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Salaries and pensions of employees & pensioners raised on Federal Govt. pattern:

# Balochistan's budget for next Financial Year presented with total outlay of Rs. 750 billion

Over Rs. 437 billion allocated for non-development expenditures with Rs. 229 billion allocated for public sector development program; 4,389 new vacancies created in provincial departments; over Rs. 115 billion allocated for general public services, over Rs. 61 billion for public order & safety affairs, Rs. 42 billion for health sector, Rs. 88 billion for education affairs and services



QUETTA: Balochistan Minister for Finance Engineer Zmarak Khan Achakzai presenting annual budget of 2023-24 in session of Assembly

#### **Independent Report**

Balochistan's budget for the next financial year 2023-24 was presented in the budget session of the provincial assembly on Monday.

With total volume of Rs. 750.478 billion, the province's budget shows the estimated deficit of Rs. 49.058 billion.

The Provincial Minis-Zamarak Khan Achakzai tabled the budget at the session with the Speaker, Mir Jan Muhammad Jamali in

Bizenjo-led coalition government presented by the finance minister in assem-

As per the budget documents and the speech delivered by the Finance Minister, raises have been made in the salaries and pensions of provincial government employees and pensioners on the pattern of federal

The 35 percent raise ter for Finance, Engineer was proposed for the government servants serving in the grades between 1-16 while 30 percent raise was announced for the employees serving above Grade 17.

Similarly, the pension get of the Chief Minister of retired employees was Abdul Quddus also increased by 17.5 per-

#### Balochistan cabinet approves budget for next FY

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Balochistan cabinet approved the province's budget for the next financial year 2023-24 here The cabinet met with the Chief Minister, Mir Abdul

Ouddus Bizenjo in the chair. The Chie Secretary Abdul Aziz Ugaili and other con-

cerned high ups were also in the cabinet meeting. The cabinet was briefed by the Additional Chief Secretary Planning, Hafiz Abdul Basit and Secretary Finance, Qambar Dashti about the salient features of the budget besides the annual development programme and other related matters.

cent as was done in the fed- ince eral budget.

The minimum wages of the workers were announced as Rs. 32,000 in cial government departthe next budget of the prov-

Moreover, in all 4,389 new vacancies have been created in different provinments during the next fi-

While delivering the budget speech, the Minister Finance total income of

nancial year budget, the Fi-

nance Minister announced.

the province through different resources has been estimated as Rs. 701.420 billion in the budget with total expenditures shown as Rs. 750.478 billion thus showing the deficit of Rs. 49.058 billion.

While over Rs. 437.142 billion were allocated for the non-development expenditures, over Rs. 313.336 billion were allocated for development expenditures including Rs. 229.30 billion proposed for Public Sector Development Programme.

The total revenue receipts estimated in the bud-



from the divisible pool QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Abdul while it would get Rs. 20 Quddus Bizenjo signing budget 2023-24 documents after approval from Provincial Cabinet

Continued on page 2

6 divisional HQs approved costing Rs. 2141 mln:

#### 1033 new vacancies created for coastal highway security at cost of Rs. 2234 mn

Budget white paper reveals Levies recruitment completed in 17 districts with 2040 recruited; process underway in 23 districts

#### Independent Report

QUETTA: In all 1033 new vacancies were created for security of the coastal highway at a cost of Rs. 2234

The security of highways has been enhanced and movement of buses in the convoys through some parts of Balochistan being carried out for the safe jour-

Similarly, proper secu- constituted to streamline

rity arrangements have also been made for the safe passage of zaireen from Quetta to Taftan and back. These details were

shared in the budget speech and white paper issued on the occasion of next financial year budget of the province here on Monday. According to the data

shared, the provincial, di-Apex committees have been

the intelligence mechanism in the province. Other initiatives as

mentioned in the white paper were included: establishment of Eagle Squad, establishment of Counter Terrorism Command (CTC), revamping of CTD, establishment of seven new

In addition to this, six visional and district level CTD divisional headquar-

Continued on page 2

We have to foil nefarious designs of enemies:

#### **Corps Commander highly** appreciates role of police in establishing peace

Lt. General Asif Ghafoor says Balochistan police plays lead role against terrorism; Pak army ever ready to impart modern training to police force in prevailing circumstances of country

#### **Independent Report**

QUETTA: Highly appreciating the role of Balochistan police force in establishing peace in the province, the Corps Commander 12 Corps, Lt. General Asif Ghafoor has stated that the police force has played lead role against terrorism in the

He said that he recognizes the important role that has been played by the Balochistan police in establishment of peace in the

He also paid homage to the martyrs and injured of police on their great sacrifices saying that we would not be leaving the heirs of martyrs alone. Rather each and every individual of the motherland is the heir of families of the martyrs. Their sacrifices would al-

The Corps Commander was addressing the passing out parade ceremony of the 14th basic course at ATF training center here on Monday.

Continued on page 2



QUETTA: DS Railway Balochistan Fareed Ahmed meeting with Balochistan Governor Malik Abdul

#### SC reserves judgment on petitions regarding Reviews of Orders and Judgments Act

ISLAMABAD (APP): no method for review in the The Supreme Court (SC) on Monday reserved its judgment on petitions pertaining to SC Reviews of Orders and Judgments Act

A three-member bench of the top court headed by Chief Justice of Pakistan Umar Ata Bandial and comprising Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan and Justice Munib Akhtar heard the case.

At the outset of the hearing, Attorney General for Pakistan (AGP) Mansoor Usman Awan argued that there were different judgments of the apex court regarding the powers of the Parliament for legislation. A separate scope had been set for the review of the judgments in cases of Article 184/3, he said.

The AGP said before introduction of the act which had not affected the right of anybody, there was

cases of Article 184/3,. It did not limit the scope of He said as per the act it

was the court's authority to choose members of the bench for a review case, and that bench should be larger than the bench, which had heard the main case.

CJP Bandial remarked that the government could introduce legislation but giving right of appeal in the review cases did not seem appropriate. The government should take a decision on the matter after thorough consideration. He noted that there was also no right of review appeal in India in cases like those of Article 184/3. Justice Munib Akhter questioned whether the power of review could be compared with civil laws

and whether civil laws fell

in the jurisdiction of prov-

#### Zil Hajj moon sighted, Eid ul Azha on June 29

KARACHI (APP): The Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee Pakistan announced on Monday that the Zi Hajj moon has been sighted in Pakistan, adding that Zil Hajj 01, 1444 A.H, will fall on June 20 (Tuesday), thus Eid ul Azha in Pakistan will be observed on June 29 (Thursday).

Chairman Ruet-e-Hilal Committee Pakistan Maulana Syed Abdul Khabir Azad announced the decision following a meeting of the committee, held ways be remembered. at the Met Complex here after Maghrib prayers to sight the crescent moon.

Bilawal threat works

#### PM approves Rs 25b funds for flood affectees in Sindh

ISLAMABAD (Online) Chairman PPP and Foreign Minister (FM) Bilawal Bhutto threat has worked and Prime Minister (PM) Shebaz Sharifhas approved Rs 25 billion funds for flood affectees in Sindh.

PM had held out assurance to PPP delegation during a meeting on Friday for providing funds.

It is pertinent to mention here that Bilawal Bhutto while addressing public meeting in Swata day before had complained against non fulfillment of promises in budget by PM.

He had warned PPP would not allow the budget to be passed if funds were not provided for flood affectees.

#### Khawaja Asif calls strong action against illegal human trafficking

ISLAMABAD (APP): Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif on Monday emphasized the need for firm action against individuals involved in the illegal transportation of people abroad.

Speaking on floor of the National Assembly, the minister expressed deep grief and sorrow over the tragic deaths of Pakistani migrants in a recent boat incident near the coast of Continued on page 2

#### **Bright prospects of development of rail network:** Deficit of railway can be turned into profit by making rail system effective: Governor

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has opined that the deficit of railway can be changed into profit by making the rail system effective in the province and by ensuring access of the passenger and goods trains to the

OUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister MirAbdul Quddus Bizenjo in a group

photo with Provincial Ministers and MPAs after budget session

neighbouring countries. He said that not only the travelling requirements of the people can be met by running trains on the small routes and distances like Quetta to Chaman and Harnai to Sibi, but the access of the things produced in different districts can also be ensured on the other

In this way, the railway can prove to be the best source of transportation in the province, he main-

The Governor was

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor said that it is our good luck that

ways, Fareed Ahmed who called on him here at the Governor House on Mon-

the prospects of development of the railway network from Quetta to the Central Asia are bright in the ever changing situation of the region. While we also have the railway track from Quetta

be made more effective and improved, adding he observed. The Governor also said that the Railways has already thousands of acres of

to Zahidan and it can also

commercial and industrial land in the province, what's needed is to utilise the same. He said that if the private sector is engaged in process of giving the rail-way land on lease, then it's

speaking to the Divisional Superintendent of Rail- manifold, he believed. ANF Balochistan drug burning ceremony:

#### Collective efforts needed to make society drug-free, says Shahzain Bugti

Federal Minister for Narcotics Control destroys some 85 metric tons of different drugs; DG ANF terms menace of drugs as security challenge He said that at a time

#### **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The Federal Minister for Narcotics Control, Nawabzada Shahzain Bugti has underlined the need to make collective efforts to make the society drug-free. The Federal Minister ex-

horted upon the parents, civil society and stars of different fields to join hands with the government against narcotics

Continued on page 2

when Pakistan is heading

towards development, we

can't afford that our youth

are indulged in the menace

views were expressed by

the Federal Minister Nar-

cotics while speaking on

occasion of the drug burn-

ing ceremony organized by

the Anti-Narcotics Force

This and similar other

f narcotics.



**OUETTA: Federal Minister for Narcotics Control** Nawabzada Shazain Bugti pressing button to burn recovered smuggled narcotics at Kuch-More area.

## PM underlines need to invest in young talent

ISLAMABAD Minister Shehbaz Prime Muhammad Sharif on Monday stressed that they had to make huge investments on the country's youth because those nations had always excelled whose youth got skills and requisite degrees in different fields.

Addressing a ceremony of the Prime Minister's Innovation National Awards, the prime minister expressed his pleasure over the strides made by the country's youth in differ-ent fields by utilizing their talents and skills.

The country's future was in safe hands and they had to make investments on the youth's talent as they direly deserved it, he

Incident of boat capsize: Day of mourning observed in Balochistan

Independent Report QUETTA: The day of mourning was observed in Quetta and other areas of Balochistan on Monday, on the tragic incident of boat capsize in



The national flag flied at half-mast at all the important government buildings including the Balochistan Assembly, Governor House. Chief Minister House and secretariat, High Court and other ones.

Meanwhile, a praying ceremony was held for the deceased persons at the headquarters of Balochistan Boy Scouts Association.

The acting Provincial Scouts Commissioner. Amanullah Kanrani and other staff and volunteers participated. They offered fateha for those died in the tragic inci-



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif distributing PM's National Innovation Award among the successful candidates.

said it was a matter of satisfaction as the young people strived during their

educational careers and showed their innovative skills in the information Continued on page 2

Terms boat incident national tragedy:

## All steps to be taken to stop human smuggling: Zia

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Home and Tribal Affairs, Mir Ziaullah Langove has categorically stated that all steps would be taken for prevention of the human smuggling in the province, and those involved in it would be taken to task. This was stated by the Provincial Minister for Home in an official statement issued here on Mon-

In a statement, the Minister Home expressed deep grief and sorrow over the tragic incident of boat capsizing and the loss of lives of people in it.

Describing the Greece boat capsizing incident as the national tragedy, Mir Ziaullah Langaove said that it is very much condemnable. He said that the day of mourning is being observed on the tragic incident in Balochistan.

CM satisfied with police action:

#### SHO injured in exchange of fire; two bandits arrested; one succumbs to injuries

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Station House Office (SHO) Police Station Industrial was injured in an exchange of fire with bandits on Sirki road on Monday.

According to the police, two bandits attempting to snatch a motorbike on gun point were also injured, and later arrested. One of them succumbed to his injuries, the hospital sources informed.

The reports said that two bandits whose names couldn't be disclosed were making an attempt to snatch a motorcycle from a youngster, when the SHO Industrial PS Shahzad

Ahmed on patrolling reached there. As he tried to apprehend the bandits. they opened fire on him. As a result, he sustained bullet injuries. On retaliation, both bandits were injured. However, they were arrested and shifted to the civil hospital. However, one of them succumbed to his injuries and died, the hospital sources informed.

Meanwhile, the Chief Minister expressed satisfaction over the successful action against the bandits on Sirki road. He congratulated the police team headed by SHO Shahzad on the arrest of bandits in injured condition

## Bilawal pledges to fulfill expectations of Karachiites

KARACHI (APP): Chair- but they did not snatch the man of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari Monday vowed to live up to the expectations of Karachiites.

He said that Karachi was the biggest city in the country and it could take the country out of all problems. 'I will take a personal interest in the development of the city.'

He stated this while after attending the oathtaking ceremony of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Karachi, here at Gulshan-e-Jinnah (Polo Ground).

The PPP chairman advised Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) to work with political parties. He said that JI shook hands with those, who attacked the Jinnah house, military installations and other buildings.

Bilawal said that those, who levelled fake allegations of rigging would be replied with PPP's performance and hard work.

He said that elections were snatched from them same from anyone.

He further said that PPP was deprived of Mayor in 1978, 1983 and

After the end of the dictatorship and facilitators, political orphans were being defeated from Karachi to Kashmir in the elections, he said adding that the work started from now.

The PPP chairman said that his party had always talking to media persons tried to resolve the issues of the people and it would continue this spirit.

He said that PPP

would resolve the issues of the city through unity. He said that the graveyards of this city were full of 'Jeayalas' when this city

was run by a phone call. Bilawal said that PPP workers had sacrificed their lives for this city, the restoration of democracy and

Replying to a question, he said that the federal and provincial governments would cooperate with the Karachi administration.

the country.

Replying to another

federal government should contribute to flood affectees and it was not a new stance

On the Greece incident he said it was very disappointing. He said that ille gal immigration was being thwarted. The government was in contact to repatriate dead bodies and action would be taken against those, who were involved in the illegal immigration Answering a question, he said PPP did not have any differences with Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz

(PML-N). He said that PPI would move forward with the Charter of Democracy (CoD) signed by Shaheed Mohtrama Benazir Bhutto and Mian Mohammed Nawaz Sharif.

'I have a very good working relationship with PM Shahbaz Sharif, Nawaz Sharif and Mariyum Nawaz.

Replying to a question he said, 'We need a controversy-free Census.' The apolitical and controversy free census must be con-



KARACHI: Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari presenting souvenir to Barrister Murtaza Wahab, Newly Elected Mayor and Salman Abdullah Murad, Newly Elected Deputy Mayor during oath taking ceremony held at Polo Ground in Karachi.

#### **Corps Commander** highly...

Continued from page 1

Altogether 299 personals participated and successfully completed the

Also present on the occasion were the Additional Chief Secretary Home, Saleh Muhammad Nasar, Inspector General of Police, Abdul Khaliq Sheikh, Additional Inspector General of Police, Jawad Ahmed Dogar, Additional IG and Commandant Balochistan Constabulary, Salman Chaudhary besides other senior police officials.

Speaking on the occasion, the Commander 12 Corps urged the police force to take care of the human rights and ego of the citizens.

The police personals should become the guard and aide of the general public, adding he stressed.

He said that no doubt that peace has been established in the province due to the great sacrifices rendered by the security

Lt. General Asif Ghafoor also stressed that we have to defeat nefarious designs of the enemies.

He on the occasion announced Rs. 1 million for the ATF and assured that the Pak army is ever ready to impart modern training to the police force in prevailing circumstances of the country. He also distributed prizes and commendation certificates among the best performers of the training course and passing out.

The IGP Abdul Khaliq Sheikh also addressed the passing out ceremony. He pledged that the

police force would not hesitate to render any kind of sacrifice in the line of duty. He mentioned that the police officers and jawans

have maintained peace in the

province by sacrificing

MIS Officer

(x1)

IT Assistant

their lives.

(V)

#### 1033 new vacancies created...

Continued from page 1

ters were approved at a cost of Rs. 2,141 million. Out of 2300 counter terrorism force (CTF) sanctioned strength, recruitment against 1416 completed including 1302 corporals.

Other initiatives are intricts the recruitment procluded: construction of regional CTD headquarters in process; revamping of special branch under process, raising of ATF (police / Levies), updating red books and persons on 4th schedule, capacity building of police and levies through training by ATF school and Army besides quick response – 5

wing and communication QRF, Falcon motorcycle Balochistan's budget for next...

Continued from page 1 billion from straight trans-

fers. Similarly, the provincial own receipts have been estimated as Rs. 111.940

In the budget, as mentioned by the Finance Minister, over Rs. 115 billion have been allocated for general public services, over Rs. 61 billion for public order and safety affairs, over Rs. 53 billion for economic affairs, over Rs. 42 billion for health sector, over Rs. 88 billion for education affairs and services, over Rs. 6 billion for social protection, over Rs. 27 billion for housing and community amenities, over Rs. 492 million for environment protec-

lion for recreational culture and religion. Moreover, Zamarak Khan Achakzai told the house that the government led by Chief Minister Bizenjo has prepared a historic budget in which deficit is very less as compared to the previous budgets. He said that despite the financial issues, a his-

tion and over Rs. 3.6 bil-

sented for the next financial year. He said that the gov-

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Actions to Strengthening Performance for Inclusive and Responsive Education (ASPIRE) Program's

Telecommunication

Social welfare component invites the eligible candidates against the following positions:

Master's Degree in (Computer Science,

IT, Computer Engineering, Software

Engineering, or any relevant field) from HEC recognized University

recognized University

toric budget has been pre-

for well being of all segments of the society.

squads and 15 emergency

centers and establishment

of D3C centers at central

police office, Quetta and

tricts, levies recruitment has

been completed (2040) re-

cruited, however, in 23 dis-

cess is underway and inter-

views are being carried out

cadre was established with

better prospect of com-

mand structure besides rais-

ing of counter terrorism

wing in Levies and estab-

lishment of newly intelli-

gence wing, investigation

In Levies, a specialized

Similarly, in 17 dis-

rest of the province.

In addition to this, the record development programme was implemented under leadership of Minister Balochistan, he main-

He on the occasion highlighted certain achievements made in different sectors. He said that the province is heading towards the development and prosperity. He also said that the steps taken by the provincial government are being seen on ground.

The Finance Minister said that the unprecedented decisions were made for development and prosperity of the province and its people during last two and half years.

He said that we have taken up the issues of finance with the federal government, and Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif has already constituted a committee on the matter. He expressed the hope that the recommendations to be made by the committee would be implemented in true letter and spirit.

Mr. Achakzai vowed to continue to serve the ernment took certain steps masses of the province.

Candidates should possess at least 3

years of IT-related experience and an

expert level of knowledge of data

analysis, Networking, and MS Office

applications such as Word, Excel,

Candidates should possess at least 2

years of IT-related working experience

in the public and/or private sector.

Preference will be given to ICS degree

PowerPoint, Outlook, etc.

#### Quran Khawani held at BBSA

QUETTA: In the provincial

Boys were prayed for. Nizamuddin Mengal,

JEDDAH (APP): Minister ing in the government for Religious Affairs and Inscheme. His primary objecterfaith Harmony Talha tive is to oversee the provi-Mahmood on Monday sion of all necessary facili

urged the intending Pakistani pilgrims to demon-

told the media that he has arrived as an ordinary pilgrim to perform Hajj, while tion to assess and review the Hajj arrangements.

minister was warmly welcomed by Director General Hajj Abdul Wahab Soomro and other officials from the Pakistan Hajj Mission.

Mahmood highlighted that all Pakistanis in Saudi Arabia serve as ambassadors for Pakistan. Additionally, he noted

that a dedicated 24-hour portal is actively addressing the concerns and complaints of the Hajj pil-

situation is unique, with pected.

It is pertinent to meneled to Saudi Arabia at his with the pilgrims participat-

## **Collective efforts**

Continued from page 1 (ANF) Balochistan on Monday.

The Director General ANF, Major General Aniqur Rehman and other high ups of the ANF, senior officials of provincial government and other concerned departments besides the senior faculty members and students of different educational insti-

the civil society and elites. The Federal Minister torched and destroyed around 85 metric tons of different types of drugs in

The narcotics destroyed at the ceremony were seized during different raids conducted by ANF in the province.

Narcotics Control regretfully pointed out that earlier hashsh, heroin, opium was used as narcotics earlier, but now synthetic narcotics is being used. He said that spread of narcotics is matter of concern for

In the prevailing situation, we need to make concerted efforts to eliminate the menace of drugs from our society, adding he stressed Nawabzada Bugti said

Earlier, the Director General ANF said that the curse of narcotics has turned into a security chal-

He noted with concern that 12.5 percent of criminals use narcotics in the country. Adding he pointed out that some students also use different drugs, which is matter of great concern.

He said that while ANF is striving to reduce the demand and supply of drugs, still all segments of the society would have to play their effective role in complete eradication of the

**Independent Report** 

neadquarters of the Balochistan Boys Scouts Association, Quran and Fatiha were recited on the occasion of the national mourning of dozens of Pakistanis who died in a boat accident in Greece. On this occasion, Acting Provincial Commissioner Balochistan Boys Scouts Association Amanullah Kanrani and all other members of the National Council of Pakistan

Irfan Ahmad Khan, Atta Muhammad Kakar, Sabir Hussain Niazi, Abdul Wahid Kakar, Mir Shahnawaz Kanrani, Saad Waqas, and other Boys Scout volunteers participated in large numbers.



QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo in a group photo women parliamen-

#### Talha urges Pakistani pilgrims to exhibit patience, adhere to Saudi regulations

In Jeddah, he will par

Meanwhile, the Youm

In pursuit of the Sunnah

ticipate as representative of

Pakistan in the Interna-

e Arafat (Day of Arafah)

will be observed on June 27

as the Dhu Al-Hijjah moon

has been sighted in Saudi

of Hazrat Muhammad

(PBUH), pilgrims will

flock in the morning of 26

of Dhu Al-Hijjah to Mina

to spend the day of

finalising arrangements at Mina, Muzdalifah and

Arafat. Beds, blankets, air

conditioners and other nec-

essary arrangements are at

final stages in the tents val-

is also working round the

clock with an exclusive

monitoring system under

the supervision of Director

Moavineen Sajjad Haider

Yildrim for the facilitation

Pakistan Hajj Mission

Saudi Authorities are

Tarwiyah.

ley of Mina.

tional Hajj Conference.

ties for them. During his visit, the minister will perform strate patience during Hajj Umrah and meet Ŝaudi auand adhere to the rules and regulations set by the Saudi thorities to discuss the arrangements of Hajj.

After arriving at Jeddah, Senator Talha Mahmood also emphasizing his inten-

At Jeddah Airport, the

This year, the minister

highlighted that the Hajj approximately 2 million individuals from around the world and an additional 10 million local attendees ex-

tion that the minister travown expense and will reside

## needed to...

tutions, representatives of

the ceremony.

Speaking on the occasion, the Federal Minister

that drugs are more dangerous war, and as such adding he stressed that we have to make collective struggle for prevention of the use of drugs in the so-

#### Commander Iranian Navy calls on AirChief, lauds **PAFprofessionalism**

ISLAMABAD (APP): Rear Admiral Shahram Irani, Commander of Islamic Republic of Iran Navy called on Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force (PAF) here on Monday and lauded the professionalism of PAF personnel

The meeting was focused on areas of mutual interest and regional developments, a PĀF news release said.

During the meeting, the Chief of the Air Staff high-lighted that the advancement in space, electronic warfare, cyber and niche technologies coupled with artificial intelligence had profoundly affected the traditional environment of national security.

He briefed the visiting dignitary about various ongoing projects being carried out by Pakistan Air Force with special focus on modernization and develop-ment of indigenous capabili-The Air Chief also em-

phasized that Pakistan and İran enjoyed longstanding religious, cultural and historical bonds which were manifested through strong ties between both the coun

#### Pakistan Army established TDP camps in response to severe Cyclone Biparjoy

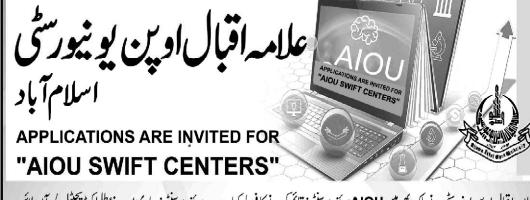
QUETTA (PR): As Cyclone BIPARJOY approaches, the Pakistan Army, along with PDMA Balochistan, civil administration and line departments is actively working to provide essential facilities to the affected population in the TDP camps. This includes medical assistance, accommodation and rations. To ensure efficient response, the Pakistan Army is also pre-positioning machinery, ambulances, medical teams and disaster management sup-

plies in Pasni, Ormara, Kund Malir, Gaddani and Hub. The safety and security of the local population, including Chinese nationals involved in CPEC projects is a priority for the Pakistan Army. Measures are being taken to protect their well-being during the cyclone.



tration assured that maximum resources will be employed by the Pakistan Army to ensure the safety of the affected

The National Highway Authority is actively engaged in desilting work at Winder, utilizing all available resources to complete the task in order to prevent flooding in the area in the event of heavy rains. Traffic management plans along the Coastal Highway (CHW) are in place, and the Pakistan Coast Guards and Balochistan Fisheries Department have implemented measures to assist stranded fishermen and respond to distress calls at sea. These preparations aim to effectively handle any emergent situations that may arise due to the cyclone.



علامه اقبال اوین یو نیورٹی نے ملک مجرمیں AlOU سوئفٹ سنٹرز قائم کرنے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے۔ یہ سوئفٹ سنٹرز جاری اور شے طلبا کو ڈیجیٹل / آن لائن داخلہ اوراس کے متعلقہ ضروری معلومات اور سہولیات فراہم کریں گے۔ بیسوئفٹ سنٹمرز علامہ اقبال اوپن یو نیورٹی کے ساتھ با قاعدہ رجشر ڈیہوں گے اورایینے علاقہ میں علامدا قبال اوین یو نیورٹی کے ساتھ ملکر تغلیمی خدمات کوفروغ اور طلبا کے لیے ڈیجیٹل سہولت سنٹر کے طور برخدمات انجام دیں گے۔ ان سنٹرزکوقائم کرنے کے لیے درج ذیل مہولیات کے حامل کاروباری افراد سے مجوزہ طریقہ کار کے تحت درخواسٹیں مطلوب ہیں:

## سوئفٹ سنٹر کے قیام کا طریقہ کار

- ا۔ درخواست دہندگان کوتر ہی ریجنل آفس اسٹر میں بذر بعیالیں ایم ایس، ای میل انٹرو پوز کے لیے
- ۲۔ ریجنل آفس کی تمیٹی یو نیورٹی کی پالیسی اور تو اندین کو مدنظر رکھتے ہوئے سوئٹٹ سنشرز کے قیام کے
  - س- کامیاب امیدواران کا ڈیٹا یو نیورٹی ویب سائٹ پردیا جائے گا۔
- ۳- معاہدہ ہونے کے بعد کامیاب امید وارمعاہدہ کی پاسداری کے لیے اشام پیریرایک حاضر سروس گزیٹیڈآ فیسرکمازکم (BPS-17) کی گواہی میں بیان طفی جمع کرانے کا یا ہند ہوگا۔
- ۵- کامیاب امید داران کوریجنل سنتریش نریننگ کردائی جائے گی اوراس کے لیے کوئی TA/DA نہیں دياجائ گا-تاجم وقافو قا آن لائن شرينگ جاري ريكي-
- ۲- كامياب اميدواران كرماته باقاعده اشام يتيرير ايك مال كامعابده موگااوركاركردگى كى بنا ۷ یونیورش ایک یا تمام درخواستوں کومسر دکرنے کاحق محفوظ رکھتی ہے۔ بوینوش بغیر دویہ بتائے اس
  - ۸۔ یو نیورٹ کسی بھی وقت بغیر دیے بتائے کسی ایک یا تمام سنٹرز کوشتم کرسکتی ہے۔ ۸۔ م

## سوئفٹ سنٹرز کے قیام کے لیےضروری شرائط

- ا۔ جیز رقارانٹرنیٹ کی سہولت دستیاب ہو۔ کم از کم 2 میگابائٹ برسیکنٹر ا منانی کام اداروں کی بینکنگ سہولیات (Jazz Cash, Easypiasa, U-Paisa)
- ے یا قاعدہ رجٹر ڈبول۔ س\_ طلبا،طالبات، مشرز کے لیے بیٹھنے کی مناسب جگہ موجود ہواور پینے کے بانی کی
  - - ۴- کمپیوٹر،پرنٹراور سکینرکی مجولت میسر ہو۔
- ۵۔ بیلی کی سہولت اور بیک اپ میسر ہو۔ امیدوار کے پاس غیر منتقل شدہ فون نمبر ہو، جسکانیٹ ورک بھی تبدیل شدہ نہ ہو
- تا کہ یو نیورٹی کی طرف ہے پیغام فوری موصول ہو سکے ۔ 2\_ سوئفٹ سنٹر کامین روڈ اور مناسب جگہ پرواقع ہونا از حد ضروری ہے تا کہ اہل علاقہ
- ۸۰ امیدوار کے لیے درست اور کمل معلوبات فراہم کرنا ضروری ہے غلط اور ناکمل
  - معلومات وسين كي صورت مين تمام تر فرمدداري اميدوار برعا كد بوگي \_
  - 9- پروسینگ فیس مبلغ-/**2000**رویه (نا قابل واپسی)
- ا۔ مختلف خدمات عے عوض یو نیورش کی طرف سے مقرر کردہ سروں جار جز طلبا سے وصول کئے جاسکتے ہیں، جس کے لئے لسٹ آویزاں کی جائے گئی۔
  - اا۔ طلباء کے لیےان سنٹرز سے خدمات لیمالازی نہیں ہے۔

ضروري نوث: درخواست د ہندگان کو پروسینگ فیس (نا قابل واپسی )مبلغ-/2000روپے ABL, MCB, FWBL کی کسی بھی برانچ میں بذرایعہ بیک چالان جح کرانا ہوں گے۔ چالان یو نیورٹی کی ویب سائٹ پر درخواست کے ساتھ دستیاب میں بذریعہ Jazz Cash , U-paisa Easypaisa ایپ کے ذریعے بھی جمع کرائی جاسکتی ہے۔ درخواست دہندگان کوڈیازٹ سلی علیحدہ سے ارسال کرنے کی ضرورت نہیں AlOU ،خود بینک ہے نیس کی تصد اق کر نے گی۔ درخواست صرف اور صرف آن لائن جمع کرائی جائے گی ۔ آن لائن کا لنگ درج ذیل ہے۔

آن لائن درخواست جمع كراني كى آخرى تاريخ 2023-07-07 ہے

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ڈاکٹر ملک تو قیراحمد خان ڈائز کیٹر جزل (ریجنل سروسز)

بلاك نمبر25 علامه اقبال اوين يونيورشي سيكثر8-Hاسلام آياد فون نمبر: 051-9572546 اي الميل: swift @aiou.edu.pk



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Note: Interested candidates meeting the criteria should email their CVs and cover letter to

hr.edu.gob@gmail.com. until 4th July 2023. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. No TA/DA will

## Faisal Kundi terms holding elections in time crucial for political stability

kistan People's Party (PPP) spokesperson and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Poverty Alleviation and Social Šafety, Faisal Karim Kundi Monday termed holding elections in time as crucial for political stability in Pakistan.

In a press conference along with PPP leader, Nadeem Afzal Chan here, Faisal Kundi said that the people of Karachi gave a full mandate to the Pakistan People's Party in the local body elections.

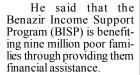
He said that his party was trying its best to achieve success in the upcoming elections. "We are ready to contest general elections and have started our campaign", he added.

Faisal Kundi emphasized that all allies should go to the elections which are expected to be held by

He said that the delegation of the PPP in a meeting with the Prime Minister, Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif presented reservations on the budget. "The PPP delegation will meet the Prime Minister again

The SAPM said that in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, funds were given to all MPs except those belonging to the Pakistan People's

About the return of former Prime Minister, Nawaz Sharif, Faisal Kundi said that PML-N has to decide when Nawaz Sharif



The PPP spokesperson said that complaints regarding BISP funds have been received from all over Pakistan.

He said that investiga-

tions were being carried out to address the complaints of those having difficulties in getting funds. Kundi stated that the quarterly payments under Benazir Kafaalat program

percent increase. The SAPM also expressed his grief over the death of more than 100 Pakistanis in a boat acciden

in Greece.

were being issued with a 25



## **Parliamentary Delegation** lauds Green Development

ISLAMABAD (Online): A Parliamentary Delegation visited the Karot Hydropower Project to commemorate its 1st Anniversary and celebrate the 10 years of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the 10 Years of BRI. The Delegation was led by Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman Pakistan-China Institute. Mustafa Hyder Sayed, Executive Director Pakistan-China Institute, also accompanied the delegation. This was the first of its kind Cross Party Parliamentary delegation to have visited the Karot Hy-

ISLAMABAD (APP):

The Ministry of Interior on

Monday set up a coordina-

tion cell in its control room

to provide updates and in-

formation regarding the vic-

tims of the tragic boat inci-

rior Ministry notifica-

tion, the decision was

taken on the directives of

The coordination cell, headed by the Addi-

tional Secretary (Border Management) from the

Ministry of Interior, com-

prises Director General of

the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs Naeemullah, Direc-

Prime Minister Shehbaz

According to an Inte-

dent in Greece,.

dropower Project which included Senator Waleed Iqbal, Senator Taj Haider, Senator Sadia Abbasi, Senator Palwasha Mohammad Zai Khan, Senator Rukhsana Zuberi, Mohammed Khân Daha, MNA, Senator Pir Sabir Shah, and Senator Muhammad Asad Ali Khan Junejo. Moreover, journalists, bloggers, and students were also a part of this del-

The Parliamentary delegation expressed admiration for the commitment of the Karot Hydropower

**Coordination cell set** 

up at Interior Ministry

for Greece boat victims

hinwari.

to Pakistan's development agenda. They also acknowledged the project's pivotal role in meeting the country's energy-increasing demands while addressing environmental concerns.

The delegation was warmly welcomed by Mr. Wang Minsheng, CEO of CSAIL, who delivered an introductory speech emphasizing the significance of the Karot Project and the operations underway to boost Pakistan's energy sector. He said that the Karot Hydropower Project is the flagship project of

# **Javed Latif**

ISLAMABAD (APP) tor General of the National Federal Minister Mian Health Services, Regulation Javed Latif Monday said & Coordination Division May 9 incidents have elimi-Dr Baseer Achakzai, Chief nated Pakistan Tehreek (Policy Plan) of the Over-Insaf (PTI) from the seas Pakistanis & Human country's politics as its leaders and party workers Resource Division Tanvir Khaliq, and Director of were found guilty of com-FIA's Anti Human Smug-gling Muhammad Alam mitting crimes by attacking state institutions. Talking to a private news channel he The coordination accused of PTI chief mascell's responsibilities entermind of the May 9 maycompass several crucial hem. He held the PTI chairtasks. It will conduct initial man responsible for descreenings, in collaboration stroying state institutions with the Federal Investigadue to poor policies. He tion Agency (FIA), to said the coalition governverify the information proment after coming into vided by relatives of the power has taken harsh

#### May 9 mayhem eliminate PTI from politics:

passengers on the ill-fated steps to steer the country out of the economic crisis.

#### NA Speaker urges govt action against human smuggling able individuals in the guise ISLAMABAD (APP):

Speaker of the National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf on Monday expressed deep concern over the recent shipwreck incident in Greece and the issue of hu-

In his statement during the session of the National Assembly, the Speaker called for immediate action to hold those responsible for exploiting inocent people accountable for their actions.

The tragic sinking of the ship has left the entire nation devastated and grieving. With heavy hearts, Pakistanis mourn the loss of lives and express their condolences to the affected families. The incident serves as a grim reminder of the dangers faced by individuals seeking a better

Addressing the National Assembly session, Speaker Raja Pervez Ashraf emphasized the urgency of the situation and the need for the government to take swift and stringent action. He stressed that those involved in exploiting vulner-

of employment should face the full extent of the law.

He urged the government to ensure that appropriate punishment is meted out to the culprits, sending a strong message that such heinous activities will not

be tolerated. The Speaker called upon all members of the National Assembly to play an active role in advocating for their respective constituents. He urged them to discourage and raise awareness among the people about the dangers of engaging in human smuggling, emphasizing the severe harm it inflicts on Pakistani

The government, according to Speaker Raja Pervez Ashraf, bears a significant responsibility to combat this grave issue. He stressed the necessity of implementing strict measures to deter individuals involved in human smuggling. Immediate and decisive action is crucial to prevent future incidents and safeguard the lives of Paki-



ISLAMABAD: A view of the Pakistan Flag flying half mast on PM Secretariat, as Federal Government announces bereaved for today on the sad incident of the drown refugee boat from Libya to Italy, In which hundreds of Pakistanis are dead.

#### Turi directs for thorough report on Jamshoro Coal Mines incident

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Overseas and Human Resource Development Sajid Hussain Turi on Monday took notice of Jamshoro Coal Mines incident that left two labourers dead due to suffocation and sought for a thorough report on the matrelease, expressing his condolences to the affected families, the Federal Minister said that the provocation of grief-stricken families was estimated due to the loss of their loved ones, where justice would be served to the widows and children of the deceased as

have been directed to conduct a complete investigation and submit a report, he

The Federal Minister added that it was entirely wrong to give coal mines leases to inexperienced individuals. The continuous ter. According to the news violation of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, by exploiting poor laborers would not be tolerated, he said.

It should be noted that two laborers, who belonged to a tribe hailing from the district of Karam Seharif in Sindh, lost their lives due to suffocation in Jamshoro Coal Mines during work.

## Abdullah Gul condoles sad demise of 298 Pakistanis in Greece boat incident

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Tehreek-e-Jawanan Pakistan (TJP) Mohammad Abdullah Gul on Monday expressed his deep sorrow over the drowning of 298 Pakistanis in the tragic sinking of a boat in Greece.

The TJP Chairman strongly condemned the incident and termed the loss of innocent youth who left the country to seek better livelihood in abroad after falling a prey to human traffickers, a news release said.

Abdullah Gul prayed for the deceased and said, "May Allah grant their families patience and grant His mercy to the deceased." Expressing his sorrow, he said that the FIA department and border security forces should take strict action against illegally crossing the border due to which shameful incident happens. The Greek people

were protesting against

their government for such a

big tragedy that this boat

was sunk intentionally.



ISLAMABAD: Heavy machinery being used in construction work of Expressway during development work in the city.

## Shah hopeful coalition partners to address PPP's reservations

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan People's Party MNA Nafisa Shah Mon-day that she was hopeful that the coalition partners would address the PPP's reservations over budget allocation for flood victims' rehabilitation and urged for gearing up for timely transparent elections.

party was neither in favour of early nor delayed general elections, adding, the general elections in the country should be held according to the constitution and democratic norms

She termed timely elections need of the hour to overcome the chaos and instability in the country.

'No-one is dare to deprive the people of their due rights to elect their representatives and choose their government," she added, PPP considers its workers a precious asset as Talking to a Private news channel, she said her always help party in difficult times.

Replying to a question, she said the PPP did not want any confrontation or deadlock and always preferred table talks to resolve issues.



ISLAMABAD: Minister of State Faisal Karim Kundi addressing a press conference along with Leader of Pakistan People Party Nadeem Afzal Chan at PPP Secretariat in Federal Capital.

## AIOU's academic council approves new matric tech program

ISLAMABAD (APP): Dr. Nasir Mahmood di-Allama Iqbal Open Univer- rected that the failed stusity (AIOU) on Monday unanimously approved the new programs/courses of BS, MS/MPhil, and PhD.

The decision was taken during a joint meeting of the 49th Academic Planning and Development/ Research and Educational Technology Committee semester in the revised as-(APD/RET) and 65th Academic Council and of proved the launch of the Allama Iqbal Open Univer- Matric Tech program. sity (AIOU) held yester-

Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood chaired the meeting, Registrar, Raja Umar Yunus organizing and supported the meeting.

The department heads, principal officers, and external members attended as well.

The meeting approved providing two reappear chances to the students, i.e., in case of failure in any subject, the students will be provided two chances of examination.

dents will be given 6 weeks' time for re-enrollment in the examination. The meeting also approved the change of title of certain courses.

The meeting provided an exemption in the quiz component to the students of the spring/autumn 2022 sessment policy and ap-

The meeting una mously declared the courses of 'civilization, culture, language and literature' of all provinces as an integral part of the BS pro-

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood directed the faculty members and deans to keep in mind the policy of the University and Higher Education Commission in designing the courses and preparing the teaching materials and not to offer a single program that does not meet the standards and directed



in traditional stuff on stall during Saqafati Mela promoting Pakistani culture providing entertainment to public at Lok Virsa.

#### **Intl Day for 'Elimination** of Sexual Violence in **Conflict' observed**

International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict was observed on Monday.

The day is commemorated every year to mark the date of the unanimous adoption of the first UN Security Council resolution to recognize conflict-related sexual violence as a tactic of war and a threat to international peace and security

The theme of this year's day is "Bridging the gender digital divide to prevent, address and respond to conflict-related sexual

India is using sexual violence as tool to suppress Kashmiris' struggle

Women are the worst victims of Indian forces' barbarities in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir as New Delhi is using rape as a weapon to suppress the Kashmiris' struggle for right to self-de-

Mmedia reports on the occasion of Interna- killed in custody.

ISLAMABAD (Online): tional Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, today, revealed that Indian forces' personnel had sexually assaulted over 11,259 women during the last 34 years in the occupied territory.

It said India is deliberately targeting women in IIOJK to humiliate and terrorize the Kashmiris. It said like Kunanposhpora mass rape, Shopian double rape and murder, and rape and murder of a minor girl in Kathua depict the brutal face of Indian forces deployed in the occupied

Around a hundred women were gang-raped by Indian troops during a cordon and search operation in Kunanposhpora area of Kupwara district on the night of February 23, 1991. Two women, Aasiya and Neelofar of Shopian, were abducted by Indian men in uniform on May 29, 2009, gangraped and subsequently

## World Refugee day to be

ISLAMABAD (APP)

World Refugee Day honors the spirit and courage of millions of refugees

spirit and courage of milons of refugees worldwide

It is a day to recognize the contributions of refugees in their communities. Organizations such as Amnesty International and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) often get involved in various activities for the day. They may in-

#### IRSA releases 234,500

cusecs water

ISLAMABAD (APP) Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Monday released 234,500 cusecs of water from various rim stations with an inflow of 319,700 cusecs. According to the data released by River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1457.84 feet and was

# marked today

The World Refugee Day will be marked on Tuesday across the globe, the day honors the courage, strength and determination of women, men and children who are forced to flee their homeland under threat of persecution, conflict and

The people honor the on World Refugee Day.

IRSA, the water level in 59.84 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 152,200 cusecs and 100,000 cusecs respectively. The water level in River Jhelum Mangla Dam was 1149.35 feet, which was 99.35 feet higher than its

# ISLAMABAD: Senator Saleem Mandviwalla Convener chairing the PAC subcommittee meeting in Parliament House.

#### Court extends bail of PTI's chairman in case of Margalla PS

ISLAMABAD (APP): A joined the investigation and local court on Monday extended the interim bails of PTI's Chairman Imran Khan and Asad Umar in a case registered by Margalla Police Station and instructed the accused to join the investigation.

Additional District and Session Judge Sikandar Khan heard the bail petition of PTI's chief who appeared before the court along with his legal team.

Petitioner's lawyer Salam Safdar Advocate said that his client had appeared before the court in a judicial complex in 17 cases in

gave answers to every question, he said. However, the prosecutor said that the accused had not joined the investigation so far and prayed the court to issue instructions to Imran Khan to appear before the investigation team in the office of DIG police. He said that the said office was safe from the security point of view. Imran Khan said that he was ready to join the investigation into the building of the judicial complex. At this, the court summoned the regis-

like conditions expected from **June 20-24** ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) on Mon-

Heat wave

day said heat wave like conditions would persist in most parts of the country from June 20-24 due to the high pressure in the upper atmosphere. Temperatures are likely to increase gradually in most parts of the country during the period due to presence of high pressure in the upper atmosphere the day. Day temperatures are likely to remain 04-06 degree celsius above normal in upper and trar who stated that a room central Punjab, Islamabad, upperKhyber Pakhtunkhwa, could be provided for the Gilgit-Baltistan.

#### dead level of 1,050 feet. Mushaal pens letter seeking UN intervention to save Yasin Malik's life

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairperson of Peace and Culture Organisation, Mushaal Hussein Mullick penned a letter to António Guterres. Secretary General, United Nations requesting his immediate intervention to save Mohammed Yasin Malik Chairman JKLF's life from

Indian judicial murder. Mushaal, the wife of Yasin Malik, on Monday, wrote a letter to the UN chief and appealed to him to play his role to avert a iudicial murder of her hus-

"I am Mushaal Hussein Mullick, the distraught wife of an unlawfully incarcerated husband and mother of an 11-yearold girl who has been denied a father's hug for almost 9 years. I am writing to you at a time when words fall me, yet with great hope in the office you

band, a news release said.

hold and the principles you represent," she added. She said that help me articulate the right sen- people of Kashmir deserve, tences to explain to an 11-

on death row for demanding what the UN has mandated as our right, or should I just tell her justice is dead?

"My husband Yasin Malik 57, is the face of Kashmir's non-violent political struggle, which stems from a resolution of the very organisation you head today," she maintained.

Mushaal stated that he has given away his youth, his family, and his health in the belief that the as the most basic of human

he currently rots in a death cell of the notorious Tihar Jail in India since 7 May 2019 with no rights of a fair trial. She said that Yasin has spent 25 such years in multiple Indian jails. Are we waiting for him to die and crown him Kashmir's Mandela? "I am practically a widow, but does the English language have a word to describe a child whose father she has not met in almost a decade?

termination: all so with the

most non-belligerent, ortho-

dox political ethos for that



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Special Committee on Affected Employees Mr. Qadir Khan Mandokhail chairing committee meeting at Parliament Lodges.

# Daily soice of Masse Independent

Tuesday June 20, 2023

#### Death at sea

It is unlikely that more survivors will be found. That means that at least 600 migrants out of possibly 750 - 00 on the fishing boat that set off from term. The PDM coalition Libya towards European shores, may have perished will then be obliged to relinquish power and be replaced by caretaker governments that have to be in place to hold general Mediterranean Wednesday.

The details are still sketchy but the passengers largely comprised Pakistanis, Af- will be held on time. ghans, Egyptians, Palestinians and Syrians. According to completed digital census, some reports, up to 300 Paki- which news reports indicate stanis may have drowned. It might push the election date beyond October as this is a recurring tragedy — with would entail delimitation of no end in sight as economic, political and climate crises compel increasingly large numbers of people to flee their

Who should be held responsible for this incident? The Greek coast guard that were not far off and that had, in fact, communicated with the people on the boat before it sank? If reports are to be believed, they tried to tow the boat. Did this is in any way contribute to the tragedy? But the larger question is, why in the presence of maritime authorities did a tragedy of such human rights as a major immense proportions take place?

Only a comprehensive, unbiased investigation can reveal rights issues and develop a what happened between the time the authorities were first mendable effort by Senator alerted to the presence of the Farhatullah Babar to reactive to the Presence of the Hilling Bight overcrowded boat and when Cell of the Pakistan Peoples the vessel capsized later at

Regrettably, the absence of tatives to present their not hinder any mechanisms help by the coastal authorities issues in the country. Since is part and parcel of Europe's these issues normally relarger xenophobic policy that mainstream media, perhaps across the country as they aims to keep migrants out.

However, Fortress Europe audience. So, here is the gist job insecurity to a lack of or public lives. alone cannot be blamed for why people in developing countries, such as Pakistan, choose to leave. This is not the first time Pakistani migrants have lost their lives at sea.

There have been several incidents. In a particularly heartbreaking one earlier this year, sportswoman Shahida Raza, who was unable to afford medical treatment for her In recent years, child adopyoung son in Pakistan, tion has increased across all sections of society. However, the practice often recarrying her and scores of oth- mains concealed, and ers crashed against the rocks.

She had been attempting to adoption journey typically reach foreign shores to build ity, which holds significant a better future for her child. Cultural and social implica-Therein lies the tragedy: an women are often considinept, uncaring government has made little effort to crack ability to give birth is down on a vast network of deemed an essential aspect human smugglers who fleece Consequently, individuals desperate individuals and put grappling with infertility them on a path strewn with relational struggles but also

It is telling that in the latest incident, very few of the tioned concern. victims' families registered a complaint against the human emotional turmoil of infertility, it is challenging to smugglers. Perhaps they did not expect anything to come of it or perhaps they feared usually falls on women, harassment at the hands of with men being encouraged the authorities themselves.

It is bad enough that the root cause of infertility lies spectacular failure of the government to fulfil its part of the encounter I had 21 years social contract by providing Balochistan who had three economic security to its citizens drives desperate individuals — even the educated fertility clinic in Karachi. ones — to leave the country. It is a crime when the government decides to ignore a grave This realisation left him issue that has snowballed into feeling ashamed for subjecta crisis of deadly proportions. ing his wives to undue blame and distress.

## **Future uncertain**



Maleeha Lodhi

In less than two months' time, the National Assembly will complete its full be in place to hold general elections. But the road to elections is still clou-ded in uncertainty. With ministers adopting a purposively vague stance, speculation is rife about whether elections

Some of this has been fuelled by the yet-to-beconstituencies. There is also uncertainty about the fate of the economy which remains in the critical ward. Any effort to play

with the election date beyond what is constitutionally stipulated would be disastrous for the country. Fixing the economy can hardly be used as an excuse considering the PDM government's failure to address the ongoing economic crisis. Band-aid measures have only kicked the can down the road and done little to deal with the structural sources of the crisis. Failure to revive the

IMF bailout programme has underscored the extent of government mismanagement. The prospect of elections urged a reform-averse government to avoid taking necessary remedial measures to meaningfully address the perilous state of public finances. The budget was a

missed opportunity, with political considerations taking precedence over sound economics. The IMF criticised the lack of measures both on the revenue and expenditure side. This seemed to rule out chances of any deal.
Uncertainties are not

limited to the economy. They extend to the electoral field and involve the question of who would or would

whether opposition leader Imran Khan will be disqualified in one of the legal cases against him.

PTI's fate is also unclear given allegations by senior ministers that the May 9 violence was authorised by the party and its high command. Thus, an election minus Khan and his party cannot be ruled out irrespective of what this might mean for the credibility of the electoral exer-The launch of a new

party, Istehkam-i-Pakistan, comprising mostly lightweight second-string deserters from PTI may well be designed to pave the way for such an outcome so that voters are offered a choice beyond the two traditional parties and the contest is made to look real. But would that really make for genuine competition? That would be for voters to decide. The latest Gallup-Pakistan survey found that only a quarter of Pakistanis expressed confidence in the fairness of the upcoming

Voter turnout would be a key indicator of how free and open the electorate is likely to see the pronot be allowed to run and cess. While there are many

unknowns along the path to elections, what can be said with some certitude is that a low turnout would leave a question mark on the winner's mandate to govern. Turnout in previous elections has ranged between 51per cent (2018), 53pc (2013), 44pc (2008) and 41pc (2002). The lowest — in 2002 — reflected voters' response to an election held under military rule

If turnout drops considerably below the above, those who secure public office by a minority vote resting on a low turnout will end up with weak representative credentials. This will cast the credibility of their victory in some doubt and undermine their legiti-

and therefore not viewed as

free or fair.

date in an environment of public cynicism in which the majority of voters may choose not to cast the ballot will neither translate into real authority nor empower a fragile democracy. Of course, much

Securing a feeble man-

would also depend on whether the two traditional parties are able to motivate and inspire the electorate

of programme or policy. Their present conduct suggests these parties and their leaderships remain obsessively preoccupied with discrediting Khan in what appears to be a strategy of overkill.

Both are also burdened by incumbency especially in light of the worst economic crisis the country has faced, with inflation fuelling widespread public discontent. Neither has outlined any vision for the future; nor how they address the would country's many challenges. Their public messaging is muddled, negative and so far, directionless.

Hardly the stuff to excite voters, especially new voters. Twenty million have been added to the electoral rolls in the past five years, since 2018. That's a significant 16pc of the electorate.

Apart from voter participation, another scenario to be considered is if a truncated PTI is allowed to contest minus Khan. In this case, the electoral battle that takes shape in Punjab could see the vote divide among four major contestants on National Assem-

IPP and PPP) although the latter's support in the province has long waned. This could make it hard for any party to secure an overall majority.

A shaky coalition government with a weak mandate would then be unable or unwilling to take the bold and decisive actions needed to extricate the economy from crisis. The possibility of a political outcome inconsistent with the requirements to fix the economy should be a matter of great concern. This is all the more

so as the economy faces a slew of negative trends, none of which are likely to be reversed in the months ahead. Internal and external financial imbalances remain wide, foreign exchange reserves have dwindled to a precarious level, inflation is at a historic high, domestic and foreign debt have reached unsustainable levels, the rupee has lost record value against the dollar, growth has stagnated, exports are falling, overseas remittances declining and foreign direct investment has plunged to a new low. -- Courtesy

# Human rights on the agenda



Dr Naazir Mahmood

There are hundreds of political parties in Pakistan and dozens of them are active, but not many have agenda point on their manifestos. It should be one of the primary foci of any political party worth its strategy to address them.In this backdrop, it is a comtivate the Human Rights Party. On June 16, he invited some leading activists pitulate them for a wider working conditions. From where - be it their private

of what they discussed. Harris Khalique of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) was the first to share his thoughts. From the outset he clarified that the HRCP is a non-partisan commission that does not support any political party. If any

political party does something significant to address numan rights issues, the HRCP appreciates that. He lauded the role the PPP has been playing as a relatively inclusive, liberal, and progressive party. Thanks to its long struggle for democracy in

Pakistan, many civil society organizations expect the PPP to play a proactive role in addressing violations of human rights in the country by advocacy, legislation, and developing mechanisms, wherever required.Harris Khalique underscored the importance of more progressive legislation in the country HR Cell must take up as and civil society represen- so that legal obstacles do religious harmony is at risk thoughts on human rights to protect human rights. One of the first points he highlighted was the plight ceive short shrift from the of sanitation workers it is worthwhile to reca- work in highly unhygienic ing discrimination any-

protective gear and from low wages to high health risks, sanitation workers need immediate intervention. He suggested that since the PPP has recently won the mayoral election in Karachi, perhaps it would be a good idea for a dynamic Murtaza Wahab to take up sanitation issues first. If Karachi becomes a role model for best sanitary conditions, it would serve as a guide to other cities and to the rest of Pakistan.

The second issue Harris thought significant was related to the transgender community in the country. He reminded the audience of how the Transgender Act has faced renewed challenges from the religious lobby that wants to revise the Act and deprive the transgender community of their rights.

Religious minorities was the third issue Harris Khalique thought the PPP in the country. All citizens should have a right to live, pray and work as they please and should have equal status as citizens of this country without fac-

Igbal Detho of the Sindh Human Rights Commission (SHRC) was of the view that the PPP HR Cell under the leadership of Farhatullah Babar has potential to work as a bridge between civil society and the government for suitable legislation. Sindh is the only province that has enacted a law to create a provincial human rights commission and that shows a strong political will of the Sindh government to pro-

tect human rights.

Igbal Detho shared

with the audience details about how the SHRC is working to ensure compliance of minimum wage standards for all sanitation workers, irrespective of their community, gender, or religion. All municipal administrations must ensure payment of minimum wages to these workers. He also talked about the Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act that sets a minimum age of 18 for both boys and girls whereas in Punjab the minimum age for girls is set at 16. Detho explained how the SHRC is trying to follow the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (Cedaw)

which is an international legal instrument that requires countries to eliminate discrimination against women and girls in all areas. Another important point that he highlighted was the practice of many marriage contracts (Nikahnama) without the CNIC number of the bride. He suggested that all such documents must have the bride's CNIC number to ascertain the girl's age without any ambiguity. In

Sindh, the SHRC is trying to make sure that no underage marriage is solemnized without proper documentation. All registered officials who fill out the marriage form must now see the valid CNIC of the bride, without which no marriage can take place. With the transgender community also Sindh is taking a lead

in ensuring their protection

Caucus has been playing in bringing about womenfriendly legislation in the

ment of Women at the Workplace (Amendment) Act that revised the 2010 Act; expanding the definition of workplaces to include both formal and informal workplaces. She highlighted gender-based violence as a major issue that most women have faced in their lives either physically or psychologically. The Domestic Violence (prevention and protection) Act, 2020 is a safeguard against such violence.

Ambreen considered civil society as a lab and felt the PPP HR Cell can contribute to this lab by presenting a situation to parliamentarians for suitable legislations that parliament should take up. There is a need for a much closer nexus between civil society and political parties especially on human rights issues focusing on rights. gender discrimination. Women's rights ac- There should be a wider tivist Ambreen Ajaib genderlens, she suggested, talked about the role the to scrutinize all laws al-Women's Parliamentary ready in use or about to become laws. Political parties should apply this lens for all legislative matcountry. For example, in ters. Bonded labour was January 2022. Pakistan's another issue that parliament adopted the Ambreen highlighted. -- Protection against Harass- Courtesy The News

## **Cultural challenges of adoption**



Tahera Hasan

live with a web of lies. The commences due to infertiltions. In our society, of being a complete person. not only face personal and endure intrusive and insensitive questioning that is often masked as well-inten-Unless someone has

personally experienced the comprehend the depth of the pain it inflicts. Regrettably, the burden of blame to remarry in order to have children. Even when the with the man, it is seldom discussed openly. I recall an wives. These wives, unable to communicate in Urdu, accompanied him to an in-To his surprise, after medical investigation, he discovered that the issue rested with him, not the women.

Women undergoing countless cycles of IVF and enduring invasive and painful procedures often experience the anguish of repeated failure. Unfortunately, counselling is scarce, and the genuine option of adoption is rarely discussed or encouraged. Adoption has touched my life in various capacities, both personally and professionally. I have interacted with adoptive parents, counselled adopted children, and assisted individuals through the emotional and legal ascouples are compelled to pects of the adoption process. Throughout this journey, one recurring theme has emerged — the desperate need for answers to the questions that arise and the

> Cultural and social acceptance plays a pivotal role in adoption. When individuals choose to become parents through adoption, they make a commitment to protect and support their child, regardless of the circumstances. Yet, unwarranted beliefs persist that adopted children are more troublesome and a source of distress. But do biological children not cause parental worries, or refrain from abandoning their parents, indulging in drugs, or engaging in other behaviour that could cause pain? Such concerns apply to all children,

need to dispel misconcep-

irrespective of their biological or adoptive status. The fear of bonding with an adopted child often emerges as a question. It is worth noting that parents who choose adoption have usually endured immense suffering and possess an intense longing for a child. In my experience with over 100 adoption cases, I have never witnessed a lack of bonding between parents and adopted children; however, there can, of course, be challenges. On the other hand, the possibility of postpartum depression and the subsequent rejection of biological children rarely Dawn

surfaces as a concern during pregnancy. The fear that one may not bond with their child is not a valid reason to dismiss the option of adoption.

questions becomes a nec-

Managing intrusive

essary skill for adoptive parents. Setting personal boundaries is crucial, as there are aspects of a child's story that are not to be shared with everyone. Those who have undergone the adoption process should become advocates, sensitising others and fostering a more accepting society for our children. To illustrate the kind of questions adoptive parents encounter, let me share an example. Once, someone asked me about my child's 'real parents'. I responded with a smile, saying, "I am". However, the person persisted, questioning the authenticity of my role as a parent. I gently took her hand and asked her to touch me, emphasising that I, too, am real. We must learn to assert ourselves and prevent undue intrusion into our lives, as allowing others to treat us poorly is often a reflection

of how we permit it. Addressing trauma associated with abandonment is another crucial aspect of adoption. Should adoptive parents disclose the truth about their child's adoption? Secrecy surrounding adoption raises ethical concerns. Children should be informed from an early age, gradually incorporating the truth into their daily

It is not a single event to be scheduled but an ongoing dialogue based on production. trust, love and a sense of security. Parents who withhold the truth from their children deny them the opportunity to experience true security. I firmly believe in the resilience of children and the positive impact of being honest with them. -- Courtesy

# Guerilla gardening



Zarrar Khuhro There are those who complain, and then there are those who take action ... and the residents of Kenya's Kericho county fall squarely into the latter category. Kenyan roads are poorly maintained; in the rural areas it's common to see roads that have more potholes than they do tarmac. Even when 'repairs' take place, they usually amount to sand or earth being filled in these craters, a half-hearted patchwork job that doesn't last long.

Fed up, residents of Kericho County decided to make use of these potholes by planting banana trees in them, thus turning a virtually unnavigable road into a virtually unnavigable banana-tree studded road. The exasperated roads

and transport secretary Kipchumba Murkomen sent out a passionate appeal to the locals to stop their activities and asked for patience as the government was committed to improving the roads. In response, Kenyans reminded him that his party had campaigned on the slogan 'We can't eat roads', which deprioritised spending on infrastructure and so he was in no position to complain if the people had decided to turn roads into avenues for food

This rather innovative and fairly practical method of protest is by no means limited to Kenya; Bryan Raymond, a resident of Fort Myers, Florida, was so tired of fixing the many recurring potholes on his street that he decided to draw the city authorities'

attention by planting a ba- with some grassroots nana tree in the latest fissure. While this naturally generated a lot of media attention, it's unclear whether it bore any fruit by leading to actual repairs being

For others, their foray into pothole farming started as a safety measure. Alarmed by a growing pothole on the side of the road that was big enough for a child to fall into, New Orleans resident Ronnie Mackay decided to fill it with potting soil. Then an idea sprouted in his head: why not plant a few watermelon and corn seeds too? This attracted the attention of neighbours who pitched in to help. One local costume designer even made a miniature scarecrow who is perched above a traffic cone. And so, a pothole became a fun project for an entire neighbourhood.

Ron Finley, the 'urban gangsta gardener' of southcentral Los Angeles, has taken guerrilla gardening, as it's known, to another level. South-central LA is known not just for its poverty and high crime rate but, as Finley points out, for being a 'food desert': an area with limited or no access to fresh foods. There are plenty of liquor stores and fast and packaged processed food in the stores, notes Finley, but it'snearly impossible to find fresh fruit and vegetables. The result is obesity, malnutrition and a higher rate of easily preventable diet-related illnesses than in most other areas. So Finley decided to plant a 'food forest' outside his home on a 45-metre by 3m stretch of overgrown land between the road and the footpath. Inviting volunteer gardeners to come and help tend the crops and fruit trees, Finley's forest became a neighbourhood attraction and joint project. Given that the land is owned by the city, Finley was asked to remove the

and online petitions, along

organising, forced the administration to not only give in but to support his plans to create more such forests — from which people neighbourhood are free to harvest — on empty lots across the city, and even in homeless shelters, where the residents help out by

maintaining the gardens and, in return, get to eat fresh food. Now, he runs the Ron Finley project "teaching communities how to transform food deserts into food sanctuaries, and teaching individuals how to regenerate their lands into creative business models" Like he says: "Growing your own food is like printing your own money.

But it's not just about food and finances, it's also about building resilient, cohesive communities. In Finley's gardens, we see a model that isn't just practical but also therapeutic and educational, especially for children.

Similarly, the concept of urban community gardening is picking up pace around the world and, on a recent visit to Canada, I got to see this project up close: small plots of unused city land are gardened collectively by a group of people from the local community, who work on shared or individual plots growing fruits, vegetable, flowers or whatever strikes their fancy. There are now such gardens in many Canadian and American cities, varying in size and complexity from simple plants in wooden crates, to sprawling gardens. Even rooftops are being employed in dense urban settings where vacant land simply isn't available. The Covid pandemic and Ukraine war have reminded us how fragile global supply chains are and how critical food security is; perhaps the urban areas of Pakistan could benefit from similar projects ... if only we can somehow keep forest, but media attention the land mafia at bay. Courtesy Dawn

## Caretaker Punjab govt presents Rs 1719.3 billion four-month budget

taker Punjab government Monday presented Rs 1719.3 billion budget for first four months of Financial Year 2023-24 as per its mandate under Article 126 of the Constitution of Pakistan, which says that the caretaker government may be authorised expenditures for a period not exceeding four months. Caretaker Provincial Information Minister Amir Mir and Caretaker Provincial Minister for Industries and Commerce SM Tanveer shared the main features of the four-month provincial budget with the media here

at Civil Secretariat. Amir Mir said, "Today, the caretaker cabinet of Punjab has approved the government expenditure and revenue for four months under Article 126 of the Constitution." He said that total outlay of the budget would be Rs 1719.3 billion for four months from July to October, 2023 He explained that Punjab would receive Rs 881 billion tax receipts from fed- would be spent on salaries businesses.

LAHORE (APP): Care- eral government and its own contribution would be Rs 194 billion, while no new taxes have been imposed for the above mentioned period of next financial year.

Development expenditures allocations stand at Rs 325 billion, he said and added that 4800 projects were in progress in the province, out of which 2500 projects would be completed in the next four

Amir Mir said that Education and Health sectors would be given Rs 195.1 billion and Rs 183.7 billion, respectively, adding that budget for both the sectors had been increased by 31 per cent

For the first time in the history of Punjab, he mentioned, a Journalist Endowment Fund amounting to Rs 1 billion had been established that would definitely ensure well-being of the journalist community across the province.

The caretaker information minister said that an amount of Rs 721 billion Inauguration of Anti-Pol

KARACHI: Sindh Health and Population Welfare Minister, Dr. Azra Fazal

Pechuho along with Dr. Palitha Gunarathna Mahipala, World Health Organi-

zation (WHO) Head in Pakistan are administrating polio-vaccine drops to a

The delegation from

well-being.
The delegation had the

opportunity to witness firsthand the development initiatives spearheaded by AKRSP in the Baltistan re-

cluded their visit, both the

representatives from

Diamer and the local com-

munities in Baltistan ex-

As the delegation con-

child during inauguration ceremony of anti-polio immunization campaign.

**Delegation of Diamer** 

visits Baltistan region

mony and exchange of ideas, Diamer was particularly in-

a delegation from district terested in understanding

Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) during the visit to the Baltistan moting sustainable development and community

cooperation.

GILGIT (APP): In a bid to

promote inter-region har-

The delegation, con-

sisting of religious clerics,

community leaders, jour-

nalists, and representatives

from various sectors, em-

barked on this journey to

gain insights into the suc-

cessful development initia-

tives of different districts

in Baltistan.

be a 30 per cent ad hoc relief allowance on basic salary of the government employees, and a five per cent increase in pension, while pensioners above 80 years of age would be given 20 per cent increase in their pension, he added.

He said that the

Punjab government owed Rs 600 billion to various banks on account of whea procurement and Rs 250 million mark-up was being paid daily in this regard This debt could go up to Rs 1100 billion by end of 2023 and Rs 2000 billion by end of 2025, therefore, the caretaker chief minister had started the process of paying off the debt of Rs 600 billion with the approval of the cabinet and it would be paid in next four months. Caretaker Provincial Industries Minister SM Tanveer said the budget was people-friendly and no new taxes had been imposed. Punjab abolished sales tax on Information

Technology (IT) related

19th to 25th June 202



KARACHI: Newly appointed Consul General of Thailand Narut Soontarodom called on Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori.

## **KP Governor takes** notice of excessive load shedding of gas, electricity

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor, Haji Ghulam Ali here on Monday summoned the meeting of Wapda and Suigas authorities at Governor House Peshawar after people complaints about excessive load shedding of these services and issued a letter to their high-ups to attend it on Tuesday

The governor directed the Chief Executive of PESCO and the General Manager of SNGPL to come to Governor's House along with concerned staff

over several hours of load shedding and the unavailability of gas in Peshawar City and its adjoining areas was a matter of great con-

Matters related to demand and consumption of electricity and gas besides periods of load shedding and consumer problems would come under discussion during the meeting.

The governor reiterated that he would make efforts to provide relief to from load shedding

## **CM inspects PIC** to review facilities

LAHORE (APP): Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi paid a visit to the Punjab Institute of Cardiology (PIC) to assess the medical facilities being provided to the cardiac pa-

He spoke to patients and their attendants in the emergency wards to gather information about the available medical services, with a specific focus on the availability of bypass and angiography facilities.

During his inspection, Mohsin Naqvi took note of the shortage of angioplasty guiding catheters at the PIC and directed the health sec-

The CM also in spected the primary angiography facilities for cardiac patients and observed the arrangements made for maintaining cleanliness. He acknowledged the dedicated efforts of doctors and paramedics who continue

to provide exemplary ser-

vice despite the increased

Mohsin Naqvi ex pressed his commitment to further enhancing the treatment facilities and mentioned that the health secretary had been directed to address the shortage of angioplasty guiding cath-



LAHORE: Provincial Minister for Information and Culture Amir Mir, along with Provincial Minister for Industries and Commerce SM Tanveer addressing a Press conference regarding Punjab's budget at the Civil Secretariat

## Sukkur Police killed five most wanted criminals

of Mardan district

They revealed that

Mukhtiar Ali was the resi-

dent of Nawa Kali Qamarabad Rustam Police

Station in Mardan district of KP, while Qasim Khan

and Janat Gul Pathan also

belonged to Mardan dis-

Ali, an inter-provincial arms

smuggler, performed his

duties as sub-inspector in

the KP Police and nowa-

days, he was doing a job in

the National Police Acad-

emy of Islamabad on depu-

nition seized from KP was

being smuggled to

Kashmore-Kandhkot.

They revealed after the veri-

fication of his criminal

record, it has been found

that he was wanted to

Mardan Police in killings

and smuggling of ammuni-

They said the ammu-

They said Mukhtiar

SUKKUR (APP): The Sukkur Police have killed five most wanted criminals, including an inter-provincial arms smuggler in different encounters in the past 12 hours.

Talking to Media on Sunday night, DIG Sukkur, Javed Sonharo Jiskani and SSP Sanghaar Malik said that Police Station Belo Mirpur SHO Abdul Jabbar Pathan stopped a suspicious car during patrolling on Sukkur-Multan

Motorway Police post-68 in Ghotki district. They said the car inmates, instead of stopping the vehicle, opened fire on the police, which caused an exchange of fire, in which one suspect was killed, while the police arrested two others. The police later shifted the deceased and the injured to a local hospital,

where the deceased was identified as Mukhtiar Ali son of Gohar Zaman, while the arrested included Qasim Khan son of Shabbir Ahmed Yousafzai and a retired policeman from KP Janat Gul Pathan son of Sahib Khan

DIG Sukkur said investigation from the arrested arms smugglers Qasim Khan and Janat Gul Pathan was underway, while a case has also been registered against them at



LAHORE: Members of All Pakistan Federation of Trade Unions are holding protest demonstration over the death of Pakistani nationals who lost their lives after a ship carrying migrants sank off the

## to masses by cutting expenditures: Abbasi ABBOTTABAD (APP):

Govt provides relief

Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Murtaza Javed Abbasi Monday said his government after coming into power provided relief to the masses by controlling the price of essential commodities and cutting expenditures.

În 2018 when we handed over the federal government to PTI wheat flour price was 980 rupees while a year ago when PDM took charge wheat flour price was 2300 rupees and today once again the price is even 50 rupees less than the price of 2022," said the minister.

KARACHI (APP): Consul He was addressing a General of Thailand Narut public gathering here at Abbottabad after the inau-Soontarodom met Governor Sindh Kamran Khan guration of the Sui gas provision project worth 3.8 million rupees.

Murtaza Abbassi said

the federal government has also approved a huge amount of 800 million rupees for the reconstruction of the Karakoram Highway from Haripur to Mansehra which was badly damaged during the past few years

He welcomed new Consul General of Thailand in Karachi and hoped that he would endeavour his utmost for cementing the bi-

lateral relations further. Narut Soontarodom said that Thailand was desirous of further strengthening relations between the two countries.

#### Sukkur Mayor, **Deputy Mayor** take oath

CG of Thailand

calls on Sindh

Governor

Tessori at Governor House

here on Monday. Mutual relations, en-

hancement in trade, ex-

change of delegations and

other matters of mutual in-

terests were discussed in

said that Pak-Thai relations

are strengthening by every

passing day and mutual co-

operation in various sectors

is increasing with the pas-

The Governor Sindh said that Sindh offers ideal

investment opportunities in

sage of time

various fields.

The Governor Sindh

detail on the occasion.

SUKKUR (APP): Pakistan People Party (PPP) Barrister Arslan Sheikh took oath as the Sukkur Mayor at a ceremony held at the city's walking track ground on

Monday evening.

Dr Arshad Mughal was also sworn in as the Sukkur's Deputy Mayor at the ceremony.

The Divisional Commissioner Dr Ghulam Mustafa Phull administered the oath to Barrister Arslan and Mughul while Senator Islamuddin Sheikh, Federal Minister for Water Resources Syed Khursheed Ahmed Shah, Nisar Ahmed Khuhro MNA Noman Islam Sheikh and Provincial Minister for Local Government Syed Nasir Hussain Shah were also present on the occasion.

#### **Anti-Polio** drive kicks off in Hyderabad HYDERABAD (APP):

More than 37,000 children up to 5 years old will be administered anti-polio drops during the week-long campaign, started here on Monday, targeting only the high-risk areas Hyderabad.

The acting District Health Office Dr Imdad Channa informed that 147 mobile teams headed by 10 doctors and 34 area incharges would carry out the

According to him, during the previous campaign around 9,000 children could not be administered antipolio drops.

He said the drive was started after the polio virus was found in an environmental sample taken from and the then government did not pay any attention to this important road.

He stated that PTI lead government was the real enemy of the people of Hazara division particularly Abbottabad as during 2018 PML-N government allocated 500 million rupees in funds for the construction Abbottabad Interchange which was cancelled after 2018 when the PTI government came into power.

They have waisted 4 billion rupees on the socalled beautification of Abbottabad city while there was a dire need for football and cricket stadiums for the youth, unfortunately, the existing grounds were also closed to the general public, moreover, graveyard which was the major issue of Abbottabad city was completely neglected, he said. While criticizing the PTI chief the minster said on 9th May he left his party workers to the destruction of the country and to fight with the law enforcement



LAHORE: Former Speaker Punjab Assembly Rana Muhammad Iqbal meeting with Punjab Governor Muhammad Baligh ur Rehman.

## Murtaza Wahab, Salman Murad sworn in as mayor, deputy mayor of Karachi

KARACHI (APP): Barrister Murtaza Wahab and Salman Abdullah Murad on Monday sworn in as Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Karachi here at the Gulshan-e-Jinnah,

formerly known as polo ground. Provincial Election Commissioner –Sindh Aijaz Anwar Chohan administered the oath to the mayor and deputy mayor separately.

On the occasion, Chairman of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and Foreign Minister Biľawal Bhutto Zardari, Sindh Governor Mohammed Kamran Khan Tessori, Sindh Chief Minister Sved Murad Ali Shah and provincial ministers were also present in the oath-taking ceremony.

After taking the oath of top slots in the city's offices, Mayor Murtaza and Deputy Mayor Salman Abdullah Murad hugged and thanked PPP chairman Bilawal Bhutto

## ANF seizes over 41 kg drugs in seven operations

Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting seven operations in different areas of the country managed to recover over 41 kg drugs and arrested six accused, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Monday.

It informed that in an operation near Faizabad in Islamabad 140 intoxicated tablets were recovered from the possession of an accused resident of Mardan.

In another operation

14.4 kg opium and 15.6 kg charras from the secret cavities of a vehicle while an accused resident of Gujranwala was also arrested. In the third operation at Multan International Airport, 1821 grams charras were recovered from trolley bag of an Abu-Dhabi bound passenger, resident of Bannu. The spokesman informed that in the fourth operation, ANF foiled two bids

to smuggle drugs from Jiwani



**HYDERABAD: Commissioner Bilal Ahmed** Memon taking Oath from newly elected Mayor Municipal Corporation Kashif Ali Shoro.

## Seminar held to address fiscal requirements of KP merged areas

tion of Pakistan.

PESHAWAR Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Department of Finance organized a seminar to address the financing requirements for the development of the Merged Areas to build a consensus among those willing to take forward the needs of the province. The seminar, held in

Peshawar, brought together key government stakeholders, politicians, and provincial cabinet members for a dialogue on the under-financing experienced by the merged areas (MAs) and the possible short and longterm solutions.

In his opening remarks, KP Finance Secretary Muhammad Ayaz emphasized the need for discourse on pursuing an equitable financial share for the MAs in the National Financial Commission (NFC) Award post-merger and ensuring that it is compliant with the Constitu-

He highlighted the federal government's mammoth development promise to the MAs – the Accelerated Implementation Programme (AIP), saying it is a significant step in the right direction. Yet, fund releases under the AIP have

been dwindling over time.

Dr. Musharraf Rasool Cyan, a member of the KP NFC, in his presentation, discussed the often-overlooked implication of the 2018 Amendment, which grants the MAs equitable fiscal rights to public resources under the NFC, the body responsible for the the funds per capita for distribution of public revenue in Pakistan.

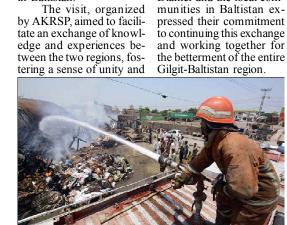
Dr. Cyan's research demonstrated that since the merger, not only the promised sum of Rs. 100 billion was not provided, but releases against budgets fell well short of what was allocated, depriving residents the development.

of the region of their constitutional right. For the MAs, under

the AIP, a sum of Rs. 30 billion was allocated this year, of which only Rs 3 billion have been released as the financial year ends.

The current NFC award was decided premerger when the population of the province was five million less than the inhabitants of ex-FATA. The human development indicators of the MAs are comparable to Balochistan, but as of 2018, according to the research, Balochistan was receiving more than twice solving the same problems of deprivation in the MAs.

Concluding the discussion, Himayat Üllah Khan, KP Advisor to Chief Minister on Finance, Energy and Power, reiterated the need to raise the issue of pursuing the due NFC share for



PESHAWAR: Rescue 1122 worker using watergun to douse fire in a cargo godown near Ring road.

#### Karachi mayor election day We appeal to court to see matter of disappearance of living people: Naeem

Karachi Amir Hafiz Naeem ur Rehman has demanded that JIT be constituted on Karachi mayor election

"There is nexus of PPP and Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP). PPP had started saying before election of Karachi mayor that people will not come. It should be seen elected people disappeared where and how on the election day of mayor. I demand of court to form JIT over this matter, he said this while talking to media men here Monday.

He alleged PPP and ECP have forged nexus. Mayor Karachi election has exposed PPP and ECP. The election was got illegally possessed by PPP. Robbery was committed on Karachi mandate. The entire process of election of mayor and deputy mayor Karachi was a sheer forg-

He claimed that PPP

KARACHI (Online): JI delimitation of constituencies on its own will. When election started then forms 11 were not being provided. As per form 11 JI had succeeded on over 100 seats. He alleged mayor elec-

tion was a formality. PPP had said before mayor election people will not come.ECP provided full opportunity to PPP. ECP has become B team of PPP. He said we condemn

May 9 incidents. These should be investigated. We will appeal to court to see the matter of

disappearance of living

During our protest we participated in election because we knew it well that if we boycotted they don't not count our people who will reach there.

We will go to court with full preparation and get cancel mayor's election, he remarked.

JI talks against waderashahi and considers it sin to be against even a increased its seats through single Sindhi, he stated.

#### CS GB vows to reform education landscape of Pakistan

retary (CS) Gilgit Baltistan (GB) Muhiudeen Wani Monday vowed to reform the education landscape of

The CS GB in an official statement to media here in Gilgit, said, the GB Government and Allah Walay Trust launched the free School Meals Program in the city of Skardu.

He added CEO Allah Walay Trust Shahid Lone and I personally inaugurated the unique initiative Within two months, we will have extended the program to 30 public schools across

"Evidence reveals that free school meal programs have increased school enrollment and child health, and drastically reduced school dropout rates around the world"CS GB

He said in addition to the Body Mass Index (BMI) of each student and conduct free eye tests.

#### PML-N is the last ray of hope: Shaista

ABBOTTABAD (APP): Divisional president of PML-N women's wing Hazara division Dr. Shaista Jadoon Monday said that Pakistan League-N is the only ray of hope and will overcome the crises and make the country stable.

She expressed these views while falking to a delegation of PML-N women workers delegation at her residence. Dr. Shaista further

the party will be reorganized and more active, Mian making Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif the party president and Maryam Nawaz

chief organizer is a com-

said that after the elections,

mendable step.
She further stated that Hazara Division has always been the stronghold of the Muslim League-N and it will also remain a hub of the party, in other parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province the PML-N is being made active. While directing the women workers the presi dent said that they should spread the manifesto of leader

Muhammad Nawaz Sharif

to everyone.



coast of Greece and demanding justice for them.



meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Inter-Governmental Commercial Transactions (CCoIGCT) held

LAHORE (APP): Coop-

eration between China and

Pakistan on dairy industry

and multifarious demands

for high-quality dairy products in China would pro-

vide a contemporary path

of development for

Pakistan's domestic dairy

sector. Pakistan-China

Joint Chamber of Com-merce and Industry (PCJCCI) President Moazzam Ghurki stated

this in a think-tank session, held here at PCJCCI Secre-

tariat on Monday. He said

that Pakistan was among the world's top five largest

milk producers with over 60

million tonnes of milk pro-

duction each year. Such

ventures and exports could definitely add value to

Pakistan's economy.

He added that China

learned that Pakistan was

the most important ex-

porter and producer of

dairy products in South Asia. "Chinese technolo-

Gold prices

## Finance Bill 2023: Senate proposes 55 recommendations

The Senate on Monday proposed 55 recommendations related to Finance Bill 2023 and gave 31 recommendations regarding the public sector development

The recommendations on the Finance Bill, 2023 would be forwarded to National Assembly which would decide whether or not these recommendations are to be incorporated into the Money Bill.

In the session of the upper house of the parliament on Monday, Senator

should support this indus-

try to boost export and do-

mestic production, espe-

cially to control the adul-

were facing many problems

such as a lack of education,

latest storage facilities

transfer of milk and cold

storage, and to get rid of

these, the government

should come forward to

train and educate farmers

about modern technology.

Joint chamber's Secre-tary General Salahuddin

Hanif added that animal

husbandry was one of the

pillar industries in Pakistan,

specifically Balochistan

where Gwadar Port under

China-Pakistan Economic

Corridor (CPEC) was located. Balochistan had the

unique advantages of breed-

ing beef cattle and dairy

cows and if the industrial

Saleem Mandviwala, Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Finance, presented the Senate's budget recommendations. The Senate recommended to National Assembly that tax of 12 percent of the sale on retailers and brands who are registered with FBR should be maintained, instead of

increasing it to 15 percent. For filers, it was proposed that e tax on credit card transactions should be increased from 1% to 5%, and for non-filers and 2% maintained at previous losses for years. Income-

Under the laptop scheme, mandatory technical training should be provided to those who purchase laptops so that they can earn income through online businesses. It has been proposed to gradually impose taxes on the real estate and agricultural sectors. Government institutions working in loss should be audited, and re-

form action should be taken against institutions like Pakistan Steel Mills, which to 10% for non-filers to be have been incurring heavy

generating industries should be given tax exemptions and provided with gas supply. It has been proposed to establish tax-free zones for foreign direct investment and rationalize the subsidy mechanism for seeds, fertilizers, solar energy devices, and essential food

The Senate proposed to ensure the availability of all items at discounted prices in utility stores, allocate funds for the National Development Volunteer Program in the 2023-24 budget.

## Dar chairs meeting of CCoIGCT

nance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar chaired the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Inter-Governmental Commercial Transactions (CCoIGCT), today.

Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Syed Faisal Ali Subzwari, Federal Minister for Power Mr. Khuram Dastagir Khan, Federal Minister for Commerce Syed Naveed Qamar, SAPM on Revenue Mr. Tariq Pasha, Attorney General of Pakistan, Secretary Finance, Secretary Maritime Affairs, Secretary Law & Justice, and other senior officers attended the meet-

The CCoIGCT con- tor

Neelum Jhelum Hydel

Power Station is likely to

resume electricity genera-

tion by the end of July as

hectic efforts are underway

to complete the remedial

works being carried out in

the tail race tunnel of the

the briefing given to Chairman WAPDA Engr Lt Gen

(Retd) Sajjad Ghani by the

management during his visit

to the project on Monday,

detailed visit of the 3.5-Km

long tail race tunnel, the af-

fected stretch in particular.

lating upon the progress of

rehabilitation works, briefed the Chairman that

concrete lining is in progress

in the area that had col-

lapsed and caused a block-

fected area is also being

strengthened through lattice

girders and rock bolting fol-

lowed by shotcrete inside

The rest of the af-

ade of the tail race tunnel.

said a press release.

This was the crux of

The chairman had a

The consultants, di-

ISLAMABAD (Online): sidered summary of Ministry of Maritime Affairs about the management of operations of Pakistan International Container Terminal (PICT) and was informed that Abu Dhabi Ports (ADP) owned by the Government of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has shown interest in operating the Container Terminal. The CCoIGT after deliberation decided to constitute a committee to negotiate the draft Framework Agreement between Govt. of the UAE and Govt. of Pakistan, under Inter Governmental Commercial Transaction Act 2022, to further strengthen the relations between the two countries in Maritime sec-



FAISALABAD: An iron smith is busy in his work near fire at factory during high temperature, just to earn daily wages for the livelihood of his family.

**Neelum Jhelum Hydel** 

**Power Station likely to** 

resume generation by July

ISLAMABAD (APP): has been carrying out reha-

bilitation works round-the-

clock in accordance with the

guidelines of international

the project team to com-

plete the remedial works as

per the timeline and re-start

Neelum Jhelum Hydel

Power Station by the end

of next month without any

compromise on the struc-

tural integrity of the

WAPDA presided over

Board of Directors (BOD)

meeting of Neelum Jhelum

Hydro Power Company,

held at the project site. The

BOD Members also visited

the power house and the

tion that the 969 MW-

Neelum Jhelum Hydro-

power Project started elec-

tricity generation in April

2018. Prior to blockade of

its tail race tunnel last year.

the project had provided

more than 18 billion units

of electricity to the National

It is pertinent to men-

Chairman

The chairman urged

consultants

project.

tunnel

Later,

#### decline by Rs.1,000 to Rs220,700 per tola ISLAMABAD (APP)

The per tola price of 24 karat gold decreased by Rs.1,000 and was sold at Rs.220,700 on Monday against its sale at Rs.221,700 the previous

The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also decreased by Rs.858 to from Rs.190,072 whereas the price of 10 grams 22 karat gold went down to

Rs.174,232, All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported.

dairy imports mainly come from New Zealand (40.44 per cent), the Netherlands (17.15pc) and Australia dairy imports mainly come ing beef cattle and dairy cows and if the industrial chain of China could be extended to Pakistan. Yousaf dismissed from **LCCI Executive body** LAHORE (APP): Lahore cable from March 31, 2023.

Chamber of Commerce and Industry has dismissed Muhammad Yousaf Shah from the Executive Committee for not renewing the membership within the time stipulated by law, according to the LCCI spokesman here on Monday.

PCJCCI keen to boost Pakistan's

dairy sector with China's help

we adopt the techniques

and technology, used by

China, the country can

flourish in this industry," he

President Fang Yulong shared his views by saying,

"We are willing to explore

more about Pakistani dairy

industry to see if we have

the opportunity to be part of it." From 2011 to 2023,

China's dairy imports rose

at a compound annual growth of 12.3 per cent, and the demand was still ex-

panding. Milk powder, liq-

uid milk, high value-added

dairy products such as

whey, cheese, butter and

cream were also in high de-

mand in the Chinese mar-ket, he added. PCJCCI Vice

President Hamza Khalid

said that currently China's

gies are low-priced, and if (7.38pc). "Our government

suggested. teration of loose milk. He asserted that local farmers

He explained that failed to renew the membership of his company Al the stipulated time period longer a member of the Lahore Chamber and at the same time, his eligibility as a member of the Executive

"It should be noted that in the LCCI, the registration and membership is obtained by a company or business concern, not by any individual man. On the basis of that company, etc., any individual becomes a member of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Muhammad Yousaf Shah Industry and accordingly he is elected as Executive Committee Member, Presi-Yousaf Enterprises within dent, Senior Vice President or Vice President through due to which he was no the election process. If a person does not complete



LAHORE: Members of All Pakistan Pan Cigarette Association are holding protest demonstration against Customs, at Lahore press club.

#### **PSX loses** 680 points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) shed 680.08 points on Monday, a negative change of 1.65 per cent, closing at 40,621.22 points against 41,301.30 points the pre-

A total of 179,780,375 shares were traded during the day as compared to 156,023,085 shares the previous day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs.5.624 billion against Rs.

panies transacted their shares in the stock market 54of them recorded gains and 224 sustained losses whereas the share price of 320 companies remained

Rs.1.58 per share and Cnergyico PK with 9,338,326 shares

Colgate PalmXDXB witnessed a maximum increase of Rs.76.72 per share price, closing at Rs. 1,287.05, whereas the runner-up was Mehmood Tex with an Rs.74.33 rise in its per share price to Rs.1.065.33

# **Bakhtawari for** improving country's

Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ICCI) President Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari has said that Pakistan needs to improve its storage system to make it self-sufficient in food, especially wheat.

On this occasion, Vice President Engineer Azhar Islam, Secretary General UBG Zafar Bakhtawari, former Senior Vice President Chaudhry Mukhtar, District Food Controller Muhammad Zaman and members of the Executive Committee were also

Bakhtawari said that the government should provide interest-free loans to flour mill owners to im-

Every year millions of tons of wheat are wasted due to a lack of storage systems while wheat has to be imported to meet the country's needs. Access to cheap and quality flour citizens is a joint responsibility of the Food Department

Pakistan has produced more than 27 million tons of wheat this year, which is a record, due to the Prime Minister Kisan Package The government and related institutions should ensure timely measures to deliver the fruits of the best harvest to the industry and the people." President ICCI said that Pakistan is primarily an agricultural country, and it is very worrying that we have to import food every year to meet our requirements, which consumes a huge national capital. Pakistan's farmers and industry have all the capabilities to make us self-suf ficient in food.

He said that the Food Department in collaboration with the flour mills industry should take such steps to ensure that we do not have to install cheap flour points.

He said that Deputy Director of the Food Department Maher Ghulam Abbas has rendered valuable services for the improvement of the system of the department.

He has very diligently and dutifully implemented the policy of equality and treated all flour mill owners equally which is com

## Dams play important role in agricultural development: Fazl

RAWALPINDI: President Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) Saqib Rafique addressing during ceremony regarding "Chances of Trade in Gilgit"

PESHAWAR (APP): Care- are irrigated from the canals taker provincial minister for irrigation, Haji Fazl Elahi on Monday said that dams play an important role in the agricultural development of any country, while the agriculture sector is affected due to the lack of an excellent irrigation system, which results in shortage of food

After the completion of the Remodelling of Warsak Canal project, the water flow in the Warsak canals will increase up to 1250 cusecs.

The flow of seven hundred cusecs of water will increase with this project. Most of the areas of Peshawar and Nowshera

government duties and

The State Bank of Pa-

Shipping

activity at

**Port Qasim** 

KARACHI (APP): Three

ships namely, Mega-I, Golden Denise, and Santa

Francesca carrying Palm

oil, Chemicals and Coal,

berthed at Liquid Terminal,

Engro Terminal and Bulk

Terminal respectively on Sunday. Meanwhile, three

more ships, Maud, SilHouette Island and MSC

Rana with Coal and Con-

tainers also arrive at the

outer anchorage of Port Qasim during the last 24 hours. A total of 06 ships

were engaged at PQA berths

during the last 24 hours, out

of them a chemical carrier

'Golden Denise' sailed out

to sea on Monday morning

& three more ships,

Ullswater, Akij Moon and

Dona Bibi are expected to

74,126 tonnes, comprising

54,100 tones of imports

Cargo and 20,026 tonnes of

A cargo volume of

sail on same day.

export cargo

coming out of Warsak Dam. Unfortunately, a lot of our water is being wasted. He expressed these

views during his visits to various ongoing projects of the Irrigation Department in the Khyber and Mohmand districts. During the visit, Chief Engineer South Yasin Khan, Project Director Remodel-

ling of Warsak Canal Rooh ul Mohsin, Superintending Engineer Batoor Zaman Khan and relevant officials of the Irrigation Department were present.

Minister Irrigation visited the pump house of Warsak Canal in Jamrud

and inquired about their functions.

On this occasion, Project Director Remodelling of Warsak Canal System Roohul Mohsin said during the briefing that the total number of pumps in the pump house is five of which four are in use while one pump is on standby. work is going on for the upgradation of the grade station in the pump house, which will be completed

Meanwhile, minister Haji Fazl Elahi reviewed the work on the tunnel under the Remodelling of Warsak Canal project in Malaguri where the Chinese comwhere he inspected various parts of the pump house parts of the pump house work.

#### **Seafood exports increase** Banks to observe normal timing by 17.13% to \$456 mln on June 24: SBP

KARACHI (APP): To fapreparations increased by 17.13 percent during the first eleven months of the current fiscal year as compared to the corresponding period of last year, the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics

(PBS) reported. The country earned \$456.668 million from seafood exports during July-May (2022-23) against the exports of US \$389.873 million in July-May (2021-22), showing growth of 17.13 percent, PBS reported In terms of quantity,

preparations increased by 32.65 percent going up from 148,354 metric tons last year to 196,785 metric tons in the first eleven months of last year.

the exports of fish and fish

On a year-on-year basis, seafood exports in-\$50,578 million in May 5.20 percent.

ISLAMABAD (APP): 2023 as compared to ex-The exports of fish and fish ports of \$40.444 million during April 2022.

In terms of quantity, the exports witnessed a 32.20 percent increase going up from 16,578 metric tons last year to 22,081 metric tons this year.

On a month-on-month basis, the seafood exports declined by 0.93 percent when compared to the exports of \$51,052 million in April 2023, according to PBS data. In terms of quantity, fish exports went down by 6.76 percent in May 2023 compared to the exports of 23,681 metric

tons in April 2023. The overall food exports from the country were recorded at \$ 4,661.906 million during July-may (2022-23) against the exports of \$ 4,917.691 million recorded during July-May (2021-22), creased by 25.06 percent to showing negative growth of

### Tunnel cultivation stressed to meet climatic change challenges

Director General (DG) Agriculture (Farm & Training) Punjab Dr Ishtiaq Hussain has said that tunnel cultivation is imperative to cater to domestic food requirements amid the challenges of climatic change. He was addressing a

meeting at Ayub Agricultural Research Institute (AARI) here on Monday. He said that climatic changes had posed severe risk of food security in the country. Therefore, the agricultural scientists should introduce new seed varieties which should be not only climate resilient but

FAISALABAD (APP): also give maximum production amid harsh weather conditions. He also stressed the need to adopt tunnel cultivation for vegetables and said that this technique could help in cater to domestic food requirements at a large extent.

He said that cultivation of summer vegetables was not possible in open field during winter in Punjab. Therefore, the growers should use tunnel to grow cucumbers, tomatoes, green chilli, capsicum, gourd (Ghiya Kaddu), pumpkin, bitter gourd (Karela), melon, water melon, Teendi, etc



KARACHI: Aview of cattle market in Karachi, ahead of Eid UlAdha.



LAHORE: Members of All Pakistan Clerk Association (APCA) are holding protest demonstration against massive unemployment, increasing price of daily use products and inflation price hiking, at Lahore press club.

## Russia says regional free trade pact with Iran possible by year-end MOSCOW (INP): A free ward," Overchuk said. "We

trade zone agreement between Iran, Russia and several countries that cover the vast Eurasian region spreading from the borders of Eastern Europe to Western China is possible by the end of the year. Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexei Overchuk told the state agency in an interview that talks between the Eurasian Economic Union which comprises Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Russia and Iran are in their final stages. "We are moving forvery much hope that such an agreement can be signed

by the end of the year. Both the region and Iran have taken on additional significance for the Kremlin after Western sanctions over Moscow's invasion in Ukraine limited Russia's foreign trade routes and forced it to look for markets outside Europe. However, despite tighter ties between Moscow and Tehran since Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022 and began big purchases of Iranian-made drones

vious dav

3.746 billion on the las trading day.

As many as 320 comunchanged.

The three top-trading companies were WorldCall Telecom with 27,671,924 shares at Rs.1.12 per share; K-Electric Ltd with 11,375,247 shares at Rs.2.91 per share.

# food storage system

He expressed these views on Monday while talking to Deputy Director Food Department Rawalpindi Division Maher Ghulam Abbas, said a press release issued here.

prove the storage system.

and flour mills

across the region," Guterres told a fundraising

conference hosted by Ger-

many, Saudi Arabia, Qatar,

Egypt and the United Na-

today to provide funding

to deliver lifesaving hu-

manitarian aid and support

to people living in the

most difficult and danger-

ous conditions," Guterres

Germany announced on Monday that it was

pledging 200 million euros

to Sudan and the region

until 2024, the United

States pledged \$171 mil-

lion, and Qatar pledged

\$50 million. The U.N.

said it was allocating an

additional \$22 million to

address priority needs.

North Korea says

botched satellite launch

"I appeal to you all

**UN chief urges** 

donors to step up aid

response for Sudan

**Monitoring Desk** 

GENEVA: U.N. Secretary-General Antonio

Guterres appealed on Monday for countries to step up aid pledges for Sudan, where a conflict

between rival military fac-

tions has forced some 2.2

million people from their

homes and sparked a ma-

jor humanitarian crisis.
The United Nations

says about \$3 billion is

needed this year for hu-

manitarian relief inside

Sudan and for refugees

fleeing the country, only a fraction of which has been

ternational support, Sudan could quickly be-

come a locus of lawless-

ness, radiating insecurity

Without strong in-

## Xi says China, US 'made progress' in Blinken visit

**Monitoring Desk** BEIJING: Chinese Presi-

dent Xi Jinping said the United States and China had "made progress" on a number of issues on Monday as he hosted US State Secretary Antony Blinken for talks in Beijing.

Blinken's visit is the

highest-level trip by a US official to China in nearly five years with ties severely strained between the world's two largest economies. Xi, China's most powerful leader in decades. met Blinken at the capital's Great Hall of the People just after 4:30pm (0830 GMT), Chinese state media and US officials said.

The Chinese side has made our position clear and the two sides have agreed to follow through the common understandings US President Joe Biden and I had reached in Bali," Xi told the top US diplomat.

Two sides have also made progress and reached

agreement on some specific issues", he added, without elaborating. "I hope that Secretary Blinken, through this visit, can make positive contributions to stabilising China-US relations," he added.

The meeting, which lasted just over half an hour, came after Blinken held more than 10 hours of talks over two days with other top officials. At the ornate Diaoyutai Guesthouse earlier on Monday, Blinken and China's foreign policy supremo Wang Yi offered polite smiles before talks with their aides, who unlike their bosses wore masks in line with lingering Covid-

19 protocols. Away from the cameras, Wang told Blinken that his trip "comes at a critical juncture in China-US relations", according to state broadcaster CCTV.

"It is necessary to make a choice between dia-

An explosive device left by Palestinians, detonates during an Israeli army

discrimination against in-

dividuals because of their

the need for more explo-

ration of gender apart-

situation in Afghanistan and

use sex instead of race, then

there seem to be strong in-

dications pointing towards

The Taliban seized power in August 2021, drastically curtailing women's freedoms and

We have pointed to

"Grave, systematic ers on the sidelines of the Grande do Sul, including

gender or sex.

raid in Jenin in the occupied West Bank

Monitoring Desk GENEVA: A United Na-

tions expert said on Mon-

day that the Taliban's treat-

ment of Afghan women and

girls could amount to gen-

rise to concerns that they

may be responsible for

gender apartheid," U.N. Special Rapporteur on

the situation of human

rights in Afghanistan, Ri-

chard Bennett, told the

Human Rights Council in

gender apartheid as "eco-

nomic and social sexual and university.

and institutionalised dis- Council.

facto authorities.

Taliban's treatment of

women could be 'gender

apartheid' - UN expert

der apartheid as their rights heid, which is not cur-

continue to be gravely in- rently an international

fringed by the country's de facto authorities.

crime, but could become so," Bennett told report-

crimination against women and girls is at the heart of Taliban ideology and rule, which also gives "It appears if one applies the definition of apartheid, which at the moment is for race, to the

logue and confrontation, cooperation or conflict," he

downward spiral of China-US relations, push for a return to a healthy and stable track, and work together to find a correct way for China and the United States to get along," Wang added. He also issued a warn-

ing on Taiwan, the self-ruling democracy claimed by

In the past year, China has launched live-fire military drills twice near the island in anger over meetings between top US lawmakers and Taiwanese lead-

"On this issue, China has no room to compromise or concede," Wang told Blinken, according to

US State Department spokesman Matthew Miller called the discussion with Wang "candid and pro-

Cyclone leaves

13 dead in

Brazil

**Monitoring Desk** 

SAO LEOPOLDO: A cv-

clone which tore through

southern Brazil has killed

at least 13 people and forced thousands from

their homes, authorities

strong winds on Thurs-

day and Friday caused damage in dozens of

towns in the state of Rio

its capital Porto Alegre —

the latest in a string of weather-related disasters

to hit South America's

were discovered in the

coastal town of Caraa.

one of the hardest hit,

bringing the death toll

from the storm to 13, the

state civil defence agency

ing in Caraa on Sunday

after the number was re-

Three remained miss-

Two more bodies

biggest country.

Torrential rain and

said on Sunday.



Xi Jinping at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

## Five Palestinians killed as Israel deploys helicopters in West Bank

**Monitoring Desk** 

WEST BANK: Israeli forces in the occupied West Bank killed five Palestinians including a militant on Monday, in a raid that saw seven Israeli security personnel wounded and rare helicopter fire.

The sound of gunfire was heard across Jenin as wounded Palestinians continued to arrive by ambulance at the northern West Bank city's Ibn Sina hospital into the early afternoon, an AFP journalist said. Crowds gathered out-

side Jenin government hospital, as the funerals of those killed in 11 hours of fighting began.

The Palestinian health ministry said five people "The army stormed the had been killed and at least" (Jenin refugee) camp and

91 others were wounded in

It named four of those killed: 15-year-old Ahmed Saqer, Khaled Assassa, 21 Qais Jabareen, 21, Ahmad Daraghmeh, 19, and Qassam Abu Saria, 29. Meanwhile, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad claimed Abu Saria as a fighter for the militant group. Among the injured was Palestinian journalist Hazem Nasser, who was hospitalised with a gunshot wound, according to the Palestinian journalists syndicate.

Jenin's deputy governor, Kamal Abu al-Rub, told AFP the Israeli forces had launched the raid at around 4:00am (0100 GMT). "The army stormed the the city after the dawn prayer in large numbers, and there was intense gunfire," he said.

An AFP journalist at the scene said Israeli forces withdrew from Jenin at around 15:10 (1210 GMT).

The Israeli army said an armoured vehicle had been hit by a "very unusual and dramatic" explosive device at around 7:10am (0410 GMT), during "routine activity" to arrest two "wanted suspects" — one affiliated with the movement Hamas and the other with the Islamic Jihad.

"We had five Israeli border police guys wounded, and two soldiers also lightly wounded," army spokesman Richard

The UAE and Qatar

reopen embassies

as Gulf Arab

#### was 'gravest failure' **Monitoring Desk** ure in an unusually can-SEOUL: North Korea has said its botched military satellite launch last month was the "gravest failure" at the ruling party's latest key meet-

reported on Monday. The enlarged plenary meeting was held between Friday and Sunday, ordering workers and researchers to analyze the failed military satellite launch and prepare for another in the near future.

ing, state media KCNA

Those in charge of the satellite launch were "heavily criticized," the

It marked the eight enlarged plenary meeting of the 8th Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK), the country's ruling

The North Korean rocket plunged into the sea "after losing thrust due to the abnormal starting of the second-

**Monitoring Desk** 

DUBAI: Kuwait formed a

new government on Mon-

day after the previous

Cabinet was dissolved fol-

lowing the third parliamen-

tary elections in three years amid infighting that has paralyzed the country's

net was appointed by

Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf Al Sabah,

who in turn was reap-

pointed to that post by his

father, the emir, last week.

They will join the 50 mem-

bers of parliament elected

earlier this month to form

the National Assembly. It

is the fifth Cabinet in less

among Gulf Arab countries

in having a democratically

elected assembly that ex-

erts some checks on the rul-

ing family. But in recent

years, the disputes between

the Cabinet and parliament

have left it unable to enact

even basic reforms.

Kuwait is alone

than a year.

The 15-member Cabi-

political system.

did admission of a technical problem.

North Korea also vowed it will continue to develop its nuclear capability and strengthen solidarity with other countries that oppose what it called the "U.S. strategy

for world supremacy.' The meeting also discussed ensuring selfsufficiency in food supply by increasing the country's agricultural output and meeting the annual grain production

Earlier this year, South Korea's Unification Ministry said the food situation in the North "seemed to have deteriorated".

The island country is under strict international sanctions over its nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs and its economy has been further strained by strict self-imposed border lockdowns aimed at stopping COVID-19 outbreaks. stage engine," Pyongyang said after the launch fail-

members, plus the prime

minister, are reappointees,

but there is a new defense

minister, Sheikh Ahmad Al-

Fahad Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah,

and oil minister, Saad Al

Barrak. Finance Minister

Manaf Abdulaziz Al Hajri,

was reinstated. He earlier

replaced Abduwahab al-

Rushaid, an outspoken

young figure known for his

government's fiscal policies.

September had delivered a

mandate for change, bring-

ing 27 new lawmakers to

the 50-member assembly.

However, in March, Kuwait's Constitutional

Court annulled the decree

dissolving the previous par-

liament and reinstated it. A

few weeks later, the ruling

Al Sabah family dissolved

that parliament for a sec-

ond time, setting up the

most recent vote, in which

most of the lawmakers

elected in September re-

A general election in

**Kuwait names new Cabinet amid** 

infighting with parliament that

has paralyzed the political system

#### relations improve after a vearslong rift **Monitoring Desk** DUBAI: The United Arab Emirates and Qatar an-

nounced the reopening of their embassies on Monday following a yearslong The two countries

issued statements saying the Oatari Embassy in Abu Dhabi and a Qatari Consulate in Dubai, as well as an Emirati Embassy in Qatar's capital, Doha, had resumed operations.



Russia to stay in touch with

said on Monday that Rusto a group of African countries seeking to mediate in the conflict with Ukraine, notably at a Russia-Africa summit next month, and that some of their ideas were workable.

President Vladimir Putin on Saturday gave the seven-country African delegation that had come to see him in St Petersburg a list

Dmitry Peskov fold reporters on Monday that talks with the delegation would continue nonetheless as some of its suggestions could in theory be implemented. He did not say which proposals he was "In general, the dia-

logue with the Africans will



View of a house destroyed in the city of Sao Leopoldo, Rio Grande do Sul State, after an extratropical cyclone hit the southern region of Brazil, causing thunderstorms and windstorms.

374 on Saturday.

profile priorities.

has repeatedly pledged to "stop the boats" and made

the issue one of his highest

been a key political issue in the UK and was one of the

main battlegrounds of the

Brexit referendum in 2016,

which saw the country

Ballia district, about 970km

(600 miles) southeast of

is very difficult to say if that

happened due to the heat

wave," said Ravindra

Kumar, the top administra-

tive official of the district,

told Reuters, without con-

firming the number of

are related to old age, while

some have different rea-

sons. There is no concrete

evidence of heat wave be-

hind these deaths," he

medical officer at the main

state hospital in Ballia, for

saying that the deaths were

"A few of the deaths

The government fired

"Deaths have oc-

New Delhi.

Immigration has long

## **Key Asean members** skip Thai-hosted Myanmar talks

The U.N. defines rights, including their ability to attend high school

**Monitoring Desk** BANGKOK: Thailand's Myanmar's junta-apcaretaker government hosted the foreign minister of Myanmar's ruling junta at informal regional peace talks on Sunday, as key Southeast Asian counterparts stayed away from the meeting that has drawn

sharp criticism. Only Cambodia has so far officially confirmed it intended to attend the talks.

Myanmar's generals have been barred for nearly two years from senior-level meetings of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) for failing to honour an agreement to start talks with opponents linked to the ousted civilian government that had been led by now-jailed Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi.

But Thailand, whose

coup, invited tary pointed Foreign Minister Than Swe to the talks along with other foreign ministers in the 10-member Asean bloc, two sources with knowledge of the meeting. Myanmar's junta spokesman could not be reached for comment on Sunday.
Thailand's foreign

ministry was tight-lipped about exactly who was attending the two-day gathering in the resort town of Pattaya, for which outgoing Foreign Minister Don Pramudwinai sent invitation letters just four days before its start Don told the local

news outlet Matichon on Sunday the unofficial initiative was meant to complement, not replace, Asean -led efforts and prime minister himself members were free to atfirst took power in a mili- tend or not.

#### vised down from Saturday's total of 20. UAE, Qatar reopen embassies after years of tensions

**Monitoring Desk** 

DUBAI: The United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Qatar on Monday announced the reopening of their respective diplomatic missions six years after the Gulf rivals severed ties during a regional blockade that sent tensions soaring.

The two resource-rich monarchies restored official relations in January 2021 after the end of the nearly four-year diplomatic and transport blockade that isolated tiny Qatar. "The UAE and the state of Qatar announced the restoration of diplomatic representation between the two countries," said a statement on the UAE's official WAM

The sides are "resuming the work at the embassy of the UAE in Doha, and at the embassy of Qatar in Abu Dhabi and its consulate in Dubai", it said.

#### reach UK in small boats this year on a single day so far this year, with 549 people mak-**Monitoring Desk** LONDON: The number of people arriving in the UK ing the perilous journey. Crossings have picked up in small boats has reached

Scores die in northern India

as heat wave scorches region

Uttar Pradesh over the last curred in the district but it

The government said Diwakar Singh, the chief

Over 10,000 migrants

over 10,000 since the start of the year, UK government figures showed on Sunday. The provisional total

covering the period up to Saturday stands at 10,139, according to data released by the interior ministry, the Home Office. The figure is down by

over 1,000 on that from the same time last year, when there had been more than 11,300 crossings by June

Last Sunday saw the highest number of crossings leave the European Union.

**Monitoring Desk** 

NEW DELHI: At least 54

people died in a district in

the northern Indian state of

few days, the Times of In-

dia newspaper reported on

Monday, as authorities

probed if the loss of lives

was due to the heat wave in

the region. Another 45

people died in neighbouring

Bihar state, local newspa-

logical Department (IMD)

issued a red alert warning

last week for extreme heat

in some regions of the coun-

try, including Uttar Pradesh

it was investigating the

cause of the deaths that oc-

curred over three days last

week in Uttar Pradesh's

The Indian Meteoro-

pers reported.

one person and injured nearly two dozen in Mississippi Monitoring Desk in recent days as a result of

JACKSON: Multiple tornadoes swept through Misa hot spell, with a further sissippi overnight, killing 486 arriving on Friday and one and injuring nearly two dozen, officials said. Britain's Conservative Prime Minister Rishi Sunak

**Multiple tornadoes** 

have killed at least

State emergency workers were still working with counties Monday morning to assess the damage from storms in which high temperatures and hail in some areas accompanied tornadoes. The death and injuries were reported by officials in east Mississippi's Jasper County.

#### Iraq unveils ancient stone by Italy Monitoring Desk

on Sunday a 2,800-year-old stone tablet returned by Italy, as the war-ravaged country works to recover from abroad antiquities

the Babylonian alphabet bears the insignia of Shalmaneser III, the Assyrian king who ruled the region of Nimrod, in presentday northern Iraq, from 858 to 823 BC. The circumstances surrounding the tablet's arrival in Italy remain unclear, but the Italian authorities handed it over to Iraqi President Abdul Latif Rashid during a visit to Bo-

# tablet returned

BAGHDAD: Iraq unveiled looted from its territory. The tablet — whose

text is written in cuneiform, logna over the past week.

#### tax, climate goals **Monitoring Desk**

gained their seats.

Swiss voters approve

global minimum corporate

GENEVA: The Swiss, feeling the impact of global warming on their rapidly melting glaciers, on Sunday

backed a new climate bill aimed at steering their country towards carbon neutral-

ity by 2050.

Near-final results showed almost 59 per cent of voters supporting the new law, which will require Switzerland to slash its dependence on imported oil and gas, scaling up the development and use of greener and more homegrown alternatives. Voters also overwhelmingly backed adopting a global minimum tax rate of 15pc for multinational corporations in a second referendum, with nearly 79pc in favour, with full results in from all but one of Switzerland's 26 cantons. Voter participa-

stood at around 42pc. Recent opinion polls had indicated strong but slipping support for the climate bill, amid an anxietyinfused campaign around electricity shortages and economic ruin driven by the populist right-wing Swiss

tion in the referendums

People's Party (SVP). Supporters insisted the law was needed to en-

sure energy security and independence, and to help address the ravages of climate change, highlighted by the dramatic melting of glaciers in the Swiss Alps, which lost a third of their ice volume between 2001 and 2022. Leading Swiss glaciologist Matthias Huss, who has been closely following the glaciers' decline, hailed in a tweet the "strong signal" sent by Sunday's vote, and said he was "very happy the arguments of climate science were heard".

mentarian Valerie Piller Carrard celebrated the vote as "an important step for future generations". Energy has long been a tricky issue in Switzerland, which imports around three quarters of its energy, with all the oil and natural gas consumed coming from abroad. Concerns around Switzerland's reliance on external sources have been swelling since Russia's invasion of Ukraine threw into doubt Swiss access to much of the foreign energy it uses

Socialist Party parlia-

People board a truck as they leave Khartoum, Sudan.



QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo presiding over meeting of Provincial

#### President Dr. Arif Alvi says: Pakistan's commitment to welfare, voluntary repatriation of refugees remains steadfast

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi has said that Pakistan's unwavering resolve and commitment to the welfare and voluntary repatriation of refugees remained steadfast.

It is remarkable that, even after forty years, there have been no untoward incidents or frictions between the refugees and the host communities, exemplifying the harmonious coexistence and mutual respect that prevails," the president said in his message on World Refugees Day annually ob-

the visiting dignitary was

introduced to Principal

Staff Officers at Naval

the Iranian Navy called on

Chief of the Naval Staff at

his office. During the meet-

ing, matters of mutual in-

terest including bilateral and

regional collaborations and

The Naval Chief high

maritime security in the re-

lighted Pakistan Navy's

initiatives to ensure mari

time security and peace through Regional Maritime

gion were discussed.

Later, Commander of

Headquarters.

He said the Day reminded of the immense contributions of the government and people of Pakistan in hosting millions of Afghan refugees over the

past four decades. He said Pakistan's unparalleled humanitarian efforts in providing refuge to such a large number of displaced individuals, despite limited resources, served as a testament to the country's spirit of brotherhood and compassion.

annually on June 20, brings into focus the hardships endured by refugees and emphasizes our commitment towards supporting them during these challenging times," he remarked.

The president said that Pakistan continued to host one of the largest refugee populations in the world. The people and the government of Pakistan opened their arms to Afghan refugees based solely on the principles of humanity and solidarity, and extended This day, observed support despite the chal-

sources, he added. He said that Pakistan initially received financial and burden-sharing support from the international community during the early years of hosting Afghan refugees, such assis-

tance has waned over time. On its part, he said, Pakistan had extended all possible support to refugees. He said Pakistan's policies ensured their access to education and healthcare, and to have their

## MNAs appreciate budgetary measures, seek motorways for Balochistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Members of the National Assembly on Monday appreciated the government for proposing significant relief measures for the common man and allocating unprecedented development funds in the Federal Budget 2023-24.

Participating in the budget debate in the Lower House of the Parliament, they sought development projects especially the missing facilities of motorways for the Balochistan province to end the sense of deprivation of its people.

Pakistan Tehree-e-Insaf's Ms Asiya Azeem, while strongly condemning the May 9 riots, demanded that no leniency should be given to the culprits involved in the heinous act. She also expressed deep

in which scores of Pakistanis lost their lives.

She said Pakistan had been borrowing massively for the last 75 years as the national economy remained dependent on foreign loans. "We cannot achieve eco-nomic stability till date," she added. She said inward foreign remittances also witnessed sharp decrease

Asiya Azeem said a meager amount of Rs 5 billion was earmarked for women in the budget, who were 51 percent of the country's population.

She suggested that a separate ministry for women should be set up and lauded the government for announcing tax exemption for businesswomen.

ISLAMABAD: As a token of appreciation and to

thank the people and Government of Azerbiajan for

hosting PM Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and his

delegation last week, the Prime Minister is hold-

ing hand of the Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Paki-

Pakistan's economy to

touch \$1 trillion by year

2035: Ahsan Iqbal

ISLAMABAD (APP): world by 2035. Ahsan Iqbal

Federal Minister for Plan- hoped that domestic ex-

Ahsan Iqbal on Monday and current domestic ex-

the potential to become a wrong planning of the previ-

QUETTA: BNP-Mengal Leaders, Malik Naseer

Ahmed Shahwani, Ahmed Nawaz Baloch and oth-

**DG BFA says** 

BFA will continue its

mission of eliminating

ers are addressing a Press conference.

major economy in the ous Tehreek-e-Insaf.

ning, Development and

Special Initiatives, Prof.

said that the size of

Pakistan's economy would

be expected to touch \$1 tril-

lion by the year 2035 as the

country's economy would

become one of the largest

Addressing 'Master Card Funded Care Ignite

Project" ceremony' held

here, the minister said that

the country's economy had

in the world.

ports could reach \$100 bil-

lion in the next five years

ports stood at \$30 billion,

which was much less than

its potential. He said that

the current government was

following short-term, me-

dium and long-term

plannings to improve the

economy, for which the Eco-

nomic Council had been

formed. Ahsan Igbal said that

the economy of the country

had deteriorated due to the

stan H.E. Khazar Farhadov during a ceremony.

The PTI MNA also appreciated the government

grief over the boat accident for enhancing salaries and pensions of the employees however, urged for taking steps to control inflation which had surged to 38

> Minister of State for Division Power Muhammad Hashmi Notezai, while expressing grief over the boat tragedy, said the people had to resort to illegal ways to reach the European countries for better job opportunities and due to increasing unemployment tendency in the

> He said Balochistan was blessed with many natural resources, but the local people were not getting any benefits from them. Their livelihood largely depended on agriculture and border trade as there was no industry in the province,

#### Governor grieved over loss of human lives in Greece boat capsizing Independent Report

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has expressed heartfelt grief and sorrow over the loss of precious lives of several Pakistanis in the boat capsizing incident in Greece. In a condolence statement issued the Governor said that the people of province share the grief with the bereaved families. TANK (APP): Jamiat Movement (PDM), said Ulema Islam Fazl (JUI-F) "We have ended the govern-

Economic Corridor (CPEC)

On this occasion, Fedsaid the ten-year period of



TEHRAN: Secretary Defence Lt. Gen (Retd) Hamood Uz Zaman Khan and Commander Border Guards of Islamic Republic of Iran Brig. General Ali Goudarzi signing MoU.

Pakistan-Iran sign MoU to

#### Security Patrols. ing at Shuhada monument, PTI govt imposed in country to fulfill foreign agenda: Fazal

**Commander of Iranian** 

Navy calls on CNS

Admiral Amjad Niazi

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Commander of the Islamic

Republic of Iran Navy Rear

Admiral Shahram Irani on

Monday visited Naval

Headquarters Islamabad

and called on Chief of the

Naval Staff Admiral

Muhammad Amjad Khan

Headquarters, Commander

of the Iranian Navy was

received by the Naval Chief

and was presented a Guard

of Honour, a Pakistan Navy

news release said.

Upon arrival at Naval

After the wreath-lay-

Chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman on Monday said he had raised voice against the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government which was imposed to fulfill the foreign agenda in the country. He expressed these views while addressing a public gathering after inaugurating mega development projects worth billions of rupees in Tank. On this occasion, Fazl inaugurated a 36-km long Tank to Pezu Road and a link road from Tank to Yarik Interchange of China Pakistan

eral Minister for Communications Asad Mahmood

ment which was imposed in 2018 rigged elections. He said the role of that evil has been removed from the politics of Pakistan and now that would not be allowed to rise again. He said, after coming into power in the federation, the JUI-F got approved several projects worth in

billions of rupees within only one year. He said JUI-F served the people before and would continue to do so in the future.

# at a cost of Rs 4 billion. Fazl, who is also chief darkness has been ended in of the Pakistan Democratic the province.

ISLAMABAD: Information Secretary of Pakistan Peoples Party Balochistan Sardar Sarbaland Khan Jogezai meeting with Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development Sajid Hussain Turi

#### Jogezai meets Sajid Turi in Islamabad

**Independent Report** ISLAMABAD: Information Secretary of Pakistan Peoples Party Balochistan Sardar Sarbaland Khan Jogezai met Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development Sajid Hussain Turi on Monday in Islamabad

Malik Mustafa Kakar a member of the Provincial Executive Committee was also present at the meeting.

#### 70th birthday of BB to be celebrated at **QPS** tomorrow **Independent Report**

QUETTA: General Secretary of Pakistan People's Party Balochistan Lala Rozi Khan Kakar has said that the 70th birthday celebration of leader of democracy martyr Ms. Benazir Bhutto will be held at Quetta Press Club instead of Provincial Secretariat on June 21 at 5

In the ceremony, the 70th birthday cake of the leader of democracy Shaheed Benazir Bhutto will be cut

#### **Commissioner says** Public problems will reduce with best performance of administrative officers **Independent Report** vision Saeed Ahmed, Assis-

QUETTA: Commissioner Quetta Division Sohail Ur Rehman Baloch said that the role of administrative officers is very important, so only with their best performance, public problems would be reduced and administration affairs will be done better. Best arrangements during the 34th National Games and all the administrative officers deserved praise for taking other measures. The best performance of the officers earns the trust of the pub-

concerned officers for good performance. He expressed his views on the occasion of the distribution of certificates of appreciation to administrative officers and officials who performed best during the 34th National Games.

lic. Therefore, it is very

important to encourage the

On this occasion, Commissioner Quetta Division Sohailur Rahman Baloch apprised Deputy Commissioner Quetta Shahak Baloch, Additional Commissioner Quetta Ditant Commissioner Revenue Quetta Division, Assistant Commissioner Quetta Division Babar Khan, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Revenue Quetta Ms. Sana Maibeen, Assistant Commissioner City Quetta Ataul Munim, Assistant Commissioner Sariab Nisar Ahmad Longu, and other administrative officers and appreciation certificates were given to the officials Commissioner Quetta

Division further said that improving the performance of administrative officers will reduce public problems as well as improve administrative affairs. During the 34th National Games, the team consisting of Deputy Commissioner Quetta and other administrative officers worked day and night to prove it. He hoped that all the administrative officers would do their best to bring a good name to the government and reduce the problems of the people by

showing excellent perfor-

Lawyers observe boycott of courts' proceedings in **Balochistan** 

QUETTA: The lawyers fraternity observed boycott of the courts' proceedings in the courts all over Balochistan province on Monday

The call for boycott was given by the Balochistan Bar Council (BBC) against the incident of firing at residence of senior lawyer and former Governor Punjab, Sardar Latif Khosa, extra judicial arrests and raids at the residences of lawyers and civil society representatives and other issues.

According to a leader of Balochistan Bar Council, Rahib Buledi Advocate, the lawyers didn't appear in the courts following the

#### enhance Maritime cooperation principles of mutual respect Tehran, the Secretary De-

Pakistan, Iran agree to expand cooperation in diverse areas

fence was welcomed by the

Iranian Deputy Defence

Minister. During interac-

tion, the Iranian Deputy

Defence Minister ex-

pressed best wishes for Pakistan's political and mili-

fence emphasized the im-

portance of bilateral rela-

tions between Pakistan and

The Secretary De-

tary leadership.

TEHRAN (APP): Pakistan and Iran have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance

Maritime cooperation.
The MoU was signed between Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA) and the Iranian border guards during the visit of Secretary Defence, Lt.Gen (Retd) Hamooduz Zaman to Iran. It will strengthen relations between PMSA and Iranian border guards.

Upon arrival in CM grieved

over martyrdom of school headmaster

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Chief Min-Abdul Quddus Bizenjo has expressed grief and sorrow over the martyrdom of Headmaster of Government High School, Garjak, Mashkay as a result of firing by unknown armed men. In a condemnation issued here on Monday, the Chief Minister said that the terrorists have proved their education enmity by targeting a teacher building future of our children.

He paid rich tributes the Headmaster Manzoor Ahmed on his remarkable services for the cause of education in his area. Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo said that those attempting to darken the future of our youth are enemy of the nation. Such elements would not be spared at all, adding he declared. He expressed sympathy and condolence with the bereaved family of the martyr Manzoor Ahmed.

**Independent Report** 

bovcott.

#### hope that bilateral relations eration in energy, transport will continue to evolve on connectivity, education. PTI is fully prepared to contest election: Asad

Iran. He also expressed the eral trade and expand coop-

the constitution should be held. PTI is fully prepared to contest election. Our party is ready to participate in election whenever they are announced. To a question from a journalist on the occasion of his appearance in District and Sessions Court Islamabad that he will contest election on PTI ticket or on the ticket of some other party, he said if ticket is awarded to him he will contest election at ev-

Ambiguity was left in Asad Umar reply that ticket means ticket of PTI or from some party other

ISLAMABAD (Online): than PTI. He held it is en-PTI leader Asad Umar has shrined in the constitution said it is mentioned in the that election should take constitution election should place. Our party is ready nounced. Be it AJK election or Karachi mayor's election reservations are there on all. All parties have expressed

and shared common inter-

ests. During talks, both

sides aimed to further en-

hance the collaboration in

various areas of common

interest including security,

joint counter terrorism

measures and ensuring re-

gional economic connectiv-

ity. Meanwhile Pakistan

and Iran have agreed to en-

hance and diversify bilat-

reservations. He went on to say if the election commission does not pave the way for transparent election then what problems were faced in the past will be faced in future as well. People will say after election that rigging has been committed. Asad Umar appeared

in the district and sessions court Islamabad in connection with case registered against him in Margalla police station



**QUETTA:** Former Inspector General Police Dr. Syed Kaleem Imam meeting with Parliamentary Secretary for Law, Parliamentary Affairs, Science & Information Technology Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi

## GoB allocates land for setting up of NIFS: Dr. Rubaba says

OUETTA (APP): Parlia- lation in this context. mentary Secretary Law and Parliamentary Affairs Science and Information Technology Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi on Monday said that Balochistan government has allocated land for setting up of National Institute of Forensic Sciences (NIFS). "With the establishment of this institute, Balochistan's dependence on the Punjab Forensic Laboratory will end and Ouetta itself will deal with forensic matters," She expressed these views while talking to the former senior officer of the Police Services of Pakistan Dr. Syed Kaleem Imam (Tamgha Imtiaz) and a consultant National Institute of Forensic Sciences called on her

here at the Law department. Mr, Kaleem Imam oriefed her about the establishment of the National Institute of Forensic Sciences in Quetta and discussed the necessary legis-

Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi said that the provincial government has provided adequate land for the establishment of the first forensic sciences institute. On this occasion, Dr.

Sved Kaleem Imam said that an MoU has been inked with the Higher Education Commission regarding the National Institute of Forensic Sciences, while all the administrative and technical issues have been explained in the charter, but the final law prior to the implementation, documents containing the suggestions given by the provincial govemment can be made. "The institute will hire six highly qualified professionals from Balochistan, including vicechancellor and professors, he maintained adding that this project would not only ensure educational facilities, but also employment opportunities would be available to talented local people of Balochistan

#### food adulteration **Independent Report** QUETTA: Balochistan Food Authority will continue its mission of eliminating food adulteration and providing safe and healthy food to the people across the province, these views were expressed by Direc-General

Muhammad Naeem Bazai while talking to newly appointed Food Safety Officers, Lab Technologists and Food Safety Supervisors on the occasion of an introductory meeting. DG said, "The purpose of the introductory meeting was to introduce

the newly appointed offic-

ers and officials to the vi-

sion, mission, and objectives of Balochistan Food Authority," He emphasized the importance while he informed the new officers and officials about the organizational structure and reBalochistan Food Authority. Apart from this, a fourday training session was also started for the newly appointed officers. On the first day of the session, Director BFA Muhammad Ishaq gave a comprehensive briefing to the participants about better teamwork and the importance of working under a positive strategy.

New officers also expressed their determination that they will use all their abilities to carry forward the mission of Balochistan Food Authority in a better way so that the dream of providing healthy and adulterant-free food to the people of Balochistan will come true. Moreover, the Director General of BFA encouraged the new officers and employees and expressed the hope that they will work together and play their full role for the improvement of the food safety situation throughou Balochistan.



QUETTA: Commissioner Quetta Division Sohail Ur Rehman Baloch distributed certificates of appreciation among administrative officers and officials for their best performance during the 34th National