

## UCP students, teachers witness Senate proceedings

**ISLAMABAD:** A delegation of 71 students and two faculty members of University of Central Punjab Quaid Campus Rawalpindi witnessed senate proceedings on Friday.

Chairman Senate during Senate session on Friday told that 71 students of University of Central Punjab Quaid Campus Rawalpindi and two faculty members were present in the Senate to witness the proceeding; we welcome them after that member's senate welcomed them by thumping the desks.

Meanwhile, Chairman Senate has handed over the matter of deportation of Pakistanis from Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) to the implementation committee of Senate.

Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs during question hour answered the questions of members Senate in this regard after that Senate Chairman referred the matter to implementation committee and said that officials of all related departments will give briefing in the committee.

On the other hand, fateha was offered for polio workers and security officials who embraced martyrdom in North Waziristan in line of duty.

Senator Mushtaq Ahmad led Fateha Khawani upon the direction of Chairman Senate. He said government should take special measures for the protection of polio workers as mostly polio workers are females and their protection is government's obligation. He further said that Shuhda packages should be announced for martyred workers and anyone among the family members of deceased should be given job. Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Azam Swati has said that the attack on polio workers is a great oppression. Chairman directed that CM KP should be contacted and asked for taking serious action against those found involved in the attack on polio workers. —Online

## RDA to charge fine from illegal housing societies on daily basis

**RAWALPINDI:** The Rawalpindi Development Authority (RDA) has decided to make amendments in laws for tightening noose against illegal housing societies.

According to media reports, following the implementation of amended laws, private housing societies owners will pay fine on daily basis according to their area till they get them approved by RDA.

RDA is seeking guidance from Lahore Development Authority (LDA) rules in this process. Following the incorporation of these rules in their gazette the owner of housing society with 300 canals area will be required to pay fine of Rs 5000 per day, housing society with area more than 300 canals to 500 canals Rs 10000 per day, housing society with 1000 canals will be fined Rs 15000 per day and management of housing society owning more than 10000 canals area will be fined Rs 20000 per day. Director Metropolitan and Traffic Engineer Mohammad Tahir Meo has said we hope that societies owners will contact with RDA for approval and process of demolition of offices and building of illegal housing societies has been geared up to safeguard the hard earned money of citizens. —Online



**ISLAMABAD:** Students come out of the Parliament House after closing of session, as different universities students visits the Parliament House for listening live session. —Online

# PIA loss dips by Rs 18 billion during last three years: NA

**ISLAMABAD:** National Assembly (NA) has been told that PIA loss has declined by Rs 18 billion during the last three years.

The NA was further told that Rs 7 billion have been earmarked for protection of the crops against locust attack and free of interest loan will be extended for construction of four-marla homes under Pakistan Housing Project.

NA met under speaker Asad Qaisar on Friday. During question hours, PPP NA Syed Nafeesa Shah during her supplementary question said name of Benazir Bhutto Shaheed creates what trouble to government.

State minister Muhammad Ali Khan said no change is being made in BISP. PTI government has enhanced its funds. More welfare projects are being launched under Ahsas programme.

Parliamentary secretary while replying to a supplementary question from Mehreen Razzaq Bhutto said several good steps were taken in education sector during previous tenures. No politics should be played on education.

To a supplementary question, minister for parliamentary affairs Ali Muhammad Khan said access to information law was approved during PML-N tenure but government could not set up commission within stipulated period. The incumbent government has established commission and the commission has dealt with 100

complaints. Ali Muhammad Khan while replying to a supplementary question from Agha Rafi Ullah MNA said 13 non-elected persons were appointed advisors during PPP led government and 14 non-elected people were inducted as advisors and special assistants during PML-N tenure of government.

Parliamentary secretary told the house that bus service has been launched for 75 schools and colleges in federal capital. 200 buses were provided to Islamabad model schools by previous government.

Replying to a supplementary question from Shahida Akhtar Ali, Minister for parliamentary affairs said loans to be provided to the low income people for construction of homes under Naya Pakistan Housing Project will be interest free. Government will bear this burden. NADRA has issued advertisements amounting to Rs 116 million so far. 203940 applicants have been registered within 295 days. NADRA collects Rs 250 per application. Four-marla home will be provided to low income groups. Applications have been received till January 15 and it can be re-started. State of Medina cannot come into being within a year.

Ali Muhammad Khan said West is plunging into ravine in terms of interest. We have an alternative system against interest and we will have to resort to this system.

To a question Ali Muhammad Khan

said no deserving person will be removed from BISP.

Food Minister Khuro Bakhtiar while talking on a calling attention notice from MNA Muhammad Ehsan Ullah Tiwana said Cholistan and areas of Thar Balochistan are the most affected areas in locust attack. Government is taking steps to curb locust attack from its available sources. Due to these efforts cotton and other crops have been protected against locust attack. Federal government has provided grant of Rs 500 million to purchase pesticides to deal with locust attack.

PML-N MNA Rana Tanvir said Prime Minister (PM) Imran Khan had constituted committee with reference to flour, sugar crisis which had submitted report to PM but PM has not told their names.

He said over 100 flour mills are responsible for atta crisis which have earned billion of rupees. Their names should be made public.

Why the house is being kept unaware about those responsible for this crisis. What is reason behind it. It is right of this house and 220 million people to become aware of the situation.

He said a special committee be set up to probe into this matter.

Replying to call attention notice, Federal Minister for aviation Ghulam Sarwar Khan said that regular tenders were offered regarding provision of entertainment during flight in eight Boeing planes

of PIA; however, no work order is given to any committee till yet.

He said this matter is sub-judice in the courts and inquiry is underway upon the matter. Member Assembly Agha Rafiullah said that PIA has its kitchen and staff but government is bent upon running it on contract.

He said when incumbent government took charge then PIA deficit was Rs 416 billion and four aircraft were grounded but now efforts are being made to set right the PIA and its deficit is decreasing gradually.

He said more than 600 employees having fake degrees have been sacked and inquiry report of recent incident will also be presented before the house. Upon it Member Assembly, Abdul Qadir Patel has said that PIA has incurred loss of Rs 60 billion in the last six months rendering claims of incumbent government futile and baseless.

Federal Minister said that in 2017, PIA deficit was of Rs 32 billion and in 2018 it remained Rs 29 billion.

He said nation should know the real performance of PIA.

Federal Minister for Aviation Ghulam Sarwar said that he has accepted the challenge regarding PIA adding you cannot compare 16 months of PTI government with the previous 35 years, however, he said, despite of this he is ready to accept every challenge. —Online

## Man awarded death for rape, murder

**PATOKI:** Court has handed down death sentence to a man involved in rape and murder of a 15-year-old girl.

Last year a 60-year-old man first sexually assaulted a 15-year-old girl and later killed her.

Suspect had confessed that Satan lured him, he went to the house and upon finding nobody at home he sexually assaulted the victim girl.

He said when girl tried to resist he slapped on her face.

He further confessed that girl used to call him 'Uncle' but at the time of incident he was not in his senses just because Satan possessed him. Suspect also burnt the body of victim girl with cigarette after raping her and later threw acid over her. —Online

## Rickshaw driver gunned down in Pindi Bhattian

**PINDI BHATTIAN:** Rickshaw driver has been gunned down by youth in Pindi Bhattian Lari Adda.

According to media reports, Dilawar named youth opened indiscriminate firing on Zaghham over old enmity and as a result Zaghham remained safe and Rickshaw driver Ijaz Ahmed got injured. He was shifted to hospital for medical assistance where he succumbed to injuries. —Online

## Five people killed in firing over old enmity

**SHEIKHPURA:** Five people were gunned down over an old enmity due to property dispute in Safdarabad, area of Sheikhpura. As per media reports, two groups identified as Ishtiaq group and Bagga Group were engaged in an old enmity over property dispute.

Five people of Ishtiaq Group were on their way to Faisalabad to appear before the court when some unknown armed masked men riding on a motorcycle opened indiscriminate firing at people sitting in the car.

As a result, five people died on the spot. Police reached the scene and shifted the dead into nearby DHQ hospital for medico-legal formalities.

According to police, Ishtiaq group had killed father and son of Shafi group and now the rival group gunned down five people in order to take revenge. —Online



**ISLAMABAD:** Uzbek women artists perform at a ceremony held in connection with the Armed Forces Day of Republic of Uzbekistan. —Online

# Terrorism, illegal immigration and drug trafficking major issues of our relations with Spain: Khat-

**ISLAMABAD:** Manuel Duran Gimenex-Rico, Ambassador of Spain called on Pervez Khattak, Federal Minister for Defence in Islamabad Friday.

The two sides acknowledged the need to enhance defence cooperation between the two countries. Federal Minister mentioned that Pakistan values its relations with Spain.

Ambassador Manuel Duran Gimenex-Rico and the Defence Minister exchanged views on matters of mutual interests including enhancing cooperation in defence as well as other spheres of bilateral relations. Pervez Khattak said that Pakistan and Spain are collaborating to address global challenges, such as terrorism, extremism, illegal immigration and drug trafficking, which is an important part of bilateral relations. He also mentioned that military and defence relations be-

tween Pakistan and Spain have potential to grow further for which a memorandum of Understanding on Defence Cooperation is at advances stage.

The Defence Minister invited Spanish military to join in training collaboration ventures and multilateral maritime exercise AMAN. The meeting ended with exchange of good wishes for both sides.

**BISER still holding office despite inquiry against him**

Chairman Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education Rawalpindi (BISER) Dr Ghulam Dastgir who is facing inquiry under Peeda act for granting additional marks to son of provincial minister Fayyaz-ul-Hassan Choochan still stands saddled on his seat.

Chief Minister (CM) Punjab Usman Buzdar had nominated secretary mines and minerals Punjab Hassan Iqbal in-

quiry officer to probe into the case and directed him to present inquiry report within 60 days.

The chance of manipulation of record in marks scam has increased when the chairman and controller of BISER involved in this matter are still holding their seats. Dr Ghulam Dastgir had issued orders to change ledger book in order to manipulate 14 marks into 30 marks given on practical copy of Fahd Hassan son of Fayyaz-ul-Hassan Choochan. Following the issuance of these orders by chairman BISER, result card containing additional marks was also issued to son Fayyaz ul Hassan Choochan. On being pointed out by media, the orders for withholding result card of Fahd Hassan were issued but the record available in secrecy branch which was changed under their orders could not be changed. —Online

# Why biased accountability?

Malik Muhammad Aslam Awan

Since the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) came into being, its impartiality and efficacy in being equally applicable to all those who are considered equal in the eyes of law, now a number of questions are being raised. Musharraf is quoted as the pioneer of the institution of accountability but before him, NAB was operative under the name of Ehtesab Bureau, headed by Saif-ur-Rehman, a stooge of PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif. He enjoyed full powers to grab any person under the pretext of Ehtesab, which was a corrugated blade in his hands. Saif



used this weapon recklessly against the opponents of PML-N. Asif Ali Zardari was the main target of Saif-ur-Rehman, all his venom was drifted towards Benazir and Zardari. He exhumed and raked out stories for reckless accountability of Zardari and for more or less 12 years he was kept in custody and one after the other cases were instituted against him. It was very embarrassing for Benazir when after 12 years Zardari came out of the jail gate after getting exoneration from all cases, an official came hurriedly with a file to order jail superintendent to stop Zardari from going out of jail premises. What was the logic behind this sensational drama. Saif-ur-Rehman knew better to give Zardari a serious nervous breakdown to him.

History of Pakistan is a witness to the sensational dramas, whose, behind the

scene, directors were those sitting at the helm of affairs and whose steering motives were only to cause affliction and panic to their enemies. They remained steadfast and hell-bent to not even spare a single moment to go un-availed to screws the political opponents and to involve them in aggravated agony. At that time it seemed that the Ehtesab Bureau has been a power tool for political engineering and subjugation of political opponents. Scandalising and tightening of political enemies was the only agenda of PML-N government. One point agenda of accountability was drifted towards total annihilation of PPP from the political horizon, and to pave way for the one party (PML-N) hegemony in the country.

It is worth mentioning here that the desire to victimise the political opponents is an indirect endeavour to dig a

well for oneself. With the change of government the same axe falls on the feet of the creator of draconian laws. Any law enacted with populace welfare intent always to go ahead because it is based on goodwill towards progress of the society. But when a law is enacted with a malafide intention to crucify the opposition, it is not a law, it is a tool designed to incarcerate the specific persons to achieve the nefarious designs. For example section 109 PPC was modified with the malafide intent only to send Zulfikar Ali Bhutto to gallows. After having achieved that specific purpose, the same section 109 PPC was again dashed to the ground and after the judicial assassination of Bhutto, not even a single offender has met the same fate that was seen by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. Enactment of draconian laws only to fix some specific segment of

politics is not enactment in its true sense but a victimising tool in the hands of big wigs of those sitting at the helm of affairs.

People pinned their hope that all prevailing laws would be devised to be equally applicable to all but unfortunately the present scenario depicts that NAB is for the PML-N or PPP stalwarts only to teach them an exemplary lesson. Not even a single person of the ruling PTI has been booked under the same law, as being punitive to the PML-N and PPP. Intellectuals and general masses wonder at the NAB actions.

They often discuss at their forums whether NAB is only for the PML-N and PPP as both the parties' stalwarts are frequently targeted by NAB. A trail of corrupt officers and shameless politicians are still free to continue their corruption and embezzlement, which is not

only in millions but in billions. Where is the BRT enquiry and other big projects, the cost of which is now multiplied due to the unnecessary and deliberate delay in the completion of these projects. The question arises who will stand responsible for the economic loss to the nation? Have PTI corrupt elements involved in the scams of billions been exonerated or they enjoy immunity from being tried by NAB. NAB due to its policies has earned the title of a biased institution, which it should rectify itself by all embracing and efficacious uniformity in implementation in a transparent way. The blanket given to the PTI stalwarts sheds an impression that there is something rotten in the state of affairs and the NAB is too affectionate to the ruling Junta.

The writer is a freelance columnist and independent analyst