

By-election in NA-45 Kurram today

PESHAWAR: All arrangements have been finalised for by-elections in NA-45 Kurram to be held on Sunday (tomorrow). Polling will be started at 8am which will continue till 5pm without any break. The spokesman of Election Commission Khyber Pakhtunkhwa here on Saturday said that there were 198,618 registered voters among which 111,349 were men and 87,269 were women. He said that a total of 143 polling stations had been set up, out of which 119 had been declared very sensitive while 24 polling stations were put in the category of sensitive. —Online

The Business

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Army public school inaugurated in North Waziristan

RAWALPINDI: Corps Commander, Peshawar, Lt-Gen Hassan Azhar Hayat visited Mir Ali, North Waziristan District and Bara, Khyber District. During his visit to Mir Ali, Corps Commander inaugurated Army Public School and also visited Boys Hostel and Pakistan Sweet Home. Pakistan Sweet Home was established in 2017 and 96 orphans from Mir Ali and Miran Shah are currently availing the facility free of any expense. Establishment of Army Public School was popular demand of the locals in which students from Grade 1 to 8 will study. —APP

CTD arrest eight terrorists in Punjab

LAHORE: The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD), Punjab conducted 387 combing operations in different districts of the province and arrested eight suspects during the current week. According to a spokesman, the CTD teams recovered 1,385-gram explosive material, eight detonators, 25 flags of a proscribed outfit, 43 pamphlets and two pistols.

The team arrested the suspects from Lahore, Sargodha, Gujranwala, Dera Ghazi Khan, Multan and Rawalpindi. Those arrested were identified as Noor, Talha, Anus Khan, Manzoor Sarfraz, Ehsanullah, Siddique Shahzad, Tahir Saleem and Asghar Nasir. They all belonged to banned organizations.

During the combing operation, 145 alleged terrorists were detained and 76 cases were registered, the spokesman said. —APP

JC to finalise name for new IHC chief justice

ISLAMABAD: A meeting of the Judicial Commission for the appointment of the new Chief Justice of the Islamabad High Court (IHC) will be held on Tuesday, November 1.

The meeting of the Judicial Commission has been called by the Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial. As per sources, the most senior judge, Justice Amir Farooq, will be considered for the position of chief justice of the Islamabad High Court.

The judicial commission, in its last meeting, recommended appointing incumbent IHC Chief Justice Athar Minallah as a judge of the Supreme Court. After examining the recommendation of the Judicial Commission, a parliamentary committee will give the final approval for the appointment. —DNA

Punjab police refuse to help FIA in Rashid's arrest

RAWALPINDI: The Punjab police have declined to help the Federal investigation authority (FIA) in arresting the former interior minister Sheikh Rasheed. As per details, police refused to register the case when the FIA personnel reached Rawalpindi to arrest the former interior minister.

According to sources, there were around 200 FIA personnel in two buses but they had to return without arrest as police declined to help them. However, 15 to 20 FIA personnel decided to stay there. Earlier, the additional district and sessions judge accepted Sheikh Rasheed Ahmed and his brother Sheikh Sadeeq Ahmed's plea challenging the eviction order of the civil judge for his Lal Haveli residence. The Rawalpindi court nullified the civil judge's verdict and approved the plea of Sheikh Rasheed. The judge referred the case to the civil court for conducting the hearing again. —DNA

Gold rates down by Rs 514 per 10g

ISLAMABAD: The price of 24 karat per tola gold witnessed a decrease of Rs 600 on Saturday and was sold at Rs 151,800 against its sale at Rs 152,400 the previous day.

The price of 10 gram 24 karat also decreased by Rs 514 and was sold at Rs 130,144 against Rs 130,658; whereas that of 10 gram 22 karat went down to Rs 119,298 against its sale at Rs 119,770. All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported. The price of per tola and ten gram gold remained unchanged at Rs 1,580 and Rs 1,354.60 respectively. The price of gold in the international market decreased by \$7 and was sold at \$1644 against its sale at \$1651, the association reported. —APP

Sherry tops list of global leaders

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Climate Change Senator Sherry Rehman has been placed at top of the list among nine global leaders, who formed the climate agenda at the COP 27 summit.

In a release by Climate Home News, an international journalistic organisation working on climate journalism, these nine global figures would form the agenda of the 27th conference of parties (COP27) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to be held in Egypt and would be the centre of attention in the Climate Summit.

Federal Minister Sherry Rehman is the first to inform the world about the scale, damages and challenges of floods, said the Climate Home News. The climate journalism forum underlined that the federal minister would play a key role in advancing the new series of Climate Fund. According to the organisation, Pakistan will be at the forefront in presenting its demands in the 27th COP moot, wherein some 197 countries around the world will participate in the climate summit in Egypt.

From Pakistan's climate minister Sherry Rehman to Egypt's Mahmoud Mohieldin, here are the people to watch at the Cop27 climate summit: Climate victim defender: Sherry Rehman, Activist diplomat: Jennifer Morgan, Voice for justice: Vanessa Nakate, Financial system wonk: Mahmoud Mohieldin, Gas enthusiast: Macky Sall, Clean power hustler: William Ruto, Debt swap champion: Gustavo Petro, Methane controller: John Kerry and Quiet deal-maker:



LAHORE: Former prime minister Imran Khan addresses his supporters during Long March towards Islamabad.

LCCI demands extension in tax return filing date

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry (LCCI) has demanded of the Chairman Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) to extend the date for the filing of income tax returns till December 31.

In a statement issued, the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry (LCCI) President Kashif Anwar, Senior Vice President Chaudhry Zafar Mahmood and Vice President Adnan Khalid Butt said that the date should be extended by at least two months so that business community can easily submit their returns. They said that the Federal Board of Revenue has already amended the Income Tax Rules 2002 according to which the authority is drafting an income tax return form in Urdu language which is yet to be notified. They demanded that this form should be applicable for the year 2022 as well though it will take time to be understood by the business community.

They said that the business community will not be able to file their tax returns till October 31 due to various reasons. They said that an extension in the date of filing of returns will not only facilitate the business community but it would also send a very positive signal about private-public sector liaison.

Pakistan, Italy will work together to deal with climate change
Pakistan and Italy have agreed to work together to deal with the issue of climate change and meet the needs of flood affected people. The understanding came at a meeting between Minister for Poverty Alleviation Shazia Marri and Director of Italian

Agency for Development Corporation Emanuela Benini, in Islamabad on Saturday. Shazia Marri said the recent floods have affected 33 million people and tens of thousands are still homeless. She said under Benazir Income Support Programme, 66 billion rupees have been disbursed amongst the flood victims.

The Federal Minister urged the world community to come forward and help Pakistan deal with the challenge of floods. The two sides also agreed to work together in the areas of health, education and social protection to enable poor people stand on their own feet.

Agri sector requires \$3.97b to recover from flood damages: Report
Pakistan's agriculture, food, livestock and fisheries sector required at least \$3.976 billion to recover from the damage caused by the recent floods and torrential rains, a recent report issued by the Planning Ministry said on Saturday.

According to the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA), the floods incurred loss of over \$3.725 billion or Rs 800 billion to the agriculture sector while total loss to the sector has been estimated at over \$9 billion. The PDNA was conducted by Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives in collaboration with other international development partners including World Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Union and the United Nations agencies with technical facilitation by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Meanwhile, World Bank Country Director for Pakistan Najy Benhassine Sat-

urday tweeted that rehabilitation and resilient reconstruction in Pakistan needed over \$16 billion, not including much needed new investments beyond affected assets, to support broader adaptation to climate change.

The report added that total damage is estimated at Rs 3.2 trillion (\$14.9 billion), total loss at Rs 3.3 trillion (\$15.2 billion), and total needs at Rs 3.5 trillion (\$16.3 billion). The sectors that suffered the most damage are housing at Rs 1.2 trillion (\$5.6 billion); agriculture, food, livestock, and fisheries at Rs 800 billion (\$3.7 billion); and transport and communications at Rs 701 billion (\$3.3 billion).

The transport and communications sector has the highest reconstruction and recovery needs at Rs 1.1 trillion (\$5.0 billion); followed by agriculture, food, livestock, and fisheries at Rs 854 billion (\$4.0 billion), and housing at Rs 592 billion (\$2.8 billion). The provinces of Sindh and Balochistan account for approximately 50 percent and 15 percent of recovery and reconstruction needs, respectively, the report added.

Pak urges UNSC to end Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory
Pakistan has urged the United Nations Security Council to push for a peace process that would end the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories and pave the way for an independent State of Palestine.

Ambassador Munir Akram said peace and justice require accountability for the human rights violations and heinous crimes being witnessed for too long in Occupied Palestine. Pakistani envoy said the constantly deteriorating and ex-

Chief election commissioner has brought an arrogant man under the ambit of law. Chief EC has caught him red handed in different cases including Toshakhana, secret accounts and money laundering.

Election will be held on its constitutional time: Kh Asif
Defense Minister Khawaja Asif has said election will take place on its constitutional time.

He tweeted that Talks on national issues by political parties and their consensus is part of the democratic norms. Criticizing the PTI long march he said India media is patronizing and giving full coverage and airtime to Imran Khan. He should enjoy it. He regretted that PTI Chairman Imran Khan has crossed all the red lines of the identity of a Pakistani.

He said the PTI chairman has become the spokesperson of our enemy.

Pakistan wants to further augment ties with US: Dar
Finance Minister Ishaq Dar says Pakistan wants to further augment its bilateral relations with the United States in the fields of economy, investment and trade.

Talking to US Ambassador to Pakistan Donald Blome in Islamabad, he said the two countries have historic, long-standing, extensive and durable relations.

The Finance Minister apprised the Ambassador about the estimated losses faced by Pakistan due to recent devastating floods, and appreciated the US support for flood relief activities. Donald Blome expressed the same sentiments on bilateral relations between the United States and Pakistan. He also informed about his recent visit to flood affected areas and expressed sympathy on the enormous losses caused by floods. —Online

CM approves Rs 12b funds for flood affectees

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The CM censured that the Federal government did not give even a single penny to help the flood-affecteds of Punjab adding that the attitude of the Federal government tantamounts to doing an injustice with the flood-affecteds of Punjab. CM underscored that the Punjab government is determined to rehabilitate the flood-affecteds from its own resources. Principal Secretary to CM Muhammad Khan Bhatti, Senior Member Board of Revenue, concerned Secretaries and other officials also attended the meeting.

CM greets people of Turkiye, Govt on their Republic Day

Ch Parvez Elahi felicitated the people of Turkiye and the government on its Republic Day on behalf of the people of Punjab and the government. The CM stated that we equally share the rejoice of our brothers on the Republic Day of Turkiye. CM stated

that under the dynamic leadership of the President of Turkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan Turkiye made an unprecedented progress and under the far-sighted leadership of the President Recep Tayyip Erdogan the expeditious progress of Turkiye in every sector is an example for the nations of the globe.

He acknowledged that Turkiye fully supported Pakistan in its every hour of difficulty and the people of Punjab are grateful to Turkiye for extending its all out help during the recent flood. CM maintained that the diplomatic support of Turkiye on the viewpoint of Pakistan on Kashmir is unforgettable. He said that a strong contact between the people of Turkiye and Pakistan is the fundamental strength of cordial relationship between the two countries. CM lauded that the Turkish brothers always stood shoulder to shoulder with us in every time of difficulty adding that the heritage of this mutual

relationship between the two countries depicts the determined friendship tied in history, faith and deep cultural relationship.

Parvez Meets eminent businessman Sir Anwar Pervaiz
Chief Minister met with an eminent businessman and an industrial tycoon of Pakistan Sir Anwar Pervaiz at the CMO.

Sir Anwar Pervaiz appreciated the conducive steps being taken by the CM for the promotion of business and investment in the province. He lauded that the Chief Minister took exemplary steps for the investment opportunities in a short span of time. He said that the steps being taken by the CM for the facilitation of the investors are praiseworthy adding that the CM is also performing invaluable work to resolve the problems of the overseas Pakistanis.

The CM while talking with Sir Anwar Pervaiz stated that the investors busy in eradicating the poverty and making en-

deavours for the economic prosperity are worthy benefactors of the country. He disclosed that our government provided a conducive environment for making real investment for the first time in the province adding that Punjab is a fertile land for doing investment.

CM pays tributes two martyred personnel in DI Khan

Punjab Chief Minister Ch Parvez Elahi has condemned the firing incident from the terrorists in Dera Ismail Khan, on Saturday.

The CM paid tributes to the sacrifices of two security forces personnel embracing martyrdom and stated that Naik Sajid Hussain and the Sepoy Muhammad Israr attained the highest place of martyrdom. He acknowledged that the brave sons of the pure land laid down their lives for the sake of peace and integrity of their dear homeland. The nation salutes the exemplary sacrifice of martyred Naik Sajid Hussain and

China to work with BRICS for expansion

BEIJING: China, along with other combined economies of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) members, will jointly advance the expansion process so that more partners will join the BRICS family, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said here Saturday.

"As the BRICS Chair this year, China actively supports the process of BRICS expansion," he said during his regular briefing in response to Russian President Vladimir Putin's statement that Russia supports the accession of Saudi Arabia to BRICS.

The spokesperson said that at the 14th BRICS Summit on June 23, the BRICS leaders reached an important consensus on BRICS expansion and expressed support for the discussion on the standards and procedures of the expansion. After the meeting, many countries expressed the desire to join BRICS cooperation, he added.

Responding to a similar question on October 20, China voiced support for the expansion of BRICS membership after reports about Saudi Arabia showing its intention to join the group that presently comprises Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. According to a media report, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa has also said that Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman expressed the desire to join BRICS. —DNA

PML-N submits resolution in PA over IK speeches

LAHORE: Female members of the Punjab Assembly (MPAs), belonging to the PML-N, on Saturday submitted a resolution in the Punjab Assembly (PA), condemning the harsh words being used by former prime minister and PTI Chairman Imran Khan against the heads of the country's intelligence agencies and Pakistan Army.

The resolution, submitted by MPAs Saadia Taimur, Sumera Kanwal and Hina Pervez Butt, read that the former prime minister's rhetoric against the chiefs of state institutions and army was 'condemnable'. It was further stated that Imran, while taking oath of his office as the prime minister of the country, had pledged that he would protect the state institutions and would not compromise on the national security. "But his recent statements against these institutions and their heads constitutes a violation of that oath," read the resolution.

It was also stated that the PTI chairman's remarks had given an opportunity to India to make fun of the state institutions. "The purpose of spitting venom against these institutions' heads is to malign them and damage their credibility in the eyes of people," said the resolution. The PML-N MPAs demanded the federal govt to order registration of a case against Imran for violating his oath. —DNA

Establishment exposes cipher conspiracy: Aftab

PESHAWAR: Qaumi Watan Party (QWP) Chairman Aftab Ahmad Khan Sherpao on Saturday said the establishment had exposed the so-called cipher conspiracy of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan.

According to a press release, he was speaking at a meeting of party workers and office-bearers from Kangra and Battagram union councils. The meeting took place at Sherpao village in Charsadda. "It is heartening that the establishment will not interfere in political affairs," he added. He said the former prime minister presented a wrong picture to the nation, particularly the youth after his ouster from power. He said the PTI allies had stopped supporting Imran Khan, who was removed from power through a constitutional way.

The QWP leader said Imran Khan tarnished the country's image at the international level by cooking up the regime change conspiracy.

He recalled that Imran Khan had pushed the country to bankruptcy and it would have faced a Sri Lanka-like situation if the incumbent coalition government had not taken steps to revive the economy. He also demanded investigations into the killing of senior journalist Arshad Sharif and the cipher conspiracy to determine the facts. Rejecting Imran Khan's demand for holding the polls, he said the election would take place on its due time as the federal government would complete the remaining tenure. He said Imran was holding