders may obtain further information from, inspect and acquire the Bidding Documents from the Office of the Project Director (Solar) addressed given below.
- The bidder shall along with bidding documents, submit 2% bid security of engineer estimate in shape of Cash/Bank Guarantee in the name of the "CEO, PEDO, Peshawar" as per KPPIA Rules.
- The bidders quoting their bids more than 10% below and up to 20% below on Engineer's Estimate shall submit along with their bids 1% Additional Security of Engineer's Estimated cost in addition to 2% bid security.
- The bidders quoting bid more than 20% below shall submit with their bid with 2% bid security and an additional security on Engineer's estimated cost equal to the differential amount of submitted bid and Engineer's estimated along with detailed rate analysis.
- The last date for submission of bids is July 12, 2024 at 15:00 Hrs. Bids will be opened on the same day, in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at Project Director (Solar) Office Address: 21 B-II, Abdara Road, University Town, Peshawar at 15:00 hours and also to upload the soft copy on etender.pedo.pk.

INF/PJ/1245/24

Project Director (Solar)
House # 21 B-II Abdara Road University Town Peshawar
Phone No: 091-3022347, Email: pd@etender.pedo@gmail.com

P E D O
PAKHTUNKHWA ENERGY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
GOVERNMENT OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Date: 11-06-2024 | ADP No. 981/220924
Bid Reference No. PEDO/SOLAR/KPIA/24

Pakhtunkhwa Energy Development Organization (PEDO) intends to invite bids on Single Stage Two Envelope Procedure on "below / below / at or" basis on Engineer's estimate as per KPPIA rules for the project

Solarization of Judicial Academy and Peshawar High Court Bench Peshawar ADP 2022-23 S# 981/220924.

The scope of work includes Procurement, Supply, Transportation, Installation of Solar Street Light including civil works and all ancillary works that shall enable the Commissioning, Testing and Handing/Taking Over of the Project. The following terms and conditions shall apply:

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- The last date for submission of bids is July 15, 2024 at 15:00 Hrs. Bids will be opened on the same day, in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at Project Director (Solar) Office Address: 21 B-II, Abdara Road, University Town, Peshawar at 15:00 hours and also to upload the soft copy on etender.pedo.pk.

INF/PJ/1245/24

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Boy killed in toy bomb explosion

By Jamil Nagri

GILGIT: A 14-year-old boy was killed while his father and sister were injured when a toy bomb exploded in Harghoul village of Kharwan district of Gilgit-Baltistan, adjacent to Kargil, the Line of Control (LoC) between Pakistan and India.

SP Kharwan district of Gilgit-Baltistan, told Dawn that the boy Faizal his father and sister resident of Harghoul village in Kharwan district had gone to nearby fields to graze their cattle.

Kharwan SP said that Faizal picked the toy bombs to play with assuming it a toy and it suddenly exploded.

The boy died on the spot while his father and sister sustained minor injuries.

Kharwan SP said police and district administration has visited the scene inspected the area to investigate the incident.

He said police didn't get anything to send for forensic.

In the past about six incidents of explosion of toy bombs occurred near line of control between

Pakistan and India in Kharwan district in which many children injured.

Indian controlled Kargil and and Kharwan border is control line between Pakistan and India.

According to the local people, during the 1999 Kargil war, a large number of toy bombs dropped by Indian Army in Kharwan jurisdiction, which resulted in many such incidents.

Two and a half years ago, such an incident took place in Harghoul as a result of which two children were injured.

Local people of the area said that the government should take steps to deal with such incidents in future.

They also protested with India for such Indian activities and demanded government to take the issue at international level to impose Indian atrocities.

The conditions of the injured father and sister of the deceased said to be stable while body of the deceased buried in his native village Harghoul in presence of government officials, religious scholars and a large number of local people.

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Punjab University of Technology Rasul, All City, a public sector University, invites applications from candidates interested in Punjab (PREFERRED) RESIDENT OF M.B.DIN, GUJARAT & JAMMU for various posts on temporary basis for a period of 06 months at Punjab University of Technology Rasul, M.B.Din.

S. No.	Post Title	Category	Required Age	Qualification	Interview Date
1	Accountant	Unfilled	01	B. Com (and) diploma or equivalent qualification from an institute or an university recognized by MCI	
2	Attendance	Unfilled	01	Achieve preferably Marks with 80% in Computer Science	
3	Baby Saver	Unfilled	01	Achieve preferably Marks in English	
4	Plumber	Unfilled	01	Achieve preferably diploma or equivalent Qualification from recognized board and diploma from TET/TA or any other recognized institute	
5	Electrician	Unfilled	02	Achieve with 60% marks minimum Experience preferably Marks with diploma in relevant field	04-07-2024
6	Computer	Unfilled	01	Achieve with 60% marks minimum Experience preferably Marks with diploma in relevant field	
7	Welder	Unfilled	01	Achieve with 60% marks minimum Experience preferably Marks with diploma in relevant field	
8	Welder	Unfilled	01	Achieve with 60% marks minimum Experience preferably Marks with diploma in relevant field	
9	Electrician	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
10	Electrician	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
11	Teacher	Unfilled	01	Achieve preferably Bachelors or equivalent Qualification from recognized board. The applicant must have valid license to drive government vehicle (2070) and public service vehicle (2070) 4 (in) years experience relevant field or not required experience	
12	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	02	Achieve preferably Bachelors or equivalent Qualification from recognized board. The applicant must have valid license to drive heavy transport vehicle (2070) and public service vehicle (2070) 4 (in) years experience relevant field or not required experience	
13	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	02	Achieve preferably Bachelors or equivalent Qualification from recognized board. The applicant must have valid license to drive light transport vehicle (2070) and public service vehicle (2070) 4 (in) years experience relevant field or not required experience	04-07-2024
14	Bus Conductor	Unfilled	04	Achieve	
15	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
16	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
17	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
18	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
19	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
20	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
21	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
22	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
23	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
24	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
25	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
26	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
27	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
28	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
29	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
30	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
31	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
32	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
33	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
34	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
35	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
36	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
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42	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
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49	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
50	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
51	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
52	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
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54	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
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56	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
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58	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
59	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
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61	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
62	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
63	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
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65	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
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91	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
92	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
93	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
94	Driver (2070)	Unfilled	01	Achieve	
95					

LAHORE

Sunset 07:10 pm
Sunrise (Tomorrow) 04:55 am

NEXT 24 HRS

Minimum 21.0°C
Maximum 44.0°C
Outlook Mostly Sunny

AQI

Maximum (Yesterday) 154

METRO Central



Germany braced for
Euro 2024 kick-off

Pg.21 SPORT



2024-25 budget copies litter the floor of the Punjab Assembly after the session on Thursday. — White Star / M. Aul

BUDGET 2024-25

Punjab raises health budget by 24pc

Rs109bn allocated
for free medicines
and health insurance

By Asif Chaudhry

LAHORE: The Punjab government has earmarked Rs535.1bn for the health sector for the financial year 2024-25 with a 24pc increase compared to the last budget.

A major chunk of the total budget — Rs535bn — has been allocated for provision of free medicines to the poor and deserving patients in the outpatient departments (OPDs) of the public hospitals and Rs45bn for the Universal Health

Coverage under the health insurance programme in the province.

Of Rs535.1bn, Rs410.5bn has been proposed for the non-development with 15pc increase and Rs124.6bn for the health sector development schemes, making an increase of 13pc than the previous annual budget.

The government has allocated Rs42.6bn under the head of development schemes for the primary and secondary healthcare sector, 54pc more than the last budgetary allocation.

It has allocated Rs165bn under the head of the revamp programmes Phase I and Rs7.5bn for Phase II.

Similarly, Rs65bn have been proposed for the development schemes for the specialized healthcare and medical education department.

According to documents, an amount of Rs13.1bn has been earmarked under the head of the ongoing schemes while Rs6.2bn for the new schemes of all the government teaching institutions of Punjab for the financial year 2024-25.

For the Pakistan Railway & Liver Institute (PKLI), the provincial government has proposed Rs11bn.

It has allocated Rs6bn each for the revamp of 581 basic health units of north Punjab and 552 of north and central Punjab.

The documents say Rs50bn have been earmarked for the Integrated, Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health.

The government allocated Rs17bn for strengthening of the provincial TB programme, Rs1.5bn for Punjab family plan-

ning scheme, Rs2.7bn for National Health Support Programme, Rs7.5bn for preventive healthcare, Rs11bn for research and development and Rs500m for the Screening Children for Disease scheme.

The Punjab government has also made special allocations of Rs6bn for establishment of Nawaab Shariat Institute of Cancer Treatment and Research Lahore and Rs1bn for Nawaab Shariat Institute of Cardiology Sargodha.

It has also made an allocation of Rs200m for establishment of 100-bed Mother & Child Hospital Sargodha, Rs1.5bn for construction of Emergency and Trauma Centre at the Jinnah Hospital Lahore.

The government has proposed Rs1.1bn for reconstruction of the Lady Willingham Hospital Lahore, Rs600m for the revamp of the Services Hospital Lahore.

Threats to judge being probed, LHC told

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab Inspector General of Police (IGP) Usman Arwar on Thursday told the Lahore High Court (LHC) that an investigation had been launched into the alleged threats to a judge of an anti-terrorism court (ATC) of Sargodha and his harassment by the intelligence and law enforcement agencies.

The IGP and other police officials appeared before the court following a notice issued on a complaint by District & Sessions Judge Muhammad Abbas, the presiding judge of ATC Sargodha.

Asked about the blockade of roads leading to the ATC Sargodha, the police chief said the security measures had been taken in the wake of the serious threats. He said a probe had also been initiated into the threats to the special judge.

Chief Justice Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan asked the IGP to

find out who wanted to meet the judge.

The special judge, in his complaint, alleged that a message was conveyed to him that some officer in the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) wanted to meet him in his chamber.

The chief justice observed that stopping people from going to courts sent a wrong message and asked the police chief under what law could lawyers and litigants be prevented from accessing the courts.

The chief justice asked the police how fundamental rights provided by the Constitution could be usurped. "If citizens are to be made, then the courts should be closed," he said.

He questioned how police had arrested a large number of people in the May 9 events and could not make a single arrest for the attack on the high court. He said apparently the power was at the authorities' discretion. The chief justice reserved.

Continued on Page 17

Rs64bn allocated for agri sector

Rs30bn earmarked for tubewells' solarisation

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Punjab government on Thursday spared over Rs64 billion for agricultural sector, which included Rs30bn for subsidy, Rs6bn for solarisation of tubewells and Rs75bn interest-free loans to farmers.

Announcing the provincial budget, the provincial finance minister said that the government allocated Rs64.6bn for the sector, which was 126 percent more than the last year's allocation.

The agriculture sector, he said, has been subjected to "rumors and misinformation" over the last few months. That is why, he said, the government has decided to distribute Rs75bn among 500,000 farmers in the province through the "Known Card Scheme," which

would mitigate impact of inflation on their cost of production.

The minister said over 7,000 tubewells in the province would be shifted to solar energy to further help the farmers. It would also save the amount to be spent on import of eight million liters of diesel and 8.3 million kilowatt hours of electricity. This, he said, would be in addition to saving environment, which the diesel-run tubewells were polluting.

The Punjab has also been running a four-year (2021-22 to 2025-26) Agriculture Transformation Plan and would spend Rs1.5bn on it this year, out of which Rs6bn would be spent on promotion of mechanization of agriculture for better crops. Besides, he said, quality seed production would cost it Rs1.9bn and privatisation of extension services another Rs1.4b.

Critics, however, believe that

two chief ministerial initiatives would be counterproductive. They say that the massive solar initiative (shifting of tubewells and homes up to 100 units on solar energy) will further reduce dependence on national grid and increase burden of capacity payments on the sector, worsening the circular debt crisis.

Similarly, they say, the Green Tractors, for which a massive amount of Rs30bn has been allocated, will also be counterproductive, arguing that the government and the industry are already in courts over payments of the last such scheme.

Though the details of the current tractor scheme have not been made public, the industry fears it may end up facing old issues. The industry thinks that regular customers stop, or at least delay, purchase when they apply for subsidised agricultural implements, affecting the market.

Anchorperson rearrested in fresh case

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Police on Thursday arrested anchorperson Imran Riaz Khan in a new case after a judicial magistrate discharged him in an FIR of monetary fraud.

Nashtr Town police produced him before the magistrate on expiry of his one-day physical remand and sought his judicial remand. However, Magistrate Kamran Zafar (discharged Imran Riaz in the case.

Earlier, Advocate Mian Asim Aliq presented arguments on behalf of Imran Riaz, saying his client was implicated in a bogus case. He said the complainant in the case had been a polling agent for Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz.

The lawyer requested the magistrate to discharge the media person from the case.

The case against Imran Riaz, Riaz, who is known for supporting the 'agenda' of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, involves charges of criminal breach of trust.

According to the FIR, he is accused of not returning Rs25 million to complainant Asad Ali, who is owner of Al Rahman Real Estate Center.

Sources said police arrested the anchorperson in a new case to frustrate his release.

The police may produce him before a magistrate for remand on Friday (today).

Probe into FBR officers fight for 'speed money'

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has launched a probe into the alleged distribution of 'speed money' (bribe) among some officers of the Federal Board of Revenue.

According to the FIA, there has been a quarrel among some FBR officers over the distribution of 'speed money' and during the scuffle gunshots were also fired.

A three-member Joint Investigation Team (JIT) has been constituted led by FIA anti-corruption circle (Lahore) Deputy Director Mian Muhammad Sabir to probe the matter.

The FIA has also written to the additional commissioner IR, Large Taxpayers Office (LTO) Lahore, seeking record of the refund policy, details of the large taxpayer companies of all zones of the LTO Lahore in which refund has been issued in the last five years, reports of inspectors for refund to the large taxpayer companies, detail of amount refunded to DWP Engineering Industries Pvt Ltd in last five years and etc.

Police to get Rs190bn

LAHORE: The Punjab government has earmarked Rs190bn for the financial year 2024-25 for the provincial police, diverting Rs126bn, a major chunk of the budget, to the district police.

The last year's budget for the Punjab Police was Rs165bn, which meant a significant increase for the new financial year.

Of the total budget, the government has allocated Rs7bn for the Special Branch, Rs7.6bn for the Counter Terrorism Department, Rs11bn for the Special Protection Unit and Rs11bn for the Punjab State City Authority. It has proposed Rs17bn for the Punjab Highways Patrol, Rs600m for the Elite Force, Rs100m for the Border Military Police (DG Khan), Rs100m for the Border Military Police (Faisalabad) and Rs125m for the Baloch Levy DG Khan.

In recent times in Punjab, the financial crime has increased manifold as the people have started using the modern technologies to make the transactions online. As the economic crime covered a wide range of offenses, from financial crimes committed by banks, tax evasion, illicit capital movements etc. the complaints of fraud also surfaced in a large number, particularly in Punjab.

Following the situation, the government allocated Rs2.9bn for the economic crime investigation.

Similarly, it has earmarked Rs2.7bn for the Anti-Corruption Establishment, Rs4.2bn for the police training institutes and proposed a hefty budget of Rs6.6bn for the other civil armed forces. A Rs8.6bn budget has been proposed to run the officers of the Punjab Constabulary. The government has also earmarked Rs200m for the Quana Razakar Organisation and Rs1bn for the Civil Defence. — Staff Reporter

13pc hike in education budget

By Imran Gabeel

LAHORE: The Punjab government has announced a significant increase of 13 per cent in education budget for the 2024-25 fiscal, allocating a sum of Rs660.74 billion.

This includes Rs 62.50 billion for development expenditure and Rs 604.24 billion for current expenses.

The government has sanctioned Rs 42.50 billion for development schemes in school education. This budget will be used to renovate dilapidated school buildings and provide other basic facilities. New classrooms will be added, IT labs will be established and afternoon schools project will also be initiated.

In a bid to improve the quality of education, the government has launched the Public Schools Re-organisation

Programme (PSRP) under the Punjab Education Foundation. This programme, a public-private partnership, aims to launch an enrollment campaign, recruit new teachers to address the shortage in schools, and approach entrepreneurs, volunteers, Ed-Tech firms, and civil society for the provision of better education facilities. The Education Foundation has been allocated Rs 26.25 billion, a 7pc increase from last year.

The government has also allocated Rs 2.50 billion for the Danish Schools Programme, which provides quality education to the disadvantaged and underprivileged sections of society. The Punjab Education Endowment Fund, launched by the PML-N government, has risen to Rs 16.25 billion. The fund was established to provide financial assistance to brilliant students who should not be left behind due to lack of

resources. The government has sanctioned Rs 100 million for this fund.

The government has sanctioned a development budget of Rs 17 billion for higher education. Initiatives include starting an undergraduate scholarship programme for brilliant students, providing laptops, establishing a National University in Murree, and improving facilities in other colleges of the province.

For special education, Rs 2 billion has been allocated for development programmes. Buses will be provided for the transportation of specially-abled persons, and buildings will be constructed for special education institutions.

The government has allocated Rs 4 billion for Literacy and Non-Formal Education. With the help of other departments, Adult Literacy Centers will be established for the 35,000 illiterate persons. A Non-formal Education project

will also be established in remote areas of the province.

Punjab Minister for School Education, Rana Nisar Ali Khan, stated that a total of Rs 660.74 billion have been allocated in the current budget for all these matters, and their transparent use will be ensured in all circumstances.

He added that a laptop scheme is being launched at a cost of Rs 10 billion, a school meal programme is being started at a cost of Rs 1 billion, and Rs 2.5 billion have been allocated to expand the Danish School project.

Mr Khan further stated that Rs 100 million have been allocated for the Punjab Education Endowment Fund. On the other hand, measures are being taken for digital progress to produce a large number of IT professionals.

He said that a clear difference will be seen in education in the next two years.

Contractor, four MC men electrocuted while working on sewage well

By Our Correspondent

By Our Correspondent

GUINAT Police

Chaparral, DPCA Mountain Area Region had tasked the Saddlehorn police to trace and arrest the suspects after which a police team started working on it and traced the suspects, the spokesman said and added that one suspect, Altamirano, was arrested from a Cajamarca hospital whereas the other suspect was arrested from a border area with Iran where he had gone to flee the country.

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the variety can then remain.

D&SJ. Address also alleged that since his posting at ATC Margherita, he had been receiving some of her oral reports from his family members who were still staying at his previous residence allotted to him as his judge of an anti-corruption court in Maharashtra that some unidentified men

[illegible]

E-TENDER NOTICE

Communication & Works Department, Highway Division, Miranabel intends to tender out the following works through E-Tendering site notification No. 009-000861-01 dated 07/07/2024 at 09:00 AM.

All contractors who are registered with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) in relevant category or above can participate in Open E-Tendering System. The Procurement procedure strictly shall be adopted in accordance with IFWB rules (para 3.4.1) upto date amendments. Contractors can participate in E-Tendering after furnishing all following details to e-tendersite:

- (1) Contractors may get registered from our website www.pcep.gov.pk, of Communication & Works Department. Likewise by submitting their respective information.
- (2) After registration on E-Tendering website www.pcep.gov.pk, contractor of eligible categories may participate in E-Tendering.
- (3) Contractor may generate the Tender fee (Tender ID-A) Payment Slip (ID-B) amount mentioned against the name of bank. The contractor / bidder has to submit original copy of bankdraft issued on contractor's post-dated payment receipt which will be required to submit in the office of undersigned before tender opening time.
- (4) Regularly tender fee will be received / collected through a pay Punjab Mobile Application with prepayment of account CDDPMS Finance Receipt no.009861.
- (5) After uploading the tender fee challan and receipt, contractor / bidder has to upload scanned copies of Cash Demand Receipt (CDR) and/or of the estimated cost form as prescribed below. The Original CDR will be submitted to the office of undersigned on last day opening date before closing time.
- (6) Contractor has to quote entire percentage costs on below or above basis upto **08:00 PM of 07-07-2024** at **01:00 PM** after receiving B.O.Q of the work available at website. The rates quoted online by the contractor will be downloaded from website and will be announced on same date at 02:00 PM in the office of Commissioner Sargodha District, Sargodha.
- (7) All the contractors participating in E-Tendering will be bound to submit their Original CDRs, paid tender fee challans with receipts in the office of the undersigned. Otherwise, the contractor will be declared as disqualified in process of E-Tendering under Government Committee.
- (8) In case of false information, late CDR & fees tender fee challan, the contractor will be liable to disqualify as per PPFWS Rules and will not be eligible to participate in upcoming tender of GWP, Government of the Punjab. Further fines/costs will be levied as per PPFWS and PWD for violation of first legal action.
- (9) The procuring agency shall open request correspondence to any bidder the grounds for rejection of its bids or proposals but shall not be required to justify.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Security Money (PKR)	E.T. No. & Date	Tender Fee	Time Period
1.	Rehabilitation of Road from Miranabel Mandlaganj Road to Kumbhar Chaurana upto 10.75 Km. - District Sargodha 02-75 Km. in District Miranabel.	Pkrs. 100-645 (-/-)	Pkrs. 8-813 (-/-)	Security, Submitted by Civil Engineer, (Miranabel Code No. ADP/17H/0023-01) Miranabel PWD dated 16 Dec. 2024.	Pkrs. 20,000/-	06 Months

Note:

- (1) Due to system capabilities, necessary approval count of bid material will be achieved instantly and accordingly bids will be disclosed.
- (2) The Right Password will be share by email stated concrete through proper power heads.

Name: Designation: Department: Office / Street: PO City Name with District & Phone / Fax	Muhammad Razaq Executive Engineer/ Highway Division Miranabel Katabagh Road MBP Colony Miranabel District Sargodha National Information System SAGD-020009	Name: Designation: Department: Office / Street: PO City Name with District & Phone / Fax	Mamoon Anwar Superintending Engineer/ Highway Circle Sargodha Jail Road Wazir Market District Sargodha Telcel Sargodha 034-020009
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EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Highway Division
Miranabel

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
Highway Circle
Sargodha

02/07/24

02/07/24



GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR NADRA HEADQUARTERS

INVITATION OF BID

PROVISION OF OFFICE FURNITURE AT HQ ISLAMABAD
TENDER NO NADRA-HQ/REB-117/2024

- National database and Registration Authority (NADRA), Ministry of Interior, Government of Pakistan invites sealed bids from eligible bidders i.e. Suppliers/Contractors/Firms having valid registration from Income Tax & Sales Tax and who are active on Tax Payers List (ATL) of the FBR for Provision of Office Furniture at HQ NADRA Islamabad.
- The bid documents contain detailed Specification, instruction, conditions and forms for participating in the bid. The bid documents (complete set) can be purchased by the bidder upon a written request (in Bidder's official letter head addressed to the Head of Department (NADRA Procurement & Stores) at given address from 0930 hr to 1600 hr (Monday to Friday) & upon payment of a non refundable fee of Rs.2,000/- into NADRA bank account and provision of deposit slip to NADRA Office. Detail of NADRA bank account is: Bank HBL Account Title: NADRA Headquarters Account # 000468009510094581. The bidding documents are also available on NADRA office website for the interested bidders, which can be viewed and downloaded from www.tenders.nadra.gov.pk without any cost.
- Receipts 350/- additional (cover charges) to be deposited by the out stationed bidders for the purpose to purchase complete set of bidding documents. The complete set of Bidding Documents will be sent via Courier Services. Request for the same must reach at least 07 working days before closing date of tender else any delay liability cannot be claimed.
- The bids, prepared in accordance with the instructions in the bidding documents, must reach at the address mentioned below on or before 1100 hours on **5th July, 2024**. Bids will be opened on same day at 1130 hours. This advertisement is also available on PPPRA website at www.pppra.gov.pk.
- All the vendors are requested to provide request for issuance of tender documents on company letter head including nomination of authorized representative (Name & Designation) for presence at tender opening. At the time of tender opening company representative must possess company employee card.
- NADRA reserves the right to reject all the bids as per Rule 33 of PPPRA 2004.

CONFERENCE ROOM P/01/17742/23

PROCUREMENT DEPARTMENT NADRA HQ

NADRA 5100 Building (Green Floor)

30 - Mawra Area G-10/4, Islamabad - 44000.

Telephone: 051-3029115/4 Fax: 0051-308158

ILHR/01

E-TENDER NOTICE

Communication & Publicity Department, Highway Division Kutchakhi Islands is tender for the following schemes through E-tendering upto Registration No.028H/06/MWV-1/2020/07/001 dated 26-09-2020. All contractors who are registered with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) or equivalent category or above non-participants in Cyber Bidding System. The Procurement procedure strictly must be adopted in accordance with PPPVA Rules 2014 (with left side amendments). Contractors can participate in E-tendering after submission of following terms & conditions:

- Contractors may get registered from its website www.construction.gov.pk of Communication & Publicity Department, Lahore by submitting their requisite information.
- After registration on E-tendering website www.construction.gov.pk contractor of eligible categories may participate in E-tendering.
- Contractors shall generate the Tender Fee Chalan (SS-A) / Payment Slip (D) (PES) amount mentioned against the name of work. The Contractor / Supplier has to deposit tender fee of payment receipt on contractor portal and payment receipt shall be deposited in payment in the office of undersigned before tender opening time.
- Paysheet tender fee will be provided / collected through e-way Purush Mobile Application with proper bank account COOP Muzimbari Peshawar (BWP).
- After uploading the tender fee chalan paid voucher number(s) / Receipts to system server system will upload tender fee details of all bidders. The Contractor / Supplier has to submit the original copy of paid vouchers / Receipts. The Original COPIES must be submitted in the office of undersigned on tender opening date before closing time.
- Contractor has to quote online percentage rates on below or above basis upto 28-09-2020 at 05:00PM after receiving SS-A/D of the software evaluation of website. The rates quoted online by the Contractor will be downloaded from website and will be announced on same date at 02:00 PM, in the office of Communications & Publicity Department Government Sargodha.
- All the contractors participating in E-tendering will be bound to submit their Original COPIES paid tender fee chalan with bid/bidsheets in the office of the undersigned. Otherwise, the contractor will be declared as disqualified in the presence of Tender Opening Committee.
- In case of Price Information, bids COPIES & bids tender fee chalan the contractor will be liable to furnish as per PPPVA Rules and will not be eligible to participate in upcoming tender of G.O.P., Government of Punjab. Further his name will not be forwarded to IFPE and thereby he will be ineligible to attend Legal Aid.
- The procuring agency shall upon receipt communications to grant tender the grounds for rejection of all bids / proposals not small not be required to justify.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Bidder Money (PKR)	T.S. Reg. & Date	Tender Fee	Time Period
01	REPAIRS/LATIONS / IMPROVEMENTS OF ROADWAYS IN DISTRICT JAMSHEDPUR, JHARKHAND INDIA. (UP TO RS. 40 CR) BY DISTRICT ROADWAYS DEPT. JAMSHEDPUR, JHARKHAND INDIA.	Rs. 40 Crs (est.)	Rs. 1 Cro (est.)	As per PEC rules Engineer (PW) vide no. AD/P-1/2020 dated 26-09-2020 44chowk/TGS/PLS (date) 06-09-2020	Rs. 10,00,00/-	10 Months

Notes:

- Due to system upgradation, recovery against credit of old material will be adjusted manually and accordingly bills will be submitted.
- The Price Payment will be done by direct cash mode through proper paper machine.

Name, Designation, Department, House / Street No. City Name with District & Tehsil Phone + Fax	Muhammad Ali Hassan Executive Engineer Highway Division, Kutchakhi Near New General Bus Stand Kutchakhi Road (T-150), District Kutchakhi Tehsil Kutchakhi Mobile - 918000	Name, Designation, Department, House / Street No. / Plot City Name with District & Tehsil Phone + Fax	Mansoor Ahsan Superintending Engineer Highway Circle Sargodha Jail Road, Shadi Market Sargodha District Sargodha Tehsil Sargodha Mobile-780001
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EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Highway Division
Kutchakhi

(LHR/15)

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
Highway Circle
Sargodha

PL/028H

PESHAWAR

Sunset 07:28pm
Sunrise (Tomorrow) 04:56am

NEXT 24 HRS

Minimum 27°C
Maximum 42°C
Outlook Partly Cloudy

METRO
North

Germany braced for
Euro 2024 kick-off

Pg.19 SPORT



FARMERS work in a tobacco field in Naro Kalay, Mahari Bela, Swabi. — Dawn

PHC stops govt from removing six MTI board members

However, it declares search, nomination exercise for new members of MTIs should continue

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Peshawar High Court on Thursday stopped the provincial government from removing six members of the Board of governors of four medical teaching institutions in the province until further orders.

It, however, declared that the ongoing "search and nomination" exercise for new members of MTIs across the province should continue.

The order was issued by a bench consisting of Justice Ijaz Awan and Justice Syed Arshad Ali during the interim injunction petition filed by several members of MTI BoGs, including chairman of the Khyber Teaching Hospital's board Dr Umar Ayub Khan, member of the Hayatabad Medical Complex's board Muhammad Ali Chaudhry, member of the

Lady Reading Hospital's board Dr Mune Kaberi, and members of the Ayub Teaching Hospital Abbottabad's board Javed Ahmad Turk, Aftab Rabbani and Ayaz Ahmad.

The bench also sought the reply of the government to the petition.

Lawyers for the petitioners included Mian Zakir Hussain, Barrister Babar Shehad Inam and Habib Arwan, whereas provincial advocate general Shah Faizal Ullamkhet appeared for the government.

The counsel for petitioners said that their clients were appointed in Dec last year as members of BoGs of different MTI for a period of three years.

They added that the petitioners were appointed under Section 5(3) of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Medical Teaching Institutions Reforms Act (MTIRA), 2015, on the recommendation of the search and nomination council, which was constituted under Section 8 of the law.

The counsel for petitioner Dr Umar Ayub said his client was appointed as a member of the KTH BoG and was later elected as its chairman.

The lawyers said after the Feb 8 gen-

eral elections, the new provincial government decided to replace the chairman and members of the BoGs of the MTIs and had assigned the task to the search and nomination committee to make selection for those slots.

They argued that the petitioners could not be removed from their posts without assigning any valid reason as they had been appointed for a period of three years.

The lawyers contended that the government intended to make new appointments on political basis so as to accommodate their favourites against these posts.

They said after assuming their charge the present BoGs had worked with utmost dedication resulting in improvement in the performance of different MTIs.

The lawyers added that until recently, the hospitals were being run smoothly under the overall supervision of the BoGs.

They, however, said that after a cabinet meeting on April 23 wherein despite matters of the BoGs not being on the agenda, the same was discussed at length and there were rumours that the govern-

ment was bent upon dissolving all the boards including that of KTH, LRH, HMC and ATH.

AG Shah Faizal Ullamkhet contended that those petitions were not maintainable and may be dismissed.

He argued that the petitioners should have moved the MTI Appellate Tribunal, which was the proper forum under the MTIRA for redressal of their grievances instead of approaching the high court.

"The petitioners approached the court on the basis of assumptions as the government has to far not issued any order for replacing them," he said.

The AG questioned when no cause of action had so far been arisen, how the petitioners could approach the court.

Rebutting the arguments of the AG, advocate Mian Zakir Hussain contended that the process started by the search and nomination council was the first step for the removal of the petitioners.

He added that currently, the MTI Appellate Tribunal was non-functional as only its chairman was appointed, whereas the members had not been appointed and therefore, the petitioners had to approach the high court for relief.

Peshawar villagers attack, detain Pesco workers

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Villagers from the outskirts of the provincial capital marshalled officials of the Peshawar Electric Supply Company on Thursday afternoon and briefly detained them during a crackdown on illegal power connections.

In a statement, the power utility claimed that the attack in Doodoon area was instigated by two local councillors and it led to the detention of officials, including the sub-divisional

officer, in a barga.

It added that the police showed up at its request and got the detainees released.

The Pesco said its team went to the area after receiving reports that councillors Zahid Rehman and Gul Afzal urged locals to "shut heads of 16 transformers to the Nishat Bazaar."

"When our workers started removing illegal power connections, the local councillors turned up and incited residents to violence against them. Our workers were attacked and shot inside a barga. They were re-

leased by the police only after we called them for help," the Pesco said in the statement.

It added that it had formally sought the registration of FIR against those councillors.

Earlier, the police handed over a contingent of 800 persons to Pesco to help it with the crackdown on power theft and prevent attacks on its teams.

In a statement, Pesco said those police personnel would help in action against power thieves and defaulters.

"Those police personnel will take part in operations in all cir-

cles, divisions and subdivisions along with Pesco teams. In addition, they will detain those involved in power thefts, impose fines on power thieves, and register cases against them," it said.

The Pesco said it and the police had devised a plan for cracking down on power thieves and defaulters.

"The provision of police personnel is aimed at ensuring security of Pesco teams as incidents of the attacks on them are on the rise with each passing day," it said, adding that the attacks were hampering the

ongoing operations against power theft.

The Pesco said it had scheduled the operation down to minute details, including the areas facing high losses, where the operation would be carried on a particular day.

It said that the plans provided for the presence of police personnel along with Pesco teams and would arrest those involved in power theft on the spot.

The Pesco said the recovery of dues from defaulters was also a major part of the task force's job.

Demand for sheep falls due to high prices

Khyber residents prefer shared slaughtering of cows, buffaloes

By Ibrahim Shirwari

KHAYBER: The demand for sheep has significantly decreased here ahead of Eid Al-Adha due to high prices in cattle markets.

Most residents prefer the shared slaughtering of cows, buffaloes, and oxen instead.

Livestock dealers attribute the surge in sheep prices to an unofficial ban on imports from Afghanistan in the last five to six years, making quality sheep unaffordable for most buyers.

Haji Daudan, a sheep dealer, told Dawn that almost half of the residents had decided to pool money for the shared slaughtering of buffaloes or oxen due to the affordability issue.

He said a healthy sheep cost from Rs400,000 to Rs500,000, which many residents couldn't afford.

Lal Bahadar, another livestock dealer, claimed that in the recent past, almost 90



DEALERS wait for customers in Landi Kotal cattle market. — Dawn

per cent of Khyber residents used to slaughter sheep on Eid but the trend had significantly changed.

"This year, almost 50 percent of the people are buying buffaloes, or other animals instead of sheep," he said.

Meanwhile, cattle market dealers have complained about a lack of official

assistance in the establishment of these privately-managed temporary places.

They said neither the district administration nor the tehsil municipal authority offered any help in the establishment of cattle markets.

The sellers also complained that the livestock department hadn't taken any mea-

sures to prevent the spread of Congo fever and lumpy skin diseases in cattle markets.

The visitors also resented the lack of facilities at cattle markets and said sacrificial animals weren't disinfectant.

HEROIN SEIZED: Police in Jamrud area on Thursday recovered 67 kilograms of heroin from a truck, marking the second-largest bust in the last one year as part of the anti-narcotics campaign in Khyber tribal district.

The heroin dispatched from Quetta was to be delivered to the Shakh Kar area, according to a statement issued by the office of the DPO.

It said the Quetta police had been contacted for the arrest of the heroin sender before handover to the Khyber police.

"Only a few months ago, Khyber district was considered as a heroin supply point for the rest of the country and the world, but now, our action has forced smugglers to get heroin from other provinces," the statement added.

In January 2024, the Khyber police seized 72kg of heroin in the Khoshkhabad area of Jamrud, the biggest bust since the launch of an anti-narcotics campaign months ago, according to police.

They said they were committed to eradicating narcotics from the region.

Fire breaks out in Gadoon Amazai forest

SWABI: Fire broke out in the Mangalchal forests, a mountainous region of Gadoon Amazai, on Wednesday night and continued till Thursday reducing precious trees to ashes, said Rescue 1122 officials.

Soon after the fire broke out, locals informed Rescue 1122 who dispatched a team to control the fire and protect precious trees.

Lugman Khan, one of the rescue officials, told Dawn that they completely focused on putting out the inferno but in the mountainous region it was difficult to fully concentrate on their work but despite difficulties they were preventing the fire from spreading to other mountains.

"When contacted, Zameen Gul, one of the residents, told Dawn on the phone that the fire was rapidly spreading and on various occasions, the firefighters were helpless but they along with the locals continued their efforts.

"Announcements were made on loudspeakers in local mosques, appealing to the people to extend help.

"The locals came out in great numbers and helped in extinguishing the fire," he said.

Fida Mohammad, another resident, said that the cause of the fire was not known but due to continued dry season, the grass in the mountains could catch fire. — Correspondent



JI to devise strategy against govt for imposition of 'heavy taxes'

Inayatullah Khan says budget prepared by IMF team

By Our Correspondent

LOWER DIR: Rejecting the federal budget for fiscal year 2024-25, Jamaat-e-Islami announced here on Thursday to devise a course of action against taxing the poor.

Addressing a news conference here in Timergara, JI deputy provincial chief Inayatullah Khan said that the government presented a budget prepared by the team of International Monetary Fund (IMF).

JI district chief Saad Malik Afridi, district general secretary Hafiz Yaqoob Rehman, former MNA Sahibzada Yaqub Khan, former MPA Saadullah Khan, trader leader Haji Ammar and the assistant chairmen of Commerce and Industry president Syed Naveed Ahmad Basila, former tribal minister Imran Khan, Harman Khan, Subhan Yar Bukhari and others were also present on the occasion.

The JI leader said that about new taxes of Rs13,000 billion would be imposed on people. He said that government added to the misery of people.

He said that one year exemption from taxes for Pata and Tara was tantamount to

deceiving people. "There is nothing for poor in the budget. It is a juggling of words," he said.

Mr Khan said that according to an agreement, Malakand division would be a tax-free zone till 2025 but government extended its tax-free status only for one year. He criticised the government for increasing levy on petroleum products, saying it would affect the prices of all commodities. He said that JI would devise a strategy against government after due consultation with trader and labour unions.

Meanwhile, former provincial minister and leader of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Parliamentarian Advocate Manzoor Saif told journalists that government could not impose taxes in Malakand division without taking its people into confidence.

He said that former states of Dir, Swat and Chitral were merged into Pakistan after making an agreement that government would not collect taxes from locals for the next 100 years.

KILLERS: Two persons were killed and one was injured in different firing incidents in the district on Thursday.

According to police, Noor Rehman, a resident of Upper Dir, was killed and Arman Zaka, a resident of Karmarbagh Colony, was injured when rivals opened firing on Khan Raza family after a brief argument over land dispute in Ali Nour village.

In another incident, Hamza was killed during a clash between the families of Mursaleem and Hamza over a land dispute in the limits of Mayar police station.



A MAN decorates a sacrificial animal along GT Road, Peshawar, on Thursday. — White Star

Govt ready to give employees 25 per cent raise: Saif

CM aide says PA session to be called for nod to proposal

By Our Correspondent

MANSHERA: Adviser to the chief minister for information Barriar Muhammad Ali Saif on Thursday said the provincial government was ready to increase its employees' salary by 25 per cent, like the federal government.

"We [KP government] have no hesitation in hiking the salaries of our employees by 25 per cent just like the federal government and will soon call the provincial assembly's session to get its nod for this proposal," Mr Saif told a

news conference at the residence of the provincial assembly's Speaker, Babar Saleem Noori, here.

The provincial government has increased the salaries of its employees by 10 per cent in the budget 2024-25.

"The assembly measures, which our government has taken to get the economy on track, have been proven to be fruitful, but the federal government is with-holding our due electricity and water payments of billions of rupees," Mr Saif said.

He said pensions and salaries were the biggest liabilities of the provincial government and his party was going to do away with post-retirement financial benefits for public sector employees to be appointed in future.

The aide to the CM said the

government had finalised the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the micro-financing entity Aikhsan to give away interest-free loans to 100,000 people in the province.

He said the money to be given away to people as loans would be provided to Aikhsan by the provincial government.

Mr Saif said PTI founder Imran Khan had opposed talks with the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz, Pakistan Peoples Party and Muttahida Qaumi Movement insisting that such a move towards "corrupt parties would be tantamount to deviating from the party's political faith and ideology."

He said both there was a consensus between his party and the Jamaat-e-Ulema-e-Pakistan that the July 8 general elections were man-

stively rigged.

The aide to the CM, however, said the two parties won't form an electoral alliance.

He said wheat procurement by his government had no irregularities but the Punjab government spread false propaganda against it to "hide its failure to protect the interests of growers in its own province."

Mr Saif said the federal government presented a pro-IMF and anti-people budget, while the boycott of the budget session by PPP chairman Rida Bhatti-Zardari was just a stunt to divert people's attention from their real issues.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf provincial deputy president Kamal Saleem Swati and leader Dr Iftikhar Zaki were also present on the occasion.

22 girls, 3 teachers hurt on road

By Our Correspondent

ABBOTTABAD: About 22 girl students and three female teachers got injured when their motor car overturned at Sagorai Bhattigali Mee on Abbottabad-Narbhaghi Road here on Thursday.

The motor was carrying 42 girl stu-

dents and eight female teachers of a private school from Haripur to Galignat for picnic when the vehicle met the accident.

Locals and police said six critically injured students were rushed to Ayub Medical Complex, Swat after the accident. Twenty 11-12 years responded promptly, dispatching three ambulances to the scene.

P E D O
PAKHTUNKHWA ENERGY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
GOVERNMENT OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Date: 11-06-2024 | ADP No. 368/220912
 Bid Reference No. PEDO/SOLAR/SSL/24

Pakhtunkhwa Energy Development Organization (PEDO) intends to invite bids on Single Stage Two Envelope Procedure on 'lowest/lowest offer' basis on Engineer's estimate as per KPPIA rules for the project

Installation of Solar Street Lights at Race Course Garden near Excise office, Peshawar Cantt. and KC Plaza near Peshawar Gold Club, District Peshawar under ADP No. 368/220912.

The scope of work includes Procurement, Supply, Transportation, Installation of Solar Street Light including civil works and all ancillary works that shall enable the Commissioning, Testing and Handing/Taking Over of the Project. The following terms and conditions shall apply:

- The bidder must have a valid Pakistan Engineering Council registration in the category C3 or above with a mandatory EE11 (Solar) and EE11 (no) (street lights) specialization Code.
- The bidder must be registered with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Revenue Authority (KPRRA) and Federal Board of Revenue (FBR).
- The bidder must have project specific authorization from manufacturer of PV modules, inverters and batteries.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents can be purchase and downloaded from etender.pedo.pk by an interested bidder on submission of a written application addressed to PD (Solar) upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 1000/-.
- A pre Bid Conference will be held on 26th June, 2024, 11:00 Hrs at Office of the Project Director (Solar) at House # 21 B-II Abdara Road University Town Peshawar. All interested bidders may attend.
- Bidders may obtain further information from, inspect and acquire the Bidding Documents from the Office of the Project Director (Solar) addressed given below.
- The bidder shall along with bidding documents, submit 2% bid security of engineer estimate in shape of Cash/Bank Guarantee in the name of the "CEO, PEDO, Peshawar" as per KPPIA rules.
- The bidders quoting their bids more than 10% below and upto 20% below on Engineer's Estimate shall submit along with their bids 1% Additional Security of Engineer's Estimated cost in addition to 2% bid security.
- The bidders quoting bid more than 20% below shall submit with their bid with 2% bid security and an additional security on Engineer's estimated cost equal to the differential amount of submitted bid and Engineer's estimated along with detailed rate analysis.
- The last date for submission of bids is July 12, 2024 at 15:00 Hrs. Bids will be opened on the same day, in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at Project Director (Solar) Office Address: 21 B-II, Abdara Road, University Town, Peshawar at 15:00 hours and also to upload the soft copy on etender.pedo.pk.

BNP/P/ 1345/24

Project Director (Solar)
 House # 21 B-II Abdara Road University Town Peshawar
 Phone No: 091-3022347, Email: pdcsolar.pedo@gmail.com

P E D O
PAKHTUNKHWA ENERGY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
GOVERNMENT OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Date: 11-06-2024 | ADP No. 581/220924
 Bid Reference No. PEDO/SOLAR/KPIA/24

Pakhtunkhwa Energy Development Organization (PEDO) intends to invite bids on Single Stage Two Envelope Procedure on 'lowest/lowest offer' basis on Engineer's estimate as per KPPIA rules for the project

Solarization of Judicial Academy and Peshawar High Court Bench Peshawar ADP 2022-23 S# 581/220924.

The scope of work includes Procurement, Supply, Transportation, Installation of Solar Street Light including civil works and all ancillary works that shall enable the Commissioning, Testing and Handing/Taking Over of the Project. The following terms and conditions shall apply:

- The bidder must have a valid Pakistan Engineering Council registration in the category C3 or above with a mandatory EE11 (Solar).
- The bidder must be registered with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Revenue Authority (KPRRA) and Federal Board of Revenue (FBR).
- The bidder must have project specific authorization from manufacturer of PV modules, inverters and batteries.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents can be purchase and downloaded from etender.pedo.pk by an interested bidder on submission of a written application addressed to PD (Solar) upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 1000/- and bidders can also obtain further information from the Office of the Project Director (Solar).
- A pre Bid Conference will be held on 26th June, 2024, 11:00 Hrs at Office of the Project Director (Solar), at House # 21 B-II Abdara Road University Town Peshawar. All interested bidders may attend.
- Bidders may obtain further information from, inspect and acquire the Bidding Documents from the Office of the Project Director (Solar) addressed given below.
- The bidder shall along with bidding documents, submit 2% bid security of engineer estimate in shape of Cash/Bank Guarantee in the name of the "CEO, PEDO, Peshawar" as per KPPIA rules.
- The bidders quoting their bids more than 10% below and upto 20% below on Engineer's Estimate shall submit along with their bids 1% Additional Security of Engineer's Estimated cost in addition to 2% bid security.
- The bidders quoting bid more than 20% below shall submit with their bid with 2% bid security and an additional security on Engineer's estimated cost equal to the differential amount of submitted bid and Engineer's estimated along with detailed rate analysis.
- The last date for submission of bids is July 15, 2024 at 15:00 Hrs. Bids will be opened on the same day, in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at Project Director (Solar) Office Address: 21 B-II, Abdara Road, University Town, Peshawar at 15:00 hours and also to upload the soft copy on etender.pedo.pk.

BNP/P/ 1345/24

Project Director (Solar)
 House # 21 B-II Abdara Road University Town Peshawar
 Phone No: 091-3022347, Email: pdcsolar.pedo@gmail.com

Four policemen wounded in exchange of fire with criminal

By Our Correspondent

KOHAT: Four policemen including a station house officer (SHO) were injured in an exchange of fire with a criminal here on Thursday.

A local had complained to police station that gangster Riaz Ali was coming from the village by firing in the air. He alleged he was fired at him. Police registered a case against Riaz Ali and launched operation to arrest him.

DPO Umar Khan said that they got information about his presence in Marala area in the limits of Unarai police station. Police reached the area to arrest him but he opened firing on them and managed to escape.

KHO Naveed Ahmed and constables Fula Hussain, Yaseen and Fahad were injured in the firing. Unarai police registered an FIR against Riaz Ali for attacking police.

PHOTO: A protest demonstration was held here on Thursday against shortage of drinking water.

The protesters said that supply of water had been suspended for the last 36 hours but water supply will start soon company (WSSC).

and administration were responding to their complaints. They said that they were forced to bring water in coolers and buckets from every place. They said that MNA Shahar Ali and MPA Shahid Ali were also informed about the issue but to no avail.

Mohammad Ali Shah, a local abler, said that Riaz Ali was coming from the village by firing in the air. He alleged he was fired at him. Police registered a case against Riaz Ali and launched operation to arrest him.

The protesters said that supply of water had been suspended for the last 36 hours but water supply will start soon company (WSSC).

They said that WSSC Kohat was spending a huge amount of money on second drilling. They lamented that the officers did not come out of their air-conditioned offices to see the problems of people and take steps to resolve the same.

JUI-F leader injured in Waziristan firing

SOUTH WAZIRISTAN: The former district president of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam Fati, Maulana Mirza Jan Wazir, was seriously injured when unidentified armed men opened firing on his car on Wana bypass road here on Thursday evening.

Maulana Raza Uddin Wazir, the son of the JUI-F leader, told Dawn his father was shifted to district headquarters hospital in Wana for treatment.

DSP Amir Wazir said that the JUI-F leader was shot at by unidentified persons after he left his mosque on bypass road. He said that Maulana Mirza Jan was seriously injured in the attack.

Doctors at the district headquarters hospital said that they were operating upon the injured religious scholar. They said that they trying hard to save his life.

Sources said that Maulana Mirza Jan Wazir had attended a gathering in Shown Wazir before he was attacked. — Correspondent

Helvetas country director meets governor

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: In a step towards enhancing development efforts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Dr. Arjumand Niaz, country director, Helvetas Swiss Incooperation, met Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi at Governor House here on Thursday.

The meeting was also attended by Minister Khan Khattak, provincial coordinator for KP, and Syed Nadeem Bukhari, senior programme officer from Helvetas.

Dr. Arjumand provided a comprehensive briefing to the governor on Helvetas' past and ongoing development projects in KP, highlighting its longstanding association with the province since 1982.

She underscored the impactful initiatives, particularly those targeting poverty alleviation and agricultural productivity. Special mention was made of the projects in Dir Khan and Tank districts focusing on hillside management and disaster risk reduction, which have significantly benefited the local farming communities.

Dr. Arjumand emphasized the visibility and attention brought to rural

Kohat areas through these projects, attracting national-level funding. She also informed the governor about Helvetas' continued support to the 2022 floods affected communities. The support included construction of safe housing and drinking water supply schemes in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh provinces.

Highlighting Helvetas' pioneering role in climate-smart and water-efficient agriculture, she referred to Helvetas support to the Government of KP in developing the integrated water resource management (IWRM) strategy. Agro-ecological zone study of KP and promotion of vertical farming.

Recognizing the role of Helvetas Swiss in the field of Climate Change and water efficient agriculture, Helvetas Swiss has been appointed as co-ventor of Sustainable Rice Platform in Pakistan. Establishment of Sustainable Rice Platform in Pakistan is expected to promote production of quality rice in Pakistan to meet international market standards.

Governor Kundi expressed keen interest in Helvetas' skill-building initiatives and workplace safety measures for young employees in Peshawar.

PUNJAB UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY RASUL M.B.DIN
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www.punjabuniv.edu.pk

JOB OPPORTUNITIES (DAILY WAGERS)

Punjab University of Technology, Rasul, All City, a public sector University, invites applications from candidates possessing a Punjab (PREFERRED) RESIDENT OF M.B.DIN, GUJARAT & JAMMU for various posts on temporary basis for a period of 06 months at Punjab University of Technology Rasul, M.B.Din.

S. No.	Post Title	Category	Required Age	Qualification	Interview Date
1	Accountant	Unaided	01	B. Com (and) diploma or equivalent qualification from an institute or an university recognized by MCI	
2	Attendance	Unaided	01	Umatra preferably Marks with Intermediate/Higher Secondary	
3	Belly Sewer	Unaided	01	Umatra preferably Marks in Degree	
4	Plumber	Unaided	01	Umatra preferably diploma or equivalent Qualification from recognized board and diploma from TETVA or any other recognized institute	
5	Electrician	Unaided	02	Umatra with 06 years relevant Experience preferably Marks with diploma in relevant field	04-07-2024
6	Computer	Unaided	01	Umatra with 06 years relevant Experience preferably Marks with diploma in relevant field	
7	Welder	Unaided	01	Umatra with 06 years relevant Experience preferably Marks with diploma in relevant field	
8	Welder	Unaided	01	Umatra with 06 years relevant Experience preferably Marks with diploma in relevant field	
9	Electrician	Unaided	01	Umatra	
10	Electrician	Unaided	01	Umatra	
11	Teacher School	Unaided	01	Umatra preferably Bachelors or equivalent Qualification from recognized board. The applicant must have valid license to drive heavy transport vehicle (HTV) and public service vehicle (PSV) 4 (or) years experience relevant field or not eligible organization	
12	Driver HTV	Unaided	02	Umatra preferably Bachelors or equivalent Qualification from recognized board. The applicant must have valid license to drive heavy transport vehicle (HTV) and public service vehicle (PSV) 4 (or) years experience relevant field or not eligible organization	
13	Driver HTV	Unaided	02	Umatra preferably Bachelors or equivalent Qualification from recognized board. The applicant must have valid license to drive light transport vehicle (LTV) and public service vehicle (PSV) 4 (or) years experience relevant field or not eligible organization	04-07-2024
14	Site Supervisor	Unaided	04	Umatra	
15	Master Masonry	Unaided	01	Umatra	
16	Electrician	Unaided	01	Umatra	
17	Security Guard	Unaided	04	Umatra	
18	Master	Unaided	02	Umatra	
	TOTAL		07		

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- The above positions are being offered on Daily/Weekly wages on temporary basis as per relevant regulations of Govt. of Punjab.
- Age relaxation of candidates working in public sector organization will be as per current Government Policy.
- Only candidates domiciled in Punjab are eligible to apply.
- MTN/DA will be submitted to the candidates for their reference.
- Complete original documents along with a set of attested photocopies will be provided by the applicant at the time of selection.
- Applicants on their paper with all relevant documents must be submitted in person or by Courier at the Registrar Office not later than 05-07-2024. Applications received through E-mail will not be entertained.
- The Department reserves the right to reject any or all applications, or cancel the whole recruitment process at any stage without assigning any reason.

REGISTRAR
PUNJAB UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY RASUL DISTRICT M.B.DIN
 Rasul Alagpur Road, Rasul, Peshawar-26000,
 District: Mandi Bahaudin, Punjab Pakistan

B/P-0223