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Dirty politics' brought PKLI to grinding halt: PM Shehbaz

Army takes 'strong exception' to attempts made to drag its leadership in political discourse: ISPR

The Army has taken a "strong exception" to "intensified and deliberate attempts" to drag its name into the country's ongoing political discourse by "some political leaders, journalists and analysts", according to a press release issued by the Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) on Sunday.

The military's media wing noted that attempts to involve the armed forces and its senior leadership in the political discourse were "manifest through direct, insinuated or nuanced references made by some political leaders, few journalists and analysts on public forums and various communication platforms, including social media."

"This practice of unsubstantiated, defamatory and provocative statements/remarks is extremely damaging," the ISPR said.

It added that the military took strong exception to such "unlawful and unethical practices" and expected everyone to abide by

the law and keep the armed forces out of political discourse in the "best interest of the country."

The ISPR statement did not specify which incident or incidents it was referring to. However, its statement came hours after former prime minister and PTI Chairman Imran Khan, during a rally in Abbottabad, railed against the concept of neutrality, saying that God hadn't permitted human beings to remain neutral when the time comes to stand up for justice and support the good.

"God will ask you if you struggled against an imported government. You won't be able to say [and make the excuse that] you were neutral," he said.

Imran had made similar remarks in March, claiming that only animals can stay neutral and that humans either side with good or evil. That statement was made a day after the military's spokesperson had categorically

stated that the army had nothing to do with politics and called for avoiding unnecessary discussion and speculation about the army's alleged involvement in political affairs. On Friday, PML-N Vice President Maryam Nawaz, while addressing a rally in Fateh Jang, had criticised former intelligence chief and Peshawar Corps Commander Lt Gen Faiz Hameed. Referring to Imran's recent podcast appearance where he said the intelligence chief was the "eyes and ears" of the government, Maryam had said: "We know that he wasn't your eyes and ears [rather] he was your hands through which you thwarted your political opponents."

Meanwhile, Punjab Governor Omar Sarfraz Cheema has sought the army's intervention to lead the province out of the crises plaguing it for months despite the armed forces repeatedly refusing to be pushed into the country's perpetual political quagmire. Web Desk



Lawmakers elected on reserved seats should be jailed for switching loyalties: Imran Khan



LAHORE: A delegation of CPNE calls on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

People of Loralai guarantee bright future of Balochistan: Lt. General Sarfaraz

News Desk

Corps Commander Balochistan, Lieutenant General Sarfaraz Ali has said that people of Loralai guarantee bright future of Balochistan.

The Commander visited Balochistan's Loralai district and met tribal elders and people belonging to various walks of life on Saturday.

Inspector General Frontier Corps (North), Muhammad Yousaf Majoka also accompanied the Commander during his



visit. In his address, Lt. General Sarfaraz appreciated the role of tribal elders for the development

and development of the country and nation.

The Commander hailed the services of former Governor Sardar Gul Muhammad Jozgezi for the country and province.

Lt. General Sarfaraz and the IG FC North Muhammad Yousaf Majoka also visited the Jamia Farooqia and appreciated the role of Professor Abdul Kareem for the promotion of education.

The Corps Commander also assured extending all possible support to support orphan center inside the Madrassah.

Dirty politics' brought PKLI to grinding halt: PM Shehbaz

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday regretted what he described as the mismanagement of the Pakistan Kidney and Liver Institute (PKLI), saying "dirty politics" kept the facility non-operational for two years and brought it to a grinding halt.

He made the remarks while inaugurating the state-of-the-art Saleem Memorial Trust Hospital in Lahore. The hospital will provide world-class medical treatment facilities to the poor and needy.

The premier said that PKLI was established on the same "analogy" and billions of rupees were invested in it. "I sincerely wanted it and still want it to become Pakistan's John Hopkins."

He asserted that it was a "world-class hospital" but lamented how it had been neglected by the PTI government.

"Without going into any kind of blame game, just because it was built under our watch, this hospital that was meant to serve thousands and thousands from all over Pakistan [...] eminent doctors physicians and surgeons came, but what happened after the government changed is a sorrowful tale. I am not here to tell that tale."

The premier went on to say that ultimately it was the people's money which was at stake. He said that the income left over after the divisible pool primarily went towards debt servicing and defence spending.

So if a hospital is made in Rs20 billion for treating cancer and conducting liver/kidney transplants and treating other diseases while experts are called from across the globe but ultimately chased away, who truly suffers, he asked. INP

Unknown accused open fire at Nawab Fort in Dera Bugti

From Our Correspondent

DERA BUGTI: Unknown accused opened fire at Nawab Fort in Balochistan's Dera Bugti district on Sunday. Levies sources said unknown accused opened fire at Nawab Fort in the Sighari area of Sui.

One attacker was injured when Nawab Muhammad Mir Ali Bugti's gunmen retaliated. Levies said the attackers managed to get their injured companion along with them.

Angry Bugti tribesmen strongly condemned the attack and urged the government to arrest the culprits behind the attack. They said that Nawab Mir Ali Bugti cannot be silenced through such tactics. They demanded of the government to expose the elements behind the attack.

Mumbai mosques turn volume down on azaan at Hindu leader's demands

Sitting in an office lined with books overlooking a giant prayer hall, Mohammed Ashfaq Kazi, the main preacher at the largest mosque in Mumbai, checked a decibel meter attached to the loudspeakers before he gave the call to worship.

"The volume of our azaan (call to prayer) has become a political issue, but I don't want it to take a communal turn," said Kazi, one of the most influential Islamic scholars in the sprawling metropolis on India's western coast.

As he spoke he pointed to loudspeakers attached to the minarets of the ornate, sand-coloured Juma Masjid in Mumbai's old trading quarters.

Kazi and three other senior clerics from Maharashtra where Mumbai is located said more than 900 mosques in the west of the state had agreed to turn the volume down on calls to prayer following complaints from a local Hindu politician.

Raj Thackeray, leader of a regional Hindu party, demanded in April that mosques and other places of worship kept within allowed noise limits. If they did not, he said his followers would chant Hindu prayers outside mosques in protest.

Thackeray, whose party has just one seat in the state's 288-member assembly, said he was merely insisting that court rulings on noise levels be enforced.

"If religion is a private matter then why are Muslims allowed to use loudspeakers all 365 days of the year?" Thackeray told reporters in Mumbai, India's financial hub and capital of Maharashtra. Web Desk

Sardar Ahmed Khan Bangulzai convoy targeted through an IED in Mastung

From Our Correspondent

The convoy of a tribal notable Sardar Ahmed Khan Bangulzai was targeted through an improvised explosive device (IED) in Balochistan's district Mastung on Sunday. Levies sources said Sardar Bangulzai and Sardar Allah Yar Khan were going from the Splenji area to Johan when their convoy was targeted.

Two people were injured in the attack. However, the Sardar's vehicle was badly damaged in the blast. Levies informed that the vehicle of tribal elders was targeted near the Sheikh Haji mountains in the Mastung district.

The injured people were rushed to the hospital for medical treatment. Levies personnel reached the spot as an investigation into the incident went underway. Initial investigation suggests that the tribal elders were going from Dasht to Johan for a solution to a tribal dispute when targeted through an IED.



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Secretary Health Balochistan sacks 5 absentee doctors in Dukki

Hussain Zarkoon

DUKKI: Secretary Health Balochistan, Saleh Muhammad Nasar has sacked 5 chronic absentee doctors in the Dukki district on Sunday. The Secretary paid a surprise visit to the district headquarters hospital Dukki. Five doctors were found absent.

"No compromise over health sector", Mr. Nasar told local journalists. He said action would be taken against the chronic absentee doctors in all parts of the province. The Secretary directed the concerned authorities to make sure provision of medicines to the district headquarters and other basic health units.

"Six months strike has severely



affected hospitals in Balochistan", Mr. Nasar. He was referring to the six-month-old strike of the Young Doctors Association (YDA) and Para Medical Staff Association. "Politics within the department has also ruined the health sector", he mentioned. He however warned that none would be spared and all-out efforts would be made to make sure provision of better health facilities to the masses.

FIA initiates inquiry against Bol anchorman Sami Ibrahim for 'anti-state' videos, transmissions

The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has initiated an inquiry against Bol anchorman Sami Ibrahim for allegedly transmitting "anti-state" videos and statements on various social media platforms. Surprisingly, the inquiry also mentioned the controversial Section 20 of the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act (Pecca) 2016, which was struck down by



the Islamabad High Court (IHC) last month.

The FIA, in a press release issued on Sunday, accused Ibrahim of being "involved in spreading fake news regarding state institutions". "He has made imputations which are glaring attempts to incite armed forces personnel to mutiny. He has attempted to create chaos in Pakistan through media while staying abroad," it added.

Ibrahim is a TV anchor and has interviewed a number of high-profile figures, including former prime minister Imran Khan.

The FIA said he would have an opportunity to defend himself in the inquiry which would be closed if he ably defended himself. Otherwise, the press release said, if the offence was made out then a case would be registered against him and he would be arrested and prosecuted in court. Web Desk



ABBOTTABAD: Chairman Pakistan Tehreek-E-Insaf Imran Khan and others party leader sits on stage during Public meeting in College Ground.

Lawmakers elected on reserved seats should be jailed for switching loyalties: Imran Khan

ISLAMABAD: PTI Chairman and former prime minister Imran Khan on Sunday said that lawmakers who were elected on reserved seats and "sold" their loyalties should be "thrown in jail".

One who has a constituency can argue that the PTI was unpopular in his area and therefore he had to abandon ship, he said while speaking to a gathering of Punjab lawmakers here.

"That is still understandable [but] how can someone go [to the other side] on a reserved seat? They have clearly sold their conscience. They should be ashamed [...] they should be sent straight to jail."

Imran began his address by paying tribute to the efforts of the lawmakers "fighting till the last ball" in the Punjab Assembly. "I went to meet Asia [Amjad]. She seemed better. She is still unable to speak but she is okay otherwise, thank God," he said.

Asia was rushed to a private hospital in Lahore last month after her health deteriorated and was treated for a blood clot in her brain. The PTI had claimed that the lawmaker was "tortured" by the police and PML-N "goons" during the chaos that took place at the Punjab Assembly on April 16, when election for the chief minister was held.

The PTI chairman recognised the fact that even though Amjad was unable to speak when he visited her, she was full of passion.

"All of you went through a test and your performance was excellent — some were outstanding even," he said, specifically mentioning the "Pindi team" and the performance of female lawmakers.

"You have passed a very big test. And you have attained a special status in the party and in my eyes." He went on to say that turncoats who had abandoned the party, after once making grandiose claims of being willing to render sacrifices, had forever humiliated themselves. "People will remind their children about what they have done." INP

Water shortage in Balochistan

Syed Ali analysis

The scarcity of water poses a serious threat to human life in Quetta and other parts of Balochistan. Environmentalists and experts on the water issues have warned of an alarming situation with regard to water scarcity in Quetta in near future.

The water level continues to drop with every passing day in Quetta, and most parts of Balochistan. This has sent alarm bells among the indigenous people living for centuries in towns and villages. Environmentalists warn that the shortage of water is likely to force citizens of the provincial capital to migrate.

The Water and Sanitation Authority (WASA) has failed to provide drinking water to citizens of the city. Most of the WASA-run tube wells are either not functional or provide water to officials and influentials.

People pumping water from more than 1,000 deep underground

gone are the days, when people were pumping water through tube wells 500 feet deep from underground. Currently, it is more than 1,000 feet deep.

Private tankers are meeting the demand of more than 70 percent population of the city. Tanker owners are minting money from the people right under the nose of WASA and district



administration. Per tanker is available at Rs. 2,000 to 3,000.

No mechanism to check the quality of water. More importantly, none checks the quality of water. Nobody knows whether the water is contaminated or clean for drinking. Since it is a matter of human health and life, therefore, the provincial government should evolve a mechanism to check the quality of water. Set aside, the increasing rates of water tankers association.

Depleting water table in Quetta, Pishin, Killa Abdullah, Kalat, Mastung, Noshki and Chaghi have forced the growers to cut their green trees. This has made a large number of people jobless as most of the people in Balochistan are financially dependent on agriculture and livestock.

Construction of delay and check dams imperative. As suggested and advised by the environmentalists, the provincial and federal governments must construct delay and check dams on a war-footing basis to maintain the depleting water table. Supreme Court has already directed the government to ensure the completion of more than 100 dams within the next three years to overcome the water crisis in Balochistan.

Aleem Khan to lead prison reforms committee in Punjab

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Hamza Shahbaz has constituted a committee to bring reforms in prisons with estranged PTI leader Aleem Khan as its convener.

Civil work of Shanghai Thar Coal Block-1 to be completed this year

BEIJING: Civil works of the under-construction 1,320 MW Shanghai Electric Thar Coal Block-1 Power Generation Company (PVT) Ltd. project is planned to achieve its COD within this year.



ISLAMABAD:Families are come back from their home town after spend Eid Ul Fitr holidays at a bus station in Federal Capital.

Blockchain technology can help improve supply chain performance

ISLAMABAD: Blockchain is a latest technology being used globally in most sectors of the economy to boost output, WealthPK reported.

Pakistan must launch own 'Shark Tank' version to promote startups

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan should launch its own version of 'Shark Tank' business reality show to help startups enhance exports and create employment opportunities, WealthPK reported.



LAHORE:Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Maryam Aurangzeb addressing a press conference at press club, in Provincial Capital.

Federal govt decides against carrying out loadshedding in major cities

LAHORE: Federal government has decided against carrying loadshedding in major urban centres of the country as electricity shortfall is likely to go up after a long weekend following Eid holidays in the country.

Two muggers arrested in injured condition in Karachi

KARACHI: Police on Sunday claimed to have arrested two suspected muggers in injured condition over their alleged involvement in killing a citizen during a robbery bid in Nazimabad area of the city.

PM Shehbaz Sharif accepts resignation of chairman Wapda

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday accepted resignation of Chairman Wapda Lt. Gen. Muzammil Hussain, sources said.

MQM-P's Nasreen Jalil will be new Sindh governor

KARACHI: Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P) senior leader Nasreen Jalil will be the new governor of Sindh province.Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday approved the name of Nasreen Jalil nominated by the MQM-P.

likely to go up after a long weekend following Eid holidays in the country. According to sources privy to the matter, the electricity shortfall declined to 1000 MW during weekend after Eid holidays and there is no loadshedding currently being carried out by LESCO, GEPCO, and FESCO.

ITP accelerate crackdown against CNG cylinder-fitted vehicles

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Traffic Police (ITP) has taken special measures to ensure safety of lives and property of motorcyclists and other citizens and to keep them safe from any mishaps. It has been decided to intensify legal action more strict and effective against the vehicles without fitness certificates and gas fitted cylinder public service vehicles, in order to reduce accidents as much as possible and keep traffic flow smooth.

He also said that special enforcement teams from Islamabad Traffic Police have been formed to take effective and intensify action against vehicles without fitness certificates and gas fitted cylinders public service vehicles at lorry depots, bus stops, wagon stops and various places in the jurisdiction of Federal Capital.

Two youth killed in Karachi target killing incidents

KARACHI: Two youth were killed in separate incidents of violence on Sunday as target killing resumes in the metropolis after a gap.

According to details, the first incident took place in Landhi 89 Karachi where a youth Ijaz hailing from Sherpaa Colony left the house in a vehicle along with a female relative guest. He was stopped on the way by two motorcyclists who earlier tortured him, later shot him death with a pistol and sped the scene.



KARACHI:A cobbler man is stitching shoes at his workplace alongside a road in Provincial Capital.

Pakistan needs to encourage local production of pesticides

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan needs to encourage local production of pesticides to save the precious foreign exchange incurred on their imports, and provide the farmers with low-cost inputs to increase their productivity, WealthPK reported.

Pakistan is not a producer of pesticides, and depends on imports of raw materials. Almost all the companies in Pakistan import the ingredients used in making pesticides.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER: The Executive Engineer B P P & H Department District Kohlu intends to carry out the following Provincial Public Sector Development works and invites sealed tenders based on composite schedule of rates 2018 GoB from the PEC Registered Government Contractors having category C - 6 and above.

Imran Khan says will lead 2m people on Islamabad

ABBOTTABAD: Former prime minister and PTI chief Imran Khan has said that he would lead two million people in his march on Islamabad later this month and that the government would not be able to stop him by installing shipping containers on the roads.

Addressing a PTI rally in Abbottabad's College Ground on Sunday, Imran Khan said that his opponents claimed that the summer heat would not allow people to leave their homes to march on Islamabad, but he believed that heat cannot deter brave youth and sisters. Imran said he would announce the date for the march after May 20.

The former prime minister said that current rulers had taken power after collaborating with the United States but the Pakistani nation would never accept them.

He said he never wanted to join the US war on terror and was holding negotiations with Russia for the import of fuel and wheat at cheaper rates.

He said the Americans did not want a prime minister in Pakistan. They wanted a head of the government like Musharraf, who surrendered on a single phone call and joined the US war on terror, he said.

"They wanted a cherry-blossom who polishes shoes, who says that beggars are not choosers," he said.

Imran Khan then used strong language against Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. "If you believe that for you we would be enslaved to the United States, don't be misled," he said.

He said that when he gave call for the march, the entire nation would arrive in Islamabad to give message that the "imported government not acceptable."

Imran Khan said that since the new government had taken power the prices of food items had gone up and that TV journalists should go out to know what people say as they did when the PTI ruled the country.

Imran Khan accused the media of accepting money and said that it was not highlighting the issue of inflation after his ouster as it did before.

Imran Khan then said that he wanted to educate people on a few issues.

He said that when billions of rupees are stolen from government coffers they are sent abroad and to send that money abroad you buy US dollars and when you buy dollars, the Pakistan rupee falls against the US dollar.

Then the country faces inflation and heads towards destruction, he said.

Referring to Shehbaz Sharif's statement that he was ready to sell his clothes to provide flour to people at cheaper rates, Imran Khan said, "Shehbaz Sharif stop these dramas. Don't undress, we would be terrified to death."

He said that if the Sharifs returned half of the money they stole from Pakistan, the PTI would reduce wheat prices.

Imran Khan criticized the judiciary for opening its doors at midnight and said that people who faced corruption charges were propped up in the government.

He again said that only animals could be neutral as Allah had ordained people to rise up against injustice.

Imran Khan claimed that Maryam Nawaz had to delay her rally in Fatah Jang because people did not show up and then she held the rally in the dark of night. INP



LAHORE: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif visiting different blocks of Saleem Memorial Trust Hospital.

PECA: PM reassures protection of journalists from needless actions

LAHORE: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has reassured the delegation of the provision of protection to journalists against needless action under different laws including the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act (PECA) ordinance.

PM Shehbaz Sharif, while talking to the delegation of Council of Pakistan Newspapers Editors in Lahore today, reiterated his commitment to ensuring freedom of press and expression in the country.

He said the government has no plans to place any restrictions on media. The premier reassured the delegation of the provision of protection to journalists against needless action under different laws including PECA Ordinance.

He said that the Law Ministry has been tasked with reviewing the PECA ordinance, Radio Pakistan reported.

Praising the positive role played by CPNE for the protection of democracy and the progress of democratic institutions, Shehbaz Sharif said that the present government is willing to work constructively with CPNE and other representative journalist bodies.

He said that the present government is taking every possible measure for power generation and ensuring its transmission to address plights being suffered by the public.

PM Sharif said that the government is striving hard to ensure the provision of basic life needs to poor people, including at, medical treatment and medicines at cheaper rates.

He said that the previous government doubled the loan burden over the nation during the last four years, due to which the lives of poor people have become more miserable.

PM Sharif said that the nation needs unity these days so that unusual economic issues can be solved for the welfare of the public. He said that in these circumstances, taking out the long march against the present government is unreasonable and tantamount to dividing the nation.

Shehbaz Sharif said that the present government is also working tirelessly to work effectively on all development projects in the country including the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and Reko Diq.

He said that the government wants to have foreign relations with all states including brother countries on the basis of mutual respect and bilateral interests.

The premier also reiterated his commitment that electoral reforms are essential for holding transparent elections in the country.

Information Minister Maryam Aurangzeb, Secretary Information Shaheera Shahid and high up officials were present on the occasion. The CPNE delegation included the President of CPNE Kazim Khan, Senior Vice President Ayaz Khan, Vice President Punjab Arshad Ahmad Arif, and Secretary-General Aamir Mehmood among other members. PM Sharif said that the nation needs unity these days so that unusual economic issues can be solved for the welfare of the public. He said that in these circumstances, taking out the long march against the present government is unreasonable and tantamount to dividing the nation.

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Administration takes steps for traffic after Shisper glacier flooding

GILGIT: The local administration is taking steps for an alternative route after closure of the Hunza-Karakoram Highway owing to glacial flooding in the area.

A Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) occurred in Hunza's Hassanabad village Saturday after the lake formed over the Shisper Glacier started discharging massive water owing to premature melting.

The Karakoram Highway has been closed after an RCC bridge built at Hassanabad village, was damaged yesterday owing to the glacial flooding.

SP Hunza has said that the decision has been taken to pass the vehicles through the alternate route of Nagar.

Big vehicles except coasters will not be allowed to pass through the alternate route. The coasters will also be allowed to pass through within specific time. After closure of Karakoram Highway only small vehicles are being allowed to run on the alternate road. INP

IIOJK mothers awaiting jailed, disappeared sons

ISLAMABAD: When International Mother's Day is being observed today across the world, thousands of Kashmiri women continue to wait for the return of their sons subjected to enforced disappearance in custody by Indian troops in occupied Kashmir.

A report released by the Research Section of Kashmir Media Service on International Mother's Day, pointed out that continued Indian state terrorism had resulted in the killing of 96,025 Kashmiris including women and children from 1989 to 8th May 2022. As many as 22,944 women have been widowed by the Indian forces and 11,255 raped, disgraced or molested during the period.

It said, relatives including mothers, wives and daughters of illegally detained Hurriyat leaders, activists and youth have expressed serious concern over the health of their relatives languishing in different jails of India and IIOJK.

The report deplored that near two dozen women, including 62-year-old resistance leader, Aasiya Andrabi, Naheeda Nasreen Fehmeeda Sofi, Shazia Akhter and Insha Tariq were illegally facing detention in different jails, including India's infamous Tihar jail, on false charges.

The report pointed out that the troops had subjected about 8,000 Kashmiris to custodial disappearance during the period and the mothers of the majority of these disappeared people had been waiting for their return.

Second Sunday of May is observed as Mother's Day since 1914 as a result of continued efforts by Anna Jarvis, daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis, a peace activist in, West Virginia, the United States, for her mother's contributions towards the society. It deplored that the Kashmiri mothers were bearing the brunt of Indian state terrorism as the Kashmiri women, including mothers, had taken the ultimate hit by losing their near and dear ones to Indian bullets. The report said thousands of Kashmiri mothers continue. INP

Raja Riaz's son tie the knot

FAISALABAD: Wedding ceremony of son of dissident Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) MNA Raja Riaz was held here on Sunday.

According to details, Raja Riaz's son got married and wedding ceremony was held at marriage hall of Deputy General Secretary and MNA Sheikh Khuram Shehzad located at Daewon Road, Faisalabad.

Punjab Chief Minister Hamza Shehbaz, Nawab Sherar and a large number of parliamentarians attended the ceremony.

The local district administration and police have made strict security arrangements on the occasion. INP

Rehmani urges world bodies to thwart Modi's designs by facilitating Kashmir settlement

ISLAMABAD: Muhammad Farooq Rehmani, APMC-AJK Convener has appealed to world organisations especially UN, EU, Shanghai Cooperation Council, SARAC, OIC and Arab League to revive their active role in overcoming hurdles in the resolution of the Kashmir dispute by facilitating dialogue between all stakeholders.

Muhammad Farooq Rehmani in a statement issued in Islamabad said, India is hell-bent on changing nature, culture and demographic character of Jammu and Kashmir in total disregard to all the UN resolutions, international law, bilateral and international agreements and above all the wishes of its besieged and oppressed people and was going to thrust a BJP Chief Minister through its own Delimitation Commission's recommendations, to further its colonial settler-policy of Indian Hindutva colonialism. He categorically denied India's accusations of terroristic activities by youth in J&K, saying Indian agencies—NIA and 'SIA were propagating and manuevering fake encounters to defame, torture and implicate youth in false cases while the reality was different". There were thousands of kashmiris in almost every police station, interrogation centre, and central and sub jail of Jammu and Kashmir including India's and dismembered State's far-flung District jails. He asked if the kashmiris were voluntarily with India, why such a large number had been incarcerated and why daily and nocturnal crackdowns are carried out by the police everywhere and youths tortured and forced to false confessions.

He said Indian authorities are treating Kashmiri detainees like convicts for crimes they had never committed or believed in criminal activities to advance their viewpoint on the right of self-determination. INP

Three killed in Swabi

SWABI: Three people including a young cricketer were killed in separate incidents of suicide, road mishap and murder in different localities of Swabi on Sunday.

According to police, in Yar Hussain Bazaar Swabi, unidentified armed men gunned down a youth Bakht Sher, hailing from Yaqoobi area and fled the scene.

Young cricketer Saqib, serving as junior clerk at a local government primary school, who consumed toxic pills over domestic disputes expired at Niqash Aziz Hospital.

A youngster was killed in a road accident in Gadoon Amzai area. INP

Three killed in Nawabshah road mishaps

NAWABSHAH: At least three people were killed and three others injured in separate road mishaps here on Sunday, police said.

The bodies and injured were shifted to Peoples Medical Hospital for medico-legal formalities and police after registering separate cases in both incidents started investigations. INP

Display of Pakistan's soft power enamors international audience

WASHINGTON DC: Embassy of Pakistan Washington DC showcased Pakistan's rich cultural diversity, economic and tourism potential during Passport DC's annual "Around the World Embassy Tour" program. The indoor event attracted nearly two thousand attendees mostly comprising of US citizens from Washington DC and other states, nationals of other countries and Pakistani-Americans. It included diplomats, government officials, people working and doing businesses in DC, IT professionals from United States and South Asia, media persons and others.

Taking place after a gap of three years due to COVID pandemic, the event started at 09:30 am, much before its scheduled time, and continued till 1600 hrs with continued arrival of the guests in large numbers and their visits to various stalls. INP

'Severe heatwave' set to grip entire Sindh including Karachi from May 11

KARACHI: A "severe heatwave" that was prevailing over central and upper Sindh is forecast to grip the entire province — including Karachi — for nearly a week from May 11 with the maximum temperature projected to exceed 40 degrees Celsius in the provincial capital, the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) said on Sunday.

In its heatwave advisory, the Met department said the weather in the metropolis would remain hot next week, predicting the heatwave spell could last till May 16.

"The maximum temperature in Karachi may rise to 40°C and more during May 12 and 14."

It predicted that the temperature in the city would likely be in the range between 35°C and 38°C from May 9 to 10 before intensifying by May 11 to 12.

The PMD also predicted "extreme heatwave" in other parts of the province, saying the day-time maximum temperatures in Dadu, Sukkur, Larkana, Jacobabad, Shaheed Benazirabad (Nawabshah), Naushero Feroz, Khairpur, Shikarpur and Ghotki districts would rise to 46 to 48 °C.

While in Jamshoro, Hyderabad, Badin, Thatta, Mirpurkhas and Umerkot districts, the temperatures could peak at 45 °C during the period.

The department warned that hot and dry conditions could cause stress on crops, vegetables and orchards, and increase energy demands.

It also advised the public to avoid open sun exposure as much as possible, especially during peak hours (11am to 4pm). A day ago, top climate scientists said the devastating heatwave that gripped Pakistan and India over the last two months was unprecedented, but worse — perhaps far worse — was on the horizon as climate change continues apace. INP

Drug peddler held with 234 litre imported wine

MULTAN: The police arrested a notorious drug peddler besides recovering 234 litres of imported wine from his possession here on Sunday.

The Muzaffarabad police during search of a suspect near Nadirabad railway crossing in Multan recovered five bottles, imported wine from his custody.

The police arrested the notorious drug peddler later identified as Muhammad Ramazan, hailing from Multan Industrial Area.

During inquiry, 229 more bottles of imported wine were recovered from residence of the detainee.

The police confiscated the recovered wine and after registering a case against the nabbed drug pusher started an investigation. INP

Three labourers scorched in gas leakage fire

GUJRANWALA: Three labourers were scorched in gas leakage fire at furnace mill here on Sunday.

According to rescue sources, due to gas leakage, fire engulfed a steel furnace and rolling mill located near Aziz Cross Flyover in Gujranwala city.

Three labourers including Rafique 55, Ilyas 32, and Irfan 32, were scorched in the fire incident and shifted to hospital for treatment.

A couple of days earlier, two brothers were burnt to death and four family members including children were scorched due to gas leakage fire at a house in Sialkot. INP

Khalistan flag hoisted at main gate of Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly

SHIMLA: Khalistan flags were found tied on the main gate and boundary wall of the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly in Dharamshala on Sunday.

The Kangra police were informed about the presence of Khalistan flags on the gates early Sunday morning. Pro-Khalistan slogans were also found on the walls of the assembly complex located on the outskirts of Dharamshala.

Deputy Commissioner Dr Nipun Jindal confirmed the incident. INP

Earthquake relief operations underway in Balochistan's Wadh tehsil

QUETTA: Relief operations have been underway on Sunday in Wadh, a tehsil of Khuzdar district in Balochistan after Friday's magnitude 5.2 earthquake.

According to the district administration, relief items being provided in Aranj and other villages affected in the earthquake.

The Levies Force and the district administration, involved in the relief work, have so far provided tents, blankets and edible items in over 150 affected families.

Around 200 houses were damaged in the earthquake in tehsil Wadh, scores of houses were thoroughly demolished in the quake tremors.

The earthquake jolted Lasbela and other parts of Balochistan province on Friday, the National Seismic Monitoring Centre (NSMC) reported.

The NSMC said that the centre of the earthquake was 80 kilometers north of Bela city of Balochistan. The tremors that struck Wadh tehsil of Khuzdar resulted in damage to several houses in the region.

The jolts caused panic among the population, sending people fleeing their homes in panic. Earlier, in October last year, a 5.9-magnitude earthquake in Balochistan province was resulted in 22 deaths while over 200 were injured. The deadly earthquake had struck parts of Balochistan including Quetta.

According to National Seismic Monitoring Centre, Islamabad, the epicenter of the quake was located in Harnai at the depth of 15 kilometres.

According to Deputy Commissioner Harnai Anwar Hashim, roofs and walls of more than 100 houses collapsed in Harnai and Shahrag, trapping several people under the debris. Dozens of public and private buildings were damaged.

Harnai was the worst-affected remote mountainous area of Balochistan by the quake. INP



HYDERABAD: A child thalassemia patient is receiving blood on International Thalassemia Day at Clevel hospital.

Sindh, South Punjab wilting without water

KARACHI: Sindh and South Punjab are confronting serious problem of water scarcity that is threatening crop harvesting and endangering lives of both the humans and livestock, it has been reported on Sunday.

The water shortage is assuming alarming proportions in Sindh as agricultural economy is on the verge of annihilation. The harvest is withering away due to closure of canals.

The water scarcity has put a seriously damaging impact on the habitat conditions as people are compelled to migrate to other places due to non-availability of water.

The situation is scarier in the riverine area of Sindh — district Sajawal — where crops have wilted owing to non-availability of water. It's giving nightmares to the growers whose produce is ruining.

For the last three months, water has not been released to the canals in Sajawal. Not only the crops are dying but it has become difficult for humans and cattle to quench their thirst in the face of drought-like conditions in the district. Livestock has started perishing here and people have started migrating to other areas.

The Sajawal residents have appealed to Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah to immediately solve water problem in the area in order to save lives of both humans and livestock.

Sindh CM Shah complained on Saturday that there was unjust distribution of water resources between the federating units and Sindh was not getting its due share. He said he would talk to the federal minister on the issue. He, however, admitted that there was a water shortage in the entire country, and Sindh was no exception. He even suggested to growers not to sow rice crop this time round in order to preserve water. There is an extreme water shortage in the water flow at Kotri Barrage of River Sindh. According to control room at Kotri Barrage, the upstream water flow at the barrage was recorded 4,900 cusecs and downstream flow was recorded. INP

Man kills sister in the name of honour

PAKPATTAN: In yet another incident of honour killing in the country, a man on Sunday allegedly murdered his sister after hitting her multiple times with a brick in Pakpattan district of the Punjab province.

According to police, the incident occurred in Rehman Town of Pakpattan and the Faridnagar police station have arrested the suspect.

They shared that the victim was a mother of two children and the brother killed her in the name of honour killing. "We have registered a case against the incident," the police said.

Honour killing incidents have been reported in the country frequently and recently, police foiled the bid by recovering an abducted woman and arresting her relatives in Karachi.

According to police, a 22-year old woman whose relatives kidnapped her for marrying a man of her choice was recovered from Super Highway area of the city after the law enforcement agency arrested her abductors in a raid.

"I and my husband were sleeping when these people (relatives) knocked our door and asked us to open the door, we immediately phoned police but they broke in and took me away," the victim told reporters.

The 22-year-old said that her relatives were planning to kill her for contracting a love marriage.

According to some estimates, some 500 women are killed every year in Pakistan at the hands of relatives over perceived damage to family honour. Most of the honour killing victims are those who contract love marriages. Honour killing incidents have been reported in the country frequently and recently, police foiled the bid by recovering an abducted woman and arresting her relatives in Karachi.

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HYDERABAD: A view of dry bed of Indus River at jamshoro.