

PFA stops factory production, discards 15, 336kg unwholesome food

LAHORE: The PFA has raided a snacks factory on Sheikhupura Road and stopped its production over multiple violations besides discarding 15,336kg of unwholesome food. The raiding team discarded 8,300kg Irani Cake, 700 litres of used oil, 500kg of substandard nimko, 350kg of substandard chocolate and 77kg of loose colours. A PFA team under the supervision of PFA Director General Mudassar Riaz Malik, Additional Director Operations and Deputy Director Operations conducted the raid. —APP

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Pakistan Railways resume train operation from Karachi to Peshawar

MULTAN: Pakistan Railways resumed train operation from Karachi to Peshawar with a new fare schedule, as water receded at tracks in flood hit areas. According to official sources, initially five trains have been restored, three from Karachi to Lahore and two from Karachi to Peshawar. Karachi Express, Karakoram, Pak Business, Khyber Mail, and Rehman Baba were allowed to operate. After resumption of operation, the train's arrival remained late for one to two hours. However, the passengers expressed a sigh of relief. —APP

Punjab govt to take action against illegal housing societies

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab senior minister Mian Aslam Iqbal on Sunday decided to take action against illegal housing societies and said that strict action will be taken against those who siphon the money of the poor people.

Addressing the press conference, Mian Aslam said that people associated with illegal housing societies make their own adjustments with every institution, now the mafia behind illegal housing societies will be eradicated and everybody dealt with in the most uniform way.

Mian Aslam Iqbal termed the bigwigs involved in setting up illegal housing societies as mafia and said that this mafia has the power to buy anyone and is involved in tarnishing the character, adding that efforts are being made to tarnish his [Mian Aslam Iqbal] repute too.

The Punjab minister said that according to the master plan, a housing society cannot be built in the green area as it approached the court in 2012 and started illegal construction in the green area by taking a stay. Continuing to criticize what he [Mian Aslam Iqbal] called the mafia, the Punjab minister said that the mafia used to say that the PTI cannot function without the presence of it, but still everything is right about the party [PTI].

Alleging that the housing societies are not giving plots to many of the purchasers, Mian Aslam Iqbal said that the housing societies first used to term PML-N as ATM, and now it became an ATM of PML-N. He levelled serious allegations on the housing societies and claimed that they [society] resorted to the tactics of killing those people who fear.

Imran is a 'misogynist who has no respect for women': Marriyum

SLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb on Sunday heavily censured PTI Chairman Imran Khan and called him out for "being a misogynist."

Taking to Twitter, the information minister, with regard to the indifferent attitude of PTI leaders, workers, and followers and their inability to distinguish right from wrong, also quoted the 18th verse of Surah Baqarah from the Holy Quran, which translates to: "Deaf, dumb and blind — so they will not return [to the right path]".

She added that PTI Vice President Maryam Nawaz was right about Imran Khan when she called him a misogynist. Her tweet came in response to a highly derogatory doctored image depicting Maryam and Khan, that PTI leader and former human rights minister Shireen Mazari tweeted.

"It's unfortunate that we have to even mention this sorry excuse for a human being who continues to stoop to new lows of misogyny," she said. "Imran Khan has proven, time and again, that he is a misogynist who has no respect for women & that he considers them to be nothing more than objects to be abused & harassed," she wrote. "He has encouraged & inculcated this behaviour and mindset both in his party members and his followers," the information minister continued. —Online

Govt wants 'civil war' in country, says Babar Awan

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Babar Awan said on Sunday that cases against the PTI chairman Imran Khan are baseless, and the imported government wants civil war in the country.

Addressing a press conference outside the Islamabad High Court, Babar said after losing the Punjab by-elections, the current rulers have gone mad. They have changed the history of Pakistan just to arrest Imran Khan but he will be successful against them. The PTI leader said that he told the court that the bail was already taken in this case, and a baseless case was registered against Imran Khan. They tried to arrest him since last night, and the government wants a civil war. "We are waiting for Imran Khan's long march call, and the whole Pakistan will come out on the call. The history and destiny of Pakistan are going to change," Babar added. —Online



UNITED STATES: General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff (COAS) calls on General Birame Diop, United Nations (UN) Military Advisor to Secretary General during an official visit to United States (US).

Nine new economic zones launched in KP in two years

PESHAWAR: Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Economic Zones Development & Management Company (KP-EZDMC), Javed Iqbal Khattak has said that with the setting up of 9 new economic zones in the province within a period of two years has turned the dream of industrialization into a reality.

In a statement issued here on Sunday, he said that five more economic zones including one Special Economic Zone (SEZ) i.e. Daraban SEZ, Buner Marble City, Salt & Gypsum City Karak, Mansehra EZ and Katlang EZ are in the pipeline.

These initiatives of the company, the CEO said will bring an industrial investment of Rs.338 billion in existing and newly launched economic zones in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. These projects will help increase exports and bring decrease in imports and ultimately the economy of the province would be strengthened.

The company was established in 2015 with the aim of bringing improvement in the industrial infrastructure and promotion of industries in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to generate employment opportunities.

Before the establishment of the company there were only three economic zones i.e. Gadoon, Hattar and Peshawar Economic Zones in the province and the number has now increased to 14, wherein 344 industrial units are under-construction and some have started commercial activity. Out of them D.I. Khan Economic Zone has become operational and 9 industrial units have started production while 16

— Five more economic zones are in the pipeline in KP

more are under-construction. Similarly, he said that 90% plots have already been allotted in Bannu Economic Zone and construction work on them has also been started.

Land for Jalozai Economic Zone was acquired during 2005, but no development was initiated and now besides the provision of electricity work on basic infrastructure has been completed and 45 industrial units are under construction while two units have started commercial production while the remaining will start operation by the end of December this year.

He said that the Export Processing Zone (EPZ) Nowshera has been restored and now products are being exported from it. He especially mentioned the installation of a big unit of the manufacturing of the parts of drilling machines that are being exported to Saudi Arabia.

He said that nine units of marble, ghee and aluminum have been installed in Mohmand Economic Zone and work is in progress. Similarly, he said that investment is also continued in Rashakai Special Economic Zone and industrial units are being set up there. He especially mentioned the establishment of an electric vehicles manufacturing unit by a Chinese company, which will be the first auto-mo-

bile manufacturing unit in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Steel, electric cable, food and oxygen manufacturing units are under construction in Rashakai Special Economic Zone. Similarly, he said that incentives offered in Hattar Special Economic Zone are also attracting investors and 8 units have already been established that have supplied gas electricity. A Saudi Arabian investor is also setting up a unit. He said that land in Ghazi was available since the 90s and now 80% work on the establishment of infrastructure has been completed while 95% development work on Chitral Economic Zone has been completed, saying so far 129 billion rupees have been invested in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The CEO KP-EZDMC said that so far an investment to the tune of Rs.129 billion has been made in the province and from next year four more economic zones would be specified for the indigenous mineral sector. The zones include Buner Marble City, Salt & Gypsum City Karak. These industrial activities are going to generate over 4,00,000 employment.

The company, he said is also focusing on the revival of sick industrial units and so far 160 units have been revived only in Gadoon Economic Zone wherein big and strong industrial groups have made invest-

No room for harassment of women, says Sherry Rehman

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Climate Change, Senator Sherry Rehman on Sunday said there was no room for harassment of women which should be condemned at every forum as it could not be allowed to promote profanity brigade spewing venom against people at public platforms.

Addressing the Dialogue on Growing Violence Against Women in Politics as chief guest, the Minister said no civilized society allowed harassment of women. The dialogue was organised by the Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors (CPNE) and the 4th Pillar-Vigilant Media Watchdog. Sherry Rehman said, "I proudly claim to belong to the party of Shaheed Benazir Bhutto and Bilawal Bhutto where no one can even think of harassment."

She said President Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians and Co-Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party, Asif Ali

Zardari used to take strict action on exploitation against women.

The Minister said she had also written a book on 'womansplaining' highlighting women struggle in our society, adding, "49% of Pakistan's population consists of women and women are the worst affected by any crisis. However, Pakistan's economy is driven by women."

Commenting on the recent incident of jeering of the Information Minister at a coffee shop in London by some overseas Pakistanis, she said the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) through its forum had carried out the funeral of ethics and moral values in the society.

"PTI is taking the country to such a path of bad culture and degraded morals from which it is very difficult to retreat," Senator Sherry Rehman said.

The Minister further added that what happened to (Federal Minister for Infor-

mation) Maryam Aurangzeb could happen to anyone. The PTI should condemn and prevent such incidents instead of promoting them, she added.

"Women are being exploited and PTI leader is keeping lull over the matter. You are fueling fascism in Quaid-e-Azam's Pakistan," the minister lambasted PTI leadership for its silence over the issue.

She queried the PTI leaders saying, "Will you adopt this kind of attitude towards the women of your opponent party? These are the fruits of Imran Khan's speeches and narrative."

The Minister underlined "Our religion and society did allow this kind of behaviour towards women whereas the elements involved in harassing women should apologize."

She concluded that the PTI should filter such pollution, otherwise, the society would hold them accountable.

Audio, video leaks not in country's interest: Ashrafi

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister's Special Representative for Interfaith Harmony and Middle East Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi on Sunday said audio and video leaks of any political leadership was not in country's interest anyway.

In an exclusive talk with APP, Ashrafi who is also the Chairman of Pakistan Ulama Council said it had opened new Pandora's box at a time when one third land of the country was inundated by monsoon rains and flash floods.

Despite of this national emergency, he lamented that the entire political leadership and media were engaged in audio and video tape controversies.

He said Pakistan was passing through a critical phase of economic recession and it could only be overcome by political stability in the country. The present government was making all-out efforts to revive the economic activities in a bid to bring the country on the road to progress, he added.

Ashrafi proposed to adopt the reconciliatory approach to get the country out of prevailing political and economic crisis.

Regarding Rabi-ul-Awwal, he said it was being celebrated as month of the 'Paigham-e-Rehmatul-lil-Alameen' across the country.

He said peace, affection and tolerance was message of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him) and it was the responsibility of every Muslim to spread this noble message in letter and spirit on the globe.

"Islam is spread worldwide through the best moral ethics, that is why; even the enemies of the Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him) used to call him Sadiq and Ameen (Truthful and Honest)," he added.

He also appealed the nation and Muslim Ummah to help the flood victims generously, especially during the holy month of Rabi-ul-Awwal.

Ashrafi said following the teachings of Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him), we should extend all out support to the affected people as the flood situation had hit approximately 33 million people who are in dire need of humanitarian aid.

He thanked the Muslim countries and rest of the world for standing by Pakistan at this hour of trials and tribulations and helping the flood affected people through all possible means.

To a query regarding the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2018, he made it clear that no law could be enacted in Pakistan against the divine commands - the Holy Quran and Sunnah - as per the Constitution.

Ashrafi said being a sensitive issue, all the stakeholders should be taken board to remove all the shortcomings in the Transgender Rights Bill amicably.

Welcoming the government's decision to form a committee on the following issue, he emphasized on the inclusion of Council of Islamic Ideology members and religious scholars from all schools of thought in the committee.

He said that the transgender community was one of the oppressed segments of the society, who should be given their due rights. However, no one should be allowed to exploit the matter for their vested interests as it is a sensitive issue and a matter of our religion, society, culture, youth and generations to come ahead, he added. —APP

Cabinet approves legal action against Imran

Continued from Front Page

harm the interests of Pakistan. We served this country with dignity and will continue doing so," he insisted. Fawad Chaudhry pointed out a date of the cypher received to the then government in the summary issued by the cabinet, saying he hoped that PML-N Vice President Maryam Nawaz "will not change her position on cypher investigation from independent commission". Senator Shibli Faraz also said the cypher is a reality, adding it was also shared by the PTI government with the National Assembly speaker and the chief justice of Pakistan among others.

"What is the discussion about? Is it to divert the attn from tanking economy or smoke screen Dar's & Maryum NRO?" he asked. A couple of audios purportedly featuring Imran and his party leaders have surfaced on social media so far, prompting clamours from leaders of the ruling coalition for an action against the ex-premier for allegedly undermining national security.

In the first audio clip leaked on Sep 28, the former prime minister can be heard telling Azam to "play up" the cypher and turn it into a foreign plot to oust his government.

He, however, adds that there is no need to name any country. "We only have to play it up. We don't have to name America. We only have to play with this, that this date [of the no-trust vote] was [decided] before."

To this end, Azam is heard suggesting to Imran to call a "meeting of then-foreign minister Qureshi and foreign secretary wherein we will ask Qureshi to read out the letter. So whatever he will tell us, I will type it down and convert it into [meeting] minutes" so that it becomes part of the office record. Later in another audio clip that surfaced on social media on Sep 30, a voice, believed to be Imran's, was heard saying: "Shah Jee we have to hold a meeting tomorrow [...] you and the three of us (Imran, Qureshi and Azam Khan) and the foreign secretary. "In it [the meeting], we have to tell them to quietly write the minutes of the meeting [...] Azam is saying that we should draft the minutes and make photocopies of it." Here, the second voice, believed to be of Azam, was heard asking, "this cypher arrived on 7th or 8th [...] it came on 8th". —Agencies

CM launches Rs100b Ration Programme

Continued from Front Page

Ehsas Ration Programme a success. CM stated that the benefit of targeted subsidy goes to the common man and initially the Punjab government has allocated Rs 100 billion for this programme and if needed the amount will further be increased.

CM highlighted that the Ehsas Programme has been acknowledged across the world and providing relief to the poor people is the vision of Imran Khan which we duly accomplished.

CM in reply to a question said that the federal government is doing a useless work of making small cases. CM said the Model Town tragedy case is absolutely legitimate and Rana Sana Ullah will be awarded life imprisonment in the Model Town case.

Rana Sana Ullah only clamours and will be caught in such a manner that he will not be able to escape from it. Pervaiz Elahi ap-

prised that he did 22 years politics with the PML-N and he knows them.

These people only know how to make false cases in which they failed earlier and are facing failure even now. CM said that they only clamour loudly and neither they can do anything nor are capable of delivering, adding that these people did not do anything for the poor people.

He said that he did not have any contact with Zardari for quite some time and if anyone is nabbed then the other people of this gang will immediately flee.

CM said that the focus of our government is the welfare of the common and the poor people adding that our Ehsas Programme is a welfare oriented programme for the common man.

The VIP is also a common man in the Ehsas Programme. CM in reply to a question stated that no matter how many cases can be framed against Imran Khan, they will them-

selves feel disappointed and ashamed adding that nothing will happen by making cases against Imran Khan.

He said that the federal government is only experienced in making false cases and have nothing to offer to the people. He said that even if the federal government takes away all the officers even then Punjab will continue to run and is running excellently even now. He said that he knows how to run a province. River Ravi Urban Development Project is our flagship programme adding that we will not spare those who illegally grabbed the RUDA land.

CM meets with PTI leader Humayun Akhtar Khan

Chief Minister Punjab Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi met with PTI leader Hamayun Akhtar Khan at CMO in which matters pertaining to mutual interest, political situation and public welfare programs came under discussion. CM while talking on the occasion said that

the focus of our politics is to bring improvement in the conditions of a common man. He stated that whenever Allah Almighty bestowed on him the position of Chief Minister then he always worked with noble intentions in order to give maximum relief to the impoverished people. He maintained that we are doing such works which the people will remember like his previous tenure. CM stated that we never indulged into vindictive politics like PML-N and always set positive political traditions. Chairman PTI Imran Khan is the most popular leader of Pakistan adding that we sided with Imran Khan, are siding with him and will continue to do so. He said that he always takes along the whole team instead of a one-man show. Hamayun Akhtar Khan stated that his previous tenure was a period of record development in the history of Punjab and further lauded that even now he has taken splendid steps for the public welfare in a short span