

## Kashmiris observe Martyrs' Day

SRINAGAR: Kashmiris on both sides of the Line of Control, in Pakistan and the world over observed the Martyrs' Day, on Wednesday to pay homage to the martyrs of July 13, 1931 and all other Kashmiri martyrs.

According to a media report, the shops remained closed in Nowhatta, Rajouri Kadal and several parts of the Srinagar city in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir. The authorities did not allow people to visit Martyrs' Graveyard at Naqshband Sahib in Srinagar to pay tributes to the martyrs who are buried there. —APP

# The Business

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## Police release MQM leader Babar Ghauri

KARACHI: Karachi Police on Wednesday released Mut-tahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) senior leader Babar Ghauri over lack of evidence. In this regard, police said that there is no complete evidence against Babar Ghauri. Police said if the evidence is gathered, Babar Ghauri can be taken into custody again. It is pertinent to mention that on July 4 Babar Ghauri was arrested by the security agencies upon his return to Pakistan. He was taken into custody over his alleged involvement in a corruption and terrorism case. —DNA

## Kashmiris have kept alive flame of freedom: PM

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister (PM): Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has said Generations of Kashmiris have kept alive flame of freedom from the Indian yoke in the face of Indian tyranny and oppression.

He said this in a tweet on the occasion of Kashmir Martyrs' Day.

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## Pak regional exports up by 18.26 percent

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's exports to the seven regional countries witnessed an increase of 18.26 percent in eleven months of fiscal year (2021-22), as compared to the corresponding period of last year.

The country's exports to seven regional countries including Afghanistan, China, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India, Nepal and the Maldives account for a small amount of \$4172.741 million, which is 14.22 percent of Pakistan's overall exports of \$29333.048 million during July-May (2021-22), State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) reported.

China tops the list of countries in terms of Pakistan's exports to its neighbour, leaving behind other countries such as Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

Pakistan carried out its border trade with the farther neighbour Sri Lanka, India, Nepal and Maldives. —APP

## Resolution of Kashmir dispute vital: Munir

NEW YORK: Pakistan's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Ambassador Munir Akram on Wednesday said securing a resolution for the festering Kashmir dispute was important in view of the massive suffering faced by the Kashmiris and as a threat to regional and international peace and security.

In a statement on the commemoration of Kashmir Martyrs' Day, Munir Akram said India's occupation forces had martyred over 100,000 Kashmiris since 1985 with the initiation of their struggle to secure the legitimate right to self-determination as promised to them by the resolutions of the Security Council. "This Day is commemorated each year by Kashmiri people and people of Pakistan all over the world to honour the 22 Kashmiris who were martyred by the Maharaja's Dogra Forces within the premises of Srinagar Central Jail on July 13," he said.

Ninety-one years on, he said, the brutal oppression of the Kashmiri people continued to this day. —DNA

## 157 Pak ladies kidnapped country in June: Reports

ISLAMABAD: According to research by the Sustainable Social Development Organization (SSDO) and the Centre for Research, Development and Communication (CRDC), kidnapping of women, physical assault, rape and domestic violence against women were the most reported cases in the month of June 2022 in the mainstream media.

Kidnapping of women was the most heavily reported in the media, with a total of 157 of cases. 108 of these cases were reported only from the province of Punjab. Looking at other provinces, Sindh reported 22 cases, followed by 06 from KP, four in Balochistan and 17 from Islamabad. 112 cases of physical assault against women were reported in media all over Pakistan. Highest (66) were reported in Punjab, 27 in Sindh, 11 in KPK, eight in Islamabad, whereas no cases were reported in

election commission blatantly. He used to hurl threats at the Election Commission in the past and he is attacking it daily nowadays.

Imran Khan and his ministers violated election commission laws publicly while they were in power and they threatened the Election Commission.

The PML-N ministers on the other hand, tendered resignations in reverence to orders of the Election Commission and for the sake of upholding law. On the other hand, there is Imran Niazi and PTI which is still abusing and threatening the Election Commission



ISLAMABAD: A view of portraits of martyrs of Kashmiri leaders on the eve of Kashmiris Martyrs Day.

# IMF loan necessary to avoid default, says PEW

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Economy Watch (PEW) late Tuesday said the country will go back to the Stone Age if IMF loan was not ensured without further delay.

Timely closure of the markets will help the country save almost three billion dollars in oil import bill, it will reduce loadshedding, control circular debt and there will be no need to set up expensive power plants hastily, it said.

Early closure of markets is in the national interests which is being ignored for the sake of political interests, said Brig. (ret) Aslam Khan, Chairman PEW.

He said that market closure by sunset would help run the textile and other export industry as the textile sector is expecting a fifty percent reduction in exports after a 26 percent increase last year.

Reducing power supply to the industrial sector will also cut production and result in unemployment, he warned.

A country with a trade deficit of 48 billion dollars, a current account deficit of 15 billion dollars, and exports worth 31.85 billion dollars against the imports of 80.5 billion dollars cannot afford such luxuries, he said.

Aslam Khan noted that the existing policies clearly reflect that no lesson has been learnt from the bankruptcy of Sri Lanka and we are marching in the same direction.

Pakistan's power generation capacity is more than demand but the whole country

## Growth-oriented Monetary Policy vital as industry cannot survive at 15pc discount rate

is facing severe loadshedding. Mismanagement has pushed up the power shortfall to eight thousand megawatt which has not been reduced to 6000 megawatts due to rains, he informed.

He said that IPPs got excess payments of Rs850 billion during the last fiscal and they would be given Rs1440 billion in the ongoing fiscal for which masses would be made to pay.

Referring politics over the economy will continue to damage the country and may lead to bankruptcy, he warned.

Another report adds: The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry's Businessmen Panel (BMP) calling for growth-oriented monetary policy stated that the current policy rate of 15 percent is the highest in view of the regional countries markup rates and industry cannot survive at the existing 14-year high record discount rate.

FPCCI former President and BMP Chairman Mian Anjum Nisar demanded the immediate reduction in electricity tariff especially for SMEs as a first step to-

wards cut in production cost while the second and vital step toward this direction would be bringing discount rate to the regional level with a view to providing level-playing field especially to the export industry. The decision would have the same importance for the domestic industry too, as it has also been facing tough competition of cheaper imported merchandise in the country following FTAs with several countries, he added. While appreciating the central bank's role in sustaining economic growth through supporting trade and industry, he said that reduction in interest rate would be vital relief to the business community.

The FPCCI former president said that achievements in exports and stabilization of the economy through the monetary policy measures now require to sustain again by extending reduction in the policy rates so that the debt liability of the business sector is compensated through lower mark-up rate. The trade and industry need continued support from the government in the form of lower interest rate amidst such

# India never be able to suppress Kashmiris' movement: Alvi

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday said that the aggression and the cheap tactics of the Indian Occupation Forces had neither succeeded in the past, nor would be able in the future to suppress the indigenous movement of the Kashmiri people.

The president, in his message on Kashmir Martyrs' Day, paid rich tribute to the martyrs and brave people of Kashmir for their continuous freedom struggle.

He said only the resolution of Kashmir dispute in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council could guarantee the regional peace. He saluted the resolve of the Kashmiri people who embraced martyrdom on July 13, 1931 by the Dogra rule. The president said the Kashmir Martyrs' Day was also a reminder of the decades-old struggle of the Kashmiri people for their right to self determination.

He said the people of Kashmir had been sacrificing their lives since generations to

keep the passion for freedom alive.

The president demanded the Indian Occupation Forces to immediately stop the human rights abuses in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) and take measures for holding an impartial plebiscite. He reiterated the resolution of Kashmir dispute as per aspirations of the Kashmiri people as well as the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions was inevitable for peace in the region. He said on Kashmir Martyrs' Day, the nation should reiterate a pledge to continue its diplomatic, moral and political support to the Kashmiri people till they get their right to self determination.

Alvi for accelerating barter mechanism with Iran

President Dr. Arif Alvi has called for accelerating operation of barter mechanism with Iran in order to expand and facilitate trade exchange.

During a meeting with Iran's Consul

General Hasan Nourian in Karachi, the President stressed the necessity of taking constructive measures to expand bilateral economic cooperation at the joint border crossings.

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## Sri Lankan PM takes over powers of President

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka's Speaker of Parliament Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena said on Wednesday that President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has appointed Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe to perform and discharge the powers and duties of the president.

Rajapaksa has appointed Wickremesinghe in accordance with the constitution, as Rajapaksa was away from the country, the speaker said in a statement. —APP

## APCA criticises govt for pension deduction

MARDAN: Central general secretary of All Pakistan Clerks Association (Apc), Aurangzeb Kashmiri on Wednesday strongly criticized the provincial government for pension deduction and approval of the law to give pension to one of the spouses.

"Provincial government should deduct the expenses of the cabinet and members of the provincial assembly", he added. He expressed these views while talking to the media. Aurangzeb Kashmiri added that the present government is behind the ruin of the employees and wants to abolish the pensions of the government employees through various maneuvers. He argued that the present provincial government has turned government employees and institutions into laboratories and in the cycle of making government institutions profitable, they have been led to loss and destruction. —Online

## Passports, CNICs to be blocked over heckling: Sana

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Minister for Interior Rana Sanaullah on Tuesday while announcing major action against Pakistan Tehrik-e-Insaf (PTI) workers, said that the national identity cards and passports will be blocked for heckling against citizens and especially the leaders of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N).

In a series of Tweets, the federal minister while taking a dig at former PM and PTI chairman Imran Khan said that a so-called political party and its leader, who is suffering from insanity, had launched a campaign based on political hatred, malice, sedition and mischief and for security measures in view, I address all Pakistani citizens, especially the friends of the PML-N that if you encounter "sick followers of Imran Khan" while traveling, in the bazaar or anywhere, and they start "roaring" or "biting" you, you can make their video from your mobile phone instead of taking the law into your hands.

## Gold price remains stagnant at Rs.142,200 per tola

ISLAMABAD: The price of 24 karat per tola gold remained stagnant at Rs.142,000 on Wednesday, All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association. The price of 10 gram 24 karat gold and 10 gram 22 karat also remained unchanged at Rs.121,914 and Rs.111,754 respectively.

The price of per tola and ten gram silver witnessed no change and was sold at Rs1520 and Rs 1,303.15 respectively. The price of gold in international market decreased by \$13 and was sold at \$1730 against its sale at \$1743, the association reported. —APP

## COAS reviews Karachi flooding

From Our Staff Correspondent

RAWALPINDI: Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa late Tuesday reached Karachi directly from Saudi Arabia.

According to a statement issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the COAS was flown over the city to oversee impact of urban flooding due to recent heavy spell of rains. Gen Bajwa was also briefed about latest situation of flooding and Army's complete support rendered to the civil administration in Karachi.

# By-polls have not started but Imran Khan has started bewailing: Marriyum

From Our Staff Correspondent

ISLAMABAD: Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb has said by polls have not taken place but Imran Khan has started bewailing.

"Threats and abuses are being hurled on election commission daily. Election Commission is being targeted by Imran Khan due to foreign funding case in fact", she said this in a statement issued here Wednesday.

She held that Imran Khan as a Prime Minister (PM) defied the laws, orders and regulations of

like what they did during the PTI government, They don't consider themselves subordinate to law. Imran Khan thinks himself law, she remarked. Imran Khan abuses election commission daily and on the other hand, he is filing applications as well, she added.

In defiance of election commission orders Imran Khan launched election campaign in Gilgit-Baltistan, KP and Azad Kashmir polls. Imran Niazi and his ministers were caught red handed while distributing money, announcing development schemes in election campaign. —Online



KARACHI: People gather at the site of four-storey building collapses at Lyari's Nayabad. —Online