ndenemalent

dailyindkhi@gmail.com

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

Karachi

Ph: 0300-3898091 Vol: 05. No. 184 Ze'qad 29, 1444 AH Monday June 19, 2023 Pages 04 Price Rs. 12.00

CM for opening portion of Malir expressway by Dec

KARACHI (APP): Sindh establish 'Access Confrom Quaidabad to Kathore Chief Minister Syed Murad trolled High-Speed Ex- 15 percent progress had Ali Shah during his visit to the under-construction Malir Expressway directed the local government department to speed up the work so that one portion of the project from Korangi or Quiadabad could be and 50kph on its interopened by December.

The Chief Minister along with provincial minister Sharjeel Memon, Mayor Karachi Murtaza Wahab, Special Assistant Syed Qasim Naveed, and Deputy Mayor Salman Murad visited 39.4 km under-construction Malir Expressway from Korangi to Kathore. Commissioner Karachi Iqbal Memon, Secretary LG Najam Shah, PD Niaz Soomro and Special Secretary Finance ages of the Expressway project- Jam Sadiq to at the Site.

The Malir Expressway project facility was being developed on the left bank of the Malir River to

pressway'

been achieved.

The CM was told that

changes and six straight

bridges on which work was

in progress.
The Chief Minister

said that with the comple-

tion of the project, the traf-

project would cut around 40

km distance for the traffic

and going out to Jasmshoro

said that the completion of

the project would usher in

Syed Murad Ali Shah

Sindh Chief Minis-

ter Syed Murad Ali Shah

during his visit to Malir

Expressway inspected

the damaged Weir at

Razak Goth, RD-1 of the

and even to Thatta.

its adjoining areas.

It would have a sixlane with three-meter side the project had six intershoulders dual carriageway. The expressway way had been designed for 100kph speed on the expressway

The starting point of the project was Korangi would come down. The Road, before Jam Sadiq Bridge, it would have an interchange for Jam Sadiq coming towards Karachi Bridge at KPT Flyover. It would cover Korangi, Shah Faisal Colony (Quaidabad), and would end at Kathore.

The project Director of the Expressway Niaz new vistas of development Soomro while briefing the in Malir, particularly in the Chief Minister said that areas of Memon Goth and there were two parts/pack-Quaidabad where the progress of the work had been recorded at around 38

On the other package Malir River.



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah along with others being briefed by officials about construction work of Malir Expressway road under the supervision of local government department, during his inspection

PM Shehbaz orders inquiry, crackdown on human traffickers

Announces day of mourning over death of Pakistanis in Greece shipwreck incident

ISLAMABAD (APP): committee to conduct an istry of Foreign Affairs Prime Minister inquiry into the tragic in- (Africa) Javed Ahmad Muhammad Shehbaz

Sharif on Sunday announced the observance of a day of mourning on June 19 over the death of Pakistani nationals who lost their lives after a ship carrying migrants sank off the coast of Greece on 'Tomorrow, the na-

tional flag will fly on halfmast and special prayers would be offered for the deceased," PM Office Media Wing said in a press statement issued in the Urdu language. Moreover, according

to another notification of the PM Office, the prime minister has constituted a high-level four-member

incident on 14th June, 2023, a boat carrying migrants capsized off the coast of Greece resulting in the deaths of Pakistani/ AJK nationals along with other nationals. The number of casualties are being still ascertained. The prime minister, while expressing his grief over the incident and also taking a serious note of it, has been pleased to constitute an inquiry committee," the notification said.

The committee will be headed by its chairman Director National Police Bureau Ehsan Sadiq and Additional Secretary Min-dents in the past

Ùmraní, DIG Azad "In an unfortunate Jammu and Kashmir Police Region Poonch Sardar Zaheer Ahmad and Joint Secretary Interior Division, FIA Faisal Nisar Ch. as its members.

The inquiry committee would submit its report within one week. According to the notification, the inquiry committee would ascertain facts of the Greece boat tragedy, identify loopholes and lapses in the legal/enforcement mechanism in Pakistan that exposed precious human lives to the vagaries of human trafficking in this particular case and similar inci-

Pakistan activating 'Plan-B' as stalemate with IMF talks persists

ISLAMABAD (Online): again reiterated that Paki-The Shehbaz government is stan would not default. reportedly moving ahead with the 'Plan B' (The arrangement referred to by both Finance Minster Ishaq dar and his deputy dr Aysha Gahus pasha on several occasiojns) under the notion that the country which it is requesting the would soon default, just friendly nations to plug the up to \$4 billion financial gap as the negotiations with the IMF (International About ge Monetary Fund) aren't going nowhere. With the IMF programme set to expire on June 30, the government believes it can meet all the financial needs, sources say, if the countries like China, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia agree for additional deposits.

Earlier, Dar had said after presenting the 2023-24 budget that the government was working on a Plan B if the IMF did not release the pending loan.

ing any details, saying, "Plan-B is always there".

Separately, the finance minister had also said that those behind the running the "Reimagining Pakistan movement should stop frightening the people with hours after Miftah Ismail claimed that the budget was

About geopolitics, Dar had told the Senate Standing Committee on Finance that external forces were attempting to undermine Pakistan's economic stability by forcing it into a situation similar to that of Sri Lanka and subsequently negotiating with the IMF.

He made it clear that

Pakistan would not bow down to the IMF's demands of the IMF, which has raised objections to the country's budget proposals for the next financial year.

He had, however, avoided explaining or shareign country and would not accept everything the IMF demanded, but rather aim to He stated that the features achieve the country's ecoof the plan could not be nomic targets and priorities, talked about in public and he added.

Maryam grieved over Greece boat sinking incident

LAHORE (APP): Senior welcomed decision of Prime Organiser Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) Maryam Nawaz has expressed grief over loss of lives of Pakistanis due to sinking of a boat in Greece.

Maryam Nawaz while extending sympathies with the bereaved families, has

Vice President and Chief Minister Shehbaz Sharif to observe Monday (tomorrow) as day of mourning. She called for strict

action against human smugglers playing with the lives of the people. Maryam Nawaz also prayed for the departed souls of the sor-



KARACHI: Administrator District Korangi

Muhammad Sharif Khan along with Dr. Ghazal

Khawaja Director Student Guidance Bureau of

University of Karachi along with her team are vis-

iting DMC Korangi CSS Corner during meeting

Elections should be held

as per constitution: Kaira

held at DMC Korangi CSS Corner in Karachi.

ISLAMABAD (Online): Office, the two sides held Pakistan and Iran have agreed to deepen cooperation in trade, energy, transport, connectivity, cultural exchanges and educational

The understanding was reached during wideranging discussions be-

tween Pakistan's Foreign Secretary Dr. Asad Majeed Khan and Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Bagheri Kani on the occasion of 12th bilateral consultations in Tehran. According to Foreign

Asad Majeed Khan Sunday interacted with Iranian scholars and academia in They discussed

trum of relations.

Pakistan's vision for peace and development in the region by prioritizing regional partnerships and connec-They underlined that

fruitful talks on entire spec-

Foreign Secretary

Pakistan and Iran were partners in regional peace and



KARACHI: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori addressing Post-Budget

Bilawal expresses grief over road mishap near Kallar Kalhar

KARACHI (APP): Chairman of Pakistan People Party (PPP) and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Sunday ex-pressed grief and sorrow over a bus accident on a motorway near Kallar Kalhar, which claimed

many previous lives. He said, "I am saddened to hear about the loss of precious lives." He said that his heart went out to the bereaved families.

Bilawal said that an immediate inquiry should be conducted to ascertain

the cause of the accident. He said that the relevant officials and the citizens had to play their role to avert such accidents in the future.

He also prayed for the early recovery of the injured persons in the tragic accident.

BLF Commander Nawaz Rind killed outside Pakistan RAWALPINDI (Online):

Nawaz Ali Rind, the commander of the banned militant outfit Baloch Liberation Front (BLF), was killed in an internal fight outside

Rind, who belonged to Awaran district of Balochistan and a leading BLF member since 2014, was involved in several attacks on security forces. He was killed mysteriously at a neighbouring country.

After Gulzar Imam alias Shambe's arrest, there has been a split in the militant groups operating in Balochistan.

Info Minister terms screen tourism as best way to propagate Pak narrative ISLAMABAD (APP): stagnate. However, since

Minister for Information Broadcasting and Marriyum Aurangzeb on Sunday said that the revival and expansion of Pakistan's film industry were vital to project the national narrative through screen tourism.

"Screen tourism presents an opportunity to spread the narrative of Pakistan, as seen in the successful examples of Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Iran, where budding film industries have thrived", she said while addressing 25 high achievers of the National Amateur Film Festival Award bound to leave for Australia on Monday. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has sponsored these 25 students one-year training in New

The government was to promote Pakistan's narrative, focusing on heritage, youth engagement, and tourism through screen tourism, she maintained. The minister said it

York Academy, Australia.

was high time to invest in industry, which currently enjoyed tax exemptions. 'Over the next de-

cade, I foresee a revival of the industry that will allow it to compete with neighbouring countries and even international markets," she said adding that the high achievers had the potential to make a significant impact in this field.

The minister recalled that Pakistan's film industry faced a significant setback between 1970 and 2000, causing its growth to

2000, the industry has experienced a boost, although its progress has been hindered by the absence of cinemas and affordability issues, which limited access for the general public, she maintained. The minister said the government introduced a film policy in 2017 to address these challenges.

She said that extensive research and consultations with relevant stakeholders and experts were conducted to develop this comprehensive policy. Lessons, she added ,were learned from countries with flourishing film industries or successful revivals, providing valuable insights.

Marriyum Aurangzeb said that incentives for the film industry were included in the 2018 budget, and after coming into power again last year, the coalition government established a dedicated film division in the ministry.

The film sector cur-

rently enjoyed zero taxation, with income tax ex-Pakistan's entertainment emptions for individuals and production houses. Import of equipment for film and drama production had also been tax exempted, she said.

The minister disclosed that the corporate entities providing funds for film production can claim CSR tax credits from the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), making it a significant incentive.

Furthermore, she said. the government has approved a film finance fund with an initial allocation of

ISLAMABAD: Ms. MarriyumAurangzeb, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting addressing the NASFF's high achievers who are leaving for Australia to participate in the National Amateur Film Festival Award. Budget approved Murtaza

with allies consensus: Ahsan Iqbal

PMLN decides to address PPP concerns on budget

ISLAMABAD (INP): N leadership, saving poli-Planning Minister Ahasan tics or the state, and the Iqbal shooting down the concerns of ally party PPP about federal budget for fiscal year 2023-24, clarified that the budget was approved by the consensus of

Ahsan Iqbal said that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif always included allies in his decisions.

Ahsan said when the PMLN government came into power along with it sallies, there were two ways in front of the PML- worthiness," he said.

PMLN choose the latter

alleged that 'change' of 2018 has become a nightmare for Pakistan. "Terrorism was eradicated from Pakistan under the leadership of Nawaz Sharif but the journey of progress from Pakistan was ended under conspiracy. PML-N gave CPEC as a gift to the country but a clumsy, inexperienced worker was given a certificate of trust-

During the 10-day crackdown Customs Intelligence seizes smuggled cigarettes worth Rs 303 million

Independent Report KARACHI. According to the instructions of Chairman FBR Asim Ahmad and on the orders of Director General Customs Intelligence Faiz Ahmad Chadhar, the crackdown against cigarette smugglers was intensified. Customs Intelligence has seized smuggled cigarettes worth Rs 303 million during nationwide opera-

tions in the last ten days. The largest operation carried out in

subsided of Cyclone Biporjoy, in Thatta.

Balochistan, where Customs Intelligence seized 4,280,000 cigarettes of foreign brands worth Rs 114.2 million. While in Sindh province, as a result of eight operations, 1,420,700 cigarettes of top brands worth Rs. 69.7 million were confiscated. Similarly, during intelligence-based operations in Punjab, the Customs Intelligence team recovered 1,294,000 smuggled cigarettes worth Rs 75.3 million.

Wahab set to take oath as Karachi mayor

KARACHI (INP): The oath-taking ceremony of newly-elected Karachi mayor and deputy mayor will be held on Monday at

polo ground at 5pm. Sindh Election Commissioner Aijaz Chohan will administer the oath to Murtaza Wahab and Salman Murad as Karachi mayor

and deputy mayor.
On June 15, Pakistan People's Party (PPP) leader Barrister Murtaza Wahab was elected Karachi mayor after securing 173 votes.

EidulAdha: Ruet body to meet today for Zil Hajj moon sighting

KARACHI (INP): A meeting of the Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee will be held on Monday for sighting the crescent of Islamic month of Zil Hajj in Paki-

Maulana Khabeer Azad, the chairman of the Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee, will preside over the meeting in Karachi.

Similarly, zonal committees will also hold meetings in various cities, including Islamabad, Lahore, and Peshawar on the same day

It is worth mentioning here that the Central Ruete-Hilal Committee meets on the 29th of every Islamic month and makes the announcement after sighting the moon.



democratic norms. "Any political party achieved people's man-date in free and transparent election would have all the right to form government and address the country's problems", he said while talking to a Private news channel.

PPP has strong roots in masses that would win the general elections and complete the mission of former prime ministers Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and Benazir Bhutto Shaheed, he added.

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) Qamar

Zaman Kaira Sunday said

that the general elections

in the country should be

held according to the Con-

stitution and not on the

will and whims of a single

party as PPP believes in

He said the PPP believes in services to people, not abusive politics, adding, PPP is not fighting against any political party but against poverty and inflation.
PPP government had

always worked for poor people and downtrodden segments of the society, he added.

Replying a question, he said the blame of rigging is unacceptable as the party's success in Azad Jammu and Kash-mir (AJK) by-election reflected the AJK's people's fully support for the party.

To another question, he replied party would win the upcoming general elections with thumping majority with the support of its committed workers and followers.

Daily soice of Masse Independent

Undoing the past

The PDM coalition government seems to be preparing for the next general elections with some lastminute measures to 'level the playing field', so to speak. It has recently introduced legislation that will allow politicians handed a lifetime disqualification from holding public office to return to the political arena, and also to 'restore' to the ECP the sole power to announce and amend election schedules.

The latter seems to be a bid to preclude any legal challenges that may arise over any further tinkering with election timelines. The proposed amendment will allow the ECP to unilaterally decide when elections are to be held once they become due.

While this may have passed much scrutiny in simpler times the present context has complicated matters: the move seems aimed at providing legal cover to the ECP for its failure to hold elections to various assemblies within constitutionally stipu-

The other proposal, to limit disqualifications under Article 62(1)(f) to five years instead of a lifetime, is likely to draw even more controversy because critics will invariably see it as 'person-specific'. In particular, it will directly benefit PML-N leader Nawaz Sharif and the newly minted Istehkami-Pakistan Party's patron, Jahangir Tareen.

But, as the government has generously pointed out, the rule change will also apply to PTI chairman Imran Khan, who is the latest to have the disqualification sword hanging over his head. While the timing of this legislation is indeed unpropitious, the historical context must be considered.

The Supreme Court had been roundly criticised for ruling, in 2018, that an Article 62(1)(f) disqualification is for life. The article sets a rather nebulous standard for lawmakers, and the apex court's strict interpretation of it was widely seen as just a means to keep a thrice-elected prime minister out of the running from any future political contest on the basis of a rather weak conviction in the Panama Pa-

That said, the manner in which the Supreme Court's earlier decision is being undone is problematic. Laws that are passed without following the legislative process — ie, after robust debate and due consideration by both the government and opposition benches — remain vulnerable to future challenges and, therefore, lack durability. Parliament should be seen to be representative of the people. not just a party or group of parties, nor any individual.

Had these two proposals been discussed and debated with opposition parties, had the government helped their critics understand how its proposed legislation would benefit the political process, and had the government been transparent about the drafting of the laws, perhaps the objections raised would not have arisen. Parliament cannot be used only as a rubber stamp — it must be meaningfully invested in all legislation that passes through its two Houses

The whole scoop



Muna Khan

On a few people's recommendations I watched the Netflix show Scoop about an Indian journalist Jagruti Pathak's quest for front page stories and how, in that chase, she gets embroiled in the murder of another journalist. The person reporting stories suddenly becomes the story. It's a fascinating show that sheds light on the connections between the media, law enforcement and criminal gangs. And it's based on Jigna Vora's memoir Behind Bars in Byculla, about her time in prison, charged for the murder of journalist Jyotirmoy Dey in 2011. She was acquitted in 2018.

Scoop is not just about Pathak's incarceration and her fight to clear her name. It tells the story of a female crime reporter navigating a very maledominated space in which she must deal with their aspersions on her character and ethical practices. Pathak has worked hard to rise to reach her position and enjoys the full support of her editor. She deals with jealous colleagues and police officers playing politics in a bid to broker their own

deals Is Pathak a hero for trying to get to the truth or a ruthless reporter seeking glory for that front page story? Must she be one or the other?

shines a spotlight on the media industry, journalistic practices and relationships between the government (advertisers) and media companies, showed journalists' per- suited to your reality. I sonal lives. Too often one won't be surprised if -- Courtesy Dawn

doesn't realise how their 'fake reality' becomes a work impact families and relationships.

my attention on social media because users were show wherein the paper's editor cites weather to illustrate objectivity. The quote actually came from Jonathan Fraser, a journalist and professor at Sheffield University: "If someone says it's raining, and another person says it's dry, it's not your job to quote them both. Your job is to look out the [expletive] window and find out which is true." Many people sharing this quote said 'this is how journalism must be' or 'tell facts as they are'. The trouble is, often people don't like

Facts, for journalists, are like spices for chefs – an essential part of their craft. Journalists use them to make arguments, substantiate claims and also hold the powerful to account. Sadly, selling wild claims as facts has turned into a profitable business for which there are many eager buyers — the case of partisan YouTubers earning in the hundreds and thousands selling unsubstantiated claims is a prime example of how journalists' role has been misunderstood.

Journalists are meant

to play by the rules of the game but these rules assume politicians would "stay within the guardrails of truth" wrote the Australian editor Lenore Taylor in the Guardian in 2020. And we've seen, all over the world, how it's difficult to play by those rules "if the politicians themselves aren't in any way constrained by facts if they lie, contradict While the TV series themselves or simply make things up, or if their calculated tactic is to upend or subvert civic dialogue rather than participate in it". It's so easy to say 'fake news' to an op-

term given that TV channels all over the world Scoop first came to seem only too happy to air 'alternative facts' There are consequences sharing a still from the of this and the pandemic is one example of how leadership that put aside its divisions and chose to create policies based on scientific evidence fared better than others. At one point when then president Donald Trump was calling Covid the 'China virus' the mortality rate, measured as deaths per 100,000 citizens, was 54.18. Over in the UK when prime minister Boris

hands with coronavirus

fear, that figure was 62.4.

The rates came down

when

science fiction.

policymakers

Facts save lives. They have an essential role to play in news consuming audience's everyday decision-making whether in choosing how to prepare for the cyclone or where to repose their trust at election time. If journalists demand evidence-based information, not hyperbole, from politicians, I believe the audience's trust in the media will see a rise. Placing a group of ill-qualified analysts or party spokespersons to pass as a diverse panel is not journalism. Reporting a political leader's conferences without contextualising is not

journalism. So if a minister says the country is not going to default and an oppositional leader says it is, your job is not to report what they said but to look out the window, smile in the knowledge that you've done your homework - based on evidence — and are ready to ask the tough questions. Perhaps it bears reminding that journalism is hard work and one that requires thought it also aptly posing opinion or one not employing all tools of verification to get to the truth.

Civil service reform



Aizaz Ahmad

Chaudhry In the heart of Vienna lies a flourishing Pakistani restaurant that caters to thousands of tourists and locals. The owner has credited much of the restaurant's success to an enabling business envi-Johnson was shaking ronment. For instance, while his restaurant is regularly and rigorously patients to downplay the inspected by government officials, there is no expectation of or demand for turned to evidence, not bribes. One wonders what motivates Austrian government functionaries to do their job effectively and honestly. Is there a lesson we could learn from international best practices?

An Institutional Reforms Cell (2018-2021) with Dr Ishrat Husain at its helm examined this question. It noted that, besides law and order, the essential role of any government is to create an enabling environment for commerce and industry. This requires an efficient civil service, physical infrastructure and rule of law. The IRC observed that in Pakistan's case, the government is "weak and expansive", cumbersome, centralised and inefficient. Greater devolution of

power, authority and resources to grassroots levels of government also contributes to the provision of efficient public service delivery, provided there is, inter alia, a competent bureaucracy. China's stellar economic performance, for instance, attributed to a 'meritocratic bureaucracy' and focused leadership. In our case, the IRC noted that civil servants were "badly motivated" and "unresponsive" to public needs. It formulated pro-

were only partly implemented. Several other attempts to reform the civil services have suffered a similar fate. Committees and task forces are formed, reports are finalised, but not imple-

mented. The last major civil service reform took place in 1973 when Zulfikar Ali categorisation of civil servants from Class I, II, III and IV to a new structure based on pay grades 1-22. The 1973 reforms sought to end the elite culture and false sense of superiority that civil servants seemed to have assumed. Elitist titles like the Civil Service of Pakistan were abolished, and instead, a Common Training Programme for 13 occupational

groups was introduced.

But these reforms had a downside. They withdrew constitutional guarantee for service security, leading to frequent transfers of civil servants on political grounds and undermining rule-based continuity. Salaries were also compressed. Over time, the best and brightest started avoiding the civil service, and "mediocre and pliable" civil servants began to run government offices and institutions. Politicisation and mediocrity have severely impaired government's capacity to

create a congenial business environment or render efficient public service Gen Musharraf's National Reconstruction

Bureau tinkered with some aspects of the civil service, ostensibly to 'reconstruct' local governments, but many of the measures became controversial and were later reversed. Clearly, a reform stable and prosperous fupackage should cover the ture. Implementing civil whole value chain" of human resource policies. a high priority if we want The IRC rightly observed that recruitment methods rule-based governance and intake had outlived for our people. -- Courtheir utility; specialisation

posals for reform, which and technical expertise were marginalised, and performance had no link with remuneration. Internal accountability mechanisms had become weak.

To address this, the IRC proposed an 'All-Pakistan National Executive Service' for senior management positions, and the introduction of four specialised cadres under Bhutto changed the it for economic management, technical, social sector management, and general management. Another sound proposal was to reduce the hierarchy of each ministry and department from five to three deputy secretary, joint secretary, secretary order to infuse efficiency.

Central to civil service reforms is the system of recruitment of candidates for the central superior services by the Federal Public Service Commission (FPSC). The process of recruitment is long and tedious and benefits rote learners more than critical thinkers. In the CSS results for 2022, out of the 20,262 governance and policy candidates who appeared in the written examination, only 393 passed. The FPSC should consider open, transparent, technology-based methods, which are now being applied across the world, to recruit civil servants who are critical thinkers, tech-savvy and can relate to the growing needs of the people. Alternatively, the system of centralised recruitment through FPSC should be done away with, leaving recruitment, performance evaluation and promotion to each service to encourage specialisation and efficiency. An honest, competent and efficient bureaucracy is the 'steel structure' that can help Pakistan secure a service reforms should be economic security and tesv Dawn

Commerce News

AJK cabinet reviews supplementary budget for fiscal year 2022-23

MIRPUR (AJK) (APP): Scrutiny Committee government buildings. Azad Jammu and Kashmir constituted with reference Under this ordina (AJK) cabinet on Sunday reviewed supplementary budget for the fiscal year 2022-23.

The AJK Cabinet met at Jammu Kashmir house Minister Chaudhry Anwarul-Haq in the chair.

AJK Secretary Finance Ismatullah Shah, on the occasion, presented the figures of the supplementary budget for the financial year 2022-23 before the cabinet.

reviewed

State Assembly.

The demands approved by the cabinet in the Legislative

The cabinet all the cabine recommendations of the management

Under this ordinance.

to supplementary grants.
While deferring the maintenance of statebetter management and demands of some owned buildings within and departments in light of the outside the state would be recommendations put forth by the committee, Prime Minister also formed in the federal metropolis on Sunday with Prime the cabinet approved the a committee under the chairmanship of the the cabinet approved the a committee under the presented in the AJK Additional Chief Secretary. Legislative The committee has been asked to submit a report Finance within a month regarding Secretary has been the illegal use of the statedirected to present the owned buildings inside and

The cabinet also The Cabinet also approved an ordinance seeking a ewed the ordinance for better complete ban on memorations of the management. of deforestation.

MULTAN: Members of All Pakistan Clerks Association (APCA) are

holding protest demonstration for acceptance of their demands, held at Multan press club.

Indonesian envoy stresses on product diversification to raise bilateral trade benefits

The diversification of products and robust market research to identify new business sectors would be the key for the Pakistani community to gain maximum benefits from the bilateral trade relationship

Assistant Commissioner Pakistan. Assistant Adam M. Tugio while interacting with top CEOs at a "Dialogue on Indonesia-Pakistan Trade Relationship" organized by CEO Club Pakistan, said a news release issued

here Sunday.

Answering to various queries of leading business companies' chairpersons during an engaging session, Ambassador Tugio business highlighted many opportunities to further enĥance bilateral trade between Indonesia and This was stated by Ambassador of Indonesia

beyond raw materials and agricultural products. Textiles, leathers and pharmaceutical industries are the areas where business community of the two countries have the potential to team up in JV and produce items for the third country markets", the envoy said. Responding to the prospects of FTA, the Indonesian

community to identify more items where Pakistan has comparative advantage and consult with relevant authorities to include them in Trade in Goods Agreement (TIGA) as part of the review process to expand the PTA. He reminded the audience on the important location of Indonesia as hub for expanding trade to the wider area in Southeast Asia and suggested leapfrogging strategy to explore possibility of joining Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement which represents 15 countries.

Rupee edges lower against dollar for third week

KARACHI Pakistani rupee fell for the third consecutive week against the US dollar in the interbank depreciating by 0.09 percent on a week-on-week

According to the figures shared by the central bank, the rupee opened at 286.93 in the interbank market on Monday and closed at

Industrial development will help in increase of export curtail imports ISLAMABAD (INP): Sheikh urged the need of

Murtaza says:

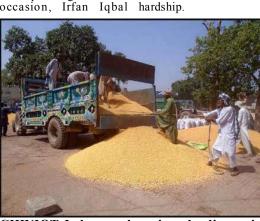
Minister for Industry and Production Makhdoom Syed Murtaza Mahmood Sunday visited Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI).

The minister also with President FPCCI Irfan Iqbal Sheikh and discussed ways and means to promote small and medium enterprises in

industrial development to attain rapid economic

He said that industrial development will help in increase of export curtail imports and generate employment opportunities for the people.

He said that whenever e borrowed from the IMF, our GDP growth decreased instead of increasing and also become Speaking on the areason for other economic



CHINIOT: Labourers busy in unloading maize from trolley at grain market.

PSX snaps two-week winning streak on economic uncertainty

KARACHI (TLTP): Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) snapped a twoweek winning streak owing to the uncertainty about International Monetary Fund (IMF) programme, growing political noise, failure of the federal budget to meet investors' expectations several other developments, with the benchmark KSE-100 Index dropping by 602.9 points to close the week in the red.

The KSE-100 Index fell -1.44 percent from 41,904.2 points to 41,301.3 last week after gaining 551.22 points 388.44 points (+0.95

percent) in the preceding weeks. Among

indices, the KSE All Share Index slipped by 333.04 points (-1.18 percent) last week to 7,920.66 points from 28,253.7 points, while KMI All Share Islamic Index fell by 202.21 points (-0.97 percent to 20,487.75 points from 20,688.96 points on a week-on-week basis.

The PSX remained bearish and lacklustre throughout the week, closing all the five sessions in the red, as investors took the new budget deviating from the (+1.33 percent) and context of the IMF loan programme.

Bitcoin slips to **\$26,512** in mixed trade

cryptocurrency market traded mixed on Sunday, with the market cap gaining 0.1 percent to reach \$1.11 trillion.

As of 1330 hours GMT, Bitcoin (BTC), the world's most valued token. slipped to \$26,512 with a minor decrease of 0.1 percent in the last 24 hours. The market capitalisation of the biggest crypto has reached \$514.5 billion with this decrease. Bitcoin has been 2.9 percent up in the past seven days. Bitcoin has recovered since hitting a

ISLAMABAD (TLTP): three-month low on Thursday. The filing of an application by BlackRock for a crypto-backed exchange-traded fund has driven BTC's gain, effectively putting an end to

its three-day losing streak. have unfolded amidst the US Commission's legal actions against Binance and Coinbase. Similarly, Ether largest cryptocurrency by market capitalisation, slipped by 0.3 percent to reach

These developments Securities and Exchange (ETH), the world's second-

Farmers Day organised in Sialkot SIALKOT (APP): Under the

auspices of the Department of Agriculture (Extension), the Farmers Day was organised at a marriage hall in Daska regarding cultivation of paddy.

AC) Daska Faisal Ahmed was the chief guest at the ceremony. Director of Agriculture (Extension) Dr Irshad Ahmed, Senior Research Scientist Dr. Muhammad Tahir Awan, Dr. Arshad Makhdoom, representative of Fauji Fertilizer Dr. Tahir Naeem and other experts addressed farmers.



CHINIOT: A farmer spreading fertilizer in a field.

Govt striving to give maximum relief to the poor: SAPM Hamid

SARGODHA Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Gas and Petroleum Chaudhry Hamid Hameed said on Sunday Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) led coalition government was making allout efforts to provide maximum relief to the poor and deserving segments of society in its limited

Talking to APP here on Sunday, he said the PML-N, during its previous tenure, launched significant uplift projects, eliminated terrorism, overcame power outage. revived economy and achieved other milestones progress prosperity of the country. He said that in 2013, before formation of the PML-N government

287.19 on Friday

Measures taking to develop underprivileged, neglected districts in KP: Governor

Governor Ghulam Ali, on Sunday said that steps are being taken to underprivileged neglected districts on par with developed areas of the

Malakand Division, particularly the district Dir, is blessed with natural beauty, and promoting tourism in the region will create employment opportunities and highlighted the for the local population.

In this regard, it is crucial for local officials and youth to play their role in

> Governor Haji

LAHORE: Chairperson Almarah Foundation Mrs.

Sofia Warriach, Pakistani Singer Abrar ul Haq

and Dy. Inspector General of police Mehboob Lilla

cutting ribbon during the completion of 100 kids

and inauguration the 5th house of Almarah

PML-N steers out country

of difficulties: Muqam

President Pakistan Muslim

League-Nawaz (PML-N)

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa,

Engineer Amir Muqam on

Sunday said that under the

leadership of Muhammad

Nawaz Sharif and Prime

Minister Shehbaz Sharif,

the country was steered

out of difficulties;

otherwise, the Tehreek-e-

Insaf (PTI) had plunged

district Khyber after Alhaj

Addressing at Shakas

Shaji Gul joining PML-N, poor and needy.

the nation into chaos.

(APP): Ghulam Ali expressed these 28-member delegation, chairpersons, councilors, province. and representatives from political parties, including federal government is also the Peoples Party of providing assistance to Pakistan, Jamaat-e-Islami, and Awami National Party.

The delegation, led by Chairman Maulana Ashfaq Hanafi, apprised the Governor of various issues related to the Dir district challenges faced by local municipalities. Governor Haji Ghulam Ali assured the delegation of his full cooperation in finding problems

He said that the views during a meeting here provincial government is at Governor House with a committed to ensure equal development in all urban consisting of elected and rural areas of the

> Furthermore, providing assistance to expedite the development

The Governor said that local representatives are closest to the people and, therefore, funds have been allocated in the budget for elected municipal representatives to initiate developmental projects at the grassroots level. Governor

Ghulam Ali urged the elected representatives from all districts.

Youngster shot dead by unknown outlaws

KHANEWAL (APP): A youngster was shot dead by unknown outlaws at Village 42/ 10-R on Sunday.

According police sources, Imran Khan s/o Musa Khan resident of Village 42/ 10-R in premises of Sadar police station was standing outside his house when unknown armed outlaws shot him

The criminals also managed to escape from the scene.

Taking notice of the incident, the District Police Officer (DPO) Rana Omer Farooq directed officers concerned to arrest the criminals as early as possible.

have collected the evidences from the crime scene and started search operation in the area after registration of sources added.



chairpersons, councilors, and representatives from political parties.

Baligh permits recruitment of homeopathic doctor for hospitals

Independent Report LAHORE: Governor Punjab Baligh Ur Rehman allowed recruitment 'homeopathic' doctors in government hospital to

treat patients.

According to private
TV channel a group of
national council of
homeopathy met governor
Punjab Baligh Ur Rehman and brought his attention towards empty seat of homeopathic doctors in

headquarter hospitals and policy.

headquarter hospitals (THQs) and teaching hospitals. Seats are also empty in village health units, basic health units, said group.population is deprived of alternate method of treatment. Majority of Punjab people rely on homeopathic treatment.Governor Punjab allowed recruitment

homeopathic hospital. Official notification government hospitals.
Group said seat of
Homeopathic doctors are
empty in district
Gricial notification
has been issued. It was
said in notification that
homeopathic doctors
be recruited as per law

Electoral rolls to be frozen after July 13: DEC MIRPURKHAS (APP):

Commissioner (DEC) Mirpurkhas Khalid Hussain has urged the people to get their votes registered before July 13 as the electoral rolls will be frozen after the date. In a statement on Sunday, DEC asked the people of Mirpurkhas to register, transfer and validate their votes before July 13 and can contact the district Election Commission Mirpurkhas. In this regard, especially women,

transgender and persons with disability are requested to check their votes through SMS by sending their National Identity Card number to 8300, if any kind of correction is required.

KP CM finalizes proposals of expenditures for development

PESHAWAR (APP): by Chief Secretary Nadeem Caretaker Chief Minister Aslam Chaudhry, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Muhammad Azam Khan on Sunday chaired a highlevel meeting in which he finalised proposals regarding the proposed expenditures both of current and development sides during the first four months of the upcoming

proposed expenditures would be presented to the caretaker provincial cabinet for authorisation. Besides caretaker cabinet members Hamid Shah and measures with the aim to Himayatullah khan, the create maximum fiscal

financial year.

Additional Chief Secretary Planning and Development, Zubair Asghar Qureshi, Secretary Finance, Muhammad Ayaz and other relevant high ups.

The meeting was given detailed briefing about various aspects of the current and development expenditures to be incurred during the first four months of the fiscal year 2023-24.

The meeting also finalised various proposals regarding measures with the aim to meeting was also attended space for development.

Forests preservation, growth mandatory to mitigate climate change impacts

Where climate change issue is affecting the whole world, its impacts in Pakistan are also increasing by each passing year as according to a study Pakistan is among the list of countries vulnerable to climate change if timely measures are not taken.

As many other

No doubt, there are

many other challenges being

faced by the country but

this issue requires special

attention of the current

governments, both central

and provincial.

measures are necessary to mitigate the effects of climate change, the most important one is to grow more trees besides controlling deforestation.

The forensic team

government has taken numerous measures for sustainable growth and preservation of forest resources of the province by ensuring careful utilization and protection of forest lands.

"Considering forests a rich potential of the province, the government is giving due consideration to its protection and sustainable growth through different measures including setting up of enclosures, protection from fire, prohibition in cutting of trees and safety from livestock grazing, informed Ibrahim Khan, Senior Officer of the KP

Taking to APP, Ibrahim Khan said all the Keeping in view the departments concerned had gravity of the issue, the been taken on board for Khyber Pakthunkhwa preempting fire incidents in

Forest Department.

forests due to heatwave during summer season.

The department had constituted teams in all the forest areas for round the clock monitoring, while a new system of fire line technology had been introduced for developing distance among trees by removal of weeds and bushes which usually catch fire and spread the blaze instantly, he mentioned.

Ibrahim awareness material in shape of printed pamphlets was also distributed among people living in forests and in its vicinity to educate them about response in case of fire. The same material was also shared with tourists visiting scenic sites with a request to avoid fire lit in forests.

government, he added, also any forest or nearby area enacted Forest Amendment as national park. Bill 2022 for protection of forests, in which, penalties in shape of imprisonment and fines had been enhanced for those found

In the law, rules were introduced to increase sentence of two years imprisonment to three years and fine from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 500,000 for the violators. The law also enabled Divisional Forest Officers serving in newly merged districts to punish those found involve in degradation of forest.

involved in destruction of

government controlled

According to the law, the government would also take necessary measures for protection of forest Phulai, Anar dana, Bottle

Monitoring Desk

KAMPALA: Uganda's

Museveni on Sunday or-

dered more troops to west-

ern Uganda where attack-

ers from a group with links

to Islamic State killed at

least 37 secondary school

students. Members of the

rebel Allied Democratic

Forces (ADF) killed the

students late on Friday at

Lhubirira Secondary School

in Mpondwe, near the bor-

der with the Democratic

Military and police said the attackers had also ab-

ducted six students and fled

towards the Virunga National

Republic of Congo.

President

The ongoing Ten

Billion Tree Tsunami Project was initiated in 2019 with a total cost of Rs125.184bn for four years to plant and regenerate 3.296bn trees in the country, Ibrahim said, adding under the project, 650.14 million trees were planted in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa while 146.2 million trees in merged

During the plantation drive, focus was also given on growing Miyawaki forest by planting 207661 trees on 280 kanals of land.

He said majority of trees planted in Miyawaki forests were Chir, Eucalyptus, Amlook, carbon rights, besides Brush, Shisham, Wild provincial having the right to declare anar, Kachnar.

includes Rwenzori Moun-

tain, from where the ADF

launched their insurgency

against Museveni in the 1990s. "We are now sending

more troops into the area

south of Rwenzori Moun-

tain," he said in a statement.

perate, cowardly, terrorist

action, therefore, will not

save them. We are bringing

new forces to the Uganda

side as we continue the

hunting on the Congo side.'

On Saturday, privately owned NTV Uganda television said the death toll stood at 41, while the state-

run New Vision newspaper

said it was 42. New Vision

said 39 of the dead were

'Their action, the des-

International News

Putin warns NATO over being drawn into Ukraine war, says Russia has more nuclear weapons

during Imran Khan's

all commodities, including

essential items were out of

control but when PML-N

came into power, the

economic situation was

stabilized.He said that

Prime Minister Shehbaz

Sharif effectively managed

the prices of essential

items, resulting in a

noticeable decrease, and

during Ramazan, free flour

was distributed among the

Monitoring Desk

dent Vladimir Putin has warned there is a "serious danger" of NATO being drawn further into the Ukraine war if members of the alliance continue to supply military weaponry to Kyiv. "NATO, of course, is being drawn into the war in Ukraine, what are we talking here," Putin said at the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum on Friday.

'The supplies of heavy military weaponry to Ukraine are ongoing, they are now looking into giving Ukraine the jets." tanks, armored vehicles and other weaponry – prompt-

peared to be a reference to the F-16 fighter jets some members of the NATO alliance are making plans to supply Ukraine with.

NATO, or the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, was formed in the aftermath of World War II to defend Western nations from the Soviet Union and the alliance contains a mutual defense clause where an attack on any one member is considered an attack on all. While Ukraine is not a member of NATO, some NATO members have been supplying Kyiv with

ing threats of retaliation from Russia.

German Leopard 2 tanks, British Challenger 2 tanks and American Bradley and Stryker vehicles are among the Western equipment that has been sent to

In late April, NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said that NATO allies and partners had delivered more than 1,500 vehicles and 230 tanks to the country.

During his speech in St. Petersburg, Putin said Russia had destroyed tanks "including Leopards" at the front lines.

President Joe Biden speaks at the Philadelphia International Airport in Philadelphia after an aerial tour of the Interstate 95 highway collapse.

Biden strikes economic populist tone during campaign rally before exuberant union members

Monitoring Desk dent Joe Biden delivered an unapologetically economic populist message Saturday

during the first rally of his reelection campaign, telling an exuberant crowd of union members that his policies had created jobs and lifted the middle class. Now, he said, is the time for the wealthy to "pay their fair share" in taxes.

Biden spotlighted the sweeping climate, tax and health care package signed campaign stop reflected Blinken starts rare

Monitoring Desk

BEIJING: US Secretary of

State Antony Blinken be-

gan meetings in Beijing on

Sunday, the first top American diplomat to visit

China in five years, amid

frosty bilateral ties and

dim prospects for any breakthrough on the long

list of disputes between

the world's two largest

February trip after a sus-

pected Chinese spy balloon

flew over US airspace,

Blinken is the highest-rank-

ing US government official

Having postponed a

economies.

the cost of prescription drugs and lowered insurance premiums — pocketbook issues that advisers say will be the centerpiece of his argument for a second term. "I'm looking forward to this campaign," Biden said to cries of "four more years!" before adding, "We've got a record to run on."

His choice of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania and a friendly union audience — as his first official

to visit China since Presi-

dent Joe Biden took office

ister Qin Gang greeted

Blinken and his group at the

door to a villa in the grounds

of Beijing's Diaoyutai State

Guest House, as the two

made small talk in English

before shaking hands in

front a Chinese and an

meeting room, neither

Blinken nor Qin made

comments in front of re-

porters who were briefly

After heading into a

Chinese Foreign Min-

in January 2021.

American flag.

China trip with hopes

low for any breakthrough

into law last year that cut their crucial role in his reelection effort. The city was the site of his 2020 campaign headquarters and the state was one of a handful that had voted for Republican Donald Trump in 2016 but flipped back to Democrats four years later. Until the rally, Biden's primary reelection campaign activity had fundraising as the campaign tries to amass an impres sive fundraising haul before the year's second quarter

concludes at the end Philippine coast guard rescues 120 people as ferry

catches fire

Monitoring Desk MANILA: All 120 people onboard a ferry that caught fire at sea in central Philippines on Sunday have been rescued, the coast guard said. The M/V Esperanza Star, which was carrying 65 passengers and 55 officers and crew members, caught fire while sailing from Siquijor island in the south to nearby Bohol island, the coast guard said. Coast guard firefighters onboard another vessel used a water cannon and declared the fire out by around 0200 GMT, a spokesperson said.

Park across the border. Their fate is unknown. Museveni students, and some were killed when the attackers said more soldiers had joined the pursuit in the area, which set off a bomb as they fled. **Europeans scramble on** air defence after decades

Uganda sends more troops

to pursue attackers who

killed 37 students

Monitoring Desk

PARIS: The intensity of the drone and missile war in Ukraine has laid bare gaps in European states' air defences that experts say will be difficult, time-consuming and costly to plug. Anti-air systems will

likely have a starring role at the Paris Air Show starting on Monday, predicts Richard Aboulafia, manag-(CSIS). director AeroDynamic Advisory.

'You're going to see a lot of talk about production capacity for missiles. The market for missiles is easily the fastest growing segment of the industry and yet the manufacturers

simply can't keep up,

Aboulafia told AFP.

Western countries had enjoyed total mastery of the skies since the end of the Cold War and largely dropped the powerful defences once designed to protect NATO forces from

Soviet aircraft. France got rid of eight of its nine anti-aircraft artillery regiments, MPs flagged up in a recent re-

of complacency But NATO countries fence again in recent years as more states have acquired cruise missiles, short-range ballistic missiles and drones, said Mark Cancian, a retired US marine colonel who is a senior adviser at the USbased Center for Strategic

> They started it, but basically didn't get too far," Cancian told AFP.

> 'In another five years, I think there'll be a lot more out there, but that doesn't help Ukraine right now," he added.

With anti-air systems and the missiles they fire lacking, the West is struggling to respond to Ukraine's pleas for supply whether for short- or ng-range defences.

Berlin plans to spend five billion euros on antiair from a 100-billion-euro (\$110 billion) fund for rebuilding its armed forces in the coming years, with the same amount budgeted in Paris for the period to 2030.

Evidence suggests Russia blew Kakhovka dam in Ukraine, reports NYT

Monitoring Desk

KYIV: Evidence suggests this month's destruction of the huge Kakhovka dam in a Russian-controlled area of Ukraine resulted from an inside explosion set off by Russia, The New York Times said. Citing engineers and explosive experts, the newspaper said on Friday that its investigation found evidence suggesting an explosive charge in a passageway running through the dam's concrete base detonated, destroying the structure on June 6.

suggests the dam was crippled by an explosion set off by the side that controls

electric dam.

it: Russia," The Times said. Separately, a team of international legal experts assisting Ukraine's prosecutors in their investigation said in preliminary findings on Friday it was "highly likely" the collapse in Ukraine's Kherson region was caused by explosives planted by Russians. The Kremlin accuses Kyiv of sabotaging the hydro-

Heavy rains lash east Nepal; one dead, 25 missing

Monitoring Desk KATHMANDU: One per-son was killed and at least 25 others were missing in flash floods and landslides triggered by heavy rains that battered east Nepal, officials said on Sunday, the first known fatality since the annual rains began last week. Heavy rains washed away a hydroelectric project under construction on the Hewa River in Sankhuwasabha district in eastern Nepal where 16 workers have gone missing, said Bimal Paudel, a government official.



Plane leaves Yemen capital for Saudi, first since 2016.

PDM resumes journey of development, stopped after 2018 rigged elections: Asad

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): Federal Minister for Communications Asad Mahmood on Sunday said the journey of development has been resumed which was stopped after 2018 rigged elections.

He stated this while

addressing a public gathering after inauguration of multi mega development projects worth Rs 5.65 billion by Jamiat Ulema Islam Fazl (JUI-F) Chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman here in a private marriage hall.

The federal minister said the mega projects were being initiated for the region

Motorways Muhammad Nawaz Sharif along with JUI-F Chief Maulana Fazlur under the National High-ways Authority (NHA) and it was a message to the stan Economic Corridor. He people of area that the development journey has been started, adding, the Movement (PDM) government did not believe in the Dera Ismail Khan would be politics of victimization made a developed and prosperous city.

He said "a foreign agent was imposed in 2018

Rehman had initiated Hakla-Dera section of China Pakisaid the Pakistan Democratic rather it was pursuing the agenda of development.

He said those who went missing after losing election to stop develop-ment process of Pakistan." the government were try-ing to mislead the people ing to mislead the people He said the founder of and trying to get credit of

different development projects of Dera Ismail Khan. "You could not mislead this nation," he added. The project of Agri-

culture University of Dera was also on credit of PDM government which was announced by Nawaz Sharif. When the foreign agent was imposed on this

country, the projects in-cluding Hakla-Dera cluding Motorway, Yarik Grid station were in the completion phases but the PTI fried to get credit of these projects.



KARACHI: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori hosted a reception in honour of Consul General of Saudi Arabia Bandar Fahad AAl Dayel in Karachi. Senior leaders of MQM Dr. Farooq Sattar, Mustafa Kamal and Consul Generals of different countries are also present



Maulana Tahir Ashrafi addressing a press conference at Begumpura GT Road.

Rana Tanveer says: Imran played with country's interests

Imran Khan.

SHEIKHUPURA (APP): Federal Minister for Education and Professional Hussain has said that Pakistan did not need any enemy in the presence of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan, as he had been playing with the country's interests continuously.

He was talking to the media after inaugurating Sui gas supply to Manjh Road Noorpura here on Sunday. He said Pakistan was on the verge of bankruptcy when the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) coalition government took over the country through a no-confidence move against ism and long durations of load-shedding. over the country through a

The minister claimed that Imran Khan looted the Training Rana Tanveer national kitty ruthlessly and caused irreparable damage to the country, adding that the PTI chief broke all records of obtaining the foreign loans. Rana Tanveer said Imran Khan dubbed others as 'dacoits and thieves', but his crony Farah Gogi looted the national wealth with great impunity and shifted it abroad. The minister said that Pakistanis posed confidence in the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) in 2013 when the country was facing terror-

Dar has ruined economy, only Sharifs are happy with him, tweets Rashid

RAWALPINDI (Online): punish him, he said. Castigating Finance Minister Ishaq Dar, Awami Muslim League chief and former federal interior minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed has said that only Sharif family is happy with his economic

policies.
Taking to Twitter on Sunday, he wrote that economic experts have rated Dar as the most incompetent finance minister of the country.

The Sharifs have ap-

pointed him; the family has distributed all offices within the family, he added. He said that Dar has ruined the economy. PM Shehbaz defended

Dar and said whoever tried to pull him down, he would

Rashid wrote on the social media website that whether a technocrat or a democrat [government] there is no option [to stabilise economy] but the IMF. It would be clear

30. If the economy sank, the country would sink.
"There is a disparity between the speeches of the prime minister and the finance minister on the budget. Political instability will bring destruction and ruin." he added.

whether the country would

default or survive by June

The former federal minister said that there is a ditch ahead and a pit behind for the incoming govern-



HYDERABAD: Women residents of New Saeedabad are holding protest demonstration for acceptance of their demands, held at Hyderabad press club.

Terrorist commander among three killed in Dara Adam Khel IBO

ISLAMABAD (APP): The security forces in a successful intelligence based operation on Sunday killed the most wanted terrorist commander Zafar alias Zafari and two of his group members in Dara Adam Khel.

According to the security sources, on the night of June 16th and 17th, security forces in a highly planned intelligence-based operation killed a most wanted Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) terrorist commander Zafar Khan alias Zafari son of Ghulam Siddique in Dara Adam Khel whereas two of his members identified as Hasan Khan son of Mohammad Imran (Resident of Bazi Khel, Dara Adam Khel) and Anas alias Ali (Resident of Nangarhar Afghanistan) were sent to hell.

The intelligence agencies and security forces hunt down terrorists by adopting unconventional operational procedures based on corroborated intelligence.

The slain terrorist Zafri was a resident of village Malan in Dara Adam Khel and reached Peshawar from Nangarhar province of Afghanistan on 22nd May 2023. Terrorist Zafri was also a former member of Tehreek-e-Taliban Afghanistan (TTA) and was involved in 26 grenade attacks in Pakistan. Commander Zafari was involved in dozens of terrorist attacks against security forces, coal contractors, businessmen and influential people and so far had stolen more than Rs 100 million in extortion

and kidnapping for ransom.

PM orders action against unfit vehicles

ISLAMABAD (INP): Expressing condolences to the bereaved families of passengers who lost their lives in the ill-fated Kallar Kahar bus accident, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has expressed his deep anguish over the occurrence of repeated traffic accidents near the Salt Range on motorway.

"My sympathies and orayers are for those families who have lost their dear ones in this painful accident," he said in a tweet.

Motorway authorities should ensure that vehicles plying on Motorways have the required fitness and compatibility, besides, the drivers meet all the driving requirements, he stressed.

The prime minister observed that with strict implementation of rules and regulations, traveling could be made safer. At least a ozen passengers including women and children died on Saturday when a passenger bus lost control and overturned on the Lahore-Islamabad motorway some 130km from the federal

Child dies, 3 injured in Cylinder blast

HYDERABAD (APP): A cylinder explosion at a house in village Bachal Shoro here on Sunday claimed the life of 5 years old Asif and injured 3 other family members including 2 children.

According to the Seri Police Station, 30 years old Ahmed Nawaz, 4 years old Faiz Gul and 3 years old Fatima were injured in the incident.

The injured were shifted to Liaquat University Hospital. The police said the cause of the explosion could not be immediately ascertained.

Main suspect involved in Karachi cash van heist arrested

KARACHI (INP): The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) has arrested a security guard who was involved in looting the cash van of a private bank in Karachi.

According to details, Karachi has arrested the main accused involved in looting cash van in a successful raid in Karachi's Dhoraji area.

In charge, CTD Chaudhry Safdar said Ayaz Ali, who was working as security in charge at a private cash van company and during the investigations the accused made revelations.

According to the CTD, the accused looted the cash van of the bank in Juriya Market in 2021 and fled with Rs5 million to Rawlapindi? The CTD in charge further said Ayaz Ali was hiding at his relative's house and after coming back to Karachi, he was traced on a technical basis and arrested?

According to the CTD, the arrested accused is being handed over to the police for further legal action.

Ashrafi urges political dialogue for stability in country

LAHORE (APP): Special Representative on Interfaith Harmony and Middle East and Central Chairman of Pakistan Ulema Council Hafiz Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi called upon political parties on Sunday to hold dialogue for restoring stability and peace in the

Addressing a press conference at Baitul Aman here, he said investors were ready to come to Pakistan, but they wanted peace in the country. He said it was good that Pakistan's relations with Russia and other countries were improving. He said the su- abroad illegally.

premacy of the law required everyone to avoid playing with the Constitution. The ulema of the country did not approve of political fights,

Expressing his grief over the loss of human lives in a boat, which capsized near Greece, he said peace would have to be restored in Pakistan if the youth were to be stopped from leaving the country for some job opportunities in other countries. He demanded the prime minister and the interior minister should take action against those involved in sending Pakistani citizens

1,300 pilgrims from more than 90 countries to perform Hajj this year

dian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud has given instructions that 1,300 pilgrims from more than 90 countries are allowed to perform Hajj this year (1444-AH), at their expense, as part of the Custodian of the two holy mosques Hajj Guests Program, which is supervised and implemented annually by the Saudi Ministry of Islamic Affairs, Call and

RIYADH (APP): Custo- the Minister of Islamic Affairs, Call and Guidance, General Supervisor of the custodian of the two holy mosques Hajj Guests Program Sheikh Dr. Abdullatif bin Abdulaziz Al Al-Sheikh thanked the Custodian of the two holy mosques and HRH the Crown Prince for their generosity and keenness to see Muslims perform the rituals of Islam, and for assisting those who wish to perform Hajj and can only do that at the expense According to the of the Custodian of the



LARKANA: Divisional Superintendent (DS) Pakistan Railways Sukkur Division, Mahmood Rehman Lakho talks with media persons during press conference after reached at Railway Station, DS Railway along with their team travel from Sukkur to Larkana on the special train, in Larkana.

Oath-taking ceremony of newly elected Mayor, Deputy Mayor of Larkana Municipal Corporation to be held on Monday

District Election Commissioner Larkana Attaullah Brohi, announced on Sunday that the oath-taking ceremony of the newly elected Mayor and deputy mayor of Larkana Municipal Corporation(LMC), Chairman and Vice Chairman of District Council Larkana, will be held on Monday.

All the newly elected Chairmen/Vice Chairmen of Town Municipal Corporations, including Sachal Town, Empire Town, Haideri Town and Dari Town Larkana, Chairmen/Vice Chairmen of Municipal Committee Ratodero and Naudero; Chairmen/Vice Chairmen of Town

LARKANA (APP): The took oath, on the same day. According to programme, Commissioner Larkana Division Ghanwar Ali Leghari will take the oath of newly elected Mayor of Larkana Municipal Corporation(LMC) Anwar Ali Nawaz Lohar and Deputy Mayor LMC Muhammad Ameen Shaikh. The ceremony will be held at Begum Nusrat Bhutto Auditorium Hall Jinnah Bagh Larkana, on Monday at 12.00 P.M. While, Deputy Commissioner Larkana Ms. Rabiya Siyal will take the oath of winning candidates for Chairman District Council Larkana Aijaz Ali Leghari and Vice Chairman of District Council Larkana Asadullah Bhutto, at Sachal



Committees of Garello, shifted to Hayatabad Medi-Arieja, Dokri and Badah of Banquet, PTS Road Larkana, cal Complex Peshawar. Larkana district would also at 11.a.m.

THATTA: Large number of people enjoying bathing in Keenjharlake people come here for picnics during the summer school holidays to get relief from hot weather.

PML-N always preferred state over politics: Ahsan

NAROWAL (APP): Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Prof. Ahsan Iqbal has said the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) has always preferred state over politics, and recently saved the country from bankruptcy after forming a coalition government in centre last

He was addressing the opening ceremony of Con-struction Division Narowal, along with Federal Minister for Energy Engr Khurram Dastgir Khan here on Sunday. He said the previous Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaf (PTI) government put the development gear in reverse and destroyed the

an incompetent person was

PPP to celebrate

70th birth anniversary

of Benazir Bhutto

on June 21

KARACHI (INP): Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Sindh Chapter's President

Nisar Ahmed Khuhro on

Sunday announced that the

PPP's provincial chapter

would celebrate the 70th

birth anniversary of former

Prime Minister of Pakistan

Shaheed Benazir Bhutto at

district headquarters across

the province on June 21.

He said that PPP

workers would cut the cake

for martyred Bhutto's

birthday in all headquarters

of the province and pay tre-

CTD arrests

'terrorist' in

DG Khan

LAHORE (APP): The Counter-Terrorism Depart-

ment (CTD) Punjab, dur-

ing an operation in Dera

Ghazi Khan, arrested an al-

leged terrorist, who's a

member of a banned outfit.

According to the spokesman, the CTD DG

Khan received information

from a reliable source that

an active member of pro-

scribed organisation, Baloch Liberation Army, Muhammad Rashid Bashmani, was present in the area and was sharing

controversial content against the government and

the law-enforcement agen-

cies through the social media. A team of CTD police station Sadar reached the

spot and arrested the ter-

rorist, the spokesman said and added that the police

also registered a case against

the terrorist and started in-

03 Policemen

injured during

terrorist attack

PESHAWAR (Online):

Terrorist attacked police checkpost of Bara Kemat

vestigation.

nendous homage to her

made the prime minister of a nuclear power Pakistan by giving him the certificate of 'Sadig' and 'Ameen'. He said that in the past, instead of development projects, seeds of hatred were sown and only revenge actions were taken. He said that through the political of uncertainty, Imran Khan tried to destroy the national economy

said "we are responsible politicians; we have a national government, and we are serving people with national spirit, while Imran Niazi created a situation of anarchy". He said "we played our role, we saved Pakistan from bankruptcy in one-year rule and launched devel-Ahsan Iqbal said that opment programmes for the country

The PML-N senior leader said "our allies are united, and they prepared a budget for the entire nation under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif". He said Shehbaz Sharif was taking all decisions through consensus among all coalition partners. He said the prime minister had always consulted the ruling coalition parties The federal minister before making any crucial and national decision.

Ahsan Iqbal said the federal government distributed a huge amount among the flood victims through the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP). He said that the incumbent government was resuming all development projects which had been put on the back burner by the previous PTI government.



HYDERABAD: Peoples Party (PPP) newly elected Mayor, Kashif Shoro addresses to his supporters during celebration ceremony after victory in the local body elections, held at Hyder Chowk in Hyderabad.

MQM-P MNAs seek details of funds given to **HESCO for cyclone-cause** emergency response

HYDERABAD (APP): The MNAs of Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P) sought the details of funds given by the federal government to Hyderabad Electric Supply Company (HESCO) for cyclone Biporjoy causing an emergency

sponse. a statement issued here on Sunday, MNA Sabir Hussain Qaimkhani and MNA Salahuddin, both of

whom were elected from Hyderabad, ex-pressed dissatisfaction over the performance of HESCO. They said the power out-

ages frequently struck parts of Hyderabad during light to moderate rain during the last few days. The MNAs requested Prime Minister

Shehbaz Sharif to direct the officers of HESCO to submit details of the expenditures incurred during the cyclone and rainrelated operations



KARACHI: People use a crane to lift a young bull from the roof of a building for the upcoming festival Eid-ul-Azha, at Nazimabad in Karachi.

Special Olympics kicks off, Pakistani athlete Sana among torch-bearers

opening of the 16th Special which they were the centre Olympic World Games in of attention in the cer-Olympia Stadium Berlin emony. The athletes looked was held with a colourful ceremony. According to a communique here on Sunday, the players of all the countries involved in the games participated in the athlete parade.

When the national team arrived at the Olympia Stadium, thousands of fans in the stadium greeted the Pakistani team with warm applause and encouraged the players.

On this occasion, the Olympia Stadium echoed slogans of Pakistan Zindabad. The male athletes of Pakistan wore cultural clothing, shalwarkameez and vest, while the female athletes and officials wore different culturally present at the ceremony.

KARACHI (APP): The coloured dresses, due to which they were the centre very excited about the opening ceremony and took pictures and selfies with each At the World Games,

Pakistani athlete Sana was honoured to be among the torchbearers of the opening ceremony. She walked around the ground with the torch. Sana called it a great honour for Pakistan and herself. On this occasion, the official opening of the World Games was announced by waiving the flag of the Special Olympics. President of Special Olympics, Timothy Shriver, President of Germany Frank Walters, and the Head of Delegation of the Pakistani contingent, Ronak Lakhani were