

QUETTA VOICE

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Gulzar Imam seeks apology, urges all insurgents to surrender in Balochistan

Syed Ali Shah
QUETTA A key militant commander and the chief of the banned militant organization, i.e. Baloch Republican Army (BNA), Gulzar Imam Shambe on Tuesday urged upon all insurgents operating in the province to surrender and adopt a peaceful life. The key militant commander was produced before the press at the Sikandar Jamal Auditorium in the civil secretariat Home Minister Balochistan, Mir Ziaullah Langove and other officials of the Balochistan government were also present on the occasion.



Shambe was arrested in a high-profile intelligence based operation few months back. He was considered to be one of the key militant commanders operating in the Mekan belt of Balochistan province.

Shambe sought apology from family members of martyred people

Balochistan and was involved in a series of terrorist activities in the Mekan belt. "The only way to get Baloch rights is through political and constitutional struggle", Mr. Shambe mentioned, rejecting all sorts of armed struggle. "When asked about foreign support, he said in such situations militant organizations get support from abroad as well. In his measured sentences, Mr. Shambe underlined the need for peace and paving the way for a political settlement of issues relating to

"Corruption is also one of the key factors behind unrest in Balochistan"

"I remained a contractor, corruption is also one of the key factors behind the unrest

in Balochistan", Mr. Shambe said. The military's media wing elaborated that the BNA has been responsible for dozens of violent terrorist attacks in Pakistan, including attacks on law enforcement agencies (LEAs) installations in Panjgur and Noakhi. Gulzar also remained as "deputy to Brahmadagh Bugti in Baloch Republican Army (BRA) till 2018 and was instrumental in the formation of Baloch Raji Aajoi Sangar (BRAS) and remained its operational head", according to the statement.

Jam Kamal likely to join PPP, calls on Asif Zardari

From Our Correspondent

KARACHI Former Chief Minister Balochistan, Jam Kamal Khan is expected to join the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP). The former CM called on Asif Ali Zardari, the leader of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), President of the PPP Balochistan, Changiz Jamali was also present on the occasion.



Jam Kamal discussed the possible joining of the PPP with Asif Ali Zardari, a PPP source told Daily Quetta Voice. He however said Jam Kamal is yet to make a final decision in this regard.

This meeting has come after scores of electables from Balochistan joined the PPP. Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Qudus Bizenjo had also held a meeting with Asif Ali Zardari few days back. Provincial ministers Haji Akbar Askani and Lala Rasheed Dasthi were also present on the occasion. Mr. Bizenjo has also developed a political understanding with the PPP Bizenjo and Chairman Senate Sadiq Sanjrani are also playing their cards to win the race during the fast approaching general elections in 2023.

PTI suffers major blow as Shireen Mazari, Fayyaz Chohan quit over May 9 mayhem

Dawood Ahmed

ISLAMABAD Former federal minister, Shireen Mazari announced to quit the Pakistan Tehrik e Insaaf (PTI) on Tuesday. She also said she would not take part in active politics and would not be part of any political party.



Mazari condemns May 9 violence, announces quitting party and politics

Speaking to the media in Islamabad, Mazari said that she is leaving politics because of her children and family.

Mazari added that today, she is addressing the media to discuss two things. "I have condemned the events that took place on May 9 and 10. I have condemned all forms of disorder", she added. She said that during her 12-day arrest, her health and daughter Inaan Mazari have suffered significantly, which is why she has decided to quit politics.

Former minister says her health deteriorated during detention

"I am leaving politics because of my children and family. My family and children are my first priority, she reiterated. Earlier in the day, the Islamabad High

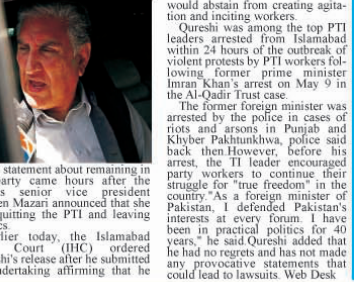
Court (IHC) issued a notice of contempt to the federal capital's inspector general (IG) in a plea related to the arrest of Mazari.

On Monday, Mazari was taken into custody for the fourth time in 10 days from outside Adiala Jail despite being released on court orders. Following the protests, at least 13 PTI leaders, including Mazari, were arrested under the Maintenance of Public Order ordinance. She was granted bail by courts on multiple occasions but was re-arrested immediately every time. Addressing a press conference in Islamabad, Mazari started off by condemning the violence that took place in the May 9 and 10 protests, adding that she had given an undertaking to the same in the Islamabad High Court. "Not only the May 9 and 10 violence, but I've always condemned every kind of violence especially against state institutions and symbols like the General Headquarters, Supreme Court and Parliament Web Desk.

Shah Mahmood Qureshi rearrested minutes after release from Adiala Jail

RAWALPINDI

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Vice Chairman Shah Mahmood Qureshi was rearrested Tuesday, minutes after being released from Rawalpindi's Adiala Jail.



IHC had ordered Qureshi's release after he submitted undertaking.

His statement about remaining in the party came hours after the party's senior vice president Shireen Mazari announced that she was quitting the PTI and leaving politics. Earlier today, the Islamabad High Court (IHC) ordered Qureshi's release after he submitted an undertaking affirming that he

would abstain from creating agitation and inciting workers. Qureshi was among the top PTI leaders arrested from Islamabad within 24 hours of the outbreak of violent protests by PTI workers following former prime minister Imran Khan's arrest on May 9 in the Al-Qadir Trust case. The former foreign minister was arrested by the police in cases of riots and arson in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, police said back then. However, before his arrest, the TI leader encouraged party workers to continue their struggle for "true freedom" in the country. "As a foreign minister of Pakistan, I defended Pakistan's interests at every forum. I have been in practical politics for 40 years," he said. Qureshi added that he had no regrets and has not made any provocative statements that could lead to lawsuits. Web Desk

Gwadar's Haq Do Tehreek leader Maulana Hidayatur Rehman finally walks free

Gwadar's Haq Do Tehreek (HDT) chief Maulana Hidayatur Rehman — arrested from court premises — has finally been released after he remained behind bars for over four months.



The HDT leader had been in detention on murder charges. The Supreme Court of Pakistan had on May 18 granted bail to Rehman against surety bonds worth Rs300,000 but he could not be released. A day earlier, a sessions court in Gwadar sent the HDT leader to the judicial

lockup after his appearance before the court. Speaking to journalists after being produced before the sessions court,

Rehman — who is also a local leader of the Jamaat-e-Islami — said that despite a span of five days, the orders of the

apex court have not yet reached the sessions court. The HDT leader maintained that he has told his lawyer not to submit any further petition. "I am a political activist. I believe in the Constitution and the law. I have been in jail for four and a half months in a false case of murder," he added. After his release, the Haq Do Tehreek leader thanked Ji Enzir Sirajul Haq, lawyers, Abdul Haq Hashmi, Laikari Kasani, Humayun Kurd, and others for their efforts for his release. Web Desk

PM directs economic team to provide 'maximum relief' in upcoming budget

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday directed his economic team to provide "maximum relief" to the common man in the budget 2023-24. The premier — while presiding over a meeting to review the budget 2023-24 preparations, ordered to take every possible step to facilitate the middle and lower income segments of society.



BUDGET 2023-24 WILL BE PRESENTED ON JUNE 9

The meeting was informed that after approval from the federal cabinet, the budget 2023-24 would be presented on June 9. It was also informed that Pakistan's economy is inching towards stability and the fiscal deficit was continuously declining. Expressing satisfaction over the performance on the economic front, he said, due to better economic policies, the country's current account balance

turned to a surplus after several years. He also expressed satisfaction over the declining trend in the urea fertilizer prices saying that it became possible only due to the government's timely action.

"Economy inching towards stability," meeting told.

Availability of fertiliser at affordable prices, he further said, would not only ensure the prosperity of the farmers but the country would also move towards self-sufficiency in the agricultural commodities. Furthermore, the prime minister also directed to finalise the pension reforms as soon as possible. He said a pension fund should be established by adopting innovative methods to ensure minimum financial burden on the national exchequer. Premier Shehbaz said after the pension reforms, the welfare of the pensioners would also be ensured. He also directed authorities to take practical steps to expand the tax net and raise tax revenues. Web Desk

Peoples Party, its aims and objectives

Editor Asim Khan

Balochistan equipment non-functional in hospitals?

In Balochistan's government-run hospitals, expensive equipment can always be found non-functional. In the province's largest government-run hospital, the Bolan Medical Complex Hospital (BMCH), the angiography and angioplasty machines are out of order for the last two and half years.

Also Read: Angiography machine out of order in BMC
This is nothing new in Quetta and other parts of Balochistan. Now patients and their attendants are mentally prepared for this. Expensive machines including CT-Scan, MRI, angiography, etc. can always be found non-functional in government-run hospitals. District headquarters hospitals, basic health units, and rural health centers paint a bleak picture when it comes to health facilities and services.

This daily's report about out of order machines fell on deaf ears. This daily recently reported a news item regarding the non-functional angiography and angioplasty machines. Nevertheless, the provincial high-ups including the Chief Secretary, Secretary of Health, and other concerned officials preferred not to take notice. The report rather fell on deaf ears.

It is crystal clear that deserving and poor patients and their attendants are the worst sufferers of the non-functional expensive machines. The doctors and the paramedics are the beneficiaries of this.

Patients the worst sufferers of out order machines
If the machines are out of order, the patients have no option other than to conduct the tests and procedures in private hospitals and clinics. Balochistan Health Minister, Syed Ihsan Shah told this daily that there are reports that doctors deliberately do not use the machines to claim and held the latter responsible for all the mess in the health department.

In this blame game between doctors and the minister, the common man is the worst sufferer. The provincial government in general and the health department in particular should make the machines functional since it is their core responsibility.



Fifty-five years ago, an incredible journey was undertaken with the creation of the Pakistan People's Party. The history of the PPP is a full of struggle and sacrifices, which makes it the People's Party. The first founding convention of the party was held on the night between November 30th and December 1st, 1967 at Dr. Mubasher Hussain's residence at Gulberg, Lahore.

ments for approval in the same manner.
The aims and objectives of the party formation were to call for a socialist change in Pakistani society.
The ultimate goal of the party was to create a classless society which was possible in our circles only through socialism.
Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto made it clear to all corners of the country. While speaking at a public meeting at Lahore Mochi Darwaza, the People's leader, in his speech of 3 hours and 10 minutes, shed light on Islamic socialism, democracy, capitalism, and feudalism.
At that time, Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto convinced the nation with arguments that the society should embrace Islamic socialism, and that the foundation stones for a progressive State.
The fact that these were the things upon which our future generations would have walked with confidence. These sentences of Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto have become a part of our his-

torical politics.
Islam is our religion.
Socialism is our politics.
Socialism is our economy.
The source of power is the People's strength.
Martyrdom is our wish.
That was the first written pact of the Pakistani nation, which remains poignant as a thorn for martial law imposed by the military. It also laid the foundation of the Party's newspaper 'Musaafir' to advance his party policies. Today, the party formed by Qazi Amanullah Khan, Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto has achieved the four corners of the land and will continue to resonate in the atmosphere of Pakistan.
Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto stood alive in the form of Muratza Bhutto Shahid, in the character of Shah Nawaz Bhutto Zaidi, in the silhouette of Benazir Bhutto, the martyred daughter of the People's Party's personality is performed on the world's stage today in the form of Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.
His achievements as a leader of the opposition in the National Assembly,

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Then the parliament headed by PPP overtook the 1973 constitution, which was the first unified national constitution of the country. After its creation, that was the first written pact of the Pakistani nation, which remains poignant as a thorn for martial law imposed by the military. It also laid the foundation of the Party's newspaper 'Musaafir' to advance his party policies. Today, the party formed by Qazi Amanullah Khan, Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto has achieved the four corners of the land and will continue to resonate in the atmosphere of Pakistan.
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By Bashir Nichari

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Gaming out a default

Ammar Habib Khan

Pakistan has been in a precipice of default for the last few months. It is desperately seeking external funds, enacting draconian policies, while refusing any structural reforms.

About nine months back, when the global commodity cycle was easing out, and interest rates were increasing globally, ample warnings were given to some correction. An expected increase in interest rates globally was seen leading to a tightening in global liquidity, making it difficult to rollover existing debt, or raise fresh debt in a time of global macroeconomic instability.

The warnings that came in the first half of 2022 went unheeded, and the fiscal profligacy of the government continued with no thought of potential unintended consequences. The sovereign credit was managed with little irresponsible ways, while the central bank continued to encourage excessive money printing and stimulative monetary actions, even though the situation called for an immediate reduction in fiscal deficits, and to put the house in order.

The government refused to expand the taxation base, and when someone tried to do the same, they were quickly

Government borrowing makes up almost 70 per cent of the country's banking assets. Over the years, the government has been increasing its private-sector credit, as it borrowed to plug perennial fiscal deficits.

In the absence of any plan to reduce the fiscal deficit, the ability of the sovereign to keep plugging the deficit with debt is reaching a breaking point. In the next best option is a move towards restructuring. The debt repayments become unsustainable, the next best option is a move towards restructuring. The debt repayments become unsustainable, the next best option is a move towards restructuring.

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to money to lend to the commercial banks. There is a haircut on the commercial banks will have to take significant losses, which may affect solvency of many banks, and would shake the financial system.

If a potential restructuring of the debt happens, that will also make other government or government-backed assets susceptible to restructuring. This would basically mean all of the power sector — as the government continues to be the single buyer of power and has issued sovereign guarantees to cover risk in many power projects.

There isn't much time left to do course correction. Any further delays in restructuring will put the country in a dire financial position, and believing in illusions, will put the country in a dire financial position, and believing in illusions, will put the country in a dire financial position.

Talking like grown-ups

By Dr. Abid Qayyum Suleri

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Teach the girl child

By Kamila Hyat

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By Taimur K. Bandy

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PTI lawmaker terms May 9 riots a black day in country's history

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insan (PTI) lawmaker Javaria Zafar Aher on Tuesday termed May 9 incidents a black day in the country's history.

Speaking in the National Assembly, she strongly condemned the riot incidents on May 9 in 19 state installations were attacked by protesters.

"I have no words to condemn the tragic incidents in strongest way," she remarked.

'Simultaneous general elections only viable option amid prevailing crisis'

ISLAMABAD: Parliamentarians on Tuesday viewed that simultaneous general elections were the only viable option amid prevailing political and economic crisis to bring stability in the country.

Member of the National Assembly (MNA) Dr Darshan of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) said the caretaker governments after the 90-day duration were not unconstitutional as the matter was sub judice in the apex court.

He said the Supreme Court had called to hold the Punjab Assembly elections on May 14 but the institutions concerned had their reservations.

MNA Maulana Abdul Akbar Chitrali of the Muttahida-Majlis-e-Amal-Pakistan (MMAP) said the matter pertaining to the interim governments was under trial at the Supreme Court, which would decide their fate.

MNA Syed Imran Ahmad Shah of the PML-N said the caretaker governments were to hold free and fair elections within 90 days, but the present situation was not a routine one.

He said the attack on state installations and terrorism resurgence were regrettable and the perpetrators should be punished without any discrimination.

He said the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) was not holding elections because of the funds issue as the country was already facing an economic crisis. Pakistan could not afford separate elections rather simultaneous polls on one day across the country were the only solution, he added.

MNA Kheal Das of the PML-N said it was the National Assembly Speaker's prerogative to take a decision as per the constitution to decide and advise the government.

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ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi in a group photo with the participants of the Senior Officers' Leadership Course (SOLC-10), who called on him, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Medicines out of reach of common man: Shahid

ISLAMABAD: Former President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) Dr Shahid Rasheed Butt on Tuesday said medicines are becoming more and more expensive and gone out of the reach of the common man. The majority of the population reeling under unprecedented inflation is unable to get proper treatment due to the high price of medicines, he said.

Shahid Rasheed Butt said in a statement issued here on Tuesday that taxes on the pharmaceutical industry should be abolished so that the people with eroded buying power can get affordable medicines.

He said that the depreciation of the rupee, inflation and high price of utilities have harmed the pharmaceutical industry as well as other essential medicines. Butt said that since last July, the value of the rupee has decreased by 78%, fuel price has increased by 142% per litre, and electricity tariff has increased by 177%, which has affected the public and the business community.

The overall cost of doing business for the industrial sector has increased by three hundred percent while the sales of the pharmaceutical industry have decreased by twenty-three percent as people are compromising on healthcare.

He informed that there were 36 multinational pharmaceutical companies working in Pakistan in the early 2000s and the number is now down to 22 and it is set to decrease further if the situation was not improved. INP

UK conducts secret operations in Arab, Muslim countries in last 12 years: report

LONDON: UK special forces have carried out secret operations in 19 countries including Pakistan over the last 12 years. The UK media reported on Tuesday.

Based on media leaks, a report by research group Action on Armed Violence lists a range of countries that Britain has sent elite units to since 2011. Operations included hostage rescues, exfiltration, training and protection.

East in the wake of a terror attack in Tunisia that killed 30 Britons in a hotel. Earlier this year, UK special forces were the subject of scrutiny after a public inquiry found that units had carried out more than 50 summary executions of alleged Taliban members in Afghanistan between 2010 and 2011.

In Arab world, units were sent to Algeria, Iraq, Libya, Oman, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. Units were also sent to Muslim-majority countries Afghanistan, Pakistan and Mali. The Syrian government was a notable target, with units being sent to the country in 2013 to identify possible locations for bombing ahead of a planned aerial campaign that was voted against in the British Parliament.

The report questioned the level of oversight given to the operations. Though acts of war must be approved by the UK Parliament, small-scale special forces operations can be carried out without MPs' knowledge and are not subject to committee investigations.

In 2015, the SAS had reportedly been given autonomy by then Home Minister David Cameron to capture and kill Islamist leaders in the Middle East. Accountability Bureau (NAB) at its Rawalpindi office in the £190 million settlement case.

Judicial Complex violence: ATC grants Imran bail in eight cases

ISLAMABAD: An anti-terrorism court in Islamabad on Tuesday granted bail to chief Imran Khan in eight cases pertaining to the violence at the Judicial Complex. The court approved bail for Imran Khan, Ramna, Khanna, and CTD police stations of the capital after the police accused Imran Khan of leading a group of about 100 workers of being involved in attacking police and creating unrest outside the FIC in Islamabad during the hearing of the Toshakhana case on March 18.

The former prime minister who is facing a number of cases under the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA) reached the Islamabad judicial complex, ahead of the former's appearance before the Accountability Bureau (NAB) at its Rawalpindi office in the £190 million settlement case.

The two first appeared before the accountability court to seek a protective bail for the former first lady, whose bail in the graft case expired today (May 23), to avoid her arrest in the £190 million graft case.

ANF seizes 2824.76 kg drugs, 2309 litres of sulphuric acid

RAWALPINDI: Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) Pakistan seized 2824.76 kg of drugs and 2309 litres of sulphuric acid worth US\$ 39.68 million internationally, arrested 36 persons including two foreigners, and four women and impounded 11 vehicles while conducting 40 counter-narcotics operations throughout the country during last week.

According to an ANF Headquarters spokesman, the seized drugs comprised 100.285 kg opium, 22.415 kg heroin, 2586.562 kg hashish, 6.412 kg methamphetamine, 2.2 kg amphetamine, 91.36 kg ephedrine, 116 grams ecstasy tabs (193 tabs), 720 grams retain tabs (2400 tabs), 14.950 kg axeman tabs (65000 tabs).

ANF Balochistan recovered 1856.45 kg of drugs and 2309 litres of sulphuric acid, and chemicals in 11 operations while arresting six accused including two foreigners involved in drugs smuggling and impounded three vehicles. The seized drugs comprised 50 kg opium, 15 kg heroin, 1698 kg hashish, 2150 kg lee drug and 91.3 kg Ephedrine INP

Bushra gets pre-arrest bail in Al-Qadir Trust case

ISLAMABAD: Bushra Bibi the wife of former premier and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan got pre-arrest bail in Al-Qadir Trust case from accountability court.

According to the details, the case hearing took place in the Islamabad Accountability Court, with Judge Muhammad Bashir presiding over the proceedings.

Cold exposure for fat loss: Does time of day matter?

ISLAMABAD: Brown fat, or brown adipose tissue, is one of the hot topics in metabolic research. Unlike white fat that people hope to maintain, brown fat is healthy weight fat that looks like to shed, brown fat produces heat to burn calories and white fat.

Research has shown that short-term exposure to cold activates brown fat and new brown fat research in humans investigates the potential influence of the body's own clock, its circadian rhythm, on the activation of the tissue. It finds, for men at least, that exposure to cold in the morning is more effective at activating brown fat production, or "thermogenesis," than any other time of day.



SUKKUR: Railway staffer's buys in repairing and back to train on track after a bogie of Shalimar Express derailed from the tracks near Rohri Railway Station in the Sindh province.

Govt sends 848,281 Pakistani abroad for employment: Sajid Tori

PESHAWAR: Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development, Sajid Hussain Tori, on Tuesday said that Federal Government has sent over 848,281 skilled Pakistanis abroad for employment.

Presiding over a high-level meeting of the Workers Welfare Board (WWB) and Employees Oldage Benefits Institution (EOBI) here at WWB headquarters, the minister said the process of the present elected government revolved around mass, labourers and working classes and by December 31, 2022, about 848,281 skilled workforces including IT specialists, doctors, engineers, and technicians were sent to different countries including foreign intellectual achievements demonstration and promotion base.

He said the present government has addressed the maximum EOI employees and was endeavouring to address the residential and pension problems of the employees of both organizations. He said the residential quarters at the labour colony, Regi-1 Lalma Township would be given to labourers on rent and later would be handed over on an ownership basis after the adaptation bill by the national assembly.

Pak-China MoU signed to deepen all-round Agri cooperation

BEIJING: Pak-China MoU has been signed to deepen all-round cooperation in agriculture sector. China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Tuesday.

The Gansu Academy of Agricultural Sciences and the Sindh Agriculture University of Tandojam officially signed a memorandum of understanding for the China-Pakistan agricultural research and innovation hub.

Both parties agreed to encourage the transfer of a series of modern agricultural technologies including innovation and cultivation techniques of fruit germplasm resources in cold and arid regions, cultivation of flax and molecular breeding for sorghum cultivation and feeding technique, breeding and genetic analysis of cotton, rape, flax, small miscellaneous grains, etc. as well as education and training of agricultural talents in cold and arid areas.

Bushra gets pre-arrest bail in Al-Qadir Trust case

ISLAMABAD: Bushra Bibi the wife of former premier and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan got pre-arrest bail in Al-Qadir Trust case from accountability court.

According to the details, the case hearing took place in the Islamabad Accountability Court, with Judge Muhammad Bashir presiding over the proceedings.

The court also issued a notice to the investigating officer, indicating that the scrutiny of evidence and to continue the investigations. It is pertinent to mention here that Lahore High Court (LHC) has granted security bail to Bushra Bibi May 23 in Al-Qadir Trust case and directed Bushra Bibi to approach the relevant court by due date.

According to the details, the wife of PTI chief Imran Khan presented before the court, the defense lawyer of Bushra Bibi, Khawaja Haris requested a 10-day protective bail for her client. The court accepted the request and granted her bail until May 23 INP.

The researchers indirectly tracked participants' expenditure of energy and presumably brown fat activation — by measuring their oxygen consumption and carbon dioxide production. They did this before each cooling session, as the mattress was being cooled when it had reached its final temperature and after 90 minutes.

In each 2.5-hour session, the water in the mattress was gradually reduced to 9°C, or until a participant began shivering. At that temperature for cold temperature for 90 minutes.

Medical News Today's noted that brown color of its energy-burning mitochondria, which contain iron. Brown fat is really brown because it has a lot of triglycerides, meaning that it is energetically very active," said Dr. Kajimura.

While noting that the metabolic benefits of brown fat remain "a lot of hypothesis and expectation," he said "the idea is that if you can activate or have more, brown fat, then presumably those fat cells consume more energy instead of storing it." In light of "compelling evidence in epidemiological studies showing that if you have brown fat, you are protected from type 2 diabetes by 50%," Dr. Kajimura said the temptation to view brown fat as a promising target for increasing metabolism is "powerful INP."

G7 Summit meant how to "contain and counter" China: Report

ISLAMABAD: The Leaders of the Group of Seven (G7), met in Hiroshima for annual Summit on May 19-21, 2023. As anticipated, the just-ended summit was largely dominated by discussions on how to 'contain and counter' China's burgeoning military and economic influence, exposing its internal discord and self-conscious insecurities.

The G7 leaders introduced a new tool, the "Coordination Platform on Economic Coercion," aimed at discouraging politically motivated punitive trade measures, according to an article carried by Gwadar Pro on Tuesday.

Although China wasn't mentioned explicitly, the platform is widely perceived as an attempt to "encircle" China diplomatically. By fostering coordinated responses and countermeasures within their legal systems, the G7 aims to counter such practices.

"These economic security tools will include steps to build resilience in our supply chains and protect sensitive technology," explained White House National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan during a post-summit press briefing in Hiroshima.

This move underscores increasing concern among Washington and its allies regarding China's alleged weaponization of economic tools.

The G7 leaders are keen on protecting cutting-edge technologies from their countries, ensuring that these innovations don't enhance others' military capabilities that "threaten global peace and security."

While not stated outright, this refers to efforts by Beijing, other G7 allies and possibly Tehran and Pyongyang, to procure advanced equipment or expertise for military advancement. The goal is to limit the flow of "capital, expertise, and knowledge" from G7 companies to these countries.

Surprisingly, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, being the host, disclosed the main agenda of the Hiroshima Summit in a pre-summit article published on May 19.

He highlighted two perspectives in the article: Upholding the "rules-based international order" and enhancing the G7's outreach to the "Global South." These priorities are strategically designed to address the Ukraine conflict and the challenge of a rising China. The two pressing issues confronting the US and its allies.

Despite the significant amount of discussion surrounding the Ukraine conflict and its repercussions, the G7 leadership was primarily focused on the Indo-Pacific region and the gradual consolidation of the rival BRICS club - with China being a common factor in both areas of concern.



PESHAWAR: Christian community hold rally in supporter of Pak Army outside PPC.

PTI worker holds Imran responsible for May 9 violence

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) worker in his official statement held former prime minister Imran Khan responsible for attacks on military installations following his arrest on May 9.

"Imran Khan tasked workers to resort to violence if he was arrested," Jan Muhammad, who claims to be a PTI worker, said in his confidential video statement.

According to media reports, Jan Muhammad, who was spotted during the attack at Innah House, described the uniform of Corps Commander Lahore is a remnant of KP's tribal district, Mohmand. Jan Muhammad said he was part of a camp set up at Zaman Park, which was tasked to evade the arrest of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Imran Khan.

"PTI worker" further said party leader Intiaz Sheikh asked the workers to move towards cant area following Imran Khan's arrest on May 9. Yasmin Rashid, Ejaz Chaudry, Mahmood Rashid, Ahsan Iqbal directed the PTI workers towards Corps Commander's House INP.

First Hajj flight carrying 326 intending pilgrims departs from Multan

MULTAN: Pre Hajj Operation began from Multan International Airport (MIAP) with 326 intending pilgrims on board at Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) which departed for Madina here on Tuesday.

Senior, Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani along with Airport Manager (APM), Syed Ghazanfar Raza, PIA Chief Information Officer, Saqain Gardner, Director Hajj Rehan Abbas Khokhar, PIA Distt Manager, Ghazanfar Akhtar, PIA Station Manager and Nadeem Murtaza saw off the pilgrims.

Exactly 52 flights of PIA, Saudi Airline and Air Blue will carry approximately 12,00,000 pilgrims from Multan during pre-Hajj operations this year which will conclude on June 22.

The first PIA flight no 718 was Boeing 777 that left for Medina A, first was held at MIAP to see off the pilgrims of the first flight attended among others by Hajj Directorate, CIA, PAF, ASF officials.

IHC orders release of PTI's Shah Mahmood Qureshi

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court issued an order for the release of Shah Mahmood Qureshi, the Vice Chairman of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on Tuesday.

According to the details, Justice Mian Gul Hassan Khan and Justice Nazib presided over the hearing and laid out a condition for Qureshi's release, requiring the submission of a sworn statement by his legal team.

"Upon reviewing the sworn statement submitted by the Qureshi's lawyers, the honorable judges reached a decision and order for the release of Shah Mahmood Qureshi."

It is pertinent to mention here that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) vice chairman and former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi was taken into custody by police in Islamabad INP.

Federal budget 2023-24 to be presented in NA on June 09

ISLAMABAD: The economic team briefed Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif about preparation of the budget for financial year 2023-24. News reported on Tuesday.

The briefing session was informed that the Budget 2023-24 would be presented on 9th of next month in the National Assembly after approval by the federal cabinet.

The PM was briefed about revised estimates of revenue and expenditures and target estimates for the next year.

The economy has been on a positive trajectory towards financial stability and deficit, the meeting was informed.

PM Shehbaz Sharif said that all available resources should be used to reduce the financial difficulties and provide relief to the middle class.

He expressed satisfaction that prices of Urea are continuously decreasing as a result of timely and prudent strategy of the government.

Prime Minister said that during the past two months, current account surplus has been achieved after many years and he directed to take concrete steps to increase revenues for martyrs.

The Prime Minister also directed the authorities concerned to expedite pension reforms at the earliest and establish a pension fund through adopting creative methods to lessen the burden on the national treasury to ensure welfare of the pensioners.

LHC moved for restoration of Punjab Assembly

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court (LHC) has been moved on Tuesday for restoration of the Punjab Assembly.

The Punjab Assembly was dissolved on January 14 on the advice of then Punjab CM Chaudry Pervaiz Elahi.

The petition filed by Adil Chhatra stated that the advice for the dissolution of the Punjab Assembly was unconstitutional as it did not mention the reasons for dissolving the assembly.

The petitioner stated a single bench on the grounds of not being the aggrieved party, but he added in matters of public interest it is not mandatory to be directed-affected.

The courts have also listened to the matters of restoration of the assembly, the petition said and pleaded with the LHC to nullify the advice of Pervaiz Elahi and order restoration of the Punjab Assembly. INP

Shireen Mazari also parts ways with PTI

ISLAMABAD: Shireen Mazari Tuesday announced quitting the Imran Khan-led Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) in a major setback to the top opposition party which has seen a slew of leaders parted ways with it following the May 9 violence.

The development came as the senior vice president of the former ruling party had been arrested several times during the past few days following the May 9 riots triggered by the arrest of the former prime minister in the Al-Qadir Trust case.

Addressing a press conference in the federal capital, Mazari said she added Sharif her ordeal, Mazari said her daughter, Imran Mazari, had to go through a tough time due to her repeated arrests.

"When I was taken to jail for the third time, my daughter INP

Bilawal thanks China, KSA, Turkiye for staying away from G20 meeting in Srinagar

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Tuesday thanked the countries who stayed away from participation in the G20 tourism meeting in Srinagar.

"I salute to China, Saudi Arabia, Turkiye and other countries who rejected the Indian invitation to participate in the G20 tourism meeting in Srinagar. Occupied Jammu and Kashmir territory," he said while addressing a public gathering in Bagh, Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

"The countries that were participating in the conference had also downgraded their participation which reflected that there was nothing normal in the conference."

Bilawal said how tourism could be promoted in an area where half of the local population was in jail and over 900,000 armed personals were deployed to curb the voices of local people demanding their right to self-determination.

He said that Modi government was actually a big supporter of terrorist organizations in India which were involved in the terrorist activities against the Indian minorities including Muslims and Christians.

"When we speak for the human rights of the Kashmiris, the Indian government says we are representing terrorists," he said adding "how they could call us terrorists when we also had been the victims of the terrorism."

"We want peace and represent the people affected by the terrorist," he added Referring to the Indian Prime

Tourists stranded as water of flooded River Swat blocks the Kalam road

SWAT: Tourists visiting Swat valley were stranded on Tuesday after melting snow flooded the Kalam road.

The tourists entered Kalam road resulting in its closure.

The passage of nine months after the destruction Flood last year, Bahrain Bazaar has not been secure due to which water entered into it.

Closure of road left people on both sides including tourists stranded and multi-trucks were engaged in rescuing the trapped vehicles.

All shops and business centers were also closed due to the entrance of water in Bahrain Bazaar INP.

National priorities needed to be reviewed to end prevailing crisis: President

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi has said that national priorities needed to be reviewed to end the socio-economic and political problems faced by the country. He urged the leaders of all institutions to get together to address the major challenges, including overcoming poverty, improving the economy, checking population growth, providing health and education facilities, and eliminating inequalities from society, especially in the rural areas of the country.

These views were expressed by him while talking to the participants of the Senior Officers' Leadership Course (GOL-10), who called on him, at Awaran-Sadr on Tuesday.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Arif Alvi said that while highlighting the importance of Cyber Security INP

Bids to smuggle 3546 MT wheat, 296 MT flour foiled in Attock in two months

ATTOCK: The Food Department Attock in assistance of police and other law enforcement agencies (LEAs) foiled 172 bids to smuggle wheat from Punjab to KP and confiscated as many 35,357 metric tons of wheat during the last two months. It also foiled 172 different bids to smuggle wheat products and confiscated 296.86 metric tons of wheat products, especially flour.

In interaction with media on Tuesday, District Food Controller, Muhammad Ramzan Said said that acting upon various tips of the officials of department foiled nine different bids to smuggle wheat from Punjab to KP and intercepted nine different trucks by the Punjab food from Punjab to KP and confiscated as many 11,000 bags of flour.

While briefing the progress of the Food Department Attock, he revealed that 12 different bids to smuggle wheat from Punjab to KP were foiled and confiscated 4609 kilograms of wheat, 73994 kilogram of wheat, confiscated in 89 different bids, 4976 kilogram in 7 cases, 9315 and 3408 kilograms of wheat in 19 cases, 19 metric tons of flour, 4854 and 4774 kilograms. INP

Hospital dedicated to treatment of drug addiction inaugurated

KARACHI: Chief Minister of Sindh Murad Ali Shah on Tuesday inaugurated a hospital dedicated to the treatment of drug addiction in Karachi.

According to details, CM Murad Ali Shah as a chief guest inaugurated the Benzoi-10, a Model Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center in the Manghopir area of Karachi.

Provincial ministers Shauqat Memon, Murtaza Wahab, Saeed Ghani, and Mukesh Kumar Chawla, along with the guest of honor, Federal Minister for Narcotics Control Nawabzada Shahzain Bugti, also attended the ceremony.

The hospital will provide free medical facilities to drug addicts, and opportunities for social engagement will also be provided to the patients. Addressing the inaugural ceremony, Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah said that together we will make Pakistan a drug-free country. The Chief Minister stated that a large number of individuals in society are trapped in the clutches of drug addiction, and immediate measures are necessary to curb and prevention of drug abuse. According to details, CM Murad Ali Shah as a chief guest inaugurated the Benzoi-10, a Model Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center in the Manghopir area of Karachi.

The hospital will provide free medical facilities to drug addicts, and opportunities for social engagement will also be provided to the patients. Addressing the inaugural ceremony, Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah said that together we will make Pakistan a drug-free country. INP

Sindh IGP announces cash reward for IOs

KARACHI: Inspector General (IG) Sindh Police, Shahab Nadeem, has announced a cash reward of Rs 30,000 for the investigating officer (IO) if the criminal is sentenced to death in a narcotics case.

According to the details, IG Sindh Gulam Nabi Memon, in an official conversation with the media, said that if the criminal is sentenced to death in the narcotics case, the investigating officer of the case. INP



QUETTA: BDA joint Action Committee hold protest outside Balochistan Assembly.

Imran appears before NAB Rawalpindi in Al-Qadir Trust case

ISLAMABAD: PTI Chairman Imran Khan has arrived at the National Accountability Bureau's (NAB) office in Islamabad to join the investigation of charges against him linked to the Al Qadir Trust case.

The case alleges that the former premier and his wife obtained billions of rupees and land worth hundreds of crores from the NAB's Combined Investigation Team (CIT) gave the PTI chief a questionnaire pertaining to the case.

In December 2019, why was a summons issued for surrendering the return of illegal money from the UK?

In December 2019, why was the approval for surrendering the return of illegal money from the UK given?

Why was the land for Al Qadir University and other monetary benefits taken from the suspect in return? Why was the power abused while sitting in the highest public office role? INP