

# QUETTA VOICE

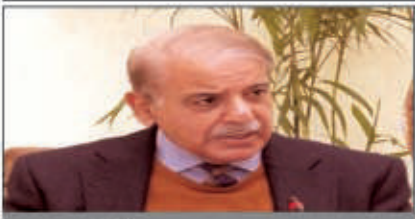
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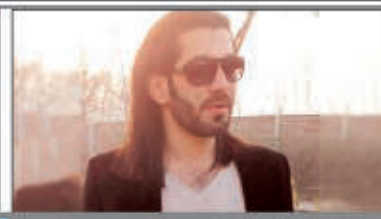
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**PM Shehbaz reaffirms commitment to eradicate polio from Pakistan**



**Video scandal: Court convicts Hidayat Khilji to 6 years in two cases**

## Govt to table no-confidence motions in Punjab, KP assemblies: Zardari

Former president and PPP chairman Asif Ali Zardari said on Thursday that the coalition government had decided to table no-confidence motions in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab assemblies.

The statement comes days after PTI chairman Imran Khan announced plans to "quit the corrupt system and leave all the assemblies". However, the PTI has yet to announce a date for the dissolution of assemblies in Punjab and KP, where the PTI is in power.

In an interview with journalist Asma Shirazi on Aaj TV programme 'Faisla Aap Ka', Zardari ruled out snap polls saying that it won't "suit us or democracy".

"It's too immature and too soon to say anything about the elections. I don't think there is a possibility of the establishment forcing early elections," he said.

However, at the same time, he asserted that the coalition parties would contest the polls if the PTI succeeded in dissolving the provincial assemblies. "I will see how many MPAs Imran is able to get."

In response to a question about the tabling of no-confidence motions, Zardari said: "God willing." He went on to say that the motions would be submitted "everywhere".

"Even in KP. We have seats [there]. There are



some friends who have gone astray [...] we have to bring them back. We will bring a way in which they won't have to resign."

Zardari claimed that he had numbers in Punjab which were sufficient to throw out the PTI government. When asked if Punjab Chief Minister Pervez Elahi could be reached out to again, the PPP chairman said that there was a distance between the two of them.

"I made Elahi deputy prime minister and gave him 17 ministries. This time they opted out themselves. We have bigger choices than them now."

"New army chief appointed on institution's choice"

In response to a question about the appointment of Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Asim Munir, Zardari said that the new army chief came on the institution's choice.

"I told PM Shehbaz to use his constitutional right. I told him we are

your allies [...] we give you authority to use your constitutional power. Shehbaz is a good man, he could have not called us and selected the COAS."

The former president said that there may be some things that coalition leaders differed on but promised that it won't dent their alliance because "everything is irrelevant, only Pakistan is relevant." He went on to say that he didn't personally know Gen Munir. "He was the first person on the list [sent to the Prime Minister House]. And as per seniority, he was selected." Zardari said that former army chief Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa never approached him for an extension. "He might have said it to the prime minister. I wanted to lobby for Gen Aamer, who was sixth on the list, but I could not because the situation was not good."

Talking about the institutions' decision to

stay apolitical, he said that "the army has walked ahead by staying apolitical."

"Can defeat Imran in any constituency"

During the interview on Thursday, Zardari claimed that he could defeat PTI chairman Imran Khan from any constituency "except for Mianwali where the Nawab of Kalabagh will stand against him."

"If I get myself shot and gather 25,000 people, where is the popularity in this? He lost against me by 21,000 votes in Sindh. We can fight him politically."

He alleged that Imran was "making full payments" and promised to hold him accountable.

The former president also said that the government didn't try to implicate Imran in any case. "If he has to be held accountable, NAB (National Accountability Bureau) will do it. If he did sell the watch then a case would be lodged against him automatically."

He, however, stated that he wasn't aware of any of Imran's wrongdoings.

"Imran's game was bigger and is still bigger. His game is not based in Pakistan. It's based somewhere else," Zardari claimed.

In response to a question on whether he could reach an understanding with Imran, the former president said he could not "run after a man who keeps barking." Web Desk

## Video scandal: Court convicts Hidayat Khilji to 6 years in two cases

Staff Reporter

A local court in Quetta convicted Hidayat Khilji involved in raping and filming girls to six years of rigorous imprisonment in two different cases. Police arrested Hidayat Khilji and his brother Khalil Khilji in the famous video scandal for raping and filming girls from Quetta's Nichari area last year in December.

The judicial magistrate Quetta announced the judgment. The court also convicted his brother, the co-accused to three years of



rigorous imprisonment in the case. Despite repeated attempts, the Daily Quetta Voice was not able to speak to the lawyer of the accused in the video scandal

case. Amid tight security, the two brothers were produced before the court and then the judge announced the judgment.

The court also fined Hidayat Khilji Rs. 5 lakh. However, Khalil Khilji was fined Rs. 3 lakh.

The video scandal was widely shared on social media and effectively reported by the mainstream national media. The Hazara community had also staged a protest demonstration for the arrest of the accused involved in raping and filming girls at that time.

## ANF seizes 1400 kgs hashish in Gwadar being smuggled through camels

Mir Salam Jozgazi

The Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) on Thursday foiled a major bid of smuggling 1400 kilograms of hashish. The ANF conducted a successful operation and seized 1400 kgs of hashish in a deserted mountainous area of Gwadar, the Spokesman of ANF said.

Two suspects were arrested during the operation. The successful operation was conducted on secret information, the Spokesman stated. The accused were trying to smuggle huge quantities of narcotics through camels. He said 1400 kg



of hashish had to be loaded on camels and smuggled through Gwadar and then by sea.

In another raid, the ANF also seized 3 kg 500 grams of ice recovered from the trolley bag of 2

suspects who were going to Sharjah at Bacha Khan International Airport Peshawar.

## In meeting with Imran, Punjab CM assures to stand by PTI decision on assembly dissolution

Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhry Pervez Elahi has assured PTI Chairman Imran Khan of standing by his side as the opposition in the provincial assembly mulls ways to overthrow the PTI-PML-Q-led coalition government in the province.

Khan — who called off his long march to Islamabad last week — has announced quitting assemblies across the country, including Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab.

The party's leadership, according to PTI Senior Vice President Fawad Chaudhry, has approved the dissolution of assemblies in both provinces, but the final decision will be made after further consultations.



The opposition — PML-N and the allied parties — has said that it would not back down from a challenge, but stressed that snap polls were

not in the country's favour.

In his meeting with Khan at the PTI chief's Lahore residence Thursday, Elahi once again pledged his loyalty and stressed that he "owed" the Punjab Assembly to the former prime minister.

Elahi said he would not "hesitate for a moment" when Khan orders him to dissolve the assembly as he will keep supporting all of the PTI chief's decisions.

He added that the elements behind creating misconceptions in the camps of PTI and PML-Q would "fail again" as he slammed the opposition for claiming that they were in contact with the government's lawmakers.

"Imran Khan is indispensable," CM Elahi said and challenged the opposition to table a no-confidence motion against him. "They have failed before and will fail again."

The PML-Q leader said the opposition is "daydreaming" if it thinks it can overthrow the Punjab government. He added that the opposition does not have the required numbers.

"If the Punjab Assembly is in session, then the governor's rule cannot be imposed. It is my honest advice to the opposition: please read the rules of business." "Whatever Imran Khan says, I will act without hesitation. Punjab Assembly [is a small thing], I will give my life for Imran Khan. Web Desk

## GRM announces to stage sit-in outside Gwadar international airport

Behram Baloch

Gwadar Rights Movement (GRM) announced to stage sit-in outside the Gwadar international airport to mount pressure on the government to acceptance of its demands. "We will stage a sit-in on the road leading towards Gwadar airport", Maulana Hidayat ur Rehman, the GRM Chief said.

Thirty-six days have passed since the GRM protest and sit-in at Lala Hameed Chowk. The government del-



egation could not reach the talks yet, the Maulana complained. Addressing the protesters on the thirty-sixth day of the protest sit-in, the GRM chief Maulana Hidayat ur Rehman said that illegal trawling and fishing has deprived commoners of their daily bread in the sea.

Many fish species completely disappeared because of illegal fishing: Maulana

It has been done, and many fish species have completely disappeared due to the extinction of fishes, the Maulana said. These trawlers are the enemies of Sindh bandits and fishermen and pirates of the land, if the trawlers are caught and brought to court, the lawyers' community should not fight the case of these bandits, he said. He said that Awaran, Mastung, Khuzdar, Khadkocha, and Makran are destroyed, and the political parties are responsible for the destruction of these areas of Balochistan. Balochistan has been ruined by these same political parties, and cruelty is reaching its peak in Balochistan, but no leader of any nationalist party has resigned from the assembly.

What is the fault of GRM, he questions

He said that intellectuals on social media criticizing the Haq Du Movement should first tell what is the fault and mistakes of the Haq Du Movement. First, tell us if it is our fault, he asked. If we are wrong, then they should not support us, but they should not become cowards themselves, struggle and protest. In the sit-in, Maulana Hidayat-ur-Rehman also announced a sit-in on December 2 in front of the Gwadar New International Airport.

## 2 killed in a firing incident in Bakhtiarabad Domki

Nashad Baloch

SIBI: At least two people were killed in a firing incident in the Bakhtiarabad Domki area of the Sibi district on Thursday morning. Levies sources said armed men opened fire and killed two people on the spot. The assailants sped away on their motorcycle.

Soon after the incident, people of the area and levies reached the spot. The dead bodies were shifted to a nearby hospital. The victims were identified as local tribesmen. Levies described the incident as a result of the tribal clash.

The hospital administration handed over the dead bodies to the heirs after the completion of necessary procedures. Panic prevailed in the area in the aftermath of the attack. No arrest was made in connection with the murder of two people.

## 2 injured in hand grenade attack in Khuzdar

From Our Correspondent

At least two people were injured in a hand grenade blast in the Kathan area of Khuzdar on Thursday night. Levies sources said unknown miscreants, lobbed a hand grenade at Kathan bridge. The attack left two people injured. The injured were identified as Ali Hassan and Amir Ali. They were rushed to the district headquarters hospital Khuzdar for medical treatment. Police and levies reached the spot as an investigation into the incident went underway.

## PM Shehbaz reaffirms commitment to eradicate polio from Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has reaffirmed the commitment of government to eradicate polio from Pakistan.

According to details, the prime minister made these remarks during a meeting with a delegation of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative Speaking on the occasion, PM Shehbaz said that keeping the political differences aside, the whole country stood united for a polio-free Pakistan and that the government would continue its efforts until the disease was completely eliminated. The prime minister said that polio had been eradicated

from most parts of the country except certain pockets which were being targeted through periodic vaccination campaigns. He said the whole Pakistani nation was thankful to the partners and donors, including Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Rotary International, UNICEF and WHO for helping in polio eradication from Pakistan. Reiterating the government's commitment, the prime minister reassured unwavering support and commitment to eradicate polio from Pakistan. He thanked the delegation for its untiring efforts regarding polio eradication in Pakistan. PM Shehbaz

also assured the delegation that the teams in the field were given high-level security and that Pakistan would never allow anyone to sabotage that national effort. The prime minister directed the Federal Minister for National Health Services, Abdul Qadir Patel to immediately visit Peshawar and synergize efforts with the provincial authorities for gearing up efforts to vaccinate children against the virus, particularly targeting those pockets in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa where poliovirus was still present.

Chair of Polio Oversight Board and President Global Development INP

## People with disabilities stage protest outside Quetta Press Club

Manan Mandokhail

QUETTA: People with disabilities demonstrated in front of the Quetta Press Club in favor of their demands on the Day of Persons with Disabilities. Representatives of organizations working for disabled people also participated and carried out placards inscribed with various slogans demanding rights for the disabled.

Zia Khan, the leader of people with disabilities said that December 3 is celebrated as the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

The protesters demanded of the government to ensure the appointment of disabled people in government departments and ensure the implementation of their rights.

"Our effort is to implement the legislation that has been



enacted for the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities and to solve the problems because the persons with disabilities are forced to live a life of hardships which is education", Mr. Khan stated.

Many are struggling with problems such as health and employment, while the Department of Social Welfare is not playing any role to make their resources possible, he said. The officials of the department are getting privileges but they give cold shoulder to the issues of disabled people.

Make implementation possible and solve our legitimate problems. Modern technology and assistive devices are being used for disabled people worldwide but in Balochistan Conveyance Allowance for disabled people has been increased from 2000 to 6000 Disability certificate is issued online.



Cold, dry weather expected in most parts of country

ISLAMABAD: Mainly cold and dry weather is expected in most parts of the country. However, foggy conditions are likely to develop over plain areas of Punjab during night and morning hours.

Anantnag, cold and dry in Jammu, Shopian and Baramulla while very cold and partly cloudy in Leh.

Shangla and Kohistan districts Besides, shallow fog in isolated pockets is likely to occur over Swabi, Mardan, Nowshera, Charsadda, Peshawar and Dera Ismail Khan districts, as well as Peshawar to Swabi motorway during late night and morning hours.



ISLAMABAD: Brief session for Royal Saudi Naval delegation upon visit of Naval Headquarter.

NAB denies assets inquiry against Usman Buzdar

LAHORE: The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) on Thursday denied it inquiring into assets beyond means charges against former chief minister Usman Buzdar.

"Usman Buzdar was summoned but he didn't appear in person," NAB said. The bureau pleaded to the court to cancel interim bail to former chief minister Buzdar in the inquiry.

elled false allegation of malicious intention over the accountability bureau without any evidence," NAB said in its reply to the court.

South African president faces threat of impeachment

CAPE TOWN: South African president Cyril Ramaphosa is facing a possible impeachment threat over the "Farmgate" scandal.

The ANC will hold a meeting with its executive on Thursday, where it is expected that the issue will be discussed.

"I did not 'hunt' for the perpetrators of the theft, as alleged, nor did I give any instructions for this to take place," he wrote in a submission to the panel's report.

ANF seizes over 1,433 kg of drugs, 150 heroin-filled capsules

RAWALPINDI: Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) Pakistan while conducting six counter-narcotics operations throughout the country seized over 1,433 kg of drugs, 150 heroin-filled capsules, and 68 grams of weed and arrested eight accused, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Thursday.

received from London. The spokesman informed that in an operation at Bacha Khan International Airport, 3.5 kg Ice drug was recovered from trolley bags of two passengers going to Sharjah.

tered at respective ANF Police Stations under CNS Act 1997 (Amended 2022) and further investigations are under process.



ISLAMABAD: Head of Office for Pakistan UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Carlos Geha called on Chairman NDMA Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik.

Karachi ranks 6th affordable city in the World

KARACHI: Karachi has ranked 6th among the cheapest cities around the world, according to Economist Intelligence Unit's ranking report for the Worldwide Cost of Living 2022 (WCOL).

residents, they'd tell you that the pace of inflation has wreaked havoc on their spending plans.

Together, the two have moved Tel Aviv (Israel), which took first place the previous year, to third position. Of the 172 cities surveyed.

Convoy of camels loaded with drugs worth millions seized in Gwadar

GAWADAR: The Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) on Thursday seized a convoy of 10 camels loaded with bags containing drugs during an operation in Gwadar.



ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

Russia's GDP decline estimated at 2.1% in January-October

MOSCOW: The decline in Russia's GDP slowed in October to 4.4% year-on-year after falling by 4.5% in September; the economy declined by 2.1% year-on-year in January-October, the Ministry of Economic Development said in a report.

Photographic exhibition to commemorate diplomatic relations between Pakistan EU held

BRUSSELS: In commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and European Union, a photographic exhibition was launched in Brussels at an event organized by the Pakistan Mission to the European Union (EU) in collaboration with European External Action Service (EEAS).

Chinese enterprises optimistic about Pakistan's electric motorcycle industry

ISLAMABAD: Chinese enterprises are optimistic about Pakistan's electric motorcycle industry, according to a report published by China Economic Net (CEN) on Thursday.

The report stated that industry insiders are confident that electric vehicles in Pakistan will enter a phase of rapid development in the near future.

In the spirit of breaking the significant breakthroughs of China's new energy, Jialing Industrial Co., Ltd. China established a branch in Pakistan last month to focus on the introduction of new energy pure electric motorcycles instead of traditional fuels.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER. The Senior Assistant Director Local Government Naseerabad invites sealed percentage rated tender under PSDP fund for the year 2022-23 based on Composite Schedule of Rates 2018 Government of Balochistan from interested Contractor/Firms for the works mentioned below: (Time limit 30' June, 2022)

NOTICE INVITING TENDER. The Directorate General Agriculture Extension Balochistan-Q invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2022 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates. TSE-22231174213

# Azam Swati approaches Supreme Court for transfer of cases to Islamabad

ISLAMABAD: Senator Azam Swati on Thursday approached the Supreme Court for the transfer of all cases filed against him in Sindh and Balochistan for the controversial tweets he made against senior military officers to Islamabad.

The plea was filed by his lawyer Babar Awan in which the federation, director general of Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) and inspector general of Sindh and Balochistan were made parties.

Swati, stated in his petition, that the federal agency arrested him in a false case. He added that multiple cases were registered against him in the country.

Swati added that he faces a security threat when appearing for cases registered against him in different parts of the country.

In such a case, the senator appealed to the apex court to order the consolidation and transfer of his cases registered against him in Sindh and Balochistan to Islamabad.

The senator also appealed to the court that the "operation of FIR's" registered against him be suspended till his plea is heard.

"The Petitioner invokes Constitutional jurisdiction of this Honourable Court inter alia on the question of larger public importance and seeks the remedy of transferring all the FIR's at once place/jurisdiction to enable the petitioner to effectively defend himself," stated the petition.

Yasmin Rashid files plea against Swati's arrest

On the other hand, PTI leader Yasmin Rashid filed a petition at the Supreme Court's Lahore registry against Swati's arrest, terming it "illegal".

Rashid claimed in her petition that the senator was arrested on political grounds.

"Action should be taken against those responsible for Azam Swati's arrest," read the petition.

It added that his family was ill-treated and a notice should be taken against this act. It also asked to ensure the sanctity of the house.

The PTI leader also said that the women will protest against Minister Rana Sanaullah's treatment towards women.

"We are hopeful that the chief justice would give us justice," she said, adding that she will also file a plea against JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman.

The PTI leader was once again arrested for speaking against senior military officers last week on Sunday from his farmhouse located in Chak Shahzad, Islamabad.

The same day he was presented before a magistrate which approved Senator Swati's two-day physical remand. The senator was once again presented before court on Tuesday and his remand was extended for four more days.



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Global Polio Eradication Initiative led by Dr. Christopher Elias, Chair Polio Oversight Board and President Global Development Program (Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation) calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

## Supreme Court to hear contempt case against Imran Khan Today

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court (SC) on Thursday fixed a contempt of court case against former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan for hearing.

A five-member larger bench, headed by Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial, will conduct the hearing on December 2 (today).

The court also issued notices to respondents in the case.

The SC bench will comprise Justice Jazul Ahsan, Justice Muneeb Akhtar and Justice Yahya Afridi.

Justice Mazhar Ali Akbar Naqvi will also be a part of the five-member bench. INP

## Police arrest 14 Afghan immigrants over illegal entry in Karachi

KARACHI: Karachi police on Thursday booked 14 Afghan nationals for illegally residing in the city.

According to details, district Central police carried out a late night operation and arrested 14 Afghan immigrants who were illegally residing in Karachi.

The Afghan nationals failed to show their Pakistani citizenship and relevant travel documents, police said.

Police have registered cases against the immigrants under the foreigners' act and handed over arrested men to the investigating authorities.

In a statement, police said the crackdown against such foreign nationals would continue across the metropolis.

Earlier on November 11, Sindh Rangers and police in their joint action rounded up 122 illegal immigrants, who were attempting to enter Sindh from Balochistan.

According to Sindh Rangers spokesperson, the personnel of the paramilitary forces and police searched the passenger bus in a routine practice wherein they encountered the 122 suspects who, Rangers and police claimed, were Afghan citizens having illegally penetrated into Pakistan.

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## 'Daesh has arrived' written on police station in Peshawar

PESHAWAR: Unidentified people have written 'Daesh has arrived' on the wall of a police station in the KP capital Peshawar. The Mathra DSP said other buildings have also been wall-chalked with the same message. The writings about Daesh were done in the Pashto language by unidentified people. Law Enforcement agencies are investigating this matter. INP

## Man killed in road accident in Sargodha

SARGODHA: A man was killed in motorcycle-car collision here at near Langar wala bridge in the limits of Sahiwal police.

Police said here on Thursday that Muhammad Naeem (55) r/o mouza Langrana was traveling on motorbike when his speeding two-wheeler collided with a car near Lagar wala bridge. He suffered serious head injuries and died on the spot. The victim was shifted to hospital while further investigation was under way. INP

## IRSA releases 80,300 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD: The Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Thursday released 80,300 cusecs of water from various rim stations with an inflow of 49,300 cusecs.

According to the data released by IRSA, the water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1508.53 feet and was 110.53 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow in the dam was recorded as 22,700 cusecs while outflow was recorded as 42,000 cusecs. The release of water at Kalabagh, Taunsa, Guddu and Sukkur was recorded at 56,500, 38,800, 31,400 and 12,200 cusecs respectively. Similarly, from River Kabul, a total of 8,900 cusecs of water was released at Nowshera, whereas 2,000 cusecs of water was released from River Chenab at Marala. INP

## Woman, minor girl die in Karachi

KARACHI: A woman and minor girl died on Thursday at a flood relief camp established in Karachi's Malir district. As per details, a 60-year-old woman and 5-year-old Maria Khoso died at flood relief camp in Malir Karachi. They were displaced from their home because of recent catastrophic floods. Both of them were shifted to a hospital after their health deteriorated, and later they were declared dead. The dead body of the woman has been shifted to Ghotki, whereas the minor girl's dead body was shifted to Naushahro Feroze. The flood affectees complained that people are suffering from different viral diseases and the government. INP

## OGRA jacks up LPG prices for December

ISLAMABAD: The Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) has increased the prices of Liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) for the month of December.

According to the OGRA notification, the price of 11.8 KG domestic cylinder has gone up by Rs139 while the price of a commercial cylinder increased by Rs535.

According to OGRA notification, the domestic cylinder will now be available at Rs2548 and commercial cylinder will be available at Rs9804.

Earlier, the federal government has announced to keep the prices of petrol and diesel unchanged for the next 15 days, despite a global decrease in oil prices.

Finance Minister Ishaq Dar announced to keep the prices of petrol and high-speed diesel unchanged for the next 15 days. However, he announced a reduction of Rs10 per litre at the prices of kerosene oil and Rs7 on light diesel.

Meanwhile, he also announced a 15-day extension in the filing of income tax returns.

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Earlier, the federal government has announced to keep the prices of petrol and diesel unchanged for the next 15 days, despite a global decrease in oil prices. INP

## Rupee sheds 16 paisas after brief stability

ISLAMABAD: Regardless of the financing of \$500million from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), Pakistani rupee still failed to hold the ground against the US dollar during early morning trading in the interbank market.

Following two consecutive days of stability, the Pakistani rupee reverted to its current spot rate of Rs224.11 during trading in the interbank market.

The value of the Pakistan rupee remained unchanged since Monday afternoon, settling at Rs223.95, with a zero change in value against the greenback.

Last week, the rupee's spot rate dropped by two paisas on Friday.

The rupee's current depreciation run against the US dollar began on Wednesday, after experiencing a brief upswing the day before.

With economic instability, the rupee has lost value in five consecutive sessions in the interbank market, but has managed to remain in the Rs223 range.

In the open currency market, the value of rupee increased from Rs231 to Rs251.50, respectively.

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## Dissolution issue: PML-N waits for Imran Khan, Pervaiz Elahi meeting

LAHORE: PML-N and the PPP have decided to wait for the outcome of a meeting between Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi and PTI Chairman Imran Khan, sources said on Thursday today.

The opposition parties in Punjab Assembly had earlier decided to move with the no-confidence motion and the vote of confidence on Dec 1 (today), to avoid dissolution of the legislature, according to party sources.

PML-N contacted the People's Party again, party sources said. "Muslim League-Nawaz leaders and Asif Ali Zardari have been entrusted the task to prevent dissolution of Punjab Assembly", sources said.

"Asif Zardari and PML-N leaders will contact estranged members of the PTI. These PTI members will also be consulted over the confidence vote move," according to sources.

Speaker Punjab Assembly Sibtain Khan Wednesday said that Punjab CM Pervaiz Elahi and Imran Khan will meet Thursday (today). He said in a press conference after meeting with Imran Khan, that the decisions of the meeting will be disclosed at an appropriate time.

He said Punjab CM Pervaiz Elahi is adamant in his stance to dissolve the provincial assembly.

Sibtain Khan said all political personalities including the president are in contact with each other. All political parties are present in all four provinces of the country, he added.

According to earlier reports, PML-N and allies will likely to use two options in hand to thwart a bid to dissolve the provincial legislature. Governor Baligh ur Rehman will ask Chief Minister Pervaiz Elahi on December 1st, to get fresh vote of confidence from the house, while with a break of one to two hours, the opposition parties' MPAs will file a no-confidence motion against the chief minister.

The opposition parties in Punjab Assembly had earlier decided to move with the no-confidence motion and the vote of confidence on Dec 1 (today), to avoid dissolution of the legislature, according to party sources.

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## DC bans protests on Khyber Road under Section 144

PESHAWAR: Deputy Commissioner Peshawar, Shafiqullah Khan on Thursday imposed Section-144, to ban protests and blockage of the main Khyber Road by the protestors in the larger public interest.

A notification to this effect said that roads were often blocked by protestors from different walks of life which create huge traffic jams on Khyber Road and the bottleneck effect was shifted to the whole city resulting in the blocking of all the main roads. This creates a nuisance and inconvenience to the general public. It said that ambulances carrying patients are also stuck in traffic jams caused by the blockage of roads by protestors.

The notification said following the judgment of the Peshawar High Court on the same issue and complaints received on the Pakistan Citizen Portal regarding the blockage of roads there was apprehension that the blockage of Khyber Road by protestors may cause a law and order situation.

The notification added that it was absolutely necessary to maintain peace and harmony to avoid any untoward incident and wherein the district administration is satisfied to take precautionary measures in the matter. INP

## Sindh govt forms JIT into M6 motorway land scam

KARACHI: The Sindh government on Thursday formed Joint Investigation Team (JIT) into the Rs3.61 billion land acquisition scam regarding the construction of the M6 Sukkur-Hyderabad Motorway.

According to the notification issued by Secretary Interior Sindh, the JIT will be headed by chairman Anti-Corruption Establishment (ACE) Sindh.

The probe team has been directed to submit a report within 10 days after completing the inquiry, the notification said. Meanwhile, the premier anti-graft body of the country National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has started its own investigations into the mega-corruption scandal. The anti-graft watchdog has summoned record details of Naushahro Feroze deputy commissioner Tashfeen Alam, who was involved in suspicious transactions of over Rs2 billion funds meant for acquiring land for the Hyderabad-Sukkur motorway project. The anti-corruption authority has also sought record of revenue officials belonging to Shaheed Benazirabad and Sukkur divisions. Earlier, the FIA had recommended putting names of the accused of M-6 fund misappropriation in the exit control list. Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Sindh in a letter to the FIA Immigration Islamabad has recommended to keep the names of the accused in motorway M-6 funds scam in the ECL. According to documents, the National Highway Authority had released an amount of Rs. 4.09 billion to DC Matiari for purchase of the land for the motorway. INP



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Salim Al-Zaabi called on Finance Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar in Islamabad.

## 'Role of Rural Women in National Development' seminar held

LAHORE: Coordinator to Federal Tax Ombudsman Meher Kashif Younis on Thursday said that sympathetic investment in rural women, a major chunk of total population, can play key role in enhancing national economic growth, eliminate abject poverty and abolish hunger in Pakistan.

Speaking at a seminar on "Role of Rural Women in National Development" he said that majority of women are living in rural areas and their contribution towards national development is extremely marginal.

He said if we fully utilize this untapped vast potential successfully in a planned manner, Pakistan can make strides in every sphere of life that will help ameliorate a lot to improve socio economic complexion of women folk across the country.

He said government must make sure that all public sector entities engaged for rural uplift to deliver otherwise same task be entrusted to private sector with full government support which will bring revolution.

Meher Kashif Younis said that one of the most efficient and effective strategic actions to address these issues include empowering rural women, as the efforts and talents of rural women are crucial to countering hunger and poverty.

Concluding Meher Kashif Younis said China today has the world's largest e-commerce market with sales transaction for goods reaching over \$4 trillion last year.

He said many well established sales platforms have been a pragmatic shift also for farmers and retailers who even directly sell to consumers within the country.

He said Pakistan can benefit from Chinese experience and on the other hand can adopt its pattern to achieve desired results of economic prosperity as the survival of the country worldwide depends exclusively on sound economy. INP

## 1st batch of Pakistani literatures to release in China, fostering cultural exchanges

BEIJING: Two imported books from Pakistan were announced to be officially launched in China, during the recently concluded Tianfu book fair in Sichuan, China. The book release will be the maiden voyage of Pakistani women's literature to Chinese readers.

According to a report of China Economic Net (CEN) two novels, "I Can Still Live Like the Wind/Pakistani Women's Writing" and "Ginat", are both written from women's perspective.

They are the first batch of books imported from Pakistan under the CPC Central Committee's Publicity Department's "Plan for Translation of Asian Classic Works".

The plan aims to assist Asian countries to deepen their understanding of one another, and offer a platform for nations to share cultures and gain insight from one another.

A warm-up forum titled "Contemporary Women's Literature and Culture in Pakistan" was organized during the Tianfu book fair, aiming to help the Chinese readers better understand Pakistani culture and women's writing.

"As one of the birthplaces of ancient civilization, Pakistan has a rich history and cultural resources. These two books take readers on an exhilarating culture journey through the aesthetics of Pakistani poetry and literature.

The books can also serve as a gateway for Chinese readers to better understand Islamic culture," Xiao Jianmei, Researcher from China Center for South Asia studies, Sichuan University commented during the warm-up forum.

Deng Aili, chief editor of "I Can Still Live Like the Wind/Pakistani Women's Writing" said that "The stories in this collection mostly deal with ordinary people's daily lives in Pakistan, and the writing style is exquisite, expressing the observations and thoughts of modern female writers in Pakistan."

She further stated that the book's publication aims to promote literary communication between China and Pakistan, and to meet Chinese readers' INP



QUETTA: Head of Balochistan Aids Control Program Dr Afzal Khan, DR Najma Iftikhar and other lighting candle during a ceremony to mark World Aids Day.