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India should benefit from CPEC, avoid creating hurdles: PM

Says CPEC's 10-year, transformed Pakistan's development landscape; Enemies of CPEC enemies of development, peace, prosperity in Pakistan, region

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minis ter Prime Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, on the completion of 10 years of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Wednesday asked neighbouring India to take benefit of the mega project instead of creating obstacles

Highlighting the signifi-cance of project, he said Iran, Afghanistan, the Middle East and the whole region would also benefit

from it.
"CPEC is a beautiful plan to connect not only regions and areas but also people's hearts," he said in a statement issued by the PM Office.

vowed to double the pace of the development as it was not only for improving roads, rail, sea ports and air routes, but it would also help health, education and skill development areas, besides masses' participation in the

Terming it a game changer for the whole region, the prime minister said CPEC would have a positive impacts on the beople's living standards in

PM Shehbaz congratulated the leadership and the people of Pakistan and China on 10 years completion of CPEC, which was a the project, besides level-

The prime minister new chapter of the evergreen and trusted strategic cooperative partnership between the two iron broth

> He said the project was a tremendous example of great Chinese leader Xi Jinping and PML-N Quaid Muhammad Sharif's vision of "development for all'

tiative is the manifestation of Chinese President Xi's vision of peace, friendship, and economic partnership."

He regretted that dur-

"The Beltand Road ini-

ing the four years of previous government, hurdles were created in the way of

ling baseless allegations against a great friend like

'The enemies of CPEC are against peace, development and prosperity in Pakistan and the region, as they do not want to eradicate poverty from the counhe added.

CPEC, hesaid, also initiated a new era of mutual partnership between Pakistan and China, and fortified their bilateral relation-

ships.
PM Shehbaz said CPEC encompassed multiple projects ranging from provision of water to education, and technical and skilled-based train-



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Chargé d'affaires of the Chinese Embassy in Islamabad Ms. Pang Chunxue and Federal Ministers cutting a cake marking the 10th anniversary of the signing of the agreement for CPEC

Certain things improved due to firm stance; expects progress in PPL affairs:

Bringing Balochistan at par of other provinces not possible with limited funds, regrets CM

Says paucity of funds main reason to poverty, backwardness of Balochistan; We don't receive such funds under the NFC Award that we may resolve the issues of people

we didn't maintain that se-

affect other provinces, he

maintained. "These are the

facts which can't be over-

looked and as such there is

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister, Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo has categorically stated that Balochistan is half of Pakistan, and it is not possible to bring it (Balochistan) at par of other provinces of the

country with limited funds. We don't receive such funds under the NFC Award that we may resolve the issues of people," the Chief Minister mentioned adding that "whenever there comes new government in the federation, it is talked about removing backwardness of the province, but unfortunately, practical steps are not taken for the very pur-

ing authority and rule us. He said that it is a very

RAWALPINDI (APP): A

high-level de fence de lega-

tion of Azerbaijan, headed

by Khalid Ahadov, Advisor

to the President of

Azerbaijan called on Min-

ister for Defence Produc-

tion, Muhammad Israr

Tareen in his office at

the delegation and appreci-

ated the brotherly feelings

of the Azerbaijan govern-

ment for Pakistan on all in-

ternational forums, includ-

ing the Organisation of Is-

lamic Cooperation (OIC)

He said that Pakistan

and the United Nations.

The minister welcomed

Rawalpindi.

Pakistan believes policy of

peaceful co-existence: Israr

would have to ponder upon that why Balochistan was left behind as compared to

This and similar views were expressed by the Chief Minister in an official statement issued here on Wednesday. Mir Abdul Quddus

Bizenjo maintained that basic reason behind poverty and backwardness of the province is non-availability of the funds and lack of attention.

He regretfully pointed out that this is the province which is backward too. He said that we get least share in the NFC Award. While on the other hand, 40 percent of our resources are spent on the security, He said that those hav- which is a big challenge for

policy of peaceful co-exist-

Pakistan's commitment to

peace was evident through

its major contribution to

UN peace efforts in war-

torn countries in different

pressed Pakistan's strong

desire to broaden and

strengthen its partnership

with Azerbaijan in all fields

the Pakistan government

for the warm hospitality

extended to the delegation

and for providing the op-

portunity to discuss vari-

The minister also ex-

Khalid Ahadov thanked

parts of the world.

He reiterated that

ence with all.

big challenge to provide security to half of the coun-

is why there seemed no protest or opposition in the try, adding he mentioned. If entire budget session. He said that every curity, then it would also

elected representative should get right of development of one's area setting aside the political opposi-Referring the rights and

a need to look into and redues of the province, the solve them seriously.' Chief Minister said that we He said that we believe in taking all along, and this are demanding our right re-

maining in our own limits and that under the constitution and law, and we may not be viewed with wrong perception.

He said that certain things have also been improved because of our firm stance, which we acknowledge as well.

We also do expect development in the matters with PPL, which otherwise were suspended for 2015. He said that lodging protest by the provinces is a matter of routine.

About the development funds, the Chief Minister said that Rs. 120 billion are available on account of development, and if the funds are increased to Rs. 300 billion then it would be better for the province and its people, he insisted.



RAWALPINDI: Advisor to President of Azerbaijan, Khalid Ahadov, along with delegation in a meeting with Federal Ministerfor Defence Production, Muhammad Israr Tareen and officials of MoDP

PTI's own people exposed Panama conspiracy

ous avenues of cooperawas a peace-loving country, Only Nawaz Shrif can resolve strictly believing in the tion. Ahsan express satisfaction with recent IMF package

ning Development and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Igbal on Wednesday expressed satisfaction with the recent IMF package, which alleviated concerns of an immediate default

However, he emphasized that the deal should be considered as a temporary relief and merely a breather, rather than a lasting solution. During the

ISLAMABAD (APP): ties for Pakistan" Twitter Federal Minister for Planspace organized by the space organized by the Planning Ministry, the minister conveyed his views to a global audience, said a press release issued here.

and

In June, Pakistan secured a\$3 billion short-term financial package from the IMF, in recognition of the characters behind that conconsistent efforts of the spiracy pushed the councurrent government, which try towards multiple crises took office in April 2022. Minister Iqbal deby imposing an incompe-

scribed this as a muchtent and inefficient person needed respite that restored at the helm of affairs. investor confidence



Sharif era, the economy was stabilized, he gave the people a gift of China Pakistan Economic Corridor". she said adding that great injustice was done to the The minister said that person who had done great the solution of Pakistan's service to the country as probelms lied only with Nawaz Sharif who served prime minister.

Taking a jibe at Imran, "During the Nawaz she said the shadowy fig-

ures and characters who were burning the country today, stood on the container to stop the CPEC project in 2013-14.

Marriyum Aurangzeb said on that Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz Quaid Nawaz Sharif was disqualified under a conspiracy when "Panama verdict was changed to Iqama.'

During the press conference, she played a video clip of senior Pakistan Teĥreek-e-Insaf leader and legal wizard Hamid Khan who told a private TV channel that it appeared that the decision to disqualify Nawaz Sharif in Iqama case was done somewhere else.

Last phase of LG elections to be held in 35 districts of Balochistan today

Independent Report

thrice as Prime Minister.

OUETTA: The 5th and last phase of Local Government elections is being held in 35 districts with election of chairman and vice chairman of the district councils in 35 districts of Balochistan today (Thursday).
In all 1266 members

would be using their right of franchise for election of chairman and vice chairman of the district councils in 35 districts of the prov-

The members are included the chairman of rural union councils of the districts and those elected on the reserved seats of women, peasants, workers and non-Muslims

in the district councils. While the process of election is due to be started after oath taking of the district council members this morning today, it would conclude with the voting for the election of chairman and

vice chairman of the councils. The process of voting would remain continued till 04:00 PM without any break

The candidates contesting election on the slot of chairman and vice chairman would submit their nomination papers after the oath taking.

Earlier, the returning officers would administer oath to the district council members in the respective 35 districts of the province.



Balochistan can't afford further tribal clashes, hatred and prejudices: Governor

Malik Abdul Wali Kakar says development and prosperity can only become fate of the peaceful nationalities and tribes

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has categorically stated that a poor and backward province i.e., Balochistan can't afford further tribal clashes, hatred and prejudices, as such there is a dire need to take the existing sensitivity regarding tribes and sects seriously and find sustainable solution to them.

The Governor said that development and prosperity can only become fate of the peaceful nationalities and tribes. He said that Pashtoons and Balochs are among those lucky nations whom political elders give up the internal conflicts and battles and move ahead by making the collective peace and development the aim of

ISLAMABAD

of human rights.

Chief Justice of Pakistan

(CJP) Umar Ata Bandial

said on Wednesday that the

boat tragedy on Greek

shores — which resulted in

the deaths of nearly 300

Pakistanis — was a matter

marks as a two-member

bench, comprising the CJP

and Justice Savved

Mazahar Ali Akbar Naqvi,

took up petitions pertain-

ing to the trafficking of mi-

out of possibly 750, on the

fishing boat that set off

from Libya towards Euro-

pean shores, perished when

their vessel capsized in the

Mediterranean Sea last

comprised Pakistanis, Af-

ghans, Egyptians, Palestin-

ians and Syrians migrating

in the overloaded boat. It

with no end in sight as eco-

nomic, political and climate

crises compelled increas-

ingly large numbers of

people to flee their homes.

immense proportions was

believed to have taken place

in the presence of maritime

authorities. It was also be-

lieved that Pakistani nation-

als were forced to stay be-

low the deck by the crew,

which maltreated them dur-

ing the journey.

The tragedy of such

was a recurring tragedy -

The passengers largely

At least 600 migrants,

He passed these re-

The Governor was speaking to the President of Wednesday.

cially went to Wadh to meet Sardar Akhtar Mengal and ernment to find out prompt and sustainable solution to discussed with him the latest situation of the countense situation of Tehsil Wadh besides the changes taking place in the

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor said that our political elders have rendered invaluable services and sacrifices to keep different nationalities and tribes united as well as create political consciousness among people and put them on the course of bright fu-

Referring to the trag-

edy during the hearing to-

day, Justice Bandial noted

that innocent and poor

people were tricked into

going abroad on the pretext

"Citizens are duped by human traffickers and

pay millions of rupees,

the top judge said, point-

ing out that even children

and women were becoming

rights ministry said, "Un-

fortunately, accurate data

highlighted that there was

'ambiguity" in the laws

against human smuggling

in 2018, adding that the

primary concern was the unavailability of a "specialist force" for the

implementation of the

stopping human smuggling

he said. "The Supreme

Court had also asked the

provincial governments to

play their role against hu-

hearing, the CJP also re-called the Tayyaba torture

At one point during the

man trafficking.

case

was also under the police,

'The responsibility of

Here, Justice Bandial

is not available.

of better jobs.

CJP Bandial terms

Greece boat tragedy

a 'human rights issue'

However, there's an important responsibility of Balochistan National Party the government to play (BNP), Sardar Akhtar wholehearted role in main-Mengal during his visit to taining peace and environhis residence in Wadh on ment of brotherhood all over the province. This also The Governor espe- becomes duty of the govthe issue, adding he stressed.

The Governor expressed the faith that our political elders, religious leaders, scholars and tribal elders would determine the effective course of action peaceful the Balochistan and its brightened future. He said that being the constitutional head of a province, he has to tackle with big challenges, and he would be needing wholehearted cooperation of all in this regard

Alvi appoints Justice (Retd) Roohul Amin as FST chairman

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday appointed Justice (Retd) Roohul Amin Khan as Chairman of the Federal Service Tribunal (FST).

The president appointed Justice (Retd) Roohul Amin as the FST chairman for a non-extendable term of three

victims of human smuggling.
"Does the government have statistics on the number of children being

Section 3(IV) of the Sersmuggled," the CJP as ked. To the query, the director general of the human vice Tribuna Act 1973.

Earlier, he had served as the judge of Peshawar The president made the appointment under



"Beyond IMF Agreement: Challenges and Opportuni-

QUETTA: Enraged people are gathered on the call of Balochsitan Home and Tribal Affairs Minister Mir Zia Lango to protest against the desecration of Holy Quran in Sweden

Daily Soice of Masse, Independent

Thursday July 06, 2023

Flash in the pan?

The sceptics may have their doubts about a 'miracle turnaround' in Pakistan's fortunes after the government grabbed a last-minute stand-by loan from the IMF, but the markets have been quick this week to cash in on the euphoria.

The dollar fell sharply once trading resumed after the holidays, collapsing like a punctured balloon; stock market the post-election power activity heated up like it had not in years, with speculative investors eager to get their hands on whatever they could; gold prices registered a sharp decline; and fresh inflation readings — although unrelated to the IMF deal announcement — indicated that the pressures that had built up within the economy might finally be showing signs of easing. Had Pakistan really stumbled back onto the path to prosperity over the course of a long weekend thanks to just one loan deal? That's what the government, at least, would have us believe.

Experts and analysts, on the other hand, are still warning of the underlying risks imperilling Pakistan's economic that universities are grapprosperity. Global credit ratings agencies Moody's and Fitch on Monday reminded the world that Islamabad still needs to pay back \$25bn to creditors this fiscal year — a sum which is more than seven at public universities retimes what it officially has in its pocket at the moment and much more than the \$3bn the IMF has grudgingly agreed to lend it over the course of the next nine months (which remains subject to approval by its board as well as Islamabad meeting the stringent conditions that will likely be laid out before it as a prerequisite for loan disbursements).

The same day, data released by the Bureau of Statistics showed that exports had dropped 19pc in the month of June compared to the previous year, marking the 10th straight month of a drop in export proceeds. The trend, if it persists, will only worsen difficulties in financing the current account.

Therefore, the question: are we celebrating too early? The Register, a 2020 report smart money seems to think so. While the 'positive trigger' from the IMF deal has been ters displace an average of welcomed by the stock and foreign exchange markets, the high spirits will not last.

Both forex and stock analysts have warned that what we are seeing is a temporary bonanza, not a turnaround in their respective markets' fortunes. There is now a broad consensus that till the fundamentals are fixed — ie, till Pakistan embarks on a structured plan to reform the economy and fix its underlying imbalances — nobody can breathe easy.

And how long must we remain in this purgatory? With banyan trees as 'protected banyan trees as 'pr an election coming up, the most painful measures will likely be put off for another few months for the new government to inherit. It is a shame that, with so much at stake, we are still not sure of what tered, and preserved. And comes next.

Dynastic rule and democracy



Zahid Hussain

The meeting between the chiefs and scions of the two most powerful political dynasties in Dubai last week, where a consensus was reportedly reached on the composition of the forthcoming caretaker set-up as well as the future coalition, provides a glimpse into Pakistan's family-dominated power politics. Nawaz Sharif and Asif Zardari virtually carved out

structure.
With the dismantling of the PTI underway, the road is now deemed to have been cleared for the elections, though there is still no understanding on the time

The Dubai rendezvous was certainly not meant for signing a new charter of democracy; the main objective seems to have been to chart stitution in this game of forced the view that it is part

a strategy to consolidate the thrones? existing power structure dominated by the two dy-

It is a sad commentary

on our so-called democratic system. There is hardly any other example of political leaders of a democracy meeting in a third country to discuss critical political issues instead of deliberating these at home and in parliament. This happens when political parties are reduced to family enterprises Elected democratic forums become irrelevant when politics becomes a family affair. It's all in the family.

What is most disturbing is the reported agreement between the two families' bigwigs on the composition of the interim administration. It is contrary to the constitutional provision which says that the caretaker administration should be neutral and be named with consultation between the leader of the house and leader of the opposition.

It may be true that the current leader of the opposition in a truncated National Assembly has hardly any credibility, but still one has to go by the book But who cares about the Con-

The whole episode also raises question about the fairness of the coming

election, with a handpicked interim set-up of doubtful neutrality. It is almost a repeat of the situation of the Punjab caretaker government, which is virtually being run by the PML-N-led coalition in Islamabad. Meanwhile, the ongoing political engineering has

tainted the entire election process. It is tantamount to pre-poll rigging, which we have seen many times in the past. The PTI's disintegration in the face of state onpression and the formation of a new king's party backed by the security establishment has made a mockery of the whole democratic process Indeed, this much is not

new in Pakistan's troubled political journey. But the severity of the repression is rare. Hundreds of PTI workers are languishing in iails and facing terrorism charges Some of them will be tried by military courts.

Surely those who were involved in attacks on military installations must be punished, but the indiscriminate crackdown has rein-

it does not present any serious challenge to the PML-N in Punjab, which has become the major battleground

There is certainly a newfound confidence in the ruling alliance with the dismantling of the PTI, but in a fair and free election the party, with its mass support base remaining intact, could give the PML-N a run for its money

What is most interesting is former prime minister Nawaz Sharif's having taken full command of the PML. N. He may have been guiding the coalition government and his party from his home in London since the installation of the PDM set-up, but his meeting with the PPP leaders in Dubai has left no room for ambiguity about his ambition to become prime minister for the fourth time The recent statement from senior PML-N leaders has reinforced speculations.

The passage of two new bills by parliament, reducing his disqualification to five years and allowing him the right to appeal against his conviction by the Supreme Court, has paved the

of the plan to keep the PTI out of the election process or at least weaken it so that way for his return to the country to lead his party's election campaign. Last week's meeting with the PPP chieftain seems to be part of the plan for him to return home in the next few

Meanwhile, Nawaz Sharif is now visiting Saudi Arabia where he went recently. He plans to meet the top Saudi leaders. These visits have assumed greater significance for his plan to bid for the top office for a fourth term.

In a recent statement, he was quoted as saying that his first priority would be to contain the spiralling inflation at home if he returned to power. Some observers believe that it is not power but his wish to be vindicated which is the main reason for his endeavour.

He is perhaps waiting for the court to drop his conviction before returning. The return of the three-time former prime minister would give an interesting twist to Pakistan's chequered political history. He was removed each time halfway through his term. There is still a long way to go before he can get the coveted post for the fourth term. Until a few weeks ago,

IMF deal coming through, the country has been given some much-needed breathing space. The development has drastically changed the political landscape. It is the right moment for the ruling coalition to agree to elec-The date for the polls would depend on whether the ruling coalition dissolves the National Assembly a few days before the end of its term on Aug 13 or wait

it looked improbable that general elections would be

held before the end of this

year, with the country fac-

ing the prospect of an eco-

nomic meltdown and de-

faulting on its external debt

repayment. But with the

until then. In either case, polls cannot go beyond mid-November. There seems to be no possibility of prolonging the term of the caretaker set-up. It is certainly a good idea not to postpone the

general elections. There are no two views that elections are the only way out of the present political turmoil. Any pre-poll rigging and manipulation that is attempted to change the outcome will be disastrous for national stability -- Courtesy Dawn

What should VCs be worried abou



Dr Ayesha Razzaque

Today's university vicechancellors (VCs) are facing a number of challenges. The number one challenge by far pling with, particularly after the presentation of the 2023-24 federal budget and subsequent tweaks, is financial sustainability and

Financial sustainability of universities has always been a challenge but the cost of an education mained within the reach of many Pakistanis. However, lately the contribution of public funds per institution has been drying up. Meanwhile, parliamentarians continue to lobby for the establishment of new universities in the remotest tehsils without consideration to whether growth in the number of universities. Factor in the rate of inflation over the last few years, and the funding picture for public higher education institutions (HEIs) has turned dire.

Education provided by public HEIs remains heavily subsidized. In 2022-23, public funds subsidized the cost of education at a prestigious public university in Islamabad by approximately 50 per cent. When that funding dries up, universities will have to make up the shortfall immediately, and the quickest and easiest way is by raising tuition fees. Thus, a version the higher-ed affordability crisis that has been plaguing North America for the last two decades (tuition rates

has come for us in Pakistan. While accurate figures for annual budget shortfalls of universities are hard to come by, conversations with some VCs put those numbers at around Rs1 billion for large, Rs500 million for medium, and Rs200 million for new/small universities

doubled from 2000 to 2019)

Even against this backmain unaware of what their already unable to meet their

Public funds are no average per-student cost is, longer keeping up with the much less the per-student cost broken down by departments and programs, and with it, unaware of which programmes/departments are the greatest contributors to expenses

Once middle-class families were able to cover the cost of public higher education from their running family budget. However, the recent ballooning cost means those same families will have to plan ahead and start saving for their children's higher education long before they graduate high school.

The college affordability crisis has disproportionately affected students from low-income backgrounds, thus limiting opportunities and perpetuating socio-economic inequality. Those who have the option are forced to take on substantial debt or are deterred from pursuing higher education altogether. All this makes access to higher education a pressing concern, threatening principles of equal opportunity

Many universities up

and social mobility central

to the mission of public uni-

payroll and pension obligations to staff and retirees. Quaid-e-Azam University is reportedly 1-2 years behind paying visiting faculty. Its Management Sciences department alone relies on visiting faculty to deliver about 100 courses every semester. In this environment of simultaneously rising costs and shrinking public support, VCs' highest priority is (or ought to be) finding sustainable solutions ensure affordability and educa-

So far, those efforts have remained confined to appealing for public funds at the federal and provincial levels and raising tuition fees — but this will no longer suffice. Given that there is nothing new under the sun, let us once again look at common approaches taken by universities elsewhere in the world when faced with similar pres-

lowing in the footsteps of their peers abroad, universities need to develop their own endowment funds managed by professionals — diversified portfolios of drop, most VCs today re- and down the country are investments that generate part by alumni donations in profits that can be de-

ployed to meet operating expenses and subsidize education for those who have a need in the form of scholarships and financial

For example, according to 2021 figures, at \$53

billion, Harvard University

\$4 billion, the 12th largest

of public universities in

North America, and pub-

(https://givingto.msu.edu

endowments/

performance.cfm) for all to

see. The earned returns al-

low universities to ride out

rough periods in the

economy. Unfortunately,

very few universities in

Pakistan today have en-

dowments (IBA went as

far as sharing the size of

its endowment fund: Rs 2.2 billion) or are mov-

maintains the largest endowment of all US universities, followed by Yale (\$43 billion), Stanford (\$38 billion), and Princeton (\$37 billion). The average of the 10 largest endowment funds is \$28 billion. My own alma tional quality, an ongoing mater, a public university, and complex task. maintains an endowment of

In the long term, fol-

ing in the direction of establishing one. University endowments are fueled in large addition to reinvested returns, grants, and philanthropic donations. The first is requisite on having an alumni network, tracking, and maintaining connections, and that alumni had a positive student experience that motivates them to stay connected with their alma mater. All of that requires a dedicated student and alumni affairs office.

Attracting and soliciting philanthropic donations is an important and almost routine task of university presidents and heads of constituent schools and colleges. Some VCs consider it beneath their dignity to fundraise in this manner, but the fact is that lishes its performance the ability to fundraise is an important consideration when universities fill leadership positions.

In the medium term, universities are simultaneously trying to create new lines of revenue while meeting the demand for education outside of traditional multi-year residential degree programs. Micro-credentials and MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) are one avenue universities have been exploring since the arrival of MOOC providers like Coursera, edX, and others like them. -- Courtesy

Banyan tree's future

preservation plan.

Over the years, ban-



Marvi Mazhar

Environmental displacement can hardly be quantified; however, the severity of the crisis can be grasped by glancing at some staggering statistical figures.

For instance, according to the Ecological Threat published by the Institute for Economics and Peace, a Sydney-based international think tank, ecological disas-24 million people per year, and if the current rate continues, there would be at least 1.2 billion people displaced globally by the end

Karachi's natural heritage ranges from shorelines, backwaters, rivers and nullahs, to old gardens, parks, private lawns, migratory birds' routes, and, most importantly, the historical trees indigenous to the city, which include the neem, peepal, keekar and especially the banyan tree for its sacred memories.

These trees are located mostly in old neighbourhoods, which preserve the memories of this city. In 2019, along with other activists, the Natural Heritage Association of Karachi lobbied for the designation of the centuries-old heritage' in partnership with the local government. Then administrator Murtaza Wahab declared the Old Clifton banyan trees and others in Karachi 'heritage protected' under a

Around 30 trees out of 64 were pruned, regisyan trees of Old Clifton

— to be part of the next project — as a complete annexure; they were declared the 'Banyan Trees of Old Clifton' on a signboard able scale. next to Do Talwar. The non-It is critical that we preserved, neglected trees are still waiting for their

yan trees have witnessed moments of transformation and resilience. In recent times, the regrowth and maintenance of these trees have lessened because of Karachi's worsening air quality and the lack of governance in maintaining the natural heritage. But the main reason is the real estate boom, which has been invasively uprooting the foliage of the city and replacing it with concrete pavers and trees that are merely

beautifying elements. The latter include date palms, which are meant to be a part of the Dubaiesque development that the authorities aspire to, the conocarpus, and aggressively grown green barriers meant to conceal informal settlements or a non-picturesque view in the vicinity of a new development.

Natural heritage foliage is mostly found in old neighbourhoods of the city, where generations of mohalla dari have taken ownership through care management, and where self-elected neighbourhood associations have nurtured these large natural markers. But it's unfortunate to see how much neighbourhoods like PECHS, PIB Colony, Tariq Road, Garden East and West, KDA Scheme No 1 and Soldier Bazaar have suffered at the hands of low-grade developers and the corrupt government organisational man-

agement. Karachi's fractured infrastructure and constant expansion and development have resulted in unequally distributed planning powers. A very large the rest of the mapped ban- city — 40.69 billion square feet (3.8bn square metres)

tinuously during 2000-2020, recording an average annual growth rate of 4.7 per cent — an unmanage-

protect natural heritage even while expanding the city, as we see some of these trees being cut down in order to construct buildings, or being neglected This is leading to the destruction of the natural environment and habitat.

These developers, following unethical architectural practices, have contributed to a humanitarian crisis, where malpractice, easy turnkey projects, and industrial material for mass construction have altered climatic conditions, resulting in high temperatures and heated corridors of circulation. This has made walking or waiting for public

transport unbearable The city provides an opportunity for co-learning, and making a difference through the collective power of advocacy and association. Learning matters: the process of learning from cities and within them

is a fundamental right. We know the city from historical referencing, but as cities change because of daily interventions and use, learnings transform and evolve. Learnings also have the potential to challenge and transform ways of knowing and looking at urbanism, a shift from inherited knowledge which is taken for granted.

It is absolutely critical to explore the material understanding of construction as well as include the existing natural landscape within the urban infrastructure to celebrate the inherited ecology and combat heat islands through a constant care management plan.

Today, we desperately need new methods for imagining the relationship between human and nature. -- Courtesy Dawn



Mahir Ali

Almost 80 years ago, after the tide had turned against Germany in World War II, the dictator in Berlin wanted the Nazi-occupied capital of France to be destroyed before it fell to the Allies. Hitler reputedly asked his gener-

als, "Is Paris burning?" It wasn't in 1944, but Paris has frequently been seared by flames, metaphorically or otherwise, in the ensuing decades. It is an intriguing coincidence that the epicentre of the latest bout of mass rioting was also the cradle of the student revolt that, in 1968, rocked the foundations of the Fifth Republic just a decade after it had been founded by Charles de Gaulle.

Back then, de Gaulle actually fled to West Germany, driven by the fear that the uprising, in which the working class eventually joined the students, might actually succeed. Emmanuel Macron, 55 years later, cancelled a visit to Germany after last week's protests spread across France, even reaching the remaining French colonies in the Caribbean and beyond.

Macron was quick to describe last week's murder 17-year-old Nahel Merzouk by Parisian traffic police as "inexplicable and inexcusable". Macron was only half right, though. The killing was undoubtedly inexcusable, and the police officer who pulled the trigger faces the charge of voluntary homicide". But it certainly wasn't inexplicable. Since 2017, police officers have been authorised to use lethal violence at traffic stops. The death toll last were mainly of North Afri-

France in flames

Macron and his acolytes are keen to emphasise that Nahel's misfortune lay in being confronted by a 'bad apple', and that systemic racism in the police force is not an issue. That's similar to the authorities' response

in countries like the UK and US, where instances of racial targeting often tend to be treated as individual excesses. What has occurred in cities across France over the past week has been described as the equivalent of the 'George Floyd moment' that reinvigorated the Black Lives Matter movement in America and found its echoes across the West.

The parallel is not absurd. The rage in both the US and France was not sudden, but cumulative. The difference, perhaps, lies in the fact that France does not officially recognise differences of race, ethnicity or religion. That sounds wonderful — and such a system would be ideal if it worked. It has long been obvious, though, that it doesn't.

One needn't go back to 1961, when a Paris police chief, eventually acknowledged as a former Nazi collaborator, supervised a massacre of peaceful Algerian demonstrators. It wasn't until 1998 that the French state admitted 40 deaths. Nobody appears to have counted the corpses dumped in the River Seine - up to 300, by some esti-

A great deal has changed since then, but much remains the same. The reprehensible Islamist terrorist attacks of 2015 are often cited as a reason for the subsequent reinforcement of racism — which is precisely what the perpetrators would have wished - but the Seine-Saint-Denis electrocution of two teenagers being chased by police, and the consequent eruption of popular rage, preceded the atrocities in Bataclan and elsewhere by

a decade. The murder of Nahel was the reinforcement of a long-standing trend rather than an unusual occurrence.

The days of rage over the past week were, even in the context of this year, not so much an aberration as a return to business as usual for a segment of the public albeit to some extent a different section of the citizenry than the gilets-iaunes of vestervears and those militating more recently in response to the Macron regime's det-ermination to shift the retirement age up by two years, from 62 to

A reasonable case could possibly be made for that change, but within the neoliberal context it obviously comes across as vet another way of shafting the working class and enriching the bourgeoisie—a conflict that stretches back to the 1789 French Revolution. At the same time, the aspiration to liberty, equality, fraternity excludes all too many French citizens in the 21st century, and the concept of turning a blind eye to ethnicity, religion and skin colour has repeatedly been exposed as a farce.

And then there's the broader European context of a far-right resurgence a century after Hitler, accompanied by the fear that France could go the same way under someone like Marine Le Pen or Eric Zemmour after the next election. Some years ago, stay-

ing at a hotel in La Defense towards the north of Paris. we found ourselves in proximity to Nanterre. It deserved a stroll. And although it did not offer up the architectural or culinary delights common in many

arrondisements, the place and street names were charming, from Mandela. Picasso and Neruda to Gorky, redolent of the suburb's recent history as well as the wider world's shattered dreams. -- Cour-

Pak, US discuss ways to enhance economic cooperation

ISLAMABAD (APP): the finance minister. Federal Minister for Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar and Ambassador of the United States of America to Pakistan, Donald Blome here on Wednesday exchanged views about areas of common interest and enhancing existing bilateral relations between the two countries.

According to a statement issued by the economic policies and finance ministry the priorities of the discussion was made during the call on the meeting of the US Ambassador with from stability to growth.

Finance and Revenue appreciated the deeprooted historic and durable bilateral relations with the United States on economic

and trade fronts. He updated the Ambassador about successfully reaching the staff-level agreement with the International Monetary (IMF) communicated about the government in order to set the economy on the path

Dar appreciated the The finance minister support and cooperation of the US and reiterated the desire of the government to further deepen bilateral economic and trade ties with the US.

On the occasion, Donald Blome expressed confidence in the policies and programmes of the government for bringing economic sustainability to the country. He also extended his support to further promote bilateral economic, investment and trade relations between the

Mohammad Ishaq Dar.

ISLAMABAD (APP):

launched a Digital Village Initiative (DVI) pilot site,

in a ceremony organized at

the Food Security &

Independent Report

KARACHI: Fly Jinnah,

Pakistan's new low-cost

carrier (LCC), has collaborated with HUM

TV to provide content for

v l`ime

All Fly Jinnah aircraft are equipped with "SkyTime", a free in-flight streaming service that

allows passengers to

stream a wide selection of

entertainment directly to

their devices and right after

takeoff. By collaborating with HUM TV, Fly Jinnah

customers can now enjoy

a wider selection of content

that includes HUM TV

leading dramas, Telefilms, Award Shows and celebrity

Chairman of National

Business Group Pakistan,

Intellectuals Forum, and

All Karachi Industrial

Alliance, and former

provincial minister Mian

the need to adopt culture

of savings has said that lack

of savings prevent investments and opened

here on Wednesday, he said

government's efforts to

develop the economy

resulted in a payment crisis

and this will happen again

entirely on imports rather

than exports, always

leading to an unsustainable

current account deficit, he

Our growth depends

In a statement is sued

the formers

Zahid Hussain stressing

President

Businessmen

doors of loans.

in the future.

that

At present, Fly

cities of Pakistan including agencies.



KARACHI: GCBSO,PTCL and Ufone 4G,Zarrar Hasham K han, Group C hief ITGand CTO of NBP, Amin Manji, GCTO PTCL and Ufone 4G Jaffar Khalid, EVP of NBP Noman Muzaffar and others senior officials in a group photo during the signing ceremony of provision of primary Data Center Colocation Service, held at PTCL's Tier-III Data Center to support NBP's digital transformation, in Karachi.

Training workshops for cotton growers organized

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Ministry of National Food Security and Research in collaboration with Central Cotton Research Institute Multan organized pesticide management workshops for cotton growers in order to avoid human health and the

Meanwhile, about 25 master trainers were also trained for further disseminating training to growers on innovative crop fertilizers and pesticide management to enhance the per-acre output of cotton during the current season,

said an official. Talking to APP he said that over 100 farmers from different crop-producing

this major cash crop of the

Besides, government was also working to ensure the availability of certified seeds for different crops including cotton, wheat, rice, maize and other major their harmful impact on and minor crops to enhance crop output to achieve sustainable agriculture growth and social development in the

In this regard, the track and traceability of certified seed was launched and the traceability data revealed that total cotton seed requirements were estimated at 41,048 metric tons, whereas seed availability was registered

at 25,986 metric tons. The wheat seed areas were also trained on availability was recorded acre cotton output to processed 462,048 metric enhance local production of tons and certified seed tags



FAISALABAD: An Iron smith are busy in their work at shop at Dajkot Road in City.

LCCI invites political parties to discuss charter of economy

LAHORE (APP): Lahore transitioning towards Chamber of Commerce & sustainable economic Industry (LCCI) has taken growth, said Kashif Anwar, a proactive step in adding that in order to addressing Pakistan's address these concerns, economic challenges by LCCI has formulated a sending invitations to the heads of all political Economy, which serves as parties. The invitation, a guiding framework for sent in the form of a letter, requesting their presence at the LCCI to participate in comprehensive

discussion on the crucial topic of the Charter of Economy (CoE), according to LCCI spokesman here on Wednesday. In the letter, the LCCI

President Kashif Anwar highlighted the daunting economic challenges facing the nation and underscored the need for consistency in economic policies.

LCCI firmly believes

that a unified approach is imperative for dealing with these challenges and draft of the Charter of economic governance. The aim of this charter is to establish a minimum agenda that all political parties can include in their respective manifestos. By doing so, it ensures a level consistency and continuity in economic policies, regardless of which party forms the

government, he added. President LCCI said the Charter of Economy is designed to create a working consensus among political parties on key economic issues. provides a set of guidelines for policy formation.

Power tariff for KE's consumers likely to increase Rs 1.45 per unit

ISLAMABAD (APP): The power tariff is likely to increase by Rs 1.45 per unit to the consumers of Karachi Electric on account of the monthly fuel cost adjustment (FCA) for

May.

The hearing was presided by the NEPRA Authority comprising of Chairman NEPRA, Tauseef H. Farooqi, Member (Technical), Engr. Rafique Ahmad Shaikh, Member (Licensing), Engr. Maqsood Anwar Khan, Member (Technical & Finance), Mathar Niaz Rana and Member (Law),

Ms. Amina Ahmed.

KE in its petition sought an FCA of Rs 1.495/kWh on account of FCA for the said period. However, the net

FCA for the month of May the latest production at 511,378 metric tons 2023 as per NEPRA's Rs. 2.6 billion approx.).

The Authority heard the petitioner and would decide the matter after due diligence and considering the comments of all stakeholders.

The hearing was also attended by a large number of representatives and senior officials of K-Electric, business community, journalists and the general public etc.

Shipping activity at **Port Qasim**

KARACHI (APP): Four ships namely, Maersk Chicago, Maersk Brooklyn, Huang Shan-16, Yankul Silver and N-Orhan carrying Containers, Palm oil and LPG, berthed at Container Terminal, Multi-Purpose Terminal, Liquid Terminal and SSGC Terminal respectively on Tuesday.Meanwhile three more ships, MSC Lisbon, Southern Anoa and Milha Raslaffan carrying Containers, Palm oil and LNG also arrived at outer anchorage of the Port Qasim during the last 24 hours.PQA berths engaged by eight ships during the last 24 hours, out of them, three ships, Maersk Chicago, Maersk Brooklyn and Al-Marrouna left the port on Wednesday morning and two more ships, Aruna Berk and Chemroad Hope are expected to sail on same day. A cargo volume of 116,444 tonnes comprising 90,604 tonnes imports cargo and 25,840 tonnes export cargo including containerized cargo carried in 2,873 Containers

Agriculture Centre of Excellency (FACE) in Rahim Yar Khan. During the ceremony, female lead farmers from the pilot site villages also Two sites: one in Rahim Yar Khan and another in Sargodha, were launched after a detailed assessment conducted in 7 districts of Punjab and Sindh with the support of the provincial governments

empo wer

educ ation,

opportunities.

of both provinces. Government officials, community leaders, researchers, male and female farmers, the private sector, and other key at the launching event.

Fly Jinnah's SkyTime

will now feature

content from HUM TV

its inflight entertainment to extra comfort provided

Jinnah connects five major 3565096) or through travel

Business leader stresses need

to adopt culture of savings

Says lack of savings prevents

investment, opens door for loans

deficit.

Pakistan

This pilot launch is the necessary equipment The Food and Agriculture FAO's global initiative Organization of the United under the 1000 Digital installed at training halls of both sites for virtual training of farmers. The Nations (FAO), in collaboration with the Government of Punjab, technological divide and stations will provide customised weather advisory, forecast pest & communities with access to digital resources, disease models and other information to farmers of 10 kilometres range from its vicinity. Both weather station facilities are also equipped to arrange online trainings for farmers on the latest innovations in agriculture. Male and female farmers of selected

received 10 tablets to use the agriculture-related applications on which they were already trained by FAO.A ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Hyper Localized Weather Station

ISLAMABAD: Donald Blome, Ambassador of the United States of America

to Pakistan called on Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator

FAO Launches DVI Pilot:

Bridging the Technological

Divide in Rural Pakistan

pilot sites received training on different features of the weather station. Through these stations, farmers will be able to get customized and specific information to their farmland, accurate

data and information which

will help them in reducing

costs related to inputs and

taking measures for crop

protection.

pilot site was also organized along with a briefing on the digital monitoring and forecasting function of the weather station. The stations were stakeholders were present installed on both pilot sites along with the provision of

Islamabad, Peshawar, and

Quetta. The carrier

currently operates a fleet

of three modern Airbus

A320 aircraft. In addition

pitch of any economy

cabin the carrier offers

customized and affordable

travel experiences to its

passengers through "SkyCafe" onboard menu

where passengers can enjoy a wide variety of

delicacies between snacks.

sandwiches, and meals at

book their flights by

visiting Fly Jinnah's w e b s i t e (www.flyjinnah.com), by

calling the call center (021-

Mian Zahid Hussain

said that it is necessary to

foster a culture of exports

and savings in the country

to ensure development

without current account

growth on a sustainable

basis is impossible until

the current savings rate is

doubled. The savings rate

in Congo is 61.4 percent,

in Singapore it is 53.8

percent, in the United Arab

Emirates the savings rate is

47.8 percent, in China it is

almost 44.9 percent and in

India and Bangladesh it is

between 30 and 31 percent,

this rate is only twelve

percent which is rapidly

decreasing due to current

unemployment, he said.

However, in Pakistan

The business leader

he informed.

inflation

He said that GDP

Customers can now

affordable prices.

Sohail Barlas elected as SIAL chairman

SIALKOT (APP): A leading Sialkot based exporter Sohail Barlas was elected unopposed as chairman of Sialkot International Airport Limited (SIAL), while Mian Daud Sair was elected unopposed as vice chairman for the year 2023-24.

chairman SIAL pledged to make all out sincere efforts to make the SIAL as a model airport of Pakistan, says a news release is sued here on Wednesday. He said that SIAL had been a hallmark of the sincerity, dedication, enthusiasm and unity of Sialkot exporters, international airport by setting a unique example of self help. The new leadership aims to bring fresh perspectives and drive further growth and development at the airport.

Under their guidance, the airport is expected to enhance its operations, infrastructure, passenger services, he said

Sharmila calls for introducing reforms in taxation system

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Peoples Party's Sindh MPA, Sharmila Farooqui Wednesday called for bringing big fishes into the tax net and for introducing reforms in the taxation system to achieve durable economic progress.

"Pakistan's survival is linked to tax collection as no nation that relies on loans can maintain its pride," she said while talking to PTV news channel.

She appreciated that the PDM-led government was making hectic efforts to revive the economy, adding, the signing of a staff-level agreement with IMF was a great success of government policy and

were the need of hour,

adding, Pakistan had to take some tough economic decisions to comply with the conditions of IMF, but the programme was necessary for Pakistan's

economy and growth.
Under the IMF programme, the record stock exchange, decrease rate of the dollar and down gold rates were witnessed in the market which bring further financial discipline to the economy.

Sharmila Farooqui said that the IMF programme would now open financing of multilateral financial institutions as well as from bilateral creditors.

Replying question, she urged that we need to work positively for the welfare of the state She said political the welfare of the state instead of politics and we polarization in the country need to control expenditure



QUETTA: Road side vendor puts dates on display to attract the customer.

Directs flights needed to commence at once for economic revival: Ahsan

ISLAMABAD (INP): President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari has said that Pakistan is lagging far behind the world in the race of development, which is mainly due to the lack of connectivity at the regional and international level.

In a statement on Wednesday, he said, "Pakistan needs to be connected to the region through rail, road and direct air links. PIA has failed to connect Pakistan to the world, the government should announce a fastcommercial level. Work is required on an emergency basis to start direct flights.

Bakhtawari said that Pakistan has lagged far behind in the race of development at which the world is moving forward. In today's world, no country can develop alone, but now interests can be protected through blocs regional connectivity.

Ahsan

Žafar

and regions and this is the main source of economic development. Regions like the European Union and ASEAN are great examples in this regard. These regions have accelerated economic growth by improving connectivity through rail, direct air links and road.

He said that Pakistan is an important member of several regional and international groups including SAARC, D-8, ECO, SCO, and OIC. Due to the lack of railway, road and direct air links of Pakistan with all these track privatization countries, despite political activity, Pakistan has not been able to benefit from Despite its effective these groups at the presence in various commercial level. He said regional and international that in order to advance the blocs, Pakistan has not yet current debt-ridden series of direct flights with different countries of the world should be carried forward rapidly. Recently, Ethiopia has started a series of direct flights Similarly, Kazakhstan, an important country in Central Asia, is also starting direct flights from July 8. This is important news for Pakistan's



shedding of Gas, Electricity and Water at Liyari, in Provincial Capital.

Gold prices up by **Rs.1,000**

ISLAMABAD (APP): The per tola price of 24 karat gold increased by Rs 1,000 and was sold at Rs.206,000 on Wednesday against its sale at Rs.205,000 the previous

The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also increased by Rs.858 to Rs.176,612 from Rs. 175,754 whereas the price of 10 grams 22 karat gold went up to Rs.161,894 from Rs. 161,108, All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers

Association reported. The price of per tola silver decreased by Rs.20 to Rs.2480 whereas that of ten gram silver dipped by Rs.17.14 to Rs.2,126.20.

The price of gold in the international market decreased by \$1 to \$1928 from \$1929, the association reported.

Services' trade deficit narrows by 88 percent ISLAMABAD (APP): \$11,613.57 million to

The services' trade deficit shrank by 88.26 percent during the first eleven months of the fiscal year 2022-23 as compared to the corresponding period of previous year, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics has reported.

The services trade deficit was recorded at \$607.67 million during July-May (2022-23) against the deficit of \$5,175.24 million million July-May during (2021-22).

The exports of services during the period increased by 3.38 percent by going up from \$6,438.33 million in 2021-22 to \$6,655.82 million in the first eleven months of FY2022-23, according to

PBS data. On the other hand, the

\$7,263.49 million in FY2023, showing negative growth of 37.46 percent.

Meanwhile, on yearon-year basis, the export of services increased by 19.77 percent by growing from 515.14 million in May 2022 to \$ 616.96 million in May 2023.

However, services imports into the country decreased by 11.84 percent, from \$977.85 million to \$862.11 million.

On month-on-month basis, the export of services increased by 19.78 percent in May 2023 when compared to the imports of 515.08 million in April 2023.

The imports of services also grew by 31.60 percent in May 2023 compared to imports of \$655.10 million in April imports declined from 2023, PBS reported.



ISLAMABAD: Senator Zeeshan Khanzada, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Commerce presiding over a meeting of the Committee at Parliament House.

Seven dead as record breaking rain wreaks havoc in Lahore

LAHORE (Online): At least seven people were reported dead in Lahore as the ported dead in Lahore as the protect the citiprovincial capital saw its heaviest rainfall in 30 years on Wednesday causing significant urban flooding and power outages.

Taking note of the unfolding situation, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has directed the Punjab government to take urgent measures and mobilise the rescue teams amidst heavy rains in the province.

The prime minister called for coordinated efforts by the district administration, Rescue 1122, Provincial Disaster Management Authority, and municipal and other departzens' lives, according to a PM Office statement.

He instructed the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and other federal departments to extend maximum support to the Punjab government if required.

PM Sheĥbaz said that the necessary steps should be taken to alert the citizens of any emergency situation, chalk out alternate traffic plans and make arrangements for proper drainage.

He also instructed authorities to take preventive measures in the wake of the monsoon rains in other

necessary arrangements.

The premier further stressed that all possible steps should be taken to relocate the people from villages to safe locations besides saving their cattle and livestock. Similarly, he said all necessary measures should be taken to prevent urban flooding. The prime minister also directed to mobilise the respective administrations of Gilgit Baltistan, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa and other hilly areas, besides instruct-ing to keep the PMO updated on all measures taken.

The rain began around 4am this morning, leaving large portions of the city submerged and wreaking havoc in all low-lying and posh areas of the city.

According to the data, the highest amount of rainfall was recorded at the heart of Lahore in the area of Lakshmi Chowk where 291 mm rain fell in 10 hours. Meanwhile, Jail Road

recorded 147 mm, while in the Airport area it stood at130 mm, at Head Office Gulberg the rain was recorded at 210mm, Upper Mall at 199mm, in Mughalpura at 220mm, in Tajpura at 249mm, in Nishtar Town at 280mm and in Chowk Nakhuda 205 atmm.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Af-

ter the charges of blackmail-

ing and sexually harassing a

female employee at

MEPCO were proven, Presi-

dent Dr Arif Alvi has upheld

the penalty of "dismissal

from service" imposed upon

Khizer Hayat, Assistant Di-

rector and enhanced the

amount of the fine from Rs

penalty of "reduction to

ower post" imposed upon

Mian Sohail Afzal, Direc-

tor (Admin), for three

years and increased the fine

from Rs 1 million to Rs 1.1

million to be paid as com-

He also upheld the

500,000 to Rs 1 million.



LAHORE: Commuters are facing difficulties in transportation due to stagnant rainwater due to poor sewerage system caused by heavy downpour of monsoon season, at Queens road in Lahore.

Assistant at Multan Elec-

tric Power Company (MEPCO) had filed a com-

plaint before FOSPAH

against four employees

stating that they hacked her

mobile data, made sexual

demands, got published

false news items against her, and demanded Rs 500,000

from her to stop the series

of news from its further

publication. In his decision,

President Alvi stated that a

good message had to be sent

to society that we would en-

sure the protection of women

against harassment so that our

women feel safe in the work-

ing environment of the coun-

LG polls:

Control room

sets up in ECP

try and our families.

HYDERABAD: Activists of Sunni Tehreek (PST) are burn tires as they are holding protest demonstration against desecration of Holy Ouran in Sweden.

Balochistan govt initiates multiple projects to boost livestock sector QUETTA (APP): The livestock sector on modern to ensure livestock's better

Balochistan government has initiated multiple projects in livestock sector including the establishment of meat processing units and modern slaughter houses aimed to boost sector in the province.

According to official sources, a veterinary institute has been proposed in Turbat at a cost of Rs 750 million to promote veterinary education among the youth and create trained work force in the sector.

lines for improving the living standards of local

The government has chalked out a comprehensive plan to upgrade the Dairy and Livestock sectors to exploit their full potential and generate economic activities across the

The government has also allocated budget for veterinary medicines and provision of vaccines.

He said the govern-The government has ment had also planned to initiated the establishment establish new veterinary of research centre to put the hospitals and dispensaries health and productivity.

equipment to cater the needs of cattle owners and to boost the sector would also be provided, he said.

The government had also started Sheep and Goat fattening programme in the province that would boost the sector and also attract people to invest in the sector, he said.

The official said that the department was working to strengthen the Semen Production Unit and Animal Disease Investigation Laboratory.

PM files

acquittal plea

MPA submits adjournment motion against cut in academies' grant QUETTA (APP): Member notice submitted in the

pensation to the victim, a posing fines and major pen-

President House press realties upon the two offic-

of Balochistan Assembly and leader Pakhtunkhwa Awami Party Nasrullah Zairay has submitted an adjournment motion against a cut in the grant of Pashto and Brahvi languages academies.

Grant has not been ncreased for the Pashto, Brahvi and other languages academies in the fiscal budget of the year 2023-24," MPA contended in a calling provincial assembly. In previous regimes

President upholds

He also upheld the ex-

oneration of Sohail Abbas,

Deputy Director, and

Jamshed Ahmed Niazi, Di-

rector, as no cogent evi-

dence or substance was

available against them to

prove them guilty of the charge beyond any shadow

of a doubt. The president

gave these orders while re-

jecting two representations

filed separately by Khizer Hayat and Mian Sohail

Afzal against the orders of

the Federal Ombudsman

for Protection against Ha-

rassment of Women at

Workplace (FOSPAH) im-

Rs 10 million were allocated for all academies of the regional languages every year, ho wever, Pashto and Brahvi academies have been totally ignored by the incumbent provincial government. He deplored that the government has increased the grant of only one academy from Rs 10 million to Rs 500 million



QUETTA: Deputy Commissioner Ayesha Zehri presiding over a meeting of officers regarding security and other arrangements for election of District Chairman

All parties should sit together to find a solution of Wadh problem: Sanaullah Zehri He further added that

Independent Report QUETTA: The central all parties should together leader of the People's Party, former Chief Minister of Balochistan, Nawab Sanaullah Khan Zahri, has said that the youth of Balochistan should be mobilized and united to repre-

sent their respective areas. Balochistan strengthening its fort and in the next general elections, it will field its strong candidate from every constitu-

find a solution to solve the issue of Wadh. He said that the people of the constituency will get all possible support from him, Sanaullah Khan Zahri expressed these views in a meeting with the senior tribal leader. Khala Jhalwan Khuzdar in Karachi that Ghowa

Khapar is his constitu-

He will consider it his duty to provide facilities. ency and will win in the next general elections. NA Speaker strongly condemns Israeli attack has registered case against 8 Pakistanis and arrested 5 among them for doing job on Palestinians in Jenin in Israel.

ISLAMABAD (Online): Speaker National Assemoly (NA) Raja Pervez Ashraf has vehemently condemned the deadly airstrikes and raids carried out by Israeli occupation forces on a Palestinian refugee camp in Jenin.

He also deplored that the dispossession and displacement of Palestinians from their homes by the aggressive Israeli forces are unacceptable.

Speaker said that the

recurring instances of unlawful raids and assault on the innocent Palestinian men, women and children raises serious concerns on the international laws prohibiting such hate-fueled incidents The freedom of ex-

pression has also been tarnished by the Israeli forces and such blatant violations exposed the dark character of the Zionist reign of Israel Speaker remarked.

PM praises President Xi, Nawaz for augmenting penalties, enhances fines 'Iron Brotherhood' upon sexual harassers ISLAMABAD (APP): ing the details, reviewing ers. A female Commercial

Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday said that the last ten years were an inspirational story of how President Xi Jinping's vision of "Iron Brotherhood" converted into the completion of projects under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) framework.

On his Twitter handle, the prime minister also praised the leadership role of his Quaid (former prime minister) Mian Nawaz Sharif in this regard.

"I am witness to how he oversaw the project implementation in energy & infrastructure sectors, spending hours on fine-tun-

progress & ensuring timelines," he added.

Without his (NS) supervision, he said they would not have completed the CPEC projects with the speed and efficiency that they did. The prime minister further said, today, Pakistan celebrated the completion of the Decade of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, a transformational project that had been pivotal to Pakistan's socioeconomic development.

"However, in my view, we are still far from fully tapping the potential of CPEC, a worthy goal that has my personal & government's staunch commitment," he added.



BAKU: Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resources Development, Sajid Hussain Turi meets with Chairman of Azerbaijan's State Tourism Agency, Fuad Naghiyev.

SC allows PIA to make 205 new professional appointments

ISLAMABAD (APP): crew and IT specialists. The Supreme Court on new professional appointments while postponing the recruitment of 45 others.

A two-member SC bench comprising Justice Ijaz Ul Ahsan and Justice Ayesha A Malik heard the case filed by PIA seeking permission for 250 recruitments of pilots, cabin crew, IT specialists, finance and management officials.

In its verdict today, the apex court allowed the

During the course of Wednesday allowed the proceedings, the court also Pakistan International Air- directed the PIA's adminislines (PIA) to make 205 tration to make the recruitment process clear and Justice Ayesha Malik

asked why PIA was not able to pay its dues and why did it had to recruit more people? Justice Ijaz said that

the quality of services of the PIA was not up to the mark. The new recruitments would burden the organisation by more than Rs 90 million annually, he



QUETTA: Parliamentary Secretary for Minority Affairs, Khalil George addresses to media persons during press conference, at Quetta press club.

CM urged to find solution on land issue of Walizai tribe

elders of the Walizai tribe administration. warned the closure of Loralai-Dera Ghazi Khan road against what they called illegal encroachment of their ancestral land by the officials of the our issue. mine and mineral depart-

In a press conference held on Wednesday, they alleged that the officials of the mines and minerals department in the limits of Tahsil Mekhtar, Tora police station, have illegally encroached, 9000 thousand acres of mountain with the

We have repeatedly informed the divisional and

favour," they said and urged chief minister Balochistan Mir Abdul Ouddus Bizenjo, home minister Mir



APC on political harmony: **Consensus developed** among major parties

reached a consensus on organizing an All Parties Conference (APC) to address the growing problem of politically motivated extremist language that may incite hatred and

The consensus was reached at a dialogue titled 'Common Resolve for Political Harmony,' organized by Communications Research Strategies (CRS), a pioneer in strategic communications and researchbased interventions in Pa-

ians and politicians representing seven prominent political parties, including PML (N), PPP, PTI, ANP, cate.

ISLAMABAD (INP): All NDM, and MQM, emphamajor political parties of sized the need for an allthe country in a significant parties conference (APC) or step towards fostering a any other mechanism that peaceful and violence-free would enable constructive electoral process have dialogue among political

moderated by Advisor to the Prime Minister, Qamar Zaman Kaira, Śenator Afrasiab Khattak, Senator Pervaiz Rashid, Information Secretary PTI Raoof

Khurshid Alam, MNA Qaimkhani, Chaudhry Manzoor Ahmad, member CEC PPP, and Information Secretary ANP (Punjab), Nadeem Sarwar represented their parties. Zafarullah Khan former Executive Director Pakistan Institute of Parliamentary Affairs and constitutional literacy advo-



QUETTA: Activists of Pashtunkhwa Milli Awami

Interim govt to hold election within maximum period of 90 days: Malik

State Minister Musadiq Malik has said the interim government will hold election within maximum period of 90 days and minimum period of 60 days.

"Levy on petrol can go up further by Rs 5 to Rs However we will try to afford relief in prices of oil, he said this while talking to a private TV channel here Wednesday.

He went on to say government will complete its tenure and later the election will take place in time. The decision to forge political alliance will be taken when time of election comes.

Who will be part of decision has been taken on

gard, he added.

to be taken after IMF agreement for revival of national economy, he remarked. We have been provided relief for 9 months due to IMF agreement. The coming government will face no problem due to IMF agreement.

tential of agriculture, industry and other sectors will have to enhanced.

He indicated that 80 percent electricity is stolen on some feeders in Punjab, Sindh and KP. Smart meters are being installed to prevent power theft. There is need to bring reforms in the caretaker government, no electricity transmission

The dialogue was

Hassan, Senator Anwar ul Haq Kakar, SAPM Romina

stands ruled out.

Party (PKMAP) are holding protest demonstration for acceptance of their demands, at QPC.

Foreign Secretary Dr Asad Majeed Khan will lead the Pakistan delegation while the Turkish side ISLAMABAD (Online): the names so far in this rewill be led by Deputy Foreign Minister Burak More steps will have Akcapar, according to a

The production po-

cluding the High-Level Strategic Cooperation Council (HLSCC) and the Strategic Economic Framework (SEF) will also be under-

in money laundering reference LAHORE (Online): Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif has filed acquittal plea in money laundering

Amjid Pervez advocate submitted acquittal plea on behalf of PM

Shehbaz Sharif and his son Hamza Shehbaz in Accountability Court (AC Lahore in money launder ing reference. The petitioners have

taken plea in the acquittal plea NAB made false and fabricated money laundering reference. The assets are as per law which have been declared in FBR and Election Commission (EC) NAB has no evidence o any kind in this regard.

It has been further said in the acquittal plea filed by PM and Hamza Shebaz that any possibility of proving the case against them

The court was requested to acquit Shehbaz Sharif and Hamza Shehbaz from the reference.

Pak, Turkiye engage in 6th round of bilateral **Consultations**

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 6th round of Bilateral Political Consultations between Pakistan and Turkiye is being held in Ankara on Wednesday (July 5).

spokesperson of the Foreign Office. The two sides will re-

view the entire gamut of bilateral relations encompassing the political economic, security, social and cultural dimen-Review of various institutional mechanisms, in-

Developments in the region and cooperation at the multilateral fora will also come for discussion.

Secretariat Islamabad **Independent Report**

QUETŤA: A control room has been established at the Election Commission of Pakistan Secretariat Islamabad on Wednesday. According to an announcement made here, the control room has been set up to monitor the election

> 35 districts of the province being held today (Thurs-The control room would operate from 08:00 AM till 12:00 midnight. The senior officers of ECP would monitor the election process. The general public has been asked to contact the control room of ECP on telephone No.051-9204402/051-9204403. in case of any complaint, the announcement said.

of chairman and vice chair-

man of district councils in

Price of leading cooking oil brands reduce at USC ISLAMABAD (APP):

The price of cooking oil of leading brands has been drastically reduced at all utility stores across the country. The price of cooking

oil of leading brands has been reduced by Rs 85 per litre, said a press release issued by Utility Stores Corporation here on Wednes-

This will be available at Rs 495 per liter instead of Rs 580 per litre.

Case registered against 8 Pak, 5 arrested for doing job in Israel ISLAMABAD (Online): FIA Mir Pur Khas circle

According to FIA these accused reached Israel via different countries and they did jobs therein. 5 cases have been registered against 8 accused. These accused worked as helpers and car

washer in Tel Aviv. The arrested accused include Noman Siddiqui, Kamil Anwar, Kamran Siddiqui. Muhammad Zeeshan and Muhammad Anwar. These accused stayed in Tel-Aviv for the period ranging between 4 to

QUETTA (APP): The tribal connivance of the district

district administration of Loralai in this regard, but they did not pay heed to "In 2003, Sharia decisions were also made in our

Ziaullah Longo, chief secretary Abdul Aziz Uqaili and the district administration Loralai to find a solution to the issue

Noorul Haq Baloch is also present