

Educationist shot dead in Karachi

KARACHI: Undenied attackers shot dead a senior educationist and deputy director of private school system in a targeted killing on Sunday night in Gulistan-i-Jauhar Karachi.

Block-7. As soon as the victim came out from his home toward his car, suddenly unidentified assailants reached him and intercepted him.

investigate the case. Governor Kamran Tessori also took notice of the incident and sought a report from the police.



QUETTA: Metropolitan Corporation activities' of hold protest in favor of their demands .

Fifth Generation Warfare implications are dire and serious: speakers

ISLAMABAD: Speakers at a programme on the Fifth Generation Warfare organized for students of different universities in Islamabad said that the enemy is trying to create chaos in ranks and files by targeting our minds through hybrid generation warfare.

country, but directly the people, and goals are achieved by controlling their thinking and understanding abilities.

very dangerous and horrible, they added. The speakers said that under the influence of fifth generation warfare, a citizen is forced to think that the state and state institutions are not worthy of trust.

Pakistan International Container Terminal profits dip: WealthPK

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan International Container Terminal Limited's (PICT) revenue inched up 7% to Rs8.8 billion in the first nine months of the calendar year 2022 from Rs8.3 billion over the same period of the year before.

cant devaluation of the rupee and other fiscal measures. Moreover, as per the World Bank's report, the cataclysmic floods in Pakistan caused economic damage on a massive scale to the country's already teetering economy.

over the past few years. Earnings per share was Rs24.48 in 2020, which further increased to Rs31.05 in 2021. Earnings growth was also on the higher side in 2020 and 2021.

PTI shortlists candidates from Lahore for polls

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) shortlisted its candidate from Lahore for the upcoming general elections on Monday.

Two current members of the Senate were also in the race for the National Assembly tickets from Lahore.

also candidates from NA 129. Shafiqat Mehmood from NA 130, Humayun Akhtar Khan and Ali Imtiaz Waraich from NA 131, Chaudhary Mansha Sindhu from NA 132, Senator Ejaz Chaudhary, Jamshed Iqbal Cheema, and Atif Chaudhary from NA 133.

Court accepts Imran Khan's exemption plea in Toshakhana case

ISLAMABAD: A sessions court in Islamabad accepted former prime minister and PTI chairman Imran Khan's exemption plea for one day in the Toshakhana case.

Karachi schools open with low attendance

KARACHI: Several schools in Karachi are closed, while few are open with a low attendance on Monday.

Rao Anwar seeks removal of his name from ECL

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court (SC) on Monday served notice to the interior ministry over Rao Anwar's petition to remove his name from the exit control list (ECL).



QUETTA: Junior Teacher Association hold protest in favor of their demands .

In effort to promote diversity, Bohra community arranges food fest to present their cultural richness

KARACHI: Different communities have their unique ways to cook and serve food. Pakistan is a country rich in ethnic and cultural diversity with people belonging to a variety of communities.

February 24 to 26 at the North Walk Mall in the city Nazimabad's neighbourhood.

ers said that the major purpose behind the fest was to make people familiar with the foods of Bohra community.

Memories of humiliated defeat will remain fresh in Hindutva rulers' minds

ISLAMABAD: Memories of humiliated defeat suffered by Indian Air Force at the hands of Pakistan Air Force will remain fresh in the minds of the Hindutva rulers in India as even the incident completed four whole years, today, on 27 February 2023.

Usman Buzdar's interim bail extended till March 7

LAHORE: An accountability court (AC) has extended the interim bail of former Punjab CM Usman Buzdar in assets beyond means case.



ISLAMABAD Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research, Tariq Bashir Cheema meeting a Kenyan delegation.

Dasu HPP creates over 2,600 jobs for the local: WAPDA

ISLAMABAD: The under-construction Dasu Hydropower Project (DHPP) in the Upper Kohistan district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) has created at least 2,664 jobs for the local community, the Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) stated.

during the peak construction period, the number of jobs will be increased to 8,000 with the majority from the local areas.

China Gezhouba Group Company (CGGC) has been working on DHPP as the Main Works Contractor since 2017, which is one of the top green and low-cost energy projects in the country.

Micro and macro-level interventions needed to rein in inflation: WealthPK

ISLAMABAD: The food inflation crisis in Pakistan is having a drastic impact on the country's poverty rate, which can be mitigated through micro and macro-level interventions from the government, says an economic expert.

21.9% of the population is below the poverty line. In addition, a significant 17% of the population is currently facing food insecurity, a situation with severe repercussions for the health and welfare of the nation.

on a year-on-year (YoY) basis, compared to 21.6% during the previous month, and a sharp surge from 13% in January 2022.

survive, as they bear the brunt of the disproportionate burden imposed by inflation.

which have seen a significant increase in recent times," he said. According to Dr Shujaat, inflation rates have not significantly varied between the poorest and wealthiest households.



PESHAWAR, Malik Khan Marjan is holding a press conference under the auspices of All Tribal Jirga.

BHC rejects bail plea of Gwadar's Maulana Hidayat-ur-Rehman

QUETTA: The Balochistan High Court (BHC) on Monday rejected post arrest bail plea of Gwadar's Haq Do Tehreek (HDT) leader Maulana Hidayat-ur-Rehman. Maulana Hidayat-ur-Rehman was arrested last month by police on charges of inciting violence and other cases registered against him. A bench of the high court comprised of the Chief Justice and Justice Gul Hassan Tareen ruled over the petition. The court observed that the rights' movement was turned into a violent campaign over inciting by the petitioner and a policeman was murdered. "The life of a police constable is as precious as of a political worker or leader," the bench observed. "It seems the petitioner has been involved in the crime, so as he could not be granted concession of bail," the court ruled. Hidayat-ur-Rehman and three other persons, including Naseeb Noshervani and Hassan Murad, were taken into custody from the premises of the court. Police booked Haq Do Tehreek leader Maulana Hidayat-ur-Rehman on charges of murder, attempt to murder, inciting people for violence and other charges. The provincial government attempted to hold negotiations with the protesters, led by Haq Do Tehreek (HDT), but the situation turned violent in the last week of December after a policeman was shot dead by unidentified

assailants during a demonstration. The protesters were demanding reduction in the number of check posts, easier border trade, and a total end to deep-sea fish trawling in the sea next to Gwadar. Maulana Hidayat-ur-Rehman was arrested last month by police on charges of inciting violence and other cases registered against him. A bench of the high court comprised of the Chief Justice and Justice Gul Hassan Tareen ruled over the petition. The court observed that the rights' movement was turned into a violent campaign over inciting by the petitioner and a policeman was murdered. "The life of a police constable is as precious as of a political worker or leader," the bench observed. "It seems the petitioner has been involved in the crime, so as he could not be granted concession of bail," the court ruled. Hidayat-ur-Rehman and three other persons, including Naseeb Noshervani and Hassan Murad, were taken into custody from the premises of the court. Police booked Haq Do Tehreek leader Maulana Hidayat-ur-Rehman on charges of murder, attempt to murder, inciting people for violence and other charges. The provincial government attempted to hold negotiations with the protesters, led by Haq Do Tehreek (HDT), but the situation turned violent in the last week of December after a policeman was shot dead by unidentified assailants during a demonstration. INP



ISLAMABAD: Adviser to the Prime Minister on Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan Affairs Qamar Zaman Kaira and Governor Gilgit Baltistan call on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif..

Banned outfit target killer arrested in Karachi

KARACHI: The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) Karachi while conducting an operation has arrested a staunch activist of a banned organization in the Garden area of Karachi last night. According to CTD, the arrested accused Muhammad Siddiq was involved in various criminal activities of communal target killing and belongs to the banned organization Lashkar Jhangvi. CTD told that the accused Siddiq on slight rebuking by his Bohari Seth Ghulam Murtaza kidnapped and killed in 2004. In another case the accused also killed Ayub Naqvi, the owner of a bookshop, on his way home in 2010. CTD officials told that after these targeted killings by him, police conducted several raids at the house of the accused to arrest him, but the accused was hiding in Hyderabad for fear of arrest. As the accused returned to Karachi a few days ago, CTD caught him and handed him over to the police for legal action and further interrogations. INP

Investigators suspect 'foreign hand' in Khalid Raza's killing

KARACHI: The investigators suspected a "foreign hand" in the killing of vice chairman of the Federation of Private Schools, Syed Khalid Raza, outside his residence in Karachi, ARY News reported on Monday. As per details, the initial investigation of the education expert Khalid Raza's murder stated that the murder was planned and the suspects carried out the killing before Khalid Raza. The investigation officials said that modern weapons were used in the murder and the bullets were not used in any attack before. The investigators are trying to get the footage of the suspects' route. INP

Islamabad court seeks security on Imran Khan's appearance

ISLAMABAD: The banking court on Monday sought security from the IG police ahead of former prime minister Imran Khan's court appearance on February 28 (tomorrow), ARY News reported. In a letter penned by the registrar of the banking court, Abdul Wahab, the IG police Islamabad was asked to provide security on the occasion of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chairman Imran Khan's appearance. The case registered under Foreign Exchange Act is sensitive, therefore adequate security should be ensured on February 28 for the court and its staff. It may be noted that the Islamabad high court (IHC) ordered the former prime minister and PTI chairman Imran Khan to appear before court on February 28 in a prohibited funding case. INP

Plea filed in LHC to stop nab chairman appointment

LAHORE: A plea has been filed in Lahore High Court (LHC) to stop the appointment of new National Accountability Bureau (NAB) chairman. As per details, the plea was filed by advocate Azhar Sadiq in Lahore High Court against the appointment of new chairman NAB. The plea stated that notices has been issued on the appointment of the opposition leader Raja Riaz and the new chairman NAB has resigned from his post. The chairman National Accountability Bureau is appointed with the consultation of the Prime Minister and opposition leader but a letter has been sent to President and speaker National Assembly that the appointment of opposition leader is not under the law. The plea further stated that the PTI has already written a letter that they want to bring their opposition leader. So whatever consultation. INP

Over 62,000 parents refuse polio vaccine in January drive

ISLAMABAD: In the nationwide polio vaccination campaign from January 02-29 over 62 thousand parents refused vaccination to their children. The anti-polio campaign, which was held in January in three phases, 62,411 parents refused to administer polio vaccine to their children. Most of the parents who refused polio vaccine to their children were belong to Sindh, according to sources. In Sindh 37,008 parents refused polio vaccine, while in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa 20,305 parents refused vaccine administration. Moreover, in Balochistan 4,902 parents, in Islamabad 141 families and in Punjab 36 parents refused polio vaccine administration to their children. According to the figures shared by the authorities in Karachi East 2.4 percent, Korangi district 1.2 pct, Karachi South 1.1 pct, Keamari district 1.3 pct, Karachi Central 1.7 pct and in Malir district 0.9 pct parents refused vaccine in the polio vaccination campaign, sources said. In Hyderabad district 0.2 pct families' refused administration of polio vaccine to their children. The drive was started after sewage samples in Lahore tested positive for wild poliovirus in January. According to the national polio lab at the National Institute of Health, the first positive sample of 2023 was detected on January 19 and was genetically linked to the poliovirus found in the Nangarhar province of Afghanistan in November 2022. This was the first evidence of cross-border transmission in more than a year. The second positive sample was reported on January 27, which was genetically linked to a virus circulating in southern KP. INP

Around 60 migrants including 28 Pakistanis die in boat wreck off Italy

PARIS: Around 60 migrants including 28 Pakistanis died after their overloaded boat sank early on Sunday in stormy seas off Italy's southern Calabria region. Pakistan's embassy in Italy confirmed the death of 28 citizens and said 12 bodies are still missing. For information regarding the incident, the Embassy of Pakistan can be contacted via WhatsApp at 00393898716588. The number of confirmed victims was 59. Vincenzo Voce, mayor of the coastal city of Crotona, told TV channel Sky TG-24 on Sunday afternoon. Earlier, the coastguard service said "43 bodies" had been found along the coast and "80 people recovered alive, including some who managed to reach the shore after the sinking". The overloaded vessel broke up in violent waves off Crotona at dawn, according to Italian media. AGI news agency quoted a rescue worker as saying an infant of just a few months old was among the victims. Rescue workers told that the vessel was carrying "more than 200 people". Reportedly, around 40 Pakistanis were also included in the migrants and some of them have lost their lives. "Dozens and dozens of people drowned, including children. Lots missing. Calabria is in mourning after this terrible tragedy," regional governor Roberto Occhiuto said. Far-right Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, the leader of the post-fascist Brothers of Italy party, won power in October vowing to stem the flow of migrants reaching Italian shores. "The government is committed to preventing (migrant boat) departures and, with them, this type of tragedy." INP

Punjab, Sindh CMs discuss matters of mutual interest, inter-provincial coordination

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi Monday discussed matters of mutual interest and inter-provincial coordination with Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah. Mohsin Naqvi welcomed Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah upon his arrival at the Punjab CM office. Both the CMs agreed to further promote inter-provincial coordination and harmony. They also discussed about the joint operation in the Kacha area of Punjab and Sindh. "The criminal elements in the Kacha area will be dealt with an iron hand. The operation will be brought to its logical end in the Kacha area," it was agreed during the meeting. "Pakistan consists of four units, Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Kashmir. Pakistan belongs to all of us. Everyone should work together for the development and prosperity of the country," Mohsin Naqvi pointed out. "The need for unity and harmony is more than ever today. Pakistan will move forward with unity and consent," he added. "For the promotion of inter-provincial harmony, everyone has to forget differences and be united," Sindh CM Murad Ali Shah said. He also expressed good wishes for Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi. INP



ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi in a group photo with graduating students and faculty during 10th Convocation ceremony at Air University.

New wheat varieties: innovation, experience meet up at NARC: WealthPK

ISLAMABAD: A new speed-breeding facility has been set up at the National Agricultural Research Centre (NARC) to fast-track the development of more productive and climate-resilient wheat varieties, reports WealthPK. Despite contributing less than 1% to global greenhouse gas emissions, Pakistan is one of the most climate-vulnerable nations. According to the information available with WealthPK, Pakistan's food security continues to suffer because of climate change. Extreme weather events have seriously harmed the local crop output. Every day, climate change poses more and more challenges. Given this serious threat, the future crops must be able to withstand this alarming situation by utilizing new techniques and traits. In order to meet the growing demand for food and mitigate the impact of global climate change on agriculture, the PARC is using new technologies to enhance crop yields and national food security. Under the Wheat Productivity Enhancement project funded by the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP), the Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) has established its first speed breeding facility at the NARC Islamabad, to fast-track the development of more productive and climate-resilient wheat varieties. By using this method, scientists can accelerate the development of wheat varieties that are more productive. The protocols of this technology were published in

2018 by the University of Queensland, Australia and the PARC started working on it in 2019. In 2022, the PARC's speed breeding facility became fully operational at the NARC. By using this facility, the plant breeders can speed up the breeding cycle, i.e., this facility enables 4-6 generations of wheat per year. The primary goal is to develop high-yielding, tolerant to climate change, and disease-resistant varieties. For example, heat, drought, and diseases don't affect the varieties and output also increases. As per the information available with WealthPK, variety development is normally a continuous process. Once it is approved, the farmers get the certified seeds. "Usually, it takes 12 to 15 years to develop and register one wheat variety. Researchers must grow plants for eight generations in order to obtain superior crop varieties. After eight generations, the variety is chosen. Speed breeding expedites this by enabling the researchers to generate more generations each year. In speed breeding, a controlled environment such as controlled temperature and light is provided. For example, at the NARC facility, a photoperiod of 22 hours is provided instead of the typical 12 hours of light and 12 hours of darkness. Therefore, the plants engage in photosynthesis for 22 hours a day. Temperatures at the facility range from 17 to 22 degrees Celsius and humidity levels are approximately 50 to 60%. Hence, wheat grows in two months under these circumstances, giving five to six generations a year. INP

ANF recovers over 69 kg drugs; arrests nine

RAWALPINDI: Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) in five operations managed to recover over 69 kg drugs and arrested nine accused, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Monday. He informed that ANF conducted a raid near Islamabad Motorway and recovered 56.4 kg charras and 8.4 kg opium from the possession of four accused resident of Sialkot. In another raid, ANF seized over 2.1 kg Ice drug from the possession of a Doha-bound passenger resident of Khyber, arrested at Islamabad International Airport, going on flight no QR-633. In third operation, ANF recovered two kg heroin from the possession of an accused resident of Nowshera intercepted near Islamabad Motorway. The spokesman informed that in fourth operation, ANF conducted a raid near Burhan Toll Plaza and managed to recover 500 grams Ice drug from the possession of two accused. ANF and ASF in an operation at Bacha Khan International Airport recovered 123 grams charras from an Abu Dhabi bound passenger going on flight no PK-217. He said that separate cases have been registered against the accused while further investigations are under process. INP

Imran's claim of caretakers' partiality buried after Rajanpur bye elections: Marriyum

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb said on Monday that after the bye-elections in NA-193 Rajanpur, Imran Khan's claim of partiality of Punjab's caretaker government has been buried. "Imran Khan's accusation that the caretaker government cannot conduct transparent and impartial elections was buried", she said using her Twitter handle. The minister said it was a big success which Imran Khan has also acknowledged. She said in 2018 elections PML-N had not fielded a candidate in NA-193 constituency. The minister said that yesterday, for the first time, 53,000 voters cast their votes for the PML-N in this constituency and thanked party workers' participation. Terming Imran a Toshakhana thief, she said it was the habit of PTI they celebrate victory when they win but hold sit-ins outside Election Commission of Pakistan's office when they lose. She asked if Imran would still keep on pressurizing the courts. INP



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar chaired the first meeting of monitoring Committee to oversee the implementation of austerity measures, at Finance Division.

Jail Bharo Tehreek: PTI's show in Sargodha flops

SARGODHA: The 'Jail Bharo Tehreek' Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Monday failed in Sargodha too, as only 70 party activists surrendered themselves before the police. The PTI's key leadership of the Sargodha division like former MNA Aamir Sultan Cheema and former provincial minister Muneeb Sultan Cheema remained reluctant to present themselves for arrest to the police. The police continued to make announcements but the PTI leadership was not interested in the 'Jail Bharo Tehreek', and some of them had even disappeared after handing some PTI activists over to the police. The police are of the view that PTI 'Jail Bharo Tehreek' appeared to be losing steam as none of the party's leaders voluntarily surrendered themselves to the police. It is to be noted here that the PTI had started the drive on the instructions of its chairman Imran Khan. The movement, however, received a cold response from the PTI workers, for a very small number of the workers showed up to surrender to the police. The PTI's key leadership of the Sargodha division like former MNA Aamir Sultan Cheema and former provincial minister Muneeb Sultan Cheema remained reluctant to present themselves for arrest to the police. The police continued to make announcements but the PTI leadership was not interested in the 'Jail Bharo Tehreek', and some of them had even disappeared after handing some PTI activists over to the police. The police are of the view that PTI 'Jail Bharo Tehreek' appeared to be losing steam as none of the party's leaders voluntarily surrendered themselves to the police. It is to be noted here that the PTI had started the drive on the instructions of its chairman Imran Khan. The movement, however, received a cold response from the PTI workers, for a very small number of the workers showed up to surrender to the police. INP

National Foods profit drops 51% in 1QFY23: WealthPK

ISLAMABAD: National Foods Limited's revenue from sales decreased 4% to Rs5.6 billion in the first quarter of the ongoing financial year 2022-23 (1QFY23) from Rs5.8 billion in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal. The gross profit of the company also decreased 4% to Rs1.9 billion in 1QFY23 from Rs2 billion recorded in 1QFY22. The company posted a net profit of Rs268.4 million in 1QFY23 compared to a profit of Rs544.7 million over the corresponding period of FY22, showing a negative growth of 51% year-on-year. The first quarter of the fiscal year saw little improvement in the macroeconomic environment. Economic growth was slowed down by a protracted commodity supercycle, current account deficit, interest rates, and forex pressure. Despite a slight decrease in the past months, inflation is still fairly high and is further exacerbated by the high cost of food imports due to flood damage, reports WealthPK. During the fiscal year 2021-22, the company's gross sales soared to Rs26.8 billion from Rs23.1 billion in FY21, posting an increase of 16% year-on-year. The gross profit for FY22 stood at Rs8.97 billion, 27% up from Rs7 billion in FY21. The profit-after-tax for the year went up by 55% to Rs1.96 billion from Rs1.26 billion in FY21. The earnings per share (EPS) of the company have been on an increasing trend since 2017. In FY21, the EPS was Rs7.5, which increased to Rs10.4 in FY22. National Foods was incorporated in Pakistan on February 19, 1970, as a private limited company under the Companies Act 1913. It was subsequently converted into a public limited company under the Companies Ordinance, 1984 (now Companies Act 2017). The company is principally engaged in the manufacture and sale of convenience-based food products. The ultimate parent entity of the company is ATC Holdings (Private) Limited. INP