

QUETTA VOICE

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UK's embattled PM Truss told: 'The game is up'



Court extends Azam Swati's physical remand for another day

JIT formed to investigate murder of former CJ BHC Meskanzai

Staff Reporter From Our Correspondent

QUETTA, KHARAN: The Balochistan government has formed a joint investigation team (JIT) to investigate the murder of Muhammad Noor Meskanzai, the former chief justice of the Balochistan High Court (BHC). According to a notification issued by the Balochistan Home and Tribal Affairs Department, the JIT would probe into the killing of the former top judge of the province.

The unknown accused opened fire and shot dead the former CJ BHC when he came out of the mosque in the Kharan district of Balochistan. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has also expressed grief and sorrow over the incident and directed the police to apprehend the accused involved in the killing of Justice (R) Meskanzai.



The Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) would lead the JIT investigating the murder of the former top judge of the province, the notification mentioned. The JIT would comprise officers from the ISI, Military Intelligence, Intelligence Bureau (IB), Police and other law enforcement agencies to probe into the incident. The JIT would submit a report about the incident within 30 days, the notification said. Members of legal fraternity

announced 3 days mourning. Members of the legal fraternity have strongly condemned the killing of former CJ BHC and demanded of the provincial government to bring the perpetrators to book. Almost all bodies of the lawyers have announced three days of mourning to mourn the killing of Justice (R) Meskanzai. Political parties have also condemned the killing of the former Chief Justice and termed the incident a failure on the part of the government with regard to the protection of people.

On Sunday, thousands of people visited the residence of Muhammad Noor Meskanzai and offered fateha for the departed soul. A large number of politicians, members of civil society, members of the legal fraternity and judges visited his residence.

Corps Commander visits Kharan offers fateha for former CJ BHC

From Our Correspondent

Corps Commander Balochistan, Lieutenant General Asif Ghafoor visited Kharan and offered fateha for the former Chief Justice Balochistan High Court (BHC), Muhammad Noor Meskanzai. The Commander met family members of the former top judge of the province and expressed sympathy.

Lt. General Asif Ghafoor paid rich tribute to the martyred former CH BHC and praised his contribution to the county and nation. "The martyred justice was a bold and brave personality", the Commander stated.

The Corps Commander assured the family members that the perpetrators of the terrorist attack would be brought to justice.



CEO Barrick Gold meets CM Balochistan

News Desk

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Barrick Gold, Mr. Mark Bristow along with his team met with the Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Abdul Qudus Bizenjo on Saturday.

The Provincial Minister Sardar Abdul Rehman Kethran and Chief Secretary Balochistan, Abdul Aziz Uqaili were also present at the meeting. "Government has created a conducive atmosphere for investment in Balochistan", Chief Minister Mir Qudus Bizenjo said. CEO Barrick Gold

Corporation (BGC) thoroughly discussed the Reko Diq project and its positive impacts on Balochistan and Pakistan.

"Our Prayers are with the flood victims of Balochistan", Mark Bristow stated at the meeting. "We are providing aid for the relief and rehabilitation of flood affectees".

(CEO) of Barrick Gold, Mr. Mark Bristow along with his team met with the Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Abdul Qudus Bizenjo.

He said, "I am feeling very happy to come to Balochistan once again". Our team is working on the development and feasibility study of the



area. Along with providing employment, our teams are also working on educational and vocational training, the BGC Chief stated.

"Wind and Solar energy including Geothermal energy will also be utilized for the project", Mark Bristow stated while referring to the multi-billion dollar gold Reko Diq project. The teams will also try to improve communication links for the betterment of the area, Mr. Bristow added.

Locals be given preference in jobs.

The CEO Barrick Gold said that local talented and skilled people will be given preference in employment and we

will work together with the Government of Balochistan on this Project. For the last 3 months, we are facing challenges in the form of floods, he mentioned.

"We have resolved all the political issues related to the Rekodie agreement", CM Balochistan said. This agreement will create employment opportunities for the talented youth of the province, he added.

While addressing the meeting, CM Balochistan told that with the arrival of the Barrick Gold Company other companies will also increase their tendency towards the province.

By-elections: Imran Khan wins three NA seats, ahead on several others

PTI Chairman Imran Khan won the by-elections in Peshawar, Mardan, and Charsadda after beating the ruling coalition's candidates, as unofficial results of eight National Assembly, and three Punjab Assembly constituencies pour in.

Khan bagged 57,824 to defeat his rival in Peshawar's NA-31 by-election, according to unofficial results, with ANP's Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour securing 32,253 votes — allowing the PTI chairman to win by more than 25,000 votes.

JUI-F's Maulana Muhammad Qasim was



able to get 68,181 votes in the Mardan NA-22 by-poll, while Khan secured 76,681 votes, as per unofficial results. The PTI chairman won by a margin of 8,500 votes. In the Charsadda NA-

24 by-polls, as per unofficial results, the PTI chairman managed to bag 78,589 votes and ANP's Aimal Wali Khan got 68,356 votes. Khan won the contest by 10,233 votes.

PTI is ahead of the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) on multiple seats, according to unofficial results.

The counting of votes started at 5pm after the polling — which started at 8am — was held without interruptions despite intense political activity. Sporadic clashes were reported in some constituencies.

On the eighth seat that

Khan wasn't contesting, PDM candidate Musa Ali Gillani emerged victorious, according to unofficial results.

Musa — the son of former prime minister Yousaf Raza Gillani — bagged 79,743 votes and took a lead of 19,750 as Meher — the daughter of PTI leader Shah Mahmood Qureshi — was able to secure 59,993 votes, according to unofficial results.

The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) said that overall, the polling process remained peaceful, and the commission's central control room received 15

complaints of code violations.

A spokesperson for the commission said that most of the complaints were about workers of political parties clashing and other minor issues. "The received complaints were resolved immediately."

The constituencies where polling is taking place are: NA-22 Mardan-III, NA-24 Charsadda-II, NA-31 Peshawar-V, NA-108 Faisalabad-VIII, NA-118 Nankana Sahib-II, NA 157 Multan-IV, NA-237 Malir-II, NA-239 Korangi, Karachi-I. Web Desk

English medium school set on fire in Turbat

Abdullah Lehari

TURBAT, KALAT: Unknown accused set an English medium school on fire in district Kech of Balochistan on Sunday. Levies sources said the incident happened in the Buleda tehsil of the district. Levies said the unknown accused set the English medium school on fire in the Alnadur village of tehsil Buleda. The accused set the record, furniture of the school on fire, levies said. They escaped unhurt from the spot after the incident. Levies officials reached the spot as an investigation into the incident went underway. In Kalat, miscreants blew up an under-construction two of a private mobile company in the district. Levies sources said the incident happened in the Sheikhari area of the district. No human loss was reported in both incident.



Court extends Azam Swati's physical remand for another day

A district and sessions court in Islamabad granted the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) a one-day extension in the physical remand of PTI leader Senator Azam Swati on Sunday in a case related to a tweet against state institutions, including the army chief.

Duty Magistrate Shoab Akhtar directed officials to present Swati in court tomorrow.

During the hearing, the prosecutor read out Swati's tweet in which he had sarcastically congratulated "Mr Bajwa" and a few others, saying "your plan is really working and all criminals are getting free at cost of this country" and "alleging corruption had been 'legitimised'".

While requesting the court to grant a 14-day remand, Prosecutor Raja Rizwan Abbasi said it was necessary to recover the senator's mobile phone. "The suspect is a

political person who has hundreds of thousands of followers. He named the head of the armed forces in a tweet from his verified account.

On the other hand, Swati's counsel Babar Awan requested the court to not grant the FIA physical custody of his client. "My client is being brought to court for the third time," he added.

Awan said the law laid out the process for launching an investigation, adding that his client's house had been "raided without a warrant". A warrant issued by a magistrate was required before such a raid, which was not shown, he argued.

"They (FIA) are saying the army was defamed... They should keep an eye on Swat instead of Swati," he said, referring to a resurgence of terrorism in the valley. Web Desk

UK's embattled PM Truss told: 'The game is up'

Britain's Prime Minister Liz Truss on Sunday vied to reboot her economic programme, but Conservative critics warned the party faces electoral oblivion under her crippled leadership.

With even US President Joe Biden joining in attacks on her libertarian platform, Truss admitted it had been a "wrench" to fire her friend Kwasi Kwarteng as chancellor of the exchequer on Friday.

But writing in the Sun newspaper on Sunday, she said: "We cannot pave the way to a low-tax, high-growth economy without maintaining the confidence of the markets in our commitment to sound money."

That confidence was jeopardised on September 23 when Kwarteng and Truss unveiled a right-wing programme, inspired by 1980s US president Ronald Reagan, of 45 billion pounds (\$50 billion) in tax cuts financed exclusively by higher debt.

Markets tanked in response, driving up borrowing costs for millions of Britons, and the Conservatives' poll ratings have similarly slumped, leading to open warfare in the

governing party mere weeks after Truss succeeded Boris Johnson.

"I think the game is up, and it's now a question as to how the succession is managed," senior Tory MP Crispin Blunt said on Channel 4.

Truss has been forced into a screeching policy U-turn which cost Kwarteng his job. But she depressed the bond markets even more with a painful press conference on Friday and the government was nervously awaiting the resumption of trading on Monday.

Bidding to placate investors, Kwarteng's replacement Jeremy Hunt is now warning that taxes may in fact have to rise and is pressing for spending restraint by his cabinet colleagues even as Britons endure a cost-of-living crisis.

The new chancellor met the prime minister at her country retreat on Sunday to thrash out a new budget plan which he is due to deliver on October 31, effectively demolishing the "Trussonomics" programme that brought her to power. Web Desk

5 alleged terrorists killed in Splenji Mastung: Spokesman CTD

News Desk

QUETTA: At least five alleged terrorists were killed during an exchange of fire with police and security forces in the Splenji area of Mastung on Sunday evening. Spokesman Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) said three policemen were also injured in the exchange of fire. The injured personnel was shifted to a nearby hospital for medical treatment, the Spokesman said. Security forces also demolished safe havens of terrorists in the Splenji area of Mastung. The CTD Spokesman stated that the dead terrorists were planning to target Shia pilgrims and security forces in the Mastung district of Balochistan.

Forces also recovered a huge cache of arms and ammunition from the possession of dead terrorists, he mentioned. This operation on the part of CTD has come two days after three tribesmen were killed and four injured in an improvised explosive device blast in Qabu area of Mastung district.

Dar urges IMF, multilateral donors to offer greater policy support

Finance Minister Ishaq Dar on Sunday urged the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and multilateral donors to provide greater policy support.

He asked the IMF to tailor its response to the situation in Pakistan and similar countries by taking into consideration the serious economic, social and political challenges that they face amid climate-induced calamities, according to a press release issued by the finance ministry.

Dar made the remarks while addressing a meeting of Menap (Middle East, North Africa, Afghanistan, and Pakistan) ministers of finance and central bank governors with the IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva.

During the meeting, Georgieva spoke about the challenges regional economies were facing, including those related to climate change, such as the destructive floods in Pakistan. She expressed sympathy with Pakistan and assured the country of the Fund's full support, the statement added.

For his part, Dar thanked the IMF official for her support and assured Pakistan's commitment to completing the ongoing programme. "[The] finance minister highlighted the humanitarian catastrophe and losses suffered by the country. Given the scale of disaster, he pleaded [for] more policy support for Pakistan."

Dar also welcomed new IMF instruments — Resilience and Sustainability Trust (RST) and Food Shock Window under Rapid Financing Instrument (RFI) — to support countries.



The finance minister, who is on a week-long visit to the US to attend annual meetings of the World Bank and the IMF, had another busy day on Sunday as he held multiple meetings with officials of other countries and international financial institutions.

Separately, Dar, along with State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) Governor Jameel Ahmed met Queen Maxima of the Netherlands to discuss financial inclusion and equality in banking.

The two sides reiterated their commitment to work together to achieve fast progress, the finance ministry said in a press release.

In his meeting with Director General of Kuwait Fund Marwan Abdullah Yusuf Thunayan Al-Ghanem, the finance minister appreciated the fund's contribution to Pakistan's economic development. He also discussed ongoing projects and potential new areas of investment. Separately, during his meeting with Asian Development Bank (ADB) President Masatsugu Asakawa, Dar thanked the multilateral lender for its support over the years and its commitments following the devastating floods. The ADB president assured the finance minister of approval of the BRACE programme amounting to \$1.5 billion and continued support to Pakistan Dar also met International Finance Corporation (IFC) Managing Director Makhtar Diop, with whom he discussed potential means of enhancing IFC's engagement in Pakistan and assured all facilitation in this regard. Web Desk

'Biden's comments on Pakistan's nuclear weapons factually incorrect, misleading'

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has rejected US President Joe Biden's comments on Pakistan's nuclear weapons, terming it as factually incorrect and misleading.

At a Democratic congressional campaign committee reception, Biden said, Pakistan may be "one of the most dangerous nations in the world" as the country has "nuclear weapons without any cohesion," said a report released by the KMS, today.

It said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in a tweet dismissed concerns over Pakistan's nuclear programme. "Let me reiterate unequivocally: Pakistan is a responsible nuclear state and we are proud that our nuclear assets have the best safeguards as per IAEA requirements. We take these safety measures with the utmost seriousness. Let no one have any doubts," he wrote.

In a separate press release of the Prime Minister Office, Pakistan had proven to be a most responsible nuclear state over the past decades whose nuclear programme was managed through a technically sound and foolproof command and control system, the report maintained.

The report said Pakistan has also consistently demonstrated responsible stewardship of its nuclear-weapons capability, marked by a very strong commitment to global standards, including those of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on non-proliferation, safety, and security.

It said Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari in a press conference said Pakistan's nuclear assets meet

each and every international standard in accordance with the IAEA as far as security and safety is concerned.

He pointed out, "If there is any question about nuclear weapons, it should be with India," referring to the March 9 incident in which India accidentally fired a BrahMos missile from Sirsa, Haryana state, which crashed into the Mian Channu area of Khanewal district in Pakistan's Punjab province. Later in August, Indian air force fired three officers, the report maintained.

It deplored that despite UNSC resolution and IAEA Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM), theft of over 200 kg of nuclear and radioactive material raised serious concerns about Indian nuclear safety capabilities. "Indian authorities recovered 2.5 kg uranium in 1994; 111 kg in 1998, also involving an opposition leader; 59.1 kg in 2000; 200 grams in 2001; 225 grams in 2003; 4 kg in 2008; 5 kg in 2009; 9 kg in 2016; 1 kg in 2018 and 13.75 kg in 2021 in several other incidents. Frequent incidents of loss and theft of nuclear and radioactive material in India indicate the failure of the nuclear security system. India will soon be the only state proliferator of nuclear materials to non-state actors and terrorists. Such incidents are a matter of deep concern as they point to lax controls, poor regulatory and enforcement mechanisms, as well as the possible existence of a black market for nuclear materials inside India. In comparison to Pakistan where no single such incident took place, at least 20 incidents of nuclear material theft and lost were reported in India from 1994 to 2021", the report said. INP



FAISALABAD: A woman casts her vote in a ballot box at a polling station during by-elections of NA-108 of the National Assembly in the city.

US interest rate hikes bad news for Pakistan's economy: WealthPK

ISLAMABAD: The hike in the US interest rate is not a good omen for Pakistan, as its economy is already in recession in the wake of the recent economic slowdown due to tight monetary policy and devastating floods. In the given scenario, Pakistan will be left with no option but to raise its interest rate, reports WealthPK. Reducing interest rates has proven to be a reliable strategy for addressing the economic crisis around the world. The rising inflation, causing numerous market busts, has set alarm bells ringing in the world capitals. As long as inflation stays red hot, the market participants' hopes will remain shattered. On September 13, 2022, the US stock market crashed just after the inflation data for August came in higher than expected. The Federal Reserve's continued aggressive interest rate hikes designed to combat inflation forced investors to cut down their investments. The interest rates are rising faster than any other time in the recent US history. In just six months, the effective federal funds rate has risen more than 2 percentage points. Having hiked rates by 300 basis points in 2022, the US Fed is all set to hike the rates yet again in November. The Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) will meet on November 1-2 to decide on the quantum of the next rate hike. Before that, the September 2022 CPI data is scheduled to be released on October 13. Talking to WealthPK, General Manager of Arif Habib Limited Omer Iqbal said in the current era of globalization and economic integration, all the economies were interconnected. Any shift in the situation of an economic power would affect other nations. Pakistan, he said, will not be exempt from the effects of the US aggressive interest rate policy.

"Pakistan's economy is already in recession, and its financial health has been negatively impacted by the recent floods and extreme weather. The news of the Federal Reserve Bank's rate hike is not encouraging for Pakistan and in the coming days, it will also have to raise its interest rate," Omer said.

According to Omer, Pakistan is already engaged in an IMF loan program, and the rate increase will only worsen its debt burden and stifle future possibilities of economic growth. Investors now view banks as a safe haven and prefer to keep their funds there rather than invest in businesses, he added.

Dr. Atiq-ur-Rehman, research economist and professor at the Kashmir Institute of Economics, told WealthPK that Pakistan's internal debt has reached over PKR19 trillion, which is about 45% of the gross national product (GDP). The policy rate alone is responsible for 90% of the increase in the domestic debt, and any increase in the policy rate will raise the country's debt burden.

Atiq said that increasing the policy rate is not the best way to fight inflation. Within the past year, the US has increased the interest rate three times, while the UK has raised the interest rates five times since November 2021. However, there is no success so far. In total, almost 90 countries have increased their interest rates since June 2021. But so far, not a single country has had significant success in controlling inflation. "Expectations are often more effective than reality in the financial market. Most of the countries actually use psychological tactics rather than raising the interest rates. We have been consistently saying for the last two years that the current wave of inflation will not be controlled by higher interest rates. INP

Death anniversary of Liaquat Ali Khan observed

LAHORE: The 71st death anniversary of Pakistan's first Prime Minister Shaheed-e-Millat, Khan Liaquat Ali Khan, was being observed Sunday.

Born in Karnal, East Punjab, Liaquat Ali Khan got education from Aligarh Muslim University, India and Oxford University, United Kingdom.

He then struggled with Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah to get a separate homeland for Muslims of Sub-continent.

Liaquat Ali Khan was assassinated on this day in 1951 during a public meeting at Company Bagh in Rawalpindi which was later named after him as Liaquat Bagh. INP

PM to visit flood-affected areas in Balochistan on today

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is scheduled to visit flood-affected areas in Balochistan on Monday where he will review flood relief operations.

According to sources, Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Abdul Qudus Bezinjo and some senior federal minister will also accompany the Prime Minister during the visit.

Shehbaz Sharif will visit the areas devastated by recent monsoon rains and floods in Khuzdar. The Prime Minister will review flood relief activities in the area. PM Shehbaz will also meet flood affectees during the visit. INP

Pakistan reports 46 coronavirus cases, no death in 24 hours

LAHORE: Pakistan has reported no death in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of confirmed positive cases has surged to 1,573,365. The nationwide tally of fatalities stands at 30,620 on Sunday.

According to the latest figures by the National Institute of Health (NIH), at least 46 persons were tested positive for COVID-19 across the country in the past 24 hours.

Pakistan has conducted 10,396 tests in the past 24 hours out of which 46 persons were tested positive for the disease. The COVID Positivity Ratio was recorded at 0.44 percent. INP

Citizens denied major relief in petroleum prices by raising levy

ISLAMABAD: The government deprived the citizens of a major relief in the prices of petroleum products by raising the levy, it emerged on Sunday.

As per the official sources, the federal government has increased the levy on petrol by Rs14.84 to Rs47.26 per litre.

The government has decided to keep the prices of petroleum products unchanged till October 31 next. INP

Pakistan hopes 20th CPC National Congress to promote China's shares prosperity: Moin ul Haq

BEIJING: The 20th National Congress of the CPC that met here on Sunday will promote China's development and share prosperity for the world, said Pakistani Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque.

This Congress will lay a strong foundation for furthering China's ongoing progress and development journey.

"I hope this congress will open a new chapter in the promotion of China-Pakistan relations and we wish full success to it. It will not only make important decisions for the Chinese domestic politics, economy and will also charter future trajectory for the Chinese economic progress," he stated. INP

No major complaint about polling process in Sindh: ECP official

KARACHI: Joint Operating Officer election commission Sindh on Sunday denied any major complaint about polling in by elections.

Talking to media during a visit of the Superior College polling station in Shah Faisal Town, Javed Iqbal Shah said that there were complaints about belated beginning of polling at one or two places.

"CCTV cameras have been installed at sensitive polling stations," he said.

"The polling process was started at 8:00 in the morning," he said.

"We are thankful of the Rangers and Police for their assistance," election commission officer said.

He asked the citizens to cast their votes and become part of the democratic process.

Sindh election commission joint operating officer also denied any incident of lawlessness adding that the police and rangers' officials standing side by side with the election commission. INP

ICSTSI, RCSTSI urge govt to de-seal Centaurs Mall

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Chamber of Small Traders and Small Industries (ICSTSI) and Rawalpindi Chamber of Small Traders and Small Industries (RCSTSI) have urged the government to immediately de-seal Islamabad's major business centre, Centaurs Mall.

The President of Islamabad Chamber of Small Traders and Small Industries Sajjad Sarwar, Senior Vice President Tariq Mehmood Khokhar, Vice President Muhammad Dawood Shaikh, Rawalpindi Chamber of Small Traders and Small Industries President Tariq Jadoon, Senior Vice President Naeem Ashraf and Vice President M Mahfooz in a joint statement on Sunday said, the employment of lakhs of families is connected to this centre.

The property should be opened in public interest away from political affiliation as business activities have already stopped due to the economic crisis, they added.

The representatives of the business community demanded that Centaurs Mall should be de-sealed so that maintenance work could be completed as soon as possible as the temporary closure of Centaurs Mall has made daily wage-earners jobless. In addition, Ajmal Baloch, President of All Pakistan Anjuman Tajran, said that let the businessman live and do business. The country's economy is devastated, he added. They deplored that the attitude of Islamabad administration and DC towards traders was very inappropriate. The current DC Islamabad is not acceptable and he should. INP

CPC plays a key role in achieving China's dynamic miracles: Experts

ISLAMABAD: A roundtable discussion titled "An Appraisal of 10 years of Chinese National Congress and Regional Outlook" was organised under the banner of Islamabad Institute of Conflict Resolution (IICR), an Islamabad-based think tank.

The panellists included Professor Zamir Ahmed Awan, Founding Chair GSRRA, Lecturer NUST; Dr George H Cooke, Diplomatic Historian, Sri-Lanka; Mr Shakeel Ahmad, Political Economist; Mr Carlos Martinez, Co-editor of Friends of Socialist China, UK; Dr Tahir Mumtaz Awan, Head of China Study Centre, COMSATS University.

Ms. Sabah Aslam, Executive Director of IICR delivered opening remarks and welcomed the guests and panellists.

While addressing the panel, Professor Zamir Ahmed Awan, Founding Chair GSRRA, Lecturer NUST, said "The future is China, China is the rising superpower, and the Communist Party of China (CPC) has played the main role in achieving such a feat."

He further said that Chinese President Xi Jinping is a visionary leader with a global perspective. The policies implemented under his leadership in China are being followed by multiple countries across the world. He asserted that the US openly considers the emerging power China as a threat and is exercising a policy to contain China, counter China, and engage China at strategic diplomatic, and economic levels. China has the capacity to reshape the global order, as its leadership has emerged. INP

Imran's contesting elections on 7 seats is insult of PTI voters: Sherry

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Climate Change and PPP senior leader Senator Sherry Rehman has described Imran Khan's contesting elections on seven National Assembly seats, from where the PTI MNAs had resigned, as a humiliation of PTI leaders and voters.

In a series of tweets uploaded on Sunday, Sherry Rehman said "He is humiliating his party leaders and voters by contesting elections on seven seats. He is insulting the mandate of the people this way."

The minister advised the people to vote only for that candidate who can represent them in Parliament and be their voice. "Imran Khan has already run away from representing his own constituency," she said and added "Imran Khan considers Parliament only as a ladder to power, not the axis of public power and representation."

She further said "These parliamentarians want to come only if they are given the hope of a chair. People are requested not to waste their votes by voting for Imran Khan. Vote is a constitutional right and responsibility, use it thoughtfully for the good of yourself and your constituency." INP

Sindh Governor visits Liaquat Ali Khan's grave, offers Fateha

KARACHI: Sindh Governor Mohammed Kamran Khan Tessori visited the grave of Shaheed-e-Millat Liaquat Ali Khan on the occasion of his death anniversary.

He placed a floral wreath at the grave and offered Fateha. The governor also prayed for the development and prosperity of the country, including the Sindh province.

He also inked his remarks in the book of visitors.

Later, talking to media persons, he said, "I have come to pay tribute to Liaquat Ali Khan, the country's first prime minister. He said that October 16 was the black day in the history of the country, because on this day the first prime minister of the country was martyred."

Replying to a question about by-elections, he said that the people should exercise their right to vote and all participating parties should follow the code of conduct. INP

By-polls: ECP issues notice to Rana Sanaullah for violating code of conduct

FAISALABAD: The Election Commission Pakistan (ECP) has issued a notice to Federal Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah Khan for violating the election code of conduct.

District Monitoring Officer Faisalabad Syed Basit Ali issued a notice to Federal Minister Rana Sanaullah for violating the code of conduct in the by-polls.

The notice has been issued on the participation of PML-N candidate NA-108 Abid Sher Ali's election campaign.

According to the notification, Rana Sanaullah has been ordered to submit his answer at the District Returning Officer's office, in Faisalabad.

The District Returning Officer said that public officeholders are prohibited from participating in the election campaign.

The notification stated that the Election Commission has issued an order to the Deputy Commissioner and City Police Officer Faisalabad to evict all public office holders from the limits of NA-108.

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KARACHI: Police Personnel intervene supporters of Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) and Pakistan People Party (PPP) as they clash during by-elections of NA-37 of the National Assembly in Provincial Capital.

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Steel industry must be fully strengthened for rapid economic growth: FTO Coordinator

ISLAMABAD: Steel industry, the mother of all industries, needed to be strengthened for sustainable economic growth, a prerequisite for rapid development, progress and prosperity in the country.

This was stated by Coordinator to Federal Tax Ombudsman (FTO) Meher Kashif Younis, while addressing a delegation of industrialists led by Ahmad Waqar, here on Sunday.

Meher said that the iron and steel industry was the bottom line producer industry and the mother of all industries as it helped other secondary industries, besides also contributing towards national development.

He said that worldwide, the steel industry was considered one of the vital aspects of stable growth and economic development, adding, "our industrial policy needs to prioritize steel production over sugar,

cola and cigarettes production."

There was definitely a dire need for promoting the steel sector as the demand for steel was higher than its production and the gap was met through imports. "Even if the reverse were the case, we would have exported steel given its high demand world over," he highlighted.

"We are spending our precious foreign exchange because the steel mill is closed and ship-breaking at Gadhani cannot cater the needs and is less than capacity," Meher said.

The FTO coordinator said steel was also recyclable and, therefore, unlikely to run out like fossil fuels. "About 88 percent of steel is recycled throughout the world and unlike other recycled materials, steel never loses its strength during recycling." INP



KARACHI: A woman casts her vote in a ballot box at a polling station during by-elections constituencies of the National Assembly in Provincial Capital.