

Dua Zehra: Karachi police claims 'tracing' missing girl

KARACHI: In what can be termed the biggest breakthrough in Dua Zehra case, Karachi police on Monday claimed to have traced the 14-year-old girl missing for about a week.

Her father and mother even said that they will not take any legal action against the abductor if Dua Zehra is returned safely.

Her parents say she went out to throw away some trash bags at about 12:30 PM from her first floor residence to a place in her alley but never returned.



FAISALABAD: Interior Minister Pakistan Rana Sanaullah addressing to the workers at local hall in City.

PU, PEI join hands for collective efforts to eradicate polio

LAHORE: Punjab University and the Polio Eradication Initiative (PEI) have entered into a landmark partnership to work together to fight misinformation and dispel misconceptions in the fight against the crippling disease like polio.

op interventions to enhance the demand of vaccinations in communities in the critical phase of eradication. The partnership envisages collaboration in research. The PU may provide students in relevant communities for research data collection.

Chancellor stated. Despite two extremely difficult years, 2019 and 2020, the Pakistan polio programme has been able to control polio cases and circulation. In 2021, only one polio case was reported nationally as compared to 84 the previous year.

Pakistan has huge potential for cherry tomato cultivation: WealthPK

ISLAMABAD: Cherry tomatoes are becoming more popular as an alternative crop, particularly among small farms that rely on family work and organic management, WealthPK reported.

is an annual plant grown in the warm season and has an average optimum growing temperature of 25°C to 29°C. In Pakistan, its two harvests are typically grown in the spring and autumn seasons.

packing containers with potting soil," he said. Dr Nadar said pest control for cherry tomatoes is necessary to ensure that the crops are pest-free. This can be accomplished by planting basil and marigold closer together with cherry tomatoes.

Plant tissue culture and cutting procedures were used to generate disease-free and healthy plants at a large scale after the initial cultivation of seeds. After that, the newly propagated plants were allowed to mature and fruit.

Dr Nadar said cherry tomatoes come in a variety of colors, including orange, yellow, and white. "Growing cherry tomato plants on the lawn would be ideal, but they can also be grown in pots or tomato development bags," he said.

According to Dr Nadar, Cherry tomatoes may be cultivated in any type of environment. However, it would be preferable if the plantation was completed after the last frost. "This is for the purpose of commercial cultivation. If someone wants to cultivate cherry tomatoes in pots, they'll need to start by putting seeds in tiny



HYDERABAD: Chamber of commerce and industry President Adeel Siddiqui addressing a press conference at HCCI.

PM needs to ensure comprehensive economic reforms: Mian Zahid

Business leader underlines importance of equitable distribution of wealth, says money flowing from rich to poor resulting in poverty.

The middle-class is shrinking while the number of poor is increasing in the country due to negative policies which must be changed, he added.

should avoid popular decisions, take tough decisions and prefer direct subsidies for the poor. Import of cars and luxuries should be stopped, all unnecessary imports should be banned, theft and line losses in the power and gas sector should be stopped and state-run companies should be sold without delay, he demanded.

Talking to business community on Monday, he said that comprehensive reforms are necessary as money is flowing out of the pockets of the poor into the coffers of the rich, making the rich richer and richer, he said.

The country is facing load-shedding, there is a shortage of diesel and the overall situation is not satisfactory therefore the government should improve the tax structure and introduce other reforms to provide relief to the masses.

Mian Zahid Hussain further said that the current account deficit is now at 14 billion dollars which will be 19 billion dollars by the end of this fiscal. \$18 billion have been arranged in the first nine months of the current fiscal year while the government will have to arrange 15 to 16 billion dollars in the next three months as forex reserves are depleting at a rapid pace.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that resources should flow from rich to poor so that the masses can get some relief and the pres-

ent government can become popular among the masses. He said that the government should also consult the experts who have never been invited because of their views as those who have been tested several times will not be willing to change things. The government

should avoid popular decisions, take tough decisions and prefer direct subsidies for the poor. Import of cars and luxuries should be stopped, all unnecessary imports should be banned, theft and line losses in the power and gas sector should be stopped and state-run companies should be sold without delay, he demanded.

LHC suspends notification of schedule for first phase of LB polls in Punjab

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court has suspended the notification of the schedule for the first phase of local bodies elections in Punjab.

A two-member bench headed by Justice Shujaat Ali Khan announced the verdict on Monday.

The court sought a reply from the relevant parties including the Election Commission of Pakistan on 25th of next month.

The President Lahore High Court Bar Association Sardar Akbar Dogar had filed the petition in which he maintained that as per ECP Schedule the Local Government Amendment Ordinance will expire on June 10 and the official results will be announced on June 14.

The petition stated that the notification issued by the Election Commission is illegal and unconstitutional. INP

Govt orders stern action against diesel hoarders

ISLAMABAD: The government Monday took notice of the shortage of diesel in the country and decided to take stern action against those involved in creating its artificial shortage.

According to the official sources, a high-level virtual meeting was chaired by Secretary Petroleum Ali Raza Bhuita during which it was briefed that the country had the required reserves of petroleum products.

The meeting decided to take stern action against the hoarders of diesel, instructing all chief secretaries of the four provinces to carry out raids and cancel licenses of the dealers involved in the hoarding of the diesel.

The officials of Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) and Pakistan State Oil (PSO) and representatives of oil marketing companies had attended the meeting. INP

Govt to devise strategy against PTI'S Islamabad long march after Eid

ISLAMABAD: The ruling alliance is mulling over to sit together after Eid to plan a strategy against Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) march towards Islamabad besides also deciding the fate of President Arif Ali and Chairman Senate.

According to sources privy to the matter, heads of the ruling alliance and parliamentary leaders would sit together after Eid to consult over strategy to deal with PTI's march towards Islamabad announced by Imran Khan.

The meeting will also mull over an alternate for President Arif Alvi," they said, adding PPP and JUI-F have already proposed their names for the presidency.

Although the government does not have enough number-two third majority of the Parliament to dethrone Arif Alvi, the sources said that the meeting would mull over to work on PTI members who have resigned from National Assembly.

"Steps needed to increase pressure on president will also be mull over," they said, adding that expert opinion on the matter will also be sought from legal fraternity. INP

IHC suspends order directing ECP to decide foreign funding case in 30 days

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Monday suspended verdict of single bench directing Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to decide foreign funding case against Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) in 30 days.

Chief Justice IHC Athar Minallah and Justice Babar Sattar heard the PTI's intra-court appeal.

The bench suspending the order issued notices to 17 political parties and ECP. The court sought their reply on May 17.

It merits mention that PTI had filed an intra-court appeal against the decision of the single-bench of IHC directing the ECP to decide foreign funding case against the party in 30 days.

Asad Umar, the party's secretary general, filed the appeal against the order.

In its petition, the PTI has accused the commission of targeting only the PTI and has sought the court's directive to the ECP to also decide similar cases against the PML-N, PPP and all other political parties within a month.

The PTI had made the ECP and 17 political parties respondents in the case. INP

Cigarette smoke increases superbug's antibiotic resistance

Islamabad: New research analyzes the effect of cigarette smoke on MRSA strains and finds that it makes the bacteria more persistent, more invasive, and more resistant to certain antibiotics.

Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death across the world, with tobacco use, including smoking, being responsible for over 7 million fatalities each year.

In the United States, over 16 million people have a smoking related condition, and tobacco smoking causes 1 in 5 deaths each year. Researchers and healthcare professionals know that smoking impairs a

person's immune system and the defenses against infections. However, they do not know much about how cigarette smoke affects microbes that live in the nasopharyngeal cavity, in particular.

A new study aims to remedy this gap in research by examining the effect of cigarette smoke on Staphylococcus aureus (S. aureus).

Maisem Laabei, from the Department of Biology & Biochemistry at the University of Bath in the United Kingdom, is the lead author of the new research, which appears in the journal Scientific Reports. INP

Advertisement for 'Nusay' (نوسای) featuring a table with columns for 'Product Name', 'Price', and 'Quantity'. The table lists various items like 'Nusay 16', 'Nusay 17', 'Nusay 18', 'Nusay 19', 'Nusay 20', 'Nusay 21', 'Nusay 22', 'Nusay 23', 'Nusay 24', 'Nusay 25', 'Nusay 26', 'Nusay 27', 'Nusay 28', 'Nusay 29', 'Nusay 30'. The price for each item is listed as Rs. 50,000.00. The advertisement also includes contact information for 'DPR' and 'Balochistan'.

Tax relief can help boost Pakistan's pharmaceutical exports: WealthPK

ISLAMABAD: Concession on tariff on raw materials can help increase Pakistan's exports of pharmaceutical products.

while an additional sales tax is also levied. In addition, 5.5% advanced income tax on import value is also imposed, he added.

Association (PPMA) has demanded that the 17% general sales tax imposed on raw material used in medicine production be withdrawn immediately.

According to the PPMA Chairman Qazi Mansoor Dilawar, the cost of pharmaceutical products has increased due to the imposition of a 17% sales tax on imported raw materials. The majority of pharmaceutical exports are to South Asian, African, and Central Asian markets. Highly regulated markets such as Switzerland, Belgium, Germany, Europe, and the US, have been less penetrated by Pakistan's pharma prod-

ucts due to the fact that they do not meet the requirements of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). During the last decade, the value of the pharmaceutical sector in Pakistan is doubling from \$1.64 billion in 2011 to \$3.2 billion in 2020-21. Pakistan is a net importer of pharmaceutical drugs on the international market. The pharmaceutical sector's contribution to gross domestic product (GDP) is 1.17% and has a share of 0.9% in total export in 2021.

According to United Nations COMTRADE database on international trade. INP

