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No new taxes for the upcoming year Govt presents Rs14.46 trillion relief, growth-oriented budget

Announces ad hoc relief allowance of 35% for grade 1-16 officers and 30% for grade 17-22; Okayed an increase in pensions by 17.5%; Increases the minimum wage to Rs. 32,000; Proposes an allocation of Rs950 billion for development; Country's defence and civil administration, Rs 1.8 trillion and Rs 714 billion would be provided respectively; No increase in duties on import of essential items;

The 15-month-old coalition government on Friday presented its second business-friendly, relief and development-oriented Federal Budget for the fiscal year 2023-24, with a total outlay of Rs14.46 trillion, announced aimed at coping with the inherited economic challenges and laying the foundation for a sustainable, inclusive and resilient economy.

The annual fiscal plan, put before the National Assembly by Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar, contained radical and rigorous measures to reduce the

ISLAMABAD (APP): sufferings of the inflation- ees from Grade1-16 and 30 hit common man, transform percent to Grade 17-22 the agriculture sector, proemployees aimed at inmote Information Technolcreasing their purchase ogy, increase exports and power. boost business activities.

Besides, the government fixed the minimum Unveiling the budgetary measures, the minister pension at Rs 12,000 and the increased minimum government's major relief to monthly wage from Rs 25,000 to Rs 32,000 within increase the salaries of government employees from 30 the Islamabad Capital Terto 35 percent on ad-hoc ritory (ICT). The minister said there basis and 17.5 percent en-

hancement in the pensions was a proposal to enhance the pension of Employees' of the retired persons real-Old-Age Benefits Institu-tion (EOBI) from Rs 8,500 izing their financial hardships due to the increased to Rs 10,000. Ishaq Dar said the gov-

There would be a raise of 35 percent [ad-hoc relief] ernment was going to introin the salaries of employduce a scheme under which

inflation.

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif signing Budget 2023-24 documents after its approved by the Cabinet to be laid before the National Assembly.

it would itself pay up to (FBR) for the next fiscal Rs 1 million loans of the year had been fixed at Rs Housing Building Finance Corporation (HBFC) owed by the widows of government employees.

The minister said the deposit limit of CDNS (Central Directorate of National Savings) Shuhada Account and Behbood Saving Certificates would be increased from Rs 5 million

to Rs 7.5 million. To achieve the sustained path of progress and prosperity, he said a real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth target of 3.5 percent had been fixed for the next fiscal year against the existing GDP rate of 0.29 percent after the government put the national added economy in the right direc-

tion with tough and timely corrective decisions. Keeping in view the

economic scenario, the government has set the modest growth target and despite being the election year, it presented a responsible and balanced budget and not a popular one," he said.

The total expenses' estimate, the minister said, was set at Rs14.46 trillion,

surplus of 0.4 percent to the GDP. Ishaq Dar said the tax collection target of the Fed-

eral Board of Revenue Railways and other sectors.

year had been fixed at Rs 9.2 trillion, including pro-vincial share of Rs 5.276 trillion. The federal non-tax

revenues, he added, would be Rs 2.963 trillion while total income of the Federal Government would be Rs .887 billion. He said an amount of

Rs 950 billion was being allocated for the development projects under the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP 2023-24). Moreover, an additional amount of Rs 200 billion would also be part of the development budget to be managed through public-

private partnership, he He said for the country's defence and civil administration, Rs 1.8 trillion and Rs 714 billion would be provided respec-

tively; whereas Rs 761 billion had been allocated for the payment of employees' pensions.

Ishaq Dar said the government had estimated an expenditure of Rs 1.074 trillion for the provision of subsidies in electricity, gas and other sectors.

The finance minister said a grant of Rs 1.464 trillion had been earmarked for Azad Jammu & Kashmir, merged tribal districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Higher Education Commis-

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjarani, MNA

Muhammad Khalid Magsi and Senator Naseebullah Bazai called on the Prime

Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif. Federal Minister for Law and Justice

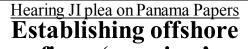
sion, Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP),

Highlights of PSDP 2023-24

ISLAMABAD (APP): Following are the highlights of allocations under the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) for various ministries and divisions for the fiscal year 2023-24 announced by the federal government here on Friday:
Total outlay of the PSDP for the fiscal year 2022-23 is Rs 2.709 trillion.
The share of the federal PSDP is Rs 1,150 billion while that of the provincial PSDP is Rs 1,150 billion while that of the provincial

- PSDP is Rs 1.559 trillion.
- Rs 5,450 million has been earmarked for Aviation Division. Board of Investment will get Rs 1114.760 million.
- Rs 90,120 million has been earmarked for Cabinet Division.
- The Climate Change Division will get Rs 4,050 million.
- Rs 1,100 million has been earmarked for Commerce Division.
- Rs 360.390 million are allocated for Communication Division (other than NHA).
- Rs 3,400 million has been earmarked for Defence Division.
- Rs 2,000 million has been allocated for Defence Production Division.
- Rs 840 million are allocated for Establishment Division. The Federal Education and Professional Training Division will get Rs 8,500
- million.
- Rs 3,220 million has been allocated for Finance Division.

 - *Rs* 167,900 million has been earmarked for Provinces and Special Areas. The Higher Education Commission (HEC) will get Rs 59,700 million.
- Rs 40,680 million has been earmarked for Housing and Working Division.
- Rs 814 million will be provided to Human Rights Division
- Rs 3,000 million has been earmarked for Industries and Production Division.
- Rs 2,000 million are allocated for Information and Broadcasting Division.
- Rs 6,000 million will be provided to Information Technology and Telecom Division



Kakar visits Gwadar Varsity & Pak-China Institute: **Governor calls for preparing**

out of which Rs7.3 trillion would be spent on interest payment. The budget deficit was expected to remain 6.54 percent and the primary balance would be a

comprehensive strategy to cope with challenges

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has underlined the need to prepare in the University. a comprehensive strategy to tackle the present challenges being faced by the province.

He said that the policy of taking all on board can put the country and province on path of sustainable development.

This was stated by the Governor while speaking on occasion of the visit of University of Gwadar in Gwadar on Friday.

Also present on the occasion were the Vice Chancellor, University of level. He on the occasion Gwadar, Professor Dr. stressed the need to strive Abdul Razzaq Sabir, senior faculty members, adminischanging world. trative officers and other concerned.

The Governor went nor visited the Pak-China round of different sections Vocational Training Instiof the University and in- tute in Gwadar the same spected them. He inaugu-

rated the new academic block of the University and He also inspected dif-ferent parts of the Institute and had interaction over directed to complete the work on different buildings the available facilities with the students there.

The Governor ex-He said that the world pressed satisfaction over has turned into global vilthe performance of Univerlage thanks to the informa sity of Gwadar. He said that tion technology. He said we are succeeding in our that our competition is goals of spreading and prowith the youth and people moting higher education all of the modern world, as over the province especially such we have to impart in Makran division. quality education and He said that the day is training to our youth in

not far away when the stuview of the future day dents belonging to Turbat, needs. Gwadar and Panjgur would succeed in making difference in education at the national

era of pen less and paper less with the help of artificial intelligence and robotic for fulfilling the future retechnology. He on the ocquirements in the evercasion expressed satisfaction over performance of

Meanwhile, the Gover-Training Institute saying that the youth of Gwadar and its adjacent areas would benefit a lot.

Directs to release arrears of PPL immediately: **PM constitutes high powered** He also said that the world is entering into the committee for solution of financial issues of Balochistan the Pak-China Vocational

Committee comprising members of provincial and national assembly to meet on Monday; recommendations of committee to be included in federal budget **Independent Report** QUETTA: The Prime Min-

Azam Nazir Tarar was also present in the meeting.

ister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif has constituted a high-power committee for resolving the financial issues of Balochistan

The committee comprising the members of provincial and national assemblies would meet on upcoming Monday to discuss the financial situation of the province besides other related matters.

The recommendations of the parliamentary com-mittee would be included in the federal budget.

The development came during the important meeting of the Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani and parliamentarians of Balochistan Awami Party Chief Minister Bizenjo also

Nawaz Sharif accepts request to lead party in general election

cial issues.

ISLAMABAD (Online): Interior Minister Rana Sana Ullah has said Nawaz Sharif has accepted the request to lead party in general election

'He will return to Pakistan 60 to 90 days before election. If PML-N gets majority then Nawaz Sharif will decide about prime minister", he said this talking to media men before federal cabinet meeting.

He went on to say no political engineering is being done at present. Nor any non political engineering is being done too. If one is going to some party on

one's own then one cannot be stopped from doing so. He indicated Nawaz

Sharif will return to Pakistan before election. He will run election campaign. Mian sahb has to give the date for returning to Pakistan.

Global terrorist 'mysteriously' dies in Afghanistan

KABUL (INP): Sanaullah Ghafari, commonly referred to as Shahab al-Muhajir. specially designated global

terrorist, has met his demise in Afghanistan's Kunar, said authorities on Friday. The death of this high-

profile figure marks a major victory in the fight against terrorism, as Ghafari was not only wanted in Pakistan but also internationally.

firms 'no crime says SC judge

vocate Ishtiaq was repre-senting the JI in court. ISLAMABAD (Online): The Supreme Court's Jus-

tice Sardar Tariq Masood During the proceedings. observed on Friday that esthe JI counsel requested the tablishing offshore compacourt to form a judicial comnies is "no crime", while mission to investigate those hearing a Jamaat-i-Islami named in the Panama Pa-(JI) plea seeking action pers. However, Justice against all 436 Pakistanis Masood raised the question named in the 2016 Panama of how it could be done when other institutions existed to be approached for

Subsequently, the apex

On Nov 3, 2017, the JI had, through an application, reminded the court of its the matter. pending petition filed by court adjourned the hearing party emir Sirajul Haq in for a month. August 2016.

Papers.

At the outset of the hearing, the JI counsel re-The hearing today was presided over by a twoquested the apex court to member bench comprising constitute a judicial com-Justice Masood with Jusmission to further probe the tice Aminuddin Khan. Ad-



ISLAMABAD: Government Employees holding protest demonstration for acceptance of their demands during the Federal Budget Session 2023-24, outside Parliament House in Islamabad.

BA approves draft law of Holy Qura'an as compulsory education

Independent Report QUETTA:

Affairs, Khalil George.

the chair on Friday.

on Non-Muslims.

draft law (amended) of the The Balochistan Public Finance Balochistan Assembly has Management was also apapproved the draft law reproved in the session.

garding compulsory educa-The draft law was tion of the Holy Qura'an tabled by the Provincial and a resolution for making Minister for Finance, Engilegislation about National neer Zamarak Khan Achakzai. Earlier, Deputy Commission on Non-Muslims in its session here on Speaker Sardar Babar Friday. The draft law about Musakhail summoned the compulsory education of secretaries of Finance and the Holy Qura'an and reso-Education on the issue of lution was tabled by the Parprotest and hunger strike of liamentary Secretary for the government teachers Minorities and Religious outside the assembly building.

The session of assem-Meanwhile, the Probly was resumed with vincial Minister Home, Mir Deputy Speaker Sardar Ziaullah Langave said that Babar Khan Musakhail in ours' most of the issues are related to the federal gov-The resolution tabled ernment.

by Khalil George de-He said that the conmanded legislation for formstruction and repaid of the ing National Commission national highways is to be done by the National High-In addition to this, the way Authority (NHA).

Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar presiding over a ceremony in Gwadar. Deputy Commissioner Gwadar Izzat Nazir Baloch is also present

31 containers carrying goods of cold storage reach Gwadar port

Independent Report

QUETTA: In all 31 containers carrying constructional material for the cold storage reached at the Gwadar port the other day.

According to the reports reaching here, the containers load of the cold storage cargos arrived from China at the Gwadar free zone.

The cargo includes the construction material used for cold storage of the raw mate rial of different medicines.

The goods material would be used for construction of the cold storage units in the Hengang Agriculture Park.

It may be mentioned here that this is second consignment of the cargo this year. The first consignment had reached in January this year.

The third consignment is due to arrive from China in next couple of months.



day



He said that the develget session because of the opment of Balochistan is our top priority.

The members of delegation told that the BAP is working for protection of the public interests and prosperity of the province under leadership of its President and Chief Minister, Mir Abdul Quddus

province's reservations and apprehensions over the federal government's response towards the finan-During the course of meeting, the financial mat-

ters facing Balochistan were discussed threadbare. The reservations raised by the Bizenjo.

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OPINION

Daily Independent



Stuck in the past

Finance Minister Ishaq Dar could have kept the Pakistan Economic Survey 2022-23 unveiling ceremony quite short. 'We blame everyone and everything but ourselves', would have neatly summarised the gist of most of what he had to say about his government's report card for the outgoing fiscal

It wasn't difficult to see why he felt a need to be so defensive. The numbers he had to share told a harrowing tale: most key targets were missed, the economy barely kept afloat, inflation had wrecked citizens' purchasing power, and everything pointed to the prospect of a continuing slowdown in the absence of any unforeseen stimuli.

Perhaps it would have been easier to sympathise had some self-appraisal and reflexivity been on display. After all, even in periods of severe crisis, one can find hope in knowing their future is in the hands of someone who is honest and forthright about the challenges that are being faced.

Instead, Mr Dar's speech remained politically angled. He mostly kept referring to the good days of his last stint in government, apparently seeking to persuade critics that his ability to manage the economy ought not to be judged on his recent performance but from his 'achievements' in his 2013-2017 tenure.

It was a rather facile line of argument, considering he had pushed out Miftah Ismail in the middle of the fiscal year knowing full well that the economy faced conditions vastly different from the last time he was in power.

Interestingly, Mr Dar refused to acknowledge Mr Ismail at all. When he referred to the stalled IMF programme — which, incidentally, he described as the "IMF drama" — Mr Dar conveniently 'forgot' that it had been successfully revived by his predecessor. Instead, he blamed his failure to negotiate with the IMF on the PTI's decision last year to freeze fuel prices, which he claimed had 'irrevocably' damaged the lender's trust. By failing to take any responsibility for the economy's sorry state, Mr Dar insulted the intelligence of those who were anticipating an appraisal of the government's economic performance in a crisis period.

There is no denying that this was a terrible year, with global crises triggered by the Russia-Ukraine conflict and the catastrophic floods that followed last year's monsoon ravaging our economy in unforeseen ways.

Mr Dar should have at least detailed the finance ministry's efforts to address the many challenges faced by the country in this period.

By avoiding that discussion, he only reinforced the perception that he has simply been bumbling from one crisis to another. His enduring fixation with the exchange rate — which made a cameo in his speech yesterday - also suggested that he has learned nothing from past mistakes. Is he the right man for the job? Today's budget may hold a definitive answer.

Elderly challenges

a) physical health; b) mental and emotional health; and c) generation gap. Incremental health deterioration in old age is fairly common. Various health issues, such as blood pressure, diabetes, dementia, eyesight weak-Jan-e-Alam Khaki tis and urological compli-

The significance of older people been has recognised by the UN, which has declared 2021-2030 as the Decade of depression, may affect their life quality. Healthy Ageing, seeking to lessen health inequities

The second area seand "improve the lives of niors suffer has to do with emotional health. Emoolder people, their families tional health issues, often and communities". In 2020, the number of less attended than physical, are triggered by many people aged 60 and older factors, such as loss of outnumbered children dear ones (for example, younger than five. Between 2015 and 2050, the spouses), jobs or positions. Moreover, they proportion of the world's generally lose their celpopulation over 60 will nearly double from 12 per ebrated life engagements, particularly when they cent to 22pc. According to UN eshave enjoyed good jobs

timates, by 2050, one out and meaningful careers. The gap between the of six people in the world will be above the age of past and present becomes 65, up from one out of 11 increasingly large, leading in 2019. This indicates to loss of status. This exthat, for the first time in perience then becomes history, older people will almost incurable unless

outnumber children bethe seniors find alternative occupations. For exlow 14, says a British Council study. In 2050, ample, I have been a unitwo out of every three versity professor in a presolder persons will be retigious institute, worked siding in developing in a senior position, and enjoyed a productive life. countries (UN, 2019). Ac-Now 72 and out of univercording to the British Council study, 7pc of the sity, although I am living in a comfortable environpopulation (about 14 million) is over 60 in Pakistan, ment with relative ease, the loss of attention and which is expected to reach affection I enjoyed is con-8.5pc and 12.9pc in 2030 and 2050 respectively. siderable.

The third area of se-What are the implications of these scenarios? niors' challenges has to do The first is that more with the generation gap. (older) people will need As we grow older, our ideas are often less readditional support, increasing dependency on spected, or not even lisyounger ones, while they tened to, as they (ideas) (the young) themselves are seen as 'old-fashioned'. This inevitably are struggling to support their own families. Secleads to self-censorship, and culminates in retiond, governments — alcence. The issue has been ready starved for resources - will face addiexacerbated particularly in tional challenges to supthe last 50 years due port this segment of their largely to fast-changing lifestyles, dominated by populations. While the elderly's

challenges may be numer- and knowledge revolu- tesy Dawn

ous, let us focus on three: tion. This (generation) gap is particularly pronounced with regard to bringing up grandchildren. Grandchildren develop highly emotional relations with their dada, dadi, nana and nani. When people ask me what ness, hearing loss, arthri- I do nowadays, I jokingly say "Dada geeri", becations trouble many elcause I am the dada of twin ders. Besides, mental and grandkids (a boy and a emotional issues, such as girl). I also say I do "Nana dementia, tension, even

geeri" as well, as my daughter is blessed with a baby girl. Interacting with grandkids is sheer joy

Still another fault line between the older and newer generation is the way both think of bringing up children. Grandparents' way of bringing up kids in many areas tends to be different than their adult children's. This often leads to tensions and conflict where grandparents feel devalued and defeated. These areas of conflict, however, can be lessened, if not done away with, simply by talking, exchanging ideas, and agreeing to disagree with mutual respect and empathy. In sum, let us do everything possible to look after the elders at the individual, community and state level, ensuring their physical, emotional and social well-being. Indeed, the young ones are also going to join the elders; it is only a matter of time!

Finally, it is good to remind ourselves of Ouranic advice to adult children of (older) parents. The Holy Quran says, "Thy Lord hath decreed that ye worship none but

Him, and that ye be kind to parents. Whether one or both of them attain old age in thy life, say not to them a word of contempt [uffin], nor repel them, but address them in terms of honour. And, out of kindness, lower to them the wing of humility, and say: 'My Lord! bestow on them Thy Mercy even as they cherished me in childtual the technological, digital hood" (17:23-24). -- Cour-

Dead end budget

Aasim Sajjad Akhtar

obsession. Meanwhile. our society and that of Afghanistan have been dev-Does anyone even take the astated by religiously inspired militancy, and what finance ministry seriously anymore? With each passeconomist Kaiser Bengali calls non-combat defence ing year, this question becomes less and less rhetoriexpenditures have shot through the roof. cal, as our notionally sov-For the first three deereign economy turns into cades, there was some a plaything of a militarised

semblance of concern state apparatus, with faraway creditors and invesabout the needs of the tors unanswerable to the working masses, at least in part because all newly 240 million people in whose name this country is run. There is arguably no bigperienced some version of Third World economic ger illustration of the sovnationalism which manereignty pantomime than dated the dismantling of the announcement of the federal budget. The man who will present it. Ishaq structures. There was some im-Dar, has been clear only port-substitution about one thing since he took over the finance minindustrialisation, some land reform, even some istry hot seat: he is not able, nationalisation. These let alone willing, to do very much. But it is lazy to argue policies reflected some degree of economic sovthat putting 'competent' ereignty. Since the 1980s, men in charge would the IMF has told us what the game. political Pakistan's to buy and sell, when and economy - militarised, where to cut public financialised, ecologically spending. It pulls the plug destructive and anti-worker when it doesn't get what it wants. Similarly, the — is not propped up by World Bank and Asian one man and will not be

undone by one man either. The story is old but we should never tire of repeating it, especially given how the military establishment is menacingly winding down Project Imran and reminding us that 'national interest' trumps all.

change

Within a few years of its formation, Pakistan became a Cold War outpost whose national security apparatus, like brethren front-line states Iran and Turkey, was funded and trained to defend Western interests in south-west Asia. Formal military aid from Washington started rolling in under the Mu-Assistance Programme in 1954, and

services banking, real estate, insur-

power sector.

the state subsequently

pleased its imperial pa- bies that have become the trons and indoctrinated biggest fishes in an inthe people that this aid creasingly small pond. Traders and merchants would give us an edge in military competition vis-àhave retained some share vis India. Military dictaof the economic pie, estorships in Pakistan have pecially in the informal been propped up by geostrategic rents which

sector, such that trade remains the primary livelihave reinforced the India hood option for the millions who exit agriculture yearly. Job-creating manufacturing continues to wilt rapidly. To take one example, almost 150,000 workers have lost their jobs over the past year in Faisalabad's textile sector alone.

Bear in mind that millions of young people join the job market every year. Many commentators have called attention to the alarmingly large numbers independent countries ex- of highly skilled young people with relatively good prospects who now want to leave the country. And what of the vast maneo-colonial economic jority of workers whose social mobility is limited and who now even face a

struggle to get a low-paid job as a migrant worker in the Gulf?

I do not know if the PDM/PPP government is even bothered with such structural truths, because most of its outspoken representatives are absurdly cheering on state repression against the PTI. In any case, the budget announcement will not include mention of the real Development Bank tell us reasons we remain a virhow to define and execute tual client state to global 'development' and hapfinance, or that the govpily pile on the debt for ernment seems helpless in reforms' of their own the face of geostrategic choosing, including dirents drying up. We alsasters like IPPs, which, ready know there is no will since the mid-1990s, have to shift away from sectors become godfathers of the like real estate, invest in dysfunctional electricity/ job-creating production or undertake redistribu-

In this period, Pakition of wealth. stan and many other So what we are left postcolonial economies in with is a boring regurgita-Latin America, Asia and tion of the 'reform' rheto-Africa have undergone a ric to please the IMF with shift away from the pro- a handful of 'pro-people' duction of real goods and announcements. These towards will not fix hunger in belfinancialisation; private lies and brutalisation of bodies. In fact, the povance, alongside mining, erty of imagination is leadagribusiness and other ing to a disastrous dead extractive corporate lob- end. -- Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

President directs LESCO to pay marriage grant to retired employee

Electric Supply Company (LESCO) to pay Rs 200,000 as a "marriage grant" to a retired employee for the marriage of his son who had been denied payment by LESCO.

The LESCO had denied the payment on the ground that he had applied for the grant after the Alvigave these remarks while expiry of the prescribed time limit of six months.

"We should take care of such people, who due to ignorance of the law or being unaware of the

ISLAMABAD (APP): benefits for which they Muhammad Asif was an President Dr Arif Alvi on might be eligible due to their employee of LESCO and, Friday directed the Lahore service, are unable to after his retirement, he benefit from them in time", the president said.

son. He was denied payment on the ground that his son's marriage from others that a marriage grant for his son was possible. He further held that it was the responsibility of government agencies to inform people about such benefits. President accepting a representation filed by Muhammad Asif (the complainant) against the decision of the Wafaqi six months from the date of

As per the details,

Govt endeavors to invest in road, rail connectivity to promote transit trade

Mohtasib.

tremendous potential of

revenue generation through

road and rail connectivity,

said a performance review

of 2022-23 budget issued

transportation system

needs modernization and

the National Transport

Pakistani

ISLAMABAD (APP): Corridor (KPEC) has The Federal Government along with the provincial stakeholders has been making efforts to invest in road and rail connectivity across the country, shaping various policies and plans to facilitate the transit trade thus boosting the country's economy.

Given its advantageous geographic location, Pakistan has the actions under the policy potential to grow its China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Central Asia Regional Économic Cooperation (CAREC)



LAHORE: An electrician busy to repairing room-

coolers at his workplace in the Provincial Capital.

here Friday.

The

applied for the "marriage grant" in respect of his He regretted that the employee was not aware of his entitlement and found out

was held on 02.12.2018 whereas the complainant applied for the grant on 08.12.2020 i.e., after the expiry of about 2 years. As per SOP regarding marriage grants, all applications should reach the office of the Chief Executive of LESCO within a period of

Macroeconomic stability, marriage and a maximum of one year in special cases. protection of vulnerable **HCCI terms** federal budget

International EdTech Conference.

Azhar Kiyani says;

2023-24 people's, business friendly HYDERABAD (APP) The business community has termed the federal budget for the fiscal year 2023-24 as people-friendly and said the federal government provided relief to all sectors including agriculture. Hyderabad budget 2023-24. Chamber of Commerce and Industries (HCCI) president Adeel Siddiqui while talking

Master Plan is in the final to APP said despite financial constraints the federal government presented a businessfriendly budget in which the agriculture sector, traders large-scale manufacturers investors, youth as well as social sector were given unprecedented relief.

budget has a historical deficit of over 7000 billion rupees the government will try its best to cover it through drastic measures, the HCCI president hoped Adeel Siddiqui said

allocated to the energy sector and water reservoirs in the country." HCCI President said, "Bridging

budget estimates will be a challenge

segments top priorities monetary policy on Monday, June 12, 2023. According to a ISLAMABAD (APP): country's economy strong by increasing Coordinator to the Prime exports. Minister on Economy and Friday, the central bank has

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning Development & Special

Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal visiting stalls during the Inauguration session of

Energy Bilal Azhar Kayani Azhar Kayani said the Friday said that government was making all macroeconomic stability to out efforts to bring the ensure financial discipline country out of economic through effective policies crises and all institutions and protection of were striving to give the vulnerable segments of the Prime Minister's road map society was the topmost a reality. priorities in fiscal year

government schemes and Talking to a private packages dedicated to news channel, he said the welfare of women and youth were initiated by

success, predicts economic **betterment:** Experts

Information Technology, Tax, Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture sectors during fiscal year 2022-23. He was of the view

that it means that the national economy has started moving towards the right direction and continuity of economic and fiscal policies of the present government was imperative for repayment of all foreign loans

announced to convene meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) on June 12 that would review the overall financial position of the country.

economic indicators as well as performance of different He said several mega internal and external sectors and decide about

the Monetary Policy. The central bank would issue the Monetary Policy Statement on the same day following the MPC meeting.

SBP to announce

monetary policy

on June 12

KARACHI (APP): The State Bank of Pakistan

(SBP) will announce

statement issued here

PSX turns around to bullish trend, gains 217 points ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange

(PSX) turned around to a bullish trend on Friday, gaining 217.75 points, a positive change of 0.52 per cent, closing at 41,904.21 points against 41,686.46 points the previous day. A total of 164,835,239 shares were traded during the day as compared to 203,789,233 shares the previous day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs 5.195 billion.

Industrial sector projected to grow by 5.9% bases on LSM envisage growth of 7.4%

ISLAMABAD (APP): restrictions made it difficult projected to grow by 5.9% based on large scale goods and machinery. manufacturing (LSM) envisaged growth of 7.4%.

According to the Annual Plan, Small and household Manufacturing grow by (8.3%), slaughtering (3%), mining & quarrying (3%), construction (4%) and electricity & gas distribution (3.5%). During 2022-23, the flood-induced supply

shock severely affected industry and services sectors besides damaging critical transportation infrastructure. Industrial sector also

Industrial sector was to import essential raw materials, intermediate As a result, many

factories either closed temporarily or operated below capacity. Moreover, increase in energy prices, higher cost of imported input due to currency depreciation, increased cost of working capital due to substantial increase in interest rates and political/ policy uncertainties adversely affected the industrial sector.

Energy prices were increased due to reversal of unsustainable subsidies as part of the stabilization

faced pressures as import programme.



SIALKOT: Vice President Chamber of Commerce and Industry Sialkot, Sheikh Amir Majeed Sheikh addressing a press conference.

Agriculture sector to grow by 3.5% in FY24

ISLAMABAD (APP): fertilizers, pesticides and Agriculture Sector agriculture credit facilities at Agriculture sector is affordable costs for revival of expected to grow by 3.5% the crops. Moreover, during the fiscal year 2023increased productivity of 24, according to Annual livestock subsector is Plan released by the government here on Friday. imperative for the revival of the sector. The revival of According to the plan, the growth would be cotton and sufficient production of wheat will not achieved with expected only support growth momentum but will also ease contributions of important out balance of payments crops (3%), other crops (3.5%), cotton ginning (7.2%), livestock (3.6%), pressures through lesser import requirements. During forestry (3%) and fishing the outgoing fiscal year (2022-23), the agriculture (3%). However, it says, agricultural growth will be sector was envisaged to grow contingent upon expected by 3.9% in the Annual Plan 2022-23 given a strong crop weather favourable conditions, ample availability sector performance of of water, certified seeds, previous vear

'Though next year's

'In the budget, along with the agriculture sector, a significant amount is being

the budget deficit as per the

Economic Survey of Pakistan (ESP) 2022-23 has revealed the success of the government in various

sectors during current fiscal year, the economic and

financial experts said on Friday adding that it laid strong foundation to bring betterment in the national economy and increase

exports in days to come. According to Swabi University's Professor Dr Muhammad Naeem, the ESP has signified that the present elected government despite

budget would prove helpful to make the Pakistan Muslim League-N. ESP 2022-23 reveals govt's

PESHAWAR (INP): The inherited economic and financial challenges, achieved significant progress and growth in various sectors including Daily A oice of Masses

National News

Page 03

KP CM chairs meeting on budget preparation

PESHAWAR (APP): An meeting important meeting regarding the preparation of the budget for the new fiscal year was held here on Friday with the caretaker Chief Minister (CM) of KP Muhammad Azam Khan in the chair.

Besides provincial cabinet members Hamid Shah, Barrister Feroz Jamal Kakakhel and Chief Himayatullah, Secretary (CS) Nadim Chaudhry, Aslam Additional Chief Secretary (CS) Zubair Asghar Qureshi, Secretary Finance Muhammad Ayaz and other relevant higher authorities attended the

discussed matters regarding The forum discussed the possible increase in the reviewed the salaries and pensions of and preliminary outlines of the government employees. financial budget and annual development program for the fiscal year 2023-24. meeting that the budget session of the caretaker The participants were briefed in detail about

from

provincial cabinet would be called after the the budget estimates, presentation of new fiscal annual development budgets by the federal and program and other important aspects of the proposed fiscal budget. It was decided in the Punjab governments. The forum decided to

It was decided in the

allocate the required funds for Sehat Card Scheme. It was agreed in the meeting meeting that authorization for the budget of only the that priority would be given to the ongoing first four months of the new financial year would be development projects in the annual development the program of the new fiscal

also vear

Promotion

Govt to award Rs.50k loan each to top 250 group projects: Wani

obtained

provincial cabinet.

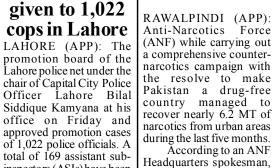
The forum

GILGIT (APP): Chief further improve their Secretary Gilgit-Baltistan Muhiudeen Wani has said that the top 250 group projects (5 to 8 students) from various government schools across the region would be awarded loans of Rs. 50,000 each. In an official statement to the media, he said the loans would be distributed in collaboration with Karakoram Cooperative Bank Limited.

The purpose of the provision of loans was so that students could

initial work and come up with projects that could be scaled and were market-ready, Wani highlighted. The scalability Wani and saleability must therefore be the essence of these projects, he stressed. The chief secretary said, "The students have

sub-inspectors, 453 head till the end of June to constables to the rank of ASIs, and 400 constables to improve their projects and the rank of head constables come up with innovative yet market-acceptable Notably, 25 female police projects officers



inspectors (ASIs) have been counter-narcotics promoted to the rank of operations were conducted in different parts of the country with a special focus on urban centre sanitization. Special combing and

intelligence-based metropolises of the operations resulted in country substantial seizures in consumption.

LDA demolishes illegal constructions

AHORE (APP): The department's Lahore Development conducted Authority (LDA) launched a grand operation against encroachment and illegal constructions on parking areas in the vicinity of Town (Akbar Faisal Chowk to Kotha Pind) Abu-ul- Hasan Isfahani Road, here on Friday.

On the directions of Commissioner Lahore and LDA Director General Muhammad

International News

Randhawa,

WASHINGTON:

instability.

United States and Britain on

Thursday announced a new

strategic pact as their lead-

ers rededicated the "special

relationship" to counter

Russia, China and economic

mit, US President Joe Biden

and Prime Minister Rishi

Sunak discussed Russia's

invasion of Ukraine and the

lightning-fast evolution of

empty-handed on Britain's

ambitions for a post-Brexit

Monitoring Desk

But Sunak came away

artificial intelligence.

In a White House sum-

The

comprehensive encroachment operation in the area. During the operation, encroachments constructed on tire shops, pharmacy, restaurants, bakeries and other shops were demolished. LDA

for local problems being faced by the people. teams anti

teams demolished sheds, boards and encroached area on illegal constructions from Ali more than 20 shops and the sealed more than 25 shops.

slogans holding banner and flags during protest to show solidarity with Chief Ombudsman AJK calls on

AJK President MIRPUR (AJK) APP) Chief Ombudsman Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) Chaudhry Muhammad Naseem on Friday called on AJK President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry

and presented to him the annual report carrying the performance of his institution. The Chief Ombudsman briefed the President, in detail the working conditions of his organization.On this organization. On this occasion, President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry directed the chief ombudsman to take effective measures to solve the

> **GB's budget** has increased to 51bln in

federal budget 2023-24: CS GB

GILGIT (APP): Chief Sukkur-Hyderabad Secretary Gilgit Baltistan Motorway land acquisition Muhiudeen Wani on Friday said that the scam. The court's Judge Mehboob Ali Dayo warned that the Director regular budget of Gilgit Baltistan has increased to Rs. 51 billion in the federal General NAB Karachi

budget for the fiscal year would be summoned if the 2023-24, which was a bureau failed to submit resignificant rise from last port by next date of hearyear's Rs. 47 billion, ing on June 22. representing an increase of approximately 8.5 percent. The NAB's prosecu-tor brought in the knowl-duced before the court.

Governor KP meets leading politicians

PESHAWAR (APP): Governor Haji Ghulam Ali PESHAWAR Friday inaugurated a luxury home interior showroom based on modern furniture Mansehra Road Abbottabad besides

meeting leading politicians and former members of the provincial as well national assembly from Hazara Region. The Governor was

and

Fayyaz Tanuli, Haji Tariq Sultan, Qaiser Khan Daudzai, Munir Shinwari, Safdar Zaman Shah and other business community, chamber presidents and media representatives were present in the opening ceremony. The Governor inspected the furniture and

of National Assembly Babar Nawaz Awan,

given a warm welcome by other interior items made Faisal Habib, owner of Lux according to modern Home Interior Showroom Turkish designs, local and international designs. Establishing the best of its renowned businessman, Syed Safdar Zaman Shah and the kind home decor business community of showroom is a great Abbottabad, Mansehra, convenience for the local Bitgram. Former Member population



MUZAFFARABAD: Azad Kashmir school teachers are holds a banner shouting slogan during protest due to up gradation of teachers at Azadi Chowk.

Court issues warning to NAB for submission of reference against accused in M6 land acquisition case

warning to the National Ac-

HYDERABAD (APP): edge of the court that the The Accountability Court reference in question had been drafted and, subsehere on Friday issued a last quently, submitted for review to the DG.

countability Bureau (NAB) He gave his assurance for submission of reference to the judge that the referagainst the accused charged in the multi billion M6 ence would be submitted at the next hearing. Meanwhile, the law-

yer representing the accused argued that more than 6 months had passed but the bureau had still not submitted the reference.

During the hearing, the arrested ex-Deputy Commissioner Matiari Adnan Adnan Rashid, Aashiq The NAB's prosecu- Kaleri and others were pro-



HYDERABAD: Members of Christian Community are holding demonstration in support of Pakistan Armed Forces, at Hyderabad press club.

ANF seizes 6.2 MT narcotics in five months major cities like Karachi Lahore, Faisalabad, Quetta, Rawalpindi and Islamabad he added. He informed that to effectively contain the

Aafia Siddiqui, at District Council Chowk in City.

threat, inter-provincial interdiction rings had been established and major inter-provincial communication arteries were being kept under surveillance.

FAISALABAD: Workers of Jamat-e-Islami (Youth Wing) are shouting

This effort is bearing fruits, wherein an estimated 7.26 MT of narcotics have been seized along motorways and highways, which was destined for major

Putin says Russian tactical nuclear weapons to be deployed to Belarus next month

Monitoring Desk

Friday that Moscow will observers see as the start deploy some of its tactical nuclear weapons to Belarus next month, a move that the Belarusian opposition described as an attempt to blackmail the West.

Putin said during a meeting with Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko that work on building facilities for the nuclear weapons will be completed by July 7-8, and they will be moved to the territory of Russia's neighbor and ally quickly after cilities will be completed that. The move comes as and we will immediately

Ukraine has stepped up at- start the activities linked MOSCOW: Russian Presi- tacks in several sectors of to the deployment of dent Vladimir Putin said the front line in what some those weapons on your territory.' of its long-expected coun-Tactical nuclear weap-

ons are intended to destroy teroffensive. Russia used Belarus' enemy troops and weapons territory to send its troops on the battlefield. They into Ukraine on Feb. 24, have a relatively short range and a much lower yield than 2022, and has kept forces and weapons on the terrinuclear warheads fitted to tory of its ally. long-range strategic missiles "Everything is pro-ceeding as planned," Putin

that are capable of obliterating whole cities. said in televised remarks Putin announced the as he hosted Lukashenko planned deployment of the at his residence in the short-range nuclear weap-Black Sea resort of Sochi. ons in Belarus earlier this "On July 7-8 the prepayear in a move widely seen rations of the relevant faas a warning to the West as it stepped up military support for Ukraine.

One U.N.

peacekeeper

killed and four

injured in north

Russian President Vladimir Putin and Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko talk during their meeting at the Bocharov Ruchei residence in the resort city of Sochi, Russia.

US, UK forge 'Atlantic Declaration' to counter new threats **Monitoring Desk**

Washington, settling indeclaration read. stead to tack along with

As he welcomed Biden's plan to craft a new Sunak to the Oval Office, green economy through Biden was asked by reportvast industrial subsidies. ers if the "special" transat-An "Atlantic Declaralantic relationship was in tion" adopted by the leadgood shape. He gave a thumbs-up and replied: "In ers aims to boost industry real good shape.' ties on defence and renew-

Both leaders conable energy, in the face of growing competition from China. "We face new chalcurred that the world economy was undergoing lenges to international stathe biggest changes since the Industrial Revolution, bility — from authoritarian states such as Russia in part driven by AI, which and the People's Republic is bringing doomsday warnof China; disruptive techings that sentient machines nologies; non-state actors: could wipe out humanity unless governments coordiand transnational challenges

Russia reports heavy fighting in Zaporizhzhia region of Ukraine

MOSCOW: Russia reported heavy fighting in the Zaporizhzhia region of southern Ukraine on Friday after saying it had repelled repeated attempts by the Ukrainian army this week to smash through the front line and drive a wedge through Russian forces. Russia's top military brass briefed President Vladimir Putin on Thursday that Russia had successfully repelled the attacks which Moscow says are part of an into Chin state. attempted major counter-offensive by Ukraine.

China warns Europe against official ties with Taiwan ahead of minister's visit **Monitoring Desk**

cept the Vatican. Beijing regularly denounces any BEIJING: China urged Euform of contact between rope on Friday not to have any official exchanges with Taiwan or support "inde-Taiwanese and foreign officials, viewing it as encourpendence forces" ahead of a planned trip to the contiaging global recognition of Taiwan's separate status nent next week by Taiwan Foreign Minister Joseph from China.

On Wu's Europe trip, which Taiwan's govern-ment has not officially con-Wu. Čzech Foreign Minister Jan Lipavsky confirmed firmed, he is expected to Wu was due to visit Prague speak at a think-tank event next week, saying on Friday state officials were not in Prague immediately afexpected to shift from their ter Czech President Petr Pavel, Reuters reported on existing policy towards Thursday. Asked about the visit on Friday, Czech Minister Lipavsky said he had "been informed" about

Taiwan. Taiwan, which is claimed by China, has no formal diplomatic ties with



Honduras' President Xiomara Castro waves as she arrives in Shanghai, China.

UN agency says Myanmar has suspended int'l aid deliveries to cyclone-hit areas

Monitoring Desk zations for international hu-BANGKOK: Myanmar's manitarian organizations, the military government has re-U.N. Office for the Coordinascinded its approval for intion of Humanitarian Affairs ternational organizations to distribute food, shelter and said in a situation report. It said the suspension of aid activities "could not have come at a medicines to thousands of worse time" because of the residents of cyclone-hit areas in the country's west, a arrival of the annual monsoon season. The report did not say U.N. agency said Friday. Cyclone Mocha hit the coastline of Bangladesh and Myanmar in mid-May with winds of up to 209 U.N. agency said Friday. whv the militarv government's Disaster Management Committee suspended the travel authorizakilometers (130 miles) per tions. Myanmar's military hour. The damage was has long kept access to many parts of the country under tight restrictions, esworst around the coastal city of Sittwe, the capital pecially areas seen as sensiof Myanmar's Rakhine tive because of tensions with state, but was also severe as the storm moved inland ethnic minorities, as is the case with Rakhine, where a

brutal counterinsurgency The military authorities campaign in 2017. also suspended travel authori-

first visit to China since breaking off ties with Taiwan **Monitoring Desk** est in a string of countries TAIPEI: Honduran Presito break diplomatic ties dent Xiomara Castro arwith Taiwan. China sees self-governed Taiwan as a

Taipei

Honduran president begins

rived in Shanghai on Friday on her first visit since China established ties with her nation, pulling it away from former diplomatic ally Taiwan.

Castro will meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping "to jointly plan for the future development" of ties, China's official Xinhua News Agency said. She will also attend the inauguration of Honduras' embassy in Beijing, according to state media

Honduras established formal relations with China in March, becoming the latments



People wear masks during the morning rush hour as smoke from wildfires in Canada affected New York.

Mali attack **Monitoring Desk** DAKAR: At least one United Nations peacekeeper was killed and breakaway province, to be four others seriously inretaken by force if necessary, and prohibits its own jured when their patrol was attacked in northern diplomatic partners from Mali on Friday, the having formal ties with peacekeeping mission Beijing has intensified MINUSMA said.

its battle to win away The incident took Taiwan's diplomatic allies place near the town of since independence-leaning Ber, in the region of Taiwanese President Tsai Tombouctou - an area Ing-wen took office in that has become a hot-2016. Since then, China has bed of jihadist activmanaged to lure away nine ity over the past deof Taiwan's former partners cade. MINUSMA said on

with a campaign involving Twitter the patrol first billions of dollars of investencountered an improvised explosive device

and was then hit with a direct fire attack. It did not name perpetrators but said it was

"complex attack" and that updates on casualties would follow. Islamist militants,

some with links to al Qaeda and Islamic State, have been waging an insurgency in northern Mali since they hi-

jacked a Tuareg rebellion in 2012

the bombshell news of a WASHINGTON: Donald historic moment for the Trump said on Thursday he United States: the first time has been indicted over his a sitting or former comhandling of classified documander-in-chief has ever ments after leaving office, faced federal charges.

the US ex-president's most serious legal threat yet as a firestorm of criminal investigations imperils his bid for ing Trump's assertion.

a second White House term. The corrupt Biden administration has informed my attorneys that I have been indicted, seemingly over the boxes hoax," Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform as he broke false statements.

There was no immediate confirmation from the Justice Department regard-A Trump attorney,

Jim Trusty, told CNN his client has been indicted on seven charges including the willful retention of documents in violation of the Espionage Act, making

Donald Trump indicted in classified documents probe

free-trade agreement with like climate change," the nate a response. **Ex-US president**



Saturday June 10, 2023

Parliamentarians say Govt increases salaries despite financial constraints

surprising and generous more, employees with move, the government has announced a significant increment in the salaries of the employees, despite facing

financial constraints. The decision has been hailed by all sections of society, as it demonstrates the government's commitment to supporting the middle class and alleviating their financial burdens, said par-

liamentarians in the National Assembly on Friday. According to the offi-

cial announcement, the government has increased salaries by 35 percent for employees in Grade-1 to 16, and by 30 percent for those in grade-17 and above. Additionally, the pension has been raised by 17.5 percent, benefiting retired govern-

ment in Civil Hospital

man Standing Committee

Petroleum, Senator Abdul

Qadir on Friday hailed the

balanced development ap-

proach of the federal gov-

ernment and termed the

budget for the Fiscal Year

2023-24 as balanced and

senator said that, though it

was hard to prepare a bal-

anced budget, in view of the

prevailing economic crisis,

but the sincere and con-

certed efforts of the incum-

bent government made it

possible to live up to the expectations of the people.

Highlighting the sa-lient feature of the FY bud-

get 2023, he hailed the de-

cision of a 30 to 35 per cent

increase in the salaries of

Talking to APP, the

people-friendly.

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a ment personnel. Furtherwages would receive Rs.30,000.

The decision to increase salaries and pensions comes at a time when many countries including Pakistan are grappling with economic challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath.

The parliamentarians said the increment in salaries and pensions is expected to have a positive impact on the lives of the government employees and their families. With the rising cost of living, this move will provide much-needed relief and help mitigate the financial woes faced by the middle class and downtrodden segment of society, they added.

political stability. "Without political stability, even billions of budget could not make a difference in improving the economic situation," he said at the cabinet meeting, which approved the budgetary proposals of the fis-cal year 2023-24.

ISLAMABAD

The prime minister said the common man was bearing the brunt of inflation, however, the government was taking steps to provide them relief in the

Technical & Vocational Institute

budget. The government, he said, accepted all the requirements of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and hoped that a staff-level agreement would

IHC issues

not presenting Afridi

The chairman standing committee on petroleum also hailed the federal June 15. government's approach of

Tahir Friday.

with political stability Since assumption of budget in 14 months being (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz power 14 months ago, he Sharif on Friday said a added, it had to deal with country's sound economic the challenge of IMF, postgrowth was linked with its flood situation and global inflation, he added.

PM links economy

He expressed satisfac-Economic Survey unveiled tion that the current deficit on Thursday highlighted its in 10 months was reduced significant economic gains to \$3.3 billion and hoped in terms of improved exterthat the agriculture sector nal and fiscal indicators. would boost. Even with a significant

GWADAR: Balochistan Governor Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar different sections of Pak-China

presented by the coalition

government under the ban-

ner of Pakistan Democratic

The government in its

Movement (PDM).

increase in debt servicing, The prime minister appointed Rohail Sheikh as the fiscal deficit reduced to his adviser and expressed 4.6 percent of the gross the hope that he would fuldomestic product (GDP) in fill his responsibilities with July-April FY 2022-23 against 4.9 percent for the same period last year, while diligence.

The cabinet also acthe primary balance recorded approval to the Finance Bill 2023. verted from deficit to sur-Finance Minister plus. During the first 11

Senator Ishaq Dar will months of the outgoing fispresent the budgetary procal year, the trade deficit was narrowed down by 40 posals with an estimated outlay of Rs 14 trillion in percent and the current account deficit by 76 percent the National Assembly in during July 2022-April the evening.



Khan Bazai meeting with Deputy Speaker Balochistan Assembly Sardar Babar Khan Musakhail

IGP directs to take action against illegal petrol pumps all over Balochistan

Independent Report censes, these are posing QUETTA: The Inspector threat to the public and en-General of Police vironment. In this regard, the

5E to be game changer in Pakistan's economic development: Maryam

oped through E-Pakistan.

They will be empowered.

decreased from 4.9% to

4.6% which proves govern-

ment right policy. 76% de-

creased in current account

deficit is the sign of right

economic policy. 40.4%

decrease in trade deficit ex-

pressed right economic

steps. Trade deficit which

was \$43.4 billion is now

Further

This is the beginning

Împort decreased by

Maryam

She said GDP defecit

SLAMABAD (Online): Information minister Maryam Aurangzeb said 5E will prove game-changer in Pakistan's economic development.

Exports, Water and food security, climate, energy, are pillars of equity turn around Pakistan. She said this new frame work will increase imports, and appreciate business and employment.

<u>Zardari says:</u>

People repose

trust in PPP

in AJK by-polls

LAHORE (APP): Former president Asif Ali Zardari

has said the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) is a reality, which is a symbol

here on Friday, he said vic-tory of the PPP candidate,

Ziaul Qamar, in by-elec-

tions in Azad Jammu and

Kashmir was a great news

for all those who believe in

federalism and federation of

Pakistan. He said the

reposed their trust and con-

fidence in not only in Ziaul Qamar and the PPP but also federation of Pakistan. He

congratulated the newly

elected Member of Legisla-tive Assembly (MLA) and

urged him to expedite the

PPP mission of serving

Newly

commissioned

PNS Shahjahan

arrives Karachi

KARACHI (APP): The newly commissioned Paki-

stan Navy Ship (PNS)

Shahjahan has arrived in

Karachi that was commis-sioned on May 10, 2023 in

a graceful ceremony held in

Shanghai, China and at-tended by Chief of the Na-val Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan

Niazi as chifad Anjad Khan Niazi as chifad guest. During her maiden voyage to Pakistan, PNS Shahjahan visited Malaysia

and participated in Langkawi International

Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition (LIMA) along

with other 30 participating countries, said a Pakistan

Navy news release on Fri-

Azad Kashmir have

In a statement issued

of federation.

people of

people.

\$25.8 billion. In statement on Friday information minister of improvement, she added. said Pakistan's development path will pave by 29.2% which influenced the promoting education, health and control over economic improvement. Imports decreased from population. Cheap and un-\$72.3 billion to %51.2 bilinterrupted provision of lion, which she called a step to betterment. energy will speed up economy and business. Climates will improves maintained that Rs.6210 through water reserves and billion tax collected which was 348.2 billion Pkr last food security, she added.

Information minister year. Current fiscal year said youth will be develdespite the target of 7 lacs.



QUETTA: Provincial Advisor for Information Mitha Khan Kakar, Deputy Consul General of Iran Faridon Peer Lorin, President Chamber of CommerceWali Muhammad Noorzai inaugurating International Property Expo.

Kanrani demands Judicial **Commission on murder** of Abdul Razzaq Shar

PTI chief, Imran Khan Independent Report He told that Abdul QUETTA: The senior lawver and former President Razzaq Shar was brutally murdered a day before the Supreme Court Bar Assohearing of his petition in the ciation, Amanullah Kanrani High Court. He said that the Advocate has demanded of Judicial commission should the authorities to form a judicial commission to probe be formed to ascertain the into the brutal killing of se-nior lawyer Abdul Razzaq motives behind the brutal assassination of Shar. He said that it must be Shar. This demand was made by Amanullah Kanrani while ascertained that who benaddressing a press confer-ence at the High Court Bar

Room on Friday.

efitted from the murder. It may also be mentioned here that Abdul Razzaq Shar was It may be mentioned gunned down by unknown here that Amanullah armed men on June 6 while Kanrani was the lawyer in he was on his way to the courts from his residence. the constitutional petition filed by Abdul Razzag Shar His son had registered murder case against Imran in the treason case against former Prime Minister and Khan and others.

QUETTA (APP): Chair- to mouth," he said, adding that an increase of a sizeable amount in the salaries of the government employees will provide utmost relief to them. The senator also wel-

OUETTA: Provincial Health Minister Syed Ehsan

Shah offering Dua after inaugurating ENT Depart-

Senator Qadir terms

budget for FY2023-24

people-friendly

country.

comed the cut in the import of raw materials of different commercial products as saying the effect of the cut in such products will trickle down to the ordinary and low-income class of the

balanced development

across the country. The balanced approach pursued by the federal government will remove the sense of deprivation the court's

(IHC) while issuing notice in contempt of court case for not producing Shehryar Afridi in the respective court despite court's orders has sought reply from the respondents till June 15.

tice Arbab Muhammad The court inquired

be reached in near future. contempt of

court notice for

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court

IHC summoned police investigation officer on

The case came up for hearing before a single bench of IHC led by Jus-

government employees. "Due to the skyrock- including Balochistan, eting prices of the daily which always remained on commodities, government employees were living hand ous regimes.

least priority of the previ-

among its federating units,

PBF endorses NEC's decision to close markets, commercial centers by 8pm

Business Forum has supported the decision of the National Economic Council to close the markets and commercial centers till 8 pm from July 1, saying that this will be the first step towards a civilized society.

Vice Chairperson PBF Balochistan Sana Khan Durrani while talking to the media, said that the measures proposed under the plan to conserve energy, ernment," she said, adding such as closing shops and commercial centers by 8 cular debt to a great extent. pm, switching to LED lights to save more energy, could help the country save up to \$1 billion a year.

"Even wealthy counare opened by 10.00 am.



TURBAT: Member Chief Minister Inspector Team Shah Irfan Gharsheen inspecting process of test conducted for appointment of teachers

PTA conducts successful raids against illegal internet service providers

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa- arrested by FIA (one in kistan Telecommunication Lahore and two in Kot Authority (PTA) in coor-Addu). The culprits have dination with the Federal Investigation Agency further investigation (FIA), carried out two successful raids in Etihad Park Chungi Amer Sidhu, Lahore, and Tehsil Chowk Sarwar Shaheed, District Kot Addu, against illegal efforts to curb illegal internet service providers, operating without a valid internet services. license from PTA. During the raids, operational cial in preventing tax evainternet setups and allied sion misreporting, thus curtailequipment were confiscated, said a news release.

ing the loss to the national Three persons were exchequer.

QUETTA (APP): Pakistan tries like Europe and the US 'cannot afford the luxury June 07 of keeping commercial areas open until 12 midnight. PDM govt "No country has an irresponsible lifestyle like ours," she further said.

that this move will save elec-

tricity and help reduce cir-

PBF also suggests that

These actions are cru-

revenue

and

achieving Lauding the province's stance on the issue, the PBF economic welcomed that the provinces have also agreed to targets: Sheikh implement the decision from July. "Circular debt is ISLAMABAD (INP) a huge challenge for the gov-

Awami Muslim League (AML) chief and former interior minister Sheikh Rasheed on Friday said the government utterly failed in achieving economic target

failed in

the district administration set for FY2022-23 should ensure that shops Sheikh Rasheed tool to Twitter to react to the Pakistan Economic Survey 2022-23 presented by Finance Minister Ishaq Dar on Thursday.

Never seen such an economic survey before, Sheikh Rasheed said in his tweet and added even Dar is unable to understand what is happening to the national exchequer.

Court summons Imran Khan in person on July 6

ISLAMABAD (APP): A local court on Friday summoned Chairman Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf (PTI) Imran Khan in personal capacity on July 6, in a case pertaining his threatening remarks about a female judge. The court also served

been taken into custody for a show-cause notice to the person who submitted The successful efforts surety bonds for the bail of against illegal internet ser-PTI's chief and said that vice providers can be attribneither PTI's chief nor his uted to PTA's unwavering guarantor had appeared becommitment, continuous fore this court during hearmonitoring, and persistent шg The court sought re-

port from SSP security regarding the security situation in F-8 Kachehri. Judicial Magistrate

Malik Amanullah issued a four-page order regarding hearing of the case.

order Balochistan, Abdul Khaliq were not complied with. As Sheikh has directed the conto why contempt of court cerned police officials to proceedings be not initiated. take action against the ille-It was requested in the gal petrol pumps operating

petition that police did not present Shehr Yar Afridi in in the province. According to an offiany court till June 07 decial communique issued spite court's orders. The court should initiate conhere on the directives of Inspector General of Police, tempt of court proceedings

it was mentioned that sevagainst the police. The court had ordered to eral illegal petrol pumps are operating in the province. present Shehryar Afridi in As these petrol the respective court til

gal petrol pumps within pumps are operating illethree days

Deputy Inspector General During the stay at Langkawai, the ship was of Police of all ranges and senior Superintendents of visited by various dignitar-Police have been directed to ies, delegates and locals. Later, PNS Shahjahan vistake action against all such illegal petrol pumps, as ited Colombo, Sri Lanka. mentioned in the official The visit was aimed at letter.

strengthening bilateral ties. Moreover, the IGP enhancing interoperability also asked the concerned and exploring new vistas of police high ups to submit cooperation between the the report of compliance of two navies. crackdown against the ille-

> **PTI chief** accused of Chin S using people as per his need

day.

LAHORE (INP): The ex-Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Firdous Ashiq Awan revealed that the PTI Chief 'utilized people' at his convenience.

While talking with a private TV Channel she stated foundation of a political party has been laid for stabilizing the political situation of Pakistan.

The former PTI leader said that those who played a role against Jahangir Tareen are now scattered. Ahsan Iqbal, Shahzad Akbar, and the 'third character' are nowhere to be seen today.

Court adjourns hearing of bail plea of Pervez LAHORE (Online): Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) Lahore while expressing annoyance over non presenting record in connection with bail plea of Chaudhry Pervez Elahi has given time to present record of case till today (Saturday) in illegal appointments in Punjab Assembly (PA) case. Chaudhry Pervez Elahi former Chief Minister (CM) Punjab is ar-

earlier.

the Toru police station.

after hearing a petition rested under the charges of against his arrest under Secmaking illegal appointments tion 3 of the Maintenance in PA. The bail petition of of Public Order (MPO) af-Chaudhry Pervez Elahi ter nationwide protests broke out on May 9 folcame up for hearing before Judge Âli Raza.



COLOMBO: Pakistan Navy Ship Shahjahan visits Colombo.

Information Secretary vows to resolve media workers' issues on priority

ISLAMABAD (APP): wage for a worker was being increased in the budget Federal Secretary for Information and Broadcasting for the next financial year. Sohail Ali Khan on Friday vowed to resolve the issues faced by the media workers on priority.

Terming the media a strong pillar of state, he said its independence in Pakistan was being ac-knowledged at international

Addressing a dinner reception held in honour of level. He said the govern-ment had allocated Rs one the newly elected officebearers of the All Pakistan Newspaper Employees billion for the health insur-Confederation (APNEC) ance of media workers and iournalists in the budget for and senior officers of the fiscal year 2023-24. ministry, he said minimum

PTI's Ali Muhammad arrested once again

lowing the PTI chief's ar-MARDAN (Online): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) rest. leader Ali Muhammad Today's relief came in

a case related to terrorism Khan was arrested once again on Friday right after charges. However, the court being released on the orders had observed that Khan may be arrested again if he of the Peshawar High Court (PHC) from a day was wanted in any other

The PTI leader's law-The former minister of yer told reporters that the state was arrested again as soon as he left the court current arrest was made on corruption charges; he was premises. subsequently transferred to

Khan has so far been arrested five times in different cases.

Yesterday, the PHC had order Khan's release Earlier, as Khan appeared before the court he told reporters that his party's chief "has always subscribed to a peaceful political struggle and stood by the rule of law"

QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Abdul Aziz Uqaili being briefed about development projects under Quetta Dev. Package

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merce and Industries Quetta Agha Gul Khilji addressing a press conference at CCIO.

Ahsan Iqbal for excelling in digital technology for national development

ISLAMABAD (APP): ference here. Minister of Planning, De-velopment and Special Ini-The minister said the nations that adopted the digital revolution achieved tiatives Professor Ahsan

success and development,

meet the international stanway of getting education,

doing jobs, governance sysdards and get due share in the tem. So there is the need of world markets. He was of the producing such a human view that creativity and inresource that fully exploits novation was the key to its potential and attains the achieving the required goals second-to-none capabilities of development, and human in the field of digital techresource with 'critical thinknology," he said while ading' was a must to match the pace of digital technology.

dressing an EDTECH con-

Iqbal on Friday highlighted the importance of getting but those who did not emexpertise in the field of digibrace faced failure. tal advancements to match Ahsan Iqbal said there the development pace takwas a need to align the ing place in the modern country's education sysworld. "In today's world, tem with fast-changing the digital revolution is retrends in technology so defining all aspects of life whether it is the living style, that educated and skilled manpower is produced to