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PM commends heroes who rescued trapped chairlift passengers in daring operation

Caretaker Prime Minister
Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on prayed for the safe and Thursday awarded commendation certificates to the valiant commandos, armed forces personnel and local residents who rescued eight trapped passengers of a dangling cable car in Battagram.

The prime minister, addressing the commemoration ceremony held at the PM Office, said the recognition was well-deserved by every individual involved, who exhibited remarkable prowess in orchestrating the mission to a triumphant conclu-

He emphasized that the entire nation shared the concerns for the safety of the trapped children, who remained stranded on the chairlift for hours.

He remarked that the successful endeavour was a collaborative achievement, acknowledging that recognition was also due to

ISLAMABAD (APP): those who, from the consuccessful rescue opera-

> He said being a father, he could feel the pain of stranded children's parents but the teamwork based on prudent efficient planning

ensured their safety.
"Hats off to all of you who did an immaculate job. The biggest credit goes to those who were carrying out the planning," he remarked.

Sharing their emotions with the prime minister, the children said they were extremely worried but had a sense of satisfaction after coming to know that the Pakistan Army had launched the rescue opera-

visit today

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker

Prime Minister, Anwarul

Haq Kakar is due to arrive

in the provincial metropo-

lis on three-day official

During the visit, the caretaker Prime Minister

would meet the Governor

Chief Minister, Mir Ali

Mardan Khan Domki be-

the development projects

and law and order situation

tions comprising tribal el-

ders and different political

parties would also be meet-

ing the caretaker Prime

sources, Anwarul Haq

Kakar is also expected to

visit his native area, Kan

Mehtarzai, Muslim Bagh

Dinner hosted by

Governor for

caretaker CM

Independent Report

QUETTA: Dinner-recep-

tion was hosted by the

Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan

Kakar in honour of the care-

taker Chief Minister, Mir

Ali Mardan Khan Domki

The dinner was also at

and his cabinet members

tended by the caretaker

provincial ministers and

Advisors, Chief Secretary

Shakeel Qadir Khan, In-

spector General of Police.

Abdul Khalique Sheikh

Additional Chief Secretary

Home, Saleh Muhammad

Nassar, Principal Secretary

to Chief Minister, Lal Jar

Jaffar, Principal Secretary

to Governor, Hashim Khan

Ghilzai and other dignitar

here on Thursday.

According to the

Minister in Quetta.

during the visit.

Moreover, the delega-

in the province.

He would also be chair

sides other dignitaries.

visit today (Friday).

The prime minister said that the paramount duty of the state encompassed providing quality healthcare and education, and an atmosphere for a dignified life.



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Information Minister Jan Achakzai meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

Bright future of Pakistan linked with Balochistan, maintains Governor

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has stated that bright future of the country is linked with the province, therefore, it is necessary to benefit from the prospects of profitable investment in the province.

The Governor stated so while speaking to the caretaker Minister Information, Jan Achakzai who called on him here at the Governor House on Thurs-

During the course of meeting, overall political situation, ending of the economic status quo, paving way for international investment, promotion of border trade and creation of new opportunities were national level.

discussed between the Governor and Information Minister

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor said that economy is the base of every society and it is fact that positive results can't be produced without economic stability.

a big challenge to bridge the increasing gap between rich and poor.

out that the youth are attracting towards narcotics and lawlessness due to unemployment and severe poverty prevailing in the province. He said that the role of media can't be denied in projecting soft image of the province at the



QUETTA: Balochistan National Party (BNP) Chairman, Sardar Akhtar Mengal addresses to media persons during press conference

Conducting general elections in due period responsibility of ECP, says Akhtar Mengal

Independent Report QUETTA: The President Balochistan National Party (BNP), Sardar Akhtar Mengal has stated that it is constitutional responsibility of the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to conduct general elections in the country, it is to see whether it complies with its constitutional obligation.

He expressed his concern over the decrease in population of the province in the recent population census as during the meeting of Council of Common Interests (CCI) as a "highhandedness" with the

The BNP chief was addressing a news conference at a local restaurant here on

A senior lawyer Raja Jawad Advocate announced He said that it is surely He regretfully pointed

to join the BNP along with

his companions. Also

present in the press confer-

ence were the central

deputy secretary general of BNP, Malik Naseer Ahmed

Shahwani, central Finance

secretary and former MPA

Akhtar Hussain Langove,

Dehwar, Musa Baloch, Ghulam Nabi Marri and

said that Balochistan is like

an orphan child, whom ev-

eryone tries to loot, but no

lation of Balochistan was

increased in the recent

population census to some

extent, but it was decreased

by 7 million by calling an

emergent meeting of the CCI.

one gives shelter or care.

Sardar Akhtar Mengal

He said that the popu-

Shakeela

other leaders

MPA Ms. Naveed

Saudi envoy calls on Jalil Abbas Jilani

ISLAMABAD (APP) Ambassador of Saud Arabia in Pakistan Nawaf bin Said Al-Malkiy called on Caretaker Foreign Min-ister Jalil Abbas Jilani here on Thursday and discussed matters relating to mutua interests.

The ambassador congratulated the foreign min-ister on assuming office and conveyed best wishes on behalf of the Saudi leader-

ship.

During the meeting,

with spebilateral ties, with special emphasis on trade and investment were dis-

10 killed, 15 injured in Jharak road accident

HYDERABAD (APP): 10 people including two women were killed while over 15 sustained injuries as a result of collision between a truck and a van in Jhark at Bismillah Chowk, some 50 kilometer away from here, on the national Highway on

Rescue officials said that injured were shifted to Jhark and Hyderabad

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister, Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar distributing awards among the survivors of Battagram Chairlift incident for their bravery during a ceremony Caretaker PM **CEC** savs due to arrive in **Election date discussion to** Quetta on have 'scant consequences' three-day official

due to recent law changes

for general elections. He

asserted that since the Na-

tional Assembly was dis-

solved on August 9, 2023,

therefore under Article 48

(5) of the Constitution, he

(as the president) was

obliged to appoint a date

not later than 90 days from

the date of dissolution for

the holding of general elec-

tion of National Assembly.

stated that since the Elec-

tions Act (Amendment)

Bill 2023 was enacted into

law, announcing the date for

polls was the sole preroga-

tive of the Election Com-

mission of Pakistan (ECP)

Section 57 of the Election

Act of 2017 had recently

been amended and, unlike

the previous position, now

the Commission was em-

He pointed out that

The CEC, in his letter,

ISLAMABAD (APP): for a meeting to fix a date Chief Election Commis- for general elections. He sioner Sikandar Sultan Raja on Thursday informed the president that the discussion about selecting an election date would have "scant consequences" owing to recent changes in the election

Balochistan, Malik Abdul The CEC, in a two-Wali Kakar and caretaker page letter addressed to President Dr Arif Alvi, expressed the Commission's profound respect for the ing high level meetings on president's office.

'Meeting and seeking guidance on national matters from the president has always been regarded as an honour, when the circumstances are suitable. However, the Commission's view is that participating in the meeting will lead to negligible consequences."

President Alvi wrote a letter to CEC Sikandar Raja



terior Sarfraz Ahmad Bugti in a meeting with the Caretaker Federal Minister for Information

Solangi, Bugti reaffirm commitment to assist **ECP** for polls

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Ministers for Interior and Information and Broadcasting Sarfraz Bugti and Murtaza Solangi on Thursday reaffirmed the government's commitment to assist the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) in holding General Elections.
The ministers ex-

pressed the resolve during a meeting held here at the Ministry of Interior.

Upon arrival at the Ministry, the minister for interior accorded warm welcome to Murataz Solangi. During the meeting, both the ministers dis-

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker

Provincial Minister for In-

formation, Jan Achakzai

has emphasized that we

would have to get complete

control on the modern in-

formation technology and

system in order to compete

of Information department

has been expanded and vast

in the present modern era.

No matter and thing is con-

cealed all over the world just

because of the social media.

views were expressed by

the caretaker Information

Minister while speaking on

occasion of his visit to the

Directorate General of Pub-

lic Relations here on Thurs-

This and similar other

He said that the ambit

the world.

cussed matters related to the assistance of the ECI in conducting the general elections in the country. They also discussed the overall situation in the

country. Meanwhile Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Thursday said the government would hold the general election in accordance with the time-line of the Election Commission of Pakistan. "The election will be conducted on the date which the Election Commission will announce," the minister said

while talking to the media.

We have to get complete grip on

modern information technology

to compete world: Jan Achakzai

occasion were Secretary

Shafqaat, Director General

Information,

Hamza

Also present on the Public Relations, Kamran

QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Information Min-

ister Jan Achakzai visiting newspapers record

room during his visit to DGPR. Secretary Infor-

mation Muhammad Hamza Shafqaat and DGPR

Kamran Asad are also present

invest in Balochistan's mineral sector: Domki Hassani, Chief Secretary, Shakeel Qadir Khan, Prin-

Friendly countries keen to

Independent Report QUETTA: The mineral sector of Balochistan is expecting investment of billions of dollars soon while more agreements of investment with friendly countries are also being finalized.

This very crucial information was shared with the caretaker Chief Minister, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki during a briefing conducted for him on the departmental affairs of Mines and Mineral Development, here at the CM's secretariat on Thursday.

The caretaker Chief Minister was briefed about the details of agreements made in the mineral sector of the province.

Those who were in attendance at the meeting were the Advisor to Chief Minister for Mines and Mineral Development, Muhammad

cipal Secretary to CM, Lal Jan Jaffar, Secretary of Mines, Saidal Khan Luni, and other concerned high

The Secretary Mines briefed the meeting about the departmental and other related matters.

The caretaker Chief Minister described the initiatives for promotion of investment in the mineral sector as an important development. He said that the pre-

cious minerals Balochistan are guarantor of the economic future of the province and country, as such there's a dire need to adopt effective strategy for enhancing investment in the mineral sector.

world is eying at the re- future agreements, he mainsources of the province,

sources like Reko dik. These resources need to be brought before the world, adding he stressed.

He also stressed that the trust of investors would have to be strengthened by providing them the conducive environment for investment in the province.

Referring the Reko dik project, Mir Ali Mardan Domki noted that more investors are attracting towards Balochistan to make investment after the Reko

He underlined the need to go for partnership instead of mere royalty as was done in the agreement of Reko dik project. In addition to this, interest of the local population as well as the province and country He also said that the should be ensured in the



QUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki attending a briefing conducted for him on the departmental affairs of Mines and Mineral Development

US reaffirms support for free, fair elections in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (INP) U.S. Ambassador Donald Blome on Thursday me with Chief Election Commissioner Sikander Sultan Raja to reaffirm the United States' support for free and fair elections conducted in accordance with Pakistan's laws and constitution.

The Ambassador reiterated that choosing Pakistan's future leaders is for the Pakistani people to decide, and that the United States remains committed working to broaden and deepen the U.S. Pakistan relationship with, whomever the Pakistani people

Jaranwala Incident: 10 JITs constituted for investigation

FAISALABAD (INP): To probe into the Jaranwal incident, 10 Joint Investigation Teams (JIT) were constituted on Thursday.

The JITs constituted for the investigation include CTD, police, and CIA police officers.

Furthermore, the JIT teams will conduct investigations separately in cases related to the Jaranwala incidents.

Earlier on the day, the police claimed to have arrested 17 more suspects in the Jaranwala incident af-

Asad and other senior of-

Continued on page 2

Consultation underway with lawyers, I will return home soon, Nawaz Sharif

LONDON (Online): sued by former PM. Former Prime Minister (PM) and PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif said that consultation with lawyers is underway and he will return home soon.

Democratic system should continue and should not be derailed in any case, he added. According to media re-

oorts Former Senator Chaudhary Zafar Iqbal met with PML-N leader Nawaz Sharif.

While talking to media in London, PML-N Lahore President Saif-ul-Malook Khokhar said that the date of Nawaz Sharif return to home will be decided till Saturday.

Nawaz Sharif was briefed about the preparations for reception and more instructions were is-

Lac of people will come to welcome their

It is to remember that former PM Nawaz Sharif while talking to media in London said that there are testimonies coming from inside about Former Chief Justices of Supreme Court.

The Chief Justice of that time was busy in pushing Nawaz Sharif to wall and today efforts are being made to save Imran

While accusing, the PML-N leader said that every effort is being made to save the person involved in corruption from Tosha Khana to Al-Qadir Trust.

Everyone knows that this person is corrupt and has destroyed the country,



QUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki meeting with Caretaker Provincial Minister Capt(R) Zubair Jamali.

Toshakhana case till IHC order SC adjourns hearing of Imran petition against his conviction

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) has adjourned hearing of PTI chairman petition against conviction Toshakhana case till Islamabad High Court (IHC) order.

A 3-member bench of SC presided over by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial is hearing Toshakhana case.

At the inception of hearing the CJP remarked hearing is still underway in IHC. Chief Justice (CJ) IHC is hearing the case which is appreciable. I appreciate efforts of CJ. IHC is seeing the matter. it will be better to let IHC give decision on this mat-

CJP Umar Ata Bandial

inquired has any one come from Attorney General (AG) office. We will ask about the situation of staying of PTI chairman in jail in today's order. We will ask from AG in what condition chairman PTI has been kept

The SC sought report about facilities to chairman PTI in jail.

Sardar Latif Khosa counsel for chairman PTI said arguments have been given on all points in high

The CJP remarked it was your complaint that you were not being heard. Your all arguments have been heard. You should hope from IHC that it would give decision on your

Daily soice of Masse Independent

Friday August 25, 2023

Battagram rescue

Tragedy was averted in KP's Battagram area on Tuesday when eight individuals, mostly children, were rescued after the wires of their cable car snapped high above the ground.

While all those involved in the daring rescue effort deserve much praise for saving lives, the India, while the green is unincident highlights the need for better, safer infrastructure in remote locations such as Allai, where the event occurred, to facilitate citizens.

The occupants of the cable tism symbolises the statecar were travelling to school when the accident happened, leaving them dangling precariously several hundred feet above a river. Combined efforts lasting around 14 hours involving military personnel, rescue workers, and locals were ultimately successful. While earlier attempts to retrieve the stranded occupants of the car by helicopter saw only limited success, rescuers continued the operation after nightfall and brought the terrifying saga to a close by safely retrieving all the occupants after putting their own lives at risk by sliding down the remaining cables. Such feats are often witnessed in the movies, but these real-life heroes deserve the nation's gratitude for their selflessness and bravery in the face of an extremely challenging situation.

The event should prompt the state to resolve the communication issues of communities living in remote areas with difficult terrain, like Allai. In fact, due to limited infrastructure is considered a cornerstone including roads and bridges, of effective public sector such cable cars are often the only practical option for travelling in parts of the mountainous north, especially in KP, Gilgit-Baltistan, and Azad governments at both the federal and provincial levels, provincial and district tiers proved by the National As-Kashmir.

While safety features may leave much to be desired many cable cars are built by locals on a self-help basis this form of aerial transport is a lifeline for residents of remote valleys and hamlets.

They cut both travel time and cost, as a road journey taking hours and costing a few thousand rupees can be made in a few minutes for very little ing across our continent. money. But the threat of an accident is ever-present, as political one, freezing rela-Tuesday's episode showed. In tions between India and Pakistan. 2017, a similar accident in Murree resulted in several deaths.

Critical infrastructure, such as roads and bridges, is needed conciliation. Mani's advoto connect settlements in remote places. But if this is too on global warming by expensive, cable car systems former vice president Al Gore in his documentary built and manned by professionals can be installed, with bodies like Rescue 1122 and Memoirs of a Maverick PDMA, KP, hiring trained cable car rescuers in hilly areas such New Delhi yesterday (Aug 23). It will have a wide readas Battagram, Shangla,
Kohistan, and Chitral for
prompt response prompt response.

The respective local admin- curtain into Pakistan. istrations must ensure that safety inspections of such 1991) of his hyperactive life structures are an ongoing pro- at Cambridge University, then his service in the Incess. Moreover, the state needs dian Foreign Service (IFS) to provide basic facilities such at Brussels, Vietnam, Baghdad, and finally as as schools, clinics, etc. closer consul general in Karachi to people's settlements so that they do not have to traverse long distances and treacherous terrain to get an education or on Civil Lines "dilapidated visit the doctor. Better telecomand utterly neglected". It had been ravaged during the munications infrastructure can 1971 war. He started work also facilitate online learning and telemedicine in remote into a small room with one communities.

Colours of the flag



Ali Tauqeer Sheikh

The Christian communities of India and Pakistan are under attack by those representing the saffron and green parts of their respective flags. Saffron is particularly ruthless towards poor Muslim neighbourhoods in forgiving to young Hindu girls in Sindh. Perhaps there is no other region of the world where the colours of flags have been interpreted in such exclusionary terms.

A key difference is that while in India vigilansponsored reign of Hindutva ideology, in Pakistan, it shows the weakness of the state that has neither the moral compass nor the willingness to stand up for the rights of the vulnerable segments.

Equally important, we

have failed to develop a vision to lift the minorities and other marginalised groups from ghettos and katchiabadis, where half the urban population lives, to a level where they can lead dignified lives through inclusive and climate-smart development. We know that the

Christian minorities mostly congested ın neighbourhoods that are informal or illegal, located on unproductive tracts of land in low-lying and disasterprone areas, mostly without civic amenities and environmental services, and often in worse conditions than their poor Muslim counterparts. Without recognising these fundamentals, the principles of climate justice cannot be delivered. The recently adopted National Adaptation Plan has identified several points of intervention for urban adaptation that can help reduce the socioeconomic and climate vulner-

Since the perpetrators and victims are typically from similar socioeconomic backgrounds, it is imperative to develop a long-term view. Delivering fundamental rights to marginalised

abilities of such marginalised

communities

groups is an intricate and complex process requiring multiple interventions by various organs of the state and other stakeholders. Let's see if we are prepared to tackle the issue head-on.

The white strip on our flag, one-fourth of the total, represents the existence of religious minorities in the country. Yet, violence against minorities in Pakistan started in 1948 when a synagogue in Karachi was torched.

The community it represented was largely a bystander during partition, as were the Christians of Jaranwala. Since then, many minorities have faced varying degrees of harassment or outright violence: Jews, Zoroastrians, Sikhs. Bahais, Ahmadis, and even Muslim sects including Shias and occasionally Ismailis, Bohris and Zikris.

Some groups have engaged in relentless ethnic cleansing of the Hazara community in Balochistan. Clearly, the white strip has been dishonoured and discoloured. It is now soaked in not just the tears but also the blood of religious minorities.

The number of minori-

have almost disappeared. In 1951, for example, the Hindus formed 22 per cent of the population of East Pakistan and 15pc of Sindh. The minority percentage dropped drastically in 1971 with the separation of the

eastern wing.
In Sindh, the Hindu population has reduced to lpc, even if the Pakistan Hindu Council claims it is 8.7pc. But we have retained the size of the white part of the flag because symbolically, it reflects the rights of religious minorities, and not necessarily their size.

According to Nadra, there is one person who identifies himself as Jewish in the country. In principle. the white colour in our flag stands for the rights of this single individual White has been inter-

preted as the colour of peace, purity and paradise in Islamic history. It is about time we viewed the significance of the white strip in our flag in much broader terms than just the rights of religious minorities. The views of minorities in our daily lives are equally important.

A civilised society plays a pivotal role in alties has diminished; some lowing itself to become tol-

erant and accommodating of diverse views. A minority view in the corporate boardroom, cabinet deliberations, parliamentary debates, or on the Supreme Court benches, deserves no less respect and consideration than the majority

While the majority view prevails in a democratic dispensation, it cannot deny the right of minority views to exist, nor the space they deserve. Societies become innovative by using minority views as sources of learning and reflection, sometimes for remorse or mid-course correc-

The delivery of the promise of the green colour in the flag, therefore, hinges on the collective, consensual meaning of the white part. Regrettably, the white strip has been violated since the late 1970s with policies that trivialised the religious principles of jihad and blasphemy.

The white in the flag needs to be the primary source of societal peace and harmony. It must be based on compassion that is inseparably linked to truth and justice. It must take the form of a politics that, as

book Pakistan, Institutional Instability & Underdevelopment, "aims to change the social order that systematically generates poverty and inequality, and injustice inherent in these economic phenomena". In Pakistan, poverty and climate vulnerability are two sides of the same coin. The Christian colony in Jaranwala is a prime example. Here are four ways to give solace to mainstream minorities. And finally, support asset formation for poverty alleviation, without which it is difficult to lift people out of poverty. Recent examples provide guidance. The Sindh government is awarding land ownership documents to flood victims for the construction of climate-proof houses. Instead of disbursing cash, the government should give victims of injustice land titles to restart their lives. The formation of assets can serve as an example of affirmative action in the region through climate adaptation, poverty alleviation, empowerment, and restoring dignity to the victims of prejudice and exclusion. -- Courtesy Dawn

Akmal Hussain has summed

up in his newly released

t: a missed opportunity



Syed Asad Ali Shah

In a recurring tale of mismanagement, governments at various tiers in Pakistan have frittered away trillions of rupees on fruitless endeavours, leaving the populace bereft of desired socio-economic outcomes.

Continuing my articles on the theme of 'creative destruction', aimed at fundamental structural changes and improvements required to reverse the drift to selfdestruction, this article delves into the ramifications of the poor state of Public Financial Management (PFM) in Pakistan, which

Astonishingly, despite serious resource constraints, the critical issue of PFM has remained conspicuously unaddressed by successive

resulting in enormous waste of taxpayers' money and causing huge unsustainable fiscal deficits for decades. Further, such deficits are also not accurately measured and reported to the nation. Recognizing its critical

need, Pakistan's quest for a credible PFM started in the 1990s with counsel and financial assistance from prominent donors like the World Bank. Over decades, the country's governments, both federal and provincial. have been purportedly working to revamp public financial management systems and practices.

Programmes like the Project for the Improvement of Financial Reporting and Auditing' (PIFRA), aimed to modernize accounting, budgeting, and auditing systems. After completion of three phases of the PIFRA, the federal government established the Financial Accounting and Budgeting System (FASB) under the department of the controller general of Pakistan. As per its website, it claims "FABS represents statements that report accuone of the largest SAP-based rate results of its policies and public-sector implementation of an integrated MIS in the world. The budgets and

of government are processed through FABS. Monthly salaries, GP Fund payments and pensions of nearly [three] million public sector employees and thousands of contingent payments and receipts of government entities are also processed.'

However, notwithstanding the above claims. the level of automation and implementation of SAP, despite over a billion dollars in investment in such programmes, remains largely restricted to a few modules, as a significant proportion of accounting, budgeting, and auditing functions continues to be operated manually. Most alarmingly, the adoption of a basic double-entry accrualbased accounting system, essential for comprehensive transaction recognition, classification and reporting, tracking, recognition and reporting of public's assets and liabilities, has been dis-

As a consequence, the governments do not prepare and report reliable financial actions in terms of fiscal deficits assets and liabilities. For instance, in the

regarded by all governments.

sembly last June, the gov-emment reported the fiscal deficit for FY23 (outgoing year) as Rs5.94 trillion, but as I reported in my budget article, the increase in public debt in just nine months reported in the Economic Survey was Rs10 trillion. By adding the estimated expenditure of the last quarter, the expected increase in public debt was around

Rs 13 trillion. A recent publication of the State Bank of Pakistan has now corroborated that the increase in public debt during FY23 was Rs12.9 trillion, while the Ministry of Finance has recently reported a further revised figure of overall fiscal deficit of Rs7.2 trillion. There is no reconciliation or explanation of how the overall fiscal deficit could be Rs7.2 trillion when the increase in public debt in the same period is Rs12.9 trillion reported by SBP?

gering investment of over a to overhaul its Public Fibillion dollars through vari- nancial Management has reous programmes, over three mained superficial, largely decades of time spent and the passage of PFM Acts by both parliament and provincial assemblies, the state of public financial management remains desul-

The key objectives of time, the nation has yet to the PFM acts were to fortify management of public finances with the view to improve implementation of fiscal policy for better macroeconomic management, clarify institutional responsibilities related to financial management, strengthen budgetary management and oversight of finances, internal controls and cash management so as to achieve overarching ob-

However, a review of the state of implementation of the above Act highlights that significant shortcomings persist in its execution as most of its requirements remain unimplemented. Below I have discussed just some of the non-compliance of the PFM Act. A similar situation exists in the provinces, not covered in this article. conclusion

jective of reducing public

Thus, despite the stag- Pakistan's ongoing struggle consultancies with very little commitment from those responsible for its substantial investments of both financial resources and The News

reap the benefits of a modernized, transparent, and efficient PFM system.

For genuine transformation to ensue, robust implementation, stringent oversight, and heightened accountability are imperative, which are not possible without genuine commitment from those charged with governance by the electorate - the political leadership responsible for executive function (the prime minister and finance minister) and the legislature that is responsible for appointment and accountability of the executive.

As the endeavours to recover from its insolvency, revitalizing its PFM framework is nonnegotiable for a prosperous and accountable future.

For this purpose, there is a need for an independent review of the entire spectrum of the PFM framework at all tiers of government - the investments made, systems developed and outcomes bein the hands of expensive ing produced through budgeting, accounting, funds management internal control and audit by a credible implementation. Despite international professional firm.

Another Ice Age



F.S. Aijazuddin

Another Ice Age is spread-The last occurred 20,000 years ago. This time it is a

No one is more aware of it than Mani Shankar Aiyar, a former cabinet minister, a close confidant of Rajiv Gandhi, and a tireless champion of Indo-Pak cacy should not be ignored, as were once the warnings An Inconvenient Truth (2006).

Mani's latest book (2023) was launched in able to penetrate the saffron

Mani's memoirs cover the first 50 years (1941-— at Cambridge University, from 1978-1982.

Landing in Karachi in December 1978, Mani found the four-storeyed Indian consulate building with two clerks deputed from Islamabad, "huddled telephone between us".

It was an ironic replay

Pakistan's fledgling Foreign Office began work in the officer was available as musty Mohatta Palace in Karachi, using one typewriter and thorns from kikar bushes in lieu of paper that I first met Mani and

their elegant residence in Clifton. My first book Pahari Paintings and Sikh Portraits in the Lahore Museum — had just been published and I called on them with a copy as an icebreaker. That proved to be the first of many meetings in New Delhi, Kasauli, and Lahore.

Mani's official remit as consul general restricted him to Sindh but boundaries could not contain his gregarious personality nor limit his effusive hospitality. Within a year, Mani and Suneet had made their mark on Karachi society. They threw "a really big party" to which they invited everyone they knew. The spectrum included bibulous bon vivants who constituted the majority of their guests, with the sobering antidote of two Jamaat-i-

Islami MNAs for Karachi. Mani discovered that the demand for visas to India grew exponentially to the numbers issued. Mani mentions that "by September 1979, within six months of our opening, we were edging towards one hundred thousand[.] By the end of my term [in 1982], we had issued over

3 lakh visas" Mani researched a thesis Towards a Revival of the Pakistan Economy. He had it reviewed by one of Pakistan's top economists and shared it with his ambassador Shankar

On April 3, 1979, Mani was in Karachi, in attendance upon the visiting Indian chief of army staff, Gen O.P. Malhotra. Disappointed that Gen Malhotra was received only by a brigadier, the following morning, on

of August 1947 when April 4, Mani realised why: "No higher ranking they were busy hanging Bhutto.

Mani admits surprise "while pa--p----ers were emblazoned with screaming his wife Suneet in 1979 at hea-d--lines, the streets were subdued. There were no rivers of blood flowing[.] The revolution had choked. Zia had got away with murder".

After leaving Karachi in 1982 and quitting the IFS, Mani began a second career in politics. Close to his friend Rajiv Gandhi, he proposed to him that he should visit Mohenjodaro and the shrines of Shahbaz Qalandar and Shah Abdul Bhi-tai. Rajiv was not convinced that this would inspi--re an entente cordiale between India and Pakis-tan. Rajiv did visit Pakistan in 1988, but rem-ai-ned confined to the diplomatic birdcage of Islamabad.

Two years later, in August 2006, Bugti was killed in his cave "where he was gunned down by Musharraf's troops". Mani was told that Bugti died with Mani's book pinned to his chest.

Mani's earlier book Pakistan's Papers (1994) focused on Mani's years as consul general, Karachi. His latest Memoirs of a Maverick contains a chapter on those years. Peaceniks and jingoists on both sides of the border should read and reread them both.

When I die, I want to be buried with copies of these two books by Mani pinned to my chest. I want Mani's "uninterruptible" words

of good neighbourliness and peaceful coexistence to be interred in the soil of Pakistan. In time, the seeds of his humanism will germinate, allowing future generations of more enlightened Indians and Pakistanis to reap their harvest. -- Courtesy Dawn

Nazir A. Jogezai

Power dynamics in society influence the impact of education on social mobility, cohesion and equality. Power dynamics, especially in authoritarian societies, significantly shape the societal ecology and formal education system. Cristina Groeger's book Education Trap challenges the notion that access to education combats poverty and fosters social equity, as education has evolved into a form that, sadly, 'legalises' social inequalities.

An education system is the product of a distinctive set of historical, political, social, cultural and economic features, and schools coexist with these. Education entails all the experiences individuals observe or are a part of in society; schooling, on the other hand, is a designed set of processes and experiences for different age groups to attain specific learning standards. The objective of learn-

ing stems from the relevance, interests and curiosity of learners, which are compromised in polarised societies. Power centres influence school-level learning experiences to maintain class segregation. Public and elite private schools present stark differences in resources, curricula, learning environments, and pedagogy. There are distinct aims for each: to produce future leaders for the latter and obedient citizens for the former. Likewise, religious education contributes to their representation in the power structure.

One may argue that the Single National Curricu-

lum and a rebranded Pakistan National Curriculum are remedies to class-based education, but they, in fact, fuel it further. They cannot be equally implemented across the country with well-equipped schools on the one hand, and those with one room on the other. The curriculum needs to be responsive to diversity, and the country must have a variety of curricula along with certain core areas, as seen in successful education systems elsewhere in the

In a stratified education system, devised along vested interests, we must determine whether or not the policy of enrolling every child in public schools is a mirage. The lack of access that

justifies the construction of new buildings and campuses to increase capacity and employment opportunities is detrimental to quality. In the calculation of the ruling elite, brick-and-mortar projects, that are visible, will win them plaudits. The recent approval of a law to build a number of new universities is a relevant example. This occurs at a time when universities' research capability and knowledge capital are in question, the faculty of existing institutions are denied salaries, and scandals of mismanaged universities are surfacing one after the other. Redundant curricula, outdated pedagogy, and an environment where students cannot participate meaning-

fully are the hallmark. We need to think more about how to facilitate learning in schools. We have narrowed down learning to earning, and high expectations from schooling include economic well-being as a return on investment from parents. Despite education traditionally being described in spiritual terms, it has turned out to be more material in practice and closely linked to social status and power.

Education trap It is obvious that the recent spike in living costs will result in higher dropout rates. Our traditional response would be alternative learning pathways and tuition options to speed up the graduation process. The current price hike is dragging the middle class into poverty and parents may be unable to afford even alternative pathways for their offspring. They would rather engage them in businesses to earn a living because a job after graduation is not

guaranteed. Responsible for poor education is also the teachers' incapability, as we attract less qualified individuals to the profession. We also find a great deal of professional stratification, where teaching is not seen as a worthy career. Teachers hardly feel comfortable introducing themselves as such, whereas professionals in other sectors with the same or even lower rank have personalised vehicle number plates and roam around with security protocol. The system mostly favours graduates of English-medium institutions.

Education for social development must be about quality. It must be equitable. It should not be a tool for oppression and dominance by the elite. It is about strengthening the broader social system and opening up avenues for learning and making choices to empower everyone. It is not about making the masses obedient creatures, serving the interests of the elite. We should not forget that most of our population comprises the youth, who are vulnerable to knowledge deficit because of an impoverished system of education. That is even more serious than a sovereign default, as without an educated youth, there is no way of escaping our grim condition. -- Courtesy

Civil Servants must execute duties without succumbing to external pressures: Azam

PESHAWAR (Online): Qureshi, Senior Member integrity, and impartiality. of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Muhammad Azam Khan, chaired a significant meeting on Thursday with high-level civil officers to discuss the essential role of civil servants in upholding the principles meritocracy and independence

political influence. During the meeting, the Chief e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, during his address to civil officers in Peshawar in April 1948, who emphasized the importance of civil servants in maintaining a transparent efficient administration. The meeting held at

Cabinet room of the civil secretariat was attended by Chief Secretary Nadeem Additional Chief Secretary Muhammad Zubair Asghar utmost

Administrative Secretaries.

minister stressed that meeting Chief minister government officers must shared insights into the execute their duties critical function of the without succumbing to caretaker government in external pressures, ensuring that decisions are made solely on the grounds of competence, fairness, and the welfare of citizens. The Chief Minister Minister highlighted the reaffirmed his commitment timeless wisdom of Quaid- to providing a conducive environment for civil

officers to perform their duties independently and efficiently. The meeting showcased $g\ o\ v\ e\ r\ n\ m\ e\ n\ t\ '\ s$ determination to foster an administration prioritizes transparency,

accountability and the public's best interests. Referring to Quaid Speech he said that "it is the

Caretaker Chief Minister Board of Revenue and all They should serve the nation without any bias, The caretaker Chief fear, or favor."During the ensuring free and fair elections. He acknowledged that the role of the caretaker government is playing field for all political parties, safeguarding the democratic rights of

> emphasized upon the officers for ensuring transparency in matters particularly related to financial issues, posting transfers and general administration. Chief Minister issued directions for prompt reporting of corruption cases to CM office and Chief Secretary Chaudhry, responsibility of the civil Office. All irregular servants to work with postings be discouraged dedication, and looked into.

> > Ban imposed

on rallies by

candidates of

LG elections

SWAT (APP): The district

administration Swat under

Section 144 has imposed

ban on carrying out rallies

by winning candidates of

Local Government (LG)

elections and brandishing

of arms as part of

statement issued by office

of District Magistrate here

Thursday, the ban has been

imposed for a period of ten

days hence forthwith and

the violators would be

prosecuted under Section

Intelligence Coordination

Committee during its

meeting held on August 24,

also suggested imposition

of ban to avert any

untoward incident, said the

ACS South

Punjab terms

biofloc fish

farming a 'blue

revolution'

BAHAWALPUR (APP)

Additional Chief Secretary

South Punjab Captain

(retd) Saqib Zafar has said

the pilot project of bio-floc

project here Thursday.

would be eliminated and

the set goals for sustainable

development in the form of

green energy would also be achieved. After the

completion of the pilot

project, this technology

will be promoted in the

fisheries sector. It will

reduce the cost of fish

Deputy Director of

Fisheries told him that

water was getting dirty due

to the fish waste in the fish

farms and some part of the

food was also wasted

Therefore, water polluted

with fish waste and the

food is replaced. He said

that through biofloc fish

culture technology, eco-

friendly chemicals were

added to the fish farms.

With the help of chemicals

the bacteria will eat wasted

food and after that, this

bacteria becomes food for

the fish.

On this occasion, the

farming, he added.

District

According

enhancing

188 of CrPC.

statement



KARACHI: Consul General for the US Conrad Tribble meeting with Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori at the Governor's House.

Sindh govt urged to empower peasants, sharecropper

policy dialogue expressed System Abolition Act sharecroppers, landless peasants, and rural workers across all sectors of sectors and sectors are sectors. deep concern over the which has been established

of agriculture, livestock, and fisheries in Sindh. This significant discussion was organised

by the Hari Welfare Association (HWA), which highlighted that although Sindh has introduced several laws aimed at protecting the rights of peasants and rural workers, however, unfortunately, these laws have largely remained dormant in terms of actual execution by the government.

association underscored that although the District Vigilance Committees responsible for overseeing

NAWABSHAH (APP): the enforcement of the The participants of a Sindh Bonded Labour

> Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University (SBBU) said that rural women were marginalized and deprived of their basic rights and there is no health and safety measures and awareness for cotton picker women, they are paid less than minimum wages which against minimum wage policy, literacy ratio in rural women

is very low, hence there is a dire need to educate girls. Peasant

Haleema Kolhi said that were they are living in miserable conditions.



KARACHI: Members of Employee Action Committee District Council Karachi are holding protest demonstration for acceptance of their demands, held in Karachi.

Speakers at dialogue highlight ways to achieve SDGs in South Punjab

MULTAN (APP): The Shuaib Khan Tareen Multan Chamber of United Nations Resident Commerce and Industry (MCCI) in collaboration with South Punjab Secretariat and the United Nations here on Thursday organized a dialogue to prepare a set of recommendations for the provision of clean drinking water and sanitation facilities, youth employment, gender equality and to eradicate violence against women, to achieve the goals of sustainable development in

South Punjab. civil society, public and the international partners, business community, religious scholars and university students participated in the

Secretary Services South Punjab Amjad South Punjab Amjad Shuaib Khan Tareen.

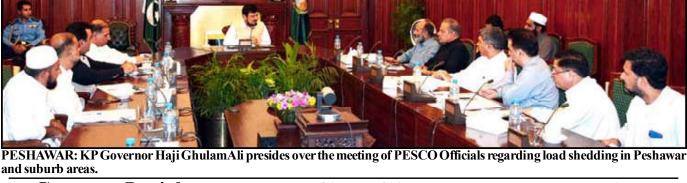
Coordinator in Pakistan Julien Harneis, UN Representatives Shah Nasir Khan, Laila Rabab Jaskani, President Multan Chamber of Commerce Mian Rashid Iqbal also participated in the dialogue.

Addressing on the occasion, United Nations Resident Coordinator for Pakistan Julien Harneis said that the opinions of all the stakeholders in the dialogue would be included in the recommendations Representatives of and would be presented in international sectors, conference on sustainable development. He said the UN would extend full

support for development of the South Punjab. Secretary Services

pivotal in providing a level

The Chief Minister



Governor Punjab says: UK is Pakistan's most important trade partner in Europe

newly appointed British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Jane Marriott, met Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rahman here today at the Governor's House, Lahore. In the meeting, issues of mutual interest, trade and climate change were discussed in detail.

Speaking on this occasion, Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that UK is Pakistan's most important appreciates trade partner in Europe. He said that Pakistan's inclusion in the UK Preferential Trade Scheme is a welcome move, and this will give further boost to

Governor Punjab said that there are vast opportunities for British Punjab presented a investors to invest in souvenir to the Bristish

LAHORE (Online): The sector in Pakistan. He said that Pakistan has been greatly affected by climate change, adding that last year different parts of country were hit by devastating flash floods due to climate change.

He said that climate

change is having a bad effect on Pakistan's agriculture as well Governor Punjab said that he is grateful for the British government's assistance to the flood victims and cooperation in the field of education.

Governor Punjab further said that the government believes in giving equal rights to all minorities according to the constitution of Pakistan. On this occasion, Governor textile and agriculture High Commissioner

The chief secretary

ordered that stern action

should be taken against

stubble burning, the industries and vehicles

causing air pollution and

special anti-smog squads be formed in Lahore, Sheikhupura, Gujranwala

preventive measures are

indispensable to overcome

the smog, adding that the

He said

and Sialkot.

DCs directed to launch crackdown on polluters

LAHORE (APP): The link. government has issued instructions to all deputy commissioners to start a crackdown on polluters for controlling smog. The instructions

were issued by Chief Secretary Punjab Zahid Akhtar Zaman while presiding over a meeting held at the Civil Secretariat, here on Thursday. The Senior Member

Board of Revenue and secretaries of departments concerned attended the meeting while all divisional commissioners and deputy that all the departments c o m m i s s i o n e r s should make collective participated through video efforts to control smog.

responsibilities would be to reassigned departments.

The CS mentioned

CM Sindh orders action against medicine hoarders

KARACHI (APP): medicine dealers involved in hoarding.

Minister Justice ® It was also decided that the health department would go hard against the

taking serious notice of the shortage of life-saving medicines in the market, directed the health department to ensure the availability of the medicines and take strict action against the hoarders.

In a statement issued here on Thursday, the chief minister discussed the matter of the shortage of life-saving medicines and circulation of substandard medicines in

the market with Health Minister Dr Saad Niaz. It was decided that the health department would start a campaign against the GCWU Sialkot inks MoU with

of Okara SIALKOT (APP): The Govt College Women University (GCWU) Sialkot inked a

University

memorandum understanding (MoU) with the University of Okara to collaborate in various areas of academics and research. GCWU Sialkot Vice Chancellor (VC) Prof. Dr. Zarin Fatima Rizvi and Okara University Vice Chancellor Prof Dr. Muhammad Wajid signed the agreement. The partner institutions will work together to achieve the United Nation's SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals), facilitate students regarding the use of laboratories equipment and hostels, organise joint lectures/

Two men

shot dead in

Drosh Jungle

CHITRAL (APP): At least

two people were shot dead

by unknown attackers in

Shah Nigar Jungle of Drosh

area in Lower Chitral,

police informed on

area said, two men

belonging to Shah Nigar

area were in Kaldam Gol

area of the Drosh jungle to

collect firewood when

Bodies of both the

The police of Drosh

Thursday.

seminars/ workshops/ conferences, develop a bilateral culture of research and innovation.

medicine dealers involved in hoarding. took notice of a jirga held at Ubauro, District Ghotki

would go hard against the manufacturers/dealers and even stores involved in

playing with the lives of dealt with iron hands.

The chief minister also discussed the issue of Dengue and malaria with the health minister. It was decided to activate both start anti-mosquito spray in their respective areas. provide proper treatment to the injured.

to settle an old dispute of love marriage in which a minor girl was given as a penalty for marriage to the opponent party.
On the directives of

making and selling substandard medicines.

Justice Baqar said that the people who were that the people who were are the people who are Naser and Madad Bhutto, innocent people must be and made efforts to arrest other accused. The chief minister expressed deep sorrow over a road accident that took place at Jhirk-Mulakatiar Bridge which claimed seven lives. He programs further and the directed the district local govt was directed to administration to help the victims' families and



LAHORE: Newly appointed British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Jane Marriott, presenting historical book of Governor House to Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rahman

Senate body informed Establishment of EPZ in private participation mode under consideration

KARACHI (APP): The Production Senate Standing Committee consultation Production Thursday was made. informed that Export
Processing Zones
Authority (EPZA) was
Authority at the export would be developed and operated by private sector Participation Mode and process for amendments in the relevant ordinance was underway.

The meeting of the committee held here at EPZA was presided over the committee Chairperson Khalida Ateeb while Senator Fida Muhammad, Senator Zeeshan Khanzada and Senator Imam ud din Shougeen attended the meeting

Chairman EPZA Dr. Saifuddin Junejo in his informed that final draft of Private/ Participated EPZs Rules 2023 has already been submitted to the ministry Industries and

on Industries and stakeholders was also

working on establishment and they would have of EPZs in Private/Public private boards with representation to EPZA. Highlighting the

importance of export sector in overall economic performance of a country, he said that EPZA was playing a proactive role in increasing the exports and several incentives and facilities were being provided to industries and investors in the EP zones.

industrial and trading units exemption from custom and other duties on import Saituddin Junejo in his of raw materials, briefing to committee equipment and machinery informed that final days of the said o while laws and regulations Public pertaining to import export, foreign exchange, labour and banking were

not applicable in the EP

The EPZA offered



SARGODHA: Students sapling plants at Khabib Girls School and College Ground during tree plantation campaign.

CCPO Lahore holds meeting for making Lahore drug-free

LAHORE (APP): Capital City Police Officer Lahore Bilal Siddique Kamyana chaired a meeting of the Investigation wings' officers of the Lahore police at his office to review measures to make Lahore a drug-free city.

deliberated on steps to rehabilitate addicts and to clamp down on the sale of narcotics.

The CCPO ordered a crackdown on big fish involved in the narcotics trade to save the youth from the menace. He asked the divisional officers to ensure stringent actions against drug peddlers, adding that strong measures be taken to remove drug peddlers from narcotics.

surroundings. He also called for close monitoring of the activities of drug pushers by SHOs within their jurisdictions and suggested enhanced collaboration with the prosecution department to ensure strict punishments for them.

educational institutions'

The CCPO proposed seeking the assistance of respected scholars to instill a societal hatred for narcotics in alignment with Islamic teachings. He suggested organising lectures against drugs in mosques and educational institutions to sensitise the youth about the menace. He also highlighted the role of the media in saving society from the curse of

level and over flowing canal water, in Hyderabad. Strategy devised to purge corruption in LG&CD Department

fish culture technology is an important contribution LAHORE (APP): Under instructed to provide a to the fisheries sector. The the guidance of the pilot project of bio-floc Provincial Minister for fish culture technology is Information and Local being completed in Government Amir Mir, a Bahawalpur at a cost of Rs comprehensive strategy 18.2 million, he said while has been devised by the inspecting the bio-floc fish Local Government & Community Development The Additional Chief (LG&CD) Department to Secretary termed this eradicate corruption and a sealed project 'Blue Revolution' three-member committee He said that with the help has been constituted to of this technology, water scrutinise departmental would be saved, pollution matters.

department, the municipal

complete record of the initial three months of the ongoing fiscal year. The record will encompass details of constructions, notices issued by the local government department, FIRs, and demolished and buildings.

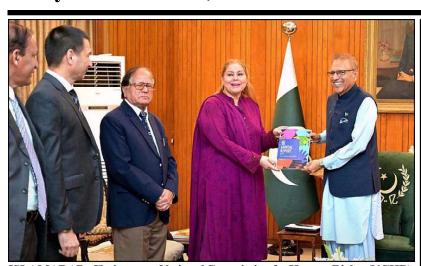
HYDERABAD: View of water level increasing in the Phuleli Canal while

many nearby residents evacuate from their homes due to increased water

unknown assailants shot Additionally, details of them dead. approved and unapproved maps for commercial, men, identified as Ehsan residential, and industrial Uddin, son of Mehrab According to a constructions in all zones Uddin and Ashraf Ali, son spokesperson for the of the city, along with an of Gul Nayab were later assessment of revenues and placed by the relatives on officers from the planning fees collected in the past Drosh Road, blocking it for offices of the nine zones of three months are being vehicular traffic for hours. Lahore have been evaluated. Seminar nciples of Extrusion and Technology for Feed and Foo



LAHORE: Agroup photo of Douglas John (US Consulate) with the participants of seminar on "Principles of Extrusion and Technology for Feed and Food **Production & Financing Options.**



Recovery Agency.
Amin Ansari, father of ISLAMABAD: Chairperson National Commission for Human Rights (NCHR). Ms. Rabiya Javeri Agha, presents the Annual Report of NHCR for year 2021 22 to President Dr. Arif Alvi, at Aiwan-e-Sadr. tended the meeting.

The president called

US provided \$215m flood relief assistance to Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): to provide urgent supplies The United States has pro- to help farmers recover in vided flood relief, disaster resilience, and food security assistance of more than \$215 million to Pakistan since the beginning of the calamity.

According to a news release, more than \$80 million in US humanitarian assistance was given through USAID to provide urgently needed supplies for those most affected, including support for food, nutrition, health, security, safe drinking water, improved sanitation and hygiene, and shel-

An additional \$100 million of recovery and reconstruction funding was announced at the January 9 International Conference on Climate-Resilient Pakistan in Geneva, Switzerland, while \$10 million was given

terms of seeds and fertilizer, and helps repair damaged critical irrigation infrastruc-

"\$2 million was given in humanitarian assistance for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) flood response in Pakistan to provide lifesaving resources to Afghan refugees and host communities in Pakistan."

More than \$1.9 million was provided in US Department of Defense funding to help airlift USAID supplies while \$3 million for new early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience funding to support Pakistan's ability to mitigate the impacts of natural disasters such as

An additional \$16.4

security support, early recovery, resilience, and risk reduction assistance was announced in June 2023 to provide life-saving food and nutrition, water, sanitation, and hygiene assistance to more than 4 million people in flood-affected communi-

"Private American citizens and US companies have donated food, medicine, and other relief supplies, and at least \$37 million dollars to help the people of Pakistan in this time of need, "the press

release added. "US flood relief assistance complements the efforts of the US-Pakistan Green Alliance, which advances cooperation in agriculture, clean energy, and water to support climate resilience, energy transformation, and inclusive eco



LAHORE: Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami Sirajul Haq talking to media persons af-

PMA announces boycott service in govt. hospitals

YDA demands de-notify Hasni as caretaker provincial minister

Medical Association (PMA) has announced to observe boycott of the ser-tacked and tortured the vices in the government medical staff and guards of hospitals in Quetta and the Trauma Center while he other parts of the province from today (Friday).

The boycott would be observed against the alleged torture of the private guards of Advisor to caretaker Chief Minister for Mines, Umair Muhammad Hassani on the medical staff and security guards of Trauma Center of the civil hospital on Thursday, as announced by the General Secretary of PMA, Dr. Aftab Kakar.

guards of Umair Muhammad Hassani at-(Umair) was also present on the occasion.

They also harassed the staff at Trauma Center and created panic, Dr. Aftab and other staff present on the duty alleged.

On this uncalled for misbehavior, the PMA has announced to observe strike in the hospitals, and if no action was taken against the Advisor and his guards, the services would



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates, Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Salim Al-Zaabi called on Caretaker Federal Minister for Health

Pakistan to continue moral, political support to Kashmiris: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar Thursday held a meeting with Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Chaudhry Anwar-ul- to Kashmir.

pressed his best wishes for

minister assured the AJK prime minister of unconditional support of Pakistan

He said Pakistan The AJK prime min-ister congratulated him on stood shoulder-to-shoulder with people of Kashmir in assuming the office of care-taker prime minister and ex-self-determination.

Kanwar Dilshad says:

President is not authorized to write a letter to ECP under Article 48 (5)

Former Secretary Election Commission (EC) Kanwar Dilshad said that delegation of Election Commission (EC) will not meet with President. If President of state gives date of elections then Election Commission (EC) should reject it. While reacting to President Letter, former Chief Secretary said that President is not autho-

under article 48 (5). It is illogical for President to write a letter to EC without advice of Prime Minister (PM). Chief Election Commissioner has the authority to set date of elections under Election Act. Former Secretary EC said that if Supreme Court rejects notification of census then elections will be held in 90 days.

announced. Meanwhile Young Doctors Association (YDA) has demanded of the authorities to lodge FIR against caretaker Provincial Minister Umair Muhammad Hasni and de-notify him as caretaker provincial Minister. In a statement issued here on Thursday, YDA said that caretaker Provincial Minister Umair Muhammad Hasni and Amanullah Notezai along with about fifteen body guards tortured doctors and healthcare workers of Trauma Center, Sandeman Provincial Hospital, Quetta on August 24, 2023.

4th meeting of BCSW **Board held Independent Report**

QUETTA: The 4th board meeting of the Balochistan Commission on Status of Women (BCSW) was held with its chairperson, Ms. Fauzia Shaheen in the chair here on Thursday.

The meeting was attended by the members of BCSW and representatives of concerned departments. The Advisor to Chief Minister for Women development and Social Welfare Ms. Shahina Khan also participated in the meeting.

The meeting discussed the related matters about the BCSW and its objectives.

Addressing the meet-Chairperson of BCSW said that the commission was formed in 2017 with the aim to frame policies for rights of the women and getting them implemented.

She said that strategic plan of the commission has been chalked out with the UNDP for next three years. Under the project, it has been attempted to share the act of BCSW and its salient features. Meanwhile, the meeting approved the minutes of board meeting.

Flood affected area

dents of Hanna Urak on Thursday urged the government to execute the rehabilitation and resettlement plan in the area to provide relief to the flood affected people.

were washed away and faced other financial losses due to last year's flash

rebuilding.

Malik Nasir Kakar,

The abnormal heavy rains last year badly affected the roads in the area that caused major difficulties for the locals to shift patents to hospitals, fruits and vegetables to markets.

He requested the provincial government to prepare a complete comprehensive plan to compensate the affected population, re-habilitation and restoration of damaged infrastructure in the area. "The area is at risk of being inundated again, but despite the devastation it suffered, the government

tentions to Hanna Urak." The Tribal leader said

ISLAMABAD (APP): strong coordination was President Dr Arif Alvi Thursday was briefed on the implementation of the implementation was very important among the implementation of (ZARRA) in Islamabad, saying it would help in timely search of children and exchange of informa-There was a need to create a system of effective President Alvi was

briefed about the Zainab Alert Act, mandate of the agency and its performance.

It was told that the agency was working in coordination with all stake-holders and with the help of Zainab Alert complaints about disappearance of 2153 children were regis-Some 1247 children

ensure registration of cases of disappearance and kidnapping of children.

He said suggestions should be sought from nonwere successfully searched while 430 reports about governmental organizations disappearance were fake. in a consultative meeting to Complete action was taken on 1837 complaints while improve the system regarding reporting about disappearance of children. 319 complaints were being The president welcomed the establishment of Zainab Alert Response and



CHAKWAL: Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Amjad Khan Niazi performs the ground breaking of Bahria Foundation College at Chakwal.

Briefed on Zainab Alert Act President underlines need for

raising awareness to stop incidents

of disappearance of children

coordination between the

provincial police depart-ments and relevant institu-

tions, he said, adding police had a critical role to play

to stop incidents of disappearance of children and

their early recovery.

He asked the police to

Razzaq Shar murder case: Order for not arresting Imran will stay: SC

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) has said its order for not arresting chairman PTI in lawyer Abdul Razzaq Shar case will

the implementation of

Zainab Ålert Response and

Recovery Act.
The briefing was at-

tended by Secretary Hu-

man Rights and officials of

Zainab Alert Response and

Zainab Ansari, also at-

for coordinated steps for

stopping the incidents of kidnapping and torture of children. He underlined the

need for raising awareness to stop the incidents of dis-

to be provided to parents

and teachers about protec-

tion of children and for sav-

ing them from disappear-

ance," he added.

"Awareness is needed

President Alvi said Recovery

appearance of children.

A 3-members bench of SC presided over by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial took up for hearing the matter of nomination of chairman PTI in murder case of lawyer Abdul Razzaq Shar Thurs-

the hearing of the case on PTI has not joined the in-Independent Report
QUETTA: The Pakistan
Medical Medical According to the Operation official, the PMA's senior official, the PMA's senior official, the PMA leader

Operation of the PMA's senior official, the PMA leader of Imanullah Kinrani counsel for comnotices.

murder case against chairman PTI was filed in the under article 6 against chaircourt. IG Balochistan filed the said investigation report. It has been said in investigation report that bench hearing the lawyer chairman PTI has not joined murder case on the appeal investigation so far despite plea of chairman PTI.

The report further said that a 7 members Joint Investigation Team (JIT) was constituted by interior ministry on June 8 during investigation. 8 meetings of JIT have taken place so far under DIG CTD. It was decided to include 4 accused including chairman PTI in the investigation of the case. The statements of

wife of deceased lawyer

several notices.

and his two brothers have The court adjourned been recorded. Chairman

plainant. The report said the Investigation report in lawyer Abdul Razzaq Shar victim Abdul Razzaq Shar due to filing application man PTI by him.

It is pertinent to mention here SC changed the



QUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan MirAli Mardan Khan Domki meeting with Caretaker Provincial Minister Prince Ahmed Ali Baloch.

Residents of Hanna Urak urge govt to launch rehabilitation plan OUETTA (APP): The resiplan in the area.

The affected people whose houses, agricultural land and water channels floods, still waiting for the government's package of

one of the flood affectees from Hanna valley, said that almost a year had been passed since the flash floods had wreaked havoc in famous tourist point of Hanna Urak Quetta. He ment should take practical steps to assess the damages

he told while talking to APP.

has asked to afford due at-Mirwais Khan Kakar

that the people of Hanna Urak were hit by the worst stressed that the govern- natural calamity in the history and were looking for the help from government and initiate reconstruction to mitigate their sufferings.

DGAIMH visits BTTN office

QUETTA (APP): Director General, Army Institute of Military History (AIMH) Agha Masood Akram visited the Balochistan Think Tank Network (BTTN) office here on Thursday.

In his welcome remarks, the Head of BTTN introduced DG AIMH to the Faculty of Research and the workplace. Executive Director, Dr. Zafar Khan briefed on BTTN's progress, aims, objectives and achievements.

He provided a detailed account of BTTN's organizational structure and framework of research.

He pointed that BTTN is currently focusing on strategic, political, economic, and most specifically the socio-ecoissues nomic

Balochistan. BTTN has produced numerous research articles, policy papers and a considerable number of opinion articles on contemporary issues.

Two killed in road accident Independent Report QUETTA: Two persons

died due to collision of Rickshaw with Mazda in Bakhtiarabad Domki area of Balochistan province on Thursday.

According to rescue sources, Rickshaw collided Mazda Bakhtiarabad Domki area of the province, resultantly, two men namely Irfan son of Shah Mir Gola and Allah Dita son of Sarung Khan Gola died on the spot. The bodies were shifted to hospital where after completion of necessary medico-legal formalities, the bodies were

handed over to heirs. Dr. Mirwais inquires after health of injured Levies man

QUETTA (APP): Director Operation of Balochistan Levies Force, Dr. Mirwais Khan Kakar on Thursday visited Quetta Civil Hospital's Trauma Center to ask about the heath of Levies driver Mustafa Khan Bareach was injured in the firing of bandits at Circle near Chagai last

said that on the special in-structions of Director General Balochistan Levies Force Naseebullah Khan Kakar, better medical aid is being provided to the injured Levies per-



ISLAMABAD: US Congressman Darlin Lahood accompanied by US Ambassador Donald Blome exchanging views with Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani.

LHC says:

President bound to give date for holding election in 90 days

Abid Aziz Sheikh of Lahore High Court (LHC) has remarked holding election in 90 days is constitutional requirement and president is bound to give date for holding election in 90 days.

He further remarked efforts should be there that elections are held within 90 The petition filed by

a citizen against notification on new delimitation of constituencies came up for hearing before single bench of LHC led by Justice Abid Aziz Sheikh Thursday.

During the hearing of the case Justice Abid Aziz Sheikh remarked holding election in 90 days is a constitutional requirement. There should be efforts that election takes place within 90 days. I am issuing notice to Election Commission the hearing of the case till (EC) on the date of election. September 06.

LAHORE (Online): Justice If the population census had taken place in June then why it was not approved till 2 months. Reply to this question should come.

The counsel for federal government said new delimitation of constituencies within four months is next to impossible. The court inquired

president is bound to give date for holding election within 90 days.

Counsel for the federal government said delimitation is must after popula-

tion census. This matter has gone to Supreme Court. The court inquired you should appear in the court next after obtaining directives in this connection. The court while issuing notice to election commission, federal government and others adjourned

Perpetrators of Jaranwala incident will be brought to justice: Masood Khan

ISLAMABAD (Online): Pakistan's Ambassador to United States Masood Khan has strongly condemn the horrendous incidents of Jaranwala and said that crime would be brought to

Addressing leaders of all faiths and denominations in Washington, he said that entire leadership of Pakistan and civil society has stood by Christian brothers and sisters who suffered because of arson and van-

the incident a conspiracy to disrupt social harmony and people.

religious bonds between followers of two faiths. He said Islam doesn't

allow any kind of discrimination and persecution, incitement to hatred perpetrators of this heinous and violence against other religions is proscribed.

The Ambassador said Prime Minister of Pakistan visited Jaranwala and expressed solidarity with the traumatized victim and the Government of Pakistan has not only condemned the incident in the clearest and strongest manner but Masood Khan termed has also announced compensation for the affected

Siraj calls for constituting national commission on minority affairs

LAHORE (INP): Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Sirajul Haq has called for the establishment of a national commission dedicated to minority affairs.

media after chairing a 'Peace Conference" at Mansoorah on Thursday, he said that this commission's primary purpose would be to safeguard the rights of minority religious groups, including Hindus, Christians, Sikhs, and others.

Sirajul Haq said the JI plans to hold a national convention for minorities in Islamabad this coming September. The goal of this convention, he added, is to formulate comprehensive recommendations concerning the rights of the minori-

The event, organized by the JI's Punjab central chapter, attended by the leaders from various minority groups. They condemned the recent incidents While speaking to the in Jarnawala including the burning of Holy Quran, demanding transparent inquiry into all.

Emphasizing the gravity of the situation, the JI Chief labeled the incident as a deliberate plot aimed at sowing discord and disrupting peace and order. He raised concerns about the actions of both the local police and administration during the outbreak of mob violence, stressing that their handling of the situation had been questionable at best. He further asserted that these events were orchestrated to tarnish the nation's identity.



ISLAMABAD: Leader of JUI f Maulana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri talking with media persons after the meeting with Chief election commission of pakistan Sikandar Sultan Raja, outside Election Commission of Pakistan, in Federal Capital.

Underprivileged's inclusion in development process, vital for national progress: Sami

ISLAMABAD (APP): path of progress without Caretaker Minister for the inclusion of underprivi-Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Muhammad Sami Saeed on Thursday said inclusion of underprivileged seg-ments of society in the development process was ciety by offering them eqpivotal in achieving a sus- uitable opportunities," the tainable national growth added.

trajectory. Chairing a progress sized that transparent crireview meeting of the initiatives taken in the social sector, he remarked that no

leged strata of society in the development process. The initiatives in so-

cial sector will pave the

way for the social uplift of low-income groups of so-Sami Saeed empha-

teria should be adopted for selection of deserving persons and targeting social country could tread the benefits.



QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan presiding over meeting of Board of Directors of Lawyers Endowment Fund