

QUETTA VOICE

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NA speaker summons PTI lawmakers to confirm 'genuineness' of resignations

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QUETTA In a surprising shift, independent candidates won more seats than over 10 political parties during the recently held local bodies elections in Balochistan's 32 districts. Independent candidates secured over 1,500 seats in the local government polls. Around a dozen political parties won fewer seats as compared to independents as per the unofficial and unconfirmed results of over 3,000 councilors seats in Balochistan. However, Jamiat ul Ulama e Islam (JUI) stood first by securing 469 seats in the local governments' elections. The religious group won most of the seats in Ziarat, Loralai, Pishin, Killa Abdullah, Chaman, Khuzdar, Mastung, Kalat, and other parts of the province.



The ruling Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) won 303 seats so far. However, the nationalist party, National Party (NP) got 143 seats, Pashtoonkhwa Milli

Awami Party got 139 seats, and Balochistan National Party (Mengal) got 102 seats in the local government elections. Pakistan Tehrik e Insaaf has secured 71 seats and Pakistan Muslim League (N) got 20 seats in the LUs polls. The GRM defeated a four-party alliance comprising the Balochistan National Party (Mengal), National Party (NP), Jamiat ul Ulama e Islam (JUI), and Pakistan National Party (PNP). No serious allegations of fraud were reported from any part of Balochistan during the polls held after nine years. Almost all political parties claimed victories in the polls conducted in a comparatively peaceful atmosphere.

NA speaker summons PTI lawmakers to confirm 'genuineness' of resignations

National Assembly Speaker Raja Pervaiz Ashraf on Monday summoned PTI MNAs — who had quit en masse in the aftermath of their government's ouster last month, to confirm the 'voluntary character and genuineness' of their resignation letters. The NA speaker summoned the party legislators on June 6, the assembly's spokesperson said in a statement, adding that the total number of MNAs who had resigned stood at 131. The lawmakers had resigned on April 11, two days after former prime minister Imran Khan was ousted from the top office after the no-confidence motion moved by the joint opposition in the parliament against him succeeded. According to the NA spokesperson, the letters have been dispatched to the MNAs, informing them about the pre-conditions of their appearance for acceptance of the resignations. "I am directed to refer to the letter dated 11-4-2022 regarding your resignation from the seat of the National Assembly and to state that in pursuance of paragraph (b) of sub-rule (2) of rule 45 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the National Assembly, 2007, Honourable Speaker has desired to invite you in his Chamber for inquiry regarding voluntary character and genuineness of aforesaid resignation letter before its acceptance," reads the letter sent to the PTI MNAs. The NA spokesperson said the process for confirmation of the resignations will continue till June 10. As many as 30 members will meet the NA speaker on a daily basis. — Web Desk.

PM takes stern notice of increase in flour prices

ISLAMABAD: The Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif on Monday while taking stern notice of the increasing price of flour in the country has also sought reports from the concerned ministers and ministries on the matter. The PM has further directed to take strong measures to provide flour at the price announced by the government. Talking about it, PM Shehbaz said it should be made sure to provide public with flour at government rates. He strongly suggested that the government will not allow to financially exploit the people. The Prime Minister also directed the Ministers of Food Security, Industry and concerned departments to submit a report on the implementation of the orders. — INP

Fawad criticizes courts for keeping mum over insult of women during long march

PESHAWAR: Former federal minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Fawad Chaudhry asked why the court wasn't opened in the middle of the night when women were insulted during the long march. Addressing Lawyers Convention in Peshawar on Monday, he said that the imported government does not even care about the constitution. Fawad Chaudhry said that the unconstitutional government of Hamza Shabbaz has been formed in Punjab and he is the chief minister of minority, adding that imported government wouldn't be allowed to make decisions for Pakistan. — INP

Balochistan High Court rejects bail application of Imran Gichki

QUETTA: Balochistan High Court (BHC) on Monday dismissed the bail plea filed by Imran Taj Gichki, former Staff Officer of the Chief Minister Balochistan and serving provincial secretary. A division bench comprising Chief Justice Naem Akhtar Afridi and Justice Razi Khan Barch announced the decision. Deputy Prosecutor General NAB Balochistan Jaffar Raza appeared on behalf of NAB. It may be recalled that Aftab Ahmed Lone, Accountability Court Quetta Judge had awarded Rs 80 million fine besides convicting 5-year imprisonment to Imran Gichki, Secretary Local Government and former Staff Officer to CM Balochistan Nawab Mohammad Aslam Raisani in accumulation of illegal assets worth millions of rupees. Also, read this: NAB seeks details about properties of Muhammad Khan Lehri, Ghafoor Lehri. After the verdict, accused Imran Gichki was arrested and sent to jail. Later, the accused resorted to BHC seeking dismissal of the accountability court decision and bail. However, BHC rejected the plea of the accused. It may be mentioned here that the investigation against Imran Gichki revealed that he had accumulated properties worth millions of rupees in Islamabad and other parts of the country. NAB raided his residence in Islamabad's posh area and seized a huge quantity of gold, ornaments, and foreign currency. Later reference was filed in the court. After the trial of the case, the Accountability court convicted the accused, besides confiscating the cash and gold recovered from his home. The court, however, is yet to announce its judgment on the properties of the convict, which he allegedly kept in the names of his relatives and beneficiaries.

Sherani forest: "These burnt trees will haunt us forever", Residents

QUETTA: "These burnt pine and olive trees would haunt us forever", Muhammad Ajmal Sherani, a resident of the Sherani forest said. Roaring flames of fire burnt ancient Chigloza (pine) and olive trees to ashes in Balochistan's Sherani district. Residents of the Sherani forest narrate heartbreaking stories about the fire erupted and they witnessed burning ancient trees. Flames of fire erupted on May 18 and spread throughout the ancient forest within a few hours. A large number of tribesmen were financially dependent on the forest and the fire deprived them now. "Last year I earned more than 11 million rupees by selling Chigloza", Aalandin said. "Almost 500 families were financially affected by the forest fire", Muhammad Ejaz Jaffer, Deputy Commissioner Sherani informed. The federal and provincial governments have ordered inquiries into the eruption of fire in the forest. "We have also ordered a complete survey of the forest to assess the damages", Basir Khan Barch, the Commissioner ZhoB Division told Quetta Voice. Also, Read this: A forest fire claims 3 lives, injured 4. Deputy Commissioner Sherani. He said the civil administration has provided 100 tents to the displaced families because of the forest fire. Although, he said the people are settled back in their mud and stone-walled houses. "They want to live on their own in the mountains", Mr. Beza said.

President approves Balighur Rehman's appointment as Punjab governor



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif chairing a meeting on Chinese Investment Companies.

Party position in Balochistan local government elections 2022

ISLAMABAD: The ruling PTI has suffered a major blow in the local government elections so far. In Gwadar, the Gwadar Right Movement (GRM) won most of the seats. Maulana Hidayat ur Rehman, the GRM Chief claimed to have won 27 out of 39 seats in Gwadar city. He has also claimed that GRM has won seats in Sur, Bandar, Pami and other parts of the district. A four-party alliance including Balochistan National Party (Mengal), National Party (NP), Jamiat ul Ulama e Islam (JUI) and Pakistan National Party (PNP) suffered a crushing setback in the port city of the country. As per unofficial and unconfirmed results, independent candidates have won 1,887 seats, Jamiat ul Ulama e Islam (JUI) 469, Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) 303, National Party 143, Pashtoonkhwa Milli Awami Party (PKMAP) 139, Pakistan Peoples Party (PP) 30, Balochistan National Party (Mengal) 102, BNP Awami 68, Awami National Party (ANP) 42, Jamiat ul Ulama Party 18, seats and 62 candidates from other political parties. The former ruling Pakistan Tehrik e Insaaf has won 71 seats, Pakistan Muslim League (N) 20 in the local bodies elections in Balochistan. The former

President approves Balighur Rehman's appointment as Punjab governor

ISLAMABAD: In a surprising move, President Dr Arif Alvi on Monday approved the appointment of PML-N loyalist Balighur Rehman as the new Punjab governor, ending a weeks-long deadlock with the prime minister over the holder of the constitutional office. The move comes after the president twice denied his assent to the prime minister's nominees for the post, saying that Omar Sarfraz Cheema, who was de-notified by the federal government earlier this month, still held the office of Punjab governor as he (president) had not ousting his removal. The Islamabad High Court (IHC) is currently hearing the case on whether the president has powers under the Constitution to override the prime minister's decision to remove a governor. However, this move by the president might make those proceedings redundant. According to a tweet from the President's Office, Alvi approved the appointment based on Prime Minister



ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi administering the oath of office to Senator Shahbaz Awan as the Minister of State, at Awan-e-Sadr.

Maulana Hidayat clean sweeps LBs polls in Gwadar

ISLAMABAD: Gwadar Rights Movement (GRM) won most of the seats in Gwadar, the country's port city during the local bodies' elections on Sunday. The GRM, led by local cleric Maulana Hidayat ur Rehman has given a surprise to the four-party alliance including Balochistan National Party (Mengal), National Party (NP), and Jamiat ul Ulama e Islam (JUI) and Syed Ehsan Shah, the health minister Balochistan. The GRM has won 27 seats in Gwadar. The total seats on the Gwadar Municipal Committee were 42. Elections were held on 39 seats and no elections were held on the remaining three seats because of various issues. "People have reposed their confidence in GRM", Maulana Hidayat said in a tweet on Sunday night. There was no immediate response from the four-party alliance contesting the Maulana Hidayat's victory. The GRM has also won seats from Pami, Sur Bandar, and other parts of the Gwadar district as per unofficial and unconfirmed reports.

Climate Change: Univariate Aspects of Climate Change in Pakistan

Flaws in LBs wards, delimitations in Balochistan

Initial delimitations of union councils and formation of wards suggest serious flaws regarding the upcoming local bodies elections in Balochistan. Technically or deliberately, the election commission of Pakistan has surpassed all past records of mismanagement/faults in terms of formation of new wards and delimitations of union councils across the province, which covers half of the country in terms of area.

Local bodies elections are scheduled to be held on May 29th throughout Balochistan except Quetta and Lasbella districts because of some delimitation issues. The Balochistan High Court, however, has also ordered the election commission of Pakistan to address the grievances of the people in Zhob, Pishin and other districts of the province regarding the formation of new wards.

For instance, in Pishin's Chur Badiaz and Toorkhail union councils, the election commission has made one ward comprising 32 voters, whereas, another ward comprising of more than 5,000 voters. Votes of people from quite far away have been registered in the union council. This has created doubt among the people of the area about the credibility and transparency about the upcoming LBs elections.

In Naserabad district, political and tribal personalities have also expressed serious reservations and apprehensions about the establishment of new wards and delimitations of union councils. People have accused the ECP of manipulating the process for political and tribal influential people, thus depriving the majority of the people.

This daily has received scores of complaints regarding the flaws in the establishment of new wards and delimitation of union councils. The ECP has to take an urgent notice of the complaints of the people and make sure fair and transparent elections to devolve the power on grassroots level in a transparent way.

LBs elections play a crucial role in the development of country and nation. The ECP has to perform its constitutional responsibility and address the grievances of the masses and restore their confidence. Every individual has to be given the right to vote in his and her area to elect future representatives.

The ECP's Quetta office has responded to the complaints of the political parties and individuals. However, it needs to step up efforts to address the grievances of voters before it is already late.

Syed Mansoor Ahmed

Climate change stems unbecomingly challenges in the future. According to the World Bank report, Pakistan stands 6th in list of climate change. The awful and deadly floods of 2010 and 2011, extremely dry weather in a rainy area, and fluctuating rainfall in the past year is alarming and despairing signs among all the dwellers of the world.

Climate Change and Agriculture in Pakistan
In addition, Pakistan is a semi-arid country. The local and dependent source of water is from the snow-covered Himalayas and the Karakoram in the Northern Areas, India, Behun, Chitral, Gilgit, and the rivers flow through this area. Within the water calculus, the country's entire agriculture is dependent on water flow from the Indus river.

Glacial flood outbreak also poses a serious threat to the country's climate in the Karakoram region. The glacier is melting and understanding the possible modes of surge and retreat, which are characterized by unsteady movements and frequent advances and retreats. As a result, it causes natural hazards by obstructing river channels, forming ice-dammed lakes, which will ultimately cause GLOFs and pose threats downstream of the water.

Recently, global warming and subsequent climate change have increased the constant state of fear and the risk of massive outburst flooding in the respective mountainous region. The comprehensive field evidence, local testimonies by the natives, modern applications of remote sensing, and cross-correlation forecasting techniques provides the improved understanding of glacier surges and ice-dam formation disclosed the scale future threat.

19 kilometers of the Karakoram Highway.

Glaciers in Pakistan
It is also noted, historically in the Karakoram Range 29 glaciers are responsible for ice-dam formation. On the other hand, 26 glacier built ice barriers in the Karakoram range. The constant advance, near to the densely populated areas of the Karakoram region, by constant observation of the prevailing and growing threat of climate change, it is urging the endless future threat only due to the GLOFs. For the Karakoram Range System (KRS) is the major vein of irrigation in Pakistan. It is providing



Glaciers in Pakistan

water for almost 90% of the food product in Pakistan. The sudden thinning due to the GLOFs will slow down the water flowing pace downstream. And could raise a deep impasse among the units for water distribution formula. In the end, it will ultimately surface the challenge of food insecurity in Pakistan.

The Karakoram Range, more importantly, is the home of the anticipated One Belt One Road Initiative (OBOR) by giving with a potential corridor through the Karakoram Highway. The importance to the seaport at Gwadar in Balochistan (GPC) on the Indian Ocean. Therefore, the smooth running of the traffic on the roads is the keystone for progressive economic development. While the ice barriers in rivers due to frontal advance, could impede the flow of traffic of the Karakoram Highway. The dislocation and dissolution of rocks due to GLOFs is never-ending challenges due to the factor of GLOFs.

The Karakoram Range lakes and GLOFs attracted local, political, and scientific attention because of the potential of disaster. So, it needs the heart blood as well as collective effective efforts to bring down the scale of the future threat without causing infinite miseries.

The SEZs are a game-changer After the shooting

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) by China - which CPEC is part of - has a lot of potential to provide required economic stability and sustainability. The Special Economic Zones (SEZs) under CPEC, if implemented in letter and spirit, are key to progress.

Economically Pakistan is in a greater mess than ever before. Foreign direct investment (FDI), which is key to economic growth and development, is touching the lowest level one can imagine. The ever-increasing gap in exports and imports is another ill to be taken care of, as is the current account deficit. Security issues are popping up day by day. But the most crucial question is: how to tackle these economic issues?

One of the best options may be to revive the CPEC and its related SEZs. This was the best option pursued by the previous P.M.-N government. Subsequently, the 2018 elections, there was apparently a lackluster attitude on the part of the PTI government - allegedly ignoring the most important initiative that could possibly contribute a lot in economic progress and growth. As the new coalition government led by the PTI-N has now taken over and they seem to be quite serious concerning the

incentives and facilitation to Special Economic Zones to attract investment from China. What they need more than that is an assurance from Pakistan to provide fool-proof security to Chinese people, workers and management, and their companies working in Pakistan. They also want assurances and timely payments of profits on their investments as well as repatriation of their profits, which is in fact a legitimate demand.

The Chinese model of economic development, which has a lot of credibility in the eyes of the Chinese government and investors, goes all out for revival of 27 SEZs - initially planning to implement an agenda for prioritizing nine in the first five years, and then 10 SEZs in the next five years, with the last eight SEZs in the last phase of five years. There can be an estimated investment of about \$350 billion by the Chinese government and investors in the next 15 years. Pakistan could revive our economy in a big way. And it is badly needed to revive the economy.

The planning ministry should work out a full-fledged plan and a policy document outlining packages providing special

imagine the speed of such growth from the fact that the number of SEZs have added up to about 1400 in a span of last five years - jumping up from 4000 to 5400 SEZs right now in the world. Although the concept of SEZs has contributed a lot to the world economy, the Chinese experience has been amazing.

Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping in the late '70s and early '80s started implementing a new vision of economic growth through the modern concept of SEZs by opening up markets for world investors bringing a lot of investment in the country. There are mainly seven famous SEZs namely Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Shantou, Xiamen, Hainan, Shanghai Pudong New Area and Tianjin Binhai New Area. China has also developed economic and technological development zones, free trade zones, export-processing zones, and industrial development zones.

SEZs and other economic zones as mentioned above are contributing a big way to the Chinese economy by attracting FDI, generating employment, upgrading skills, enhancing and diversifying exports as well as trade efficiencies. According to some of the estimates, the SEZs are contributing around 23 per cent in GDP, almost 60 per cent in Chinese exports while attracting 10 per cent of foreign direct investment and creating about 30 million jobs, which is not less than a miracle.

The SEZ model of economic growth is also popular in other parts and regions of the world, most such zones are found in African and Eastern American countries. These zones are in the thousands. Countries like the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Eastern Europe have also developed their economic zones for growth and investment. The US has developed California Enterprise Zones, Maryland Enterprise Zones, New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zones and Michigan Enterprise Zones. There are also some specialized zones developed by the US, which are substantially contributing to economic growth.

The same is the case in other countries of the world, especially developing countries. At least in the African continent, Bangladesh is another prime example of developing zones with impressive economic growth credited to such zones in the country.

grim tone and reform posture conveyed quiet resignation. Despite his immense power, Biden understands that there is a sickness in America that is beyond any rational remedy or cure.

There is a sickness in America that is unique to America. No other country exemplifies with such premeditated violence so often against so many innocent citizens. The same politicians spouting the same mephitic executive orders don't kill children, people do. A bad guy with a gun can only be stopped by a good guy with a gun. A merciful God is preparing, once more, to welcome his bullheaded politicians to a better, kinder place.

Yes, there is a sickness in America. It is that Texas is a 'red' state, the politicians doing the talking on its streets and doing largely white Republican men. They are the same white Republicans who are a governor, senators and representatives - who lecture and scold a Republican politician about the sanctity of life, of the unborn child.

Charter of governance and justice transcending limits

In the modern world, the fundamental responsibility of every state and government to provide the best, trustworthy and credible system of governance and justice to its citizens, through which the allocation of state resources is to be distributed efficiently among citizens and their rights are protected through an efficient judicial and administrative justice system.

Good governance and an efficient civil, criminal and administrative justice system has been a dream for citizens and a great challenge for law-and-policy-makers of Pakistan. Pakistan now needs to immediately start working on reforms, based on a 'charter of good governance' and a 'charter of instant justice' by taking into board all the relevant stakeholders and to legislate at earliest.

One should accept the reality that our systems of governance and justice have not been able to generate citizens' trust and confidence. In the absence of good governance and timely justice, Pakistan is lagging behind in planning which results in mal-

practices like corruption and exploitation of state resources. International and local reports have continuously revealed different aspects of poor performance and service delivery, which hinder its development. There is a need to identify and address immediately. This should also be a concern for the legislature and policymakers in areas of macro and micro-economic management, political stability, improvement of public policy, public administration and institutional capacity.

Due to social media, citizens have access to more information which makes it easier for them to judge their government's performance on governance, policymaking and service delivery. There is a need to understand public sentiments and the demands and needs of those who are directly affected by the policies of the government. There is no option for the state and government of Pakistan to except to immediately take serious capacity-building measures to enhance the efficiency of governance and justice system. There are certain gaps of asymme-

tries at various levels of government (federal, provincial and local) while designing, implementing and delivering public policy, which hinder its performance and service delivery, which hinder its development. There is a need to identify and address immediately. This should also be a concern for the legislature and policymakers in areas of macro and micro-economic management, political stability, improvement of public policy, public administration and institutional capacity.

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ments of citizens and to face modern world challenges. There is also a need to re-evaluate and redesign the role of federal, provincial and local government and their capacities to govern and for effectiveness in public governance and administrative justice systems in future. In the absence of legislation and without working on sufficient capacity of both human and capital, it will not be possible to deliver good governance. The desired results of a good governance and justice system cannot be achieved without reforming the basic structure with time-bound legislation and through a better monitoring system of capacity and service delivery. There is a need to address as a top priority: ensuring good service, handling matters in an interactive/respectable manner with citizens, structured discretion, time-bound decisions, the realization of legal rights and obligations, and the grievance redressal procedures with strong internal and external oversight mechanisms. It is also important to learn and apply the best practices of the world in areas of governance and justice. With this background, there is an urgent need to address the best practices of governance and justice discipline with better solutions to deliver to the public, and achieve a respectable place among the global community.

regardless of their impacts, rather than running the affairs and utilizing the intellect and bounties in a just and sustainable manner. Men have badly entangled with nature's resources at the cost of destruction of other forms of life and of natural ecosystem. The recently released UN IPCC's terrifying study assessment report on the anthropogenic destruction of global climate is but a single instance of mankind's high-handedness against their surrounding environment. Even more did I spare his fellow beings.

A few in the world hold majority of the wealth. The result: millions of people are currently consumed by poverty, hunger and disease. The rich-poor divide widens as time passes by. Global poverty and wide scale inequality are on the rise. Laws are made and broken for and by the rich, while the poor remain entangled in them. Merciless programs are a norm. The weak dies of being preyed and consumed by capitalist predators. The tyranny against the weak and the atrocities of rulers over their subjects have surged in time passes. By the growing scourge of terrorism and extremism, we must utilize our for the underprivileged, the poor and the weak. Since we have already prospered materially, it is now time to invest in humanity if we want to shield ourselves from nature's

Imran says called off Azadi March to avoid 'imminent bloodshed' as some protesters were 'also armed'

Former prime minister and PTI Chairman Imran Khan on Monday, while explaining why he ended the Azadi March last week, said he feared that "bloodshed" was imminent as some of his party workers were also armed and could have retaliated in the face of the authorities' hours-long shelling and heavy-handed tactics.

"After an intense build-up the previous day and repeatedly urging his supporters to reach D-Chowk in Islamabad in order to push the government towards new elections, Imran had on last Thursday sprung a surprise by retreating and calling off the march.

"In an interview with TV journalist Moeed Pirzada for 92 News today, the PTI chairman revealed his reasoning for doing so, saying that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif-led government would have been the ultimate beneficiary of any ensuing chaos and violence.

"The hatred against police had already intensified and seeing me [at D-Chowk] would have further stoked the sentiments of my workers," he said. "I was a 100 per cent sure that bullets will be fired. People from our side were also ready as some of them were carrying pistols. It would have led to further hatred against the police and the army and caused divisions within the country... he told the interviewer.

"I was hundred per cent sure the country would have been carried towards anarchy in this situation," he added.

The PTI chairman said the situation gave him the impression as if Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah and PM Shehbaz Sharif had asked the Pakistan Army to let them handle the situation "So the government could teach a lesson to the protesters".

Imran said his party would approach the Supreme Court on Tuesday and ask whether or not holding a "peaceful protest" was permitted in the country. "If the Supreme Court does not protect our fundamental rights this time, then it is not democracy."

The former PM went on to say that "this will be the trial of the Supreme Court now".

Imran, while addressing a lawyers' convention in Peshawar earlier today, said that if the Supreme Court did not accept the government's offer for the next round of their protest, he would opt for a different strategy where his supporters would be 'prepared' to deal with the situation.

He said: "If they (SC) don't give us protection, today I stand here in front of you and say that I will have another strategy."

Under this strategy, Imran said the PTI would make a plan for dealing with the obstacles. "[That] time would we weren't prepared in the country. If we were stuck unprepared, this time we will be prepared," he said, declaring that this was a jihad for him. "I will not accept this imported government at any cost." Web Desk



QUETTA: Blacksmith busy in work on his shop.

SC won't allow Imran Khan to use its shoulders: CM Murad

ISLAMABAD: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah Monday said that the Supreme Court (SC) would not let the former Prime Minister Imran Khan use its shoulders.

Talking to media persons outside a court of National Accountability Bureau (NAB) in Islamabad, the Sindh chief minister said that Pakistan People's Party (PPP) chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari led the most successful long march ever.

Murad said that policemen were tortured during the PTI's long march, adding: "The government takes precautionary measures when there are talks of violence and chaos."

He also said that the PTI workers protested in Karachi without permission, adding: "If they had a plan to protest, they should have obtained permission. We should have allowed a place for them."

The Sindh chief minister said that no one would stop peaceful protests. Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah arrived in Islamabad to appear before the NAB court inP.

Speeding truck crushes three pedestrians to death in Muzaffargarh

MUZAFFARGARH: An over-speeding truck crushed three pedestrians to death here in Monday. Truck driver fled the scene of accident.

According to details, a reckless-driven truck ran over three pedestrians in Ahsanpur area of Muzaffargarh. As a result of accident, all three people were killed on the spot and truck driver fled the scene.

The bodies were shifted to hospital for postmortem. The police impounded the truck and after registering a case against the truck driver a dead started raids for his arrest inP.

YOUTH SHOT DEAD BY REAL BROTHER OVER DOMESTIC ISSUES IN SHEKHUPURA

SHEKHUPURA: A young man shot down by his brother and injured his wife over domestic issues here on Monday and fled the scene, police said.

According to details, the incident took place in Mohallah Shah Colony of Shekhupura where accused after exchange of hot words over domestic dispute sprayed bullets at his younger brother and his wife. On Monday, he fled the scene, police said.

Govt constitutes committee to 'deliberate policy' on enforced disappearances

ISLAMABAD: The federal government on Monday formed a seven-member committee for the "deliberation of a policy" related to enforced disappearances in the country after the Islamabad High Court (IHC) directed the heads of the government to explain how disappearances "became state policy".

According to a notification issued by the Ministry of Interior, the committee will be headed by Justice (Retired) in Law Justice Azam Saeed and comprise Minister for Interior Rana Sanaullah, Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Shazia Marri, Minister for Communications Asad Mansoor, Minister for Defence Production Muhammad Ishaq, Minister for Maritime Affairs Faizal Ali Subzwari, and Minister for Science and Technology Agha Hassan Baloch.

Recommendations or report of the committee will be presented in the federal cabinet for further deliberations. "The interior ministry shall provide secretarial support to the committee," it said.

The notification added that the committee will also be allowed to co-opt eminent jurists, representatives of human rights organizations and other members "it deems appropriate".

The development comes after IHC Chief Justice Athar Minallah, in a 18-page order on Sunday, directed the federal government to serve notices on former president retired Gen Pervez Musharraf and all successors in chief executive officer Imran Khan and incumbent premier Shehbaz Sharif, for following an "undeclared tacit approval of the policy regarding enforced disappearances".

He passed the orders in a case related to the disappearance of journalist Mudassar Mahmood Naro and five other people after their petitions were fixed for final arguments, but the federal government requested an adjournment.

In his order, Justice (Retired) Gen Pervez Musharraf and all other successor chief executives i.e. the former prime ministers, including the incumbent holder of the office, shall submit their respective affidavits explaining why the court may not order proceedings against them for alleged subversion of the Constitution in the context of undeclared tacit approval of the policy regarding enforced disappearances and thus putting national security at risk by allowing the involvement of law enforcement agencies, particularly the armed forces.

Pervez Musharraf has candidly conceded in his autobiography in the Line of Fire that "enforced disappearances" was an undeclared policy of the state," he said.

The judge pointed out that the responsibility was on each chief executive to "rebut the presumption and to explain why they may not be tried for the offence of high treason.

He further observed that the armed forces had continued to render sacrifices for the security and integrity of the country and ought to be respected by every citizen otherwise security of the country and its people would be exposed to being jeopardised.

Budget 2022-23: KP Govt plans to roll out food, education welfare projects

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) government has decided to introduce two major food and education welfare programs in the budget 2022-23.

According to sources, the provincial government has decided to introduce Insaaf food card scheme and the Insaaf education card.

"For food card scheme, Rs25 billion will be earmarked in the budget and under it, 1 million families will be provided with ration worth around Rs2100," they said.

Similarly, the education program will have a funding of Rs2 billion. Moreover, the KP government has decided to delay presenting the budget 2022-23 from June 01, contrary to its announcement that it would present it before the federal budget.

It is pertinent to mention here that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has announced to present the budget for the fiscal year 2022-23 in the National Assembly on June 10.

The Prime Minister's office has issued a notification announcing that the federal budget for the fiscal year 2022-23 will be presented in the NA on June 10, 2022.

The budget, after passing from the NA, will be forwarded to the senate. The cabinet session to approve the suggestions will also be held on June 10.

The PMOA had advised concerned departments and district authorities to keep alert to tackle any contingency inP.

PTI, MQM-P, PPP 'agree' to delay local government elections in Sindh

KARACHI: Top political parties in the Sindh province have agreed to ask the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to delay local government (LG) elections in the Sindh.

The political parties that have agreed to extend local government elections included Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), Muttahida Quami Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P), and Grand Democratic Alliance (GDA).

The consensus among the parties has emerged during a meeting of the steering committee on Monday and the government act in the province. "The recommendations of the committee will be forwarded to the ECP in next 48 hours," they said.

The decision to postpone the local government elections came after the ECP recently issued schedule for the elections.

As per the schedule, the nomination papers for the second phase of local government (LG) polls in Sindh will be submitted to the returning officers (ROs) concerned from June 5 to 11. The names of nominated candidates will be published on June 13.

The scrutiny of nomination papers by ROs will be during June 15-17. The date for filing appeals against the decision of ROs will be June 18-22 while the last date for deciding appeals by the appellate authority will be June 25.

The date for publication of the revised list of candidates will be June 27 while the last date for withdrawal and publication of the revised candidate list will be June 28.

The date for the allotment of symbols to contesting candidates will be June 29 while the elections will be held on July 24 and results will be consolidated by July 28 inP.

Peshawar: Two injured in Yaka Toot bomb blast

PESHAWAR: Two persons sustained injuries in a bomb explosion outside a house on Yaka Toot area here on Monday.

According to police sources, the bomb blast was reported outside the house of a woman. The woman and two persons were injured in the blast, the police said.

The interior ministry shall provide secretarial support to the committee, it said.

The notification added that the committee will also be allowed to co-opt eminent jurists, representatives of human rights organizations and other members "it deems appropriate".

The development comes after IHC Chief Justice Athar Minallah, in a 18-page order on Sunday, directed the federal government to serve notices on former president retired Gen Pervez Musharraf and all successors in chief executive officer Imran Khan and incumbent premier Shehbaz Sharif, for following an "undeclared tacit approval of the policy regarding enforced disappearances".

SHC issues show-cause notice to IG Sindh in Dua Zehra case

KARACHI: The Sindh High Court (SHC) on Monday issued a show-cause notice to Inspector General of Police (IG) Sindh Dr Kamran Fazal over the death of girl Dua Zehra, who claimed to have married a youngster Zabeer Ahmed out of her own free will.

Advocate General Sindh while sharing details of the efforts made to recover the girl said before the court that her location has been traced to Minserina.

"It appears that some cops are helping her after information of police raid was leaked to them, resulting in their escape from the location," he said and asked the court to summon DIG Hazara and issue a show-cause notice to her recovery.

The AG Sindh said that some lawyers and policemen are also supporting the girl "IG Sindh is in contact with the officials in Hazara, who have assured that they would recover the girl in a day or two," he said.

Justice Iqbal Khatiro responded to the remarks and said it is the responsibility of the Sindh police to recover the girl rather than shifting the blame to others. "Next time you could say that the girl's location has been traced from Afghanistan. What will we do then?" he said and admonished the police for their lack of implementation of court orders for the last 21 days.

Justice Agha Raza said during the hearing said that the court is issuing a show-cause notice to the IG Sindh and will issue an order in this regard shortly. "If the girl is recovered by Friday, we will withdraw our show-cause notice," he said inP.

Hot and Dry weather to persist in several Sindh districts

KARACHI: Very hot and dry weather will persist over central and upper Sindh with daytime maximum temperature range 46-48 Celsius, the Met Office on Monday said in a weather report.

According to Pakistan Meteorological Department. The maximum temperature will be 46-48 Celsius in Jacobabad, Larkana, Deora, Qambar-Shahdadkot, Shikarpur, Sukkur, Nawabshah and Khairpur districts. Hyderabad, Mirpurkhas, and Tharheadquarters to experience maximum temperature between 42-44 Celsius Karachi is experiencing a hot, humid and windy weather with maximum temperature remains between 34-36 degree Celsius today. Minimum temperature will remain 28 degree Celsius in the port city.

Humidity will be 75 percent, while the wind direction in the city will be westerly or southwesterly according to a weather forecast.

Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) had earlier announced heave alert for various districts of central and upper Sindh.

The PDMA had advised concerned departments and district authorities to keep alert to tackle any contingency inP.

Woman 'gang-raped' on board Karachi-bound train by ticket-checkers

KARACHI: A Karachi woman was allegedly gang-raped by ticket-checkers on board the Bahauddin Zakariya Express between Karachi and Multan railway stations.

The FIR, the incident occurred on May 27 when the victim, who hails from Karachi's Orangi Town, boarded the train from Multan railway station for Karachi.

The woman went to Multan to meet his children.

The FIR stated that the woman passenger purchased an economy class ticket for Karachi and when the Bahauddin Zakariya Express reached near Rohri station, two ticket-checkers gave an official allegedly forced her into a trap of offering a seat in the AC bogie.

The ticket-checkers and an official took the woman to an AC compartment of a bogie with her husband and she was gang-raped by crew members, the FIR stated.

After reaching the Karachi railway station, the woman explained the ordeal to the police and lodged a case against the suspects.

Inspector General (IG) Railways Faizal Shahkar took notice of the incident and formed a special team. He ordered authorities to arrest suspects inP.



QUETTA: Balochistan Professor and Lecture Association president Prof Hameed Ullah addressing a press conference.

Nimra tells SHC: No one kidnapped her, she married as per her choice

KARACHI: Nimra Kazmi appeared in the Sindh High Court (SHC) along with her husband on Monday and stated that she married as per her choice and no one had kidnapped her.

"You will have to stay in Karachi for two or three days. Your medical examination will be carried out to ascertain your real age. If you are 18 years old, you will be allowed to go with your husband," the court told the girl.

The court ordered the authorities concerned to send Nimra Kazmi to a shelter home. The court also directed medical examination of Nimra Kazmi.

It is to be noted here that the name of Nimra Kazmi came to the limelight after the news of her elopement with a friend in Punjab for love-marriage was broadcasted by national media Nimra's family under the Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act.

The SHC on Monday conducted hearing of the petition during which the girl refuted the allegations of abduction and stated that she married as per her choice.

The Sindh IG Police and additional IG Police also appeared before the court for hearing of the case.

Earlier, the SHC on Friday had given the last chance to the Sindh IG Police to produce the girl before the court. Nimra's family had filed a petition in the SHC for her recovery and the cancellation of her marriage under the Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act.

The SHC on Monday conducted hearing of the petition during which the girl refuted the allegations of abduction and stated that she married as per her choice.

The Sindh IG Police and additional IG Police also appeared before the court for hearing of the case inP.

SHC moved against tree felling for Red Line BRT corridor

KARACHI: A petition was filed in the Sindh High Court (SHC) on Monday against the cutting down of hundreds of fully grown trees to Karachi by authorities to make way for Red Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project.

The petition was filed by advocates Shah Nawaz and Mohin Abbas in SHC. Administrator Karachi Muratza Walid filed the Sindh government and others have been made respondents in the plea.

The petition stated that hundreds of old trees were cut down in the jurisdiction of Cantonment Board Malir (CBM) to make way for the Red Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project and overall 50,000 trees would be cut on the route of BRT project.

The Sindh government recently started construction work on Karachi's Red Line BRT project and in the first phase, the route from Tank Chowk near Malir Halt to Safoora Chowringhi will be completed. The transport authorities recently cut down trees in the jurisdiction of CBM for BRT project and also plan to cut around 50,000 trees for the 25-km project ending at Numaish Chowringhi," it added.

The applicants have urged the provincial government from cutting more trees as the step will further increase temperature in the city facing climate challenges. Recently, Trans Karachi's Public Services Company established and owned by the Government of Sindh to carry out the project implementation of the Karachi Red Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project, has initiated a tree plantation drive across Karachi. The Sindh government recently started construction work on Karachi's Red Line BRT project, according to Trans Karachi - the operator of Karachi Breeze System inP.

Trade with India about to begin, claims Sheikh Rashid

ISLAMABAD: Awami Muslim League (AML) chief Sheikh Rashid announced on Monday that trade with India has been built with Irand at the best of imperialist powers and trade with India is about to begin.

The former interior minister said, "What will Shehbaz Sharif, who could not bring back his brother in four years on the gains of Rs50 crore stamp, give to the nation?"

He claimed that distances with Iran and China were about to widen. "Ours has made his son the chief minister, another has made his son the foreign minister, and third one has made his son the communications minister. This was the alliance of the three political rats."

Sheikh Rashid said that the poor people were dying of loadshedding, inflation, unemployment, which they [new government] no longer cared about.

He added that people like Rana Sanaullah had been hired to suppress the nation with bullets, batons and tear gas.

"Now, 8 to 12 hours loadshedding is not their problem. Their problem is to get their cases removed from NAB, FIA and ANF, and work on the removal of those cases is fast underway," Sheikh Rashid alleged.

"The government with one-voice majority will collapse at any moment," he claimed. "Keeping 10 million overseas Pakistanis away from politics and on the gains of Rs50 crore stamp, give to the nation?"

The Supreme Court for the right of overseas Pakistanis to vote," he declared, adding "Overseas Pakistanis are the only ones who can save the democracy from a catastrophe when assembly members are on sale for Rs200-250 million."

Sheikh Rashid said that the first episode of increase in petrol and electricity prices had just arrived, adding that the second episode would come between June 5 and 25.

"People will take to the streets themselves and break the chains of slavery," he said, adding that the collapse of the government was inevitable inP.



RAWALPINDI: Additional Secretary Ministry of Defence Pakistan Rear Admiral Faisal Amin in group photo Maj Gen Dr Rodon Pedron, Director General Strategic Defence Ministry of Defence Republic of Indonesia.