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# Six soldiers martyred, 4 terrorists killed in **SW** encounter: ISPR

PESHAWAR (APP): Six found in the area. troops were martyred and four terrorists killed during exchange of firing in South Waziristan tribal district on

According to ISPR, fire exchange took place between own troops and terrorists in general area Asman Manza, South Waziristan District.

"Own troops effectively engaged the terrorists' location and resultantly four terrorists were sent to hell, while two terrorists were injured. However, during intense exchange of fire, six brave soldiers fought gallantly, embraced Shahadat," the ISPR said.

nate any other terrorists prayers.

Armed forces of Pakistan are determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism and such sacrifices of our brave soldiers further strengthen our resolve.

Online adds: Funeral prayers of shuhada who embraced shahadat today while fighting valiantly against terrorists during intense exchange of fire between Army troops and terrorists in the general area Asman Manza, South Waziristan District were offered at Wana.

Shuhada will be laid to rest with full military honours in their respective hometowns. Corps Commander Peshawar and other Sanitization of the area senior serving officers atis being carried out to elimitended the funeral

Battagram cable car:

# All eight rescued in hours-long operation

Two wires of the motor-driven conveyor carrying school children snapped, leaving them stranded mid-air



BATTAGRAM (INP): All eight stranded persons, including schoolchildren and a teacher, were successfully rescued by Pakistan Army troops in hours-long operation after two wires of a cable car snapped in Battagram's Allai tehsil on Tuesday morning, leaving them stranded

Military's media wing, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), said in a statement that the GOC SSG himself supervised the operation.

The Ministry of Interior said the rescued persons are identified as Irfan s/o Amrez, Niaz s/o Umarzeb, Rizwan s/o Abdul Qayyum, Gulfaraz s/o Hakeemdad, Sher Nawaz s/o Shah Nazar, Abrar s/o Abdul Ghani, Attaullah s/o Kifayatullah and Usama s/o Muhammad Sharif.

# Gwadar port to export 30 containers this month

GWADAR (INP): Thirty be a total export of 60 concontainers carrying pharmaceutical raw material will be exported to China from Gwadar Port this

The material imported from South America and Africa will be exported by the Chinese Hangeng Agriculture group after being processed at the company's

industrial park in Gwadar. Talking to Gwadar Pro, the company's CEO Andy Liao said that previously they were exporting 30 containers of pharmaceutical raw material to China, now adding these there will

tainers every month.

We participate ac tively to engage with BRI and CPEC. Our plan is to increase the export to 150 containers per month by the end of this year," he

The agricultural Group specialized in planting aloe vera, processing and exporting of agriculture products as well as animal husbandry has already established its processing unit in Gwadar South Free Zone and an under-construction factory in the North Free Zone.



ISLAMABAD: Director General, FIA Mohsin Hassan Butt called on Caretaker Federal MinisterforInteriorSarfrazAhmedBugti.

## Pakistan Rangers apprehend six Indian nationals inside Pakistani territory

kistan Rangers troops deployed along international border with India apprehended six Indian nationals inside Pakistani territory from July 29 to August 3,

The Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) in a news release on Tuesday said these smugglers and criminals were trying to smuggle narcotics, weapons and ammunition into Paki-

"It is surprising that these smugglers could cross the heavily fenced border under perpetual surveil-lance of BSF (Indian Bor-

RAWALPINDI (APP): Pa- der Security Force). It shows likely complicity of BSF troops in narco and weapons smuggling. In addition, it is also surprising that Indian BSF troops have so far failed to report six missing citizens," the ISPR said. The four apprehended smugglers were identified as Gurmeej son of Guldeep Singh, Shinder Singh son of Bhora Singh, Juginder Singh son of Thakur Singh and Vishal son of Jagga belong to Ferozpur, Rattan Pal Singh son of Mahinder Singh belongs to Jalandhar and Garvender Singh son of Mukhtiar Singh belongs to Ludhiana



KARACHI: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar talking to media after visiting Mazaar-e-Quaid

No addition burden to be put on public exchequer:

# Caretaker CM vows to decrease unnecessary expenditures to bring down budget deficit

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has categorically stated that the caretaker government would decrease the unnecessary expenditures to the minimum level in order to bring down the budget defi-

He pledged that additional burden would not be put on the public exchequer and the spending on the foreign trips, protocol and other heads would be less-

In addition to this, the caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Haq Kakar would be requested for recovery of the arrears of around Rs. 87 billion payable against the federation on different accounts so as to prepare projects, foreign funded

#### **President approves** appointment of **Chief Justice PHC**

ISLAMABAD (APP) President Dr Arif Alvi has approved appointment of Mohammad Justice Ibrahim Khan as the Chief Justice of Peshawar High Court.

The president accorded his approval to the appointment of CJ Peshawar High Court under Article 175 A (13) of the Constitution and on the advice of the prime minister, President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press release on Tuesday.

Justice Mohammad Ibrahim Khan, senior Puisne Judge, has been working as Acting CJ Peshawar High Court.

#### Caretaker Minister Home grieved over martyrdomof 6 army jawans in SW

Independent Report QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Home and Tribal Affairs, Captain (Retd) Zubair Jamali has expressed grief and sorrow over martyrdom of six iawans of Pak Army in the operation against terrorists in the South Wazirsitan. According to an official statement issued here on Tuesday, the caretaker Minister Home expressed sympathy and condolence over the martyrdom with bereaved families of the martyrs Captain (Retd) Zubair Jamali said that the entire nation is proud of its martyrs. He said that the stability and survival of our country is not possible without

quiring the arrears, which otherwise are outstanding for long.

The caretaker Chief Minister was speaking during briefing conducted on the development and financial matters of the province here on Tuesday. The briefing was conducted by the Planning and Development and Finance depart-

Also present on the occasion were the Chief Secretary, Shakil Qadir Khan, Additional Chief Secretary Planning and Development, Hafiz Abdul Basit and Secretary Finance,

Zahid Saleem. During the briefing, the caretaker Chief Minister briefed about the ongoing development projects included in the PSDP, CPEC

a clear procedure for acprojects as well as the projects of Gwadar and rehabilitation of the flood affectes areas.

Speaking on the occasion, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki said that it is responsibility of the caretaker government to conduct the free and fair elections in peaceful environment. For this, financial discipline has the basic importance, he maintained.

He directed to complete the ongoing development projects within stipulated time. He said that unnecessary delay in completion of the projects increases their costs.

He on the occasion praised the Secretary Fi nance and his team for the ongoing programme in the Finance department.



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar addressing partiapents of Women Police Conference

# Governor calls for ensuring women participation in all sectors in Balochistan

Suggests establishing female police station at each division to solve issues of women

# **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has underlined the need to ensure participation of women in all sectors in the province. However, he noted with pleasure that over 700 women including 15 officers are serving in the police

The Governor was addressing the women police conference held under the auspices of UN Women in collaboration with the Ger-Embassy and man Balochistan police here at a local hotel on Tuesday. The former Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Ms. Rahila Hameed Durrani, former Senator, Mrs. Roshan Khursheed Bharucha, senior police officers, women police officers and personnel were also present

The Governor said tha the beauty and colour of the society is associated with both men and women, and their combined efforts car guarantee the society free of every kind of exploration. He proposed to set up separate female police stations at the level of division in the province.

The Governor said tha it is a good initiative to raise voice for elimination of gender discrimination and for rights and powers of the

He said that today' conscious women are not ready to remain deaf and dumb and just confined to the four walls in the name

of parental system. He observed that gen erally our women economi cally depend on the men this is why they are dependent on the men in all af



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Minister Prince Ali Ahmedzai, Malik Shehryar and other meeting with Caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki

# Caretaker govt to ensure transparent, impartial election process: PM Kakar

Caretaker govt to fulfill constitutional requirement of assisting electoral process

KARACHI (APP): Care- only to ensure the election taker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar on Tuesday reiterated that the interim government would ensure holding of the upcoming general elections in the most transparent and impartial manner, accepted

Talking to media after visiting the Mazar-e-Quaid to pay tribute and offer Fateha, the prime minister said that the caretaker government would function in tired) Maqbool Baqir the limited time-frame and the members of his

They would play their part in that regard by holding transparent and impartial polls, so that Pakistan could move through its constitutional transitional

On the occasion, the prime minister was accompanied by Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tissori, Caretaker Chief Minister Justice (Re-

period, he added.

cabinet. It was the maiden visit of the caretaker prime minister to Karachi after assuming his office.

The prime minister said that he along with his few cabinet members came here to pay homage to Q u a i d - e - A z a m Muhammad Ali Jinnah and reaffirm to work for the progress and prosperity of the country by highlighting the social contract under which a separate state came into be-



**OUETTA:** Caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki talking with a patient during his visit to Bolan Medical Complex Hospital

## PM assures all-out efforts for addressing **Balochistan**

issues ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar Tuesday assured of making allout efforts, on part of the government, for the resolution of issues of Balochistan province.

The prime minister was talking to a six-member delegation from Balochistan province led by Sardar Kamal Khan Bangulzai, a former member of the National Assembly, that called on him, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The delegation felicitated the caretaker prime minister on assuming his office and apprised him of the issues faced by the province.

#### **Electricity tariff** likely to go up Rs 2.07 per unit

ISLAMABAD (Online) Preparations are underway to drop electricity bombshell on the consumers.

The electricity tariff is likely to scale up by Rs 2.07 for power distribution companies. CPPA GA has filed ap-

plication in NEPRA seeking hike in power tariff under monthly fuel charges ad

In the event of ap proval, an additional bur-den of Rs 35 billion will be shifted to the consumers.

NEPRA will hear the plea of Central Power Purchasing Agency on August

#### Humaira Ahmed refusal to serve as Principal Secretary to President of Pak

ISLAMABAD (Online): The President Dr. Arif Alvi had returned the services of his principal secretary Waqar Ahmed yesterday and demanded that Humaira Ahmed be appointed as Secretary.

However Humaira Ahmed , officer of 22 grade has refused to serve as Principal Secretary of President of Pakistan.

Humaira Ahmed is currently working as Secretary of Narcotics Division.

# Ali Mardan expresses anger over cleanliness, lack of medicine in BMC

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has expressed dismay over the poor state of cleanliness and non-availability of the medicines in Bolan Medical Complex Hospital, Quetta.

He issued standing directives to the concerned authorities to improve the cleanliness situation and healthcare facilities for the patients in hospital. He also directed to es-

tablish more counters in Out patient departments of the hospital.

The caretaker Chief Minister was on surprise visit to the BMC Hospital on Tuesday morning. During the visit, he visited different sections of the hospital including OPDs and inspected the facilities being provided to the patients

Speaking on the occasion, the caretaker Chief Minister asserted that absence of the doctors and other medical staff would not be tolerated in the hos-

He said that there is no political pressure on him, which otherwise affects functioning and performance of the institutions.

He also urged the doctors and medical staff to behave kindly with the patients approaching them for

Meanwhile, the caretaker Chief Minister was briefed by the Medical Superintendent of BMC Hospital about its overall per-



QUETTA: Provincial Secretary Information Hamza Shafqaat presenting a shield to Caretaker Information Minister Jan Achakzai. DGPR Kamran Asad is also present

**JanAchakzai** 

# Govt. would provide better working environment to employees of Information Dept

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The caretaker Minister for Information, Jan Muhammad Achakzai visited the office of Secretary Information here on

Tuesday.

The Secretary Information, Hamza Shafqaat and Director General Public Relations, Kamran Asad welcomed the caretaker Minister. During the course of

meeting, the Minister Information was briefed by the Secretary Information about the department's related matters. On the occasion, there was also detailed discussion about the issues and challenges being faced by the department.

Speaking on the occasion, the caretaker Information Minister said that performance of employees of every institution directly relates with the facilities and necessities provided to them. The provision of conducive working environment would bear good results, adding he believed.

He assured that the present caretaker government would provide every possible facilities to provide better working environment remaining in its frame-

Jan Achakzai exhorted the department's officers and staff to perform their duties with sincerity and honestly.

# Daily soice of Masse Independent

Wednesday August 23, 2023

# 'No' means 'yes'

With the caretakers settling in, one would have expected that the fever that has lately In this rollercoaster ride wracked Pakistani politics would finally start receding. Instead, it appears that we may be in for a fresh bout of be the last one. febrile uncertainty, thanks to continuing power struggles at the highest levels of the state.

The president on Sunday caused a major scandal when ond passport or a secret bank account abroad as a he posted on X (formerly Twitter) that he had never assented to two controversial us thought the caretaker bills seeking to amend the setup would give us a break and spare our nerves, even Army Act and the Official Secrets Act. Just a day earlier, these amendments had been [announced][2] as having been enacted into law.

The president's startling disclosure triggered a furore, with analysts and commentators presenting vastly different views on its implications. As the interim government tried to deflect blame, the country faced international ridicule over the farcical manner in which it has been run

It is clear that something had been amiss at the presi- is in deep trouble, the govdency. This publication was ernment has taken various repeatedly stonewalled by the But so far, most measures Aiwan-i-Sadr in recent days whenever it attempted to get tive: the decision to form confirmation on which laws among the dozens passed by the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) headed by the prime ministhe 15<sup>th</sup> National Assembly in ter of Pakistan. The chief its last days had actually of army staff (COAS) is also a member and will supbeen given President Arif port the initiative for the Alvi's assent. It is unclear stability. who was seeking to withhold this information from the stan prepares for elections. public; the president's own While there are speculastatement appears to suggest the caretaker government, that he, too, was being kept the importance of the SIFC in the dark.

However, it has also greatly confused many why President can also go the other way if prove to be another hoax in GCC countries, and work Alvi thought it necessary to apologise for the two laws as if their implementation was inevitable. Had he accepted them to be fait accompli? Why? Several legal experts have argued that the two bills can no longer be deemed to have been enacted, considering the president never gave them his assent. Why, then, did Mr Alvi take such an ambiguous position on the matter through his post?

There must be an independent inquiry into this matter. If any person or persons the barter of democracy sought to ensure that these with unelected forces in order to regain power two bills were enacted regard- through controversial less of what the president actually thought about them, they must be found and prosecuted. The latest is that the far exceeds the good. But, President's Secretariat has called for his secretary to be they did while in power replaced. This is not enough. In the 1970s and then from 2008 to 2018 far exceeds All responsible must face ex- that by all other civilian emplary punishment for subverting the legislative process. If President Alvi truly believes he was deceived, he has a responsibility to restore the wo rainy elected regimes via our fairest polls; accomsanctity of his office.

Meanwhile, the legal status ting the PTI and BNP rule KP and Balochistan, even of the two laws continues to though with some dicey efbe debated. While the care- ruled both; major electoral taker government and several reforms in 2010 and 2017 PML-N leaders have rushed to defend their enactment, the ging by incumbents; more ongoing controversy boils der most of our other redown to the question of how the Constitution is to be correctly interpreted on the matter. While this question is re- above or the fact that they solved, the two laws, in their are much more than those amended form, must not be of some summer in the sound of enforced till the judiciary has ited pluses of PTI's KP local bodies and 2002 rehad the final say.

# Power of violence



Arifa Noor

called life in Pakistan, each exhausting drop after the contraption slows down brings the hope that this nail-biting moment would

After this, we can finally get off and be allowed some rest. But each time, we are proven wrong — all of us, in this country we call home (if there is no secbackup plan).
With this bit of illogical hope in mind, some of

for a bit. But then, never do those who lord over us consider our feelings. And so it was this

past week when the efforts to collect brilliant minds for our caretaker cabinet coin-

cided with an attack on a much of it is due to fear and minority community, the death of a child who had been abused and mistreated, and more arrests.

In Punjab, our cruelty to the vulnerable is shameful, and the line the province draws is on the basis of religion. The terrible acts against the Ahmadi community continue unabated and in between, we also managed to destroy the lives of a Christian community. churches, nothing was spared. Anyone reading this

will take objection to the vague terms in which I refer to the perpetrators, blaming simply hate rather than the individuals who carried out these acts. But what else should one call it, for the hate is far more widespread than we realise. We have inculcated it

generations, so much so that when such a crime takes place, the details reveal how many more are involved than we realise. For one, the paralysis afflicting law-enforcement personnel who not just watch the crisis building up but also don't stop the one has a clue how we can rampaging crowds: how address this, regardless of

for decades in society, for

how much because those in uniform may agree with the attackers?

Or observe the aftermath of such incidents only in the case of the right victims, the ones it is safe to sympathise with when the leadership sent out to soothe the nerves is religious. Rarely ever does a mainstream politician turn up at such places. And it has been no differ-Their homes, their ent in Jaranwala. Ever wonder where the multiple politicians from Faisalabad are?

And why we don't even ask when they will show up? Because those who are aiming to win an election, rarely ever turn up to wipe the tears of vulnerable non-Muslim citizens, for it would cost them the votes of the majority which has been fed on hate and a version of religion we seem to cling

So occasionally, we will find images of our mainstream politicians with leaders who promote sectarianism but never with the victims of crimes such as Jaranwala. And no

how many times we spout Jinnah's Aug 11 speech. But then, if this be

our only wound. For the week past also brought us the news of the death of a child working in a local influential's home, along with the video of her writhing in pain on the ground.

Rarely is it possible for a soundless film to communicate such horror, but this one did. But more was in store; the postmortem revealed physical and sexual abuse. And if anyone wants

to console themselves by thinking this was simply the ugly feudal culture now restricted to the rural corners of Pakistan, the child who had had her bones broken while working in a judge's home is still undergoing treatment. Urban, rural, feudal, or professional, it seems there is little respect for those less fortunate or less privileged.

All these incidents show that violence continues to be the dominant way in which we manage society. The legal system is an alien one that has been imposed on this traditional one and continues

to function as an accessory after the fact. That it doesn't help provide justice is simply adding to its irrelevance.

Not just for the vulnerable ones but also for the more privileged among

Imaan Hazir and Ali Wazir were arrested in the dead of night. And while we know little about Wazir's arrest, Imaan and her mother live-tweeted the event, so to say. Doors were broken

down and Imaan dragged off in her night clothes, and we know this not just because of her mother's tweet but also because we saw the video of her court appearance the next day. No one has any doubts why she was arrested but the law has little to do with it and neither will her release, when it happens. As I was writing this,

news came that she had been handed over to CTD for three days. Few have been surprised by this or will wonder what she may have done to deserve this. were enough, Khadija Shah

After all, if the law and others would have been released by now; to

Musharraf, women should have an automatic right to bail. But they haven't and for similar reasons, one can't have high hopes for the quick release of Ali Wazir. His incarceration, the last time around, also was a lengthy one. And the way the law was managed to ensure his continued captivity has since been used to hold on to so many others.

Others who earlier didn't protest for Ali Wazir are now finding out how easily such traps can be used for them also, for their privilege was also not as great as they thought it was.

Not as unprivileged as the minorities forced to live among us or the poverty-stricken as the children who work in homes, but unprivileged compared to the powerful ones. There is always a power relationship involved, and our law can provide no protection against the violence of the powerful.

And till this is addressed, I wonder if there is any reason or meaning to what we write or say. It just seems so pointless. -- Courtesy Dawn

# he SIFC



Hassan Baig

Since Pakistan's economy have proved to be a total waste except for one initiapurposes of continuity and

At present, a caretaker setup is in place as Pakitions about the period of cannot be denied even under such a setup. The SIFC can be a game changer if it is managed rightly, and it foreign direct investment or

not taken seriously. So by all means, it is a wild card hands policymakers to help improve the economy by putting it on the sustainable path towards development and growth. The SIFC seems to be

National Development Council (NDC) announced four years back in June 2019, whereby the then army chief was made a member of the council to make it a success. But the NDC could not achieve much because of multiple reasons, including the nonseriousness shown by the then government. Now the outgoing government of former prime minister Shehbaz Sharif formed the SIFC to attract foreign investment, especially from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries in the fields of agriculture, mining, energy, IT and de-

The SIFC's apex comto set up a special purpose run its affairs on professional lines. The question

Charter or barter?

the making. It all depends on the government. One also wonders why setups like the NDC or the SIFC are formed in the presence of the Board of Investment (BoI) working under the prime minister.

Such an exercise leads an extension of the former to the duplication of institutions, which is common in Pakistan and has always been a cause of disturbance among institutional working. The SIFC has swiftly started working on its welldefined goals, attracting investments from the GCC countries, as we saw the Abu Dhabi Ports Company (ADPC) acquiring berths of Karachi Port Terminals on a 25-year lease. The outsourcing of three priority airports of Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi is also under consideration. The SIFC has also recently identified the potential of the Diamer-Basha Dam to attract about \$14 billion in investment

The Diamer-Basha mittee has already decided Dam project has a lot of potential to attract investvehicle (SPV) company to ment, and work has already been started to bifurcate it into two components: wais whether the much-hyped ter and power. There are SIFC will be able to attract chances of investment in the power component by the

is already underway to raise investment for this project under the SIFC.

This is also true for the corporate farming potential in the field of agriculture, which is being considered to attract investment from China under CPEC as well as from the GCC countries. The armed forces have already taken an initiative to go all-out for corporate farming by irrigating barren government lands. The SIFC would be interested in offering such an investment opportunity to potential investors in the field of agriculture.

The SIFC with a fullfledged secretariat would be in a position to chalk out the detailed investment potential, especially in the fields of mining and minerals for which activation of institutions like the Pakistan Minerals Development Corporation is a must Pakistan has the potential of at least \$500 billion investment in the mining sector.

Thousands of billions of dollars could be earned in revenue through such investments in this sector. This all depends on facilitation through one-window operations as envisaged by the SIFC to explore that economy. potential in this important

sector of the economy. Projects like the Thar coal power project, Reko Diq mine project, Saindak gold project have the huge potential to offer and attract potential investors to invest in this vital sector to revive our ailing economy.

The energy and defence sectors also have potential for investment for the revival of the economy, as rightly identified by the SIFC. The energy sector has already saturated itself as far as power plants are concerned. Now, the need is to go all-out for renewable green energy options. The traditional hydel power by building more dams like Diamer-Basha

ment.

The next is solar and wind power; this area can also attract potential investors if the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) could rationalize tariffs in this regard. There is an immediate need to explore this potential as such energy options will be direction, given the fact that ours is a climate-hit country facing climate challenges

can be a point of invest-

that are destroying our The defence sector is TheNews

one of our prime sectors with a potential to attract investment. Defence expos have been a regular feature in this regard. Another thing to consider is the country's privatization plans. The privatization list includes heavy industry to attract

investment. It is equally important to help build the Pakistani people's trust in our political system. In case our political system cannot deliver and the existing social contract in the form of the constitution is not respected. all may go to waste.

The policy of disrespect and disruptions has to be shunned for the higher objective of making this nation great and proud. The confidence of the people of Pakistan and potential investors has to be restored at all cost. All investors should be provided foolproof security not only of their life and liberty but also their investment by providing sovereign guarantees.

The one-window operation as suggested by the a welcome step in the right SIFC in its vision and mission statement is the ultimate solution to attracting investment But that has to be implemented in letter and spirit. -- Courtesy

# Truck face twins



Dr Niaz Murtaza

It is observed that the two parties that signed a compact for the Charter of Democracy in 2006 have seemingly now 'signed' one for with unelected forces in or-The PPP and PML-

N have odd ties with democratic evolution. The harm they have done to it reflecting on our limited democratic gains, the good in the 1970s and then from and khaki regimes combined in 65 years. It includes the 1973 Constitution; the 2010 devolution; holding the only smooth transfer of power between two fairly elected regimes modation after polls in letfort the PML-N may have empowering an interim caretaker system to thwart rigfreedom of rights than un-

gimes, etc. One can make a much longer list of their wrongs even in these eras. But that won't erase the pluses by all our other regimes, served assembly seats

laws. Democratic evolution doesn't mean immediate good governance. Their actual governance and delivery even then were very poor. Still, the limited evolution is critical as lasting good governance came globally only after prolonged democratic evolution. But the PPP and

much of that now and returned to their 1990s form. The fair polls norm ended in 2018 under the PTI. But the two parties undid the neutral interim system via poor nominations for key posts and, it is feared, will collude with other actors to hold far more dubious polls. Their record on political accommodation and human rights was even worse than the PTI's. Devolution and the Constitution have survived but are regularly flouted by not just the establishment but also these two parties, the PTI, the ECP and other institutions. Hence, it is hard to see a quick path back to civilian sway and democratic evolution. Even civilian sway may only allow illiberal quasi-democ-

racy as the PTI and PML-N both rule autocratically. So, a clueless nation is back to square one, left to ponder why democratic evolution is so elusive for it. But Af-Pak, closest and long linked to autocratic Central Asia and Middle East, lags behind, partially due to the links. Some see promising social change that may serve democracy: for example, the expanding urban, youth and middleclass numbers and the use of social media. But this is a futile hope as the trends are actually strengthening the status quo and vacuous nationalist, ethnic or religious populist groups. Demographic and technological trends don't result

in progress directly but

only if harnessed by posi-

tive change agents, of

which there are limited

All our bases of power — economic, political, social, legal, informational and military — are monopolised by elite fac-

tions who compete for bigger pieces of state power. The most intense recent political struggles have been between elite groups: the military, the courts, tra-PML-N have undone ditional elitist parties and new populist parties representing new elites. Even worse, the biggest challenge to the status quo comes from TTP extremism followed by Baloch groups who have real complaints but unluckily use militant strategies instead of peace-

Beyond them, the

worthier left challenge is still embryonic due to state repression and people's attraction to reactionary rather than rational the-mes. Democra-tic groups break the suffocating hold of elites on all six power bases by building strong social, informational and political power. The left still has a long way to go to capture even those power bases due to constant repression. Thus, we may be in for a long and ruinous k(h)akistocracy. It's unclear if we will return to elected

rule soon. The PDM and ECP have wrongly delayed polls to draw new delimitations. The Constitution mandates those under new census results if they change provincial seats in the National Assembly, which the last census hasn't. Many are singing praises of the interim cabinet and egging on the establishment to prolong its influence to 'save Pakistan'. But teams deliver if they share a common vision and work history under a natural, strong leader. It is naïve to expect a disparate team of even top experts to deliver with no clear ideology or shared vision. Our destiny lies in quickly holding fair polls to return to elected rule despite all its flaws. -

Courtesy Dawn

**Shahzad Sharjeel** 

They have the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty, we have the Bhutto-Zardari clan. They had a foreign-origin first lady, we could have had one too, but she was hounded out. They have Rahul, we have Bilawal. Both are young compared to their septuagenarian competitors who have been variously and dismissively calling them pappu (prepubescent lad), baby, etc.

The higher judiciary in both countries plays a significant political role. Legislators in both places have an embarrassing number of criminal cases against them, ranging from goat theft to murder. The list of similarities is endless, but where we see a clear divergence emerging is how election campaigns and canvassing are done. The tech side of it has been somewhat replicated by the PTI, but where legwork is concerned, we clearly lag—rallies led from the cool environs of SUVs and biryani-fed sit-ins do

not count. Rahul's Bharat Jodo Yatra from one end of India to the other and his truck rides in Indian Punjab and Haryana and between Washington and New York are cases in point. Both endeavours were at least partially aimed at dispelling criticism that the top party leadership is disconnected from the street and the reality of life for citizens at home and the diaspora abroad.

Our political elites' outings are restricted to wading through ankle-deep rainwater in knee-high boots or staged showings at shelters for the home

less and orphanages, where the epitome of their public empathy is, 'wo aam logon mein ghul mil gaey'(they mingled with the common folk). Imran Khan is in jail, but it is a matter of time before he is allowed to go abroad on health grounds. Neither the referees in robes nor the coaches in uniform would want him permanently 'out' as sparring partners are needed

even for fixed matches.

Some people may come to Bilawal's defence, citing the history of violence against his family and continuing security threats as reasons behind his lack of street credentials. But the argument doesn't hold as Rahul's grandmother and father lost their lives to assassins' bullets and a suicide bomb; the former while in office, the latter as former prime minister. His last speech in parliament and subsequent statements may have sounded rebellious, but Bilawal should know that one cannot ditch the baggage without renouncing the fortune.

Any politician who can connect with even 10 per cent of the electorate is a force to reckon with, believes Sanjaya Baru, veteran journalist and author of Accidental Prime Minister. Mr Baru, who has witnessed power politics firsthand as media adviser to then prime minister Manmohan Singh, feels that Bharat Jodo Yatra will play an important part in Congress's resurgence and Rahul's coming into his

own as party leader. Like Pakistan, the present dispensation in India is trying to knock the opposition leader out of the fray. Rahul has managed to hang on to his Lok Sabha seat through the supreme court's suspension of a lower court order to unseat him on libel charges for making false accusations against PM Modi.

Among the plethora of charges against him, Imran Khan can face mul-

tiple cases for breaching the Official Secrets Act. Legislation in this regard was passed with undue haste by parliament. Many see the legislation as PTIspecific.

Not that Imran has not been cavalier in his handling of classified information, ranging from the cipher concerning a purported US conspiracy for regime change in Pakistan to an alleged statement by a former army chief regarding the fuel gauges of tanks. The PDM alliance's unseemly haste in pushing through a slew of legislation has hurt the cause of democratic nor-ms as much PTI's de--clar-a-tions did of being on the same page with

the establishment Jawaharlal Nehru, during his premiership, told Achariya Kripalani, the Congress president at the time, that if he wanted to know what went on behind closed doors in govemment meetings, he could

join his cabinet as a minister without portfolio, as the Official Secrets Act prevented him from sharing classified information with anyone outside the cabinet. It is difficult to say how much Prime Minister Modi shares with the RSS but his frequent huddles with it along with BJP officeholders are well known. The Indians have had

their accidental prime ministers like Manmohan Singh and Rajiv Gandhi. We have had our share of accidental and dental presidents. Let us hope that the Pakistani voters are allowed to elect their next prime minister and do so carefully, and that there is nothing accidental about it before and after. It is, however, unrealistic to hope that the next dispensation will have no truck with tanks. Bilawal's belligerent albeit accurate depiction of Modi could make him an early applicant to be the next same 'pageboy'. --Courtesy Dawn

# All possible resources to be used to address Karachi issues: PM

Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Tuesday assured that the government would utilise all possible resources to address the issues faced by

The prime minister said this in a meeting with a delegation of the Muttahida Qaumi Movement which called on him during his daylong visit here.

The delegation members congratulated the prime minister on assuming the office and expressed good wishes for him.

In the meeting, they discussed the country's overall situation, including

taker Prime Minister attention towards the issues of delimitation in Karachi as well as the short-

The delegation com-Khawaja Izharul Hassan. Sindh Governor

Kamran Tessori also at-

tended the meeting.On the occasion, the prime minister was accompanied by Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tissori, Caretaker Chief Minister Justice (Retired) Maqbool Bagir and the members of his cabinet. It was the maiden visit of the caretaker prime minister to Karachi after assum-

KARACHI (APP): Care- drew the prime minister's here to pay homage to Muhammad Ali Jinnah and progress and prosperity of the country by highlighting prised Dr Farooq Sattar, the social contract under Syed Aminul Haq and which a separate state came into being.

Referring to an address of the Founder of the Nation on August 11, before Constituent Assembly, he said it focused on the rights of the minorities and equality individuals.

Prime Minister Kakar expressed the optimism that the people of the country would excel in different fields on the



FAISALABAD: Federal Ombudsman Ejaz Ahmad Qureshi talking with the transgender community at Circuit House.

# Younsa Dagha says: **E-registration system** should be introduced for convenience of citizens

KARACHI (INP): Sindh facilitate the citizens, he Caretaker Minister of Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development Muhammad Younis Dagha on Tuesday directed officials concerned that eregistration system should purpose.

the meeting held at the minister about their office of the Sindh Board respective fields. of Revenue here.

remove the defects from Revenue and also improve services. For this purpose should be introduced to attended the meeting.

added. Younis Dagha advised the officers that providing the best services to the citizens should be their priority and all efforts should be made for this

In the meeting, the officers of the Sindh Younis Dagha said Revenue department gave

Senior Member Board He directed the of Revenue Baqaullah concerned officers to Unar, Member RS&EP Waseem Shamshad, the record of Board of Secretary Land Revenue, Member Gothabad Scheme, IG Registration an e-registration system and other senior officers

# Rawalpindi's hospitals to be improved at cost Rs 2 billion: Dr Jamal

RAWALPINDI (APP): the allocation of Rs 100 Caretaker Provincial Minister for Primary and Secondary Health Care and Jamal Nasir has said that Caretaker Chief Minister, Punjab Mohsin Naqvi had provided over two billion facilities at Rawalpindi's patients.

presiding over separate had been completed and meetings at Holy Family and Benazir Bhutto Hospitals to review the high-quality dialysis. procedure of utilization of

The minister said that Rs1.8 billion would be utilized for the revamping of the Holy Family Hospital, while the upgradation of Benazir to overcome the shortage Bhutto Hospital OPD would be carried out at Rs staff in Murree. 160 million.

that Emergency and OPD the Pothohar rehab centre Headquarters Hospital 50 to 100 beds in Wah would be developed with General Hospital.

Dr. Jamal Nasir said that the budget of Tehsil Population Welfare Dr Headquarter Hospital Murree had been restored for 82 beds while six dialysis machines had also been provided to the rupees in funds for hospital to deal with the improving public health increasing number of

He informed that He said this while training of technical staff soon the citizens of Murree will avail the facility of

He said that a new ward of 28 beds was also being added in THQ

Dr Jamal said that the recruitment of 22 new nurses had been approved of nurses and paramedical

The minister further He further informed added that the capacity of District was being increased from

## **CM Sindh** takes notice of missing girl from Mansion

SUKKUR (APP): Sindh Caretaker Chief Minister Justice (retd) Maqboo Bagar on Tuesday took notice of a 20-year-old girl Sana from Qambar, who was sent to the mansion of Pir of Ranipur

reportedly gone missing. Chief Minister Sindh has directed the Divisional Commissioner and DIG Sukkur to investigate the incident and ensure safe this while presiding over a detailed briefing to the recovery of the missing

> Earlier, Deedar Gurhmani, resident of Oambar, while talking to the media, said one and a half years ago, he had sent his 20-year-old daughter Sana to the mansion (haveli) of Pir of Ranipur Sved Sohail Ahmed Shah in Khairpur for the trust and protection until his problems were resolved.

However, he said, about a month ago, Syed Sohail Ahmed Shah phoned him, informing his daughter had gone missing from the mansion. He said he travelled to Ranipur to inquire from the Pir Sohail as to how his daughter went missing from the

#### **President tweet:** Hamza urges transparent investigation

LAHORE (Online): PML-N President and Former Chief Minister (CM) Punjab Hamza Shehbaz Sharif said that a tweet of President of Pakistan has created crisis. Transparent investigation should be conducted regarding this matter. He said in a statement that letter of President Secretary has

come Comprehensive and transparent investigation should be conducted by considering the seriousness of the matter. Hamza Shehbaz said that the problem is not of a party but of the orders issued by the office of President of Pakistan.



KARACHI: Members of Christian Community are holding protest demonstration against attacked on churches in Jaranwala incident and demanding for Justice, held at Karachi press club.



KARACHI: Caretaker Prime Minister, Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar laying floral wreath at the Mausoleum of Father of the Nation, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad

# CM Naqvi expresses annoyance over poor arrangements at HFH

Independent Report AWALPINDI: Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi on Tuesday directed the administration of the Holy Family Hospital (HFH) to improve the management of the hospital within a week else strict action would be taken against

During a visit to HFH, the CM in detail inspected various sections of the hospital and found bloody bed sheets in wards, long queues at reception, shortage of ventilators, while air conditioners were also shut down in several wards. He interacted with

PESHAWAR

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Governor Haji Ghulam Ali

Tuesday directed the Chief

Commissioner Hazara

Division for taking

emergency measures for

the rescue of the children

trapped in a chairlift at

directive said all available

resources should be used

for the safe evacuation of

The governor in his

provided to them. On the occasion, the

patients complained to the CM that medicines were not available in the hospital and they were forced to buy medicines and carry out medical tests from outside the hospital. The attendants of

patients also complained that security guards asked for bribes for entry into the hospital while medical staff delayed the patient's treatment.

and inquired about the

health of trapped children

the relevant organizations

and district administration

were jointly taking part in

the rescue operation. A

The governor said al

besides rescue efforts.

to rescue children

the patients and their attendants and inquired about the medical facilities hospital and also visited the shelter home and reviewed the accommodation and food

facilities. He directed the hospital's management to improve the efficiency of the available resources as quality and timely treatment was the right of the patients. Caretaker Provincial

Minister for Primary and Secondary Health Dr Jamal Nasir, Information Minister Amir Mir, Vice-Chancellor Rawalpindi Medical University Dr Muhammad Umer and Medical Superintendent Dr Eiaz Butt were present on the occasion

# **KP** governor orders No negligence for emergency measures

Deputy Commissioner Abullah Nayyar Sheikh has directed dengue surveillance teams to perform their duties honestly and dedication as no negligence will be

helicopter was also being used for the purpose. Batagram thanked the governor for promptly initiating of the rescue

operation. Abdul expressed the hope that Ghafoor Haideri also the rescue operation would telephoned the governor be completed soon.

#### to be tolerated in dengue surveillance: DC FAISALABAD (APP):

tolerated in the surveillance of dengue

Presiding over a meeting of the District Emergency Response Committee here on Tuesday, he said that dengue was a chronic issue which required permanent and thorough



KARACHI: Interim Sindh Health Minister, Dr. Saad Niaz presides over the meeting to discuss scope of support in the province Sindh through the Sindh Health Departments collaboration with PPHI, held in Karachi.

# PDMA Punjab DG visits Atari, reviews flood situation in Sutlej River

Provincial Management Authority (PDMA) Punjab Director General Imran Qureshi, along with Sahiwal Division Commissioner Shoaib Iqbal Syed, visited Atari and reviewed the flood situation in the Sutlej River.RPO Mehboob Deputy Rasheed, Commissioner Okara Dr. Muhammad Zeeshan Hanif, District Police Officer Captain Retd Mansoor Âman and District Emergency Officer

Chaudhry Zafar Iqbal were

also present on this

LAHORE (APP): The Imran Qureshi visited the Disaster flood relief camp established at Atari, and checked the medicine stock available at the health counter, livestock counter and rescue counter.

D e p u t y
Commissioner Dr.
Muhammad Zeeshan
Hanif while giving a detailed briefing about the rescue operation and flood relief camp said that there are more than 2000 flood victims men, women and children in the flood relief camp Atari where all the facilities are being provided to them with respect and

# occasion.Director General dignity. People's evacuation in progress as water level increases in River Sutlej

VEHARI (APP): Amidst low-lying areas of Vehari to safer places.

The operational teams of Rescue-1122, Police and some other department are working to transport people of flood prone areas to secure

VEHARI (APP): Amidst D e p u t y the rising water levels at Commissioner Syed Aasif Head Islam in River Sutlej, Hussain Shah has the local administration is established 20 flood relief actively involved in camps, along with setting relocating people from the up three tent settlements. So far, rescue teams have successfully evacuated people from various areas including Bhattiyan, Jamlira, Farooqabad, Qutbpur, Mehrabad Lekha, 39 K Bajangalat Baqi Shah, Basti Gazar Mauza Murad Ali.

### Peshawar, KP plain areas in grip of severe heat

PESHAWAR (APP): As earlier predicted by the provincial meteorological center, the plain areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa including the provincial metropolis Peshawar have been in the grip of severe hot and humid weather.

The dense humidity and sun heat has badly affected daily routine life. forcing people to remain indoors to remain safe from heat stroke. The Bannu and Dera

Ismail Khan districts were among the hottest places in the province as the other day the highest temperature of 43 degrees Celsius was recorded in Bannu followed by Dera Ismail Khan with 42 degree Celsius. Humidity remained at 69 percent in Bannu. However, the real feel of temperature in both districts was 50 degree Celsius and the situation remained miserable for the locals.In Peshawar, the temperature remained at 38 degree Celsius while the humidity ratio was 75 percent but the real feel of the temperature was about 48 degree Celsius. Coupled with humidity the severe hot weather seemed unbearable for the Peshawarites.For the last many days, Peshawar has been in the grip of severe heat while on Tuesday too.

# One-window operation being launched for complaints of overseas: Ombudsman

FAISALABAD (APP): Federal Ombudsman Ejaz Ahmad Qureshi on Tuesday said that onewindow operation was being launched to redress complaints of overseas speedily Pakistanis Pakistanis speedily whereas a comprehensive policy would be evolved soon to take action against online apps fraud. Talking to the media at the Circle House here, he said the federal

he said the federal ombudsman had powers to hear and redress public complaints against 180 departments. It was resolving 60,000 resolving complaints per annum but now this number was being increased and this year it was expected to redress about 200,000 complaints.

He said that earlier the ombudsman had initiated "Informal Resolution of Dispute" programme which had provided tangible results in resolving public grievances speedily. Now, one-widow operation Now, one-widow operation approach the regional was being launched under office of ombudsman which all departments secretariat for redressal of would be bound to resolve their complaints.

complaints of overseas Pakistanis, including their immigration issues, he

He said that a wing of ombudsman secretariat was working at international airports already to redress custom related issues whereas other wings were working to resolve complaints relating to the issued of minor children, education,

Responding to a question, a comprehensive policy was also being evolved to take action against those elements who were looting people through online apps, he

He said the federal ombudsman had established its 19 regional offices across the country and now necessary steps were being taken to raise awareness among the general public so that maximum people could



Samule Rizk is meeting with Governor Sind Kamran Khan Tessori at Governor House.

# LHC stops ECP from taking final decision in contempt case against Imran

LAHORE (Online): The date of hearing, besides Lahore High Court (LHC) Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) from taking a final decision in a Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran fixed before the bench.

However, the court through the petition, had allowed the commission to assailed constitutional

directing to fix the matter on Tuesday stopped the before a full bench. The court observed that identical petitions were being heard by the full contempt case against bench, therefore, the petition should also be The PTI chairman

continue its proceedings in vires of Section 10 of the Justice Muhammad grant the chief election Waheed Khan passed the commissioner (CEC) the orders while hearing a petition filed by PTI Chairman Imran Khan ECP. He pleaded with the challenging contempt court to strike down the proceedings initiated by section as it was in the ECP against him. The contradiction to the court also issued notices to Constitution and also the ECP and other quash proceedings initiated respondents for the next against him.

# Karachi Police chief, others meet IGP Sindh

KARACHI (APP): Inspector General of Police IGP Sindh Riffat Mukhtar on Tuesday said the Special Branch should further centers were the first strengthen the coordination school of professional life with other law enforcement of the police. agencies.

Addressing a meeting with Additional IGP Karachi Javed Alam Odho, Additional IGP Special Branch Khadim Hussain Rindh and Additional IGP - Training Abdul Qadir Qayyum, the Sindh Police

chief said the mechanism should be strengthened against miscreants.

country/society. Talking about training

elements hostile to the

centers, he said the training He asked the Additional IGP - Training

to promote positive attitude and thinking among the personnel under training from the overall training. On the occasion,

Additional IGP - Karachi Javed Alam Odho gave a briefing on the law and order situation in the city.



LAHORE: Girls student visiting stall during, an event "A day with Pakistan Navy" organized by Pakistan Navy War College, Lahore.

# **Students spend** day with Pak Navy

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan Navy War College (PNWC) Lahore organised an event titled "Aday with Navy, its organisation and defence capabilities.

A total of 200 students from Government College University, Fazaia Degree College, Garrison College for Boys and along with faculty members their nation.

attended the event, said a Pakistan Navy media release on Tuesday. Commander Central Punjab Pakistan Navy" for the students of various colleges of Lahore to enlighten them on functioning of Pakistan Navy has all the capabilities to protect maritime frontiers of the country. He also highlighted the importance of maritime sector for developing countries and how stronger Naval Forces could facilitate Bahria College Lahore economic development of



ISLAMABAD: President DrArifAlvi in a group photo with a delegation of Old Age Home, Aafiyat, Multan, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

ing care of the elderly.

nior citizens.

also hosted a lunch for se-

Wasi assumes

charge of

Chairman

**PTDC** 

SLAMABAD (APP)

Wasi Shah the recently ap-

pointed Minister of State

for Tourism assumed the

charge of Chairman Pakistan

Tourism Development Cor-

poration (PTDC) here on

Tuesday. On his maiden visit

to the PTDC Head Office,

he was greeted by the Man-

Later, the president

# President stresses special measures for welfare of elderly, poor

ISLAMABAD (APP): should arrange quality edu-President Dr Arif Alvi on Tuesday stressed the government institutions, nongovernmental organizations, and civil society to work together for the welfare of poor people and elderly in the society.

Talking to a delegation of Old Age Home, Aafiyat to provide all the basic fa-Multan here at Aiwan-e-Sadr, he said Islam gave utmost importance to respect the senior citizens.

cation and training for their children according to teachings of Islam.

The president said fulfilling the basic rights of the parents must be among the top responsibilities of

'Actions are needed cilities and necessities of life to the homeless and the elderly", Alvi said.

He urged the philanthropists, welfare organiza-



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Information Minister Jan Achakzai meeting with Caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki

# Condemns incident of firing in SW Caretaker CM grieved over martyrdom of 6 jawans

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has strongly condemned the incident of firing by terrorists in South Waziristan.

In a condemnation statement issued here on Tuesday, the caretaker Chief Minister expressed The caretaker Chief Minister also said that the of fire with terrorists.

He also prayed for the

bereaved families.

Army jawans eliminated four terrorists while fighting against them

He said that we are proud of our security forces, who have always foiled the nefarious designs of the terrorists and miscre-

The caretaker Chief griefand sorrow over mar-tyrdom of six jawans of downed through such Pak Army in the exchange cowardly acts of terror-

He said that the entire departed souls of the mar- nation is standing by its setyrs and patience for the curity institutions, and the menace of terrorism would The caretaker Chief be wiped out with support

## Minister said that the Pak of the masses. **Asghar for resolving** basic issues of masses

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Provincial President of Awami National Party (ANP), Asghar Khan Achakzai has stated that education, health, drinking water and protection of life and property is every human being's basic right and the state can't be exempted from resolving

these very basic issues. He vowed to continue peaceful struggle for the rights of all oppressed nationalities whether the party is in power or not.

He said that the journey of peace, development and prosperity would also

Asghar Achakzai was addressing the ceremony of joining at residence of Abdullah Jan Aka in Killi Haji Rangeen, Muhallah Haji Abdul Samad, Chaman on Tues-

Haji Abdullah Jan, Haji Abdul Qadir, Khair Muhammad, Mohibullah and others announced to join ANP along

with their companions. The ANP's provincial president welcomed and congratulated those joined the party. He said that it is a good omen that a large number of elders are joining the



QUETTA: Caretaker Home Minister Captain (Retd) Zubair Jamali in a meeting with Additional Chief Secretary, Home and Tribal Affairs Saleh Muhammad Nassar

# Condolence Reference: Mama Salam Baloch remembered for his struggles

QUETTA (APP): The Pakistan Workers Federation (PWF) held a condolence reference in memory of Mama Salam Baloch to pay tributes his struggles for the workers. The reference was held at Ouetta Press Club on Tuesday which was attended by a large number of workers, trade unions, journalists and people from different walks of life

The participants paid struggles for the rights of

Addressing the condolence meeting, Central Chairman (PWF), Raza Khan said that Mama Salam Baloch was always raised voice for the rights of the workers and stood along with them at every forum.

'He remained committed to the rights of the poor working class till his last breath and history will never forget his struggle for tribute to the late workers the well-being of the workleader and highlighted his ers across the country" he

# Religious tolerance key to peace, stability: Raja

Speaker National Assemtions and other sections of the society to make special bly Raja Pervez Ashraf has efforts to take care of the said that religious tolerance and Inter-Faith Harmony He said measures are key for global peace and were also needed at the legal and social level for the

He expressed these views in his message on well being of the senior citi-'International Day Com-He appreciated the role of 'Tare Zemin Par memorating The Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Trust' and 'Affivat' for tak-Religion or Belief"

The Speaker in a statement, said that acts of violence based on religious belief and faith are condemnable. He also stressed the need for tolerance and forbearance as the prevalent norm in societies.

The speaker has also condemned the incidents of Desecration of Holy Quran which are cause of deep concern and pain the Muslims in Pakistan and around the world. He also said that Islamic teachings stress Ideology and the notion of Religious Tolerance and Inter-Faith Harmony.

While highlighting the increasing incidents of hatred and animosity against said that global stakeholders need to take cognisance of the plight of Indian Muslims. He also said that the world should also take notice of severe violence against innocent Palestinians by Israeli forces.

Furthermore, Raja Pervez Ashraf has said that Kashmiris have been facing the suppression and aggression of Indian state machinery in Illegally Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir. He said that acts of violence on the basis of religious belief are the real cause of instability in the world.

Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf has said that the constitu tion of Pakistan guarantees the provision of fundamen tal rights to all irrespective of religious belief and faith He also said that the implementation of the constitution in Letter & Spirit would ensure a pluralist society in Pakistan.He also said that the world should also take notice of severe violence against innocent Palestin

sectors, particularly in the realms of health, education,

and technology. He empha-

sized on fostering collabo

ration through the mobili-

zation of existing parlia-

mentary friendship groups.

the abundant investment

opportunities that Pakistan

offers within a favourable

highlighted the government's

ongoing efforts to promote

investment and extend in-

centives to potential inves-

tors. He underscored that

Gwadar was being emerged

as a burgeoning economic

hub and encouraged British

investors to explore invest-

The Senate chairman ment prospects in the re-

Khilji directs DCs to collect

date of Afghan refugees

economic environment. He

Sanjrani underscored



QUETTA: Different delegations meeting with Governor Balochistan Malilk Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

Iranian Ambassador Dr

Reza Amiri Moghaddam on

Tuesday held separate

meetings with Senate Chair-

man Muhammad Sadiq

Sanjrani and exchanged

views on matters of mutual

interest and exploration of

avenues for enhanced coop-

eration between Pakistan

and the respective coun-

between the Senate chair-

man and British envoy, is-

sues of paramount impor-

tance such as trade, invest-

ment, parliamentary coop-

eration, and public relations

between the two nations

highlighted the need to am-

came under discussion.

During the meeting

British, Iranian envoys

call on Senate Chairman

ISLAMABAD (APP): plify partnerships between British High Commissioner Pakistan and the United

#### **Domki visits** E-Khidmat Markaz of **S&IT Dept.** Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki paid surprise visit to the E-Khidmat Markaz located at Spinny road here on Tues-

He went round of different sections of the E Khidmat Markaz being run by the Science and Information Technology Department, Government of

Balochistan. The caretaker Chief Minister was briefed about the overall functioning of the center.

He said that E Khidmat Markaz is an important project in view of the ever changing world and

modern technology.
Mir Ali Mardan Domki announced that the E-Khidmat Markaz would be expanded to other districts of the province as

# Prompt result sharing **ECP launches** efficient Result **Compilation**

**System** ISLAMÅBAD (APP) The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) was informed on Tuesday that a Result Compilation System has been created to swiftly transmit provisional results from the presiding officer to the returning officer using a mobile app. During a session presided over by Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja an ECP representative conveyed that the recently introduced Result Compilation System will empower Returning Officers to swiftly compile provisional results while ensuring accu-

sioner Loralai Division Muhammad Gul Khalji on Tuesday directed that all deputy commissioners (DCs) of division, with the support of the Commissioner Afghan Refugees (CAR) and in collaboration with UNHCR and social organizations, find out the number of registered and unregistered Afghan refu-

gees for transparent elections. He gave this instruction when he chaired meeting to collect date of Afghan refugees in living respective districts in order to conduct free, fair and transparent general elections. The meeting was at-

tended by Deputy Commissioner Loralai Subban Salim Dashti, and representatives of various intelligence agencies while

for transparent elections QUETTA (APP): Commis- District Duki Mehran Baloch, Deputy Commissioner Barkhan Abdul Hameed Zehri, Deputy Commissioner Musakhel Azeem Jan Dummar and Commissioner Afghan Refugees participated through video link.

In the meeting, the number of Afghan refugees in Loralai Division before the elections, registration and strategy for collecting their data were discussed.

Addressing the meeting, Commissioner Loralai Division Muhammad Gul Khalji said that a large num ber of Afghan refugees were living in Katwi, Ghazgai Zakariz, Sepidar camps in Loralai district.

He said that the first priority of the present caretaker government was to hold a free, fair and trans-



the meeting of Finance Department.

# **Interim government** fixes Diyat amount at Rs 67,57,902 for FY24

the recommendation of the finance ministry, the Interim Federal Cabinet on Tuesday fixed the amount of Diyat, which is equal to 30,630 grams of silver, at Rs 67,57,902 for the year 2023-24.

In Islamic law Diyat is the financial compensation paid to the victim or heirs of a victim in the cases of murder, bodily harm or property damage by mis-

The meeting of the cabinet was held here under the chairmanship of Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq. During the meeting,

the prime minister informed the meeting about his previous day's visit to Jaranwala

He said extremism and

be allowed in the country and protection of minorities in Pakistan was the foremost duty of the state.

He expressed his resolve to punish all those involved in the incident of Jaranwala. The meeting recom-

mended to organize a national level inter-faith harmony conference next Scholars of different

religions and schools of thought would be invited to The conference will prove to be an important milestone for the promo-

tion of inter-faith harmony in Pakistan. Earlier addressing the

cabinet, the prime minister until and unless there government's prime man-rules or business.

(SLAMABAD (APP): On religious agitation will never date was to assist and monitor the electoral process which was the constitutional requirement.

He said keeping in mind the prime mandate, the caretaker government would monitor its day-today activities to the best of

its abilities 'We are here as a constitutional continuation for a limited period of time and we are not here to design the government model or structure," the prime minister said while addressing

the cabinet meeting here. He maintained that as a continuation of the previous government, the caretaker setup was generally supposed to carry on with the general policy caretaker were any violations of



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs meeting of the Federal Cabinet.

# Caretaker CM directs to expedite work on Quetta Development Package removing all hurdles

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has directed the Director Quetta Development Package and other concerned high ups to expedite the pace of work on the Package removing all hurdles in the way of its smooth completion.

He asserted that no negligence would be tolerated in early completion of the road and other projects under the Quetta Development Package.

The caretaker Chief Minister was speaking on occasion of his surprise visit to different under construction roads under the Quetta Development Package here in the metropolis on Tues- and strengthening the com-

Mr. Domki visited under construction Sariab road, Sabzal road, link Badini road, Radio Pakistan tower and western bypass. Also present on the occasion were the Additiona

Chief Secretary Development, Hafiz Abdul Basit, Project Director Quetta Package and Commissioner Quetta, Sohailur Rehman Baloch, Member National Highway Authority and other concerned high ups.

Speaking on the occasion, the caretaker Chief Minister said that Ouetta important project related to relief to the people.

munication system. Therefore, it is very necessary to complete it at the earliest.

The caretaker Chief Minister said that there's a need to dispel the impression that this package has become source of botheration instead of blessing for the people.

He on the occasion directed to remove hurdles in way of completion of the roads besides bridges being constructed on them.

He said that he would personally visit the projects after every 10 days to monitor progress of development Package is an the work so as to provide



QUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki being briefed about construction project of Link Badini Road under Quetta Development Package

#### **Open court** held to solve legal issues of public in Kalat

QUETTA (APP): On special directive of Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Domki, an open court (Khuli-Khechari) was organized by the district administration of Kalat to address legal issues of the public for facilitating them.

The open court started at the district council hall, Kalat under supervision of Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Kalat Fida Baloch. Ássistant Commissioner Kalat Jahanzeb

Baloch, Assistant Commissioner Mungchar Muhammad Hanif Noorzai, DSP Manzoor other government depart-

Ahmed Mengal, and all ment officials were present

## **MERC** rescue over 2500 precious lives By Rafiullah

# Mandokhail

ZHOB: 'Since the establishment of Medical Emergency Response Centers along the national highway connecting Balochistan Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa, so far re-

sponded to around 1500 road accidents and rescued over 2500 precious lives,' this number has been revealed by an official at the MERC in northern Balochistan. 'MERC provides

medical assistance in road accidents or RTAs, poisoning, drowning, burn injuries, snake bite cases and heat wave cases,' the official added.

The Balochistan government under the administration of the Public Primary Health Initiative area of Balochistan.

(PPHI) has established specialized emergency service centers on major highways in the province in 2019, which provide emergency healthcare to the people in their catchment areas.

All the MERC centers are equipped with state-of-the-art facilities, trained emergency staff, medical supplies and advanced lifesaving ambu-Along the national highway N-50, two centers

MERC Badinzai in Zhob from Sawara bridge Musafirpur to District headquarter civil hospital and MERC Mani Khwa in Sherani district - from Kataw Dabara Dhana Sar to DHQ hospital have been playing an active role in this remote and mountainous

## **COPHC** chairman brands Gwadar as CPEC's pivotal axis GWADAR (INP): The Gwadar's port and city de- Zone Company in 2018, he

China Overseas Port Holding Company (COPHC) Chairman, Yu Bo, has termed Gwadar port as pivotal axis of CPEC.

He made these remarks during his median meeting held at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) while shedding light on the transformative progress of Gwadar under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). He showcased av-

enues for Pakistani investors to engage formally with Chinese companies for joint ventures in Gwadar. The first stage of

velopment, along with the Gwadar Free Zone, has been completed, marking a substantial achievement. We have been transforming Gwadar from a modest village into a thriving modern city, replete with cuttingedge technology," he added, according to a report carried by Gwadar Pro on Tuesday.

substantial investments in Gwadar's growth, spanning construction, airport infrastructure, and healthcare

the auspices of the Free

The Gwadar Free

Yu highlighted China's

said, has already established a vibrant phase one, spanning 25 hectares adjacent to the port. Notably, this area has attracted six companies

The North Free Zone, covering a sprawling 900 hectares, is positioned for industrial and warehousing purposes, and Yu emphasized its role in processing raw materials for subsequent export.

Yu revealed significance of Gwadar port's operational status, its cargo handling capacity, and plans for the Gwadar Inter-Zone, which came under national Airport's full-scale