



Minimum 27°C
Maximum 41°C
Sunset 06:10pm
Sunrise 05:30am
(Today)



FAJAR04:20 AM
ZOHAR.....12:30 PM
ASR.....5:00 PM
MAGRIB.....06:30 PM
ISHA8:30 PM

Quick Read

IGP takes notice of killings in Mandi Bahaudin

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Inspector General of Punjab Police Rao Sardar Ali Khan took notice of the incident in which two persons were killed in a firing incident at Mandi Bahaudin sought a report of the incident from RPO Gujranwala. As per directions of IG Punjab, senior officers arrived on the spot and started legal proceedings. According to details, on Mandi Bahaudin Phalia Road, motorcyclists opened fire on a rickshaw, killing two persons Ijaz and Afzal and injuring three others. As soon as the incident was reported, Mandi Bahaudin police personnel rushed to the spot and along with rescue the deceased and 3 injured were shifted to DHQ hospital. The injured include Aiza Iqbal, Samina Bibi and Zeeshan. IG Punjab has directed that special teams be formed for the arrest of the accused and strict legal action be taken against the accused as soon as possible. Rao Sardar Ali Khan said that provision of justice to the families of the slain should be ensured on priority basis.

Broadband service: USF launches seven projects worth Rs8b

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Universal Service Fund (USF) has launched seven more projects worth over Rs 8 billion to provide Broadband services to over 2.5 million people in the un-served and under-served areas of the four provinces, including Rs 3.5 billion projects for Balochistan. According to an official of USF, the number of projects for providing optical fiber cable and broadband services from 2018 to date has reached a record 56 projects and the total cost (subsidy) has exceeded to Rs 52 billion. The provision of broadband services to the residents of the un-served and under-served areas of the country is as much needed as for the big cities, he said.

'Invest in our Planet' lecture at PGMI

LAHORE: Ameer-ud-Din Medical College/ Post-graduate Medical Institute (PGMI) Principal Prof. Dr. Muhammad Al-freid Zafar has urged medical students to fulfill their professional and social responsibilities and play their role in protection of earth. Delivering a lecture on the topic of 'Invest in our Planet' here on Monday, he said that it is need of the hour to highlight and raise awareness about environmental health in human life so that the trend of tree planting could be promoted among people to save lands from becoming barren. Similarly toxic gases in the air, traffic pressure and its pollution should also be controlled to save people from diseases by controlling smog as well. He said that one of the key steps which should be taken for sustainability was reducing use of plastic products. He said that in order to maintain ecological balance, we must make individual and collective efforts. He said that in order to protect the earth, everyone will have to take part in tree plantation and protect them after-

Marriyum Aurangzeb: A committed, sincere and royal leader



W. R. Khan

Great personalities having commitment, sincerity and royalty always prove to be an asset for any government, institution and party. The same principle could be applied to Marriyum Aurangzeb, the newly appointed Federal Minister for information and Broadcasting in the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif government. What to say about commitment to her duty, she stood like a rock with the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) in its hour of need.

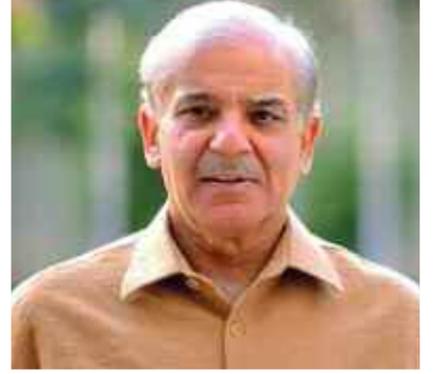
With regard to her upbringing, it is said that Marriyum Aurangzeb was born in a Punjabi-speaking family. Her father Aurangzeb and mother Tahira Aurangzeb who was a well-known PML-N worker and later a member of the National Assembly were from Jhelum. Marriyum Aurangzeb graduated from St. Paul's Cambridge School, Rawalpindi. After completing her primary education, she graduated from Federal Government College, Islamabad, and then went to London for higher studies, where she earned a master's degree in environmental and development policy from King's College, London, and returned home to join the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). Maryam Aurangzeb was also a member of the Board of Directors of Leeds Pakistan in 2013.

Marriyum Aurangzeb met experienced and witnessed the political environment around her from the very beginning of her age. Her mother Tahira Aurangzeb became a worker of the PML-N and later became a member of National Assembly and this is what brought her into politics. She was elected member of the National Assembly on a reserved women seat. She also served as the Chief Organizer of the PML-N's Youth Women's Wing in Islamabad and Rawalpindi. She specializes in strategic thinking and planning and development for environmental protection, development and implementation of international treaties

and the Millennium Development Goals, that is why she is a member of the National Assembly's Standing Committee on Climate Change, and Information, Broadcasting and National. Marriyum Aurangzeb has been the Parliamentary Secretary where she regularly attended the sessions of the National Assembly and played a big role in conducting of the Assembly. During this time, she had the opportunity to learn a lot which proved useful in her political training and even today a glimpse of it can be seen and heard in her speeches.

Marriyum Aurangzeb expressed deep interest in her fields and portfolio and was well-acquainted with the process of drafting a bill which is very important for any member of the assembly.

Owing to Marriyum Aurangzeb's long association with the party, coordination and practical interest in the proceedings of her National Assembly, on October 31, 2016, the then Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif appointed her Federal Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting and later on Don Lex But when the former Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Pervez Rashid was removed from the



Ministry. She was given the charge of minister incharge of the ministry, but she resigned in 2017 after the disqualification of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.



When Shahid Khaqan Abbasi took over as the Prime Minister in August 2017, she was once again appointed as the Federal Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting in his cabinet. Marriyum Aurangzeb played a leading role in all respects. She was also the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) spokesperson and also the Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting Considering her dedication and devotion to work, Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi also appointed her as Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting in April 2018. On June 2, 2018, Mar-

riyum Aurangzeb became the spokesperson of PML-N and in the elections of the same year, she again became a member of the National Assembly from Punjab on the women's seat. Marriyum Aurangzeb spoke on the PML-N's position on all fronts before the change of government from 2018 to April 2022. Be it the press conferences or the ongoing cases against the Sharif family in the courts, she always listened to the questions of every journalist and gave her comments on it with great patience and deep insight.

Now Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has once appointed Marriyum Aurangzeb as Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting. Soon after taking over her ministerial responsibilities, she issued an order to bury the Media Development Regulatory Authority on the basis of "where it is as it is". The media and media workers were reprimanded during the previous Imran Khan's regime. The PTI government and party leaders considered the media as supporters of PML-N and remained silent on retaliatory measures. Relationships deteriorated, many were even shown the way to jails through NAB. Another gruesome example of such acts is the torture and imprisonment of Mohsin Baig by the FIA. Imran Khan's government, the PTI government relied heavily on defamation, slander and mismanagement, so he seemed to be completely exhausted in terms of performance. He had started propagating Pakistan through his propaganda brigade through social media and electronic media cell set up in the Ministry of Information. Marriyum Aurangzeb is an activist political activist and a dignified woman who has shown her talent and ability in the face of "political media experts" like Qamar Zaman Kaira, Sheikh Rashid and Fawad Chaudhry. During the Imran Khan government, the media asserted itself on the front lines and eventually reached the highest in its field. Now with her new assignment, she again proved her talent and abilities to

Railways replace, repair 654 bridges during last three years

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Pakistan Railways has replaced and repaired 654 bridges across the country during the last three years to ensure smooth operation of trains and safety of the passengers.

"Out of 654, as many as 32 bridges have been replaced and 622 have been repaired during the period, an official in the Ministry of Railways told APP.

"Pakistan Railways has been paying special focus on repair and rehabilitation of bridges to restore the confidence of the passengers," the official said.

In addition to above, the official said Pakistan Railway has planned to re-construct all the bridges on its Main Line-I (ML-I) under ML-I Up-gradation Project under

China-Pak Economic Corridor (CPEC) framework, PC-1 of which has already been approved by the ECNEC in 2020. The official said the overall length of track, which has been rehabilitated under the different Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) projects, was being maintained with available resources and the track. In fact 70 percent railway track in the country has completed its designed life; however, all available resources in revenue allocations were being utilized for safe train operation. The official said the efforts were also underway to rehabilitate the tracks through PSDP allocation. To a question, the official said Pakistan Railways was also planning to reconstruct 11 bridges and to repair another 55 in the country. The department would

reconstruct three bridges in Sukkur division, six in Multan and two in Lahore division. About the repair of bridges in different divisions, the official conveyed Pakistan Railways had planned to repair 34 bridges in Karachi, 11 in Sukkur, two in Multan, five in Rawalpindi, two in Peshawar and one in Quetta. Around 86 percent of bridges were more than 100 years old, but all of them were safe for train operation due to regular maintenance, rehabilitation and strengthening of the bridges. Pakistan Railways has 13,959 major and minor bridges over the system and their design life varies for different years. The standard operating procedure calls for inspection of bridges in accordance with the different schedules like monthly, quarterly, biannually and annually.

International DNA Day observed

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Institute of Biochemistry and Biotechnology (IBBT) of the University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (UVAS) Lahore observed an international DNA (Deoxyribonucleic Acid) Day by arranging a walk and seminars here on Monday.

Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Nasim Ahmad led the walk starting from Vice Chancellor office which concluded in front of DNA model at the Institute of Biochemistry and Biotechnology (IBBT) while Director (IBBT) Prof Dr Waseem Shahzad, Prof Dr Kamran Ashraf, Prof Dr Yasir Zahoor and a large number of students and faculty members participated.

Later on, Director Institute of Industrial Biotechnology from Government College University Lahore Prof Dr Nauman Aftab delivered a detailed lecture on the introduction of DNA & its importance in the modern era. The day was celebrated in memory of discovery of DNA structure because advances in health agriculture and other fields of biotechnology took place after this amazing discovery of DNA by James D Watson & Francis H C Crick that was reported on 25th of April 1953.



LAHORE: Employees of Waste Management Company hold protest in the favour of their demands.

3,822 clubs featured in 7,009 matches in the 2021-22 cricket season

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Pakistan Cricket Board's efforts for the democratisation of the game continued in the 2021-22 season as it provided guidance and assistance to the six Cricket Associations for the growth and promotion of cricket at the grassroots level. The efforts reaped great benefits for club cricketers with as many as 3,822 club sides across the country playing 7,009 matches. The six CAs conducted cricket leagues in their respective jurisdictions in the five-month period between

October 2021 and February 2022, providing a pathway for the aspiring cricketers to graduate to the apex domestic level and also helping in the unearthing of cricket talent in both urban and rural centers. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, whose talent across all rungs continues to dominate the domestic scene, saw 844 clubs play 1,530 matches from 13 November 2021 to 20 January 2022. Cen-

tral Punjab and Sindh had the next best number of club participation with 788 and 670 sides playing 1,482 and 1,172 matches, respectively. In Southern Punjab, 517 clubs played 1,100 matches, while 512 clubs in Balochistan and 491 in Northern featured in 700 and 1,025 games, respectively.

The club cricket leagues in the Balochistan, Central Punjab, Northern, Sindh and Southern Punjab began on 20 October 2021 and finished early this year. Nadeem Khan, Director - High Performance said here on Monday: "Club cricket acts as a feeder for domestic cricket and it was vital that we created an atmosphere in which our six Cricket Associations were able to maximise cricket at grassroots.

"I want to congratulate the Cricket Associations, who have delivered these matches and have more such activities planned that are in line with the PCB has a vision of helping grassroots cricket grow and flourish.