

dailyindisb@gmail.com

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

Gwadar

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Ahsan Iqbal says

18 mega uplift projects completed in Gwadar in record three months

ISLAMABAD (APP): Jawad Akhtar Khokhar Following the consistent ef- gave a detailed presentation forts of the federal government, fruition of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor(CPEC) projects can be seen as from 2022- till date around 637,124 metric ton of cargoes landed at the deep seaport of Gwadar which is manifold high compared to 166,207 metric tons ar-

rived during 2018 -2021. This was disclosed by Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Wednesday while chairing a meeting to review progress of projects in Gwadar, a news release said issued here on Wednesday.

Among others, the meeting was attended by the officials of the all relevant ministries, provincial representatives of Balochistan and Chairman Gwadar Port Authority

Maritime Affairs Advi-

over the projects. The meeting noted that since the incumbent government came into power in April 2022, the CEPC has been revived which remained neglected during the tenure of the previous gov-All major projects under CPEC in Gwadar, in-

cluding Gwadar Power Plant, Distribution of 2000 Boat engines to fishermen of Gwadar, Khuzdar-Panjgur Transmission line (via Nag-Basima) which connect Markran with Na-tional Grid, New Gwadar International Airport Project, the China-Pak Friendship Hospital, China-Pak Technical and Vocational Institute in Gwadar, the Gwadar Eastbay Expressway Project, Gwadar Free Zone, and Gwadar Port would become a shining pearl in



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani, called on President Dr. Arif Alvi at

JCP recommends elevation of PHC Chief Justice as SC judge

ISLAMABAD (APP): preme Court and five high The Judicial Commission of Pakistan (JCP) on Wednesday unanimously also heads the commission approved the nomination of Peshawar High Court (PHC) Chief Justice Musarrat Hilali as judge Supreme Court of Pakistan.

A meeting of the JCP was held here under the chairmanship of Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial to consider the elevation of Justice Musarrat Hilali to the apex court. Justice Hilali's nâme would now be sent to the Parliamentary Committee on Judges Appointment for approval.

The JCP is responsible for approving the appointment of judges to the Su- in superior courts.

courts of the country. The chief justice of Pakistan

as its chairman. The body comprises four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court, a former judge, federal law minister, the attorney general for Pakistan and a senior advocate nominated by

The provincial and Islamabad bar councils each nominate a representative as a JCP member.

the Pakistan Bar Council.

According to Article 175-A of the constitution, the JCP, after confirmation, will propose the names to parliamentary committees for appointment of judges



KARACHI: Officials placing red flag after alerts issued by the authorities regarding the effects of cyclone "Biparjoy" at the Hawksbay Beach.

BHC refrains GoB from providing official vehicles on ownership basis to ministers, MPAs, others

Independent Report

QUETTA: Balochistan High Court other government function-(BHC) has refrained the Government of Balochistan from providing and allotting official vehicles on ownership basis to the provincial ministers, members of provincial assembly, opposition leader, Deputy Speaker, chairman of the standing committees, Advisors to the Chief Minister and parliamentary secretar-

The order was passed by the division bench headed by the Chief Justice BHC, Mr. Justice Naeem Akhtar Afghan on a constitutional petition here on Wednesday.

The petitioner Bayazid Khan Kharooti had challenged the allotment / pro-viding official vehicles on June 22, 2023.

ownership basis to the provincial ministers, members of provincial assembly and

The ground in the petition was that same would be an unnecessary burden on the public exchequer and will also cause inconvenience to the future incum-

The court issued notice Secretary the Balochistan provincial assembly, Chief Secretary Secretary S&GAD as wel as to the learned AAG.

In the meantime, the Secretary Balochistan Assembly, Chief Secretary and Secretary S&GAD were restrained from further proceedings with the plan for providing official vehicles on ownership basis till the next date of hearing,



Avenue Interchange on Srinagar Highway.

Hopes Governor to limit security measures as well: CM writes official memo to CS on security measures during VVIP movement

Bizenjo calls for using alternative means of security monitoring during VVIP movement; directs to make security arrangements appropriate during movement of ministers, members assembly, CS and IGP

Independent Report ister Balochistan, Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo has directed the Chief Secretary to use alternative means of security monitoring during the VVIP movement.

He also directed to make the security arrangements during the movement of provincial ministers, members of assembly, Chief Secretary and Inspector General of Police appropriate so as to ensure smooth flow of traffic and the general public is not suffered. He has also expressed the hope the Governor Balochistan would also

Four terrorists killed in encounter at Pak-Afghan **Border: CTD Independent Report**

QUETTA: The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) has claimed to have killed four terrorists in an operation at Pak-Afghan border, Chaman on Wednesday. According to the spokesman of CTD, the terrorists were gunned down during an exchange of fire took place at the Pak-

Afghan border. During the course of operation, weapons and ammunition were also recovered from the terrorists, the spokesman CTD maintained. According to the spokesman, the terrorists were involved in the target killing of police and facilitators of the miscreants accused in attack at the camp of security forces in Killa

WB approves \$200 million aid for Pakistan

WASHINGTON (Online): World Bank (WB) Executive Board has accorded approval to provide aid of 200 million dollars to Paki-

. This aid will be spent in rehabilitation works in flood affected areas in

limit the security arrangement, ambulances and fire brigade vehicles are also in view of the public interstruck in rush during the est. This and similar other VVIP movement. It was mentioned that directives and observances the Chief Minister has almade by the Chief Minister in an official memo to

Aziz Uqaili. In his official letter, the Chief Minister observed that extra arrangements of security are made during the VVIP movement. Not only the traffic is affected due to the additional security arrangements, but the citizens also face hardships, he observed adding that it is often seen

ready limited the security arrangements during his the Chief Secretary, Abdul movement. And it is hoped that the Governor would also limit the security arrangements during his move-

It was directed to the Chief Secretary to issue necessary directives to all the concerned departments in this regard stressing that public convenience must be upheld during the VVIP



ISLAMBAD: Federal Minister for Planning Development & Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal chaired a meeting to review the progress of projects

Cyclone biparjoy threat & precautions:

Transport service suspended on Karachi route & coastal highway till June 17

Independent Report
QUETTA: In view of the
cyclone biparjoy threat, the Provincial Transport Department has banned the movement of all kind of

transports on Karachi route from Quetta and different other parts of the province. All kind of transport service including buses, coaches, mazda and mini buses have been suspended from Quetta to Karachi, Khuzdar to Karachi, Bela

to Karachi, Chaman to

Karachi, Pishin to Karachi from June 15 to 17, 2023. According to an announcement made by the Secretary Provincial Transport Authority on

chances of cyclone, heavy rains and storm following the bipor joy. Therefore, al the transporters and owners of other vehicles have been directed to avoid plying the public transport in the given dates so that no financial and human loss is

strict legal action would be taken against those violating the orders in this regard. This includes the impounding of the vehicle and cancellation and suspension of the route permits. In this regard, no regret would be accepted, it was further an-

Wednesdy, there are

caused to them. It was also warned that

that political stability was highly important to achieve economic strength, attract investment, and ensure development and prosperity in the country.

"Until there is no political stability, there would not be any economic sta-bility as both are interlinked with each other," he said while addressing the inaugural ceremony of the rehabilitated and widened Captain Karnal Sher Khan Shaheed Road (previously known as IJ Principal

Shehbaz Sharif said in a situation where there was political instability in the country, the political opponents were hatching

nation; nobody would be ready to invest in the coun-

PM says:

Political stability, key

to economic strength,

development, prosperity

Government had met all the conditions of the IMF and

Putting the responsibility of current economic crisis on the previous government, the prime minister said it breached its own agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) due to which the confidence of the Fund in Pakistan shattered and it was now hesitant to resume its agreement. However, he said the

current government had met all the conditions of the IMF and hoped that the programme would resume anytime very soon.
PM Shehbaz resolved Haidar).

hoped that the programme would resume anytime very soon ISLAMABAD (APP): conspiracies everywhere, that "under the leadership Prime Minister Shehbaz spreading false propasharif, we all together would bring the country out of all crises and make it a stable and de-

veloped Pakistan.' He said the previous government had ignored development projects and the progress on reconstruction of IJP Road was also going on at a snail's pace. However, he said current government made it possible to complete it in the stipulated time.

Appreciating the team responsible for the project to complete it on time, the prime minister said the project, previously known as IJ Principal Road, had now been named after Captain Karnal Sher Khan Shaheed (Nishan-e-



QUETTA: A delegation led by Chairman Balochistan Public Service Commission Abdul Salik Khan meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

Shell Petroleum to sell stake in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (INP): Shell had notified it of the group's intent to sell its shareholding in the busi-

Shell Petroleum Company (SPCo), the immediate parent company, owns 77 per cent of the local operâtions, which suffered losses in 2022 due to exchange rates, the devaluation of the Pakistani rupee, and overdue re-

"... the Board of Directors of Shell Pakistan Limited (SPL), in a meeting of its board held on June 14, 2023, have been notified by SPCo of its intent to sell its shareholding in SPL," SPL said in a notice to the Pakistan Stock Exchange.

It is unclear how much of its stake SPCo is selling. "This announcement does not impact SPL's cur-

rent business operations, which continue," the no-In a separate press re-lease, SPL said that any sale would be "subject to a targeted sales process, the

execution of binding documentation and the receipt of applicable regulatory approvals". 'Shell is seeing strong interest from international buyers," the press release

Biparjoy cyclone may hit Keti Bandar at 1100 hours today

PM directs relocation of over

mate Change and Environmental Coordination Senator Sherry Rehman on Wednesday said the very severe cyclonic storm BIPARJOY of Category-3 landfall was predicted to take place at around 1100 hours on Thursday which was earlier forecast in the evening of June 15th due to the evolving nature of the cyclone.

Addressing a joint news conference flanked by Chairman National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik, the federal minister for climate change briefed the media persons on the latest situation of the Tropical Cyclone

BIPARJOY Senator Rehman said coastline after 1999.

50,000 people from coastal areas ISLAMABAD (APP): the intensity of the cy-Federal Minister for Cli-clone was to increase amid nearing the shore of Keti Bandar and Indian Gujarat while embracing it's landfall. "We are trying to evacuate masses to safer places and it's the only remedy related to cyclones in the world. The accom-

panied activities alongwith

the cyclone can put people's lives at risk," she added. The Minister added that it was the second media briefing at the NDMA and was aimed at providing important updates to the masses through the

BIPARJOY, she said had achieved the intensity of a very severe cyclonic storm of Category-3 which was massive after the cvclone that hit the country's



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Climate Change Sherry Rehman briefs to media persons about Cyclone Biparjoy during a press conference at NDMA.

Langu praises CM's role for filling vacant posts in week

Balochistan Minister for Home and Tribal Affairs Mir Ziaullah Langu on Wednesday appreciated the orders of Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo to fill the vacant posts within a week by the concerned secretar-

He said that the Chief Minister had represented the people of the province in a powerful way, while the biggest problem of the people of Balochistan was unemployment. The people of Balochistan must be given jobs so that they could serve the nation. he said. He said that we were determined and the government had also decided that no concessions would be made on the delay of em-

ployees and in this context, no interruption would be tolerated in the employment issue. More employment will

be provided to the people

before the tenure of the existing government ends, he noted. Meanwhile, the provincial home minister praised the good initiative of the

Chief Minister and said that the removal of the ban on the sale of Iranian petrol by the Chief Minister was a very good move.

Mir Ziaullah Langu directed the administration to follow the instructions of Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo and open the Iranian petrol business for the interest of local

Opposition leaders & MPAs voice concern over non-completion & snow pace of work of projects



QUETTA: The leader of Opposition in Balochistan Assembly, Malik Sikandar Khan Advocate and other members of the assembly have expressed deep concern over non-completion of the development projects and slow pace of work on certain other schemes of the energy and water supply sectors in their respective election con-

They have urged the concerned high ups to expedite the pace of work on the development schemes. They were in attendance at the meeting with the con-

cerned high ups of the Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO), WASA and other concerned high ups. The MPAs who were present in the meeting were included: Malik Naseer Ahmed Shahwani, Akhtar Hussain Langove, Mir Akbar Mengal, Ahmed Nawaz Baloch, Mir

Zahid Reki and Mir Younas Aziz Zehri.

The high ups in attendance were: Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Imran Gichki, Chief Executive Officer of QESCO, Abdul Karim Jamali, MD WASA, Hamid atif Rana besides other high ups.

The meeting held on special directives of Chief Minister Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo reviewed the public issues related to QESCO, WASA and Public Health Engineering (PHE) besides finding solution to them.

The meeting particularly reviewed the issues regarding installation and repair of transformers for making the non-functional tube wells functional, bifurcation of overload transformers besides non-completion of various development schemes despite release of the cessary funds.

The leader of Opposition and other MPAs regretfully pointed out that the non-supply of electricity is causing water shortage in their respective constituencies and thus creating problems for their dwellers.

Daily Aoice of Masse Independent

Tedious declarations

Monday's National Assembly session was not the civilian leadership's finest hour. In fact, the proceedings inside the house of representatives offered ample evidence of why the political class in general is held in such contempt, and why the public so readily embraces narratives that undermine democracy. The session was the first one after the federal budget had been presented, an occasion normally used to debate the various proposals in this critical financial plan. Certainly, there have been times when such a discussion has been reduced to a formality — that was the case last year, for example, when there was only a lame-duck opposition in the Lower House following the PTI legislators' en masse resignations. This year too, despite the dire economic crisis engulfing Pakistan, only two lawmakers took part in the budget debate. Instead of proving themselves even halfway equal to the job they have been elected for, almost all the lawmakers present devoted their energies elsewhere, making clear their disconnect with the bread-andbutter issues that affect the general public.

And so, reducing the budget to a footnote, the Lower House proceeded to adopt a resolution calling upon the government to immediately initiate proceedings under the Pakistan Army Act against those involved in vandalism of military installations on May 9. Moved by Defence Minister Khawaja Asif, the resolution does not name Imran Khan or his party, the PTI, but says there was evidence proving the involvement of "a political party and its chief" in the violent protest "which caused irreparable loss to the state and its institutions". No one can disagree on the need for those involved in the disturbances that day to be brought to justice. But for the minister to use his position and the occasion to vociferously make the demand for such accountability, that too in noncivilian forums, appears unnecessary and out of proportion. Mr Asif, however, is not alone. It is a manifestation of the politicians' skewed priorities — arguably even more pronounced in the wake of the events of May 9 — that many politicians tend towards such exaggerated gestures to demonstrate their allegiance to the security arm of the state. The civilian leadership must get its act together, work to strengthen democratic institutions, and set its priorities straight. That is a more reliable way to ensure political survival, rather than tedious and fulsome proclamations repeated ad nauseam.

IPP redux

the scientific develop-

ment of the 'godless' and

'soul-less' West, the God-

fearing and spiritual holy

men in our neck of the

out the 'moral turpitude'

of materialistic, modern

societies. The objectifica-

tion of women and the

woods are quick to point



Shahzad Sharjeel

concept outsourcing has been of decline. It matters little around for a while. Outsourcing to service providers has been the norm for manufacturers, especially under the globalisation mantra where finance and human resources know no boundaries. American and European automobile and cellular phone manufacturers have shifted most production to China — the same China they accuse of political repression and human rights violationsbecause it offers cheap labour and subsidised utilities to industry. Concerns about Chinese labour laws and weak environmental protection are forgotten so long as it gives the manufacturers a competitive

Similarly, processing payrolls or medical and legal data entry from all over the world happens in Bangalore and Chennai because these places have invested in human resources and technological development. Just imagine. The worst type of xenophobes here get their 'Sharia-compliant' profits calculated in the land of Shiva in the Indian south. Money is progressive; it has no reli-

next ATM.

sess about making genies

produce electricity, be-

come public intellectuals,

fake projects to get for-

eign inventions licensed

to their families. Another

lot specialises in tracing

every scientific inven-

tion to the Muslim sci-

entists of yore to prove

that all progress is be-

holden to us. Yet another

very elite group of re-

searchers spends all its

time proving every tech-

or acquire fat budgets for

The outsourcing of intellect or the appropriation of 'others' inventions while denigrating them as 'heretics' and condemning them to eternal hell has been perfected by oily theocracies. Dare to point out the hypocrisy of the arrangement and you are reminded of the West's crimes of imperialism and nological breakthrough slave trade that form the under the sun as having tion transformation combasis of their fortunes.

While benefiting from all longing to some Pakistani ethnicity among the thousands-strong team of gofers behind the invention.

no qualms about not just

crowdfunding and ap-

propriating the most

sensitive and potentially

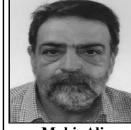
lethal technology but

We have also had

breakdown of the family open-sourcing it to the unit are cited as sure signs larger detriment of mankind. Some insist on conthat a spokesperson of a tinuing in this vein till the recently dethroned party Kohinoor comes 'home' presenting itself as the How interesting that standard bearer of spirithings come full circle tual purity, not too long even in subjects seemago publicly insisted that ingly poles apart — from offshore accounting to the vernacular translation of 'prostitute' be customer care call cenused as a synonym for tres in Chennai to the cel-'widow' because of some ebrated Mountain of Light diamond's origins archaic and convoluted in the Golconda mines of usage in a particular resouthern India. Amidst This same party's all this East-West conleader hit upon the bright troversy, the prospects idea of outsourcing corof South-South cooperaruption. It appeared flawtion can open up vistas less till he got his vendors arrested. This is how where 'going south' need not necessarily it works: allow the wheelmean a downward trend ing-dealing types to use This leaves the northern the 'charismatic leader' to hemisphere sticking out mint money so long as a like a sore thumb — at chunk of it is spent on least in some people's maintaining his clean-asimaginations — as the hub of conspiracies and a-whistle aura, dirty-rich lifestyle, and equally dirty the nub of regimepolitics. Get caught with change plots. Outsource your hand in the cookie the blame for poor ecojar and the leader will nomic management to drop you like a hot brick. the IFIs, and the power The sugar and cougar play between compobrigade goes to jail while nents of the state to forthe leader looks for the eign conspiracies. As for the fourth estate, the Back to inventions least said the better. It is or lack thereof; the sotethered to estate called scientists here ob-

> A few decades back we tried outsourcing the country's power production to the IPPs. Anew conglomerate has been launched in the 'power' sector, this time referred to as Independent Power Purchasers. The regulators better determine the unit cost and capacity charge wisely and in the public interest this time, lest the new IPP gets embroiled in the same old battles with the 'oily and gassy regulatory authority' and the 'na-

Italian trendsetter



Mahir Ali

Well before global politics featured the likes of Trump, Bolsonaro, Orban. Erdogan, Imran Khan, Modi or even Netanyahu, there was Berlusconi, the slick and smarmy business magnate who was first elected prime minister of Italy in 1994, just months after founding his political party, Forza Italia.

That government lasted less than a year, and some dismissed him as a flash in the pizza pan, but when he returned to power in 2001, it was at the helm of the first postwar Italian government that was able to serve out a five-year term. Small wonder, then, that admirers and detractors alike have been describing Berlusconi's demise on Monday asthe end of an era. But, like some of the political obituaries that greeted the end of his first and second stints as PM, that assessment may be premature. He returned in that role for a third time in 2008, but then was barred from holding political office for several years after he resigned in 2001, and by the time he returned to the fray in 2018, the ground had shifted. The octogenarian found himself being treated as a relic on a playfield he had landscaped by aiding the far right's ascent into the conservative mainstream. Giorgia Meloni had served a decade earlier as a junior minister in Berlusconi's last administration. Since last vear. when he was reelected to the senate, his Forza Italia has been a minor partner in Meloni's governing coalition.

Berlusconi acknowledged as much in a 2019 speech: "It was us who

Lega [the former Northern League] and the fascists Ithe Meloni-led Brothers of Italy]." Back in 1996, in a profile of the Italian leader, the American writer and journalist Alexander Stille noted: "Imagine if a reallines of Donald Trump also owned CBS, NBC, the Fox network, Paramount Pictures, Newsweek, Random House, Condé Nast, The Los Angeles Times, HBO, the Dallas Cowboys, Walmart stores, Aetna insurance, Loews Theatres and Fidelity Investments and had the political clout of Bill Clinton or Newt Gingrich, and you get an idea of the long shadow Mr Berlusconi casts in Ital-

Unlike Trump, Berlusconi started from scratch, building up first a real estate empire — the sources of his funding remain obscure — and then a commercial TV network that brought American soap operas and "reality" shows featuring semi-clad women to Italian audiences accustomed to more drab presentations. He invested his rapidly increasing wealth in a couple of national newspapers and as well as AC Milan.

a vast array of magazines, So he was hardly unknown by the time he went into politics 30 years ago, after Italy's party political structure began to collapse under the weight of a wide range of corruption investigations. That structure had effectively been in place since the immediate postwar era, when the CIA intervened to make sure that the Italian Communist Party did not win any elections. The Christian Democrats were the main beneficiaries, with the Socialists playing second fiddle. It was a Socialist prime minister, however, who became a crucial patron for Berlusconi in the 1980s: Bettino Craxi eventually fled Italy to a villa in Tu-

constitutionalised the the consequences of his shenanigans while in

power. Italians were fed up, and expected to lean leftwards, by the time Forza Italia emerged. Berlusconi was motivated to a considerable estate mogul along the extent by the desire to protect his still expanding empire, and offered himself up to voters as a solution to Italy's woes on the strength of his personality, rather than any coherent political

> That may not have been an entirely original leadership attribute, but it was relatively a novelty in Western democracies and, notwithstanding the occasional backlash, appears now to have been more or less normalised. Berlusconi's final term may have laid bare his economic incompetence in the face of the global financial crisis and European debt woes, but he's much more likely to be remembered for the level of sleaze

> unapologetically introduced into politics, and a penchant for making sexist or racist remarks that he invariably dismissed as 'jokes'. Even a reported predilection for sex with underage girls caused insufficient alarm among the Italian public.

Berlusconi saw himself as a celebrity role model for all Italian men, and even for world leaders — and, sadly, he wasn't wrong in some respects. He ignored constant conflicts of interest, and thrived on narcissism with facelifts, hair implants and an unnatural tangerine glow enabling him, at least in his own mind, to disguise the fact that he was born when Benito Mussolini still ruled Italy. His enduring legacy what Stille summed up this week as a kind of postmodern, "contentless politics", which, one might add, serves the neoliberal status quo as an invaluable distraction. -nisia, in order to escape Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

at least one member be- pany'. -- Courtesy Dawn

France provides Euro 180m for NTDC transmission lines, grid stations projects

France has provided Euro 180 million soft loan to Pakistan for financing the National Transmission and Company Despatch (NTDC) transmission lines and grid stations projects located in Vehari, Aarifwala and Sialkot. Federal Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs Dr Kazim Niaz, Ambassador of France Nicolas Galey and Philippe Steinmetz, Country Director of the French Development Agency (AFD), signed the

ISLAMABAD (APP): Credit Facility Agreement, country is through the said a press release issued here Wednesday. This loan will support the NTDC in its transmission mandate to provide reliable and efficient power supply in major cities of Punjab. The funding will also help enhance the transmission of efficient distribution in Pakistan.

Such benefits will contribute to improving affordability and scaling up the energy supply.

Since most of the power generation in the

hydel sources, hence the projects will help mitigate impacts of climate change through transmission of green energy, in line with the policies of the Government of Pakistan and its commitment to fight climate change.

It is also part of the pledge and commitments announced by France at the and 50km of new 220kV International Conference on Climate Resilient Pakistan in Geneva on January 9, 2023.

The Republic of

France, through the French Development Agency, is providing technical and financial support in several sectors such as energy, water and sanitation, urban development, and cultural heritage. The French loan will support NTDC in the components of the projects including: Construction of a new 220KV substation transmission lines to be connected to it in Aarifwala, which will be



meeting on Civil Aviation issues, at Finance Division.

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State and Chairman Reforms and Reduces Mobilization Committee Ashfaq Yousuf Tola addressing to the post budget session at Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

Alashabi says: Banking, trade routes, removing policy barriers can increase direct trade

LAHORE Ambassador of the Republic of Yemen, Muhammad Motahar Alashabi on Wednesday emphasized the need to bolster the trade volume and value between Pakistan and Yemen while Pakistan and Yemen while significant market, he simultaneously enhancing acknowledged the existing their trading capacities.

the direct bilateral trade stability

(APP): between Yemen and Pakistan.

Alashabi commended the city of Lahore for its stature as a bustling metropolis and a thriving market. Recognizing Pakistan as a direct and indirect trade During his visit to channels that Yemen Lahore Chamber of maintained via Jeddah, Commerce & Industry Muscat, and Dubai. He (LCCI) here, he was of also spoke about the the view that banking impact of conflict in Yemen channel, trade routes over the years, and exuded and removing policy hope in overcoming these barriers could increase challenges and restoring

Shipping activity at **Port Qasim**

KARACHI (APP): Two ships namely, PS-Pelican and Scarabe carrying 27,999 tonnes of Palm oil and 53,000 tonnes of Coal, berthed at Oil Terminal and Bulk Terminal respectively on Tuesday.

A total of seven ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them two ships, oil tanker Demeter and bulk cargo carrier Butinah sailed out to sea on Wednesday (today) morning or Wednesday.

A cargo Volume of 51,679 tonnes, comprising 51,679 tonnes imports Cargo exclusively, was handled at the port during the last 24 hours.

ISLAMABAD (Online): Azam Nazir Tarar, Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) on Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Finance Tariq Bajwa and Dar on Wednesday Mansoor Usman Awan committed to support the Attorney General of Aviation Sector and Pakistan. The Secretary directed to take pertinent Aviation, Secretary Law measures to resume flights and Justice DG CAA, DG of Pakistan International ASF, and senior officers Airlines (PIA) to the US, from Finance and Aviation UK and the Europe at the attended the meeting, said

a press release.

Dar for supporting

Aviation Sector

The minister chaired Aviation briefed the Chair a meeting on Civil Aviation issues, which was also on the issues being faced attended by the Federal by the aviation sector Minister for Aviation and pertaining to regulation, service provision, security, Railways Khawaja Saad Rafique, Federal Minister and enhancement of state for Law & Justice Senator capacity in aviation.

earliest.

Senate body on Finance reviews proposed changes in Customs Tariff

The Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Revenue, led by Chairman Committee, Senator Saleem Mandviwala, conducted a comprehensive review of the proposed changes in the first schedule to the Customs Act, 1969

(Pakistan Customs Tariff). The meeting took place on Wednesday at the National Tariff (NTC), Commission

Federal Board of Revenue

(FBR), and Ministry of

ISLAMABAD (Online): Commerce presented their insights regarding the rationale behind the proposed amendments.

During the meeting, a clause-by-clause review of the proposals and changes in customs duties for various items and raw materials was conducted. Chairman Senator Saleem Mandviwala emphasized the importance of ensuring Parliament House, where that any relief or senior officials from the concessions provided to businesses in terms of duties should be passed on to the customers through a

decrease in prices

to promote agro-based economy: Minister ISLAMABAD (INP): the current season, leading Minister for National Food Security, Tariq Bashir Minister for National Food He further mentioned

Cheema on Wednesday said the government is giving consideration to the promotion of agro-based economy.Participating in the general discussion on the budget for the year 20023-24, he recognized the crucial role of the agricultural sector in the country's economy and said that its importance cannot be denied.

the significant increase in

that Pakistan was also an exporter of rice and anticipates a similarly robust rice crop. These the potential of the agricultural sector to

Govt. giving consideration

Cheema highlighted wheat production during

pressing issue of energy in agriculture by sharing that solarization of tubewells. A remaining meeting, presided over by affected areas.

the Prime Minister will discuss the allocation of funds for this initiative across different provinces, including the conversion of tube-wells, he added. Cheema acknowledged the achievements underscore efforts made by the Sindh government in assisting farmers affected by contribute to the nation's devastating floods last prosperity.Furthermore, year. However, he the minister addressed the expressed his intention to request further assistance from the government of the current budget includes Sindh to address the allocations for the challenges faced by the

Rupee gains 79 paisas against **US Dollar** in interbank

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistani Rupee on Wednesday strengthen by 79 paisas against the US Dollar (USD) in the

interbank trading as it closed at Rs 287.18 against the previous day's closing of Rs 287.97. However, according to the Forex Association of Pakistan

(FAP), the buying and selling rates of dollars in the open market stood at Rs 292 and Rs 295 respectively.

PCJCCI for effective measures to tackle climate change

kistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) Wednesday called for taking effective measures to cope with the climatic challenges. Sharing his views on

climate change in a meeting held here at PCJCCI Secretariat on Wednesday, the join chamber's President Moazzam Ghurki said that despite contributing less than one percent of global emissions, Pakistan was among the top 10 countries

LAHORE (APP): The Pa- most affected by the climatic impacts in the past two decades. He added that Pakistan's agriculture-based economy was sensitive to climate-related shocks, and disasters could exacerbate the water security challenges. PCJCCI President said that according to the official post-disaster needs assessment (PDMA) 2022, the damages and losses were USD 14.9 billion and USD 15.3 billion respectively, with roughly 33 million people affected, of which 8 million.

Governor Haji Ghulam Ali.

Independent Report

Thalassemia suffering children

Donating blood is a great act of kindness

Independent Report

LAHORE: Governor Punjab, Muhammad Balighur Rehman, donated blood for Thalassemia patients in blood camp organized by Sundas Foundation on the occasion of World Blood Donors Day here at Governor House Lahoretoday. Apart from Governor Punjab, the staff of Governor House and general public also donated blood. President Foundation Mohammad Yasin Khan, Medical Director Sundus Foundation Dr. Adnan Gilani, Sundus Foundation staff blood donor students

at Al-Hamra Art Gallery.

conducted across the

country managed to net four

accused and recovered over

161 kg drugs, said an ANF

Headquarters spokesman

here on Wednesday. He

informed that in an

operation near Gujranwala

Toll Plaza, ANF recovered

93.6kg charras concealed in

secret cavities of a vehicle

and arrested two drug

smugglers, residents of

Khyber. In another

operation near Kuchlak

bypass Quetta, ANF seized

50 kg heroin concealed in a

conducted near 'Jarhoi

In third operation

dry rainy nullah.

this occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that donating blood for innocent children suffering from thalassemia is a great act of kindness. He said that serving people suffering from lifethreatening diseases is no less than worship. He said that it is the responsibility of all of us to bring a smile on the faces of such people. He further said that we should donate blood for this good cause. He said that due to blood donations millions of

LAHORE: Students of Kinnaird College for

Women taking keen interest in Textile Exhibition

ANF seizes over 161 kg

drugs in six operations

Anti-Narcotics Force The spokesman (ANF) in six operations informed that in fourth

Zakha Khail' area, eight suspicious material from

kg charras concealed in the possession.

operation in Mianwali,

ANF managed to recover

1.2 kg opium and 40

grams charras from the

possession of a

motorcyclist resident of

Bhakkar. In the fifth

operation conducted at

Australia by a Peshawar-

based private company.

conducted at Pak-Afghan

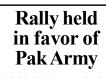
Border area in Chaman,

ANF recovered four kg

In the sixth operation

and others were present on patients get new lives every year. Governor Punjab said that donating blood is harmless for a healthy person, while it saves the life of some one.

Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that Sundus Foundation is doing great work for Thalassemia and Hemophilia patients. He further said that Awareness should be raised among the people to prevent thalassemia. He said that the media should also play a positive role in creating awareness among the people regarding donating blood.



LARKANA Patriotic Pakistan Zindabad Movement Organization Larkana here on Wednesday took out a rally to express solidarity with the Pakistan Army.

The rally which started from Dargah Qaim Shah Bukhari, concluded at Larkana Press Club after passing through Bunder Road, Pakistan Chowk an Jinnah Bagh Chowk. The rally was led by Central Chairman of the Organization Liaquat Abro and was participated by Nazar Alim Younis Ali Abro, Raja Munir Jatoi Abdul Karim Jatoi and

The participants of the rally were holding placards, national flags and banners, chanting slogans in favor of the Pakistan International Container Terminal, Karachi, ANF recovered the occasion, the leaders five kg Ice drug concealed of the Organization said in decoration pieces. The that the workers of a container was booked for political party organized a protest in Punjab and KPK. As part of the conspiracy, stones were pelted at the soldiers of the Pakistan Army and government buildings

besides burning the

vehicles.

in public hospitals top priority during his visit to various areas of Sialkot district.

PESHAWAR: Head of Delegation International Committee of the Red

Cross (ICRC) Nicolas Lambert meeting with Khyber Pakhtunkhawa

Minister says:

Improving medical facilities

Caretaker Caretaker Provincial Provincial Minister for Minister for Primary and Primary and Secondary Health Secondary Health Dr. Jamal Nasir has expressed satisfaction over said that improving medical the performance of the facilities in government District Health Authority hospitals was the top and appreciated the Deputy Commissioner Adnan Mehmood Awan priority and the problems of district, tehsil level and primary health centers and the District Health would be resolved at Management Team for their earliest. Cases will be effective supervision. Chief Executive Officer reviewed for approval of development projects, (CEO) Health Dr. Rehan, posts of doctors and Principal Khawaja medical staff in Muhammad government hospitals of Safdar Medical College Sialkot Dr. district Sialkot. He expressed these

Eight dengue cases

reported this year

Abdul Sattar and MS Dr. Ilyas were also present. Meanwhile, the

Health Minister also visited Allama Iqbal Teaching Hospital Sialkot and Civil Hospital Sambrial.He inspected the emergency ward, surgical ward, lab and issued instructions to improve the facilities. Dr. Jamal Nasir directed to issue notices to the laboratory supervisors both hospitals for not maintaining quality control standards in the lab. He directed that the

patients should be prescribed the medicines available in the hospital stores, and attention should be paid to improve the quality of the tests.

Two killed, one injured in road accident FAISALABAD (APP):

Two persons were killed, while another sustained serious injuries in spokesman said here on Wednesday that a speeding Nallaywala bridge late Consequently, Saqlain Ejaz (22).

QWP calls for early announcement of **NFC** Award

PESHAWAR (APP): Provincial chairman, Qaumi Watan Party (QWP) Sikandar Hayat Khan Sherpao has called for an early announcement of the National Finance Commission (NFC) Award

He expressed these views while addressing a joining ceremony at village

small provinces.

Sherpao on Wednesday.
On this occasion, the leading workers of PTI Union Council Lower Mohammad Zareen, Saleem Khan, Juma Gul, Waseemullah, Zahid Khan, Muhibullah, Khan Gulab, Farhad Khan, Isa Khan, Osman Khan, Saheb Noor and Khanzada Haji along with their families and

associates announced to ioin Qaumi Watan Party. Sikandar Sherpao said due to the incompetence of

the previous rulers, the province is the victim of financial instability and the economic crisis is looming with the increased share of here. The policies of the previous government have not only affected the people and economy of the province but rather have also increased

backwardness to an extent. He said that keeping in view the current Behram Haji Gul, situation the federal Mohammad Zareen, government should not government should not only hand over the net profit on electricity net profit to the province. rather also take steps to increase the shares of small provinces by ensuring the early holding of the NFC.



PESHAWAR: People receiving vaccination at a Haj center in Peshawar, Hayatabad.

IPO-Pakistan launches e-filing of IP applications

LAHORE Property Intellectual Organization of Pakistan (IPO-Pakistan) in collaboration with Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) launched efiling system to receive Intellectual Property (IP) applications from the stakeholders in a ceremony held here at Arfa Karim Software Technology Park on Wednesday. IPO Director General Shazia Adnan and PITB Chairman Faisal Yousaf of Trade Mark TM Online with the launch of GO-LIVE Filing System with online system of online IP payment. This initiative applications filing.

(APP): would ensure improved services in addition to the filing of trademark applications online, leading to cost and time saving for the applicants besides ensuring convenience. On this occasion, the IPO DG Shazia Adnan said that Intellectual Property Organisation of Pakistan was committed to provide hasslefree services to its stakeholders, adding that digitisation process involved tireless efforts by IT teams of the IPO-Pakistan and the announced the GO-LIVE PITB. Shazia Adnan said that

positive cases had been reported in the Rawalpindi district this year, but there

views while talking to

media here on Wednesday

many as eight denguewas a need to remain vigilant to control the spread of the fatal disease as the prevailing weather was suitable for breeding District Coordinator

Epidemics Prevention and Control Dr Sajjad registered 107 FIRs, sealed Mehmood told APP, that 62 premises.

RAWALPINDI (APP): As four patients were admitted the Headquarters Hospital. three to the Holy Family Hospital, and one to the International Hospital.

Giving details of the punitive actions, the health officer said that the district administration, collaboration with allied departments,

motorcycle

a road mishap in the area of Chak Jhumra police station.Rescue 1122 station.Rescue dumper truck hit a Tuesday

International News

Xi hails establishment of 'China-Palestine strategic' ties

Monitoring Desk BEIJING: Chinese Presi-

dent Xi Jinping said on Wednesday that his country was establishing "strategic" relations with Palestinians ahead of talks with leader Mahmud

Abbas in Beijing.
Abbas will be in the Chinese capital until Friday, Beijing has said, on his fifth official visit to the world's second-largest economy.

"Facing a century of global changes and new developments to the situation in the Middle East, China is ready to strengthen coordination and cooperation with the Palestinian side," said Xi during a welcome ceremony at the Great Hall of the People.

the Chinese people".

Last December, President Xi visited Saudi of the People.

"Today, we will jointly announce the establishment and Color tablishment of a China-Palestine strategic partnership, which will be an important milestone in the history of bilateral relations," added Xi. Abbas arrived in Beijing on Mon-sitioned itself as a media-

ing the opportunity to United States has for dediscuss ways to advance cades been the main relations and resolve longstanding challenges to the Palestinian-Israel relationship. Beijing has sought to boost its ties in the Middle East, challenging US influence — efforts that have sparked unease in Washington.

During a regular press briefing last week, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin called long-time Palestinian leader Abbas an "old and good friend of

Arabia on an Arab outreach trip that also saw him meet with Abbas and pledge to "work for an early, just and durable solution to the Palestinian issue"

Beijing has since po-

day to hold talks with top tor in the Middle East, Chinese leaders including brokering the restoration President Xi and Premier of ties in March between Iran and Saudi Arabia rivals in a region where the

powerbroker. But finding a lasting solution to Israeli-Palestinian tensions may prove more elusive, as peace negotiations between the two sides have been stalled since 2014.

In April, Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang told his Israeli and Palestinian counterparts that his country was willing to aid peace ne-gotiations, Xinhua reported.

And Qin told Palestinian foreign minister Riyad Al-Maliki that Beijing supports the resumption of talks as soon as possible, according to the state news agency.
In both calls, Qin

emphasised China's push for peace talks on the basis of implementing a "two-state solution".

China's President Xi Jinping (C) and Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas attend a welcoming ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

Kuwait strikes \$367 million deal to acquire Turkish-made combat drones

Monitoring Desk DUBAI: Kuwait reached an agreement worth \$367 mil-

lion with Turkish drone giant Baykar to purchase its increasingly sought-after TB2 combat drones, the Kuwaiti army said.

The drone, Bayraktar TB2, boasts unmanned aerial vehicles that can carry lightweight, laser-guided bombs, and fly for up to 27 hours at a time, which, according to the company, was "a record," it had set while testing the drone in Kuwait in 2019. The announcement,

on Tuesday, would set Kuwait to become the 28th country to procure the TB2 Demand for the drones reached for comment.

has surged due to their suc-

cessful deployment in conflict zones such as Libya, Syria and Ukraine.

Kuwaiti Air Force operations chief brigadier, General Fahad Al-Dosari, said in a video posted on their Twitter account that the drone fleet can support the navy and coast guard, as well as monitor maritime and land borders. He said the drones can also "carry out reconnaissance and targeted missions" in addition to supporting search and rescue efforts.

Baykar and the Kuwaiti government did not say how many drones were purchased or when they would be delivered. Both could not be immediately

The drones? priced un-

to estimates? are produced by Baykar Defense company, which belongs to the family of Selcuk Bayraktar, the sonin-law of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Bayraktar is the company's chief technical officer. The TB2 has been credited with helping tip the balance of conflicts in Libya, as well as to Turkey's ally Azerbaijan in fighting with Armenianbacked forces in the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region in 2020. It has also enabled Ukraine to mount a stiff defense of its cities, carrying out attacks against Russian forces with an effectiveness that surprised many Western military experts and triggered a rush among nations to procure the

der \$2 million each according

U.N. nuclear chief delays visit to Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant

unmanned craft.

KYIV: U.N. nuclear chief cial said on Wednesday.

Grossi had been expected to visit the facility on Wednesday following talks in Kyiv on Tuesday.

delivery of Russian nuclear weapons Lukashenko said in an in-

Belarus starts taking

MINSK: Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko has said his country has started taking delivery of Russian tactical nuclear weapons, some of which he said were three times more powerful than the atomic bombs the US dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. The deployment is Moscow's first move of such warheads - shorterrange less powerful nuclear weapons that could potentially be used on the hattlefield - outside Russia since the fall of the Soviet Union.

We have missiles and bombs that we have received from Russia,"

terview with the Rossiya-1 Russian state TV channel which was posted on the Belarusian Belta state news agency's Telegram channel. "The bombs are three

times more powerful than those (dropped on) Hiroshima and Nagasaki,"he said, speaking on a road in a forest clearing with military vehicles parked nearby and some kind of military storage facility visible in the background. Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Friday that Russia, which will retain control of the tactical nuclear weapons, would start deploying them in Belarus after special storage facilities to house them were made ready.



Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri casts his vote as parliament gathers to elect a president at the parliament building in downtown Beirut, Lebanon.

Turkiye won't back Swedish Nato bid unless it stops anti-Turkish protests: Erdogan

Monitoring Desk ANKARA: Sweden should not expect a change of attitude from Ankara on its Nato membership bid at the Western alliance's summit next month unless it prevents anti-Turkiye protests in Stockholm, Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan was quoted as saying on Wednesday.

Turkiye cannot approach Sweden's Nato bid positively while "terrorists" were protesting in Stockholm, and Turkiye's clear once again in talks with Swedish officials in Ankara on Wednesday,

Erdogan was quoted as telling reporters on a flight returning from Azerbaijan on Tuesday.

Erdogan made his comments before officials from Turkiye, Sweden, Finland and Nato met on Wednesday in Ankara for talks to try to overcome Turkish objections that have delayed Sweden's NATO membership bid.

In March, Turkiye ratified Finland's bid for membership of the North position would be made Atlantic Treaty Organization, but still objects to Sweden joining the alliance, as does Hungary.

Sudan's war displaces over 2 million, as fighting rages in Darfur region: UN

Monitoring Desk

CAIRO: The conflict in Sudan has displaced more than 2 million people, the United Nations said on Wednesday, as a U.N. official warned that escalating attacks in Darfur city could amount to "crimes against humanity.'

Sudan has plunged into chaos since mid-April when monthslong tensions between the military and its rival, the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces, exploded into an open fighting in the capital, Khartoum, and elsewhere across the northeastern African nation.

The fighting continued unabated Wednesday the western region of Darfur, both have seen some of the worst battels. At least 959 civilians have been killed and about others were wounded as of June 12, according to Sudan's Doctors Syndicate, which tracks civilian casualties.

The brutal clashes have forced more than 1.6 million people to leave their homes to safer areas inside Sudan, according to the International Organization for Migration. About 530,000 others fled to the neighboring countries of Egypt, South Sudan, Chad, Ethiopia, the Central African Republic.

Exclusive-Bill Gates in China to meet President Xi on Friday - sources

Monitoring Desk HONG KONG: Bill Gates,

Microsoft Corp's cofounder, is set to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping on Friday during his visit to China, two people with knowledge of the matter said. The meeting will mark Xi's first meeting with a foreign private entrepreneur in recent years. The people said the encounter may be a one-on-one meeting. A third source confirmed they would meet

without providing details. The sources did not say what the two might discuss. Gates tweeted on Wednesday that he had

9 killed in latest clash between ethnic groups in **India's Manipur: police Monitoring Desk**

NEW DELHI: At least nine

people have been killed in the latest clashes between members of rival ethnic groups in India's northeastern state of Manipur, police said on Wednesday, as security forces pressed on with a hunt

for illegal weapons. Violence between members of the Kuki ethnic group, who mostly live in the hills, and Meiteis, the

dominant community in the low lands, erupted on May 3, sparked by resentment over economic benefits and quotas in government jobs and education reserved for hill people.

At least 80 people have been killed and more than 40,000 have been displaced in the state on the Myanmar border that is governed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's party.

Monitoring Desk

Rafael Grossi has delayed a planned trip to Ukraine's Russian-held Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant until it is safer to travel, a senior Ukrainian government offi-

Salute martyrs for their sacrifices, families for their patience: President

ISLAMABAD (APP): Wednesday condoled with the family members of the Pakistan Army soldiers who embraced martyrdom for the country.

He saluted the martyrs and their families on their passion for sacrifice. He also paid tributes to the martyrs for sacrificing their lives for the sake of the country's security.

family members of the soldiers who were martyred in Miran Shah on June 9.

to the family members of

He telephoned the

Subedar Asghar Shaheed Sepoy Naseem Shaheed, and Muhammad Zaman He also telephoned

the family members of Sepoy Saqib ur Rehman who embraced martyrdom in Haider Khel on May 31

Paying tributes to the services and sacrifices of the martyrs for their country, President Alvi thanked the families of the martyrs on behalf of the nation.

He also prayed to Allah Almighty for the eleva-The president talked tion of ranks of the de-

PTI purposefully deploys violence as policy: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday said keeping in view the facts that had been established so far, the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaaf (PTI) under its chief purposefully deployed violence as a policy.

Responding to a tweet of the PTI chairman, the prime minister in his tweet said if there was someone who deserved the title of modern-day Joseph Goebbels, chief propagandist for the German Nazi Party, was none other than Imran Khan. "He is certainly perfecting the art of

IK to forget how he incited his cult followers to violence over a span of one year! He called the Army and intelligence leadership names, exploited the people's emotions through slogans of 'Haqeeqi Azadi and use of religious symbols and even administered the oath of 'Jihad' to them,' he said. He said as the state symbols and military installations came under attack at the hands of his goons, he (the PTI chief) refused to condemn violence, what to speak of urging the arsonists to stand



ISLAMABAD: Convener MQM and MNA Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui called on the Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

PDM led govt striving to provide facilities to people: Agha Mehmood

QUETTA (APP): Parliamentary Secretary Housing and Works Member National Assembly (MNA) Jamiat Ulema-e- Islam Balochistan General Secre-Maulana Agha Mehmood Shah on Wednesday said that Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) led government believed in the development and prosperity of people in the country. Talking to APP, he said the federal government was striving to provide facilities including health, education, clean drinking water and others to public

in the state. He claimed that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf (PTI) did not provide any kind of funds to the MNAs of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam during the 3-and-a-half-year

He said that in the budget of 2022, funds of Rs. 50 crore have been given for development projects under which new tube-wells were installed to provide clean water drinking facilities to around 23 villages in Kalat, Mastung district and Tehsil Mangchar which has solved the long-standing problem of the people of the area.

He said that earlier the children and women were forced to bring water from far away in the areas of Lahar, Tura, Skilko, Kohang, Shekhri, Katili, Hasan Lalu, Pindran, Bencha in Kalat district. In the same way, water supply was installed in the areas of Mastung district Kardgaap, Dasht, village Zehrigut, Ganjadori, village Karsur, village Muhammad Hassani, Esplanji, Kund Imrani, Anjiri while tehsil Mangchar, Johan,

Karchap, Baramzai, Sardar. Kot also started supplying clean water to the people by installing water supply to the people. Development works have also been done in respective areas including Marab, Killi Saloli Lakhoria, Adar Toba, Jhad Tarasani, Killi, Khayarzai and other areas of Surab district



QUETTA: A delegation of Panjgur Press Club led by its President Umar Majid meeting with Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Imran Gichki

APCA Balochistan demands GoB to implement on federal budget with letter and spirit

Independent Report QUETTA: The President All Pakistan Clerks Asso-

(APCA) ciation Dad Balochistan, Muhammad Baloch has demanded of the provincial government to implement on the federal budget with true letter and spirit regarding raise in salaries of the provincial government em-

ployees. In a demand made here on Wednesday, the provincial President of APCA also demanded of the Government of Balochistan to make 35 percent increase in the salaries of government employees and 30 percent in the pensions of retired employees in next provincial budget for year 2023-

Dad Muhammd Baloch also demanded of the provincial government to pay the 10 percent DRA

year's budget giving needed relief to the employees.

He said that although the increase of 35 percent made in salaries of the federal government employees is not enough, but still they consider it quite better for them, thus demand of the provincial government to follow the decision.

He warned that strong protest campaign would be launched if the demand of APCA was not met imme-

hold a protest public meeting to press the provincial government for acceptance of demands on June 15 (to-

He pointed out that the government employees are facing severe financial issues due to the unprecedented inflation. As a result, it has become very difficult for them to make their both ends meet, he main-



ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf addressing the participants of National Conference-Local Democracy Moving Forward for Achieving Sustainable Development Goals in Pakistan

NA Speaker says: Accelerating SDGs implementation crucial for sustainable development

Speaker of the National Assembly, Raja Pervez Ashraf, emphasized the significance of focusing on the policies, processes, and challenges related to the localization of Sustainable Development (SDGs) in Pakistan and assured full support from parliament to facilitate the legislative processes for achieving the SDGs Agenda 2030.

Speaking at the National Conference titled "Empowered Local Governments-Moving Forward to Accelerate the Implementation of Agenda 2030" organized by Lead for SDGs in Islamabad, the Speaker highlighted the need to accelerate SDGs

All Pak mobile

phone traders'

association

delegation

visits PTA

ISLAMABAD (APP): A

delegation representing the

All Pakistan Mobile Phone

Traders Association led by

General Secretary (GS)

Munir Baig Mirza visited

Pakistan Telecommunica-

tion Authority (PTA) Head-quarters, in Islamabad to-

day. The delegation met

with Chairman PTA, Ma-

jor General ® Hafeez Ur

Rehman, and discussed

matters related to the busi-

ness interests of mobile

phone traders, particularly

in relation to mobile de-

vices, applicable FBR du-

by Pakistan in defining national strategies, development plans, and institutional reforms to achieve the SDGs. The Speaker commended the efforts of the SDGs Task Force, led by Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam, emphasizing the pivotal role of localizing SDGs for the socio-economic derelopment of the country. He assured support from parliamentarians at all levels, including the National, Provincial, and local governments, to facilitate the legislative processes for achieving the SDGs Agenda

implementation in the country. He acknowledged the SDGs by implementing and substantial progress made monitoring sustainable policies at the grassroots level. Local governments possess a deep understanding of local needs, resources, and challenges, enabling them to address unique develop ment issues within their jurisdictions. The speaker stressed the importance of integrating SDGs into local development plans and strategies to contribute to the global agenda while ensuring measurable and impactful progress at the community level. Ms. Romina Khursheed Alam, Convener of the SDGs Task Force, reaffirmed the com-2030. Furthermore, the mitment of the SDGs Sec speaker emphasized the crucial role of local govern- SDGs.

Marriyum says: Artists asset of nation who

play key role in promoting national culture, identity LAHORE (APP): Minister next fiscal year, Rs. 2 bil

for Information and Broadcasting Aurangzeb on Wednesday said that artists were national asset who play a key role in promoting national culture and developing national identity. She expressed these

views in a meeting with film, stage and television 'Encouragement of

creative thinking is indispensable for the growth of the society," the minister

In the budget of the sector, she added.

lion had been allocated for the film finance fund while Rs. 1 billion for the health insurance of artists, she said, adding that revival and development of the film industry was the "top prior ity of the government" The minister said that

promoting the positive image and true identity of Pakistan around the world was the need of the hour. Films are an impor

tant means of highlighting a

country's culture, history, values, heritage and tourism



QUETTA: A delegation led by Provincial President Pakistan Paramedical Association Abdul Salam Zehri meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

Kiran declares PPP as best political choice for women

QUETTA (APP): Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP)'s Secretary Information Women Wing Balochistan and Focal Person of the Federal Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis, Human Development Kiran Baloch said that the best choice in politics for the women of Balochistan was the PPP's

She, in a statement, on Wednesday said Fatima Jinnah and Benazir Bhutto are the best examples for those women who wished to join politics.

CTD arrests **TTP workers**

KARACHI (APP): The Sindh Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) and an intelligence agency in an operation arrested two alleged activists of Tehreeke-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) when they were funding for their organization.

According to a spokesman for CTD on Wednesday, the accused were arrested from New Karachi Industrial Area and Shershah. They were identified

as Fazal-ur-Rehman and Raheem Afridi. The agencies also re-

covered funding cash Rs 40,900 from their posses sion and literature.

E.mail: dailyindisb@gmail.com. Quetta Office: Al Syed Building Jinnah road, Quetta, Phone 2842938 Fax: 2842941

focusing on dire need for maximum donations **Independent Report** tients suffering from blood

Blood Donor Day observed

Blood Donor Day was observed in the provincial metropolis as elsewhere in the country and world on Wednesday. Marking the Blood Donor Day, blood donation camps were organized while a seminar and awareness walk was also

held in the metropolis. The main blood donation camp was set up by the Fatimid Foundation at the Institute of Nephro-Urology.

A number of volunteers turned up at the camp thalassemia and other pa-city.

A seminar was also held at the Institute. More-

over, an awareness walk was also arranged there in which the Fatimid Foundation's provincial head and trustee, Dr. Amir Muhammad Khan Jogezai, other doctors, medical staff and volunteers participated.

Similarly, blood camp was also set up at the Pashtoonkhaw Blood bank. A rally marking the day was also taken out and blood camp was arranged by the to donate their blood for Baloch Blood Bank in the

ECC allows PPL to execute proposed framework agreement with SOCAR

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the Cabinet on Wednesday after a detailed discussion allowed Pakistan LNG Limited (PLL) to execute the proposed framework agreement with the State Oil Company of Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR) Trad-

The ECC, which met here with Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue

Dar in chair, considered a summary of the Ministry of Energy (Petroleum Division) regarding the frame-Pakistan LNG Limited (PLL) and State Oil Comlease. The committee directed the Ministry of Petroleum to determine the country's need for LNG at least three months

in advance on a rolling basis.

Senator Mohammad Ishaq work agreement between pany of Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR), said a press re-

They have been

registered by one Majid Mehmood.

Syed Akbar Hussain have also been nominated in FIR.



Economic revival:

Khawaja Asif for getting rid of sick organizations, stopping tax evasion

Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif on Wednesday stressed the need for getting rid of sick organizations and taking effective measures to stop the billions of rupees tax evasion, causing a constant dent to the national

Participating in the National Assembly debate for the budget 2023-24, he said giving the life-support and keep-pumping the financial resources to the deadwoods was the 'crime against the state,' being committed since long.

He said the incumbent government, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, tried to give beyond the possibility relief to the common man despite the severe financial

challenges, and in his view it remained successful to some extent.

The minister highlighted financial hardships of the public due to prevailing economic situation in the country and increased inflation, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar tried his best to possible the impossible' within the limited resources but there was dire need to strengthen the national economy with corrective measures

He said the government had to pay a huge interest amount against the loans which was higher than the 'federal receipts.

Khawaja Asif said the government would have to get rid of the sick organization, citing examples of two such departments [without major source of the taking their names] of country's income.

which debt was over Rs 1000 billion but they were being carried forward for reasons beyond understanding. Their early disposal would be better for

the country, he added. "Billions of rupees are being spent on such organizations sick to keep them alive and pumping the dead ones whose survival is impossible. It is a crime against the state," he said. adding the CEO and COO of the departments, supposed to alleviate poverty from the country, were getting Rs 300,000-350,000 monthly salaries while holding their positions intact on stay orders of the

The minister said revenue collection was the



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar chaired the meeting of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the Cabinet.

MQM convener Khalid calls on PM

ISLAMABAD (Online): Convener MQM and MNA Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui has called on Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif and paid him tribute for laying foundation stone of K-4 project.

The two leaders exchanged views on prevailing political situation in the country during the meeting held in PM House on

Wednesday. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui thanked the PM for including development projects of Sindh particularly urban areas in the budget for the financial year

He also paid rich trib-PM for laying foundation stone of K-4 project for resolving old standing water problem in

Over 40 drug addicts held from Quetta city nullah

Independent Report QUETTA: Over 40 drug addicts and peddlers were apprehended during crackdown against them in the city nullah falls in the jurisdiction of Sadar police station on Wednesday.
According to details,

the police team raided in the nullah passing through near Jail road and Mano Jan road and caught over 40 drug addicts and peddlers from

The police also recovered a pistol from a drug addict during the crack-

down, it was learnt. The apprehended drug addicts and peddlers were shifted to the Sadar police station. The police officials informed that the addicts would be sent to the drug rehabilitation center being operated by the Social Welfare department in due course of time.

Treason, terrorism cases registered against Sabir, **Moeed Pirzada** ISLAMABAD (Online)

Case of treason and terrorism have been registered against four persons including Sabir Shakir and Moeed Pirzada in Aabpara police

charged with inciting the people to attack military installations on May 9 through video messages. The case has been got

Mohid ud Din and

Only 5% given benefit, 95% given no benefit in budget: Javed Latif

ISLAMABAD (Online): PML-N leader and federal minister Mian Javed Latif has said which is the hand that does not allow to arrest facilitators of May 9 incidents.

No sector has been given the facility in the budget but no one is talking. 95 percent have not been given any benefit in budget and only 5 percent have been given benefit.

He said this while expressing his views in National Assembly (NA) Wednesday.

Dr Yasmin Rashid cident but she was acquitacquitted. Imran Khan will be acquitted then we will

See the judges are doing what with Pakistan, he

He said no one is own-

ing budget today and nor any one is criticizing it that they know they have left

He remarked 35 percent increase in salaries is insufficient.

People are thinking is our defence in safe hands. IMF is saying money will not be given without political stability. Is IMF not politicking. It is interfering in internal affairs of Pakistan. US president was arwas involved in May 9 in- rested for the reason that he concealed state files and ted. Pervez Elahi will be took them away with him. They are conspiring to bail out the man who attacked

PPP committed to serve people in country

QUETTA (APP): President of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Balochistan Women's Wing and former provincial minister Ghazala Gola and General minister Secretary Zareena Zehri on Wednesday said that the PPP was committed to serving people in the coun-

They said this while talking to a delegation of women who met here. Both leaders said that whenever the Pakistan Peoples Party come into power, it had

served the masses. Ghazal Gola said that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project was owed to the PPP and its completion would usher in a new era of development and prosper-

President Asif Ali Zardari gave provincial autonomy to small provinces and provided employment opportunities to the educated youth of Balochistan under the initiative of Balochistan Ghazal said that the

future belongs to the PPP and it would win the upcoming general elections with a thumping majority. She said that women were the backbone of the

country and steps should be taken to utilize their potential. General Secretary Zareena Zehri said that due to the wrong economic poli-

cies of the Imran Khan gov-

ernment, the country was



ISLAMABAD: Federal Ombudsman EjazAhmed Qureshi presiding over a Webinar organized by Asian Ombudsman Association

Talha announces successful impact of Hajj Portal in resolving pilgrims' issues

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood held a press conference on Wednesday to discuss the positive impact of the Hajj portal on pilgrims in Pakistan and Saudi

He emphasized the portal's significance in addressing various issues faced by pilgrims during their sacred journey.

Senator Talha highighted his personal commitment to facilitating direct communication with

This team had developed a state-of-the-art Hajj portal, enabling pilgrims to lodge complaints and providing the minister with a platform to monitor and promptly address their concerns. In addition, the minis-

lished complaint centers in Makkah and Madinah to further assist in resolving pilgrims' issues. He assured everyone

ter informed the audience

that the ministry had estab-

that the ministry was dedicated to ensuring the proand would continue to strive for the success of the