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Rallies held to protest desecration of Holy Quran as nation observes 'Quran Sanctity Day'

ISLAMABAD (Online): Nation observed Yaum-e- the recent despicable incident of desecrations of the desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden.

In connection with Youm-e-Taqaddus-e-Quran, rallies and demonstrations were being taken out across the country after Friday prayers.

On the constitution avenue in Islamabad, Supreme Court Bar Association organized a rally against the desecration of holy Quran in Sweden. The President of Supreme Court Bar Association said this despicable act is a conspiracy against Islam and Muslims. He said such incidents are intoler-

The Supreme Court Bar Association also submitted a condemnation resolution at the ministry of foreign affairs.

Earlier, addressing the joint sitting in the Parliament Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif urged Is- condemning the incident and distancing himself from lamic countries to forcefully raise their voice against

Taqaddus-e-Quran on Friday to lodge protest against Holy Quran in Sweden at all forms, including the United Nations, so that nobody can dare commit such a cri8me in future.

He said he will contact the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres to convene a meeting of the world body on this matter wherein heads or representatives of the all the Islamic countries are invited

express the sentiments of the Muslim Ummah. He said this session should also pass a condemnation resolution, suggesting ways and means to curb the provocative acts of disrespecting the divine books and holy personalities. The Prime Minister noted the Islamophobic in-

cidents are a conspiracy aimed at driving wedge between Muslim and the Christians. He also expressed his thanks to Pope Francis for

this profane act.



KARACHI: Members of Basic Human Rights International Council of Pakistan Agency holding protest demonstration against desecration of Holy Quran in Sweden in front of Karachi press club

PM, COAS vow to address food

insecurity, boost agri exports

Govt launches Land Information and Management System – Centre of Excellence – to transform unproductive land

national exchequer by

transforming millions of

acres of uncultivated and

low yield land within the

country.
This state-of-the-art

system will help optimize the agricultural production

through innovative tech-

nologies and sustainable

precision agricultural prac-

tices based on agro-ecologi-cal potential of land, while

ensuring well being of rural

communities and preserva-

ers about soil, crops,

tion of environment.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir and others in a group photo during inauguration ceremony of Land Information and Management System-Center of Excellence (LIMS-COE)

Resolution of journalists' problems topmost priority of present government: Marriyum

Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb said on Friday that the government fully believed in freedom of the press and addressing the problems of priority of the government. Club.

This she said during a meeting with a delegation of led by Abbottabad Press Club President Raja Haroon and Secretary General Raja

Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Murtaza Javed Abbasi was also present during the

meeting.
The Ministry of Information, she said would continue to play its key role to equip the press clubs across the country with modern requirements.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Abbottabad Press Minister for Information Club, she added, was one of the most important and responsible press clubs in the country

The minister issued directives to immediately set up a computer lab and stujournalists was the topmost dio at the Abbottabad Press

She assured that Abbottabad Press Club would also be provided with a grant already announced.

Murtaza Javed Abbasi thanked the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for the announcement of the establishment of a computer lab, studio, and grant for the Abbottabad Press

Abbottabad's journalistic community was doing its professional work despite limited resources. Murtaza Javed Abbasi said.

At least 50 dead in monsoon floods across Pakistan since June 25

It is vital for the livelihoods of millions of farmers and food security in a region of around two billion people — but it also brings landslides and

on Thursday.

KARACHI (INP): At least 50 people, including eight children, have been killed by floods and landslides triggered by monsoon rains that have lashed Pakistan since last month, officials said on Friday

The summer mons oon | brings South Asia /0-80 per cent of its annual rainfall between June and September every year.

floods "Fifty deaths have

been reported in different rain-related incidents all over Pakistan since the start of the monsoon on June 25," a national disaster management official told reporters, adding that 87 people were injured during this period. The majority of the deaths were in Punjab, and were mainly due to electrocution and building collapses, the NDMA said in a report. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the bodies of eight children were recovered from a landslide in the Shangla district

also attended by Ministers address this critical issue. of Finance, Defence, Plan-Establishment ning Development & Spe-LIMS is the first exceptional cial Initiative, National initiative, aimed at enhanc-Food Security & Research, ing food security and im-Information, Chief Secre- proving agri exports thus PM phone calls OIC SG on desecration of

ments, agricultural experts

and Senior Army Officials.

Food Programme, 36.9 %

of Pakistanis are food insecure and 18.3% of these are

facing severe food crisis.

vailing food insecurity, mass malnutrition and wid-

ening import bill of agri re-

lated products vis-à-vis

projected population growth and future domes-

tic food needs, the National

political, economic and mili-

tary leadership has decided

to undertake the decisive

and meaningful steps to

According to the World

Cognizant of the pre-

Quran, Islamophobia Prime Minister (PM) Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif held a telephone conversation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), H.E. Hissein Ibrahim Taha on Friday and discussed desecration of Holy Quran. Prime Minister conveyed Pakistan's strong condemnation of willful and provocative incidents of public burning of the Holy Quran which hurts Muslims sentiments world-

Pakistan's civil and military

leaders joined hands on Fri-

day to tackle the pressing

issues of food insecurity,

malnutrition, and soaring import costs in the agricul-

Inauguration Cer-

emony of Land Information

and Management System -

Center of Excellence (LIMS

- COE) was graced by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif as a chief guest here

Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir

was also present on the oc-

casion. The ceremony was

ture sector.

on Friday

He stressed that vilification of religion, revered religious personalities, Holy Scriptures and symbols could not be condoned on the self-serving pretext of freedom of expression

ISLAMABAD (Online): retary-General's role in articulating Muslim Ummah's concerns and demands about these Islamophobic trends and incidents. He emphasized that as the collective voice of the Islamic world, the OIC must chalk out a coordinated and comprehensive strategy, aimed at raising globalawareness about its perspective and building legal and political deterrence against rising incidents of anti-Muslim hatred and Islamophobia.

While welcoming the convening of an urgent debate at the Geneva-based Human Rights Council on the issue, the Prime Minister further underscored that the OIC must raise the issue with the UN Secretary-General and at

and protest.

The Prime Minister and bodies within the appreciated the OIC Sec- UN system.

Baqaullah Unar

The post is assigned with the approval of the Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, according to a notification issued here

geospatial technologies as well as minimizing the role of middlemen through efficient marketing system.

The Land Information and Management System (LIMS) is an unprecedented project of the government of Pakistan and the Pakistan Army to promote mo dern agriculture, whereas the establishment of LIMS will help revolu-tionize the agriculture sector in the country.

LIMS is the first com-The GIS based LIMS will greatly improve the prehensive government initiative for the development national agri yield by sysof the agricultural sector in temizing digitization of agthe country's history, an riculture, providing real time official source said. information to local farm-

The main objective of LIMS is to reduce domesweather, water resource tic agricultural imports, inand pest monitoring crease exports and meet the

IS LAMABAD (APP): taries of Provincial Govern-reducing import burden on through remote sensing and food needs of the growing pulation. Land Information

Management System will also be helpful in enhancing food security of the country. The establishment of LIMS will provide farmers with simultaneous access to information on climate change, satellite crop monitoring, water, fertilizer and spray focus areas and direct access to markets.

Under Land Information Management System, it will be possible to increase agricultural production by using modern technology on uninhabited and low-yielding agricultural lands. This revolutionary institute will work on land, crops, weather, water resources and pest control under one roof



ISLAMABAD: Ester Perez Luis, the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) resident representative, calls on the finance team of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), including Syed Naveed Qamar, the Federal Minister for Commerce, and Senator Saleem Mandviwala.

holds charge as acting CS Sindh Independent Report

KARACHI: The Services, General Administration and Coordination Department Government of Sindh has notified that Mr. Baqaullah Unnar, an officer of Ex-PCS (BS-21), Senior Member, Board of Revenue, Sindh shall hold acting charge of the post of Chief Secretary, Sindh, in addition to his own duties, during the leave period of Dr. Muhammad Sohail Rajput, an officer of PAS (BS-22).

Naveed Qamar, PPP finance team hold meeting with **IMF** country representative ISLAMABAD (APP): Fed- minister's enclave, was aimed

eral Minister for Commerce at discussing the possibility Syed Naveed Qamar on Friday held crucial meeting with Ester Perez Luis, the country representative of International Monetary Fund (IMF). In a significant development for Pakistan's economic landscape, Ester Perez Luis, the International Monetary Fund's resident representative, met with the finance team of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), including Syed Naveed Qamar, Federal Minister for Commerce, and Saleem Mandviwala.

of a standby agreement with Pakistan, which would have a profound impact on the nation's financial stability, said a press release issued by Ministry of Commerce. The PPP team ex-

pressed its willingness to support the programme, citing larger national interests as the driving force behind their decision. Syed Naveed Qamar,

representing the PPP finance team, acknowledged the significance of the standby agreement in addressing Pakistan's eco-The meeting, held at nomic concerns.

Shortage of Climate resources holding Pakistan back, says Sherry Rehman

(SLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Climate Change & Environmental Coordination, Senator Sherry Rehman on Friday said Climate Finance was uncharted territory for many developing countries due to a significant knowledge and capacity gap on his critical issue.

Pakistan faces dual challenges of limited accessibility to climate finance and a lack of technical capacity, impeding its progress in achieving crucial climate adaptation and mitigation goals.

at the launch event of the Climate Finance Acceleratives, these programs can effectively enhance the distor (CFA) organized by the UK Government, where she emphasized the significant role that programs like CFA could play in knowledge-creating, building ca-pacity and new pathways within both the public and private sectors, a news re-lease said. She underlined the challenge of prioritizing climate change in both sectors and highlighted the potential of such initiatives to el-

rative on climate finance. By creating awareness The minister was delivering her key note address and aligning public interests with government objectification process for generating carbon credits.

evate the government's nar-

course on climate finance. The minister high-lighted Pakistan's commit-

ment to exploring Carbon Markets as part of its efforts under the Paris Agreement. She mentioned that the country was in the process of developing an interim framework for a voluntary carbon market and we had officially signed on a collaboration with Verra, a global standard-setting body, to share knowledge and educate stakeholders on carbon markets and the cer-

visit to Mairaj Limited factory. KWSB to get equipment soon for clearing choked sewerage lines: Murtaza

KARACHI: Mayor Karachi Murtaza Wahab

inspects the machineries and vehicles during his

KARACHI (APP): Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab on Friday said that 12 suction, 12 jetting and 10 hybrid vehicles will soon be handed over to the Water and Sewerage Board which will help in opening the choke points of the sewage lines in the city. Two mobile workshops have also been handed over to the Water Board to improve the sewage system.

He said this on a visit to the factory of Mairai Limited along with Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Water Board Syed Salahuddin and Project Director Karachi Water and Sewerage Services Improvement Project

On this occasion,

People's Party South District Karamullah Waqasi and other officers and elected representatives were also present. Barrister Murtaza

Wahab inspected the mobile workshops and also drove them and said be taken on complaints received from any area of the city regarding the sewage system.

He observed that it was necessary to develop the underground sewerage system on better and modern lines to protect the roads and streets of the city from the overflow of sewage and to prevent the roads and streets from falling into disrepair. For this purpose modern and

General Secretary Pakistan

immediate action should

standard machinery.

Sharjeel assures business community of solving their issues on priority **Independent Report** KARACHI: A delegation from the Karachi Chamber of Commerce, led by President

Tariq Yusuf, met with Sharjeel Inam Memon, Minister of Information, Transport, and Mass Transit, at his office in the Archives Complex, Clifton Karachi. Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon assured the businessmen that he would work

all stakeholders would be adopted to address the concerns of the traders. He emphasized that the businessmen of Karachi hold a significant position in the country's economy. The Sindh government prioritizes addressing the issues faced by Karachi's business community. In the meeting, Tariq Yousaf, the President of the Chamber of Commerce, along with Senior Vice President Tauseef Ahmed, Vice President

towards resolving their issues. He emphasized that a collaborative approach involving



dent Haris Asghar, Aamir Ali Khan, the President of Automotive Traders and Importers Association, Muhammad Akbar, the General Secretary, Abdul Rahim, the Finance Secretary, Amjad Aqil, the Vice President, and Ijaz Ahmed, the Chief Coordinator, were

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Jenin incursion

Another day, another massacre. This is the violent reality that perpetually confronts the It is not too difficult to see, Palestinian people. While the upon entering a school, Israeli war machine usually reserves its barbaric wrath for the impoverished coastal enclave of Gaza, this time it was the West Bank city of Jenin that was subjected to state-sponsored violence. Trouble had been brewing since last month, when Tel Aviv had dispatched helicopter gunships to the West Bank in a brazen escalation of tensions. But on Monday, the Israelis launched a brutal two-day assault targeting the Jenin refugee camp, ostensibly to hunt down Palestinian fighters. What ensued is typical of the one-sided violence that has marked this decades-old conflict, with Arab civilians facing the unrestrained cruelty of Israel's military. Perhaps it should be a relief that 'only' 12 Palestinians were killed — including several children — as over 1,000 Israeli troops descended upon Jenin. Hundreds of homes have been damaged or destroyed, while Jenin's infrastructure, including water, electricity and sewerage networks, lies in ruins. According brain drain and flight of to the UN, intentional attacks directed at civilians not taking have narrowly averted the part in hostilities come under the ambit of war crimes. Unfortunately, the UN's human rights chief issued a tepid statement, meekly urging Israel to "minimise" the use of lethal force. Washington's reaction to the blitz was expected, with a spokesperson defending Tel Aviv's "right to defend its people". Clearly, for those who trumpet the sanctity of the international 'rules-based order', there are different rules for different situations. When geopolitical enemies indulge in atrocities, there are howls of protest and sanctimonious calls to sanction and punish the perpetrators. But when friends, such as Israel, butcher civilians and flatten residential areas, the 'right' of these comrades to defend themselves is underscored.

Israel is mistaken if it thinks such brutal actions will dim the Palestinian spirit of resistance. In fact, each time Tel Aviv strikes, Arab fighters vow to strike back, and often deliver on their promises, thus perpetuating the circle of violence. The two-state solution, or life, but very few people whatever remains of it, has little major reasons for the abchance of success when the Israeli establishment considers Palestinians as subhuman, worthy of extermination and collective punishment. Shockingly, Israel's extremist national security minister was quoted as saying recently that 'terrorists' (his ugly euphemism for Palestinians) must be 'eliminated' "if necessary even [in the] thousands". This ominous fluid. Many disputes threat sounds like a plan for a mass anti-Arab pogrom. The international community apparently lost interest in a viable sions from both sides. Palestinian state a long time ago. Yet, can those with a conscience globally at least speak up for the Palestinians' right to stored, material losses have been curtailed and life and dignity? To be recognised as human beings and not be subjected to wanton Israeli violence? Or will Palestinian civilians continue to be endlessly killed and maimed in Israel's elusive quest for 'security', as they remain silent?

Leadership matters



Fais al Bari

whether or not it works well If the premises look as if someone worries about them, if the infrastructure works, if the teachers and students are inside the classrooms with the students absorbed in their lessons and their teachers ensuring they are taught well, and if the staff and administration are pulling in the same direction, it is very likely the school is working well.

The research that my colleagues and I did some vears back showed that for every school that was working well, there was a leader who, for lack of a better term, took 'residual responsibility' for the school and worried about it beyond the call of duty.

Usually, it was the head teacher or principal of

the school; but, in some instances, it was the owner or a person on the governing board. In a couple of cases, it was even a member of the teaching staff.

For a school to work, a 'leader' has to be there. She motivates and provides the vision for the school, she inspires by example, she ensures the school's smooth functioning, and she is there to manage any crisis that

But over the years I have seen the opposite too in schools as well as universities. A 'bad' leader can destroy even a good school or university. A leader driven by a personal agenda and more concerned about her pursuits and ego, with little or no respect for herself or others, can bring down a school or university in a matter of years. Again, recent literature on leadership points this out clearly: bad leaders can have a big impact on organisations.

So, leadership matters. On the public sector side, at the K-12 level, we are still taken in by the seniority model for posting head teachers and principals in most provinces.

Where a change has been made, it has been to ship too. Our schools in the space gets more crowded. work to please the leader tesy Dawn

teacher as the head teacher. instead of trying to look for the best 'leader'. Being senior or being more educated is no guarantee that a person is a good leader too, or even has the potential to be

The situation is not very different for most of the private sector. But the more dynamic education providers in the private sector moved away from the seniority model for appointing school leadership quite some time back.

Most of their school have created systems for leader identification and/or selection. They have leadership training and support programmes and they ensure leaders are provided with proper opportunities for career development. They also have strong

and, if training and support cannot change outcomes, these people are moved out of the leadership positions as quickly as possible. The autonomy of the head teacher has been shown to have an impact on school

performance, and there is the impact of good leader-

weeding programmes where

'bad' leaders are identified

other reforms are being implemented, it would be important to add leadership identification, selection and support programmes too.

The same argument applies to universities. Even today, if you look at advertisements for hiring vice chancellors for public sector universities, there is still an almost exclusive emphasis on seniority, academic output and administrative experience. In many cases. even experience in the armed forces has been considered 'good' administrative experience for appointment as VC. VCs need to be good leaders. A lot of power, good or bad, rests with them.

systems for finding leaders who can be appointed to VC positions. This imperative is becoming more binding as the university sector is becoming more crowded and competitive. We have over 200 universities in the country. Islamabad alone has more than 24: over half of them have emerged in the last 23 years or so.

Universities will, infor funds and students as

public sector have not been performing well. Where Leaders who can create a rather than doing their work for the university. cation at their institution will become increasingly more important.

The imperative applies to the private sector as well. I have been associated with a private sector university in Pakistan for over three decades now, and have worked with more than six VCs. Each has brought their own unique perspective to the institution. Good leaders have been able to enhance the institution's reputation significantly and to create the virtuous cycles that lead to better educational programming and outcomes for students. They have attracted good faculty and have been able to create We need to have better a mission- or vision-driven institution with buy-in from faculty and staff, leading to improvement in mo-

rale and outcomes. There have been poor leaders as well. They have undermined rules and routines for their personal agenda, ego satisfaction and self-aggrandisement. This costs the institution not only in terms of morale but in actual outcomes too: staff creasingly, have to compete and faculty get apathetic, some leave, others choose to

Institutions with a history, precedent and set expectations about quality and ways of doing things can survive bad leaders for some time, but even these periods are not without cost. If Trump can almost undermine institutions in an established democracy, one can imagine what a poor leader can do in institutions that might not have as long or deep a history. And recovery from a bad period is not guaranteed either.

Leadership matters. Good leadership can make a school or university and bad leadership, if it continues, can destroy even a well-performing school or university

Barring a few of the more dynamic private sector school systems, across the private and public sector we have yet to start taking leadership issues serio us ly

This needs to change. If schools and universities are to perform better, we need to identify/select and nurture/support good leaders and, if they cannot be trained, then weed out the bad ones. -- Cour-

Where no questions are asked



Dr Sania Nishtar

In Pakistan, polarization and rhetoric are at their peak and many conflicts abound whilst a terrifying capital are underway. With the recent IMF SLA, we threat of a sovereign default. However, it is critical now that we focus on a long-term plan for meaningful economic reform that will help prevent such a situation in the future. But first, we must introspect. Why have we landed in this situation? And beyond what's apparent, for example the numbers, we need to get a sense of their true determi-

We tend to predominantly debate the dismal statistics — deficits, inflation, growth numbers, interest rate, etc. These, howproblem, just as fever can tent cough can signal cancer. When you deal with a patient, one must diagnose and treat the underlying disease, not just the symptoms; similarly, beyond the economic numbers, it is imperative we ascertain their determinants.

To this effect, econo-

mists have been drawing attention to structural problems, our import-dependent economy, our investments in non-productive sectors, the focus on consumption versus investment; our dollar denominated sovereign debt, the tendency to artificially control the exchange rate, the persistently low tax-to-GDP ratio, the lacking ease of business ecosystem, lack of global competitiveness, the overall lack of an enabling environment, poor governance, and so on and However, it must be

appreciated that these 'structural problems' are manifestations of deeper issues. I believe the most salient of these structural problems is the lack of accountability, which pervades every level of government in Pakistan today. I ever, are symptoms of the realized the extent of this rot when I first served in

government as a caretaker example. On the revenue federal Minister in 2013. After my term, I wrote a paper in The Lancet titled Reflections From my Tenure as Minister' (https:// www. thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/ PIIS0140-6736(14)61284-8/fulltext) about my understanding government's limitations

and fault lines. It was eye-opening to find that in Pakistan, the government is simply not set up to perform. In installing the government, we focus on processes — elections, cabinet selection, and key appointments — but not the attributes which truly matter for the government's performance: namely, accountability, incentives, and performance measurement

Although these three are intertwined and accountability has several dimensions bordering on the financial, administrative, legal, and political realms, the rest of this piece will focus on one aspect of accountability, which is the lack of answerability for actions, which I consider one of the root causes of government malfunction.

Let's take the present state of the economy as an

side, we lament the persistently low tax-to-GDP ratio, but we cannot hold tax functionaries accountable for not taxing many holy cow sectors and not deploying data analytics to catch habitual evaders. My experience with catching 820,000 BISP fake beneficiaries leads me to believe that this can be done easily with data triangulation us-

ing CNIC as the peg. Decision-makers have consistently encouraged consumption over investment and savings and have prioritized investment of aid in non-productive assets. No one is ever held accountable for busting the ceiling of the Fiscal Responsibility and Debt Limitation Act repeatedly, especially for loans which were spent on non-productive politically motivated assets.

No one has ever been made answerable for the massive politically motivated human resource hirings, and procurement rent seeking which has made public-sector enterprises non-viable incurring hundreds of billions in losses annually which need to be underwritten by tax-payers

There has also been a regard. Shockingly, tax eva-

failure to deploy ease of business, e-tendering, and privatization reforms. Transparency reforms, to enable electronic filing and public expenditure tracking were not institutionalized to track pilferages from the system. Yes no one is ever questioned for the damage done and losses incurred in

The list can go on and Explore every problem and it will be rooted in the lack of accountability — the energy sector, which has been deliberately designed to run in loss; foreign policy decisions that fostered terrorism; decisions which entrenched circular debt in many sectors; in attention to water availability and land use; the trillions which are channeled in untargeted subsidies from which the affluent benefit. Every sector has an institutionalized pattern of

collusion by design. I wrote about the systematic collusion in the wheat value chain in these columns on May 6 (https:/ www. thenews.com.pk/ print/1067410-wheatpolicy-imperatives). No one has been held answerable for the loopholes and the lack of oversight in this decades.

sion and money laundering has also been structurally ingrained, through loopholes in tax laws. No one is answerable for that.

Unfortunately, even the deepest governance reform to-date — the 18th Amendment to the constitution — failed to address certain key issues needed for transparency reform, such as political party finance, conflict of interest and accountability within government, despite the broad-based changes it introduced in the entire state

There are more recent glaring examples of the way the lack of answerability has been damaging for the country. For over a year, there were many warnings of an impending sovereign default, yet the IMF deal was delayed for months. Or for that matter, how will you hold the coalition of thirteen parties accountable for speedily legislating on matters that are widely perceived to further their own interests but failed to come together in the interest of water security and other critical needed governance reforms over the last seven

The way to peace



Amin Valliani

All human beings are different from each other in many ways. They are different in their lifestyles, cultures, thoughts, habits and likes, dislikes, etc. However, most people have an innate desire for peace and tranquillity. Everybody wants peace in sence of peace are internal and external conflicts, rigidity, quarrelsome behaviour and some other negative tendencies. In order to attain peace, one needs to be pragmatic, adaptive, flexible and

attitude. It is said that a sure key for peace in life is compromise. It is by adopting such an attitude, rather than being unyielding in dealing with others, that a person becomes within families, societies and nations are resolved by adopting the way of compromise — an agreement that involves conces-

In the history of mankind, wars have been stopped, lives have been saved, peace has been restored, material losses people have kept their dignity by resorting to compromise. An uncompromising attitude from any side is an obstacle to peace, therefore, all major world philosophies have supported the idea of compromise.

It is not good for people to remain in perponents does not mean weakness, but a way out of turmoil. This principle of compromise advocates that 'half a loaf is better than none' The early history of

Islam indicates that Muslims under the benign leadership of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) followed the principle of compromise. They concluded the treaty of Hudaibiyah, which allowed the Muslims to live in peace. The agreement also allowed the Holy Prophet and his followers to enter Makkah the following year for what came to be known as the first pilgrimage.

Similarly, the Holy Quran enjoins that if they (enemies) are inclined towards peace on just terms. the overture should be accepted: "If they incline to peace, incline you as well to it, and trust in Allah. Surely, He is All-Hearing,

All-Knowing" (8:61).
Through compromise, each party gets less than it feels it is entitled to, but agrees to it because the situation it anticipates under a deal is better than the one it expects in the absence of one. It can provide a bridge across a difficult period. This is an essential aspect of life whereby one can end disputes and spend life in peace and tranquillity.

At present, Pakistan is experiencing turmoil because of differences among various political parties. The best way to address the turmoil is compromise. Violence and confrontation are never an answer to this political challenge, especially when the country is going through a serious economic crisis. The art of compromise is an essential component of politics, without which life goes into gridlock.

Since the beginning of time, compromise has petual animosity. Holding been the main way for

out an olive branch to op- people, groups and countries to work out their differences. It is a tool of diplomacy, but needed in all areas of life, such as politics, business, professions, etc. In Pakistan, where there is a huge backlog of unresolved court cases, the principle of compromise would be worth trying out. It would reduce the burden of the courts and also satisfy the disputing parties to some extent. There should, therefore, be a mechanism to make disputing parties agree to a compromise.

There are certain situations which one cannot change It is better then to accept the situation as it is and wait for better times. One should never make his/her desire or liking the final word. Some things in life are not obtainable nor achievable, yet one's ego wants to achieve these. This does not mean that we should not struggle. Our struggle should be continuous but we should be ready to make any adjustments or compromises where the situation demands so.

We must never forget that human life is a series of compromises and it is not always easy to achieve in practice what one has found to be true in theory. Learning the wisdom of compromise can be highly beneficial, for it is better to bend a little than to

Life is like a bumpy road with many ups and downs. Many people undergo mental, emotional or physical challenges and sometimes feellost or without hope. Most of the time, untangling oneself from these depressing thoughts can cause confusion and pain. However, compromising with life's challenges provides solace and understanding and enables one to cope with these demanding situations. Therefore, the idea of compromise needs to be promoted in life.

Courtesy Dawn

Aasim Sajjad Akhtar

The French state prosecutes a mini civil war against African and Arab populations. The Israeli Defence Forces bomb and kill Palestinians in the West Bank with complete impunity, again. And Pakistani youngsters smuggle themselves on fishing vessels at the risk of death to the coveted West, even as our rulers grovel for handouts from 'donors' and then celebrate when we get them. Who says colonialism is dead?

It is fashionable these days to take a stingy view of the past, to say that talk of colonialism and imperialism is passé. The argument is that we should take responsibility for our own failures and stop blaming the

It is correct that aimessly blaming the white man or anyone is neither here nor there. But acknowledging our colonial present is not about blaming anyone; it is about accurately identifying the roots of today's structural crises so as to find a way out.

For Pakistanis — and other Muslim-majority societies — the words 'colonialism' and 'imperialism' drip easily off our tongues when we talk of Palestine. Israel, and its principal backer, the US, have engaged in naked aggression to dispossess Palestinians of their lands and dignity for decades. The Israeli settlercolonial project extends deeper into Palestinian territory with each passing

But there is less clarity about the global implications of US-Israeli expan-

sionism. It has been advertised that the Gulf kingdoms with our very own colonial present. Many insist the seek some accommodation

Colonial present

with the Zionist state. Indeed, the Gulf states are the quintessential example of how our 'Muslim' brethren are driven by the pursuit of profit; for them, it is literally kosher to do business with anyone, including Zionists.

Seen thus, it is not sufficient to simply voice outrage vis-à-vis Israeli crimes against the Palestinians there must be a political-economic project to isolate Israel, just like that which squeezed apartheid South Africa

Political-economic subjugation is also the root cause of the current fires in France. Long-term immigrant populations — the vast majority from France's former colonial possessions in West Africa and the Maghreb — are rebelling against their unending trysts with systemic racism, class exploitation and other forms of discrimination. Whatever the immediate trigger, the scale and depth of the resentment demands acknowledgement of the deep-seated colonial legacies

that afflict France today. The French state has no problem assimilating Africans and Arabs when it comes to nation-state projects — most of France's footballing success, for example, has been powered by brown and black players. But it also presides over ghettoisation, incarceration and property regimes that relegate brown and black French 'citizens' to second-

class status. France also has no problem continuing to extract resources from its former colonial possessions in Africa. The slogans of the French republic — liberté. egalité, fraternité — ring hollow in the face of such colonial modalities.

Meanwhile in Pakistan, the jubilation at the IMF agreeing to give us a measly \$3 billion shows how we refuse to grapple Courtesy Dawn

present. Many insist the IMF and other donors have no role in our crisis. This is akin to turning one's back on the truth that Pakistan is like many former colonies in Latin America, Africa and Asia whose economies, polities and societies continue to be shaped by neocolonial

debt regimes.
Why, for instance, could our donors not have responded to last summer's floods — and the approximately \$40bn in damages incurred — by not giving us more loans, and instead, cancelling at least some of our existing debt obligations?

One reason is that our ruling class — led by the military est-ablishment is simply not committed to undoing the political, economic and cultural structures that keep them at a table in proximity to the global ruling class.

The smug contentment at doing a deal with the IMF mirrors the contentment at issuing contracts to MNCs, one's own companies and those of friends while sacrificing the resources and rights of the sons and daughters of the It mirrors the building

of countless roads, expressways, mega water infrastructure and real estate schemes despite clear evidence that the colonial logic of conquering nature are disastrous. It mirrors the fiefdoms of sardars, the epidemic of enforced disappearances, and the war economies generated by the weaponisation of re-ligion. Deploying politically correct, liberal language to sanitise what is happening in Palestine, France, Pakistan's own peripheries. or many other parts of the world is at best self-deception, and at worst, colonial apologism. To acknowledge our colonial present is to at least reimagine political-economic projects of decolonisation that represent the only potential salvation for our youth.

OMMERCE EWS

PM directs for steps to curb smuggling of tyres, spare parts

Assures to extend facilitation to Chinese investors

ISLAMABAD (APP): friend, China always investment were also being and other relevant officers Prime Minister Shehbaz supported Pakistan like a exported to the attended the meeting. Sharif on Friday directed the authorities concerned for the early formulation of a comprehensive policy to do away with the smuggling of tyres and

The prime minister, in a meeting with a delegation of Service Long March Tyres and Chaoyang Long March Tyres led by their Chairman Li Qingwen, also instructed the relevant authorities to take effective measures to curb the smuggling of tyres.

He told the delegation that being a time-tested

supported Pakistan like a exported brother in every hour of international market.

delegation that the all possible support to the the world markets. Chinese investors to facilitate their investment was told that the company in Pakistan.

appreciated the delegation exports to \$200 million for their company's investment through a joint venture with Pakistan's tyre manufacturing company.

was told that tyres being Pakistan. manufactured by the plant

It was told that year, the company's tyres government would extend have created their space in

The prime minister would enhance tyres The prime minister manufacturing to boost its

The prime minister instructed the authorities to extend all-out support to the Chinese investors to The prime minister uplift the tyre industry in

Special Assistant to established by Chinese Prime Minister Tariq Pasha

attended the meeting.

Online add: Prime

Minister Shehbaz Sharif He also assured the within a short span of a has assured to extend facilitation to the Chinese investors for investment in Pakistan.

He made the remarks while talking to a delegation of Service Long March Tyres and Chaoyang Long March Tyres led by Chairman Li Qingwen in Islamabad.

Shehbaz Sharif said China has also supported Pakistan in difficult times. He said China is a lonstanding friend of

Special Initiatives Prof

Ahsan Iqbal on Friday

inaugurated the installation

of a 200kv solar PV system

at the ministry to promote environment-friendly

The ceremony was held at the Ministry's auditorium which was

attended by the Secretary,

Ministry of Planning Syed

Zafar Ali Shah, Additional

Secretary (AS) and officials of the ministry,

said a press release issued

Speaking at the occasion, Planning

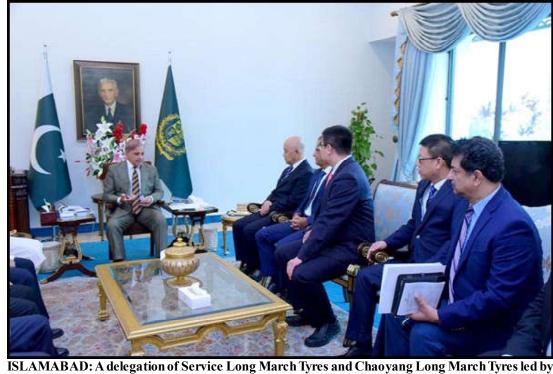
government.

electricity.

Ahsan Iqbal inaugurates

200kv solar PV system

ISLAMABAD (APP): towards achieving energy, Federal Minister for water, and food security, Planning Development and the minister said.



their Chairman Mr Li Qingwen calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

KARACHI (APP): The Section 39(3) of the SBP State Bank of Pakistan Act 1956, said a statement

issued here.

no n- bank

(SBP), on Friday said that

financial sector had shown

resilience against internal and external headwinds and

posted steady performance

as the financial sector's

asset base grew by 18.3 percent in Calendar year

The banking sector witnessed 19.1 % growth

in its assets mainly driven

by investments while the

credit risk remained

contained as gross NPLs

SBP says:

Financial system exhibit

resilient performance with

18.3% growth in asset base

The review presents

financial

the performance and risk

assessment of various

segments of the financial

sector including banks,

institutions, financial

markets, financial market

infrastructures and non-

financial corporates.

The FSR for CY22

noted that Pakistan's

economy experienced a

turbulent year as the

ratio lowered to 7.3 existing economic widening imbalances, percent by end CY22. imbalances were which included further The observations compounded by the increase in policy rate and

were made in Financial unfavourable external macro-prudential policies

MULTAN: Governor Punjab Engr. Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman cutting the ribbon to inaugurate three days of 'Mango Festival 2023' at DHA Arena Hall.

The said contractor

admitted the fact about

non-payment of wages and

undertook that payment of

wages to all the laborers of

D.G Khan, Kot Chutta and Rajanpur MEPCO

pending wages of more than 100 labourers

amounting to Rs Five

million has been paid and

their rightful grievance have

mediation and conciliation.

o f

Wafaqi Mohtasib mediates to ensure payment of Rs 5m as wages to MEPCO labourers

Mechanism.

Independent Report MULTÂN: More than 100 daily wage labourers working in the Multan Electric Supply Company (MEPCO) were provided five months salary by their contractor due to the timely intervention and mediation of Mr. Muhammad Zahid

Senior Investigation

Officer (IRD) of Wafaqi

Mohtasib Office, Multan. Mr. Muhammad Zeeshan a daily wage labourer along with 33 others lodged complaint against "Ali Azam Enterprises", a contractor of MEPCO, wherein they claimed that the said contractor had failed in paying their daily wages for the last five months and they were living miserably.

Mr. Zeeshan, the representative of the

and conciliation between ul-Azha and extended the representative of MEPCO and the Ombudsmared redressal Ahmad, under Wafaqi grievances.

Companies fail to distribute Mo ht as ib

Reason

electricity on daily basis.

It has been revealed wasting on daily basis.

Rajanpur MEPCO Division would be made till June, 26th, 2023. On 27th June, the representative of "Ali Azam Enterprises" appraised the Wafaqi Mohtasib Office that Source told that daily consumers are burdened 900 million without even consuming electricity.

been redressed through technical error. PESCO The Complaint was complainants also endorsed due to overloading and processed under Informal version of the agency to the faults. SEPCO cannot use Resolution of Disputes (IRD) through mediation extent that their wages have been paid before Eid
ladits. SEI CO cannot use 140MW due to electricity theft and line losses. gratitude to the Ombudsman office for using 114 MW due to theft, using electricity.

28 points

traded during the day as compared to 297,822,139 shares the previous day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs.8.512 billion against Rs.12.428 billion

companies transacted their shares in the stock market; 158 of them recorded gains and 149 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 20 companies remained unchanged.

The three top-trading companies were ŴorldCal Telecom with 35,838,308 shares at Rs.1.25 per share; Telecard Limited with 19,877,612.

ays remained a 12.00m. At the existing prices, the project is ernment." Stability Review (FSR) for CY22, the annual flagship publication of the central bank published under catastrophic flooding, and contain external imbalance. 2025 outlines the approach years. Sindh Bank selects PTCL to implement cutting edge SD-WAN Infrastructure **Independent Report** Karachi. The ceremony was witnessed by Hatem

"The recent 5E

framework provides a

short to medium-term

strategy to achieve

economic growth, social

environmental

sustainability in the coming years," he remarked.
"The rec

launched 5Es framework

and energy is one of the

highlighted. "Plan House will be

established soon."

He said, "This generation will also reduce

the annual energy bill for

recently

he

development,

important

Minister Ahsan Iqbal the Ministry from Rs said, "The provision of affordable, reliable and clean energy has the Ministry from Rs 26.746m per annum to Rs 14.09m resulting in annual savings of Rs

always remained a 12.66m. At the existing

KARACHI: Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) and Sindh Bank have signed an agreement for deployment of SD-WAN at 200 branches of Sindh

SINDHBANK

Bamatraf, President and Group CEO PTCL, Imran Samad President & CEO Sindh Bank and their teams.

PTCL is providing Sindh Bank with its state-

-WA OLUTI

ufone optcl BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

meeting its digita connectivity requirements As a national carrier, PTCI

agreement with Sindh Bank, emphasizing PTCL Group's commitment to assisting the bank in is at the forefront of driving of-the-art infrastructure digitalization throughout



The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) and other business bodies on welcomed commencing of direct air link between Pakistan and Kazakhstan on Saturday as it would help enhance countries. economic bilateral cooperation.

a milestone in forging mutual business and economic integration with Kazakhstan and other Central Asian states, FPPCI President Irfan

flights would increase the possibilities of economic cooperation between the two countries. Two flights in a week from Almaty, the industrial hub of Kazakhstan, to Lahore,

economic activities.
Irfan Malik said

delay in the completion of IMF program reviews as

major challenges at domestic side while the

global challenges including

fast paced increase in

commodity prices and monetary tightening by

major central banks in

advanced economies, manifested in the d e t e r i o r a t i n g

macroeconomic conditions.
The FSR noted that

the SBP and the government took various

policy steps to address widening imbalances, which included further

Ambassador Kazakhstan to Pakistan, Yerzan Kistafin, deserved appreciation for playing an important role in the launch of a direct air link between the two brotherly

Karachi Chamber of peration. Commerce (KCCI)

It would prove to be President Muhammad Tariq Yousaf said with the start of direct flights, the economic between the two countries would improve further.

He said the business Iqbal Malik said while talking to APP. community of Karachi considered that the step would have positive impact on trade relations with Kazakhstan and Central

> Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Kashif Anwar said Kazakhstan was an



LAHORE: Awood worker given the final touches and polishes on a clothes hangerstand at Shahdara Furniture Market.

Weekly inflation up by 0.70 pc

The weekly inflation, measured by the Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI), witnessed an increase of 0.70 per cent for the combined consumption group during the week ended on July 06, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS)

reported on Friday.

The SPI for the week under review in the abovementioned group was recorded at 257.79 points as compared to 256.00 points during the past week, according to the PBS data.

As compared to the corresponding week of last year, the SPI for the combined consumption

group in the week under review witnessed an increase of 28.55 per cent. The weekly SPI with the base year 2015-16 =100 is covering 17 urban centres and 51 essential

ISLAMABAD (APP): items for all expenditure

The SPI for the lowest consumption group up to Rs17,732, increased by 1.08 per cent and went

up to 265.88 points from last week's 263.03 points.

The SPI for consumption groups from Rs 17,732-22,888, Rs 22,889-29,517, Rs 29,518-44.175; and above Rs 44,175; and above Rs 44,175 witnessed an 44,175 witnessed an increase of 1.02 per cent, 0.91 per cent, 0.83 per cent and 0.51 per cent respectively.

During the week, out of 51 items, prices of 24 (47.06%) items increased

(47.06%) items increased, 10 (19.61%) items decreased and 17 (33.33%) items remained stable.

The items, which recorded a decrease in their average prices on a week-on-week (WoW), included bananas (7.51%), chicken (2.80%), eggs (1.17%).

Pak-Korea program on certified seed system to yield 160,000 tons of seed

Program on International Agriculture (KOPIA) Pakistan Center was informed on Friday that "Pakistan-Korea Joint Program on Certified Seed Potato Production System" is set to yield an impressive production of 160,000 tons of certified seed potatoes.

The meeting was held with Chairman Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) Dr Ghulam Muhammad Ali in the chair and discussed collaborative efforts in various research projects, development technologies the of technologies for potato seed, chilli, and fodder crop

production. This meeting

was also attended by

representatives from the

Zarghoon roadin Quetta

scientists,

and senior officials of allied departments, said a press release. These initiatives are being implemented through the joint efforts of PARC and the KOPIA and these projects are anticipated to significantly enhance both the quantity

invaluable cooperation extended by the Government of Korea in this regard and emphasized the potential extension of technology. He assured the Korean counterparts of PARC's commitment to

maintaining collaboration



Speaking on the occasion, Dr Ali lauded the this cooperation to the livestock sector and the application of sex semen

acknowledged the people.



and quality of these crops.



unannounced electricity load shedding disclosed as distribution companies failure in distribution and waste of 1237000 units of

that electricity distribution companies are failed and due to technical error electricity of 30 million is

FESCO cannot use 176 Mega Watt (MW) daily due to maintenance work daily. GEPCO fails to use 232 MW due to also fails to use 134MW MEPCO don not use 225MW. HESCO fails in theft, faults and overloading. KESCO fails 193 MW

PSX gains

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) gained 28.46 points on Friday, a slight positive change of 0.06 percent, closing at 44,207.31 points against 44,178.85 points

the previous trading day. A total of 247,993,312 shares were

on the last trading day.

As many as 327



QUETTA: Vendorsells mosquitoes net to earn his livelihood for support his family during hot day of summer season at a roadside stall located on

Govt taking concrete steps to stabilize country's economy: Governor

ceremony recently held at during the signing Sindh Bank Head Office in ceremony regarding the

MULTAN (APP): Punjab education sector in the Governor Engineer Baligh province as new ur Rehman Friday said that the incumbent government was taking concrete and immediate steps to stabilize Pakistan's economy as country had come out of the economic crisis to a great extent.

Group Chief Business

Solutions Officer, PTCL &

Ufone 4G and Syed Ata Hussain Jaffri, EVP Head

of IT, Sindh Bank, signed

the agreement at a

He expressed these view while inaugurating the three-day Mango Festival organized here by Muhammad Nawaz Sharif Agricultural University, DHA Multan and Mango Research Institute.

The governor said that the honest and hardworking leadership was working round the clock to get the country out of the problems, adding that everyone had to play his due role for developing the country.

Baligh ur Rehman said that those who spread hatred caused irreparable damage to the country, today even the monuments of the martyrs were not preserved.

He said that the nation had to end hatred and promote love in the society, adding that a lot of said that the agriculture work had been done in

universities had been established in South Punjab and the research on crops was being made in the universities.

Zarrar Hasham Khan, and platform solutions that the nation. By forging such

are equipped with latest

technology & managed

security. Hatem Bamatraf,

President and Group CEO,

PTCL & Ufone 4G,

expressed his satisfaction

The governor pointed out that in 2018, the country was going to become the 24th largest economy in the world but it moved to 44th economy in 2022. country's

leadership was striving hard to get it out of troubles, he said, adding that the stock exchange had been improved after the agreement with the IMF as the dollar was now heading towards a decline The governor said

that Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif took crucial steps for the development of the agricultural sector as wheat crop's production had increased this year. He said that the incumbent government had

wheat on time which benefited the farmers. Baligh Ur Rehman sector of South Punjab

fixed the support price of

remained constant at Rs 2480 and Rs 2,126.20 respectively. Shipping

KARACHI (APP): Four ships named, Seaspan Beacon, Singapore, and Herac le Atrotos Containers carrying Canola and Palm oil, berthed at Qasim International Container Terminal, Grain & Fertilizer Terminal, and

Qasim on Friday

delivering cutting-edge, reliable solutions to the banking industry. Gold prices up by Rs 600

alliances, PTCL remains dedicated to its pivotal role

in advancing both telecommunications

and

infrastructure

ISLĀMABAD (APP): The per tola price of 24 karat gold increased by Rs 600 and was sold at Rs 208,400 on Friday against its sale at Rs 207,800 the previous day. The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also increased by Rs 515 to Rs178,670 from Rs 178,155 whereas the price of 10 grams 22 karat gold went up to Rs 163,780 from Rs 163, 309, All Sindh Jewellers Sarafa Association reported.

The price of per tola and ten-gram silver

activity at **Port Qasim**

Liquid Cargo Terminal respectively.

Meanwhile, two more ships, Kition-M and Perth-I with Mogas and Coal also arrived at the outer anchorage of the Port

President for accelerated efforts to provide jobs to differently-abled people

ISLAMABAD (Online): President Dr Arif Alvi has urged the need to accelerate efforts for the job placement of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in the public and private sectors to empower them financially. He said that the suitability of PWDs for different jobs in the market should be determined as per international standards, and they should be facilitated in finding jobs for their financial empowerment.

The President expressed these views while chairing a meeting regarding the framework for the classification and severity of disability, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, today. Senior officials of the Ministry of Human Rights, Ministry of National Health Services Regulation tended the meeting. Speaking on the occa-

sion, the President said that prospective employers for the job placement of skilled Differently-Abled People (DAPs) should be identified and, in the first phase, large employers in the private sector should be approached to accommodate DAPs as per their skill set. He said that the representation of PWDs in the business and industrial sectors should be increased to make them productive citizens of the country.

The President emphasized the need for adopting the framework for the classification of disabilities, developed in line with international standards and best practices, at the national and

Dr Maryam Malik, at- suitability of PWDs for called for making the disability certificates accessible and readable to the general public by translating them into Urdu.

He urged the concerned stakeholders to improve their coordination with the provinces for the adoption of a uniform classification framework and throughout the country that would greatly facilitate PWDs. The President underscored the need for highlighting the success stories of DAPs in the media so as to encourage and motivate PWDs to make similar achievements.

The President urged the Ministry of Human Rights to further intensify



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif distributing smart cards and cheque books relating to Benazir Social Protection Account among the beneficiaries

Shazia Marri terms Benazir Social Protection Account as revolutionary milestone

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety (PA&SS) and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BÎSP), Shazia Marri Friday said that "Benazir Social Protection Accounts" is a revolutionary milestone in the 15-year journey of BISP which will further ensure transparency during cash disbursements.

She was speaking during the launching ceremony of "Benazir Social Protec- Marriyum Aurangzeb, tion Accounts" for Benazir members of the diplomatic Programme's beneficiaries. eficiaries.

The Prime Minister of Pakistan, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif was the chief guest at the ceremony who also launched the "Benazir Social Protection Account" along with the SAPM, FaisalKarim Kundi and others at Prime Minis-

The launching ceremony was attended by a number of distinguished guests including Federal Minister of Information and Broadcasting Ms. Support community and BÎSP ben-

The federal minister, Shazia Marrisaid that BISP has achieved a significant milestone today with the formal launch of Benazir Social Protection Accounts under the esteemed patronage of Prime Minister of Pakistan, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

She further said that this new payment system will give autonomy to women in selecting the bank of their choice.

The payments will be directly made into their accounts which beneficiaries can withdraw at their convenience, she added.



MIRPURKHAS: Deputy Commissioner Zainul Abideen Memon presiding over a meeting with officers of Food Department and representatives of Flour Mills & Chakki Association regarding fixation of price of flour

Justice Musarrat Hilali takes oath as judge of SC

ISLAMABAD (Online): Justice Musarrat Hilali took oath as second woman judge of Supreme Court (SC) on Fri-

Oath taking ceremonywas held in SC and Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial administered oath to Ms Hilali. The ceremony was attended by senior judges, Attor-

ney General (AG) and lawyers. Justice Musarrat Hilali will serve as SC judge for

The total number of SC judges now has reached 16 with the induction of Justice Musarrat Hilali

Parliamentary committee for appointment of judges had approved induction of Justice Musarrat Hilali as SC

PML-N submits request to retain 'tiger' as poll symbol

ISLAMABAD (Online): PML-N has filed application in Election Commission (EC) for the allotment of election symbol of tiger to the party in coming general election. EC had invited applications from all political parties through its July 01,2023 press release for allotment of election symbols for next general

PTCL Group's SummerSpark' **Internship Program 2023 set to** ignite careers of young graduates ISLAMABAD (APP): were selected to participate ented graduates.

Pakistan's leading telecomdigital services provider, PTCL Group (PTCL & anticipated 'SummerSpark' internship program at a vibrant opening ceremony held here at PTCL Group Tower.

The 6-week internship program, 'SummerSpark' received an overwhelming response upon opening the registration process, with over 15,475 young graduates from top universities eagerly vying for a spot.

After a rigorous selection process, the top 30 competencies and potential of Pakistan's highly tal-ture.

in the program. These fumunications and integrated ture leaders will enjoy valuable hands-on work experience on various business in the long-term growth and Ufone 4G) has launched its projects under expert success of individuals in the mentorship at PTCL & Ufone 4G offices in Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi that will facilitate them to set the ronment for the youth to stage for the successful commencement of their talent and focus on promot-

professional careers ahead. Sharing his thoughts at Group Chief People Officer, PTCL & Ufone 4G, Shoaib Baig said, "We are thrilled to launch the 'SummerSpark Internship Program 2023, which is de-

The internship program aligned with sustainable practices by investing telecom sector, he added.

He said "We provide a diverse and enabling envidevelop and showcase their ing experiential learning and equip interns with practithe opening ceremony, cal skills and knowledge that will pave the way for

their future success" The 'SummerSpark goes beyond traditional mentorship as it helps the participants to fully imcandidates with exceptional signed to ignite the careers merse in the corporate cul-



ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi chairing a meeting regarding the framework for the classification of disabilities, at Aiwan-

Launches 'Benazir Social Protection Account'

Pakistan will soon stand on its feet: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): were 'doers' in the real Prime Minister Shehbaz sense, with both mental Sharif on Friday launched the "Benazir Social Protection Account" under the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) here along with Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety (PA&SS) and BISP Chairperson Shazia

Addressing the ceremony, the prime minister directed the BISP authorities to place a condition for the Programme beneficiaries to get their children enrolled in schools to promote the education culture in the

after a certain period the beneficiaries would get stipends only in case their children were attending schools, he reaffirmed.

The government, he said, should not go for promoting the 'flocks of beg-

Hyderabad Chapter on Fri-

day held a protest demon-

stration outside the

Hyderabad Press Club to

denounce the desecration of

the Holy Quran in Sweden. The protesters led by

provincial Information Sec-

retary District Ameer

Maulana Taj Muhammad Naahiyon, Hafiz Khalid

Hassan Dhamrah and Hafiz

Muhammad Azam Jahangiri, Maulan Faiz ullah

khan Šwati, Haji Abdul Aziz

Raiput said that desecra-

tion of Holv Ouran in Swe-

Independent Report AHORE: Members of

the National Assembly

called on Governor Punjab

Muhammad Balighur

Rehman here today at

Governor House Lahore.

Various issues including

political and economic

situation of the country

were discussed in the

Talking on this occasion, Punjab Governor

Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that the top

priority of the government

is to stabalize the economy

of the country. He said that

the economic condition of

the country is improving

due to the sincere efforts

of the Prime Minister, Muhammad Shehbaz

Sharif, Finance Minister

Ishaq Dar and the economic

team. Governor Punjab

said that politics is the

name of public service and

under the leadership of

Minister

and physical capacity to build Pakistan.

The time would come soon when the country would be standing on its own feet and generating resources itself, he added.
The launch ceremony

was attended by Federal Minister for Information Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb, Minister of State for Poverty Alleviation Faisal Kareem Kundi, members of diplomatic community and BISP beneficiaries.

Briefing about the salient features of the Account, Shazia Marri said It must be ensured that under the new system, beneficiary women would have the option to select the bank of their choice, and they would receive the payments directly in their accounts which they could withdraw at their convenience.

Four banks namely gars' in anyway, rather it must promote the ones who Bank Alfalah, JS Bank

ganizations over the des-

including Muslim World to

unite to discourage such incidents in future. They de-

manded the Pakistan Gov-

ernment deport the Sweden

envoy immediately and cut

off diplomatic ties with

Sweden. Meanwhile a mas-

Khalid Hassan Dhamrah

and Ameer Latifabad

Taluka Maulana Faiz ullah

Swati was also organized

Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, the incumbent

government is committed

to bring economic stability,

prosperity in the country.

He said that the doors of

the Governor's house are

always open for public

representatives. Governor

Punjab further said that the

incident of May 9 was very

heartbreaking in which the memorials of the martyrs

were desecrated. He said

that the law is taking its

course against the people

involved in the incident of

Rehman said that Muslims

all over the world have

been deeply hurt by the

heinous act of desecration

of Holy Quran in Sweden.

He said that the

international community

should make an effective

strategy to prevent such

Punjab Governor

Balighur

May 9.

Muhammad

development

They urged all Religions

ecration of Holy Quran.

JUI protests against

desecration of Holy Quran

HYDERABAD (APP): world. They deplored the Jamiat ulema e Islam silence of International or-

den was conspiracy against from Fateh Chowk to Press

Punjab Governor says: Intl community should make

an effective strategy to prevent

desecration of Holy Quran

Muslims living across the Club Hyderabad.

Limited and United Bank Limited had been initially selected through a competitive process for the new payment model, she

PM Shehbaz appreciated Minister Shazia Marri for her hard work to expand the Programme, particularly introduction of the Benazir Social Protection Account which would help the beneficiaries to receive the stipends without any hassle, besides ensuring transparency in the sys-

He recalled that last summer when the government was facing an intense economic crisis, massive floods caused heavy destruction in most parts of the country.
Through the BISP, the

Federal Government distributed Rs 70 billion among the affectess in all the provinces in the most transparent manner, he said, adding the amount

money sent by the friendly countries, and local and international donor agencies.

PM Shehbaz Sharif said former prime minister Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Shaheed, who had a great vision of poverty alleviation, introduced the Programme which was successfully continuing.

With regards standby loan arrangements with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), he thanked all the friendly countries who helped Pakistan get through with the IMF and sign a staff-level agreement.

He expresses the hope that the programme would successfully complete and Pakistan would be able to bring in reforms and restructure its economy in the nine months period.
Shazia Marri said the

BISP had achieved a significant milestone today with the formal launch of Benazir Social Protection Accounts was apart from the aid under the esteemed patron-

age of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

She also acknowledged the visionary role played by Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, who had dreamt the social protection programme, and former president Asif Ali Zardari, who established it in 2008.

She said the BISP, a non-political programme, was committed to providing financial support to deserving women on an equal basis. Over the past 15 years, it had achieved numerous milestones: transforming the lives of countless families across the nation. Ms Marri said last year, the BISP's budget was increased from Rs 235 billion to Rs 404.2 billion, with an overall increase of 72% taking the number of beneficiaries from 7.2 million to 9 million, which was a testao f ment government's commitment to protect the most vulner-

able and marginalized segment of society



HYDERABAD: Workers of Pakistan Markazi Muslim League hold a protest sive rally led by District General Secretary Hafiz rally against burning of Quraan in Sweden

CPEC to promote growth, social prosperity: Ahsan Iqbal

Minister for Planning and Development Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Friday said that the government was promoting China-Pakistan Economic Corridor Project (CPEC) to attain sustainable economic growth and social prosperity as envisaged by Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif in the country.

Addressing a seminar on CPEC, organized by the University Islamabad, the minister said that CPEC was a mega-development project, which included developmental projects related to basic infrastructure, energy generation, Gwadar Port develop-

Toshakhana case: Court accepts exemption plea of Imran

ISLAMABAD (Online): Sessions Court Islamabad has accepted exemption plea of PTI chairman Imran Khan in Toshakhana

The hearing of the case will take place today

ISLAMABAD (APP): ment and industrial cooperation.

the project which was started 10 years ago on July 5, 2013 which provided employment opportunities to millions of people across the country, besides speeding up the pace of development in various sectors of national economy. The CPEC has made

significant progress due to the vision of the leadership of the Chinese President Xi Jinping, he said adding that Gwadar, energy, infrastructure and industrial development projects were agreed upon during the visit of the Chinese President.

ing groups were established The minister said that in the context of CPEC projects, adding that there were key achievements in the construction and development of Gwadar port, adding that the port was fully functional, Gwadar airport, hospital, sea water potable plant and other projects have also been

> The minister said that the projects which were completed under CPEC were contributing in economic development and employment creation and played a key role in improving the lives of the people.



SUKKUR: Lawyers are holding protest demonstra-tion against desecration of Holy Quran in Sweden

No compromise on nobility of Prophethood, sanctity of Quran: Ashrafi

(Online): Holy Quran teaches Special Representative to the Prime Minister for Interfaith Harmony and Middle Eastern Affairs Hafiz Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi has said that there all prophets, and they will be no compromise on nobility of Prophethood and sanctity of the Holy Quran at alĺ.

Addressing a press conference at Behria Town Grand Masjid, he said the Holy Quran Day was observed on Friday across various countries including Pakistan. He strongly condemned the burning and desecration of Holy Quran in Sweden. He urged the world to make legislation regarding sacred things and the Holy Quran.

Ashrafi said that the

respect for all prophets, and it was not permissible to burn the divine books in Islam. 'Muslims believe in

want respect for all sacred articles related to Islam, he added. He said that the honour of the last Prophet Muhammad peace be upon him should also be respected as well. Ashrafi said all

Muslims should raise voice against the desecration of Holy Quran collectively. He said all Muslims should be part of peaceful protest against such abhorrent acts, leaving aside their political and religious

Meeting held regarding rain emergency arrangements in District East **Independent Report**

KARACHI: A meeting was held under the presidentship of Transition Officer District East Naveed Khan Kolachi in view of the expected rains in which town chairmen, Dr. Fawad Ahmed, Rashid Khaskheli and Rizwan Abdul Sami, town municipal commissioners Javed Kalwar, Ammar Khan, Imtiaz Magsi, officers of the Defunct DMC East, water board and elected local bodies representatives attended the meeting

Focal Person Tauquer Abbas, Superintending Engineer, Mubeen Sheikh and Senior Executive Engineer Imtiaz Bhutto briefed the participants about drains, dewatering pumps and other arrangements on the occasion and assured that in rain emergency, staff and machinery will be available for drainage work who will perform duties especially in places where there is a possibility of drainage problems.

Various issues related to rain emergency were identified by the elected local bodies representatives, for which orders were issued on the spot for resolving the problems



On the occasion, Transition Officer Naveed Khan Kolachi said that the choking ints of the drains should be cleared immediately, kmc should be taken on board to play its role to ensure the execution of the works in those drains which pertains to him. Install before rain de watering pumps on important places that in case of rain not face difficulty in the transfer of pumps