WWW Https:// www.quettavoice.com/

Email adderss: quettavoice@gmail.com

> Tuesday 07 June ,2022

**ABC** Certified

Editor : Asim Khan









Bani Gala was headquarters for corrupt practices during PTI govt's term: Maryam Nawaz



Imran sold national interests for 5-carat diamond rings: Marriyum Aurangzeb

# Balochistan districts: Hub, Karezat and Usta Muhammad made new districts

Syed Ali Shah, Manan Mandokhail

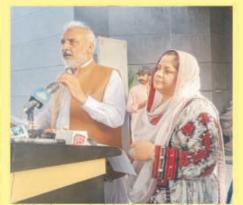
QUETTA: Balochistan government has given the approval for the establishment of three new districts in the province. The dis-tricts include Hub, Karezat and Osta Muhammad, Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran, the provincial minister told a news confer-

the provincial minister told a news conference on Monday.

He said Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Quddus Bizenjo led the provincial cabinet meeting, which approved the establishment of three new districts. With the approval of three new districts, the number of districts reached 37 throughout Balochistan.

Also Read: Balochistan cabinet to take oath on November 7

The Balochistan cabinet also announced to cut expenditures by 50 percent as a part of an austerity drive across the country to overcome the financial crisis. "Not only fuel, but we have also decreased expenditures by 50 percent", Sardar Khetran mentioned. He said the present government was trying hard to the present government was trying hard to reduce non-development expenditures to improve the financial position of the province.100 BHUs upgraded to the status of



RHCsThe provincial ministers addressed a press conference about the Balochistan cabinet and briefed the media about the decisions made by the cabinet. The provincial cabinet approved the up-gradation of 100 basic health units to the status of rural health

centers across Balochistan.
Sardar Khetran informed that the cabinet has also approved the reinstatement of 361

works department. "Very soon, the Chief Minister would distribute orders among the employees", the provincial minister men-

tioned.

CM to handover orders to 361 sacked employees C&W
The minister stated that the cabinet

The minister stated that the cabinet approved the permanent appointment of the Balochistan Development Authority (BDA) employees who were working on a contractual basis. "This government wants to support the government employees", he added.

The Balochistan government also decided to hand over 177 community water supply schemes in Quetta to the Water and Sanitation Authority (WASA). "This will improve the provision of clean drinking water to citizens", Sardar Khetran stated.

The cabinet adopted the Balochistan Food Authority (BFA) bill 2022. The cabinet approved the establishment of the judicial complex in Sariab to address the grievances of the masses. The mines and mineral department bill was amended and amendments were also made to the inheritance certificate. "We have decided to increase the pension by "We have decided to increase the pension by 10 percent", he mentioned.



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Japanese investors and representatives of Japanese companies operating in Pakistan called on Prime Minister Shehbaz

## Three died, six injured in a traffic accident in Khuzdar district

From Our Correspondent

At least three people died and six were injured in a traffic accident in Balochistan's Khuzdar district on Monday. Levies sources said a pas-senger van collided with a truck loaded with stones in the district. Three people died on the spot and six people suffered injuries. The injured were evacuated by the medical emergency response center for medical treatment to its nearby center. The condition of the two injured people is stated to be serious. The passenger was severely damaged in the traffic accident.





ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division, Shazia Marri chairs meeting with world bank's implementation support mission for Crisis-Resilient Social Protection (crisp) and National Social Protection Programe (NSSP) at BISP headquarters.

## Bani Gala was headquarters for corrupt practices during PTI govt's term: Maryam Nawaz

LAHORE: PML-N Vice President Maryam Nawaz Sharif on Monday criticised PTI Chairman Imran Khan and said that his residence of Bani Gala had been the "headquarters for corrupt practices" during the PTI's government's tenure

Addressing the PML-N's social media team here, Maryam talked about the alleged audio recording between real-estate tycoon Malik Riaz and his daughter that had emerged one day prior, according to which former first lady Bushra Bibi had refused to accept a three-carat diamond ring and had instead demanded a five-carat one from the Riaz clan.

Shedding light on the allegations of corruption levelled against Farah Khan aka Farah Gogi — a close aide of Bushra Bibi who flew to Dubai back in April — Maryam said that she acted as Imran Khan's frontwoman

"This is a small case which is enough to open the eyes of the nation and the world. Everyone should know the extent of bribery that took place [under Imran Khan's nose] for each job placement, appointment, or transfer in Punish "sho added"

Talking about the previous government's performance, the PML-N leader said that Khan not only failed to deliver in the last four years but could not present an account of his performance during his tenure either. She added that the country was about to default and the foreign exchange reserves were empty because of Khan's ineffective economic

"The previous government wreaked havoc on every sector and incidents involving terrorism witnessed a rise," she said, adding that Pakistan was at a stage where PML-N was not concerned with politics but was worried about saving the country.

Commenting on the rising inflation in the country and the increased prices of petrol, the PML-N vice president added that the coalition government had to make hard decisions due to the agreement between Khan and

#### A woman killed during exchange of fire between 2 groups in Harnai

Hanif Tareen

A woman was killed during an exchange of fire between two armed groups in Balochistan's



Harnai district on Monday. Levies sources said armed took a place in the Pir Shair area of Harnai district Intense firing was reported between the two groups over an old tribal dispute in the area, Levies said. The firing left a woman dead on the spot. The dead body of the woman was shifted to district headquarters hospital Harnai. Tribal elders and religious scholars reached the area and convinced the two warring groups to end the exchange of fire. A huge contingent of levies also reached the spot to avert another untoward incident in the aftermath of the killing of a woman. The situation was tense in the aftermath of the killing of a woman in the Harnai

#### German FM due in Islamabad today

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister of Germany Annalena Minister of Germany Annaiena Baerbock is arriving in Pakistan on Tuesday on a two-day official visit, at the invitation of Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

This will be FM Baerbock's maiden visit to Pakistan, the Foreign Office said Monday.

During the visit, the two foreign ministers will hold delegationlevel talks on the entire range of bilateral matters and exchange views on regional and global issues

Foreign Minister Baerbock will also call on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

Germany is a valued partner of Pakistan, both bilaterally and in the context of the European Union. The two countries have long-standing, cordial relations marked by mutual respect and close cooperation. The two sides attach special importance to strengthening bilateral cooperation in diverse fields including trade and investment, energy, defence, and people-topeople contacts.

Pakistan and Germany completed 70 years of diplomatic ties in 2021. This milestone was celebrated by the two sides in a befitting manner, with a series of events held in Pakistan and Germany.

The visit of the FM Baerbock is part of regular high-level exchanges between the two countries and is expected to impart further boost to the multi-faceted Pakistan-Germany relationship.INP

# Landslide kills two coal miners in Dukki Balochistan

Hussain Zarkoon

A landslide killed two coal miners in Balochistan's Dukki district on Monday evening.
Police sources said the coal
miners were working deep
inside the mine when the landslide hit them. Both the miners were dead on the spot

Rescue workers and fellow miners reached the affected mine and retrieved the dead bodies of the victims. The coal miners were identified as Murtaza and Salahuddin, the



president of district Killa Abdullah. The dead bodies were shifted to district headquarters hospital Dukki. The hospital administration handed over the dead bodies to the heirs after the completion of necessary official procedures. Landsliding and other incidents inside coal mines of Dukling and other parts. mines of Dukki and other parts of Balochistan have claimed thousands of precious human lives. Especially, such incidents have become the order of the day in Balochistan's Dukki dis-trict, which has rich coal reser-

## JUI PKMAP form an alliance for second, third phase of LBs in Balochistan

Manan Mandokhail

QUETTA: Jamiat ul Pashtoonkhwa Milli Awami Party (PKMAP) formed an alliance for the second and third phases of the local bodies elections in the province. Addressing a joint press conference, JUI F. Amir. Balochistan F Amir Balochistan and federal minister, Maulana Abdul Wasey and Senior Deputy Chairman of the PKMAP, Abdul Rahim

the formation of the "We will bring joint candidates for union councils, tehsil, and

Ziaratwal announced



Balochistan", Maulana Abdul Wasey told reporters. Other leaders of the two parties were also present on

the occasion.
The two parties have also formed commit-tees to discuss modalities and the method to make the alliance a success, Abdul Rahim Ziaratwal stated.

The two parties have won majority seats in

Killa Abdullah, Pishin

Ziarat, Killa Saifullah and other parts of northern Balochistan.

northern Balochistan.
"This alliance would prove to be a positive stride", Maulana Wasey said. The leaders of the two parties including a religious and nationalist party urged their workers and leaders to forget unity and foil what they call the conspiracies of others. cies of others

## Imran sold national interests for 5-carat diamond rings: Marrivum Aurangzeb

ISLAMABAD: Federal Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb Monday said that PTI chairman Imran Khan sold the national interests for the sake of national interests for the sake of five-carat diamond rings, referring to the alleged leaked audio of property tycoon with his daughter in which both were talking about some diamond ring in exchange for getting some benefits.

The information minister said that Imran Khan was busy in his era to make money in the nexus of Farah Gogi and former first lady Bushra bibi.

Defending the advertisement to

Defending the advertisement to newspapers, Marriyum Aurangzeb said, "I have the prerogative to give the advertisements to the media on the completion of the 75 years of diplomacy as it was an important pilestone." important milestone."
She said that PML-N has been

clearing the mess of PTI and on the directions of PM Shehbaz Sharif the incumbent government is also paying the backlog of Rs3.28 billion due to the media

industry pending since the PTI era.
"The PMLN only give adver-tisements on the completion of Pak-Turkey relationships. But the PTI went to the court against these advertisements and from there as well they returned empty handed and gave the impression that they are against the Pak-Turk ties," she

She alleged that Imran Khan looted the Tosha Khana and used the PMO for his personal use.

The information minister

claimed that Imran Khan made the rich country poor and unemployed where foreign investors did not come in his four years of govern-ment.INP

## Govt to raise salaries only after getting nod from IMF

ISLAMABAD: The government is contemplating on a suggestion to give a 5% to 15% raise in the salaries of its employees and pensioners but the decision will be subject to the IMF approval.

Sources say that the government has got readied three proposals regarding federal budget and government employees' salaries and

ernment employees' salaries and pensions

According to the proposals put forward by the finance division, a 5% to 15% raise in salaries and pensions has been suggested.

A 5pc to 10pc increase is suggested for employees working in grades up to BS 19 under the head of ad hoc allowance, while 10% to 15% increase has been suggested for government officials working in BS 20-22.

Similarly, the government mulls raising pension of its retired employees by 5% to 10%.

But sources informed that the

But sources informed that the government would implement these proposals if the International Monetary Fund approves them.

The Pay and Pension Commission would forward its report to the government.Increase in tax on annual income exceeding Rs1 million

On the other hand, the govern-ment is fully kowtowing to the IMF and is willing to accept all of

its harsh conditions.

According to FBR sources, in the forthcoming budget, the government is going to withdraw all concessions in the income tax. It is considering to raise tax on an annual income exceeding Rs1 mil-

The government is also mulling to increase taxes on the online gaming, TikTok and other social

media sources.

The FBR sources further revealed that there is suggestion to raise taxes on YouTube payments made inside the country. INP

## Loadshedding to be reduced to 3.5 hours from Today: Shahid Khaqan Abbasi

PML-N leader and former prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi said on Monday that the duration of loadshedding would be reduced to three-anda-half hours from tomorrow (Tuesday).

He made the announcement while addressing a press conference along-side State Minister for Petroleum Musadik Malik, Minister for Power Khurram Dastgir Khan and Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb Abbasi began the press conference by presenting the reasons for the energy shortfall, holding the former government responsible. The country's electricity demand has exceeded 25,000MW during the summer, he

He highlighted that when the current government assumed charge, the electricity generation capacity was at 17,000MW which was increased to more than 21,000MW over the past three weeks.

He went on to say that the government and cabinet were sorry for the current loadshedding but asked for time to resolve the existing issues.

"Today, we are producing 21,000MW which means we have a shortfall of 4,000MW," he said, adding that this translated into a little more than

four hours of loadshedding to fill the supply and demand gap.

We have decided that from tomorrow (Tuesday) we will reduce loadshedding to three-and-a-half hours, he said, adding that additional money had been paid while oil had also been arranged to ensure this. "We are hopeful that by tomorrow loadshedding will be reduced to 3.5 hours.



In the next phase when coal is imported, the duration of loadshedding will further reduce by June 16, he said. "By June 30, the duration will be less than two hours, close to an hour-and-a-half."

He expressed the hope that the government would be able to reduce this

further during the month of July.

The PML-N leader further said that the government was not interested

in making excuses and was focused on fixing the issues plaguing the coun-

He lashed out at the former government for the lies it told regarding establishing power plants, saying that Pakistan was unable to fulfil its electricity demand for the summer. The press conference comes days after the conference comes days after the conference comes days after the conference come up with an Prime Minis-ter Shehbaz Sharif dire-cted authorities to come up with an 'emergency plan" within 24 hours that was aimed at reducing electricity loadshedding. He had issued the directives while presiding over a meeting on Saturday. The meeting came amid reports about hours-long loadshedding in various parts of the country, leaving the people to suffer in high temperatures. The meeting which lasted five hours reviewed the loadshedding situation in the country and discussed measures to reduce the electricity shortfall.Over the weekend, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif had suggested the nation take advantage of "365 days of sunshine" and operate markets in the daytime as opposed to the convention of "opening markets at 1pm and closing them at 1am". Web Desk

# QUETTA VOICE Editor Asim Khan

## LBs results Balochistan: independents won thumping majority

Independents' overwhelming majority in the recently held local bodies elections in Balochistan put a question mark over the performance of political parties. In a major shift, so far, independents have won 1882 seats of councilors across Balochistan.

Around a dozen political parties have won less than, the independents' seats as per the unofficial and unconfirmed results of over 3,000 seats. Over 17,000 candidates were contesting for 4,556 councilors' seats in 32 districts

Independents' victory gives more questions than answers. Despite being in politics for decades, why have the political parties failed to reach out to the masses at the grassroots level? LBs polls portray a true political picture of Balochistan since no serious allegations of elections fraud were reported and no major untoward incident took a place. In the past, elections in Balochistan were always marred by major terror attacks against candidates

Also, read this: LBs polls Balochistan: Independents secure more seats

than 10 political parties

Almost all political parties accepted the results and declared victories in their respective strongholds. When we speak about independents, it means we speak about individuals and personalities. When individuals and personalities penetrate among the masses and address their issues, then, the maior-

affites penetrate among the masses and address their issues, then, the majority of the people set aside political ideologies. This is a bitter reality in today's politics. Some may not agree with this.

Look at the victory of Maulana Hidayat ur Rehman's Gwadar Right Movement, which swept elections in Gwadar confronting the four-parties alliance including the Balochistan National Party (Mengal), National Party (NP), Jamiat ul Ulema e Islam (JUI) and Pakistan National Party (PNP).

Indeed, no dearth of political workers who ignore perks and privileges and toe their respective political parties' ideological lines. Although, recent poll results show, that the number of such political workers was less

The political parties have to revisit and review their strategy in this regard. Above all, the elections were peaceful except few violent acts among rival political groups in Chaghi, Noshki, Dera Murad Jamal, and Chaman. By and large, the government and masses succeeded in holding peaceful elections.

Continuity of the system will improve the system further. Now it is about time to grant all constitutional, administrative and financial powers to the local governments so that they could serve the country and nation in a bet-

# Harmonizing the sales tax

The 18th Amendment to the constitution had a profound impact on the legal and political framework of the country. Among other measures leading to the long-await-ed provincial autonomy, amendment led to drastic changes in the sales tax system of the country As part of the overarching endeavor to achieve fiscal autonomy for the provinces, the sales tax on services was specifically excluded from the federal legislative domain, making it a provincial subject. This devolution of power caused major legislative and structural changes in the sales tax system, with provincial governments enacting their own laws and establishing provin-cial authorities for the administration of sales tax on services. Without denying the instrumental role of the provincialization of sales tax on services in strengthening the provincial economies, the ramifications of the fragmented sales tax system in the form of increasing conflicts between the provinces among them-selves and with the centre, yielding problems for business entities, cannot be ignored. The disparities in the design, structure, and operation of different sales tax regimes have compliance for businesses exceedingly complex. First, the splittax on goods and services has resulted in multiplicity of sales tax jurisdic-tions. Under the current system, a business operating all over Pakistan in goods and services has to account for registration, sales tax returns, and other compliances before five different tax authorities. In addition to making compliance difficult, this has also caused a spike in the compliance costs. Already burdened with extensive compliances under other tax laws, the barrage of compliance under provincial sales tax enactments has added insult to injury for the businesses. Second, the lack of understanding between the centre and the provinces over a uniform definition of goods and services has resulted in urisdictional conflicts. Consequently, the taxajurisdictional tion of businesses involv-

ing the supply of goods as well as provision of serv-ices - industrial vending, food supply/restaurants, construction businesses, fashion designing etc often results in a tax war situation between the federal and provincial authorities Likewise, the differences among the provinces over the classification of services and the applicability of origin/destination principles gives rise to the demand of tax on a single service by multiple jurisdictions. Use of different Pakistan Customs Tariff (PCT) codes by the provinces for the same services also gives rise to tax disputes. Third, inter-jurisdic-

tional variations in tax rates, exemptions, assessment processes and systemic procedures, have damaged the uniformity and consistency of the sales tax system in the country. The regulatory regimes and domestic institutional structures of a country being the major factors considered by foreign investors, the current sales tax system has gravely impaired the prospects of foreign investment in the country Rated 108 on the Ease of Doing Business Index (EDBI) as per the Doing Business 2019 report (most recent) issued by the World Bank, Pakistan has made zero progress towards improving the ease of doing business environment for more than a decade. Rather, the Paying Taxes rating of Pakistan has gone from 18 in 2011 to 30 in 2019, indicating an increase in compliance difficulties of taxpayers Policymakers and the business community concede to the idea that harmonization of different sales tax regimes can be an effective tool to deal with the issues in the current sales tax system. Along with reducing compliance cost for the businesses harmonization can also benefit state institutheir administrative costs and dealing with the tax collection inefficiencies. Further, increased effi-ciency, uniformity, and consistency of the sales tax system as a result of harmonization shall also improve Pakistan's rating on the EDBI.

Notably, the efforts towards the harmoniza-tion of sales tax in Pakistan commenced in December 2019 on the recommendations from International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. In March 2020, the federal and the provincial tax authorities mutually established the National Tax Council (NTC) as a national body tasked with resolving the issues in the current sales tax system. The responsi-bilities of the NTC include harmonizing the sales tax rates applicable to goods and services for the entire country, formulating model sales tax laws on goods and services along with precise definitions of goods and services, principles gov-erning the place of supply, rules for exemptions, apportionment of sales tax on services for interprovincial trade, data harmonization and other related matters. Halted by the pandemic for a long period, the harmonization efforts resumed with the first-ever meeting of the NTC on September 2, 2021. At the second meeting of the NTC held on

September 16, 2021 the federation and the provinces developed a consensus on a single por-tal system for the filing of sales tax returns along with other issues including taxation rights on the construction business, toll manufacturing, restaurants, and transportation In January 2022, the Federal Board of Revenue launched National Sales Tax Return (NSTR) calling it a "sig-nificant milestone towards automation and data integration in order to facilitate the taxpayers, promote ease of doing business, and reduce compliance costs", and also signed an MOU with the Board Central Revenue, Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJ&K) for extension of the NSTR to

Despite the develop-ment with the consensus of and agreements signed by the provinces, the implementation of the NSTR has not yet been possible and taxpayers are still required to file sales tax returns with respective provincial authorities. Importantly, the major obstacle in the way of the implementation of the NSTR is the lack of legal backing that is possible only through amendments in the provincial sales tax laws. Therefore, until the legislative reforms are brought, the centre and the provinces may proceed to undertake.

# A change for the worse

Prior to the exit of Imran Khan, in 1989 a no-trust motion was voted upon against the-then prime minister Benazir Bhutto. The contrasting manners in which the ruling party of the day reacted to the notrust motion on each occasion is a grim pointer to the direction in which our politics has moved since 1989 - by all accounts, a turn for

the worse. In a parliamentary democracy, the executive is the creation of parlia-ment. Being the chief executive, the prime executive, the prime minister must enjoy the confidence of the majority of the popularly-elect-ed legislature – in our case the National case the National Assembly. That is the reason one of the first agenda items after the election of the presiding officers in a newly elect-ed parliament is to ascertain who enjoys the confidence of the majority of

the members. In some countries, as in India, the prime minister is appointed by the president. After his/her appointment, the prime minister is bound to seek vote of confidence from the popular chamber within the stipulated period. In case he fails to do so, he has to call it quits. In India, in 1996, Atal Bihari Vajpayee stepped down as premier only a fortnight after being sworn in having failed to win the vote of confidence from the Lok

Taking due cognizance of this fundamental con-vention of parliamentary

form of government, Article 91 (3) of the constitution of Pakistan states: "After the election of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker, the National Assembly shall, to the exclusion of any other business, proceed to elect without debate one of its Muslim members to be the Prime Minister." Clause (4) of the same article adds: "The Prime Minister shall be elected by the votes of the majority of

the total membership of the National Assembly." Logically, if the National Assembly by a majority can elect a member as prime minister, it can also vote them out. Hence, Article 95 of the constitution stipulates that if a motion of no-confidence is passed by a majority of the total membership of the National Assembly, the prime minister shall cease to hold office. Thus the popularly elected assembly's power to vote out the prime minister is an essential, non-nego-tiable feature of parliamentary democracy

Coming back to Pakistan, in a power struggle, prime ministers generally been whumped by powerful presidents. However, prior to April 10, 2022 no prime minister had ever been voted out on the floor of the house. The only prime minister who had come close to being voted out was Benazir Bhutto.

The election of the charismatic Benazir Bhutto in 1988 marked the eclipse of a long, dark era of despotism, against which she had spearheaded a popular movement. Though it had emerged as the single largest party in the national elections, her party, the PPP, fell short clear majority and could form the govern-ment only with the help of smaller/regional parties and independents, and having reached a power-sharing deal with the then president and other powerful stake-holders. However, all along the weak coalition hung by a thread.

Things came to a head in 1989 when the opposi-tion tabled a non-confidence motion against Benazir Bhutto. In view of the thin majority of the ruling coalition in the National Assembly, the outcome of the motion was anybody's guess. That said, Benazir Bhutto dealt with the opposition's move with all grace and dignity befitting a democratically elected leader. At no point did she term the motion an international being a leader of international stature, she could have contrived a conspiracy theory without much ado. Her father Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, it may be mentioned, is widely believed to have been a victim of such a conspir-

Nor did she, or any other leader from her party, use abusive language against her oppo-nents, much less accuse them of being morally bankrupt or traitors. She did strongly criticize the opposition for what she called their undemocratic tactics and allegedly trying to purchase loyalties of her parliamentarians. In return, she took the flak for having allegedly resorted to similar tactics. At that time, constitution didn't embody provisions against floor-crossing by the legislators and so they were absolutely free to move from one party to another. It is widely believed

ting of sales tax into sales

that the strings of the opposition, which was led by the then Punjab chief minister and future prime minister Nawaz Sharif, were pulled by the then president Ghulam Ishaq Khan (GIK). But Benazir Bhutto didn't point an accusing finger at state institutions. Nor did she threaten the members of her party who were sus-pected of defecting, or their families, of dire consequences. To top it all, despite being a hugely popular leader, she didn't seek to defeat the no-confidence motion snow strength on the streets. Being a leader who was well-steeped in democratic conventions, she knew well that far from being an aberration, a non-trust motion was an integral part of the parliamentary form of govern-

Equally graceful was the role of the then speaker of the National Assembly and veteran politician, Malik Meraj Khalid, who had already won accolades for con-ducting the business of

By Hussain H Zaidi the house in a completely impartial way, as he was supposed to do as per the spirit of his high office. At no point during the whole episode did he demonstrate that he was taking sides. Instead, he went by the book and allowed the no-trust motion to take its logical course. The highest court of the land didn't have to intervene to ensure that the motion was put to

The no-trust motion was defeated by only 12 votes and Prime Minister Bhutto survived. But the cards had already been stacked against her. In a few months, she was sacked by president GIK by invoking the now-defunct Article 58 (2-b) of the constitution. In a game of fluctuating for-tunes, three years later she was back in the saddle having sunk her dif-ferences with the same Politicians always have more than one bite on the cherry; so political battles may not be taken as a matter of

life and death. logical question which the events preced-ing the exit of Imran Khan has given rise to is this: why has politics become such a squalid affair in Pakistan? Certainly, the advent of the 24/7 TV channels and the presence of a ubiquitous social media provide sufficient ammunition to politicians and their supporters to heap slur on their opponents to their heart's content. But sites of speculatively held vacant plots in the media, mainstream or social, isn't the prime culprit.

# It's come full circle

ith one foot on a banana peel, we are standing at an abyss. PM Shehbaz Sharif and the PML-N face mortal political and economic challenges, and the government has shown little resolve to confront them head-on. Domestic head-on. petroleum prices are up more than 40 per cent within the last few days, and energy prices have quickly followed suit.

tions by cutting down

It is morbidly satisfy-ing that Shehbaz Sharif and the PML-N - of motorway, flyover, and underpass fame -should face rising fuel prices in their ultimate battle for political survival. For decades, our cities have facilitated private car owners at the expense of pedestrians, cyclists, and transit users. The Shehbaz Sharif model of urban development, albeit with different speeds of execution, pervades other political parties and leaders as well; large-scale gray infra-structure like signal free corridors, flyovers, underpasses, and ring roads with obscene levels of service have become the norm in cities around the country. Cities, from Islamabad to Turbat, have become sprawling

shady housing schemes.

This is our real tragedy. Our current economic crisis is our Frankenstein's monster staring right back at us. Consider these examples: Capital Smart City Islamabad is approximately 40 kilo-metres from Blue Area. DHA City Karachi is over 60kms from Frere Hall. These and other projects exclusively target car owners: only the most influential five per cent of our urban popu-

So what to do when the most influential people's financial and residential interests move 50kms from the city's economic hubs? Build expressways, signal-free corridors, ring roads, Lyari Expressways, and Leh Expressways to coddle them. These coddle them. These projects help the elite bypass the city's congestion, often by taking longer Sometimes flyovers and underpasses help address particular points of congestion in the city's road network. As

these projects material-ize, the richest few begin to travel more and more to reach their workplaces, meet friends, or for other everyday tasks. Because there's no public transit

and whatever transit exists is class incompatible - people drive, often in their sparkling

Preparing for

By Faizaan Qayyum The same logic has unfortunately extended to inter-city travel. We have prioritized motorways and highways over railways. Our railways network has shrunk from over 8500kms of tracks in 1950s to around 7,800kms today.

This has been accompanied by a drastic drop in the railways' share of traffic: while the service carried over 86 per cent of all freight traffic in the 1950s, its current thare stands at a meager. share stands at a meager 4-6 per cent. Similarly, Pakistan Railways has gone from the single largest carrier of passen-ger traffic in the 1970s to carrying less than 10 per cent of all passen-

gers today. This drastic decline is coincidental. According to one estimate, the state spent three times as much on intercity road infrastructure than it did on rail-ways. The uniformed state's patronage of entities has combined with private car owners' interests to completely overpower socioeconomíc efficiencies asso-

ciated with rail travel. All these developments are brazen examples of elite capture. Only around 10 per cent of all urban households own cars, and yet all of our cities have seen massive infrastructural investments that favour

# 'Picturesque' protests

In March, as Sri Lanka's economic crisis unfolded, desperate people started gather-ing in front of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa's respective official residences to protest endemic corruption, nepotism and mismanagement in the country.

They set up an encampment on the iconic Galle Face Beach in front of the Parliament, which came to be called GotaGoGama (the village demanding that 'Gota' - President Gotabaya Rajapaksa resign from office). The University Students' Federation joined the protests in massive, well-organ-ised rallies. Hundreds of trade unions called a island-wide general

strike in support. As I monitored international media's coverage of these protests, I quickly recognised some familiar discrepancies often seen in the coverage of such events in the Global South.

Most news sources, for example, initially referred to the people at GotaGoGama encampment as "pro-testers". But as the police and military moved in, deploying tear gas and water cannons, and at times, live bullets against these same people. rather than describing the events as they are attacks on protesters by

security forces - news reports started referring to what was unfolding as 'clashes'

When members of the Rajapaksa family and their political cronies reportedly bussed in their supporters - themselves destitute people paid a few thousand rupees and bottles of arrack - to attack the protest site and destroy the 'village', reports containing references to 'mobs', 'rioters' and 'clashes' further proliferated.

As Dilini Algama, a PhD student of English inguistics at Justus-Liebig-Universitat Giessen in Germany. noted in a conversation on Twitter, it was always clear who was armed, and who insti-gated the violence. Yet German news outlets referred to chaos and 'unruhen', which, explained Algama, can also mean 'riots'. There was "little to no clarification about the violence of pro-governand Rajapaksa groups, or that tear-gas and water cannon toting military provoked and assaulted protestors". Moreover, "phrasing the violence as a 'clash between two groups' delegitimises the protests and equates people practicing their democratic right to protests with the vio-lence of groups dis-patched by the state to

intimidate and stop them", she added. This

is nothing unique to Sri we often see Lanka similar narratives of clashes' and 'riots' in the international coverage of protests and police actions against them across the Global South, most infamously evident in Palestine.

however, the reality of the protests was not only misrepresented through narratives about "clashes". Due to the island's colonial past, and the fact that many Europeans Scandinavians Germans, Russians and Britons - regularly holiday there, other problematic attitudes that reduce the protests into one-dimensional Orientalist fantasies have also crept into the coverage. Sri Lanka's protest

In Sri Lanka's case

movement is idealistic and focused on collective care. Organisers at GotaGoGama, for example, set up a free food station that provides meals for protesters and the destitute, a medical aid tent, and a library, where anyone can come and read books or organise a "People's University" session hosting discussions on social and political issues. The protesters at the village have been consciously and strategically edu-cating each other, through "teach-outs", about the conditions that created this economic crisis, and the way successive leaders

ed each other about the have used nationalism to obtain votes and power. They state's violence against their communities especially violence tar-geting the country's have been working to bring together people who have purposefully, Muslim and Tamil peo-

By M Neelika Jayawardane

and for political ends, been divided across ethnic, religious, and class divides since Sri .anka's independence. The protesters have also put on educational shadow-puppet shows. sung raucous island harm, protest as freely as did the Sinhala in Colombo. They hon-oured the Tamil victims (catchy tunes, often accompanied by cheeky lyrics com-menting on social conof the civil war togethditions), chanted inventive slogans, and made er, and invited the sursome of the most hilarviving families of those forcibly 'disappeared' in the North and the South to speak. ious protest posters I've ever seen.In some international news reports, however, these

strategic and undeni-

ably effective efforts to

bring about change and

bring a nation together

have been portrayed as

youthful naivete, infan-

talising the movement

and making it look somewhat less serious

and impactful than its

protests, people from

different religious and

ethnic groups, who have been trained to be

deeply suspicious of

each other, broke fast

together during the month of Ramadan, celebrated Easter, and

had fun on the Buddhist

holiday Vesak. On a

few occasions, a kat-

tadiya, or an exorcist came to do an exorcism

ceremony to cast out

evil demons from the

island. They've educat-

Western counterparts.

Throughout

Representatives of various religious organisations also attended the protests to bear witness to the events, and try to offer some protection to protesters from the violence of police, Sri Lankan Armed Forces and extrajudicial groups looking to harm them.

Images of Catholic nuns forming human chains to protect protestors were undeniably potent. So were those showing Catholic and Anglican priests, Muslim imams and maulanas, Hindu maulanas, Hindu priests, and Buddhist monks, all in their religious robes sitting together at Galle Face Beach, chatting and sharing views. Together, they have held vigil, overnight, at

the main protest.

ple: Ambika Satkunanathan and othevents unfold over the last ers repeatedly noted why Tamil people, few weeks has painful, primarily especially those in the because Pakistan's priorities North and the East could not, without are all wrong. We are glued to our inviting further state surveillance and bodily phones and television screens, anxiously waiting

for more chaos and drama. With all these distractions like long marches, conspiracy theories, and mindless mudslinging, we are losing sight of reality. And the reality is that Pakistan is on the verge of bankruptcy, closer than it has ever been before. The education system not only lacks structure, it is completely outdated, and the water shortage extremely alarming. While we are caught up in this political tug of war, Pakistan is rapidly nose-diving Instead of focusing on the political circus, let's discuss the most pressing issue Pakistan currently faces.

The first course of action should be to stabilize the economy. Thankfully, the government slashed the subsidy on petroleum products. This is not a long-term solution, but it needed to be done in order to regain stability. While Pakistan must continue to engage with the IMF, it is also important to plead their case smartly during negotiations. One could argue that this deal fails to take context into account. With the withdrawal of

the grind Afghanistan and the war in Ukraine which has sent the global economy into a tailspin, the IMF should seek to take context into considera-

tion, especially for third world countries. However, one has to be realistic. The IMF will continue to be harsh on Pakistan unless we show evidence that we are working towards restructuring our economy. In order to become a

globally competitive economy, Pakistan must introduce market-orientated reforms. There is so much talk about Pakistan's weak export performance. Upon examination, it is clear that the export market is subpar due to deep structural issues. Pakistan's exports have continually fallen behind its South Asian competitors since the early 1990s. Since 1990, Bangladesh's exports have increased 6.2 times compared to Pakistan's,

exports per capita. To strengthen the export market, the current and future leaderships have to make unpopular decisions and stick to them. Over the years, governments have continued to dole out large export subsidies without a shred of evidence that these subsidies have helped boost exports. Going forward, governments have no choice but to bite the bullet and say no to special interests. For

By Humayun Gauhar example, instituting a land tax and rationalizing agriculture to create efficient farming choices can be done. However, sticking to the policy and carrying through requires courage from the government, and support from the public. To achieve long-term economic stability, Pakistan must have the will to put the interests of the people ahead of the privileged few. That means taking bold decisions, like

removing land subsides and

charging for excessive water

We also know that the economy cannot be restructured if political instability continues. Now more than ever, principles need to be put above petty political feuds. Pakistan must take a leaf out of Bangladesh's book, as it shows that you don't need complete, but just semi political stability and continuity to achieve economic growth. For that to happen, Pakistan needs to get past the first hurdle. Political tumult and confrontation has done nothing but create hardship and upset. The people have had

enough. Pakistan needs to prepare itself for a hard grind. With the steep rise in inflation, there is bound to be more social unrest around the corner. It is highly doubtful that the politicians will tone down their rhetoric and work together.

## NAB initiates inquiry into Rs2 bn corruption allegations in KP covid fund

PESHAWAR: The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Monday commenced the investigation after alleged corruption of Rs 2 billion in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa covid fund.

covid fund.

Sources privy to the matter said that, NAB KP launched an investigation and has also seized the records from the health department.

It has been decided by the NAB to summon National Assembly members over the charge of illegally benefiting the companies of millions of

rupees through covid fund, while statements of some members of the KP Assembly, government officials and health department officials have also been recorded, sources added.

Earlier, a special audit report of the Auditor General had also identi-fied serious financial irregularitues KP covid fund amounting to over Rs2.9 billion in procurement of Corona tests, safety kits, medicines, machinery and equip-

The report also stated that, illegal companies

owned by the elected members of the National Assembly were given benefits and irregularities through suspicious pur-chase of cardiac monitor and other necessary devices. It has been decided by the NAB to sum-mon National Assembly members over the charge of illegally benefiting the companies of millions of rupees through covid fund, while statements of some members of the KP Assembly, government officials and health department officials have also been recorded, sources added INP

## CJCSC Gen Raza says 'unnecessary views' on Pakistan's nuclear programme should be avoided

R A W A L P I N D I: Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (JCSC) General Nadeem Raza on Monday said "unneces-sary and unfounded views" on Pakistan's on Pakistan's nuclear programme should be avoided, adding that Pakistan is a responsible nuclear

power.
According to the InterServices Public Relations
(ISPR), his comments
came during a keynote
address delivered at a
seminar on "Regional
Environment and
Imperatives of Security"
at the NUST Institute of
Policy Studies (NIPS) in
Islamabad.
The seminar was

The seminar was attended by students, academics and distinguished experts from different parts of the country, the ISPR said.

Commenting on the regional security environ-ment, General Raza, who is also the deputy chair-man of the National Command Authority (NCA), reiterated the significance of Pakistan's nuclear capability as the guarantor of deterrence and defence of Pakistan.

"Pakistan's nuclear programme enjoys across-the-board support of all political parties and the people of Pakistan. The NCA, with all its political and military leadership, stands firm for the strategic pro-gramme," he said.

He asserted that national security is indivisible and assured that under no circumstances shall Pakistan allow a compro-mise on its nuclear program. "Pakistan is a confident and responsible nuclear power. It pursues the policy of full-spec-trum deterrence within the precincts of credible minimum deterrence. Our national security and safety architecture meets all national and interna-tional obligations and caters for all kinds of sce-narios."He went on to say that as a norm in other nuclear-capable nations,

"unnecessary and unfounded views on the unfounded views on the strategic program should be avoided". When necessary, NCA is the right forum to issue specific responses or views. "The statement by the top military official comes after PTI Chairman Imran Khan had urged the military establishment to make the "right decisions". In an interview with anchorperson Sami Abraham for Bol News programme "Tajzia', the PTI chief had warned that if Pakistan were to lose if Pakistan were to lose its nuclear deterrence, it would fragment into

"three pieces".

Imran had gone on to say that the current political situation was a prob-lem for the country as well as the establishment. which has consistently claimed it is neutral as the country goes through political upheaval since the filing of the no-confidence motion against the former premier on March

"If the establishment doesn't make the right decisions then I can assure [you] in writing that [before everyone else] they and the army will be destroyed because what will become of the country if it goes bank-rupt," he said.

"Pakistan is going towards a default. If that happens then which insti-tution will be [worst] hit? The army. After it is hit, what concession will be taken from us? Denuclearisation," Imran said. "If the right deci-sions aren't made at this time then the country is going towards suicide," he added Politicians from the ruling coalition had castigated Imran for his remarks while Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had accused him of "making naked threats against the country" and deeming him unfit for public office.INP



ISLAMABAD: People busy in evning walk at trail 5 in Federal Capital.

### PTI MPs kept speaker waiting; didn't turn up to confirm resignations

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf's members of National Assembly on Monday did not turn up at the Speaker's chamber to personally confirm their resignations.

National Assembly

firm their resignations.

National Assembly
Speaker Raja Pervaiz
Ashraf has summoned 30
PTI MNAs at his chamber
at 11am for the confirmation of their resignations
submitted on April 11
ahead of the election of
new Prime Minister
Shehbaz Sharif.

The speaker waited for

The speaker waited for more than an hour for the PTI MNAs but not a single lawmaker showed up. Every MNA was supposed to be given 5 minutes for the confirmation or rejection of his resignation.

However, the PTI leadership has directed its lawmakers not to appear
before the speaker, who is
set to start verifying the
resignations of 131 PTI
lawmakers from today.

All PTI MNAs resigned
en masse after their government's ouster in April.
However, the speaker
wanted them to appear in
person to confirm the "voluntary character and genuineness" of their resignation letters. The coalition
government does not want
to accept the resignations to accept the resignations in one go in order to avoid putting extra burden on the Election Commission of Pakistan. So it was decided that the speaker would summon 30 MNAs today for the confirmation of

their resignations and the entire exercise of accepting 131 MNAs' resignations would be completed in four to five days. The 30 MNAs who were summoned to personally confirm their resignations today included: Dr Haider Ali Khan (NA-2), Saleem Rehamn (NA-3), Murad Saeed (NA-4), Sahibzada Sibghatullah (NA-5), Mehmood Shah (NA-6), Muhammad Bashir Khan (NA-7), Junaid their resignations and the (NA-6), Muhammad Bashir Khan (NA-7), Junaid Akbar (NA-8), Sher Akbar Khan (NA-9), Prince Muhammad Nawaz Allai (NA-12), Ali Khan Jadoon (NA-16), Omar Ayub Khan (NA-17), Asad Qaiser (NA-18), Engr Usman Khan Tarakal (NA-19), Mujahid Ali (NA-20), Muhammad INP

# **Pre-budget conference** in Islamabad today

ISLAMABAD: A pre-budget conference on Business, Agriculture and IT will be held in Islamabad on Tuesday to sensitize the private business sector and incorporate their valuable

suggestions.
Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will be the chief guest and will address the conference.
The conference will provide an

opportunity to renowned businessmen, agriculturists and IT experts to present recommenda-tions on IT, Agriculture, Textile, Business and Export sectors. The government's press release

stated that "it is the vision of the prime minister of Pakistan to make a progressive, development and people-friendly budget by fostering public participation in budget making."

It is pertinent to mention here that the federal budget for fiscal year 2022-23 has been in final phase of its preparation. The budget for financial year 2022-23

is expected to be produced in the National Assembly on June 10 According to sources, a session of the Annual Plan Coordination Committee has been summoned on June 04. A meeting of the National Economic Council (NEC) will be held after the com-

mittee's session.
The NEC session will approve the annual development plan. The government likely to allocate 700 billion rupees for the federal development budget, sources said There is a proposal for imposing 1155 billion rupees

additional taxes in the next financial year's federal budget, accord-

ing to sources.

The budget allocation for defence will likely to be fixed at 1586 billion rupees, sources said.

The budget, after passing from the lower house, will be forward-ed to the senate. The cabinet session to approve budget sugges-tions will also be held on June 10 2022 The NEC session will approve the annual development plan. The government likely to allocate 700 billion rupees for the federal development budget, sources said.

There is a proposal for impos-ing 1155 billion rupees additional taxes in the next financial year's federal budget, according to sources.INP

#### Man shoots dead pregnant sister-in-law in Kamonki

KAMOKI: A man shot dead his pregnant sister-in-law over a domestic row in Aimanabad area of Kamonki on Monday.

According to police, a man named Zaki along with his two accomplices Boota and Sunil Masih opened fire on his pregnant sister-in-law Kanwal in Mumtazabad area of Kamonki on a domestic issue

a domestic issue.

Kanwal got seriously injured during the incident and was shifted to the DHQ Hospital in a precarious condition where she suc-

cumbed to her injuries.

The dead body of the woman was shifted to the Tehsil Headquarters Hospital for postmortem.

A case has been registered against the accused on the complaint of deceased's aunt. INP

#### Four coaches of Karachi Express derail near Kala Pul

KARACHI: Four coaches of Karachi Express on Monday derailed near Kala Pul however no

casualty has been reported.

The train had departed Karachi's Cantt Station at 4:30pm.Railways spokesperson said a relief train has been sent to the location for rescue

The spokesperson confirmed that no casualty was reported in the incident INP

#### Mentally challenged person breaks SHC's security layer

KARACHI: The arrangements on the premises of the Sindh High Court (SHC) were called into question after a mental-

retarded person broke the secu-rity layer and went deep into the court premises on Monday. The mentally retarded person, after entering the courtroom of Justice Aftab Ahmed, started hurl-ing shouts, disturbing the court proceedings.

The court staff and police took the person into custody and took him out of the court premises. The incident, however, put a question

mark on the security arrangements on the premises of the high court.

On the other hand, a youth was shot at and injured in firing by dacoits during a robbery in Hyderabad. The injured was identified as Faheem. The incident took fied as Faheem. The incident took place in Hatri area of Hyderabad. The dacoits had shot at and injured Faheem over resistance. INP



KARACHI:Supporters of Pakistan's religious party, Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI), shout slogans during a rally against Nupur Sharma's controversial remarks" against Prophet Mohammed (SAW) made.

#### Pakistan to follow China for positive role of women: Minister

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Industries and Production Syed Murtaza Mahmood said that Pakistan, like China, will encourage women to play a positive role in society, Gwadar Pro reported on Monday.

He announced that the government would provide relief to the industrial sector, especially women entrepreneurs in the federal budget

Talking to a delegation led by Riffat Malik - Vice President of Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI), he urged women entrepreneurs to play their due role in boosting economic activities achieving sustainable economic growth and social prosperity in the country

Mahmood cited the example of China where women had played role in every sector for the development of the country. We will follow China in this regard," he added. The minister further

said that the private sector was the catalyst for economic growth and the government would facilitate them in promoting business activities which would help in reviving the economy

"We intend to take the country forward by ensuring sustainable economic growth", he maintained, adding that Pakistan needed a big increase in exports to meet its economic challenges and reduce pressure on its foreign exchange reserves.

He urged the business community, especially women entrepreneurs to play their role in the economic development of the country as the government was working hard for an economic turnaround, and rupee stability against the dollar.

Mahmood stressed the need for productivity enhancement and compet itiveness of SMEs in the local and global market to achieve sustainable development in Pakistan.

"The federal budget will be a business-friendly budget", he said adding that the government would take solid initiatives to utilize the potential of women entrepreneurs through relevant organizations so that women entrepreneurs could excel in their relevant fields.

Speaking on the occasion, Riffat Malik, said that women have been playing a pivotal role in the growth of the exportoriented industries and all other sectors of the national economy. She urged the government to support them to help encourage entrepreneurship among women entrepreneurs INP

#### No funds suggested for Covid-19, natural disasters in next budget

ISLAMABAD: No allocations have been suggested for the Covid-19 response and natural calamities in the upcoming financial plan for the fiscal year 2022-23.

Sources informed that the cash-strapped Pakistan is not allocating any funds for the Covid-19 Response

programme and other natural disasters in its upcoming annual financial plan. However, the finance managers are proposing to set aside Rs2.42 billion for the aviation division. According to the 2022-23 budget plan, it has been proposed to set aside Rs800.75 million for the investment board; Rs10.47 billion for interior ministry; Rs60 billion for cabinet division; Rs9 billion for environment changes; Rs1.84 billion for defence ministry Rs2.70 billion for defence production division Rs41.87 for for higher education commission; Rs billion for atomic energy commission; and Rs33.10 billion for railways ministry. Furthermore, the financial lion for railways ministry. Furthermore, the financial managers have suggested to allocate Rs96.80 billion for water resources; Rs20.67 billion for planning ministry; Rs12 billion for health ministry; Rs3.20 billion for maritime affairs; Rs3.33 billion for inter-provincial coordination ministry; Rs5.48 billion for IT ministry; Rs2 billion for information ministry; Rs11.59 billion for housing ministry.INP

#### China SCLF "Junior Cultural Ambassadors" event launched

ISLAMABAD: In order to promote cultural exchanges and mutual learning, and tighten people-topeople bonds between different countries, China Soong Ching Ling Foundation launched here the 2022 "Junior 'ultural Ambassadors" Event, Gwadar Pro reported on

The event is expected to build a platform for young people all over the world to make acquaintance with each other both online and offline, and bring out more junior cultural ambassadors who would make their own share of contribution to people-to-people exchanges.

The 2022 event, under the theme of "Get Connected Through Art: My Favorite Chinese Arts", encourages oung people to exchange ideas and tell stories about hinese culture through videos.

With the support of the Bureau of International Exchange and Cooperation of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the People's Republic of China and Guangming Online, the event is hosted by the China Soong Ching Ling Science & Culture Center for Young People and China Cultural Centers Overseas.

Exchange among civilizations spurs diversity, mutual learning promotes the richness of civilizations. Different civilizations complement each other and

together constitute a world that blooms with cultures. In an announcement of the China Soong Ching Ling Foundation, teenagers aged 13 - 16 around the world are invited to participate in the event.INP

#### ISLAMABAD: Poultry is one of the fastest-growing indus-tries in Pakistan with investments of about Rs1.1 trillion.

her actual age, and present her again.

According Poultry Pakistan Association (PPA) report, the industry is the largest agro-based seggenerating employment and income for about 1.5 million people directly and indi-

The sector is growing at a fast pace of 10-12% per annum. At present, around Rs190 billion worth of agriculture products are being used by the poultry industry, speeding up the growth in the agriculture sector, reports WealthPK. There are estimated

15,000 poultry farms throughout the country with their capacity ranging from 5,000 to 500,000 broilers. Pakistan's poultry indus-try produces 1,245 mil-lion kilogrammes of chicken meat annually.

Ali Hasnain, a supervi-sor of the poultry sector, told WealthPK that Pakistan's poultry indus-try was no less than the international standards. "The poultry industry meets 50% of the total demand for meat in the country, and the rest is met by other meat prod-ucts like beef, mutton and fish." other meat prod-

"With the introduction of advanced technologies, more investments are coming around to cater to market needs and earn handsome revenues," said Ali Hasnain, adding the poultry indus-try still had a lot of potential to contribute to the economy.

As per the PPA report, meat consumption per capita in Pakistan is less than the developed countries. The consumption

fast in Pakistan: PPA of meat and eggs per capita is 6.2 kilo-grammes and 56 eggs annually. In the devel-oped world, the per capita meat consumption is 40 kilogrammes and 300 eggs annually According the World Health Organisation, a person needs 27 grams of animal protein per day, while most people in Pakistan only consume grams. To meet the international standards of meat consumption, the supply and production need to be increased and prices need to be brought down so that consumers can get the required meat and egg consumption levels. An increase in

KARACHI:Husband of 14-year-old girl who had mysteriously gone

missing from provincial Capital Dua Zahra, leaving from Sindh High

Court (SHC) in Police Custody after hearing, as Sindh High Court

ordered the authorities to conduct a test on Dua Zahra, to determine

**Poultry industry growing** 

To boost production and bring down product rates, imports of poultryrelated equipment should be exempted from duties and taxes.

production will certainly

require more investments

in the industry.

In addition, as growers increasingly need land to establish sheds, the government should provide state land to investors at nominal rates to generate investments and more production. Haniful Hassan, owner

of a poultry farm, told WealthPK that the current increase in prices of chicken was due to rise in prices of poultry feed. "The price of a feedbag has risen by 900 per bag in the last five months. We want the government to bring down the poultry feed rates to offset the price spiral," he added. Haniful Hassan called

for establishing poultry research institutes, production directorates a federal poultry board to provide research and training to farmers.

The government should also ensure easy availability of loans to people related to the industry.INP

# Pak-China coop in Biohealth Agriculture to promote wheat production

BEIJING: Pakistan and hina have further enhanced their coopera-tion in Biohealth tion in Biohealth Agriculture to promote wheat production, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Monday. The report says, China-Pakistan wheat coopera-

tion is of great signifi-cance. With the world's population expected to increase to 9 billion by 2050, populous countries like China and Pakistan needed to develop areas such as saline-alkali land to further meet food needs. It is imperative to develop drought-tolerant and saline-alkali-tolerant wheat varieties and improve the existing saline-alkali soil environ-ment." Prof. Zhang Lixin from Northwest A&F University, China in an interview with CEN hoped that per unit yield of wheat in Pakistan will be increased from the be increased from the current 200-300 kilo-grams to more than 400 kilograms through technologies, such as, bio-

health agriculture.
According to the report, "It is expected that by 2040, due to the global warming, local temper-ature in Pakistan will increase by 3-4 degrees on the existing basis. It will lead to evaporation of water, which will bring soil drought, while rain-fall will be further con-

centrated. This means that droughts and floods will occur at the same time. Climate change is enough to reduce Pakistan's wheat production by 15-20 percent. Therefore, if our wheat breeding doesn't advance against climate change, a huge food crisis will pose a serious threat to human existence", said Prof. Zhang Lixin.Currently, water shortage and tem-perature extremities are affecting crop production and quality in Pakistan. As for wheat, statistics from Pakistan Bureau of Statistics show that wheat accounts for about 9 percent of the national agri-cultural added value.

About 80 percent of farmers in Pakistan are engaged in wheat produc-tion, and the total area of wheat cultivation occu-pies as much as 40 percent of the total agricul-tural land in Pakistan. The importance of wheat production in Pakistan

cannot be overstated.
However, this year,
Pakistan is expected to
harvest about 28 million tonnes of wheat, while overall demand is about 30 million tonnes, which means a 2 million tonnes gap to be filled by imports, in other words, Pakistan is yet self-sufficient in this vital crop.

It is learned that It is learned that Pakistan's wheat planting

area is about 16.2 million acres this year, down a bit compared with 16.6 million acres last year. The concept o "Biohealth Agriculture" (BHA) was put forward by Prof Zhang Lixin in 2017 at the first

ance, whi

2017 at the first International Symposium on the Belt and Road Biohealth. "Germplasm improvement must be our primary goal. Prof. Prof. Habib-ur-Rehman Athar from Bahauddin Zakariya University has worked with our researchers to hybridize the Chinese wheat variety S-24 with high yield and salt toler-

which has been ver-

## The Executive Engineer Building CWPP&H Department District Kalat invites sealed

bids from eligible bidders who can prove their eligibility and qualification as mention in the bidding documents for the works mentioned below. The estimated cost and other information of works are as under percentage tender based on Composite Schedule of Rates 2018,Government of Balochistan amended up-to-date from interested contractors /firms for the work listed below under BPPRA Rules.& Tender complete details please visit http://www.bppra.gob.pk , BidSecurity 2 %,,Tender fee Rs.5000/-A/C # C02716 and Bid submission/ Tender opening Date 27 June 2022 for the

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER** 

.No	NameofWork	Estimated Cos
t	CONSTRUCTION OF DISTRICT RESIDENTIAL COMPLEXES GOR CONCEPT AT KALAT. TSE- 212206110313	289,166,420.00

**DEADLINE OF SUMBISSION:** Technical and financial proposals from intending contractors/firms sealed in two separates envelopes clearly marked with Work title8 typeof proposal must be delivered by hand or through registered mail to the address mentioned below on before procurement committee in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives who choose to attend. The Second sealed envelope containing "financial bids" of technically responsive /qualified bidders will be opened on the same date.Bids Validity: Ninty (90) days.Pface: The place of issuance, submission, inquiries and opening will be - The office of the Executive Engineer Building CWPP&H Department District Kalat & Submission Time deadline 11:00 A.m.

Building CWPP&H Department Kalat. 🖏 www.dpr.gob.pk. 📝 @dpr.gob 🙍 dpr.gob 🚹 @dgpr.balochis

# President Alvi blames Education Ministry for not using foreign aid

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Monday blamed the Ministry of Education for criminal waste, incompetence, and irresponsibility for not using foreign aid.

President took the decision on the application of the Central Directorate of National Savings against the decision of the Federal Ombudsman.

President Alvi said the German government provided more than Rs13.7 million in aid in 1993-

President Alvi said that 30 years ago, money spent on buying paper for printing cheap textbooks

President Alvi said that the government is seeking grants and loans internationally to meet its

The President said that the Ministry of Education should investigate the matter, identify those responsible, and take action against them in accordance with the law.

The President said that the Ministry of Education should avoid imposing such inquiries on retirees and deceased persons and submit a compliance report to the Federal Ombudsman within 45 days.

Nobody cared about the money available in a non-profit account for six years, said President Alvi.

The president said that if it was the personal money of an official, he would not let it go even for a day and would deposit it in a profitable scheme.

Due to the non-utilization of funds, a loss of Rs 17.4m happened, adding that the original amount was Rs13.7m, said President.



ISLAMABAD: Thomas Seiler, Charge D' Affaires, delegation of the European Union (EU) to Pakistan called on Federal Minister for Law and Justice, Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar at Ministry

#### PM Shehbaz to tweet in Arabic now, new Twitter account created

ISLAMABAD: To enhance brother-hood relations with Middle East coun-tries, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's new Twitter account in Arabic has been created

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will now also be tweeted in the Arabic lan-guage PM Shehbaz Sharif is already active on Twitter with his official account in which he used English and Urdu languages to communicate with his followers.NP

#### State Bank rebuts social media rumors, assures lockers, accounts safe

KARACHI: The Government of Pakistan and the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on Monday assured all account holders maintaining Foreign Currency Accounts (FCA), Roshan Digital Accounts (RDA), and Safety Deposit Lockers in banks that their accounts and lockers are completely. accounts and lockers are completely accounts and lockers are completely safe, and that there is no proposal under consideration to put any restriction on them. In a joint press release of the SBP and the Ministry of Finance issued here on Monday, this is stated that rumors are circulating on social media that the Government or State Bank is considering freezing or plac-Bank is considering freezing or plac-ing restrictions on withdrawals from Foreign Currency Accounts, Roshan Digital Accounts, and Safety Deposit Lockers. Such rumors are absolutely incorrect and baseless. It is clarified that such a proposal has neither been considered presently nor in the past. Moreover, foreign currency accounts including Roshan Digital Accounts are legally protected under the Foreign Currency Accounts (Protection) Ordinance 2001, and the Government and the State Bank are committed to protecting all the financial assets in Pakistan including the ones mentioned above. The Government and State Bank are taking all necessary measures to ensure macroeconomic stability in the country. The recent difficult decisions are taken by the Government, including the reduction of subsidy on petroleum products, will pave the way to reach an agreement with the IMF and release of the IMF tranche and financial assistance from other multilateral agencies and friendly countries. We are confident that these measures will relieve the tempo-rary stress being faced due to elevated global commodity prices and geo-political tensions, and eliminate uncer-tainty in the economy.INP

#### Govt announces 3 and half hours load shedding from today

ISLAMABAD: The government on Monday announced to reduce the load shedding of electricity from tomorrow

to three and a half hours.
Federal ministers of the Pakistan
Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N)
Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, Khurram
Dastgir, Marriyum Aurangzeb, and others held a press conference in Islamabad. They assured the nation that the load shedding of electricity will further reduce in July as the pro-

duction of coal plants is increased.

Shahid Khaqan Abbasi said the load shedding will be reduced from tomorrow to 3 and a half hours and from June 16, it will also be less than 3 hours. He further stated that the government will also the load shedding. ernment will reduce the load shedding to one and a half to two hours only from June 30, and will be able to fur-

The PML-N ministers said they have succeeded to increase power generation to 21,000 Megawatt. They said former premier Imran Khan had carried out a suicide attack on the

#### Islamabad court grants bail to Sheikh Rasheed, Murad Saeed

ISLAMABAD: An Islamabad court on Monday has granted bail to Awami Muslim League (AML) chief Sheikh Rasheed and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Murad Saced in separate

The district and sessions court of Islamabad granted interim bail to Sheikh Rasheed in a case that had been registered at the I-9 police station. Rasheed has been directed to

submit Rs5,000 surety bonds.

The court ordered the police to present the records of cases lodged against the AML chief. The hearing was adjourned till June 20.INP

## Imran Khan summons meeting to finalise strategy for Punjab by-polls

ISLAMABAD: PTI chairman Imran Khan has summoned a meeting of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)

Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)
Parliamentary Board Punjab on
Tuesday (today).
Sources privy to the development told that PTI's provincial
parliamentary board will meet
on June 7 to discuss the issue of
awarding tickets for by-polls on
20 Punjab seats.
PTI has decided to award
election tickets to the party
workers in the by-polls which
would be held on 20 vacant
seats in Punjab on July 17.
After the preliminary deci-

After the preliminary decision by the parliamentary board, the final decision of awarding party tickets will be taken by the central leadership of PTI, it emerged The final decision regarding awarding decision regarding awarding party tickets to candidates would be taken by the central leadership of PTI, they added. It is pertinent to mention here that the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) announced that

polling for by-election on 20 general seats of Punjab Assembly will be held on July

The ECP has announced a schedule for election on 20 provincial seats vacated after defecting MPAs of the PTI were de-seated. The ECP had de-seated 25 dissident Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) MPAs who voted for PML-N's Harbas Shabbas Sharif in Puniah chief Shahbaz Sharif in Punjab chief minister's election. After the preliminary decision by the par-liamentary board, the final decision of awarding party tickets will be taken by the central leadership of PTI, it emerged. The final decision regarding

awarding party tickets to candidates would be taken by the central leadership of PTI, they added. It is pertinent to mention here that the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) announced that polling for by-election on 20 general seats of Punjab Assembly will be held on July 17.1NP

### Experts call for development of renewable energy through green financing

potential of renewable energy through green financing guide-lines of China-Pakistan Economic

Corridor (CPEC). According to Gwadar Pro, China's potential in renewable energy generation can potentially drive a massive shift in Pakistan's

energy sector.
It could also serve as a viable solution for Pakistan's energy crisis which has been deepening over the years. Experts from energy and development sector said this during a Capacity Building Workshop on the Green Financing Guidelines for CPEC Energy Projects' organized by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI).Dr Hasan Daud Butt, CEO, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Board of Investment & Trade (KP-BOIT) was of the view that CPEC can provide stimulus to Pakistan's economic growth.

ISLAMABAD: Energy experts This could be done through infrastructure development improving intra-national connec-tivity and creating opportunities for investment and employment, he added.

However, the youth of the country face low skill development and low productivity challenge which reduces their job prospects in the

CPEC projects, he highlighted. Dr Vaqar Ahmed, Joint Executive Director, SDPI, termed the green financing guidelines extremely critical to design a path-way for achieving Nationally Determined Contributions targets of Pakistan. "There is a need to design a predictable and certain fiscal policy for increased international investments, particularly under CPEC," Dr Ahmed said and suggested that private banks need to introduce innovative financing models and rating mechanisms to ensure loaning for greener initia-tives.INP

#### SC directs PTI to combine petitions over fresh delimitation

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court on Monday directed the PTI to club its miscellaneous

PTI to club its miscellaneous and amended petitions on fresh delimitation by Monday.
Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) counsel Faisal Chaudhry said in the court that the delimitation schedule is being rapidly implemented. "The fresh delimitation have not been protected under Article 51 (V)," PTI lawyer argued.

lawyer argued.

According to reports, the election commission looking towards concerned authorities, Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan observed. "When the 2021 Census will be completed, the ECP is asking" he remarked. "It will take deci-sion, which Census will become basis for delimitation, after get-

basis for delimitation, after get-ting reply," the bench said. Justice Munib Akhtar said that the court had allowed amending the petition, but it has not been filed appropritely. "Will we search a paper from file after file," Justice Akhtar questioned. The bench directed the PTI to organize petitions in a sequence by next Monday. The court adjourned further

hearing of the case until June 13.The Supreme Court of Pakistan had earlier returned the plea from the PTI against fresh delimitations. The registrar of the apex court returned the plea after raising objections

that the petitioner has not approached concerned forum for redressal of the issue. The petition was directly filed in the Supreme Court despite having an opportunity to raise the matter at concerned

forum, the registrar said.
"Tehreek-i-Insaf [PTI] has
decided to challenge ECP decision to once again hold delimi-tations in the country," Fawad Chaudhry said ahead of filing the petition.INP The President said the loss could have been even greater if the audit had not identified the loss. When the ministry withdrew the money in response to the audit's objection, the issues of reduction in Zakat and holding tax surfaced, said Arif Alvi.

Due to criminal negligence, Pakistanis lose profits, adding that profits could have been made with proper use of money, said President Alvi.

The President acquitted the National Savings Directorate of withholding tax and deduction of

Zakat.

The President directed the Federal Ministry of Education to contact the FBR and the Zakat Department for obtaining a certificate of amnesty.

The President directed that the FBR and the Zakat Department should also consider issuing a one-time exemption certificate to the Ministry of Education as per the rules. Due to the non-utilization of funds, a loss of Rs 17.4m happened, adding that the original amount was Rs13.7m, said President.

The President said the loss could have been even greater if the audit had not identified the loss.

The President said the loss could have been even greater if the audit had not identified the loss. When the ministry withdrew the money in response to the audit's objection, the issues of reduction in Zakat and holding tax surfaced, said Arif Alvi. Due to criminal negligence, Pakistanis lose profits, adding that profits could have been made with proper use of money, said President Alvi. The President acquitted the National Savings Directorate of withholding tax and deduction of Zakat. The President directed the Federal Ministry of Education to contact the FBR and the Zakat Department for obtaining a certificate of amnesty. INP

## PM for reviving trade and investment ties with Japan

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Monday said his government was focusing on reinvigorating ties with Japan in the field of trade and investment

In a meeting with a delegation of Japanese companies, the prime minister said hurdles would be removed in the way of smooth func-

would be removed in the way of smooth functioning of the investment infrastructure. The prime minister, in this regard, set up a committee to resolve the issues faced by the Japanese companies in Pakistan on a priority basis and sought a report within a week.

PM Sharif termed Japan a close friend of Pakistan and lauded that the country was one of the largest donors to Pakistan in the public sector development. He said the generous Japanese donations amounted to \$13 billion dollars in seven decades and contributed immensely to the development of Pakistan.

He mentioned that Japan International

immensely to the development of Pakistan.

He mentioned that Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) played a positive role in providing Pakistan the technical support to grant aid and bilateral loans through the conduct of technical feasibility studies. He recalled that in the 90s, several Japanese companies were operating in Pakistan and mentioned that in 2016, the agreement with automobile manufacturing Suzuki resulted in providing employment to thousands of people.

The prime minister appreciated the manner Japan focused on improving the public development sector, adding that he was personally

inspired by the principles of Japanese business. He stressed immediate steps to exempt

the Export Processing Zones from taxes. He invited the Japanese companies to invest in Pakistan's diverse sectors including coal in Thar, iron ore in Chiniot, renewable energy, infrastructure, and public transport. PM Sharif said Pakistan and Japan were celebrating the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations in 2022, and added that by promoting cooperation, Pakistan could benefit from Japan's experience.

He said Pakistan attached great importance to its bilateral ties with Japan and wanted to further expand cooperation in various fields. The Japanese companies expressed full confidence in the business-friendly policies of the present government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

They also expressed keen interest in increasing investment in electric vehicle manufacturing, food processing, Special He invited the Japanese companies to invest

ufacturing, food processing, Special Economic Zones, textiles, telecommunications, and auto-parts manufacturing. The delegation included the representatives from Japanese countries, Japan's ambassador Mitsuhiro Wada, and the Commercial Attache of Japan. Federal

Federal ministers including Khurram Dastagir, Miftah Ismael, Makhdoom Murtaza Mehmood and the officials concerned attended the meeting. INP

#### Khawaja Asif suggests cut in weekly working days

ISLAMABAD: efense Minister hawaja Muhammad Defense Khawaja Asif on Monday proposed two-day weekend on Saturday and Sunday and

Saturday and Sunday and half day on Friday in order to save fuel and electricity amid the increasing cost of oil.

In his statement on Twitter, he wrote that "Under the prevailing circumstance, Saturday and Sunday holidays should be given across the country while Friday should be given half-day off could help the country save electricity and fuel. This could help the country save electricity and fuel.

Khawaja also wrote that official working hours on weekdays should be increased by one hour as well.

one hour as well.

This move will further promote a culture of austerity in the country, Khawaja said.INP

#### Farrukh Habib takes jibe at Nawaz Sharif on recent fuel price hike

ISLAMABAD: Former minister Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) senior leader Farrukh Habib on Monday took a jibe at former prime minister Nawaz Sharif over a recent fuel price hike.

Addressing a press conference, Farrukh Habib said Maryam Nawaz used to say in past that Nawaz Sharif feels pain in his heart over the increase in petrol price.

petrol price.
"Petrol has now been jacked by Rs60 per litre, has Mian Sahab felt pain in his heart," Farrukh Habib asked Maryam Nawaz

On the derogatory remarks of BJP leader, the former state minister said the government failed to condemn the issue in a befitting manner. The former prime minister raised the blasphemy issue at the United Nations and got the resolution passed against it, he added.

He asked why the demand for sending an Indian envoy back to New Delhi is not being raised now. He alleged that the PML-N government is trying to 'favour' Indian PM Narendra Modi.

Habib asked the gov-ernment to take concrete steps over the derogatory remarks against Prophet Muhammad Peace Be Upon Him as mere con-demnation will not serve the purpose Earlier in the day, Pakistan summoned Indian Charge d' Affaires and conveyed categorical rejection and strong INP

## KARACHI: PSP moves SHC to change NA-240 by-poll date

KARACHI: Pak Sarzameen Party (PSP) on Monday filed a petition in Sindh High Court (SHC), seeking to change the date of the Karachi NA-240 by-poll.

The Sindh government, Election Commission of Pakistan and others have been respondents in the plea filed by PSP.

The petitioner stated that ECP had

The petitioner stated that ECP had announced polling on June 16 which will affect voter turnout due to a working day. He pleaded with the court to direct ECP to conduct polling

court to direct ECP to conduct polling on Sunday.

It is pertinent to mention here that ECP has declared all polling stations for the National Assembly constituency NA-240 as sensitive.

The National Assembly seat comprising Landhi and Korangi area of District Korangi in Karachi, had fallen vacant after the death of the MQM-P MNA Iqbal Muhammad Ali

Khan on April 19.

The ECP had declared 203 polling stations in the constituency 'very sensitive' out of 309 polling stations, while remaining 106 polling stations have been declared 'sensitive'.

The election commission had established 182 polling stations in Korangi and 127 in Landhi area for the by election scheduled to be held on June 16.The NA-240 (Korangi Karachi II) seat have total 5,29,855 voters. The electoral body has set up 100 polling stations for male voters, 99 PS for women voters and 110 joint polling stations for the by-election under its polling scheme. The nomination papers of Pakistan Tehreek-elnsaf's (PTI) candidate for the by-election of NA-240 Korangi were rejected by the district returning officer Abdul Razzaq. The papers were rejected after the RO deemed the proposer's signatures fake. INP



IISLAMABAD: President and CEO Habib Metro Bank Mohsin Ali Nathani pose for a photograph with outgoing Ambassador of Embassy of Turkiye Ihsan Mustafa Yurdakul in a ceremony to bid farewell to the Ambassador and to celebrate one-year anniversary of Habib METRO Bank of their Diplomatic Mission Department at Embassy of Turkey.

#### **BUDGET:** Govt to raise tax on online gaming, social media apps

ISLAMABAD: The federal government is considering over a proposal to increase tax on income made through social media plat-forms including TikTok, YouTube and other apps, sources said on Monday.

According well-placed sources, the coalition government is mulling over a proposal to hike income tax on income generated through online gaming, TikTok, YouTube and other social media platforms. The authorities are also considering a proposal to hike income tax on income of over Rs1 million per annum, they added The development took place amid tough

conditions

International Monetary Fund (IMF) to secure a \$1 billion tranche from the international lender. The sources say that IMF has placed tough conditions for resumption of its program and has asked the Shehbaz government to reduce income tax credits and allowances.

imposed

Moreover, the federal govern-ment is also mulling over proposals to increase the salaries and pension of government employees and had prepared three proposals for a hike in the budget for the fiscal year

According to sources in the finance ministry, there is a plan for a five to 15 percent increase in salaries of the government employees, however, it is linked with prior approval of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). "The ad-hoc allowance for employees in BPS-1 to BPS-19 will be hiked by 5 to 10 percent," they said adding that for BPS-20 to 22, the salaries will be increased by 10 to 15 percent They further said that the pension will also be increased by 5 to 10 percent. "Pay and pension commission has not yet submitted its report and the government has directed them to submit it as soon as possible," they said. The govt is likely to present Budget 2022-23 on June 12.INP

#### Peoples bus service completes test drive in Karachi

KARACHI: The Sindh government has successfully completed the test run of Peoples Bus Service project in Karachi without any hiccup.
The 140 buses, recently imported

from China, successfully completed over 29-kilometre journey without

any glitches.
Sindh Minister for Information.
Transport and Mass Transit Sharjeel lnam Memon along with his colleagues of the provincial cabinet Saeed Ghani and Waqar Mehdi took a

ride from Model Colony on Sharea Faisal that ended at Avari Tower. Talking to media, Ghani said that 240 buses will hit seven different routes of Karachi after successful completion of test drive.

completion of test drive. "Out of total 250 buses 140 have arrived and the consignment of the rest of the vehicles is expected to arrive soon," he said, adding that among these 250 buses, 240 buses will run in Karachi while the remain-10 buses would operate in

"In the first phase of the project, buses will start operating on two

routes of Karachi," he said, adding that CM Murad Ali Shah will inaugu-

rate the project soon.

The Sindh government Peoples' Bus Service is a project separate from the network of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) lines.

(BRT) lines.
In first phase, the buses will initially operate on Route 1 (29.5 KMs – Model Colony to Tower) and Route 3 (33 KMs – Nagan chowrangi to Singer Chowrangi) in Karachi.
In the 2nd Phase, 200 buses will operate on 6 routes of Karachi and 1 route 10.3 KMs) of Larkana. "In the first phase of the project, buses will start operating on two routes of Karachi," he said, adding that CM Murad Ali Shah will inaugurate the project soon. The Sindh government Peoples'
Bus Service is a project separate from
the network of Bus Rapid Transit

(BRT) lines. In first phase, the buses will initial-

ly operate on Route 1 (29.5 KMs – Model Colony to Tower) and Route 3 (33 KMs - Nagan chowrangi to Singer Chowrangi) in Karachi INP



QUETTA: APCA Balochistan hold protest rally against increasing of prize hike.