

India stops Pulitzer-winning Kashmiri photographer from flying to US



NEW DELHI: Indian authorities have prevented an award-winning photographer from flying to the United States to collect her Pulitzer Prize, the latest of several Kashmiri journalists barred from leaving the country.

Sanna Irshad Mattoo was one of four journalists working for Reuters news agency that took home the prestigious award for feature photography this year. The 28-year-old has won plaudits for documenting life in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu Kashmir (IIOJK). Mattoo was stopped by immigration authorities at New Delhi airport late on

Tuesday and prevented from boarding while two of her colleagues were permitted to leave the country. She later tweeted a picture of her ticket that was stamped "cancelled without prejudice". "I don't know what to say... this was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for me," Mattoo, who is also a fellow of the prestigious Magnum Foundation, told AFP. "Only I was stopped without any reason and the others were allowed to go. Maybe it has something to do with me being a Kashmiri." Tuesday was the second time this year that Mattoo was prevented from leaving India. In July, she was stopped

in a similar manner at the same airport while on her way to Paris for a book launch and photography exhibition.

Thousands have been killed in IIOJK since the start of a rebellion against Indian rule in 1989, and more than half a million troops are permanently stationed in the region. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government stripped the territory of its limited autonomy in 2019, severing internet connections for months and detaining political leaders to forestall an anticipated backlash. Foreign journalists have been barred from IIOJK and local reporters based

in the territory say they have come under pressure to tone down their work. Several other Kashmiri journalists have also been prevented by authorities from travelling abroad in the past three years. Independent journalist Aakash Hassan, a regular contributor to the Guardian newspaper, was not allowed to board a flight from New Delhi to Sri Lanka for work in July. He told AFP that months later, he has still received no information from authorities as to why he was denied permission to travel. "Given the pattern, it looks like it only happens to Kashmiri journalists," Hassan told AFP. The

decision to prevent Mattoo from leaving was "arbitrary and excessive", Beh Lih Yi of the Committee to Protect Journalists said in a statement. She called on India to cease "all forms of harassment and intimidation" against journalists working in occupied Kashmir. —AFP

India's Congress party elects first non-Gandhi head in 24 years

NEW DELHI: India's Congress party on Wednesday appointed an octogenarian ex-minister as its first president in 24 years not from the Gandhi dynasty, in an effort to reverse its apparent decline into political oblivion.

Mallikarjun Kharge, 80, was elected by members to replace Sonia Gandhi as president of the once-mighty party that helped win India's independence from Britain 75 years ago. The Indian National Congress governed India for decades after independence in 1947 but is now a shadow of its former self, discredited and crushed under the electoral juggernaut of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

The Gandhi family is not related to India's independence icon Mahatma Gandhi, but descended from the country's first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru. Nehru was the father of prime minister Indira Gandhi, assassinated in 1984. She was the mother of Rajiv Gandhi, killed by a suicide bomber in 1991. The party was last in power nationally from 2004 to 2014 under prime minister Manmohan Singh.

The BJP thrashed Congress in the last two elections, with Modi deriding party president Rahul Gandhi — son of Rajiv and Sonia — as an out-of-touch princeling and playboy. After the latest defeat in 2019, Rahul Gandhi resigned as party president and handed the reins back to his Italian-born mother Sonia, now 75, who was first appointed to the role in 1998. Kharge, a former railways and labour minister who is from the Dalit community, was born five years before independence and is widely believed to have the backing of both Sonia and Rahul Gandhi. Rahul Gandhi said on Wednesday that Kharge is now the supreme authority in the party and that he "will decide my role in the party". "His vast experience and ideological commitment will serve the party well as he takes on this historic responsibility," he added on Twitter.

But despite stepping back, Sonia and Rahul Gandhi are expected to continue pulling the strings from behind the scenes. Kharge, who is four months older than US President Joe Biden, now faces the mammoth challenge of winning the next



national election, due in 2024, and three state elections next year. "What matters is winning" Kharge faced off against Shashi Tharoor, 66, a former under-secretary general of the United Nations, who campaigned for "change" in the party. The successful author has been scathing of British colonialism and said in 2017 that Winston Churchill "has as much blood on his hands as some of the worst

genocidal dictators of the 20th century". Tharoor conceded defeat on Twitter and said that being Congress president was a "great honour and a huge responsibility", wishing Kharge "all success in the task".

The party was reduced to just 53 seats in the 543-member lower house of parliament after the last national election, which was swept by the BJP with 303 seats.

A decision to elect a non-Gandhi president showed that Congress was "weary of criticism from BJP and Modi", Rasheed Kidwai, a fellow at the Observer Research Foundation and close watcher of the party for years, told AFP.

He added that there was a "fair chance" that Kharge may turn around the party's fortunes. "He may be 80 but is in good health and a workaholic." —AFP

Russian army accepts situation 'tense' for its troops in Ukraine

MOSCOW: The Russian military said that the situation for its troops on the ground in Ukraine was "tense" in the face of a Ukrainian counter-offensive, after several major setbacks in the east and south. "The situation in the area of the special military operation can be described as tense. The enemy is not abandoning its attempts to attack Russian troop positions," Gen Sergey Surovikin, who has been in charge of operations in Ukraine for the past 10 days, told state television Rossiya 24.

Ukrainian forces mounted a counter-offensive in the south towards the end of the summer and have been pushing closer and closer to the city of Kherson, which is occupied by Moscow. Russia's army is preparing to evacuate civilians from the city, the commander for Ukraine operations said on Tuesday. Also on Tuesday, the Russian military said it had recaptured territory in the eastern Kharkiv region of Ukraine, the first gains in that area since Moscow's forces were pushed back in the sweeping counter-offensive. Ukraine's power grid Ukraine warned on Tuesday of an emerging "critical" risk to

its power grid after President Volodymyr Zelensky said that repeated Russian bombardments had destroyed one-third of the country's power facilities as winter approaches. The warning came as Russian forces claimed to have retaken territory from Ukrainian troops in the eastern Kharkiv region, Moscow's first announced capture of a village there since being nearly entirely pushed out of the region last month. At the same time, Russian attacks rocked energy facilities in Kyiv and urban centres across the country, causing blackouts and disrupting water supplies, one day after the capital was bombed with a swarm of suicide drones. "The situation is critical now across the country. It's necessary for the whole country to prepare for electricity, water and heating outages," Kyrylo Tymoshenko, the deputy head of the Ukrainian president's office, told Ukrainian television. The strikes in the early hours of Tuesday hit Kyiv, Kharkiv in the east, Mykolaiv in the south and central regions of Dnipro and Zhytomyr, where officials said hospitals were running on backup generators. —AFP

500 US military personnel 'work for foreign govts'

WASHINGTON: Fifteen retired US generals and admirals have worked as paid consultants for the Saudi Defence Ministry since 2016, The Washington Post reported.

They are among more than 500 retired US military personnel — including scores of generals and admirals — who have taken lucrative jobs with foreign governments since 2015. Most of their employers "are known for human rights abuses and political repression," the report added. Saudi Arabia's paid US advisers have included retired Marine Gen. James Jones, a national security adviser to President Barack Obama, and retired Army Gen. Keith Alexander, who led the National Security Agency under Obama and President George W. Bush. The newspaper obtained this information under the Freedom of Information Act that allows the media to seek such information from the US government. Others who have worked as consultants for the Saudis include a retired four-star Air Force general and a former commanding general of US troops in Afghanistan.

Most of the retired US personnel have worked as civilian contractors for Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and other Persian Gulf monarchies, playing a critical role in upgrading their militaries, the report added. The US Congress permits retired troops as well as reservists to work for foreign governments if they first obtain approval from their branch of the armed forces and the State Department. But the US government keeps the hirings secret. —AFP

BANKING COURT NOTICE

In the court of Judge Banking Court No.1V Old State Bank building, Opp GPO, Shahrah-e-Quaid-e-Azam, Lahore Suit No 30J/2022

Muhammad Ammar Kaleem CNIC 35202-9499295-3

Plaintiff Vs Alfalah Bank Ltd Defendants Summon U/S 9(5) of the Financial Institutions (Recovery of Finance) Ordinance, 2001. (Ordinance No: SL VI of 2001.)

Summon to: Alfalah Bank through its Manager, having its registered office at consumer card centre Gulberg II, Lahore

Whereas the aforesaid plaintiff has instituted suit against you and others for the recovery of Retention of Account, along with mark-up/ interest and cost etc, claimed to be payable by you, Summon u/s 9 (5) of Ordinance XLVI of 2001, referred to above is hereby issued requiring you to make within 30 days of the service of this summon, an application for leave to defend the suit u/s 10 ibid. Take notice that on your failure to file such application within time specified above, the Banking Court shall pass a decree as prayed in the plaint, in favour of the plaintiff Banking Company. Next date of further proceedings, in the case has been fixed on 26-10-2022

Given under my hand and seal of this court on 18-10-2022 JUDGE BANKING COURT-IV LAHORE

CORRECTION OF FATHER'S NAME

I AWAIS have passed the Secondary School Annual/Supply Examination 2021 under Roll No 248646 from B.I.S.E Lahore My Father's Name is GHULAM RASOOL where on certificate my Father's name has been mentioned as ABDUL GHAFFAR which is incorrect. I want to get changed my father's name from ABDUL GHAFFAR to GHULAM RASOOL. If any person/organization/agency has any objection, then the same may be intimated in writing to the Secretary, Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, 86-Mozang Road, Lahore within 15 days.



Liz Truss battles to stay in power after tax reforms trashed

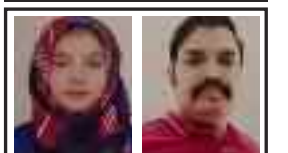
LONDON: Liz Truss battled to salvage her position as Britain's prime minister, after market turmoil at her tax-slashing plans forced a series of humiliating U-turns that have put her job in jeopardy. The beleaguered leader — only six weeks into her tenure — met senior ministers for their weekly cabinet, the day after new chancellor of the exchequer Jeremy Hunt announced almost all her debt-fuelled tax cuts would be reversed. Truss reiterated her government "had gone too far and too fast" in its mini-budget unveiled last month, her office said, as she bids to stabilise weeks of economic and political tumult sparked by the package. Hunt, who replaced her sacked ally Kwasi Kwarteng last Friday, urged ministers "to look at finding ways to save taxpayers' money," ahead of detailing the government's revised medium-term fiscal plans on Halloween. "The cabinet [members] are fully supportive of the prime minister and it was an effective and in-depth discussion," Truss's spokesman told reporters, denying there were any calls for the embattled premier to resign. —AFP

CORRECTION OF FATHER'S NAME



I NASEEM ASIM have passed the Secondary School Annual/Supply Examination 2021 under Roll No 116163 and appear in Intermediate Annual/Supply Examination 2022 under Roll No 705171 from B.I.S.E Lahore My Father's Name is MUHAMMAD AMIN ASIM where on certificate my Father's name has been mentioned as MUHAMMAD AMIN which is incorrect. I want to get changed my father's name from MUHAMMAD AMIN to MUHAMMAD ILYAS QAZI. If any person/organization/agency has any objection, then the same may be intimated in writing to the Secretary, Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, 86-Mozang Road, Lahore within 15 days.

CORRECTION OF FATHER'S NAME



I AQSA ILYAS have passed the Secondary School Annual/Supply Examination 2022 under Roll No 177527 from B.I.S.E Lahore My Father's Name is MUHAMMAD ILYAS QAZI where on certificate my Father's name has been mentioned as MUHAMMAD ILYAS QAZIM which is incorrect. I want to get changed my father's name from MUHAMMAD ILYAS QAZIM to MUHAMMAD ILYAS QAZI. If any person/organization/agency has any objection, then the same may be intimated in writing to the Secretary, Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, 86-Mozang Road, Lahore within 15 days.



LDA CITY



GOOD NEWS

BALLOTING FOR ALLOCATION OF PLOTS TO COMMERCIAL FILES IN LDA CITY, JINNAH SECTOR WILL BE HELD ON

27th October, 2022



- LDA is pleased to announce ballot to allocate plot numbers to commercial files allotted in Jinnah Sector, LDA City.
- Only those commercial files will be included in balloting for which 50% cost, which includes 20% down payment and three quarterly installments, has been deposited.
- Commercial file allottees who have not been able to deposit required amount/installments, can pay required dues till 20th October 2022 to get their commercial file(s) included in ballot.
- Challans for outstanding dues / installments can be received from LDA City office, LDA Complex, Avenue-1 Housing Scheme, Raiwind Road, Lahore.

RESHAPING LAHORE

Director, LDA City
Lahore Development Authority, Government of The Punjab
LDA Complex, Civic Centre Block-F, LDA Avenue-1, Lahore

☎ 37482000 ☎ Lahore Development Authority ☎ 0300-4660241