

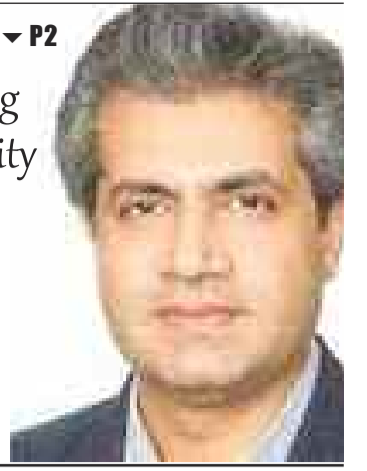


Marriyum in Turkiye to attend OIC ministers moot

The Business

An English Daily published simultaneously from Lahore and Faisalabad

ECP losing its credibility with its biased attitude



Govt accepting 25 more PTI MNAs resigns

ISLAMABAD: Government has started considering to accept the resignations of more 25 National Assembly (NA) members of PTI.

According to parliamentary sources most of MNAs of whose list has been sent to speaker NA Raja Pervez Ashraf for acceptance of their resignations belong to South Punjab. They include former foreign minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi and his nephew Pir Zahoore Hussain Qureshi. However final decision for acceptance of the resignations will be made by allied parties of the government.

Parliamentary sources told Online that a list of 25 MNAs was sought from legislation department which has been sent to speaker Raja Pervez Ashraf along with the comments. However Raja Pervez Ashraf will make consultation with the coalition partners in connection with the acceptance of the resignations. Later the matter will be decided.

Earlier speaker NA has accepted resignations of 11 MNAs from PTI and by polls have taken place on these seats. Sources said the matter of accepting the resignations is being considered to mount pressure on PTI.

Dip in mobile phones import alarming: Fawad

PTI leader Fawad Ch has termed dip in the import of mobile very alarming. He tweeted mobile phones import has witnessed decline by 68 percent. The basic reason behind it is imposition of massive taxes on import of mobile phones. Today mobile phone communication is one among the vital pillars of national economy. —APP



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting on electricity demand and supply in winter.

■ PM seeks details after Punjab CM's letter on wheat shortage

Shehbaz satisfied with progress on projects under SDF

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has expressed his satisfaction over the progress made in last two days on the projects under the Saudi Development Fund. He praised the efforts of the cabinet members concerned and officers in this regard.

The PM, chairing a review meeting to discuss the SDF projects facing delay, said the pace and dedication showed by the cabinet members and relevant officers should be followed in future as well. The meeting was also attended by the delegation of Saudi Development Fund, SDF's Asia Director Dr Saud A. Alshammari, currently visiting Pakistan. The meeting was told that the all departments concerned had fulfilled the requirements to remove obstacles in the projects.

The prime minister said the unnecessary delay in SDF funds had inflicted huge loss to the country which necessitated swift pace and dedication to overcome the deficiency. During the detailed briefing on the progress of SDF projects, it was told that the formalities regarding Mohmand Dam Project, Jagran IV project, Shonher Hydropower Project and Gravity Flow Water Manshra Project had been completed and the agreements

in this regard would be signed soon.

The meeting was told that the issues confronting Neelum Jhelum Hydropower Project and Golan Gol Hydropower Project had been addressed. It was told that PC-1 for the construction of a section of Neelum Valley Road in Azad Jammu and Kashmir and two tunnels had been completed. Moreover, all the issues related to development of infrastructure in Malakand Region and provision of infrastructure and necessary equipment to Hayasari Hospital had been resolved.

The participants were told that all matters regarding the rehabilitation of quake-hit Abbotabad and AJK areas had been settled between SDF, Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority, Federal Board of Revenue and Accountant General of Pakistan. Moreover, the construction of Shah Salman Hospital in Tarlai area of Islamabad was also in progress. As urged by the prime minister, the Saudi delegation showed interest in investing in solar energy sector and fund the Dimer Bhasha Dam. During the meeting with the delegation on October 17, the prime minister had taken strict notice of delay in projects and directed the authorities concerned to submit a re-

port within a week, prior to the departure of the delegation.

The PM told the meeting that Saudi Arabia always stood with Pakistan and extended unconditional support and assistance on all fronts including foreign affairs.

Another report adds: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has sought details to shortage of wheat in Punjab after Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhry Parvez Elahi's letter requesting the premier to permit the procurement of one million metric tonnes of wheat on an emergency basis.

According to official sources, the Punjab Food Department had informed the chief minister about the rapid decrease in the stock of wheat in the province after which he wrote a letter to the prime minister.

PM wants KP, Punjab govts set aside politics for flood relief

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday pressed governments in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to set aside politics in view of the country's situation due to devastating floods. Chairing a review meeting of National Flood Response and Coordination Centre, the prime minister insisted urged both governments to join the centre's scheme of providing wheat seeds to farmers of the

Toshakhana reference verdict against IK today

From Our Staff Correspondent

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) said Thursday that it will announce its verdict in the Toshakhana case against Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan today (Friday).

The Election Commission has issued notices to all relevant parties in this regard. The verdict would be announced at 2 pm tomorrow. The ECP had reserved its verdict in the case, moved by the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM), seeking the disqualification of Imran for alleged foul play related to Toshakhana gifts, on September 20.

A five-member ECP bench headed by Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja and comprising Nisar Durrani, Shah Muhammad Jatoti, Babar Bharwana, and former Justice Ikramullah Khan heard the case. Barrister Ali Zafar and Barrister Gohar Ali Khan represented the PTI chairman as defence lawyers in the case hearing.

Who will sit with person who call us robber: Nawaz

LONDON/ISLAMABAD: PML-N supreme Nawaz Sharif while refuting the reports of any secret talks with Imran Khan or any of his representative has made it clear that he does not believe in back door contacts.

"Who will like to sit with the person who always calls us dacoit and robber. This fitna Khan himself has ruined the country. Now finance minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan is working for revival of the national economy, he said this while talking to several PML-N leaders including senator Pervez Rashid. Sources revealed Nawaz said this claim by Imran is false and against the fact that any back door talks are being held between him and Imran. —DNA

PM Truss resigns after six weeks

LONDON: Liz Truss said on Thursday she was resigning as prime minister, brought down by her economic programme that sent shockwaves through the markets and divided her Conservative Party just six weeks after she was appointed.

A leadership election will be completed within the next week. Speaking outside the door of her Number 10-Downing Street office, Truss accepted that she could not deliver the promises she made when she was running for Conservative leader, having lost the faith of her party. "I recognise though, given the situation, I cannot deliver the mandate on which I was elected by the Conservative Party. I have therefore spoken to His Majesty the King to notify him that I am resigning as leader of the Conservative Party," she said.

"This morning I met the chairman of the 1922 Committee, Sir Graham Brady. We've agreed that there will be a leadership election to be completed within the next week. This will ensure that we remain on a path to deliver our fiscal plans and maintain our country's economic stability and national security. —Reuters (Earlier story on Page 7)

Gold rates dip by Rs2500

ISLAMABAD: The price of 24 karat per tola gold witnessed a decrease of Rs2,500 on Thursday and was sold at Rs 147,900 against its sale at Rs150,400 the previous day.

The price of 10 gram 24 karat also decreased by Rs 2,144 and was sold at Rs 126,800 against Rs128,944; whereas that of 10 gram 22 karat went down to Rs116,234 against its sale at Rs 118,198, All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported.

The price of per tola and 10 gram silver remained constant at Rs1590 and Rs1363.16, respectively. The price of gold in international market increased by \$2 and was sold at \$1633 against its sale at \$1635,

PSX closes negative, sheds 89 points

From Our Staff Correspondent

KARACHI: The Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) experienced a roller-coaster ride on Thursday and the KSE-100 Index retreated 0.21% owing to persistent decline in value of rupee against the US dollar.

Moreover, investors also assumed a cautious stance ahead of the decision of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) in its plenary meeting on Friday. By the end of the session, the KSE-100 Index fell 89.01 points or 0.21% to close at 42,137.04.

Market view suggests that Pakistan will exit the grey-list on Friday. Trading began with a jump and the KSE-100 Index climbed to intra-day high

value in the first hour. Selling pressure gripped the market at this point and it erased all gains. The downward trend continued in final hours which made the market close with a loss. Index-heavy automobile, cement, chemical, banking and oil spaces closed in the red.

A report from Arif Habib Limited stated that the PSX saw a mixed trading session. "The market started out strong, but the rupee's weakening against the US dollar eroded investor confidence and caused profit-taking, triggering the index to close down," it said. "Mainboard volumes were decent on the contrary third tier stocks remained in the limelight." Capital Stake, in its report, stated that the

Oct 25 proposed for long march to Imran Khan

ISLAMABAD: October 25 has been proposed to PTI Chairman Imran Khan for long march but the decision for fixing final date for staging long march will be made by Imran Khan.

Directives have been issued to divisional parties headquarters for preparations of long march. However PTI workers have shown no enthusiasm for long march. The main reason behind is stated to be high expenses of the long march that who will bear these expenses. As per sources party leaders have proposed Imran Khan to announce October 25 as final date for holding long march. If government does not give date for gen-

eral election then there will be dama dam mast qalandar against it.

Sources said PTI is keeping long march strategy secret but this proposal has come to fore that PTI should mount Islamabad from KP and Punjab.

Simultaneously. All the entry points of Islamabad be jammed and entry of people to the federal capital be stopped so that government becomes besieged in Islamabad.

In the first phase PTI workers from Rawalpindi and Taxila will reach entry points. Later different rallies will head towards Islamabad. However federal government has also made all preparations to deal with the long march. —Online

SC rejects govt's request to stop PTI long march

ISLAMABAD: Stressing that the talk of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's long march was presently restricted to speeches only, Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Justice Umar Ata Bandial on Thursday said the federal government could tackle the march by taking measures in the urban areas where there were security threats, ahead of the march.

During the hearing of the contempt of court petition filed by the Ministry of Interior against former prime minister and PTI Chairman Imran Khan, the CJP asked Attorney-General for Pakistan (AGP) Ashtar Ausaf Ali whether he wanted to say that the PTI was planning yet another march and a sit-in in Islamabad. "Whether you mean that the party is going against the assurance it had given to the court earlier," he said, and questioned, "Do you want us to seek yet another assurance from the PTI?"

A five-member bench of the SC, headed by CJP Bandial, heard the petition. "Islamabad's administration must keep itself ready to face any situation. The court will only intervene in the event of any violation of a law," Justice Bandial remarked. "Bring solid proofs that the march will lead to a confrontation in the federal capital," he asked the AGP, and added, "If we deem it necessary, we will come to the court even on a holiday."

The AGP told the court that Imran was visiting colleges and universities and inciting people against the state. "It is true that registering one's protest is a fundamental right of every citizen," Ashtar said. "But the point is that the PTI chairman is urging people to participate in the march by calling it a 'Jihad'." He reminded the SC that last time the former PM had given an assurance to the IHC that the PTI workers would not

enter Islamabad's D-Chowk. "Still, he failed to keep the promise and directed the workers to storm the chowk," the AGP said, adding, "The govt had even opened the routes leading to the Srinagar Highway's ground."

But still PTI workers entered the Red Zone. Consequently there were clashes between them and the personnel of the law enforcement agencies. The protestors even damaged public and private properties." Later, he went on to add, on the same day an application was filed in the SC, in which action was sought against those responsible for the mayhem. The AGP then read out the apex court order, dated May 25, 2022, in which the court not only barred the authorities from arresting the marchers, but also urged the PTI leadership to ask its workers to exercise restraint and refrain from tak-

CM vows to deal wheat shortage issue with Shehbaz

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Ch Parvez Elahi said that Shehbaz Sharif stopped the wheat of Punjab and he would deal with it. Shehbaz Sharif only makes announcements and tells a lie. CM while addressing a big public rally said that Sharif family comes and after staging a drama leaves. Sindh was given wheat but we are not being allowed to obtain wheat from our own money.

CM said that he holds the people of Talagang his witness and stated that the PML-N people tell a lot of lies. He said that he remained with them for 15 years and had seen them very closely.

We requested Allah Almighty to send such a person who can deal with them and we found Imran Khan. If PML-N people go to some shops then slogans of dacoits are chanted on them.

CM said that when the flood came then we sent the money and the goods to the people coming from abroad. We did telethon jointly with Imran Khan and collected Rs. 2.5 billion.

He stated that if Imran comes to Lahore then he will bring them here also. Pervaiz disclosed that the PA passed the Ehsas Programme Bill and now it will be enforced across the province. The flood-affected people will also be given aid from the Ehsas Programme. We would give

ration at subsidized rates to the 80 lac deserving families through the Ehsas Programme. The shopkeeper will also be given 10 percent from the Ehsas Programme. He prayed to Allah Almighty to fulfil the promises which he had made with the masses.

CM announced that industrial zones will be established in Talagang by setting the road network adding that Talagang industrial zone will be declared tax-free. He resolved to establish factories in the Talagang industrial zone adding that ban from making inductions has been lifted and there will be thousands of

● Continued on Back Page



LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Ch Parvez Elahi addresses a big public meeting at Talagang.