

# Independent

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## PM reiterates call for Charter of Economy to ensure consistent economic policies

Stresses upon efforts to facilitate overseas Pakistanis with IT-related initiatives

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday reiterated his call for the nation to unite on Charter of Economy to ensure the consistency of economic policies and put country on the course towards progress and prosperity.

The prime minister, addressing the groundbreaking ceremony of Islamabad Model Special Economic Zone, said with the signing of IMF agreement, the risks for default had ebbed away and the country would have to focus on boosting exports to compete with the neighboring states, particularly the eastern neighbor.

He said the Islamabad

Model Special Economic Zone was launched with a delay of five years as nine SEZs were planned to be built under China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

He said despite the land and designs, finalised for the SEZs in Punjab, the previous government not only impeded the projects but also made conscious efforts to undermine the Pak-China ties.

The prime minister, who earlier broke ground for the project and penned a testimonial, said that during Nawaz Sharif's tenure, \$30 billion Chinese investment came to the country in the form of CPEC, featuring power and road

projects.

He told the gathering that after the Chinese industry gone hitech, Pakistan had the golden opportunity to learn from the Chinese textile expertise, go for joint ventures and bring Chinese second-hand machinery to Pakistan to boost its exports. He said during the last 14 months, the incumbent government remained in 'fire-fighting' mode as it had to cope with the unprecedented floods and record inflation, begotten by the Ukraine war.

The prime minister said after the IMF agreement, the government would mainly focus on boosting industrial and agriculture sectors.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif pushing a button to inaugurate temporary Mobile Registration System for overseas Pakistanis & Foreign Nationals.

## FM Bilawal for unlocking true potential of Pakistan's relations with countries

ISLAMABAD (APP): Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Tuesday said that during the last 15 months of the incumbent government, Pakistan's engagement with the countries had improved, though the true potential of relations could not be unlocked.

The foreign minister, addressing the dinner reception hosted by him for the diplomatic corps in the Federal Capital, said that during his tenure, he tried to restore the engagement with the countries.

He said that he was shocked to see the immense potential for Pakistan in the countries he had been visiting during the last 15 months.

Calling it an honour to serve as the foreign minister, he spoke high for Pakistan's diplomats and officers for their efforts to

contribute to the working of the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

He told the diplomats that he tried to run the ministry purely on professional terms isolating it from the domestic politics.

Coming to the international scenario, the foreign minister said the modern world challenges were not restrained by the borders and exemplified climate change-induced catastrophic floods in Pakistan.

He said the issue of the climate change could not be addressed in isolation rather it required concerted efforts.

Recalling Pakistan's role at the COP27, the foreign minister said the outcome of the meeting had not been possible without the support from other participating countries.

## Asif Zardari, Bilawal Bhutto meet PM Shehbaz Sharif

ISLAMABAD (APP): Former President of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari and Chairman of Pakistan Peoples Party and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Tuesday met Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif here at the PM House.

The prime minister received both the leaders on their arrival, a PM Office statement said.

In the meeting, they discussed the overall political situation in the country.

Finance Minister Ishaq Dar and Economic Affairs Minister Sardar Ayaz Sadiq were also present.

## CJP expresses reservations over military trial of civilians

SC rejects govt request for full court on pleas against military trials of civilians

ISLAMABAD (Online): As the Supreme Court (SC) resumed hearing petitions against trial of civilians in military courts on Tuesday, Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial made it clear that civilian citizens should not be subject to trials which are not in accordance with the Constitution.

Emphasising on civilians having constitutional protection, the CJP went on to say that the military courts conduct summary trials, do not issue reasons in their judgments, and don't record evidences either; the courts are not open for the public.

Justice Bandial added that civilians should not be subject to undue harshness as he noted that military

laws were very tough, and different from ordinary provisions. Nonetheless, he conceded that May 9 incidents were of a serious nature.

During the last hearing, the SC had summoned the record of all the alleged May 9 rioters - including women and journalists - in custody of civil or military authorities as it took up petitions filed against court martial of the people who vandalized army assets after the arrest of former premier Imran Khan. The court also issued notices to all the people and institutions named as respondents in the petitions filed against trial of civilians in military courts under the Pakistan Army Act, 1952 and the Official Secrets Act, 1923.



ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi administering the oath of office to Sirajuddin Aziz as the Banking Mohtasib Pakistan at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

## US CG Nicole Theriot meets him Record development work done in Sindh under PPP government: Nasir

Independent Report KARACHI: Provincial Minister for Local Government, Public Health Engineering and Housing Town Planning Syed Nasir Hussain Shah on Tuesday said record development work has been done in Sindh province under the government of PPP and Karachi's infrastructure has faced severe damage in the last rainy season and steps are being taken on a priority basis to restore the infrastructure, while the work of more than 400 small and big roads of Karachi is going on.

He said this on meets with American Consul General Nicole Theriot at Ali House Karachi yesterday. The Consul General and Minister LG discussed matters of mutual interest, including bilateral relations. Additional Chief Secretary LG Syed Najam Shah, Chairman District Council Sukkur Syed Kamil Haider Shah, Coordinator of Chief Minister Shahzad Memon, Justice of Peace Pir Aman, Political Officer Ron Rhinehart and Political Specialist Saleh Shah were present on the occasion of the meeting.

Minister LG Nasir Shah told the American Consul General that due to the foreign policies of PPP Chairman and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto, trade with different countries was promoted and the relations between Pakistan and friendly countries were further strengthened due to successive foreign visits.

Independent Report KARACHI: Provincial Minister for Local Government, Public Health Engineering and Housing Town Planning Syed Nasir Hussain Shah in group photo with American Consul General Nicole Theriot at Ali House Karachi.



KARACHI: Jam-at-Islami (JI) Karachi Chief, Hafiz Naeem-ur-Rehman addresses to media persons during press conference held at Idara-e-Noorul-Haq in Karachi.

## Minister Rehman hosts Italian delegation to boost Climate Resilience in Pak

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Climate Change & Environmental Coordination, Senator Sherry Rehman, recently welcomed a delegation from Italy to the Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination.

The delegation included representatives from the University of Milan and the Italian Association Ev-K2-CNR, with Ambassador Andreas Ferraresse leading the group. Additionally, officials from the Government of Gilgit-Baltistan and UNDP were also present during the meeting, a news release said.

Minister Rehman expressed her gratitude for the ongoing support of the Ital-

ian government in the provinces of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Gilgit-Baltistan. She acknowledged the remarkable 35-year presence of EvK2CNR in the Pakistani mountains.

The Minister specifically commended the 'Glaciers & Students' project, which is funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AIC), implemented by UNDP Pakistan, and executed by EvK2CNR.

This initiative aims to accomplish several key objectives, including the establishment of 8 Automatic Weather Systems (AWS), the creation of an inventory of Pakistan's 7,200 glaciers.



KARACHI: Governor Sindh, Kamran Khan Tessori warmly welcome to Great Religious Scholar, Thinker, Poet, Writer, and Rabbanis Scholar Ayatollah Maulana Syed Aqeel-ul-Gharavi upon his arrival in city for attend the Holy month of Muharram-ul-Haram, in Karachi.

## Work on BRT progressing day and night with the support of WB: Sharjeel

Independent Report KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Information, Transport and Mass Transit Sharjeel Inam Memon said that the work on the Red Line BRT was progressing continuously day and night and the Asian Development Bank was extending financial support for this project.

The BRT Red Line will pass through this underpass, connecting to the Green Line, this project aims to provide transportation facilities for the next 60 to 70 years, taking into account Karachi's population, it is the best project for the city, Memon said this during his conversation with media representatives at the under construction 'Underpass' for the BRT Red Line project near Mazar-e-Quaid.

In response to a question, he acknowledged that certain delays in the projects were attributed to the rise in inflation, which subsequently increased project costs, the relocation of utilities required both time and capital, leading to additional delays.

He mentioned the necessity of granting a write-off to the consultant before commencing the work.

The minister stated that the People's Party is dedicated to the city's development and working tirelessly day and night, the diligent efforts of the entire Trans Karachi team in achieving that goal.

Independent Report KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Information, Transport and Mass Transit, Sharjeel Inam Memon talks with media persons during his inspection visit to review construction works of new development projects at Shahrah-e-Quaideen road nearby Numash Chowrang area in Karachi.



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## Shehla Raza inaugurates Safe House in Nawabshah

NAWABSHAH (APP): Sindh Minister for Women Development Syeda Shehla Raza on Tuesday performed the opening of Safe House at Nawabshah.

Talking to the media, the minister said 27 Safe Houses are set up in all the districts of the province in order to provide shelter and protection to women.

She said the Sindh government apart from promulgating laws for the welfare of women is preparing projects with the objection to make women self-sufficient.

The minister said that Darul Aman being run under the department is also extending legal support,

food and residence to victim women. She said that despite the shortage of staff, complaint cells are set up for the help of women.

On the occasion, Deputy Director Women Development Naseem Hassan Mastoi briefed the minister about steps taken for the women's welfare in District Shaheed Benazirabad.

PPP leader and member District Council Qamarunnisa Dhamrah, Principal Govt Girls Degree College Lala Rukh Baloch, In-charge Women Complain Center Zaibunissa and other women were present on the occasion.

## Alvi administers oath of Banking Ombudsman to Sirajuddin Aziz

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Tuesday administered the oath of office of Banking Ombudsman to Sirajuddin Aziz.

The swearing-in ceremony was held here at the Aiwan-e-Sadr.

The president administered the oath in line with clause (2) of the Article 203C of the Constitution.

## Sindh Assembly likely to be dissolved on Aug. 8

KARACHI (INP): The Sindh Assembly is likely to be dissolved along with National Assembly on August 9, sources said Tuesday.

Sources privy to the matter said that Sindh Assembly secretary has been tasked to complete all paper work regarding the dissolution of assembly by August 7.

The last session of the existing provincial assembly is expected to be summoned in first week of August, they say.

The development comes hours after it emerged that the National Assembly will be dissolved on August 08.

The summary of dissolution of the lower house of the Parliament will be delivered to the President, sources said.

## Pak envoy to deliver 'clear message' to Kabul on TTP

ISLAMABAD (Online): Pakistan has decided to send its point man on Afghanistan to Kabul this week to deliver a clear message on the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), said officials in Islamabad on Tuesday.

Special Representative on Afghanistan Ambassador Asif Durrani is slated to leave for the Afghan capital tomorrow (Wednesday). He will arrive in Kabul against the backdrop of simmering tensions between the two countries on 'safe havens for terrorists.'

In recent days, Pakistan has increased pressure on the Afghan interim government to tackle the TTP threat, with the former's defence minister and army chief issuing stern warnings to the neighboring country.

## Acting British HC calls on Mayor Karachi

KARACHI (APP): Acting British High Commissioner Zoe Ware called on Mayor Karachi, Barrister Murtaza Wahab in his office at KMC building on Tuesday morning.

She was accompanied by Deputy High Commissioner Sara Mohney and Political Adviser Batul Zahra.

The Acting British High Commissioner congratulated Barrister Murtaza Wahab on becoming the Mayor of Karachi and expressed best wishes.

The Mayor of Karachi, Barrister Murtaza Wahab, welcomed the high commissioner on her arrival at the head office of KMC and said that Britain and Pakistan have friendly relations and the mutual relations between the two countries will be further promoted in the future.

Ms Zoe Ware said that Britain values Karachi and its citizens and Britain has provided support to Pakistan in various fields in the past and will continue to do so in the future.

## MQM needs 12 more members to claim SA opposition leader slot

KARACHI (INP): Muttahida Qaumi Movement Pakistan (MQM-P) has required 12 more members to get the opposition leader's office in Sindh Assembly.

Speaker Sindh Assembly has decided to keep the MQM application for the opposition leader's slot in abeyance.

"The MQM has support of only 20 opposition members," Sindh Assembly officials said. "The party needs 12 more members support before submitting request to claim the position," officials further said.

## Karachi launches first-ever water ambulance

KARACHI (INP): Water ambulance, a groundbreaking initiative has been launched on Tuesday ensuring timely medical transportation for the island's residents. The long-standing healthcare challenge faced by the inhabitants of Baba, Bhit, and Shams Pir islands off the coast of Karachi has finally found a solution following a collaborative effort between NGOs, government authorities, and local communities. The absence of a hospital on these islands had been a constant worry for the community, particularly for pregnant women who required urgent medical attention.

KARACHI: British Deputy High Commissioner Ms Zoe Ware meets Mayor Karachi Murtaza Wahab at MC Office.



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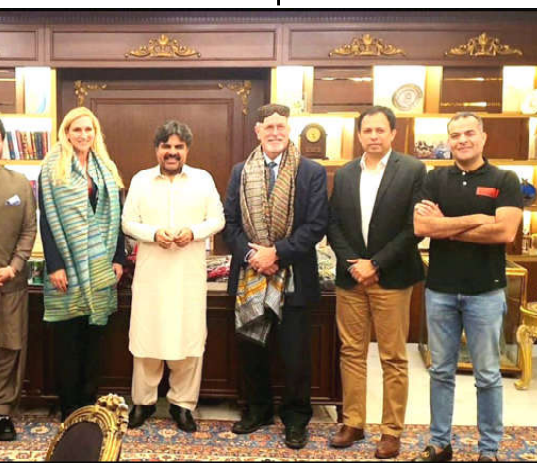
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Daily Voice of Masses  
**Independent**

**Rains again**

Since the first monsoon spell began less than a month ago, weather-related incidents have already claimed around 90 lives across the country and caused significant damage to property, crops and livestock. Punjab is the worst-hit region where more than 50 people died in rain-related events, followed by at least 20 deaths in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa due to flash floods and landslides. National disaster agencies have warned of more rains, thunderstorms, landslides and high-level flooding in the rivers including the Sutlej, Ravi, Chenab and Jhelum in the coming weeks.

The rains are aggravating the already tough conditions faced by communities affected by the 2022 floods, at a time when the government is scrambling for funds for rehabilitation and reconstruction.

Last summer's floods killed over 1,700 people and washed away homes, crops, livestock, roads and bridges worth more than \$30bn. The world promised to provide Pakistan \$10bn, mostly in the shape of loans, at a conference in Geneva back in January to help the government's efforts, but only a fraction of these pledges has been disbursed since 'assistance' for the flood-affected people was tied to the approval of the IMF bailout.

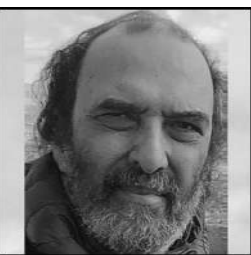
It still remains unclear if and when the pledged amount will materialise even after the IMF agreed to provide the \$3bn funding facility. The heavy rains expected could slow down recovery in the areas where a large number of people displaced by last year's deluge still live — without shelter, food, healthcare and jobs.

The International Rescue Committee has warned that the floods could affect 9.1m people this year, spreading disease and triggering more food shortages in a country where food insecurity is becoming an overriding concern.

Ranked among the top 10 most vulnerable countries on the Global Climate Risk Index even though it is responsible for less than 1pc of global greenhouse gas emissions, Pakistan has suffered economic losses of \$29bn in the last three decades due to climate-related disasters (excluding last year's floods) that have affected 75m people. These estimates by the World Bank do not include the damages caused to biodiversity, ecosystems and coastlines.

Each new disaster forces thousands of children out of school, causes epidemics, and leads to severe food shortages. With the impact of climate change increasing in intensity, as evident from last year's deluge, policymakers need to invest heavily in dealing with the scale of these disasters, with or without international help. That said, the richer nations must realise that what is happening in Pakistan — or other countries on the front line of climate change — will not be limited to vulnerable states. They must not only pay for their contribution to global warming but also radically cut GHG emissions as agreed to at various international forums.

**Nothing coded in Modi's agenda**



**Jawed Naqvi**

The Uber ride was smooth despite the rain-clogged roads, and I was thanking the driver with a heartfelt smile when the frail and vulnerable-looking fellow burst into tears, crying unconsolably. A recent migrant to Delhi, he had travelled some distance from the tribal state of Jharkhand to find work in the big city. Between the sobs, he asked if I knew any pandit in the area who could read his horoscope. I told him I knew no such person and wouldn't have directed him to one anyway, adding gratuitously that horoscope readers were merely spreading ignorance and blind faith among gullible Indians, including the educated and illiterate kind.

"Everything I touch turns into mud," the man sobbed. I offered him a tidy tip, which, to my surprise, he declined. I decided not to probe into his personal life. He seemed to be in considerable distress. It could be money, or it could be a greater loss. A frightening thought would occur a bit later. The emotional wreck was a great candidate to be led astray, I thought. The story of Ashok Parmar came to mind. Also called Mochi, the saffron bandana-wearing cobbler became the poster boy of Hindu fanaticism during the Gujarat violence in 2002. Recent reports said he was unhappy with the unending rule of the Bharatiya Janata Party.

At his tiny shop on a footpath in Old Ahmedabad, Parmar, now 48, was disillusioned with the politics of violence. "That photo went viral and brought a lot of problems in my life. I even could not

get married because of the situation created by the photograph," he was quoted as saying during the recent Gujarat elections that the BJP won.

Suppose the tired and harassed cabbie finds himself in a communal maelstrom while looking for the end to his misfortunes. Suppose he meets the BJP's chief minister for Assam. He was blaming the skyrocketing price of tomatoes last week on Muslims in his state. Reports say Himanta Biswa Sarma told his followers to clean Guwahati of 'mias', a derisive name for Bengali Muslims, and take their jobs. The prejudice is decades old, but the context to express it has transformed into a vote-rich electoral strategy. It was a black-and-white TV in Delhi on which I remember I saw a patently communal 1950s movie, cleared by L.K. Advani when he strategically became the information and broadcasting minister in the Janata Party's short-lived government.

The RSS had penetrated the JP movement against Indira Gandhi, and Advani grabbed the key job when the time came in 1977. The movie was about a village woman in distress, much like the cabbie one met the other day. Her husband had become suddenly very ill, and the village doctor gave him only a few days to live. The desperate woman found advice from a Brahmin priest. The village had many Christian missionaries polluting the culture, and their presence caused the husband's illness. Armed with the insight, the woman mobilises a mob to evict the missionaries. The village was cleansed of the evil spirit, and the husband began life anew, completely healed. Sarma's hateful conclusions go back to at least 100 years of manufactured bile. The target of the contrived bias has moved from Christians here to Muslims there, to Sikhs, Dalits and the tribespeople,

depending on the political need.

With little to show for a successful tenure, Hindutva chiefs in different states are busy kindling the time-tested malignity to herald the general elections, barely nine months away. An 800-year-old mosque was last week shut for Muslim worshippers in this endeavour in BJP-ruled Maharashtra. The courts may perhaps review the decision, but a discussion has been set into motion, and that's what counts in Hindutva's rumour mill.

A trial balloon has been floated by Prime Minister Modi himself to see if a potentially polarising discussion can be triggered on the effete idea of a 'Uniform Civil Code'. His law commission had itself recently disagreed with the need for a UCC in multicultural India. But something has flipped. The problem here is that the Muslim clergy is instantly on the hunt for issues to keep its flock together. Hindutva shares its anti-women DNA with the clergy of most religious groups in India, not least with the Muslim variety. But Hindutva-sponsored UCC can't be about solving the problems of polygamy or Indian women's rights. The effort is to whip the Muslim community for political advantage. Neither Muslim leaders nor Hindutva advocates will solve the pervasive problem of child marriage, brideburning, and abandoned wives. It was the clergy in the form of the All-India Muslim Personal Law Board that had refused a host of compromise solutions on the Babri Masjid that would have spared untold bloodshed. The least the conservative leaders can do is to first reflect on the UCC, and be the last to speak when, or if the first draft of the proposal sees the light of day. Sikhs, tribal groups and Christians have worries about the UCC. Let them take the lead. — Courtesy Dawn



**Tooba Niazi**

Pakistan faced its worst floods in 2022. More than 33 million people were affected. According to a World Bank report, cities in lower-income countries contribute around 14 per cent to global carbon emissions yet they are more vulnerable to climate-induced disasters.

Irrespective of infrastructural changes carried out to upscale the discourse on climate change in Pakistan, we remain at the edge when it comes to rehabilitation after any crisis. The 2022 floods and the recent expected horror of Cyclone Biparjoo made us proactive in planning but sustaining rehabilitation efforts remains a challenge.

The government initiated multiple relief programmes for the flood-affected, including multi-purpose cash assistance, relief items for dignity, and makeshift shelters. The onset of any emergency requires an immediate response including the provision of basic items which supports the affected population.

Recovery and rehabilitation of people struck by disaster is a crucial component of disaster management ideology. However, the rehabilitation process is and has always been an afterthought, leaving many facing long-term social and economic instability. Disaster management requires financial and social integration, the absence of which can lead to bigger trials for public officeholders who work for the people.

The Pakistan Disaster Management Authority can only implement its

**After the floods**

ideas given the requisite resources. Expanding the latter requires both intention and liaising with partners at all levels. The 2022 floods (and those in 2010) witnessed many CSOs stepping up to voluntarily rebuild damaged infrastructure, but a year later there are questions to ponder. The preplanning for Biparjoo was immaculate; however, had the cyclone hit Pakistan with the expected intensity, the situation would have been different.

The sustainability of our response after a disaster needs a complete study of resources and action, without which disaster management is incomplete. Disaster management includes both an immediate response and long-term recovery — from infrastructural rehabilitation to emotional well-being — of the community. In order to reap long-term results, we require more actors (beyond those with political mandates) to implement the plans.

The public-private partnership model may sound clichéd, but in the absence of one, it would be challenging to expedite rehabilitation after a calamity. Public-private partnership in times of crises can open new pathways for collaboration and learning.

While this kind of partnership has existed since the earliest of times, we may like to reconsider building sustainable solutions, instead of focusing solely on immediate response-based service deliveries.

NGOs provide huge funding opportunities, however, public officeholders need to tap into these opportunities to create something beyond a public dialogue. These funds need to be redirected towards the development of early warning facilities for the larger good. The response mechanism needs the inclusion of a gendered approach to address the disproportionate impact with which these climate disasters affect women and girls. Constructing public latrines in villages has helped, but are these accessible to pregnant women and people with disabilities?

Across Sindh and Balochistan these remain widely inaccessible to them. The inclusion of PWDs, women and children in response and rehabilitation strategies will improve their quality of life.

Disaster preparedness in communities remains a challenge. Irrespective of radio and media campaigns, most of our population remain unaware of immediate responses to a disaster. Per-haps the inclusion of disaster preparedness in the curriculum at an early level may impact the knowledge base of many, but we need to have a plan for that part of the population that does not have access to schools.

Radio alone is not enough to prepare communities. In the remote peripheries, where people are already living at the edge, disaster preparedness is a challenge that public officeholders must be aware of. These challenges can only be eased with structural changes to the system.

The events of the 2022 floods will likely become a document that no one will care to read till another climate-induced disaster hits Pakistan. Disaster management is not a political mandate; it's a universal need which requires unity of officeholders who must not politicise it for personal benefit. Merely adding to hefty reports, which are unlikely to be read and acted upon, will not serve the purpose. However, an enabling approach that can serve communities in the long term and make them better prepared and more resilient when disaster revisits is the only workable solution. — Courtesy Dawn

**Commerce News**

**Pakistan to utilize Chinese expertise to boost exports, operate SEZs: Ahsan Iqbal**

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Tuesday said China would provide Pakistan with technical 'know-how' and expertise to increase exports and help successful execution of the Special Economic Zones (SEZs), under the CPEC project.

"We have requested China not to give us fish, [but] teach us how to catch the fish. Pakistan wants Chinese assistance to increase its exports and in

successful execution of the SEZs. So China has promised to attach its experts [with quarters concerned in Pakistan]," he said while addressing an international seminar here.

The seminar titled "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor at Ten: A Gateway to Regional Connectivity," was organized by Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI). IPRI President Ambassador Dr Raza Muhammad, Director Pakistan Institute of China Studies (PICS) Sargodha

University Fazul ur Rehman, former SAPM on CPEC Affairs Khalid Mansoor, Director China Institute of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR) Dr Hu ShiSheng and Sohail Malik of Team Lead Climate Resourcing Coordination Center (CRC) among the leading speakers who spoke at a panel discussion of the seminar and highlighted significance of China-Pakistan relations besides various aspects of the game-changer CPEC project.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif unveiling a plaque to mark the groundbreaking of Islamabad Model Special Economic Zone.

**Dar urges to further deepen US-Pakistan economic, trade ties**

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister Finance and Revenue Minister Senator, Muhammad Ishaq Dar on Tuesday appreciated the support and cooperation of the US and reiterated the desire of the government to further deepen bilateral economic and trade ties with the US.

Mr Brent Neiman, Deputy Under Secretary of the US Department of Treasury along with Mr. Donald Blome Ambassador of the United States of America to Pakistan called on Federal Minister for Finance and

Revenue Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar at Finance Division, said a press release issued by Ministry of Finance here.

Finance Minister Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar warmly greeted Mr Brent Neiman and highlighted the deep-rooted historic and durable bilateral relations with the United States on economic and trade fronts.

The Finance Minister thanked the US administration and the US Department of Treasury for their role in the conclusion of an agreement

with the IMF.

The Finance Minister also apprised of the economic policies and programmes taken by the government in order to set the economy from stability to growth.

He further updated the US delegation on the talks held with the IMF and informed them of the GoP's firm commitment to complete the SBA.

Mr Brent Neiman appreciated the steps taken by the government in implementing timely reforms in the fiscal as well as monetary policy.

**Aminul Haque says: Rs 77.8 bln projects for remote areas connectivity to be completed by year end**

ISLAMABAD (INP): Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication Syed Amin Ul Haque on Tuesday said that 83 projects worth Rs 77.8 billion would be completed by December 2023 under the Universal Service Fund (USF) to provide connectivity to remote and unserved areas across the country.

Addressing a press conference, he said the primary objective of the USF was to connect all citizens of the country, as digitalization had become a crucial priority for both

businesses and communities.

Under the Next Generation Optic Fiber (NG-OF) Network and Services programme, he said, the USF had made significant strides, contracting over 16,000 km of Optic Fiber Cable (OFC), which was expected to benefit approximately 31.5 million people nationwide.

To achieve the milestone, the USF had diligently laid fiber optic cables and installed 4G and 3G towers in remote and previously unserved areas, he added.



ISLAMABAD: Brent Neiman, Deputy Under Secretary of the US Department of Treasury calling on Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar at Finance Division.

**WAPDA generates highest 7286 MW hydel electricity of season**

ISLAMABAD (Online): Electricity generation run by WAPDA hydel power stations surpasses 7000 MW mark as these contributes 7286 MW to the National Grid during peak hours last night.

Effective operation and maintenance of WAPDA hydel power stations, improved inflows in the rivers, increased level of water reservoirs and indent by the Indus River System Authority (IRSA)

are the contributing factors behind the surge in hydel power generation, said a press release.

According to the statistics, Tarbela Hydel Power Station generation 3446 MW, Tarbela 4th Extension 1410 MW, Ghazi Barotha 1450 MW, Mangla 275 MW, Warsak 172 MW, and Chashma 147 MW. While the other hydel power stations contributed 386 MW cumulatively.

**Gold rates increase Rs 6,200**

ISLAMABAD (APP): The per tola price of 24 karat gold increased by Rs 6,200 and was sold at Rs 221,000 on Tuesday against its sale at Rs 214,800 the previous day.

The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also increased by Rs 5,316 to Rs 189,472 from Rs 184,156 whereas the price of 10 grams 22 karat gold went up to Rs 173,683 from Rs 168,810, the All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported.

**Zong 4G celebrates 15 years of pioneering excellence in Pakistan**

ISLAMABAD (APP): Zong 4G Pakistan's leading telecom giant, marks a momentous milestone as it celebrates 15 years of unwavering excellence in the country's digital landscape.

Guided by the motto "Let's Get Digital," Zong 4G has revolutionized the nation's connectivity through its widest 4G network and cutting-edge technology, leaving an indelible mark on Pakistan's technological future.

For over a decade and a half, Zong 4G has been at

the forefront of technological advancement, pioneering the introduction of 3G and 4G networks and successfully testing 5G. The company's commitment to technological progress has transformed the way Pakistan connects and communicates, propelling the nation's digital revolution said a news release.

Investing significantly in expanding its network infrastructure, Zong 4G has erected over 14,000 towers nationwide, extending its services to

**Commerce minister, MNAs call on PM**

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Commerce Syed Naveed Qamar and members of the National Assembly, on Tuesday, separately called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif. During the meeting, they discussed the current political situation in the country in detail, the PM Office Media Wing said in a press release. The commerce minister also briefed the prime minister about the matters related to his ministry. Separately, MNAs Nadeem Abbas Rabaira, Hamid Hameed and Abid Raza Kotla also called on the prime minister and briefed him.

**Business community briefed on NADRA's innovative services**

LAHORE (INP): Tuesday. The DG said that NADRA is commonly known for issuing ID cards but it offers a wide range of services, citing that NADRA Technologies Limited, a subsidiary of the Authority, handles services like e-Sahulat and branchless banking, overseeing all related deposits and systems.

The agency has successfully processed an impressive sum of around Rs 66.87 billion cash till date.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for IT and Telecommunication Syed Amin Ul Haque chair a meeting along with Azerbaijan Minister for Digital Development & Transport Mr. Rashad Nabiyev at IT Ministry.



## Govt committed to make KP polio free province: Azam

PESHAWAR (APP): The delegation led by Chairman POB Dr. Christopher Elias consisted of Regional Director WHO Dr. Ahmed Al-Mandhari, Acting Regional Director UNICEF Ms. Noala Skinner, Canadian High Commissioner to Pakistan Ms. Leslie Scanlon, Deputy Director Polio Bill and Malinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) Michael Galway, WHO Pakistan Representative Dr. Palitha Mahipala and others.

Chief Secretary Nadeem Aslam Chaudhary, Principal Secretary to CM Amjad Ali Khan, secretary Health Mehmood Aslam and Director General Health Services Dr. Shaikat were also present on the occasion.

The participants made a threadbare discussion on various matters related to anti-polio campaigns with special focus on the strategy to eradicate polio virus from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, especially southern districts of the province.

The stakeholders on this occasion reiterated their commitment to continue the joint struggle till eradication of polio virus from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. They also agreed that specific measures should be taken in specific spots of the southern districts to get rid of this menace.

The Chief Minister Muhammad Azam Khan while appreciating the role of partner organizations in mitigating polio virus in the province said that eradication of polio is indispensable to give a healthy and safe future to the upcoming generations. Stressing the need for awareness with regard to polio virus.



HYDERABAD: Shopkeepers of Anaj Market are burn tires and blocked road as they are holding protest demonstration against non-installation of electricity transformer, in Hyderabad.

## PTI MPs to release list of party members in next meeting: Ishaq

PESHAWAR (APP): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Parliamentarian (PTIP) on Tuesday rejected the list of its members that went viral on social media the other day and said that party chairman Pervez Khattak would formally release the names of party members in the next consultative meeting.

In a statement Ishaq Khattak the son of PTIP chairman said that the party leadership held a consultative meeting here

the other day and did not release any list of its members, adding that the viral list was completely fake. He said that party chairman Pervez Khattak would release the list of all party members in the next meeting to be held soon.

Meanwhile, Abdullah Khan the brother of former Chief Minister KP Mehmood Khan decided not to join PTIP and contest general elections against his brother Mehmood Khan.

## Tragic drowning incident claims three lives in Attock

ATTOCK (APP): A tragic incident happened in Attock as three members of a family drowned near the Kurd bridge on Tuesday.

The victims, identified as 38-year-old Yasir Nawaz, his 10-year-old son Saim Nawaz, and his 9-year-old niece Eshal Fatima, all belonging to Jattial village Hazro, met their untimely demise in the waters of the river Indus.

According to the police and Rescue 1122 sources, the family had gone to the river Indus for a pleasant outing when tragedy struck. Eshal Fatima accidentally fell into the river and began to drown. In a brave attempt to rescue her, Yasir Nawaz jumped into the deep waters but tragically lost control and also drowned.



PESHAWAR: Senator Noman Wazir meeting with Governor Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali

## No one to be allowed to spread sectarianism during Muharram: Dr Jamal

RAWALPINDI (APP): Provincial Minister for Primary and Secondary Healthcare and Population Welfare Dr Jamal Nasir on Tuesday said that no one would be allowed to spread religious hatred and sectarianism in the country.

Addressing a 'Peace Conference' organized by the Pasban Watan Welfare Foundation at Rawalpindi Arts Council, he said that Ulema had always rendered great sacrifices and services for maintaining peace and their cooperation was needed to maintain law and order during the holy

## Meeting reviews Muharram arrangements

BAHAWALPUR (APP): A meeting of the District Core Management Committee was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Zaheer Anwar Jappa in the committee room of his office to review the arrangements for Muharram-ul-Haram.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Sumera Rabbani, Assistant Commissioner Bahawalpur City Fazlur Rehman, Assistant Commissioner Bahawalpur Sadar Mujahid Abbas, Deputy Director Development Malik Mehboob Elahi Khar, Chief Officer District Council Nasrullah Malik and officers of other concerned departments were present.

## KP police held 434 terrorists, kill 158 in six months

PESHAWAR (APP): The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa police in its six months' performance report on Tuesday claimed to have arrested as many as 434 terrorists from across the province and killed 158 including absconders and terrorists with bounties in police encounters.

## Punjab govt to crack down on wheat, sugar hoarders

Independent Report LAHORE: On the directions of Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi, the Punjab government has decided to crack down on the hoarders of wheat and sugar in the province, and assigned the responsibilities of monitoring to the Special Branch in this regard.

Chief Secretary Punjab Zahid Akhtar Zaman chaired an important meeting to review the strategy for controlling the prices of flour and sugar, at the Civil Secretariat here on Tuesday. The administrative secretaries of relevant departments including industries, food and finance, the director



KARACHI: Arts Council of Pakistan organized "Free Medical Camp" at Haseena Moin Hall.

## ANP leadership asked to avoid giving preference to 'parachuters' over workers

PESHAWAR (APP): President Awami National Party (ANP) Bhana Mari Ward, Sohail Khan has stressed upon the party leadership to maintain its decades-old legacy of rewarding diehard workers on different posts instead of facilitating those who come through the use of parachutes.

In a joint press statement issued here on Tuesday, Sohail Khan and other office bearers including GS Shahid Khan, SVP Allauddin and VP Atif Khan said if ANP leadership wanted to save the party

from fragmentation, it has to maintain its policy of according preference to stalwarts and old associates who spent their whole lives for the cause of the party and its leadership. They said the step-motherly treatment of ANP leadership with its old and diehard worker Adnan Jilil is a test case and is not acceptable to party workers.

They also mentioned the example of Haji Sher Rehman who after being ignored by the party leadership in elections for Mayor of Peshawar, parted ways silently and joined PML(N).

## International News

### China to deepen security, defence cooperation with Algeria

Monitoring Desk BEIJING: Longtime trading partners China and Algeria agreed on Tuesday to strengthen cooperation in other areas including security and national defence, boosting Beijing's already robust ties with a major nation on the African side of the Mediterranean.

Following Algerian President Abdelmadjid Tebboune's meeting with Chinese leader Xi Jinping in Beijing, the two countries also agreed to support each other's core interests and safeguard each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, according to a joint statement released by China's foreign ministry.

The North African nation has strategic importance to China given its location on the Mediterranean Sea. Relations between Beijing and the governing National Liberation Front go back to the late 1950s, when Algeria sought independence from France.

In 2014, the two upgraded their ties to a so-called comprehensive strategic partnership, with gas-rich Algeria the first Arab nation to form such a partnership with China.

In their statement on Tuesday, both sides agreed to deepen their comprehensive strategic partnership, stressing the need for close political and security cooperation.



Germany's Chancellor Olaf Scholz and Chile's President Gabriel Boric sit during their bilateral meeting during the third EU-CELAC summit that brings together leaders of the EU and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, in Brussels, Belgium.

### Several G20 members condemn Russia quitting Black Sea grain deal

Monitoring Desk GANDHINAGAR: Several G20 members condemned Russia's move to quit an agreement that allowed safe export of grain from Ukraine, India's finance minister said on Tuesday, as concerns rise in poorer countries over a rise in food prices following Moscow's decision.

Russia halted participation in the United Nations-brokered Black Sea grain deal on Monday over what it called a failure to meet its demands to implement a parallel agreement

### Kerry seeks 'urgent action' as China, US revive climate talks

Monitoring Desk BEIJING: US climate envoy John Kerry held four hours of talks with his Chinese counterpart in Beijing on Monday, calling for "urgent action" as the two countries revived stalled diplomacy on reducing planet-warming emissions.

Climate talks between the two biggest greenhouse gas emitters came to a halt last year after Nancy Pelosi, then-speaker of the US House of Representatives, enraged Beijing by visiting self-ruled Taiwan, which China considers to be



US Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry shakes hands with his Chinese counterpart Xie Zhenhua before a meeting in Beijing, China.

### Divisions over the Ukraine war cause a rift at EU-LatAm summit that was supposed to be a love-in

Monitoring Desk BRUSSELS: European Union and Latin American leaders concluded a summit that was supposed to be a love-in after eight years of separation with a second full day of aggravation over a bland statement on Russia's invasion of Ukraine that could not even gather unanimous support.

Europe's fervent support of Ukraine clashed with the more distant approach pervasive in the 33-nation Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, and what should have been a detail of a landmark summit became its encompassing theme.

### USAID chief visits Odesa, unveils \$250m for Ukrainian farmers

Monitoring Desk ODESA: U.S. aid chief Samantha Power on Tuesday pledged \$250 million in new funding to help Ukrainian farmers reeling from blocked Black Sea grain shipments since Russia's invasion last year. Moscow on Monday pulled out of a U.N.-brokered deal allowing the safe passage of Ukrainian grain through the Black Sea in a move U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called "a blow to people in need everywhere".

### Trump says he has been notified he's a target of the US probe into efforts to overturn 2020 election

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: Former President Donald Trump said Tuesday he has received a letter informing him that he is a target of the Justice Department's investigation into efforts to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election, an indication he could soon be charged by U.S. prosecutors.

New federal charges, on top of existing state and federal counts in New York and Florida and a separate election-interference investigation nearing conclusion in Georgia, would add to the list of legal problems for Trump as he pursues the 2024 Republican presidential nomination. Trump disclosed the existence of a target letter in a post on his Truth Social platform.

### US to announce \$1.3 bln in military aid for Ukraine

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: The United States will announce a new pledge to buy \$1.3 billion worth of military aid for Kyiv in its conflict with Russia in the coming days, two U.S. officials said.

The previously unreported weapons package includes air defenses, counter-drone systems, exploding drones and ammunition, one of the U.S. officials said.

### South Korea flood deaths cast doubt on readiness for extreme weather

Monitoring Desk SEOUL: South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol on Monday blamed authorities' failure to follow disaster response rules as the death toll from days of torrential rain rose to 40, including a dozen people found dead in a submerged underpass. Deluges have pummelled central and southern regions since Thursday as the rainy sea-

son that started in late June reaches its peak. The interior ministry has also reported nine people missing and 34 injured across the nation. Twelve deaths, including three bodies found overnight, occurred in a tunnel in Cheongju, 110km south of Seoul, where 16 vehicles, including a bus, were swamped by a flash flood on Saturday after a river levee collapsed.



## PM launches multiple initiatives for sports promotion

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday launched multiple initiatives here for promoting sports culture and welfare of the sports persons including the Rs 5 billion Pakistan Sports Endowment Fund.

In a ceremony held here, he launched Pakistan Sports Endowment Fund with initial seed money of Rs 5 billion to provide financial assistance and other facilities to the emerging players and retired sports persons of the country.

The prime minister also performed soft launch of the first dedicated Sports University in the country to produce critical pool required for sports events such as planners, managers, technical staff, nutritionists, physiotherapists and others.

Similarly, PM Shehbaz launched the Prime Minister Youth Sports Initiative to develop sports across the country and to provide world class sports facilities to the youth.

He also launched the Elite Sportspersons Development Programme and E-Sports development programme.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Communications, Maulana Asad Mahmood hosted a meeting with Azerbaijan's Minister for Transport, Mr. Rashad Nabiyev to discuss Road Trade Agreement.

## UK allocates £41.5 mn in development assistance to Pakistan for FY24

ISLAMABAD (Online): The United Kingdom will provide £41.5 million in bilateral Official Development Assistance (ODA) to Pakistan for the year 2023-24, with a focus on accelerated family planning, girls' education, and revenue mobilisation, investment and trade, a statement from the British High Commission in Islamabad said.

According to the statement issued on Tuesday, the new Pakistan Country Development Partnership Summary (CDPS), published by UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, set out a refreshed approach to the UK-Pakistan development partnership. The new CDPS shows an indicative ODA budget of £133 million pounds for the financial year 2024-25.

"The strategy underlines UK's transition from

a traditional aid relationship to a UK-Pakistan partnership for mutual benefit. It aims to unlock progress against Pakistan's constraints to growth including population dynamics, climate vulnerability, gender equality and the structure of the economy," it added. The annual report also indicates likely significant growth in UK-Pakistan ODA in fiscal year 2024-25, based on an expected increase in FCDO's overall ODA budget next year.

The UK has provisionally allocated a greater share of next year's ODA to Pakistan, reflecting the aim of boosting efforts to strengthen climate resilience and reduce humanitarian risks following last year's devastating floods.

According to the statement, 56 per cent of the programmes under the CDPS are primarily or significantly geared towards promoting gender equality, and 26pc of the programmes are primarily or significantly focused on disability inclusion. It added that the CDPS was aligned with Pakistan's long-term development strategies and sustainable development goals.

"The strategy's objectives are to deliver a step change in human capital; support Pakistan to adopt a more resilient and cleaner growth path; support Pakistan to become a more open society; and promote macroeconomic stability, private sector-led growth and resilience to climate shocks."

The statement mentioned that the CDPS also covered programming under the UK's Conflict Stability and Security Fund which underpins UK-Pak co-operation on organised crime, regional stability and hate speech.

The budgeted expenditure for 2023 to 2024 includes top three bilateral aid programmes which are delivering accelerated family planning in Pakistan (DAFPAK); girls and out-of-school action for learning (GOAL) and revenue mobilisation, investment and trade (REMIT).

DAFPAK aims to increase access to quality family planning information and services, particularly to underserved groups such as rural women. GOAL will support the governments of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to improve education outcomes for girls and the most marginalised, while REMIT will support Pakistan to implement reforms that lock in macroeconomic stability and improve conditions for high and sustained growth, mutual prosperity.

## Pakistan, Azerbaijan can boost business, cultural ties through road linkages

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Communications Maulana Asad Mahmood on Tuesday said that Pak-Azerbaijan could further enhance bilateral relations in terms of trade & commerce and strengthen public, cultural ties through land links and highways.

He expressed these views during a meeting with a seven-member Azerbaijan delegation led by Minister for Digital Development and Transport Rashad Nabiyev to discuss road trade agreement and move towards a legal framework for trade.

The minister praised the delegation of Azerbaijan for coming to Pakistan and holding meetings with various ministries and officials to strengthen bilateral ties.

Rashad Nabiyev apprised the Minister for Communications that Azerbaijan has paved new roads for the promotion of trade and public transportation by laying its network of highways connecting up to Bandar Abbas, Iran. In response, Asad Mahmood expressed Pakistan's desire to expand land connection to Iran, Azerbaijan, Russia and Eastern Europe to boost the economy of regional countries and raise the living standards of the people. He said the Government of Pakistan stands ready for all kinds of assistance regarding road transport and trade.

During the meeting, a task force was formed to develop a legal framework for road trade agreements, and the Federal Secretary Communications & Chairman NHA Captain (Rtd.) Muhammad Khurram Agha will be the focal person on behalf of Pakistan.

The Minister of Communications appreciated the fact that Azerbaijan supports Pakistan's position regarding Kashmir. Similarly, he added, Pakistan's position in some other matters was a mirror of mutual harmony.



ISLAMABAD: Uzbekistan, Afghanistan and Pakistan signed a Joint Protocol on (UAP) Railway project at Ministry of Railways.

## Sharjeel assures to address problems of FM Radios

**Independent Report**  
KARACHI: Pakistan Broadcasters Association's delegation led by Sara Tahir Khan called on Minister of Information, Transport, and Mass Transit Sharjeel Memon here at the Archives Complex in Karachi on Tuesday. The delegation of the PBA Radio Committee comprised Naeem Mirza, Shahid Jamal, Syed Zulfiqar Ali Shah, and Muhammad Ali Butt.

The delegation of the PBA Radio Committee briefed Information Minister Sharjeel Memon about

the challenges and issues faced by FM radios. In response, Sharjeel Inam Memon assured the delegation that he would take steps to address the problems encountered by FM radios. Sharjeel Inam Memon emphasized the significance of radio as a powerful and essential public medium that should not be overlooked. He acknowledged that radio holds the capability to reach a vast number of listeners within a short span of time, making it a crucial tool for public awareness.



ISLAMABAD: Minister of Maritime Affairs, Syed Faisal Hussain Sabzwari, and Minister of Digital Development and Transport, H. E. Rashad Nabiyev, of the Republic of Azerbaijan, held a meeting at the Ministry of Maritime Affairs today to discuss mutual cooperation and explore potential collaborations.

## On intervention of Provincial Ombudsman Girls Primary School at Village Kathia become functional

**Independent Report**  
KARACHI: Mr. Ajaz Ali Khan, Honourable Provincial Ombudsman Sindh expressed his satisfaction on making functional the Government Girls School after two years of its closure.

Mr. Wali Muhammad Joyo filed a complaint stating that Government Girls Primary School of his village has not been functioning since after the transfer of a lady teacher about one year back and requested to intervene.

The Regional Director, Provincial Ombudsman's Regional Office, Dadu was assigned the investigation who called

reports. In response, the Agency initially reported that the girls were getting education in Govt. Boys Primary School Kathia and subsequently TEO (Female) reported that one female teacher for 51 enrolled students had been posted and made the girls school functional.

The Regional Director, Provincial Ombudsman's Regional Office, Dadu also visited the said school to confirm the position. The complainant & other villagers appreciated the efforts made by the Ombudsman Institution for saving the future of their girls.

## DIG Sukkur orders to ensure strictest security during Muharram

SUKKUR (APP): Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIGP) Sukkur Range, Javed Sonharo Jiskani on Tuesday issued instructions to officers concerned to ensure strictest security during Muharram-ul-Haram.

The DIGP Sukkur asked the officers to ensure a fool-proof contingency/communication plan implementation on district level for the venues of Majalis, processions, routes of the main procession and other places. He said the plan should cover in detail the overall affairs and responsibilities of the police and the implementation of the overall peace-keeping measures so that the responsibilities like the protection of life and property of the people during Muharram could be made very effective and successful at all levels.

## Safety, maintenance of roads infrastructure under KMC be ensured: Mayor Karachi

KARACHI (APP): Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab Tuesday said that the safety and maintenance of the infrastructure on the roads and streets managed by Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC) must be ensured.

Addressing a meeting with the officers of the engineering department in his office, he said the relevant officers in each area are responsible for maintaining the infrastructure.

He said that the officers and engineers should come out of their office themselves and check all the things and illegal road cutting should be stopped at all costs. Action will be taken against the person responsible for road cutting as well as the officer concerned, he added.

On this occasion, Director General Engineering Azhar Hussain Shah, Chief Engineers of different areas, Civil, Mechanical and Engineering, Xens and Superintendent Engineers were also present.

Mayor Karachi said that damage to the roads constructed in the city, street lights and damage to the infrastructure should be prevented at all costs.

He said, "All officers should perform their duty well and understand their powers, you guys are the custodians so you have the responsibility to keep the city in good order, if you do your job well then, I will stand by your side," he said.

## Commissioner, DIG chairs meeting regarding Muharram-ul-Haram arrangements

HYDERABAD (APP): The Commissioner Shaheed Benazirabad division Muhammad Abbas Baloch and DIG Muhammad Younis Chandio on Tuesday presided over a meeting to review arrangements for Muharram-ul-Haram.

Meeting was attended by All Assistant Commissioners of the Revenue Department, DSPs and SHOs.

Addressing the meeting, the Commissioner and DIG directed relevant officers to complete all arrangements for Muharram-ul-Haram with the assistance of civil administration. They directed to set up control rooms at the taluka level and should include DIG and other high officials about any untoward incident in order to control the situation. On this occasion DIG Muhammad Younis Chandio directed Police officers to take strict legal action against people under PECA ordinance.

## Tahir Memon posted as DC Sujawal

KARACHI (APP): Tahir Ali Memon, an officer of Ex.PSC (BS-18) presently posted as secretary Board of Revenue Sindh was transferred and posted as Collector/Deputy Commissioner Sujawal district vice Intiaz Ali Abro proceeded on Mid Career Management Course.

According to a notification, Tahir Ali will assume the office of the Deputy Commissioner Sujawal relieving ADC-I, Ghulam Hyder Khakhely of the additional charge of the DC Sujawal.



MOHENJODARO: Culture and Political Head of Consulate General of Japan in Karachi, Saito Machi along with her delegation of Japanese tourists are visiting and expressed keen interest in the historical ruins of the World Heritage Monuments of Mohenjo Daro.

## DC Kamber-Shahdakt hold meeting regarding Muharram

LARKANA (APP): The Deputy Commissioner Kamber-Shahdakt Saleemullah Odho on Tuesday presided over a meeting in connection with maintaining peace in the district during Moharram-ul-Haram at his office.

The DC said it was our moral and legal obligation to create unity and brotherhood among ourselves during the Moharram-ul-Haram throughout the district. During the meeting, SSP Kamber-Shahdakt informed about the police contingency plan and he said that the police patrolling will be ensured with the processions in a special manner, in the time of need the rangers will help police force during Muharram.

DC Kamber-Shahdakt advised ulemas of both sects that they should create a congenial atmosphere during Muharram

and the processions will be taken out on the permitted routes, the security to Azadars will be ensured by the law enforcing agencies. He directed that the TMOs of Kamber, Warah, Nasirabad, Mirokhan, Sijawal, Shahdakt and Qubo Saeed Khan to ensure the cleanliness of the area of Majalis and the permitted routes of processions in all respects as well as fire-fighting vehicles would be made fit for the time of need. Saleemullah Odho directed the District Health Officer Kamber-Shahdakt, Medical Superintendent, Incharges of Branch offices of SSGC, Civil Defence and Municipal officers of the district that the service delivery offices should remain open round the clock and they should also make a contingency plan for ensuring proper arrangements during the Moharram-ul-Haram and submit the same to his office.

## Hot weather to persist in Sindh, drizzle expected in some areas

KARACHI (APP): Pakistan Meteorological Department on Tuesday, forecast hot and humid weather in most districts of the province during next 24 hours however drizzle is expected in Mirpur Khas, Sukkur, Tharparkar, Khairpur and adjoining areas.

According to met office, the maximum temperatures on Wednesday would range between 33 to 35 degrees Centigrade in Karachi, 37-39 C in Hyderabad, 38-40 C in Sukkur, 34-36 C in Thatta, 38-40 C in Mohenjo Daro, 40-42 C in Dadu, 37-39 C in Mithi and 41-43 degree Centigrade in Nawabshah. The met office further predicted that under the influence of monsoon currents penetrating into the country, dust, thunderstorm

## MD SSWMB for special measures to ensure cleanliness in Muharram ul Haram

KARACHI (APP): The Managing Director Sindh Solid Waste Management Board (SSWMB), Syed Intiaz Ali Shah, on Tuesday, directed to take special measures in connection with Muharram-ul-Haram for ensuring cleanliness around Imambargahs and processions routes.

The MD SSWMB while chairing a meeting further instructed the board officers and officials of private companies for finalising sanitation arrangements in consultation with relevant authorities and organisers of mourning congregations and processions.

## SSP chairs meeting to discuss Muharram-ul-Haram arrangements

HYDERABAD (APP): The Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Hyderabad Sajid Amir Sadozai on Tuesday presided over a meeting to discuss arrangements and prepare a security plan for the upcoming month of Muharram-ul-Haram.

The meeting was attended by SP Headquarters Shah Nawaz Memon, ASP Alina Rajper, UT DS, all SDPOs of the district, SHOs and DIB in charge Inspector Akber Lund.

Addressing the meeting SSP said that strict security will be provided to mourners, mourning processions, congregations, and religious gatherings during Muharram-ul-Haram and strict monitoring will be carried out for worship places including Imambargahs, Mosques besides security measures will also be ensured.

## PPP fulfilled promise of providing services for minorities: Minister

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Minister of Minority Affairs Gian Chand Esrani on Tuesday said that the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) had fulfilled the promise of the service and development of the minority community.

According to the manifesto of PPP and under the direction of Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, the journey of development and prosperity will continue, he said this while talking to people during the inauguration of different development projects in Thatta district.

The provincial minister said the Minority Affairs Department was working on record development projects of minority places of worship across Sindh.

Esrani said that the Minority Department was providing financial support for marriages and educational scholarships to poor people of the community without any discrimination.

Gian Chand said PPP was at the forefront in providing public service to the common men that's why people will once again repose confidence in the party in the next general elections.

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## Best municipal facilities ensures on routes of processions: Commissioner Sukkur

SUKKUR (APP): The Divisional Commissioner Sukkur, Ghulam Mustafa Phull on Tuesday chaired a meeting regarding Muharram arrangements.

He said best municipal facilities should be ensured on the routes of Muharram processions besides establishing temporary medical camps.

The Divisional Commissioner directed that control rooms will be established at every level and there should be no communication gap.

The commissioner also directed that patchwork on routes, repair of lights, removal of hanging electric wires should be completed soon.

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KARACHI: Philippines 125th National day celebration at Philippines Consulate Karachi with Ambassador Maria Agnes Cervantes, Honorary Consul General Dr. Imran Yousaf, and representatives of Islamabad embassy, Philippines department of interior & defense representatives.

## 38th death anniversary of Shaheed Mir Shahnawaz Bhutto observed

LARKANA (APP): Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and Pakistan Peoples Party (Shaheed Bhutto) separately observed the 38th death anniversary of Shaheed Mir Shahnawaz Bhutto, the younger son of Founder Chairman of PPP and Former Prime Minister Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Younger Brother of Slain Chairperson of PPP and former prime minister Shaheed Benazir Bhutto, on Tuesday, at the Mausoleum of the Martyrs of Bhutto family at Bhutto House Naudero, Garhi Khuda Bux Bhutto and Al-Murtaza House Larkana.

Quran Khawani was held at Bhutto House Naudero, Garhi Khuda Bux Bhutto and Al-Murtaza House Larkana, while floral wreaths were placed on the Graves of Shaheed Mir

Shahnawaz Bhutto, Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Shaheed Mohtama Benazir Bhutto and Shaheed Mir Murtaza Bhutto and others in Garhi Khuda Bux Bhutto.

Leaders and workers of both parties gathered at Garhi Khuda Bux Bhutto separately to pay tribute to Shaheed Mir Shahnawaz Bhutto for carrying forward the mission of his Shaheed father Z. A. Bhutto. Quraan Khawani was held jointly arranged by Shaheed Bhutto Mazar Committee and PPP Larkana district, at Bhutto House Naudero (Larkana). Chairman District Council Bhutto and Al-Murtaza House Larkana.

Quran Khawani was held at Bhutto House Naudero, Garhi Khuda Bux Bhutto and Al-Murtaza House Larkana, while floral wreaths were placed on the Graves of Shaheed Mir



KARACHI: Consul General of United Arab Emirates Bakheet Ateeq Al Remethi and Sindh Minister for Energy Intiaz Ahmed Sheikh in a group photo with participants of 3rd International Solar Clean Energy Conference and exhibition.