

## FSC CJ remarks forced marriage of child against Shariah

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Shariat Court Acting Chief Justice Syed Muhammad Anwar has remarked that the forced marriage of a child is against Shariah. These remarks were expressed by the acting chief justice of FSC on Tuesday during the hearing of a petition against the forced marriage of a five-year-old girl in Khuzdar, Balochistan. The Balochistan additional advocate general appeared before the court. During the hearing, the acting chief justice remarked 'this kind of incident is totally against our Shariah'. —DNA

# The Business

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## I stand by GHQ in this critical situation, says Pir Pagara

KARACHI: While condemning the foul language against Pakistan army, Pir of Pagara (The virtual leader of Hur party) made it clear that he and his family, Hur Party will stand by the General Head Quarter (GHQ) in this critical time. According to details, the remarks made during meeting between Pir of Pagara and Governor Sindh Kamran Tessori on Tuesday night. Pir Pagara said how India dares to criticize our institutions. He said that my father stood by army since 1954 and I will remain with them till my last breath. —APP

## Baligh returns 4 bills including Local Govt Bill

LAHORE: A cold war is going on between the Punjab government and its governor as the latter has refused to sign four bills approved by the provincial assembly after raising objections. Reportedly, Punjab Governor Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman declined to sign four bills which were passed by the Punjab Assembly. He returned these bills to the Punjab Assembly along with his objections.

The governor used his powers under Article 116 of the Constitution and sent these bills back to the assembly suggesting the government to make amendments to these legislative proposals in the best interest of public.

The bills which have been returned by Governor Rehman include: Punjab Ministers' Salaries, Allowances & Privileges Act 2022, Punjab Ehsas Programme Bill 2022, Punjab Local Government Bill 2021 and Urdu Language Act. The Punjab Local Government Act, 2021 was sent back for the second time after raising objections. The governor suggested that in Punjab Ehsas Programme Act, the Ehsas Council member be equivalent to the rank of additional secretary.

The governor pointed out that the government's poverty elimination and social security bill is new but the government has not specified whether funds will be collected from the finance department or not. The governor further noted that the Local Government Bill, 2021 was not an original bill as the Punjab Assembly only made amendments to its sections 10 and 187. Since it's an amended bill, it would be considered as a bill passed again by the Punjab Assembly on Oct 19 and the Governor Secretariat was intimated about it on Oct 20. —DNA

## President signs three bills passed by Parliament

ISLAMABAD: President Arif Alvi on Tuesday approved three bills, which were already passed by the Parliament.

The bills include: Trade Organizations (Amendment) Bill 2022, Anti-Dumping Duties (Amendment) Bill and the Torture and Custodial Death (Prevention and Punishment) Act, 2022. The President approved all the bills as per article 75 of the constitution of Pakistan. The bills are now converted into Acts after the President's approval. —Online

## 'PTI holding march to stop COAS appointment'

LONDON: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Vice President Maryam Nawaz Tuesday claimed that the actual agenda of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's long march towards Islamabad is to stop the incumbent government from appointing the next army chief. She said the PTI's long march has nothing to do with the nation and welfare of the people.

Addressing a news conference in London, the PML-N vice president sent condolences to the family of deceased journalist Sadaf Naeem — who was crushed to death in the line of duty while climbing down PTI Chairman Imran Khan's container during the march — and said that the incident forced her to think about the purpose of PTI's long march.

"A precious life was lost. A mother of young children passed away while covering the long march. It forced me to ponder over the purpose of the long march," she said. She said Imran knows that he has also lost the last card and now came on the streets to cause ruckus. Maryam said Imran started long march after the failure of his conspiracy narrative and people have shown



ISLAMABAD: Minister for Law and Justice Sardar Ayaz Sadiq holds an introductory meeting with the officers of his Ministry.

## LCCI hails PM's Kissan Package

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) on Tuesday welcomed the mega Kissan Package and expressed the optimism that it will lay foundation for a revolution in the agriculture sector.

In a statement, LCCI President Kashif Anwar, Senior Vice President Chaudhry Zafar Mahmood and Vice President Adnan Khalid Butt said that a record amount of Rs. 1800 billion has been allocated to boost the agro-based economy. It would definitely help put agriculture sector back on its feet that was badly affected by the deadly floods in the country. They said that Rs. 13 per unit electricity, loans for solar tub-wells, Rs. 10 billion for SMEs and various other steps are the steps in right direction and will help revival of the agriculture sector.

However, office-bearers of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry expressed reservations on the permission of the import of used tractors saying that the government should review this decision as it will hit the local tractor industry hard.

They said that local manufacturers are not only one of the major sources of revenue for the government but direct or indirect employment of more than 1 million people is also attached with tractor industry. "We laud the Prime Minister's Kissan Package but demanded the government to revisit the decision to allow the import of used tractors", they said and added the used vehicle could spread pollution that one of the major issues of the country.

They said that the government must be aware of the fact that the benefit of one sector should not be the loss of any other sector. The LCCI office-bearers said that the government should abolish customs duty and reduce the input cost of production for the local tractor manufacturers. They said that the local tractor industry is playing a strategic role in the promotion of agriculture sector and strengthening the national economy. They said that if the government supports the local tractor industry, it can substantially contribute to the national exports.

The office-bearers of Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry hoped that the government will reconsider its decision to

permit the import of used tractors in the larger interest of the economy.

**SCCI for framing sustainable policies for industrial, business growth**

The Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) President Muhammad Ishaq on Tuesday called for framing durable and sustainable policies in consultation with business community to boost up industrialization and businesses for economic prosperity. SCCI President was responding to various queries of a group of the 35th 'MCMC senior officers of various provincial govt departments, which were under-training in NIM Peshawar during their visit to the chamber's house.

SCCI chief noted a huge potential and opportunities were available to attract investments in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa. However, he emphasized that the government should take initiatives to utilize available natural resources and capabilities at optimal level and to create more job opportunities in the province. While responding to a query, he said it is irony of the country that proposals of business community had not taken seriously during preparation of

## Pak-US trade witnesses over 23 percent surplus during Q1

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's goods and services trade with the United States (US) witnessed a surplus of 23.31 percent during the first quarter of the current fiscal year (2022-23) as compared to the corresponding period of last year.

Trade surplus during the period under review was recorded at \$1079.589 million against \$875.469 million last year, showing 23.31 percent growth. The overall exports to the US were recorded at \$1657.359 million during July-September this year against exports of \$1565.321 million during the same quarter last year, showing an increase of 5.87 percent, SBP data revealed.

Meanwhile, on year-on-year basis, exports to the US during September however decreased by 3.49 percent from \$553.839 million to \$534.477 million. Similarly, month-on-month exports to the US also dipped by 14.23 percent during September

2022 as compared with exports of \$623.196 million in August 2022, the SBP data said.

Overall Pakistan's exports to all countries witnessed an increase of 5.45 percent in three months, from \$7201.057 million to \$7594.042 million, the SBP data said.

On the other hand, imports from the US during the quarter under review were recorded at \$577.770 million against \$689.762 million of last year, showing a decrease of 16.23 percent in July-September (2022-23). Meanwhile, year-on-year imports from the US during September 2022 also dipped by 21.40 percent from \$258.135 million last year to \$202.886 million. On month-on-month basis, the imports from the US decreased by three percent during September 2022 as compared to the import of \$209.178 million in August 2022, SBP data said. The overall imports decreased by 7.91 percent, from

\$17394.970 million to \$16018.061 million during the period under review.

**Centre rejects AJK's request to provide security for LB polls**

The federal government has refused to dispatch the personnel of law-enforcement agencies (LEAs) to the Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) to provide security during the local bodies' (LBs) elections to be held there on November 27, 2022.

Sources said that the Center had conveyed to the AJK government that right now it was not in a position to send security personnel to the territory and that it would have to provide security on its own.

Sources further said that one of the reasons for the Center's refusal was that it was bracing for the PTI's long march, which was expected to reach Islamabad in one week, and therefore the LEAs were already on their toes. —Online

## Imran's statement about martial law reflects fascist thought: Sherry

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Climate Change has condemned PTI chairman Imran Khan's statement about the martial law, saying that his statement reflects the fascist, not democratic thought. Reacting to the statement in a tweet on Tuesday, she said: "Which politician demands the martial law from institutions?" The minister termed Imran Khan a psycho who wants bloodshed in the country in lust of the power. "What is meant by your bloody revolution?"

She said that a democratic politician never instigates for the martial law. "The institutions are saying that they will not interfere in politics. But Imran Khan asks them to interfere in politics. Imran Khan is either demanding the power or the martial law," she added.

Sherry Rehman was of view that a politician believing in constitutional democracy can never demand an unconstitutional thing. "A politician who claims of waging a political struggle for 26 years does not say impose martial law if you want," tweeted Rehman.

She added that democratic politicians do not invite institutions to impose martial law. "Imran Khan believes that if he is not in power then no one should be in power," said the minister, adding that this was not a constitutional or democratic thinking but an indication of fascist thinking.

**Shazia Marri condemns Imran Khan statement of martial law**  
Minister for Poverty Alleviation and So-

cial Safety Shazia Marri Tuesday vehemently condemning the statement of PTI chief Imran Khan said that they would go against him on the issue of his martial law statement as per constitution and took it up on the floor of assemblies as well resolutions would also be tabled, if needed.

Addressing a press conference, she said that Imran Khan was the friend of General Pervez Musharraf and he had voted for Musharraf in referendum. She further said that Imran Khan was the polling agent of Pervez Musharraf. Shazia said that Imran Khan leveled allegations against PPP President Asif Ali Zardari, who did not respond to his allegations because he did not value him. She said that Imran Niazi adventured in 2014 and his sit-in ended when students of APS embraced martyrdom.

She said, 'We coped with fire, storms and sacrificed for the achievement and restoration of democracy.' She said that our leaders and workers embraced martyrdom for democracy and not for letting crushed the constitution under Imran's feet. She said that they did not sacrifice that a person named Imran Khan talked of imposing martial law. While rejecting again the statement, she said, 'We demand of those, who provide relief to him again and again, they must call him and ask him about the meaning of bloody march and ask him how he dared to get imposed martial law in Pakistan.'

Criticising Imran, asked why he wear black glasses in the night time. She said that he

## COAS visits Army Air Defence HQs

RAWALPINDI: Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa Tuesday visited Headquarters Army Air Defence Command.

COAS paid rich tribute to the supreme sacrifices of officers and men of Pakistan Army Air Defence and appreciated the training standards achieved. He also emphasised the importance of Air Defence in today's warfare and the need for continuous training and up-gradation of modern Air Defence weapon systems in view of the evolving threats. Earlier on arrival, COAS was received by Lieutenant General Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, Commander Army Air Defence Command. —DNA

## Punjab forms body to probe Sadaf's death

LAHORE: The Punjab government Tuesday formed a fact-finding inquiry committee for investigation into the death of Sadaf Naeem—a female reporter who died after being run over by the container of Imran Khan's long march a few days ago. The Services and General Administration Department (S&GAD) issued a notification in this regard. According to the notification, Secretary Sports Ehsan Bhatta was appointed as the head

## Terror attacks slightly decline in Pakistan in October, reports PICSS

ISLAMABAD: A slight decline in terror attacks was observed during last month in Pakistan as October witnessed seven percent decrease compared to September 2022. While terror incidents have declined in the mainland Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and its tribal districts (erstwhile FATA), the number of attacks in Balochistan doubled during the month. A 66 percent increase in the security forces actions was also witnessed in which 38 suspected militants were killed and 16 others were apprehended across the country.

According to the statistics released by an Islamabad-based independent think tank Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies (PICSS) the number of militant attacks decreases by seven percent in October compared to September 2022. In October, the militants carried out 39 attacks in which 33 people were killed including 12 security forces personnel and 16 civilians. In these attacks, 41 people also got injured including 20 security forces personnel and 21 civilians.

During first 10 months of the year 2022 Pakistan witnessed 297 militant attacks in which 437 people were killed including 194 security forces personnel and 191 civilians. In these 297 attacks, 706 people got injured including 210 security forces personnel and 493 civilians. In Balochistan, a 100 percent increase in militant attacks was reported as compared to September 2022. In October, 14 militant attacks were reported in which 13 people were killed while 21 others sustained

injuries in the province. In the Security Forces operations, 17 alleged militants belonging to different militant organizations were killed.

In KPK, PICSS has recorded a 31 percent decrease in militant attacks as compared to September 2022. In October, 13 militant attacks were reported in which 10 people were killed including five security forces personnel, while 11 other people sustained injuries. In response to an increase in terror attacks in previous months, security is beefed up in the province. In the security forces actions, reported from KPK, 12 alleged militants were killed and four others were apprehended.

In Erstwhile FATA, PICSS has recorded a 42 percent decrease in militant attacks compared to September 2022. In October, eight militant attacks were reported in which seven people were killed including two security forces personnel, while six other people sustained injuries. Two security forces actions were reported from erstwhile FATA in which five militants were killed. In Sindh, three terror attacks were reported in which three people were killed and three others sustained injuries. Six security forces' actions were also reported in which four alleged militants were killed and eight others were apprehended.

In Gilgit-Baltistan, one militant attack was also reported from Diamer in which no human loss was reported. In the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT), one security forces action was conducted in which two alleged militants were apprehended. —APP