

Independent

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QUETTA: President Dr. Arif Alvi addressing participants of closing ceremony of 34th National Games. Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar, Sports Minister Abdul Khaliq Hazara, Chief Secretary Abdul Aziz Uqaili, Provincial Advisor Information Mitha Khan Kakar, IGP Balochistan Abdul Khaliq Sheikh and others are also present

President Dr. Alvi says By holding national sports event, a message given to world that Balochistan is a peaceful province

Sports activities lead to healthy living, character building; Urges youth to follow Quaid's three guiding words 'unity, faith and discipline' as beacon for achieving success in future

Independent Report
QUETTA: President Dr Arif Alvi on Tuesday said that sports activities always led to healthy competition by promoting discipline and character building, especially among the young people.

Addressing the concluding ceremony of 34th National Games, he said that by holding national sports event, a message was given to the entire world that Balochistan was a peaceful province.

The president observed that different genres of games always helped in promoting mental health, character building, team

work, and healthy competition at different levels.

He said Quaid-e-Azam and Fatima Jinnah always encouraged young people of the country to take part in healthy activities and stressed upon imbuing the spirit of unity, faith and discipline in all walks of life.

Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah paid special focus on girls guide to strengthen the organizational discipline, he added.

About Balochistan, he said the province was rich with natural and mineral resources and commended all the governments for their efforts to utilize them for the progress and prosper-

ity of the province.

The president further stressed that for physical health, regular exercise and other sports activities must be made a part of life as they were vital for healthy living.

He also appreciated all the stakeholders for the excellent arrangements and sportsmen for competing in the games. He termed holding of national games in Quetta as 'another feather in province's cap'.

The president urged the youth to follow Quaid's three guiding words 'unity, faith and discipline' as beacon for achieving success in future.

PM rules out dialogue with 'arsonists & anarchists'

Says public relief, economic development among priorities in next budget

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday said dialogue was a key to evolving

deeply embedded in the political process, which helped democracy mature and evolve.

emphasized that such people should rather be held to account for their militant actions.



democracy, however categorically stated that it could not be held with 'arsonists and anarchists' in the garb of politicians.

The prime minister's statement came after the former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chairman Imran Khan on Friday appealed for immediate talks with state officials.

He said many political and constitutional breakthroughs occurred when political leaders sat across the table to craft a consensus. "However, there is a major difference here, the arsonists and anarchists who wear the garb of politicians and attack the symbols of the State do not qualify for a dialogue," he said.

He also termed it a prevalent practice even in developed democracies. Meanwhile Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday said the provision of maximum relief to the masses and economic development would be among the Federal Government's priorities in the upcoming budget for fiscal 2023-24.

Sharif said dialogue was

The prime minister

FM Bilawal says: Pakistan keen to further cement bilateral relations cooperation with Belarus

ISLAMABAD (APP): Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Tuesday said Pakistan was committed to further strengthening of high level engagements and bilateral cooperation with Belarus by building stronger economic, trade and investment ties.

Addressing a joint presser with visiting Belarusian Foreign Minister Sergei Aleinik, the foreign minister said they held a very fruitful and constructive meeting, and discussed

Foreign Minister Bilawal further said that both countries strived to build a mutually beneficial relationship that could contribute to the prosperity and well-being of the people of the two countries.

He said they had agreed to taking of the practical steps to transform the goodwill between the people of the two countries into a tangible cooperation. One key outcome of the visit, he said, was the



entire areas of cooperation between the two countries.

"Our long term goals for Pak-Belarus relations include strengthening of the economic ties, expanding of trade and investment, fostering of scientific collaboration, enhancing of defence cooperation and increasing of the cultural and deepening of the people-to-people contacts," he added.

signing of the agreement between the two countries for abolition of the visas for the holders of the diplomatic and official passports which would boost high level visits.

An agreement between Islamabad Strategic Institute and the Belarus Institute would lay strong foundation for educational cooperation, he added.

70% Gwadar International Airport work completed: GDA

Independent Report

QUETTA: The New Gwadar International Airport has completed over 70% of its construction work, according to officials from the Gwadar Development Authority. The comprehensive scope of work, including civil, structural, mechanical, and engineering tasks, has nearly been accomplished. The next step is to finalize the Navigational Aid and Communication Construction, which is progressing rapidly through the joint efforts of China Communication Construction Company and the Civil Aviation Authority of Pakistan's professional teams. Installation and operationalization work for secondary vision navigation and communication operations are also underway, with all equipment already on-site and completion expected within 60 days.

State-of-the-art runway pathways, designed to international standards, have been prepared for use. They provide landing and takeoff paths for runways, taxiways, aprons, and other areas where aircraft are operated. The runway surface has been designed to withstand the weight of heavy aircraft. Modern airfield facilities, including painted runway centerlines and high-intensity lighting, ensure safe landing and takeoff operations, even during adverse weather conditions. The ATC tower, runway, apron, taxiway, operational building, complex registration office, water supply system, PTCIL fiber optic, desalination plant, grid station, and security system have all been completed on the 4,300-acre site, making the New Gwadar International Airport Pakistan's largest airport under construction.

Event another feather in the cap of GoB: CM pleased on successful ending of 34th National Games in Quetta; congratulates all

Bizenjo says holding of mega sports event in excellent manner a passionate reply to all those making criticism on law and order situation and government performance

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo has expressed his contentment and pleasure over successful holding and excellent ending of the 34th National Games in Quetta.

In a message issued here on Tuesday, the Chief Minister appreciated the performance of participating players, provincial Minister Sports, Abdul Khaliq Hazara, Chief Secretary, Abdul Aziz Uqaili, officers and staff of the Sports Department as well as the Pakistan Olympic Association, security agencies and media and congratulated in this regard.

The Chief Minister said that the successful holding of the National

Games in peaceful manner after 19 years is a bright chapter of the province and it is another addition in the achievements of the provincial government too.

It is also a passionate reply to all those making criticism on the law and order situation and government performance in the province, Mr. Bizenjo maintained.

The Chief Minister also said that the holding of National Games is a fruit of sacrifices rendered by our martyrs for ensuring peace. He said that the National Games organized in Balochistan has given a message to the whole world that it is a peaceful area with patriotic, caring, peace loving and hospitable people.



QUETTA: On the directives of Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Imran Gichki and concerned officials attending a meeting to review affairs regarding enhancement of mutual investment between Government of Balochistan and private companies

AJK AC judge killed in firing by robbers

RAWALPINDI (Online): A sessions judge has been killed in firing by robbers in Rawalpindi.

According to police two dacoits entered into home of Accountability Court Azad Kashmir judge Sardar Amjid Ishaq in phase-8 of a private housing society located in the jurisdiction of Rawat police station Rawalpindi for the purpose of robbery.

The robbers tried to hold the family members hostage at gunpoint. Sessions Judge Azad Kashmir Sardar Amjid Ishaq put resistance to the dacoits. In the meantime one robber opened fire leaving Sardar Amjid injured. He was shifted to hospital for medical aid but he breathed his last.

Peace, education, healthcare top priorities, says Governor

Independent Report

QUETTA: Governor of Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar, emphasized that peace, education, and healthcare have always been the top priorities for the province. He expressed confidence that the law and order situation in the province has significantly improved and the environment is becoming conducive for development and investment.

Commending the successful organization of national sports events after several years, he highlighted the thwarting of terrorist attacks on the FC camp in Muslim Bagh and the arrest of the head of a banned organization, Gulzar-e-Imam, as evidence of the effective actions taken by law enforcement agencies.

Governor of Balochistan stated that safeguarding the lives and property of the people is the responsibility of the

government, and the agencies responsible for enforcing the law are tirelessly working day and night in this regard. Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar also emphasized that they not only appreciate the performance of the security forces but also extend all possible assistance to the families of the martyrs. He emphasized the utmost need to strengthen internal unity and consensus through mutual understanding, dialogue, and democratic views.

The Governor's remarks highlight the government's commitment to maintaining peace, improving the law and order situation, and addressing the needs of the people in Balochistan. The focus on promoting education, healthcare, and the successful organization of sports events reflects the efforts towards development and creating a favorable environment for investment in the province.

Spectacular fireworks at end of National Games

Independent Report
QUETTA: The spectacular fireworks display was held at end of the 34th National Games in the Ayub Sports Complex on Tuesday night.

The fireworks display marked the end of mega national sports event in the metropolis organized after 19 years.

A large number of people were present to watch and enjoy the beautiful fireworks displayed at the spacious sports complex.

Many others also enjoyed the display while staying out of the venue far and wide. The sky lit up with colourful lighting due to the fireworks display.

Three killed, another injured in Quetta

QUETTA (INP): At least three people were killed and another in separate incidents of violence in different localities of Quetta, police said on Tuesday.

According to details, a man was killed after unknown gunmen sprayed bullets on shop near telephone exchange on Sariab road of Quetta.

A teacher of government boys middle school identified as Inham Rabbani was shot dead by unidentified motorcyclists in Ferozabad locality.

Two groups traded fire in Zarghon area of Urak in which one person was killed while another sustained wounds.

CM approves establishment of Gwadar as a Special Economic District

Independent Report

QUETTA: In a significant development for the progress and development of Gwadar city and its port-related activities, Chief Minister Bizenjo has granted approval for the creation of a Special Economic District (SED). This decision was made after reviewing the summary presented by the Planning and Development Department.

The primary objective of this step is to promote the growth of Gwadar city and boost activities related to the port. The establishment of the SED is crucial for the development of tourism and other sectors of the economy. Following

the creation of the SED, trade, tourism, real estate, and hospitality industries are expected to flourish, reaching their optimal levels of competitiveness.

Designating Gwadar as a Special Economic District aims to introduce professional policies and provide a conducive environment for investment, particularly for foreign investors. The establishment of the SED will not only attract foreign direct investment but also facilitate the growth of local industries. Additionally, federal and provincial tax incentives for industrial activities and relaxation in visa policies for investors will be provided.

First Lady urges society's role to cope with breast cancer, mental health issues

QUETTA (APP): First Lady Samina Alvi on Tuesday said that not merely the government rather everyone in



society would have to play their role to cope with the issues like breast cancer, mental health, and disability.

The first lady, addressing a seminar held with the cooperation of the World Health Organisation at Governor House here, for creating awareness on breast cancer, mental health and disability, lauded the world health body's efforts for elimination of breast cancer as well as welfare of the differently-abled people.

The first lady said that the government was striving for concrete and practical measures to cope with the challenges of breast cancer and disability. Every individual in society will have to play their part in the prevention of the deadly disease, she added.

Federal Ombudsman to hold meeting with heads of fed. departments

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Federal Ombudsman, Mr. Ejaz Ahmed Qureshi is due to arrive in the provincial metropolis today (Wednesday).

According to the schedule, the Federal Ombudsman would hold meeting with heads of the federal government departments at 02:30 PM at the Quetta Chamber of Commerce and Indus-

try. In addition to this, he would also be hold meeting with Chief Secretary Balochistan and other concerned stakeholders on the jail reforms tomorrow (Thursday) at the Civil secretariat.

In addition to this, he would also have an interaction with the trade and business leaders at the QCCI the same afternoon.



LAHORE: Balochistan Home Minister Mir Ziaullah Lango meeting with former Deputy Speaker Punjab Assembly Dost Muhammad Mazari. Senator Danesh Kumar and DG PDMA Jan Zaib are also present

Daily Voice of Masses Independent

Judicial quarrels

The rift within the Supreme Court shows no signs of healing. With the incumbent and incoming chief justices still seemingly jousting over issues big and small, plaintiffs and petitioners can only pray that they do not get trampled like the proverbial grass during an elephant fight.

The schism in the top court has distracted the institution's focus away from its core responsibilities, leaving a vacuum in the trichotomy of power. This bodes ill for a country suffering protracted social and political unrest.

The superior judiciary is supposed to be the voice of wisdom and restraint in testing times; instead, it is displaying an inability to get over what is seen as personal differences to agree on a basic modus vivendi.

The matter of elections to the KP and Punjab assemblies has been the judiciary's biggest challenge this year. It is disturbing how little progress it has seen despite the chief justice himself presiding over the relevant cases. The continuing inability of the court to enforce a straightforward rule enshrined in the Constitution has depleted the institution's prestige and power.

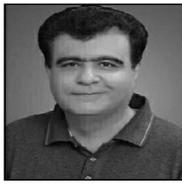
Deadlines have come and gone, yet a decisive resolution remains elusive. It was clear from the beginning that there never was a legally defensible reason to delay elections beyond the 90-day deadline.

A quick, clear ruling on the matter could have spared the country the unrest seen in recent weeks. Instead, the judiciary showed weakness by failing to contain or, subsequently, address its divisions, which the government and its enablers have treated as a carte blanche to subvert the law. It has remained unable to regain its footing after that initial blow.

Those caught on the wrong side of today's powers have been complaining about a gradual breakdown of the legal order. While Pakistani rulers, the PTI included, have displayed a general contempt towards rules and laws, it cannot be denied that the judiciary's present inability to stand firm and united has greatly emboldened lawbreakers and made them seem invincible.

As a result, the judiciary has been questioned at every level in recent days by an executive acting as if it is untouchable. Release orders, bail, habeas corpus rulings, and so on have been treated with disdain, signalling the rapid breakdown of the idea of the separation of powers as envisioned in our Constitution and the quiet ushering in of a more authoritarian system of governance. Those at the very top of the judiciary must realise that their space and power are being encroached upon while they quarrel. A full court meeting must be called post haste to chart a path forward. The judges must talk over their differences and close ranks. The institution is quickly being compromised; they may not have long to act.

End of chaos?



Dr Niaz Murtaza

Writing about our national chaos in my last piece, I had said that one side would mix the other to end the chaos soon. But even I am amazed at how quickly it did so. I had traced the chaos to the weakening of the establishment's powers. But May 9 ended the big gap-rank support for the PTI. I have held for long that even against the corrupt politics of the PPP and PML-N, Imran Khan's anarchist populist politics was a bane and if we are to move ahead, we would have to defeat it politically. Unluckily, the PDM couldn't muster the narrative or performance to do so. So, the PTI is being nixed the way it was created — via establishment ploys. The move is dubious, despite PTI's own questionable politics.

PTI leaders are quitting at speeds unseen, just after a few days in jail or even without that, unlike PDM leaders who didn't quit even after months in jail. While they may have been herded into PTI by Pindi's carrots, they are now leaving it under its pressure.

There is a move to try civilians in military courts. There is talk about banning the PTI as a terrorist party. Its politics is bad, but it is not a terrorist party. The TTP is a terrorist entity as it doesn't engage in regular politics and its only tool to achieve its political aims is terrorism.

In contrast, the PTI does regular politics and only occasionally indulges violence. It may preplan mayhem, but not murder. Thus, it must not be banned. But those who

engaged in violence must be punished.

Images of shuhada and monuments are regularly invoked to stir mass 'nationalism' as now. Cut through it and one sees that May 9 was a case of civil commotion, which should be dealt with as that, with fines for most and jail time for a few.

Yet, to eliminate PTI, the establishment and even parties whose politics are more normal than the PTI's, are using these tactics shamelessly. It may cripple the PTI. While Khan is popular, he can't translate that into votes with major party desertions. Khan may even be jailed or exiled.

Thus, it is probable that the PTI won't win the next polls due to rigging. In fact, so bad are Khan-establishment ties now that it is hard to see him winning power soon. It took Nawaz over a decade to be prime minister again after his equally bad break-up with Pindi in 1999. He had age on his side. Khan doesn't. Hence, the small democratic consolidation seen during 2008-2018, with our first smooth civilian-civilian transfer in 2013, stands reversed as even its architect parties are back to their rigged 1990s politics. For this, the main blame lies with the security establishment, then PTI and then PDM. Whenever the establishment has crushed popular struggles of marginalised groups, it has backfired, as seen in the violence in 1971 and as still witnessed in Balochistan. Violence also followed its moves to create political entities like the MQM, which later broke with it. But all that is unlikely now.

The PTI's core constituency is upper-middle-class people and not marginalised groups. Their politics is not driven by deprivation but blind anger at the system. Their aim is to increase their elite entitlements against

the upper classes represented by the PPP and PML-N by cloaking their elite aims and PTI's crude politics in the false rhetoric of 'tabdeeli' and 'azadi'.

They will not form a violent movement but will sullenly eschew politics. Thus, the loss would be the disengagement of an educated and rich group that, with better awareness, could have played a good role in political and economic progress. Some youth may join other reactionary groups.

If the PDM continues with its pathetic performance, disintegrates or if Nawaz Sharif and Maryam Nawaz justifiably start charting a way to clip the establishment's powers, a tiny way back for Khan in three to four years may open up. Thus, the biggest challenge for the PDM after vanquishing PTI will be PDM itself.

If we have a Sharif prime minister and Ishaq Dar as the finance czar after elections, our economic mayhem will increase. They would be out of their league in tackling the huge problems we face given the black hole that the economy has entered due to the damage done by the PTI and PDM's economic policies and the PTI's anarchic politics. Continued poor economic management may lead to default and more political chaos. The PDM must appoint an able cabinet to avoid such a situation.

With IMF and the major powers not bailing us out, the time after elections will be a minefield for any new regime which may not last long given the split and dubious mandates the next polls may lead to due to rigging. Thus, our problems are far from over and we could descend into bigger chaos, which even the establishment won't be able to control. -- Courtesy Dawn

Forums under law



Parvez Rahim

The Industrial Relations Ordinance (IRO), 1969, is meant "to amend and consolidate the law relating to the formation of trade unions, the regulation of relations between employers and workmen and the avoidance and settlements of any differences or disputes arising between them". Earlier, the Industrial Relations Act, 1946, had a similar objective but specifically mentioned the establishment of a mechanism for regulating remuneration and conditions of employment. These are now settled through the bargaining process between the employer and Collective Bargaining Agent union under IRO 1969. Besides, there was the Industrial Relations Disputes Act, 1947, which provided for the settlement of any differences or disputes between the employer and CBA union.

The 1960s is seen as the decade of industrial progress but with a few exceptions, labour union activity remained dormant till around 1969. Retired Air Marshal Nur Khan, a cabinet minister under President Yahya Khan, had 'labour' as one of his portfolios. He paid special attention to recognising the rights of labour unions and their federations. He was instrumental in promulgating IRO 1969, which contained wisely drafted provisions for congenial industrial relations. At the same time, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was also active in his election campaigning, promising to ameliorate the lot of peasants and labour. After coming to power, his PPP government intro-

duced, through IRO 1969, the three new forums of shop stewards, management committee and the joint management board (JMB).

Shop stewards are "a link between the workers and the employer, [and] assist in the improvement of arrangements for the physical working conditions and production work" in the area they represent. They also help workers settle their problems.

In the management committee, at least one workers' representative is to be nominated by the CBA union to participate to the extent of 50 per cent in the management of the factory. Besides others, the management cannot take any decision without the advice in writing of the workers' representative in the following matters: "framing of service rules and policy about promotion and discipline of workers"; "regulation of daily working hours and breaks"; and "matters relating to the order and conduct of workers within the factory", etc.

The JMB is the top forum represented by the directors and senior managers from the management. Workers' representation is 30pc and the board has look after "improvement in productivity", "laying down the principles of remuneration" and "the provision of minimum facilities" to contract workers, etc.

The first PPP government had taken the idea of these forums from the Scandinavian countries, where workers' participation in management is an important element of industrial democracy. It is a system where employees have a say in the management's decisions. The Scandinavian countries have been maintaining a near 100pc literacy rate for long. This rate among Pakistan's industrial workers, labouring under the employers' strict control, has been less than

50pc. Most employers would not allow trade union activities in their establishments.

When the CBA unions got these rights and liberties in 1972 through labour laws, they thought themselves the new owners of the factories and led the workers they represented through turmoil and violence. Functions of the management committee and JMB overlapped with the CBA union's domain of collective bargaining with the employer. Hence union leaders were not inclined to part with their powers and nominate their representatives to these two forums, which remained inoperational since the beginning.

Being a law-abiding organisation, an American company in Daharki, where I had worked in the late 1970s, formed the management committee and JMB. On persuasion, the CBA union nominated its workers' representative to the two forums. When we wanted the representative to agree to and sign the notification relating to revised Ramzan work timings, which were followed every year, he went into hiding. Ultimately, he was traced and we managed to get his signature just a day before Ramzan. The two forums, which have not functioned in any organisation for more than 50 years, despite the sincere efforts of some, should have been taken out from the law by the government a long time back. Meanwhile, the most useful forum of Works Council has been made complicated and unwieldy with the inclusion of the redundant functions of the management committee and JMB in the existing Industrial Relations Act of all the provinces. The respective provinces should take them out from the law in order to restore the effectiveness of the Works Council. -- Courtesy Dawn

National News

Governor for uninterrupted power supply to 100pc recovery areas province

PESHAWAR (APP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Ghulam Ali Tuesday directed PESCO to provide uninterrupted power supply to areas with 100 per cent recovery.

Chairing a high-level meeting on electricity load shedding and other issues here at Governor House, he asked Peshawar Electricity Supply Company (PESCO) to chalk out a mechanism to provide power supply to consumers who pay their 100pc bills in areas of power pillage.

The meeting discussed problems and sufficing being faced by

the people due to an unannounced power outage in Peshawar city.

Issues related to the timely repair of damaged transformers, replacement of damaged wires, and prevention of electricity theft were also discussed.

He said that WAPDA should create a proper mechanism for electricity supply among bill payers and non-bill payers.

The governor deplored that people collect donations at the street and neighbourhood level to get the damaged transformer fixed.

He said that PESCO and WAPDA should know

which and when a transformer needs to be replaced. He directed PESCO SDOs to maintain close contact with the public so that there is no public protest for load shedding and timely relief could be provided to people. The meeting was attended by Mayor Peshawar Zubair Ali, PESCO Chief Arif Mahmood Sadozai, Arbab Farooq XEN Rural, Shahid Afridi XEN Cantt, Abdul Rauf XEN City, Gohar Rahman Superintendent Engineer Khyber, Principal Secretary Governor Mazhar Irshad and other officials of WAPDA.



LAHORE: Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan, Neil Hawkins, called on Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman at Governor House.

Seven plaintiffs get relief through Ombudsman Punjab

LAHORE (APP): On intervene of the office of Ombudsman Punjab, seven individuals of different departments got legal relief worth Rs 14,226,380.

In a statement issued on Tuesday, the spokesman announced that in compliance with the Office of the Ombudsman Punjab's direction, Government Sd Mitha Teaching Hospital Lahore has duly settled the outstanding employment dues of Ms Ruqiyah Batool. She has been provided with a payment of Rs 3,707,890 in addition to the creation

of an OSD post with a monthly salary of Rs 45,752.

Furthermore, the ombudsman's office had taken action to provide a travel allowance of three million rupees to the teachers from 1100 schools in Sheikhupura district who were engaged in dengue focal person duties, the spokesman said.

On complaints of non-payment of pension-related amounts, the irrigation department has disbursed Rs 11,74,254 to Saher Begum, a widow from Attock.

3 children killed as wall collapses due to heavy rains in Kotri

HYDERABAD (APP): Three children were killed when a wall collapsed during heavy rain and strong winds in SITE area of Kotri town, district Jamshoro on Tuesday afternoon. According to a report, an unfortunate incident occurred in Babar Chowk of SITE area due to strong winds and rain, as a result of which 7-year-old Saima, 10-year-old Farhana and 12-year-old

Hot, dry weather forecast for Sindh

KARACHI (APP): Pakistan Meteorological Department on Tuesday predicted hot and dry weather in most parts of the Sindh province during the next 24 hours. The minimum and maximum temperatures recorded in Karachi 36-38 degrees Centigrade, Hyderabad 35-37 degrees Centigrade, Sukkur 37-39 degrees Centigrade, Thatta 36-38 degrees Centigrade, Mohenjodaro 36-38 degrees Centigrade.



PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Haji Ghulam Ali presides over the meeting regarding electricity load shedding in Peshawar. Mayor Peshawar Haji Zubair Ali is also present.

No corrupt element to be tolerated in Population Welfare: Advisor KP

PESHAWAR (APP): Advisor to the caretaker Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Population Welfare Sayyed Jarrar Hussain Bukhari on Tuesday said no corrupt element would be tolerated in Population Welfare Department.

Chairing a meeting of the departmental affairs here, the advisor also issued directives for initiating disciplinary action against those employees of Population Welfare who remained absent from their duties.

The meeting was also attended by DG Population Welfare Ayesha and officers of the

department. The DG Population Welfare gave a detailed briefing to the advisor on administrative affairs. Bukhari directed the authorities of Population Welfare to pay constant visits to the welfare centers across the province and besides ensuring the presence of the staff to review official affairs there. He said no corrupt official or officer should be allowed to work in the department.

He also directed for not allowing additional charge to the officers of the Population Welfare Department and ordered the abolition of all such additional appointments of the officers.

Imran Khan submits bail bonds in 4 cases

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan on Tuesday submitted bail bonds in four different cases, related to May-9 vandalism and hiding facts in connection with the death of Zille Shah. Earlier, the PTI Chairman Imran Khan along with his counsel appeared before Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) Judge Ijaz Ahmad Butt for furnishing surety bonds of Rs 100,000 each in three cases lodged for attacking Jinnah House (the corps commander house in Lahore), Askari Tower and Shadman Police Station. The guarantor,

Advocate Muhammad Habib, submitted surety bonds on behalf of the PTI chairman, which were accordingly accepted by the court. On May 19, the court had granted the interim bail till June 2 to the PTI Chairman Imran Khan in three cases registered by Sarwar Road police, Gulberg police and Shadman Town police and ordered him to furnish surety bonds of Rs 100,000 each in the cases. The other day, the court rejected the bail bonds of Imran Khan in the cases after the guarantor showed reluctance to take responsibility.

Two shot dead by unknown assailants

KASUR (APP): Unknown assailants gunned down two people and threw their bodies in a well in a nearby village on Tuesday.

According to police, the incident took place in Chiragh Dinwala village where unknown assailants shot dead 45-year-old Ramzan Abdul Aziz and 42-year-old Akhtar Khushi Muhammad and threw the bodies and their motorcycle in the well. The accused fled from the scene after committing crime.

Legal aid fund established for constabulary facing cases

LAHORE (APP): Inspector General of Police Punjab Dr. Usman Anwar has established a legal aid fund for legal assistance in cases against on-duty police officers and personnel.

He said that the legal fund would bring special relief to officers and employees who were victims of false cases and legal complications.

In a message, the IGP said that police officers and personnel sometimes fell victim to false cases and legal complications during duty.

Similarly sometimes even when the government leadership, policy and officers changed, the police force had to face false cases.

Dr. Usman Anwar said that such incidents led to displeasure in the force so to counter this impact.

Punjab Governor says: Pakistan attaches great importance to its bilateral relations with Australia

LAHORE (Online): Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan, Neil Hawkins, called on Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman at Governor House Lahore, here today. In the meeting, apart from issues of mutual interest, promotion of bilateral relations in various fields including education, agriculture and trade was discussed. During the meeting, Governor Punjab also informed the Australian High Commissioner about the steps taken for the development of the

universities as Chancellor. Speaking on the occasion, Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that Pakistan attaches great importance to its bilateral relations with Australia. He said that Pakistan is keen to further promote bilateral cooperation with Australia in education, livestock, agriculture, science and technology. Governor Punjab said that there are vast opportunities for Australian companies to invest in infrastructure development, agriculture, renewable energy and mining sectors in Pakistan.

Chief Secretary reviews progress of deworming campaign

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief Secretary of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Nadeem Aslam Chaudhary on Tuesday chaired a meeting to discuss the progress of the deworming initiative for school-age children in the province. During the meeting, an in-depth review of the ongoing program was conducted, highlighting the significant achievements and impact of the initiative.

The deworming program, which aims to combat worm infections in children, has proven to be highly successful. Reports indicated that in 2022 alone, the program

reached an impressive coverage of 5 million children across 22,797 schools in 22 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

This remarkable achievement was built upon the earlier successes of the program, which provided deworming treatment to 3.8 million children in 2021, and 2.7 million children in 2019, spanning various districts and schools. Chaudhary stressed the severity of worm infections in children, highlighting their detrimental consequences on their health, education, and overall productivity.

PCJCCI inked MoU with Dongying Sino-German to boost trade relations

LAHORE (APP): The Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) signed MoU with Dongying Sino-German (European Exchange and Cooperation Association) for the promotion of trade and investment here at PCJCCI Secretariat on Tuesday.

The PCJCCI also organized business-to-business (B2B) meeting with 10 high profile members and multi-sector Chinese trade delegation with Pakistani investors, and entrepreneurs.

The delegation was

headed by Mr Wang Zihai, Honorary Investment Counselor in China, Board of Investment and Chen Guangfeng, President Dongying Sino-German (European Exchange and Cooperation Association).

The meeting was also attended by top notch Pakistani businessmen, including Syed Ameer Abbas, Fast Cables Limited, Atif Hameed, TUV Austria BIC Pvt. Limited, Hassan Ahmed, Hassan Brother Company, Zaki Aijaz, Roshan Packages and others.

PCJCCI Vice President Hamza Khalid

said that the delegation came with a purpose to hold interactive B2B meeting with potential partners in Pakistan.

The area of interest was mainly manufacturer of steel, aluminum, plastic doors and windows production, oil drilling accessories, maintenance of environmental protection equipment, PVC insulated control cable and power cable, cross-linked polyethylene insulated electric cable, Power cable, photovoltaic cable, petrochemicals, rubber, petroleum equipment etc.

He added that the

Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry was highly grateful to the Chinese officials for being supportive and concerned about the business development of both countries.

The head of the delegation, Wang Zihai, invited the PCJCCI members to Shandong province and extended his precious regards and offer to fully cooperate with the Pakistani officials.

He also added that just as Pakistan is happy to see China's growing stature on the world stage.



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of M/s PepsiCo led by Mr. Eugene Willemsen, CEO Africa, Middle East & South Asia called on Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar at FBR(Hq).



SIALKOT: SM Tanveer caretaker Provincial Minister for Industry, commerce and energy is addressing to the meeting of members of Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

KP Govt to establish Inclusive Business Development Park

PESHAWAR (INP): The provincial government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is going to establish an Inclusive Business Development Park (IBDP) to enable men, women, persons with disabilities and transgender to establish their business setups.

In this connection, a formal memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Economic Zones Development and Management Company (KP-EZDMC) and Khyber Pass Economic Corridor (KPEC), Project Management Unit (PMU), Planning & Development (P&D) Department for the establishment of interim setup for the initiative here on Tuesday.

The signing ceremony was held at KP-EZDMC Head Office Peshawar with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Industries, Commerce and

Technical Education, Mohammad Adnan Jalil as chief guest on the occasion.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) KP-EZDMC, Javed Iqbal Khattak and Project Director (PD) KPEC, Imran Zahoor signed the memorandum on behalf of their respective organizations. Besides, Secretary Industries, Commerce & Technical Education/Chairman Board of Directors (BoD) KP-EZDMC, Mati Ullah Khan, other officials of the company were also present on the occasion.

Under the agreement, the Industries Department is going to establish an interim-setup for Inclusive Business Development Park at Economic Zone Hayatabad Peshawar. The proposed Inclusive Business Development Park will operate under the operational control of the KP-EZDMC.



BAHAWALPUR: Customers are buying wheat from a roadside vendor at Grain Market.

Minister chairs resource mobilization committee meeting

LAHORE (APP): Caretaker Provincial Minister for Industries and Commerce SM Tanveer here Tuesday chaired a meeting of the resource mobilization committee to review the business models of waste management companies, WASAs (Water and Sanitation Agencies) and the Punjab Mass Transit Authority.

Caretaker Provincial Minister for Excise Bilal Afzal, Punjab Finance Secretary, MD WASA and senior officers attended the meeting.

During the meeting, the committee approved several proposals for

resource acquisition during the fiscal year 2023-24 for waste management companies, WASAs, and the Punjab Mass Transit Authority.

Additionally, the committee supported the recommendation of exploring public-private partnerships for waste management companies, whether through outsourcing or collaboration with electric supply companies. Furthermore, proposals for branding and advertisement to enhance the resources of the Punjab Mass Transit Authority were also given the green light.

CoRe for including green financing in budget to tackle plastic pollution

ISLAMABAD (APP): CoRe (Collect and Recycle) the first multi-stakeholder packaging alliance in Pakistan on Tuesday stressed to include green financing, a five-year tax holiday for recycling projects and incentives for the stakeholders in the forthcoming budget in order to combat plastic pollution.

According to the press release, CEO of

CoRe Sheikh Waqar Ahmad said, "The first step to address the issue of packaging waste and ensure a waste-free future is a public investment in the formal collection and recycling infrastructure. The government has an important role in providing appropriate policy framework and enabling environment to promote sustainable and innovative practices to fuel new

investment in the sector." It noted some recommendations including the availability of Green Financing by State Bank to promote waste collection & recycling, a five-year tax holiday for recycling projects for multiple cities of Pakistan, exemption of sales tax, custom duty & zero tariff regime for import of equipment for recycling projects.

Irfan Iqbal says: Exporting to 21% of World Population

Independent Report
KARACHI: Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, President FPCCI, has expressed his profound satisfaction, as the country's apex trade & industry body, that one of the most prominent former presidents of FPCCI, Mian Anjum Nisar, has been elected to the highest trade body of the SAARC, i.e. SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) as its Vice President for a period of two years. It is a good omen for the economy of Pakistan in general and trade with the SAAR countries in particular, he added.

Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh stressed that SAARC region had significant economies vis-à-vis Pakistan - Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India, Bhutan, Nepal, Maldives and Afghanistan - and the bloc accounts for 21 percent of world's population. Only fully

tapping into the export potential of this single trade bloc can result into \$20 - 25 billion worth of exports boost in a short-span of 5 years.

Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh apprised that Mian Anjum Nisar is one of the senior most, well-respected and accomplished trade leader of Pakistan; and, he has it all what takes to secure favorable arrangements for the country's exports - both as a trading bloc and bilaterally with the member countries of SAARC. It is pertinent to note that Mian Anjum Nisar has been active in policy advocacy at the highest level for the past 25 years on a national & international level, he added. FPCCI Chief explained that SAARC CCI assumes particular importance in Pakistan's case as Pakistan's regional trade is only 9 percent of its total trade.

BRI Agri Institute launched to rev up potato industry

BEIJING (APP): In a bid to turbocharge the potato industry, 11 Belt and Road (BRI) countries including China and Pakistan have joined international universities, companies and organisations to launch an international network on the potato industry at a forum held recently at China's Southwest University.

A collaborative effort led by the Southwest University, the Belt and Road potato network is designed to enhance the quality and efficiency of the potato industry in BRI countries through multi-level cooperation, including academic exchanges, joint research, and technology transfer. Prof. Lyu Dianqiu, Dean of the Agronomy and Biotechnology College at Southwest University told China Economic Net (CEN) in an interview.

Specifically, the innovation institute would

serve as a platform to facilitate research and promote advancements in potato breeding, germplasm creation and utilisation, and construct potato cultivation demonstration bases, Prof. Lyu said.

The potato expert noted that the breeding-oriented cooperation "arises from a detailed study conducted to scrutinise the challenges and potential in the potato industry in the BRI countries."

"We found BRI countries such as Pakistan and Kazakhstan are plagued by a lack of quality potato seeds. As a token of support, each country was gifted 100 sets of germplasm rapid diagnostic kits at the forum," Prof. Lyu added.

As a first step, he said, training sessions would be organised to impart breeding know-how to the members.



PESHAWAR: Members of All Class Four Government Employees Association are holding protest demonstration for acceptance of their demands, at Peshawar press club.

Mark Silver Jubilee of CDC Pak SECP Chairman unveils commemorative stamp

ISLAMABAD (APP): To mark the Silver Jubilee celebrations of Central Depository Company of Pakistan Limited (CDC), Pakistan Post has issued a commemorative postage stamp. SECP Chairman Akif Saeed officiated the event and unveiled the stamp, a press release on Tuesday said. Akif Saeed lauded CDC's efforts and perseverance throughout the years and said that "CDC has served as the pride of Pakistan's capital market, with its unwavering commitment towards service quality, innovation, investor facilitation, and improving ease of doing business".

The unveiling ceremony, held today at

SECP's head office, marked CDC's landmark achievement of 25 years of successful operations.

Since 1997, CDC has been operating as an integrated infrastructure institution, providing efficient, trustworthy, and innovative services to Pakistan's financial landscape.

CDC functions as an infrastructure entity offering digital innovation.

On the occasion, the Chairman of SECP, Akif Saeed, recalled the exemplary contributions of CDC's founding member and Chairman, Arif Habib, the longest-serving CEO, Muhammad Hanif Jakhura, and the current Chairman of CDC.

Chairman Board of Trustees AAOIFI called on Ishaq Dar

ISLAMABAD (INP): Sheikh Ebrahim Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Chairman Board of Trustees AAOIFI Tuesday called on Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar.

The finance minister welcomed Sheikh Ebrahim Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa and congratulated him for holding the First International Conference on Islamic Capital Markets in Pakistan in coordination with SECP Pakistan, said a press release issued here.

Sheikh Ebrahim Bin

Khalifa Al Khalifa lauded the brotherly relations between Pakistan and Bahrain.

He also appreciated the continuous support of Pakistan and stated that Pakistan has always been the closest partner in the Muslim world.

He expressed his desire to start various social welfare ventures in Pakistan, especially for capacity building and easy loan facilitation for entrepreneurs, especially for the women and the youth as Pakistan holds great potential in this

regard.

The finance minister apprised Sheikh Ebrahim Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa of the current government's policies and programmes to support the youth and particularly women such as Benazir Income Support Programme which is well-praised by the World Bank and also being followed in various African countries.

He added that the government was fully committed to supporting the lower classes through various microfinance schemes of such nature.

PSX gains 331 points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) gained 331.60 points on Tuesday, a positive change of 0.80 per cent, closing at 41,671.66 points against 41,340.06 points the previous day. A total of 197,681,397 shares were traded during the day as compared to 346,349,821 shares the previous day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs.6.403 billion against Rs.6.423 billion on the last trading day.



FAISALABAD: Prof. Chen Letian Director International Affairs, South China Agricultural University addresses international conference on sustainable food security solution arranged by University of Agriculture Faisalabad.

Chinese delegation led Luan Xiangjie by visit to FPCCI

Independent Report
ISLAMABAD: A Chinese delegation led by Luan Xiangjie President Ruzhou Foreign Trade Enterprises Association visited Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI),

building materials, agriculture, transportation, furniture and real estate sector, etc.

While welcoming the delegation, Umar Masood ur Rehman, Vice President FPCCI highlighted the contribution of China in the

exhibitions and formulation of delegations.

He also acknowledged the Chinese investment in Pakistan in the backdrop of CPEC which will improve the infrastructure and energy situation of Pakistan.



Capital office Islamabad, and met Vice President FPCCI Mr. Umar Masood ur Rehman, Coordinator Syed Asad Haider Mashadi and Other Office Members of FPCCI to discuss various bilateral trade and economic related issues between Pakistan and China and explore business opportunities in different sectors including Mining, Transport, Energy, Technology, Construction, and gemstones, construction,

economic development and prosperity of Pakistan. He also talked about the level playing field and a significant share of Pakistan in imports of China for reducing the trade deficit. Vice President FPCCI also informed about the activities of FPCCI at the global and national level and emphasized on collaboration between both national chambers for holding of commercial activities like holding of

Umar Masood ur Rehman Vice President assured the delegation of full cooperation from FPCCI and the government of Pakistan and said that Pakistan is a very rich country in natural resources. Many foreign companies are working on various projects. A large number of investors are doing business in Pakistan and China. He also highlighted the potential all over Pakistan including Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa.

Shipping activity at Port Qasim

KARACHI (APP): Shipping activities were recorded on Monday, where eight ships namely, MSC Denisse, Lana, Northern Jamboree, Geneva Queen, Ton Hill, Hafnia Providence and Serinity Gas carrying Containers, Canola, Coal, Gas oil and LPG berthed at Qasim International Container Terminal, Grain & Fertilizer Terminal, Bulk Terminal, Oil Terminal and Sui Southern Terminal respectively.

Meanwhile three more ships, Maersk Atlanta, EM Astoria and Cielo Rosso with Containers and Mogs are also arrived at outer anchorage of the port on (today) morning.

A total of 08 ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them three ships, Lana Northern Jamboree and MSC Denisse left the Port on Tuesday morning on another LNG carrier 'Al-Jassasiya' is expected to sail on same day (today).

Locust outbreak in Afghanistan threatens Wheat crops: FAO

ISLAMABAD (Online): A large-scale locusts outbreak across eight provinces in North and Northeast Afghanistan poses enormous threat to the country's food security, warns the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

According to a report, published earlier this ongoing month, the sightings of locust have been made in Badakhshan, Badghis, Baghlan, Balkh, Kunduz, Samangan, Sar-e-Pul and Takhar, with fresh reports coming in from Herat and Ghor provinces.

The Moroccan Locust is ranked among the most economically damaging plant pests anywhere in the world. A full outbreak this year could result in crop losses ranging from 700 000 to 1.2 million metric tonnes of wheat, up to a quarter of the total annual harvest, according to FAO.

This equivalent to

between USD 280 million and USD 480 million in economic loss, as of today's prices in the country.

In the Baghlan province farmers like Najibullah have seen their crops ravaged by locusts. Najibullah, farmer affected by locust outbreak told FAO "The Moroccan locust has destroyed 300 jerbis (60 hectares) of my wheat field and 31 000 jerbis (6 200 hectares) of pastureland in this area, where ten villages are located."

Afghanistan's North and Northeast regions are prone to Moroccan Locust outbreaks. Drought, overgrazing, very limited locust control and the right amount of rainfall in March and April (approximately 100 mm) created this year the ideal environment for locusts to hatch and swarm. In these parts of Afghanistan, Moroccan Locust lay eggs between May and June.



QUETTA: President Dr. Arif Alvi giving the winner's trophy to the Pakistan Army team, at the closing ceremony of the 34th National Games.

Government's development initiatives bring progress and equality, says Dummer

Independent Report
 QILLA ABDULLAH: In a visit to Qillah Abdullah, Senior Provincial Minister and Minister for Planning and Development of Balochistan, Haji Noor Muhammad Khan Dummer, stated that the mixed provincial government of Balochistan has set the province on the path of progress and happiness.

The journey of development in both government and opposition constituencies is progressing rapidly. Under the leadership of Chief Minister Mir Abdul Qudoos Bizenjo, all areas of the province have witnessed uniform development based on ground realities, with emphasis on tangible work rather than paperwork.

For the first time in the history of the province, opposition members of the

assembly have also been provided funds on an equal basis. During the meeting with senior politicians and tribal leaders, including former Provincial Minister Bismillah Khan Kakar, Sardar Fahad Darishk, Imran Kakar, Na'im Kakar, Abdul Ghani Dotani, Zuhur Kakar, and Ataulah Baloch, along with tribal elders, respected scholars, various political parties, and representatives and workers of the BAP were present in large numbers.

Former Provincial Minister Bismillah Khan Kakar expressed gratitude to Senior Provincial Minister Haji Noor Muhammad Khan Dummer for visiting Qillah Abdullah Habib Zai. Discussions were held on political, tribal, peace and security, and national current affairs, and various matters were exchanged.

Senior Provincial Minister Haji Noor Muhammad Khan Dummer, during the conversation, stated that the current provincial government's initiatives have not only brought progress and prosperity to Balochistan but have also significantly improved peace and security compared to the past.

He stated that Balochistan is generally considered a neglected and deprived province, which suffered from negligence from Gwadar to Zhob by previous governments. However, Balochistan's present government is different from the past. Balochistan is now on the path of progress and happiness. He mentioned that the journey of rapid development is underway in all districts, regions, and constituencies of the province.

Langau vows to prioritize public welfare

Independent Report
 QUETTA: Home Minister, Mir Zia Langau, has vowed to fulfill the basic needs of the people and prioritize public welfare above politics. Addressing a press conference, he announced the provision of solar systems in areas of Qilla Abdullah district where electricity load shedding is rampant. He also highlighted the ongoing initiatives to promote economic development and provide employment opportunities for unemployed youth, mentioning that 5 to 6 hundred vacancies in various departments have been cre-

ated through pipeline projects. In his statement, Minister of Interior Mir Zia Langau further stated that significant progress has been made in Qilla Abdullah district, including the construction of hundreds of kilometers of blacktop roads, water supply schemes covering thousands of households, sports facilities such as football grounds, and ongoing road projects in Kakt and Khalkhabad City. He added that over the past four years, 1200 young individuals have been provided with employment opportunities in the Qilla Abdullah district.

How to remedial fake case, question to new NAB chief: Abbasi

ISLAMABAD (Online): Fomer Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi said court accepted petition from day-first its request to hear case.

Neither National Accountability Bureau nor witnesses comes: Shahid Khaqan Abbasi

This is question to new Chairman NAB how to remedial fake cases.

Shahid Khaqan Abbasi in his address to media after appearance in Accountability Court said this is

case in which Sindh High Court (SHC) issued verdict before even it started. Time of all of us wasted but it was showed that this was a big case. Making fake and lie cases they should confess that mistake was made, said former prime minister.

He said I am saying again and again if NAB remains, Pakistan will get weaker more. No one is destroying any party, but I could not say anything for those who himself wants to destroy their party.



QUETTA: Provincial Advisor Information Mitha Khan Kakar shaking hand with Chief Secretary Abdul Aziz Uqaili during closing ceremony of 34th National Games

Community teachers demand regularization, increase in salaries

Independent Report
 QUETTA: The central leaders and members of the Balochistan Assembly, including Sana Baloch, have emphasized the government's responsibility to regularize community teachers, similar to how it has regularized teachers working under global partnerships. Sana Baloch assured that he will raise the voice of teachers in the Assembly and keep Chief Minister Abdul Qadoos Bizenjo and Education Minister Mir Nasibullah informed about the issues faced by community teachers. During a meeting held at their residence, a delegation of the Community Teachers Association, headed by Maulvi Muhammad Sadiq, President Rafiullah Tamah, Gen-

eral Secretary Zahoor Ahmed Magasi, and Muhammad Ali Wadekar, discussed the matter.

The delegation informed that community teachers have been imparting education to financially disadvantaged students in remote areas of Balochistan for the past 16 years, adorning them with the ornament of knowledge. They highlighted that community teachers have been working with the corrupt institution of the Balochistan Education Foundation for a long time. Although the Balochistan government allocated funds for an increase in teachers' salaries in June, the Education Department did not provide any increment, indicating the presence of corruption within the system.

Khawaja Asif asks CJP to 'recuse himself' from hearing audio leaks case

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif on Tuesday has asked Chief Justice of Pakistan Umar Ata Bandial to "distance himself from hearing the audio leaks case to ensure that true justice is served to the aggrieved."

He was referring to a five-member bench order of the apex court, headed by the chief justice, which stayed the proceedings on various petitions challenging the constitution of the judicial commission formed by the federal government, tasked to inquire about the veracity of audio leaks allegedly involving the SC

Islam teachings real solution for societal issues: Rana Tanveer

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training, Rana Tanveer Hussain on Tuesday said that following the true teachings of Islam was the only way to solve the societal issues.

He was addressing the concluding ceremony of the 38th Human Resource Development Program for the Officers of Armed Forces of Pakistan organized by Da'wah Academy of International Islamic University (IIU).

Rana Tanveer Hussain, appreciated the International Islamic University Islamabad's Da'wah Academy for conducting such courses for understanding the true spirit of our religion specially designed for profes-

Pakistan reaffirms commitment, support to UN peacekeeping programme: Hina Rabbani

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar on Tuesday reaffirmed Pakistan's strong commitment and support to the United Nations peacekeeping and peace-building programme.

"Pakistan firmly believes in peace, stability, development, and human rights which are interlinked with each other," she said while addressing an event in connection with the UN Peacekeepers Day here.

Hina said Pakistan valued the sacrifices rendered by the United Nations' peacekeepers from across the world, especially from Pakistan.

Paying tributes to the peacekeepers, especially those who sacrificed their lives, she said around 170

Pakistani peacekeepers and eight alone in 2022 had sacrificed their lives for global peace and to uphold the Blue Flag.

The minister maintained that Pakistan's security forces were playing a vital role in the peacekeeping missions under the United Nations to maintain peace in the world's conflict areas.

She also appreciated the Pakistani women who were playing their key role in every field of life. They had also served the UN peacekeeping programme as psychologists, operational officers, and nurses, she added.

Hina Rabbani Khar said Pakistan had firm faith in the United Nations' capability of maintaining peace and it also believed that the role being played

by the UN in building peace, ensuring security and development across the world could not be done by any other institution.

She said over 4,300 Pakistani peacekeepers, including female officers, were currently serving with distinction under the UN flag. Spokesperson Minister of Foreign Affairs Ambassador Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said the event was jointly organized by the ministry and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Resident Representative UNDP Pakistan Knut Ostby informed the audience that currently over 87,000 peacekeepers from across the world were deployed under the UN peacekeeping missions to ensure global peace and development.

Parliament limited judicial authority with SC reforms bill: Abid

ISLAMABAD (INP): Supreme Court Bar Association President Abid Zuberi has stated that parliament limited the judicial authority by enacting the Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure) Bill 2023, adding the law is against the constitutional principles.

Mr Zuberi said this in his written response he submitted to the Supreme Court.

Under Article 191, the Supreme Court has the exclusive power to amend the Rules, the response said.

Three foreign inmates allowed consulate access

QUETTA (APP): Three foreign prisoners serving their sentences under the Foreign Act detained in the Central Jail Quetta have been transferred to Gadani Central Jail for consulate access.

"After completion of the necessary proceedings of the Federal Review Board, they will be transferred to their respective consulate," Parliamentary Secretary Law and Parliamentary Affairs, Dr Rubaba Khan Buledi said here on Tuesday.

A 38-year-old woman Waheeda Begum, resident of Assam, India, along with her son and two other men were arrested by the FIA officials from border area of Pakistan.

"In the FIR No. 33/2022 registered under Section 3/14 of the Foreign Act, the accused were fined and sentenced, which they completed," Dr Ruababa said adding that under the jail SOPs, the detained foreign inmates were sent to the foreign drop point from Quetta Central Jail to Gadani Jail.

Encompassing multisectoral areas Pak-Italy JEC agrees establishment of joint framework

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Climate Change Senator Sherry Rehman and Italy's Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Maria Tripodi on Tuesday co-chaired the 5th meeting of the 'Pakistan-Italy Joint Economic Commission' (JEC) at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The two sides agreed to set up a joint framework to tackle climate change and cooperation in water management, hailing the establishment of an Italian Trade Agency office in Islamabad the next week, a news release said.

Speaking on the occasion, Senator Sherry Rehman said it was a plea-

sure to co-chair the 5th meeting of the Pakistan-Italy JEC in Rome with the Deputy Minister.

She added that the establishment of the Italian Trade Agency office in Islamabad would boost bilateral trade. "We are building a common framework with Italy to tackle climate change and improve water management. The trade partnership between Pakistan and Italy is stronger than ever. Our bilateral trade is to reach \$2 billion in 2022, and Pakistan's exports will cross \$1 billion," Sherry Rehman said.

The next JEC meeting would be hosted in Islamabad at a mutually convenient time.



QUETTA: President Women Wing of Pakistan Masih Ittehad Balochistan Anam Tanasha and Khawar Pareem presenting a shield to Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

Dashti assures BEC delegation of immediate solution of issues

Independent Report
 QUETTA: The Secretary Finance Department, Government of Balochistan, Qambar Dashti has assured the Balochistan Newspapers Editors Council to remove the hurdles in way of payment of the arrears, which would pave the way for resolving the issue of non-payment of the dues to them by tomorrow.

The assurance was made by the Secretary Finance during his meeting with a delegation of the Balochistan Editors Council here the other day.

The members of delegation were actually called in the Civil Secretariat by the Finance Department to speak about the issue of non-payment of the arrears of newspapers on account of advertisement bills. In this regard, the members of Editors Council and representatives of the newspapers and periodicals had meeting with the Secretary Finance.

On this, the Secretary Finance assured the members of delegation of immediate solution to the issue and maintained that it would be resolved by tomorrow so as to ensure prompt payment of the arrears to the newspapers and periodicals. On the assurance made by Secretary Finance, the members of delegation were indebted to him saying that it would resolve the financial crisis facing the industry to some extent.

Tareen, Aleem efforts enter into final phase for formation of new political party

ISLAMABAD (Online): The efforts from Jahangir Tareen and Aleem Khan have entered final phase for formation of new political party.

They have contacted with all former parliamentarians of PTI and soon show of power will be made. The consultation is underway on the name of new political party.

Sources told Online Jahangir Tareen is playing active role in carving out new political party and he has made contacts with former members of assembly from PTI. Consultation was made on future political strategy.

Four die, three injured as under construction bridge falls in Muzaffarabad

MUZAFFARABAD (APP): Four people including technical experts and labourers died and three workers sustained injuries after the under-construction Bailey Bridge slipped and fell while being placed on the pillars with the help of heavy machinery in Dhani area of Naseerabad tehsil in Muzaffarabad district. According to police, the Bailey Bridge was being constructed to connect Dhani and Ghandi areas in the lower Neelam valley when it slipped and fell while being placed on the pillars.



LAHORE: Chairman International Cricket Council (ICC) Greg Barclay visiting the Gaddafi Stadium along with Chairman Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Najam Sethi for supervision as ahead of Asia Cup in Provincial Capital.

Ministers hail successful conduct of 34th National Games

Independent Report
 QUETTA: The provincial ministers and members of the assembly in Balochistan have celebrated the successful conclusion of 34th National games in Quetta, marking a significant milestone in the province after a gap of 19 years.

The Chief Minister of Balochistan, along with the hard work of the government and the efforts of the Department of Agriculture and Culture, commended the results of the 34th National Games, which will bring substantial improvements to the overall development of Balochistan and effectively combat the prevailing menace of terrorism that had tarnished the province's image.

Addressing the media, the Chief Minister said, "This will not only enhance the positive image of Balochistan but also put an

end to the negative portrayal and terrorism that has plagued the province for a long time. Even in the future, such initiatives and collaborations are essential to ensure progress and prosperity in our beloved province."

The Provincial Minister for Agriculture, Mr. Haji Muhammad Khan Lehri, Parliamentary Secretary for Revenue and Rehabilitation, Mr. Sikander Umrani, and Nawabzada Gohram Bugti also expressed their reactions after the closing ceremony of the 43th National Games.

They stated, "Balochistan is now a peaceful and prosperous province where terrorism will not be tolerated, nor will it be allowed to disrupt the peace. Some elements have been trying to malign Balochistan's name for a long time.



MASTUNG: Members of Chief Minister Inspector Team inspecting test held for recruitment of teachers



GWADAR: Deputy Commissioner Izzat Nazir Baloch presiding over a meeting to review affairs regarding electricity in Gwadar