

MUSTREAD

Pakistani girl, lover poison her 13 family members to death, held

Sukkur (Sindh): A girl and her lover in Pakistan's Sindh province have been arrested for poisoning her 13 family members to death, media reports said on Monday.

Philippine troops kill 3 suspected rebels in clash

Manila: Philippine troops have killed three suspected rebels in a clash in Lanao del Sur province in southern Philippines, a military report said Monday.

Senior IS militant killed near Baghdad

Baghdad: A senior leader of the extremist Islamic State (IS) group was killed on Sunday in an operation in Babil province south of the Iraqi capital Baghdad, a statement by the Iraqi paramilitary Hashd Shaabi forces said.

Buddhist Bhikkhu Sangha announces boycotting 'kothin chibor dan'

Dhaka: The Sammilito Bhikkhu Sangha of the Chittagong Hill Tracts has decided not to celebrate the 'kothin chibor dan', the primary Buddhist religious festival this year, media reports said.

SL President vows reinvestigation into 2019 terror attack

Colombo: Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake on Sunday vowed to expedite investigations into the 2019 Easter Sunday terror attacks, which killed 270 people, including 45 foreign nationals, and injured over 500, media reports said.

Nigeria reports 359 cholera deaths in first nine months of year

Lagos: More than 350 people have died from cholera in Nigeria in the first nine months of this year, a 239% jump from the same period last year, data from the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) showed on Monday.

Hezbollah strikes Israel on Gaza war anniversary

Agencies, Jerusalem/Cairo: Hezbollah rockets hit Israel's third-largest city of Haifa, police said early on Monday, and Israeli media reported 10 injured in the country's north on the first anniversary of the Gaza war, which has spread in the Middle East.



Israel's military said fighter jets hit targets belonging to Hezbollah's Intelligence Headquarters in Beirut, including intelligence-gathering

means, command centres, and additional infrastructure sites. Over the past few hours, the airstrikes struck Hezbollah weapons

storage facilities in the area of Beirut, the military said, adding that secondary explosions were identified after the strikes, indicating the presence of weaponry.

Airstrikes also hit Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon and the Beqaa area, including weapons storage facilities, infrastructure sites, a command centre, and a launcher, the military said.

It blamed Hezbollah for deliberately embedding its command centres and weaponry beneath residential buildings in the heart of Beirut and endangering the civilian population.

On Monday, Israelis marked the first anniversary of the devastating Hamas attack that triggered a war which has sparked protest world-

wide and risks igniting a far wider conflict in the Middle East.

Ceremonies and protests in Jerusalem and Israel's south were set to begin around 06:29 a.m., the hour when Hamas-led militants launched rockets into Israel at the start of the Oct. 7 attack last year.

Hamas provoked an Israeli offensive in Gaza that laid waste to the densely populated coastal enclave and killed almost 42,000 people, Palestinian health authorities say.

Security forces were on high alert across Israel on Monday, the military and police said, anticipating possible Palestinian attacks planned for the anniversary of Oct. 7, 2023, when the worst bloodletting in the decades-old Israeli-Palestinian conflict began.

Israeli airstrikes on Lebanon kill 11

Beirut: Eleven people were killed and 17 others injured Sunday evening in Israeli airstrikes targeting different areas in Lebanon, according to Lebanese official and military sources.

According to the Ministry of Health, six people were killed and 13 others injured in an Israeli airstrike on a residential building in the village of Kayfoun in Aley district, Mount Lebanon Governorate. Another Israeli airstrike killed five people and injured four others when an Israeli drone launched an air-to-ground missile on a motorcycle traveling at the northern entrance to the town of Marjeyoun, east of southern Lebanon.

"An Israeli air strike destroyed a mosque in the village of Yaroun in the central sector of the border area this afternoon," according to the military sources, who required anonymity.

Israel blocking ceasefire, says Hamas

Gaza: A year since the start of the bombardment in Gaza, Israel is still blocking a ceasefire agreement despite Hamas' flexibility, Hamas chief negotiator and deputy Gaza chief Khalil Al-Hayya said in a speech shown on Hamas' Aqsa television, the Dawn reported quoting news agencies.

"We can say in full confidence, that the Palestine cause has become the prime cause in the world and all parties now realize that there can be no security and no stability in the region unless our people gain their full rights," said Hayya. Despite the flexibility on a ceasefire deal shown by Hamas, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his government continued to stall and undermine talks, said media reports.

Over 900 Australians leave Lebanon on assisted departure flights

Canberra: More than 900 Australians have left Lebanon on assisted departure flights coordinated by the Australian government, according to official data. The government on Monday said that 904 Australian citizens, permanent residents and their immediate family members have left Lebanon in plane seats secured by the government. The government on Saturday operated two charter flights from Beirut to Cyprus for Australians, with flag carrier Qantas and Qatar Airways running connecting flights from Cyprus to Sydney. The first of the Qantas flights departed on Sunday night and was due to land on Monday morning with 349 Australians and their immediate family on board.

Hasina aide sent to police custody for 7 days in murder case

Dhaka: A Dhaka court has sent Bangladesh former prime minister Sheikh Hasina's principal secretary, Abul Kalam Azad, and Dhaka Metropolitan Awami League Treasurer, Humayun Kabir, to seven-day police remand in connection with the murder of Jubo Dal leader Shamim, media reports said.

The order was issued by the Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate's Court on Sunday, the Dhaka Tribune reported.

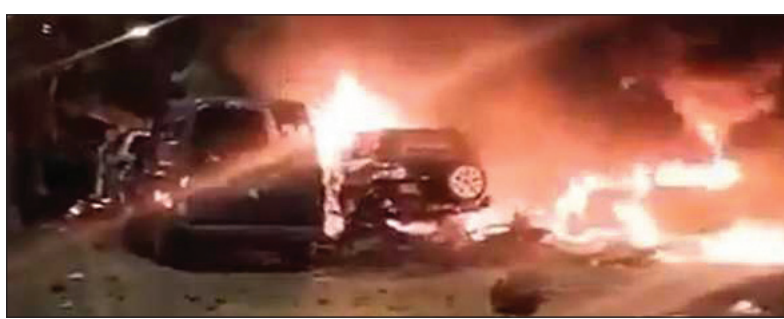
Earlier, Sub-Inspector (SI) Nazmul Hashan of Paltan police station, the investigating officer in the case, had requested a 10-day police remand for both accused.

In response, the defence lawyer submitted a bail petition seeking to cancel the remand.

Pak: Chinese, Pakistani nationals killed

Islamabad (UNI)

Two Chinese nationals were killed, one Chinese national injured, and several Pakistani nationals were killed and injured in a terrorist attack in Pakistan's southern port city of Karachi on Sunday night, the Chinese embassy in Pakistan confirmed.



this terrorist act, express deep condolences to the victims of the two countries, and extend sincere condolences to the injured and their relatives," the statement said, adding that the Chinese side has been working with the Pakistani side to do their best to deal with the aftermath of the incident. A big fire following a huge blast on Sunday night engulfed several vehicles near an airport in Karachi, police said.

The Chinese missions in Pakistan have initiated emergency response work as soon as possible, requiring Pakistan to do its best to treat the injured, conduct a thorough investigation of the attack, and severely punish the perpetrators, the statement said.

Will foil attempts to create instability: Pakistan PM

Lahore: A day after Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf protests in Islamabad, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said that no one will be allowed to create instability in the country, media reports said. Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi also ruled out any possibility of talks with Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf protesters.

"No one will be allowed to take any illegal course for causing instability in the country," PM Shehbaz said while receiving a briefing from Naqvi on Sunday regarding the situation in Islamabad following the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf rally, the Dawn reported on Monday. Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chief Imran Khan's supporters have been demanding his release from jail. Sharif praised the interior minister and Islamabad's administration for "foiling the attempt to create chaos in the federal capital".

Russian oppn activist fighting on the side of Ukraine killed

Moscow (UNI)

Ildar Dadin, a prominent Russian opposition activist fighting in Ukraine on the side of Kyiv, has been killed in action, according to the group that recruited him, media reports said on Monday.

A spokeswoman for that group, the Civic Council, told the BBC that Dadin had died, adding that "he was, and he remains a hero."

The activist-turned-fighter was killed when soldiers from his volunteer battalion, the Freedom of Russia Legion, came under Russian artillery fire in the Kharkiv region of north-eastern Ukraine, the reports said.

For now, there are no more details, and the Legion itself won't comment whilst it says a military operation is still active.



But Ilya Ponamarev, an exiled Russian opposition politician with previous links to the Legion, has told the BBC he is "certain, alas," that Dadin is dead. Another source clarified that this was "confirmed by those who were with him in battle."

Russia shoots down 21 Ukrainian drones

Russian air defence systems destroyed 12 Ukrainian drones over Crimea, six over the Kursk region, and one each over the Belgorod, Bryansk, and Voronezh regions on Sunday night, the Russian Defence Ministry reported.

"During the past night, attempts by the Kiev regime to carry out terrorist attacks using fixed-wing UAVs against targets on the territory of the Russian Federation were thwarted. Air defence systems on duty destroyed 21 Ukrainian unmanned aerial vehicles," the ministry said.

Mexican mayor murdered within 6 days of starting job

Mexico City (UNI)

The mayor of a Mexican city plagued by drug violence has been murdered less than a week after taking office, media reports said on Monday.

According to BBC reports, Alejandro Arcos was found dead on Sunday in Chilpancingo, a city of around 280,000 people in the southwestern state of Guerrero. He had been mayor for six days.

Evelyn Salgado, the state governor, said the city was in mourning over a murder that "fills us with in-



dignation."

The mayor's death came three days after the city government's new secretary, Francisco Tapia, was shot dead, the reports said.

The investigation into drug violence in Guerrero, a state plagued by cartels, has not yet been disclosed, but it has resulted in the murder of numerous politicians.

Authorities confirmed Arcos's murder after unverified social media images showed what appeared to be his remains.

Dozens of ageing Sri Lankan MPs to quit parliamentary politics

Sri Lanka (UNI)

Dozens of Sri Lankan MPs who were in the ninth Parliament which is now dissolved have decided to quit politics due to reasons ranging from old age, ill health to unfavourable political realities for them, media reports said.

Political dynamics appear to be changing drastically as far as the traditional parties are concerned in the aftermath of the Presidential election. For the first time in the history of post-independence Sri Lanka, the National People's Power (NPP) was elected to power, setting the stage for it to grab parliamentary power at the General Election

on November 14, reported Daily Mirror.

The Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) which held parliamentary majority in the current Parliament has decided not to give nominations to its MPs who left it ahead of the Presidential election. It has prompted these MPs to seek tickets from different other alliances that are now being cobbled together.

Besides, a number of its MPs including former President Mahinda Rajapaksa, his elder brother Chamal Rajapaksa, Gamini Lokuge and Ali Sabry will not contest this time.

Jill Stein sees 'no lesser evil' between Harris, Trump

Agencies, Dearborn, Michigan

Widespread anger among Arab Americans and Muslims over U.S. support for Israel's wars in Gaza and Lebanon could cost Vice President Kamala Harris, the Democratic nominee, the election, Green Party candidate Jill Stein told Reuters.

Polls show Stein garnering just 1% in the Nov. 5 election, while Harris and her Republican rival, former President Donald Trump, are almost tied with 49% and 48%.

But Stein has seen growing support among Arab Americans and Muslims in battleground states like Michigan, Arizona and Wisconsin where they have large populations that helped propel President Joe Biden to victory in the 2020 election. "The Democrats have lost the



Muslim American and the Arab American vote," Stein told Reuters after a rally attended by about 100 people in the Detroit suburb of Dearborn.

"They're going to be losing enough swing states that they will not win and they cannot win."

A Cook Political Report poll con-

ducted from Sept. 19-25 showed Harris leading or tied with Trump in nearly all seven states that could decide the election - Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Arizona, Nevada, Georgia and North Carolina.

But Stein, who has been campaigning on a permanent ceasefire in Gaza and an immediate U.S. arms embargo on Israel, won 40% of the Muslim vote in Michigan in an August poll by the Council on American Islamic Relations, that also put her ahead of Harris and Trump among Muslims in Arizona and Wisconsin.

Democrats could win back those voters if they demanded and work to enact an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and Lebanon, and also halted arms sales to Israel, but there was no sign of such action, she said.

Philippines, S-Korea boost defence cooperation

Agencies, Manila

South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol and Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr agreed on Monday to boost defence cooperation as their countries elevated ties to a strategic partnership amid growing security challenges in the region.

The two leaders discussed a range of issues including tensions in the South China Sea and on the Korean peninsula during talks at the Philippine presidential palace where they also signed agreements on coastguard cooperation and nuclear energy.

"President Marcos and I opened a new chapter of our

Upgrade ties to strategic partnership



partnership by elevating our relationship to a strategic partnership," said Yoon, who is on a state

visit to Manila, the first by a South Korean leader in more than a decade.

Exit polls show Tunisian Prez Kais Saied winning presidential election



Tunis (UNI): Exit polls showed that Tunisian President Kais Saied is expected to win the presidential election on Sunday, Tunisian State TV reported.

According to the estimated results of a poll by Sigma Conseil, a Tunisian survey company, Saied won 89.2 percent of the vote, followed by Ayachi Zammel with 6.9 percent and Zouhair Maghzaoui with 3.9 percent.

In a press briefing following the election, Farouk Bouaskar, president of the Independent High Authority for Elections (ISIE), said the preliminary turnout in the presidential election reached 27.7 percent.

According to statistics from the ISIE, a total of 2,599,252 Tunisians voted in Tunisia and 104,903 Tunisians went to the polls abroad.