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Pakistan isolated in world during Imran Niazi's tenure: PM Shahbaz

Says Nawaz Sharif to return next month to lead election campaign

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday said that Imran Khan Niazi had

The prime minister, in an interview with 'WeNews', said that an effort was made to create a bloc and isolate Saudi Arabia through that bloc.

"What a sad incident and what a fallen thought that a friend who helps you like a brother and family without any condition or greed and we become ungrateful and forgetful of its kindness," he added.

said that the two brotherly countries could never have imagined such a bad situation that happened during Imran Niazi's tenure.

Terming the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chief's nar-

government was brought in against Pakistan, he added. said that the phase of dis-ley of Kashmir turned red power under an American conspiracy, a pack of lies, the prime minister said if ruined relations with the the contents of the cipher, friendly countries and iso- which was printed (in the lated Pakistan in the world. international newspaper), were true, then it was a very

Voice of masses

With regard to the news about the cipher published in the international journal 'The Intercept', he said that two meetings of the National Security Council regarding the cipher were held under his chairmanship. In a meeting, the then Pakistani ambassador and current Foreign Secretary Asad Majeed clearly stated that The prime minister there was no talk of conspiracy in his meeting with the United States official

The then Chief of Army Staff General Bajwa and other services chiefs also confirmed that there rative that his (Shehbaz's) was no conspiracy hatched

QUETTA: A delegation led by Member Central Committee of BNP Mir Khursheed Jamaldini meeting with Balochistan Governor Malik Abdul Wali

is also guaranteed in the char-

ter of United Nations and

to the constitution of Paki-

stan 1973. He said that the

mother languages are not the

source of expression only,

rather it is a long process of

heritage from one generation

to the other. The Governor

also said that the local lan-

guage newspapers and peri-

odicals not only keep the

general public aware of the

latest happenings and cir-

cumstances around them,

but they also play key role

in promotion and develop-

ment of the thousands years

old languages. Syed Anwar

Shah on the occasion ap-

prised the Governor about

the issues being faced by

the newspapers and peri-

odicals being published in

Marriyum Aurangzeb

thanked all the media orga-

nizations including All Pa-

kistan Newspaper Society

(APNS), Pakistan Broad-

casters Association (PBA),

Parliamentary Reporters

Association (PRA), Coun-

cil of Pakistan Newspaper

Editors (CPNE) for their

guidance and support in the

preparation of the PEMRA

Amendment Bill 2023.

local languages

Marriyum urges journalists,

media workers to remain united

for implementation of PEMRA

ISLAMABAD (APP): In- duced by Pervez Musharraf.

Govt. taking concrete steps

for promotion of mother

languages, says Governor

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul

Wali Khan Kakar has stated

that the government is tak-

ing concrete steps for devel-

opment and promotion of

mother languages.
He said that there is also

a key role of the newspa-

pers and periodicals being

published in Pashto, Brahvi

and Balochi languages in

promotion of the mother

The Governor was speaking to the Chief Edi-

tor of Pastho daily, Nowai

Zowand, Syed Anwar Shah

who called on him here at

the Governor House on

there is a great importance of mother languages, which

formation Secretary of Pa-

kistan Muslim League-

Nawaz and former Minis-

ter for Information and

Broadcasting Marriyum

Aurangzeb on Thursday

urged the journalists and

media workers to remain

united and ensure implemen-

tation of PEMRA Amend-

ment Bill 2023, which would

replace the 2002 PEMRA

Ordinance, a black law intro-

The Governor said that

Thursday.

"Imran Niazi's narrative was that America tried to topple his government because he was more attracted to China and Russia, so tell me that if our government was formed through the American conspiracy, would we get oil from Russia? Would our relations with China be restored which were destroyed by Imran Niazi? So this one proof is enough," he added. Regarding the delay in finalizing the name of caretaker prime minister, Shehbaz Sharif said there

standing that the caretaker prime minister's decision was to be taken tomorrow. "It is not the case because there cannot be a consultation between the prime minister and the opposition leader before the National Assembly is dissolved."

The prime minister

was a mistake in under-

solving the Assembly was completed last night, and after that he had the first meeting scheduled with the opposition leader today in which the caretaker prime minister's name would be discussed.

He said that right now he could not reveal the name of the caretaker prime minister, but assured that the matter would be revealed soon. Regarding Pakistan's relations with India, the prime minister neighbouring country could not be restored without finding a just solution of the Kashmir issue because the Kashmiris had made great sacrifices to get their rights and thousands of them lead the election campaign have died in 75 years. The of his party and would be hearts of Kashmiri mothers

with their blood, he added. The prime minister

made it clear that without resolving the issue of Kashmiris' right to self-determination, relations with India could not be normalized in any way. Meanwhile Prime Min-

ister Shehbaz Sharif Thursday said Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz Quaid Nawaz Sharif would come back to Pakistan next month and face his cases in courts The prime minister, in

said that ties with the an interview with a private news channel, said after the formation of the caretaker government he would visit London to consult Nawaz Sharif on his plan for return.

Nawaz Sharif would the next prime minister for and daughters were torn, the fourth time if the PMLchildren and the elderly N won were martyred and the val-N won the next election, he

Court terminates Imran's bail petition in Al-Qadir Trust case

ISLAMABAD (APP): An into the case had been con-Accountability Court (AC) on Thursday terminated the interim bail petition of PTI chairman Imran Khan due to non-pursuance in Al-Qadir Trust case connected in the said case. with a scam worth Rs190

However, the court disposed of the pre-arrest bail case of Bushra Bibi after the from appearance as he was NAB officials stated that no arrest warrants had been issued against her. The AC-I Judge

Muhammad Bashir announced the verdict against the bail petitions of former day. prime minister and his wife.

formed the court that no

Her lawyer, Khawaja posed of after the statement of NAB.

verted into investigation. Intizar Panjutha Advocate prayed to the court to pass an order refraining the arrest of his client in future Khawaja Haris prayed

to the court to extend the interim bail of Imran Khan in jail. NAB

NAB prosecutor Sardar Muzafar Abbasi said that the defence could file the exemption from appearance request for one

The court earlier re-On the query of the judge, the NAB Prosecutor served the judgment on the bail petition of the two ac-Sardar Muzafar Abbasi in- cused and later terminated the bail petition of Imran arrest warrants had been Khan. However, the bail issued against Bushra Bibi. case of Bushra Bibi was dis-

Police firing on protesters in Lakki Marwat, one person killed, 4 injured

MARWAT (Online): One person was killed and 4 were injured during police firing on protesters in Lakki Marwat.

The police firing incident took place in Dara Pizo area of Lakki Marwat

city of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK).

There are reports that the people of Wanda Jogi

were protesting on the Indus Highway since late night against the arrest of their associates while the police opened fire on the protesters following ex change of bitter words

Police sources said that the police had arrested 4 people over the dispute with the Lakki Cement Fac



QUETTA: Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Balochistan Imran Gichki meeting with Home Minister Mir Ziaullah Lango

incidents of terrorism in Quetta and other areas

province.

In a statement issued here on Thursday, the Chief Minister said that the antiate the environment of fear terrorism and subversive dependence Day.
The Chief Minister

was concerned that the tendency of terrorism has been increased in the month of August for last few years.

He stressed that it is unavoidable to take effective security measures in order to cope with the threat of terrorism in

Quetta city.
He said that the people

and city can't be handed over to the terrorists in this manner. He said that the everyday blasts and subversive acts are creating very negative impression from Balochistan. He asserted that no one

would be allowed to devastate the peace established due to the sacrifices of general public and security He urged the police and

plan should be prepared for the Quetta city, adding he directed.

He also said that it is right of the people to celebrate Jashne Azadi without any fear and threat.

demned the bomb blast on Moti Ram road and expressed sorrow over injuries caused to three persons



Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif as part of the consultation process for selection of the Caretaker Prime Minister.

Institution of Senate have to be more empowered:

We accepted new population census in larger interest of province seeing ground realities, says CM Bizenjo

Says issue of Balochistan would not be resolved with increase of two or four seats in National Assembly

tion census by some politi-

cal circles as meaningless

and said that those making

criticism on the new census should determine those

responsible who caused

harm to the province's in-

Award.

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo has categorically stated that we have accepted the new population census in a realistic manner and that seeing facts, in which the ratio of population increase in Balochistan is higher than

other provinces. He said that the issue of Balochistan would not be resolved with increase of two or four seats in the national assembly, rather the institution of Senate would have to be empowered for the purpose, which has equal representative of all the provinces.

He stressed that we need to wage struggle to strengthen and empower

It has been our stance cal parties of the province province. 23 KP cabinet members

resigned

PESHAWAR (APP): 23 out of 25 members of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's caretaker cabinet on Thurs-

day tendered resignations. The caretaker chief minister had invited the cabinet members for tea here and informed them that the Election Commission had written a letter to seek

resignations from members

having political affiliations. According to CM Secretariat Pir Haroon Shah, Fazl Elahi, Himayatullah, Taj Muhammad, Zafar Mahmood and Rehmat Islam Khattak were among the members who tendered resignations.

Flash flood sweeps away four in Zhob

OUETTA (INP): Four people were swept away in flash floods due to torrential rains in Zhob district of Balochistan.

Due to heavy rains the Mount Sulaiman range, a car was washed away in flash flood at Shirani area on Zhob-DI Khan Highway, resulting in the death of four people.

According to administration sources, two women and two children are among the dead, A man and a woman remained safe in the incident. The affected family belongs to Quetta.

Traffic flow has been suspended in Shirani area between Quetta and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa due to flooding. The administration said that people should avoid traveling on the highway until it is cleared. On the other

hand, according to the Met Department, rain was likely in Islamabad, Upper Khyber Punjab, Pakhtunkhwa and Kashmir today. Besides that, the coastal areas of Sindh could also receive rain.

from the day one that the backwardness, land and law cepted the interests of provand order situation may ince from the federation. He strongly believed that if we didn't come on also be included in the formula of distribution of resources in the NFC Award.

one page then the federation would never give us our due rights.

He stressed that all po-

The province can benefit from this in the NFC He stated so in a policy statement issued here on Thursday. The Chief Minister described the ongoing dabate on the pay popula debate on the new popula-

To a query, the Chief Minister dispelled the impression that only the population of Balochistan has been reduced, if viewed. then ratio of population of the province has been interests by reviewing the creased. He on the occasion population census conducted in 1998 and 2017. stressed that we need to make struggle for special The Chief Minister grants to be given to the once again invited all politibackward districts of the

To reach consensus on caretaker PM's selection

PM, opposition leader to meet again today



ISLAMABAD (APP): Leader of the Opposition in National Assembly Raja Riaz met with Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday as part of the consultation process for the selection of the caretaker prime minister

After detailed deliberation, the two leaders decided to meet again today (Friday) to reach a consensus on selecting a name for the caretaker prime minister.

As per the constitution, the prime minister had invited the opposition leader to a meeting regarding the appointment of the caretaker prime minister.

One person killed, three injured in two different explosions in Quetta city, suburb

Independent Report

QUETTA: One person was killed and three others were injured in two different incidents of explosions and hang grenade took place in Aminabad area and Moti Ram road on Thursday.

According to the reports, some unknown miscreants hurled a hand grenade in Aminabad area of Brewery near Western bypass. As a result, two persons sustained injuries. Later, one of them died before he was provided any medical assistance. However, the other survived and shifted to the civil hospi-

The assailants fled from the scene

Meanwhile, two persons were injured in an explosion took place in a shop located on Moti Ram road here on Thursday afternoon. According to the reports, the explosion took place in a shop of national flags and other Independence day items being sold

However, the nature of explosion could not be determined immediately. Initial reports suggested that some unknown assailants hurled a hand grenade at the shop and fled from the



OUETTA: A view site of hand grenade attack at Moti Ram Road

8 of a family die as van collides with truck LAYYAH (Online): At shifted the bodies and in-

QUETTA: Chairman Journalist Welfare Fund

Committee, DGPR Kamran Asad presiding over

least 8 persons of a family died and 6 others were injured in van-truck collision in Layya Thursday.
The accident took place

meeting of Committee

in Adda Hafiz Abad, Tehsil The Rescue teams

jured to Tehsil hospital. Medical aid was provided to the injured in the hospital. According to sources the speedy passenger van was on its way from Bhakkar to Mian Channu and it collided with a truck at adda rushed to the scene and Hafizabad

Pakistan, Iraq sign convention for elimination of double taxation

ISLAMABAD (APP) Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has initiated negotiations on the convention for the elimination of double taxation with respect to taxes on Income, Capital and the Prevention of Tax Evasion with

the Republic of Iraq. In this connection, tax delegations of both the countries met here for the first round of negotiations from August 7 to 9, 2023 said a news release issued

here on Thursday. After detailed deliberations, a consensus was achieved and draft of the convention was initiated by the respective heads

of delegation on August The convention would not only provide safeguards against double taxation on the income of the residents of both the countries but will also promote economic coop-

ments PIA gets new CEO

eration and enhance invest-

KARACHI (INP): Air Vice Muhammad Amir Hayai has been appointed Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) Chief Executive Of-

ficer (CEO) on Thursday. According to PIA spokesperson, the appointment of Muhammad Amir Hayat has been made for a year. Earlier, the retired Air Vice Marshal was working

as acting CEO of PIA. The position of the CEO has been lying vacant after Air Marshal Arshad Malik completed his threeyear tenure on April 25 Arshad Malik was appointed in October 2018 The appointment was made after, the federal government approved the appointment of the chief executive officer (CEO) of the national flag carrier Pakistan International Airlines last week. The federal cabinet approved the summary through circulation. Sources told ARY News that Hashim Raza and Mazhar Uddin were also being considered for the PIA's top slot. The prime minister rejected the recommendation to appoint the PIA CEO for

three years.

CM annoyed over increasing

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo has expressed his annoyance over the increasing incidents of terrorism in Quetta and some other arras of the

state elements want to creand harassment through acts on occasion of the In-

other security institutions to ensure sustainable peace in the province. In addition to this, foolproof security

Meanwhile, he con-

Daily soice of Masse Independent

Democracy lost

With the PDM-led government's controversial tenure drawing to an end, it is worth reflecting on what was gained from the change of leadership its component parties imposed on the country last year.

In March 2022, with the PTI at the nadir of its popularity amidst rising inflation and general disillusionment with its capability to govern, the opposition parties coalesced around the single-point agenda of taking down Imran Khan's government.

It had seemed like a golden opportunity at the time — a chance to bury the 'hybrid regime' and reposition the parties that had been sidelined after the 2018 general elections as the true and deserving inheritors of Pakistan's political

The task before them was clear: reverse the economic slide triggered by the PTI's bad policies and offer the people the promise of a better future closely aligned with the aspirations of Pakistan's youthful population.

Unfortunately, those who took over never did their homework. They worsened the economic crisis by wasting months dilly-dallying over the 'best' response, introduced repressive and regressive from the grocery store one policies to counter and contain the PTI, and pushed a legislative agenda that seemed tailored to suit a few vested interests rather than address the growing needs of the many.

This quickly led to disenchantment with the PDM-led government's version of 'purana Pakistan'. The new rulers never really figured out how to address the vigorous challenge to their legitimacy launched by the prime minister they had ousted. Misstep after misstep lost them immeasurable political capital amidst social turbulence and a perfect economic storm.

Eventually, it seems, the politicians simply gave up trying to solve political problems with the lawful means at their disposal. In their desperation to keep Mr Khan away from power, they let unelected forces back into the driving seat. The rest, as they say, is

The PDM-led government now leaves behind a political system ravaged by legislative subterfuge and organised subversion of the parliamentary process. It leaves the Constitution looking weak and irrelevant, and has consciously ceded civilian power in its last days to forces that have historically refused to play by any rules but their own.

How could a political movement that prided itself on utilising constitutional process to remove a 'bad' prime minister end up condemning Pakistan to a worse iteration of hybrid rule? One is now inclined to believe that bringing down the PTI government was never about principle. Those who, with some justification, criticised Mr Khan for being a puppet prime minister proved more than eager to take his place. Ultimately, it was a race between two rival factions to prove who could be more 'loyal' and 'obedient' than the other. One has now won favour; but for how long is anybody's guess

A blind eye

ing on the floor in an injured condition," with

wounds on Rizwana's

head, face, legs and torso.

ted for medical care first

in Sargodha, but because

her condition was deemed

too critical, she was

shifted to Lahore General

Hospital, where she has

been fighting for a life that

offers only pain and un-

with commendable zeal for

were horrific. Her skeletal

multiple fractures, consis-

tent with frequent blows

from a blunt instrument.

tissue consisted of un-

healed wounds on her

scalp, where her hair had

been pulled away from its

roots. These had festered

and become a meal for

maggots. She also had

burn marks on her torso

and back, which had filled

weight was no more than

30 kilograms. Had she

been fed properly and

have been closer to 46kg.

costing Rs500,000 is be-

nate the infection in her

her damaged lifetime.

Because of her pre-

On discovery, her

with pus.

Damage to her soft

According to the

deserved suffering.

Rizwana was admit-



F.S. Aijazuddin

The film A Time to Kill (1996), derived from John Grisham's best-selling novel, was set in the fictional town of Clanton in the southern state of Mississippi in the US. In its closing scenes, a white defence lawyer (Matthew McConaughey) defends his black client (Samuel L. Jackson) against a murder charge against two white rapists of his young, 10vear-old daughter.

The lawyer's summing up begins: "I want to tell you a story [about] a little girl walking home sunny afternoon. Suddenly, a truck races up. Two men jump out and grab her. They drag her into a nearby field and they tie her up and they rip the clothes from her body." After assaulting and brutalising her, they leave her for dead.

"I want you to picture that little black girl," he asks the Mississippi jury. "Now imagine she is

Replace Mississippi with Sargodha, and fiction dovetails with reality. Imagine an illiterate 13year-old girl, Rizwana, employed by a civil judge and his educated wife in Sargodha. The teenager needs the work. She comes from an overcrowded home of impoverished parents and nine other siblings.

A fortnight ago, Rizwana's father, Manga Khan, called at the judge's residence to meet his daughter, probably to collect her meagre wages of

According to the report he filed with the police, "As I stepped in the house of the judge, I heard judge, Dr Abida Sajjad, tesy Dawn services in Pakistan. -- Courtest and the sessions court, where a tice is in Pakistan. -- Courtest and the judge, and the sessions court, where a tice is in Pakistan. -- Courtest and the judge, I heard judge, Dr Abida Sajjad, tesy Dawn

screams of my daughter granted her pre-arrest coming out from a room. bail against a surety of We rushed to the room Rs100,000. where we saw she was ly-

In McConaughey asked his all-white jury to picture that young black victim: "Now imagine she is white."

Now imagine that Rizwana had been the daughter of Judge Hafeez and his wife Somia, and that she had been systematically tortured by a lowly menial Would that perpetrator have obtained pre-arrest bail from a judge as quickly?

hospital team now caring Politicians from the PML-N have been quick Rizwana, her wounds capitalise injuries were arms with

Rizwana's predicament. Khawaja Asif (minister of defence, and not health or social welfare) went to ask after her, followed by Maryam Nawaz, the senior vice president of the PML-N.

She asked Rizwana blithely why she had not reported the abuse when it had been going on for six months. Did she expect the injured teenager to escape from a domestic prison and then, with broken arms, sign an

Had Maryam Nawaz regularly (as Judge stayed long enough at Hafeez's three children the hospital beyond her aged seven to 12 years brief social call, she were), her weight should would have learned that Rizwana's mother had endured 12 pregnancies carious condition, an inin 15 years of marriage, and that she had no one jection called pentaglobin, to look after her nine other ing administered to her. children while she was in free of cost, to help elimithe Lahore General Hospital caring for Rizwana It took the police 10 days No one will ever be to constitute a joint inable to assess the psychovestigation team to probe logical trauma Rizwana the case, and finally, on has suffered, or how long Aug 7, Somia Hafeez was it will take her to recover arrested. Rizwana's docfrom it. Probably never in tors found fingernail marks around her eyes Meanwhile, while indicating that someone Rizwana was being with sharp nails had tried rushed to the hospital in to gouge an eyeball out Sargodha, her employer of its socket. Had that the judge's wife, Ms heartless person succeeded, Rizwana would Somia — rushed to an have been as blind as jus-Islamabad district and

A new dark age?



Over the past half century, when the hold of liberal democracy over at least the world's rich and Western nations was strong, a level of predictability reigned. It could be assumed that elections would be held on time, that political opponents would not be imprisoned or tried for sham crimes, that minorities would not be persecuted. For those lucky enough to live in these countries a semblance of a social contract existed between

them and the state.

That status quo is no

more. Even the US, not simply an old democracy but also the greatest democracy propagator, was recently moved to the category of 'backsliding democracies' — a category where the necessary precepts of democracy are not quite guaranteed. The recent list of indictments of former president Donald Trump have done away with the tradition of not slapping charges, technical or substantive, on political opponents. The fact that a good percentage of voting Americans do not believe that the 2020 election was fair and have even less faith in the possibility of free and fair elections in 2024

has been another blow. Finally, the neutrality of the court and its ability to adjudicate on poll-related (the 2024 elections) lawsuits have been questioned following the political lobbying of the spouse of supreme court justice Clarence Thomas and the political leanings of various other judges in America, thus eroding fur-

ther safeguards. Things are worse in Europe. In countries like

Hungary, the cult of personality has led to the ascendance of Prime Minister Viktor Orbán and his party. His dominance is so complete that only members of the inner elite can get government posts and contracts, even though Hungary is part of the EU and subject to all the checks and balances that come with the membership. In fact, Hungary is able to capitalise through the EU forum to get plum economic deals while paying no heed to democratic safeguards with other EU nations such as Germany, Europe's economic powerhouse that outsources its car manufacturing to Hungary, looking the other way.

This web of interrelations and autocratic rule is expanding. Consensusbuilding, which is at the heart of democratic rule, takes time and energy (and chaos) to achieve. Autocratic rule, as the example of India — another backsliding democracy shows, is far more centralised and capable of fast action and producing intoxicating nationalism to satiate millions. Media censorship and bans on foreign funding for CSOs further enables a singular narrative that defeats any possibility of democracy's

resurgence. Pakistan's situation must be evaluated against such international realities. Until now, the health of democracy in developing countries had been more a matter of Western concern. Democratic indices during the height of the West's democracy-propagation decades were used to celebrate or lament a nascent democracy's ascent or descent. While meddling in Pakistan's affairs may still be stra-Western nations, them, there could be a Pakistan's continuing is guaranteed. -- Courfoibles that didn't exist tesy Dawn

When you walk into a courtroom, or even watch a legal drama, you can see there are certain procedures to be followed. Evidence must be presented in a certain way, witnesses are questioned according to a certain procedure, and lawyers make arguments based on certain conventions. These procedures are followed because they ensure that all defendants are treated the same. The close following of these procedures means that the result or verdict is considered just and legitimate. The more strictly the conventions are fol-

lowed, the more legiti-

Democracy is no dif-

mate the result will be.

ferent. When courts are seen to issue verdicts not based on law or evidence, or cave in to political pressure the verdicts they produce lack legitimacy. The more times this happens. the less legitimate court justice becomes. Similarly, when political figures are routinely imprisoned and indicted when they are not in power, elections become suspect, as do the charges against various politicians. The lack of accurate information concerning different varieties of corrupt rulers and their children means that the public is kept in a constant state of confusion and disbelief. It is also the public that has the most to lose as democracy, or at least the institutions and conventions that make it possible, are eroded. Every time power is transferred in a violent manner, or when political rivals try to get the other disqualified or imprisoned, each time the civil rights of political workers and activists are trampled on, it tegically valuable to is the ordinary citizens who lose. In all the un-America chief among certainty that accompanies democratic backlevel of indifference to sliding, this one thing

Commerce News

Iran's CG for cooperation with Pakistan, China in energy, infrastructure projects

cooperate with Pakistan and China in many sectors Pakistan enjoy good between the three energy, many other fields by providing its manpower achieve mutual economic PCJCCI and many topand skilled labor.

These views were expressed by Mr. Mehran Movahed Far, Consul General (CG) of Iran to Lahore who visited Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) on Thursday at PCJCCI Iran, Pakistan and China. at international forums and Mehran Movahed reaffirmed that he would

Utility Stores Corporation

(USC) has started targeted

subsidies on the special

orders of the Prime

Minister (PM) of Pakistan

commodities (flour, ghee,

sugar, pulses, and rice) are

being provided at the

cheapest rates, said a press

Households registered

release issued here.

Mian Shahbaz Sharif.

Five

business relations to benefits. He stressed the need for a delegation of China and Pakistan to visit Iran see the potential for business and investment opportunities and assured that his Embassy would support and cooperation.

He also thanked Secretariat to discuss China and Pakistan for trilateral relations between providing support to Iran

eligible for a subsidy.

basic original identity card at the

counter to avail subsidy.

After the targeted subsidy,

flour will be available at Rs

648 per 10 kg bag, ghee at

Rs 353 per kg and sugar at

USC starts targeted

subsidy on special

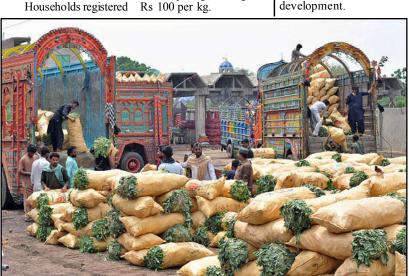
orders of PM

LAHORE (APP): Iran can Far, on this occasion, work to further strengthen expressed that Iran and trade and economic bonds relations that should be countries. The meeting was transformed into growing attended by the executive committee members of notch business leaders from both Pakistan and China.Moazzam Ghurki President PCJCCI said that Pakistan, Iran and China are three brotherly countries and they can provide them all possible complement each other's economy in many fields, therefore, they should focus on promoting trade and economic ties to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes.

SCCI gets **'Development** Leadership Award'

SIALKOT (APP): The ISLAMABAD (APP): under the Benazir Income government has bestowed Support Program (BISP) upon the Sialkot Chamber with a poverty index score of Commerce and Industry of PMT_40 or less, will be (SCCI) the prestigious Development Leadership (BISP) Registered Award' users must show their

According to the SCCI press release, the award was given in recognition of the SCCI meritorious services in domains of trade, commerce, and industrial development.



MULTAN: Labourers offloading sacks of vegetables from delivery truck at vegetable market.

PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali distributing awards under the auspices of the Federation of

Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) at Governor's House.

SBP to issue Rs100 coin to commemorate 10 years of CPEC

Independent Report ARACHI: To mark the 0th anniversary of the China-Pakistan Économic Corridor (CPEC), the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) to

commemorative coin on Friday. The coin shall be issued through the exchange counters of SBP Banking Services Corporation from August 11, 2023, said a statement

issued here on Thursday. The government of Pakistan has decided to issue a commemorative coin of Rs.100 in recognition of the significant contribution of the Corridor to country's left positions, respectively.

infrastructure and economic development since its decade of inception in 2013. The coin is in round shape milled with serrations on the edge diameter of 30.00 mm, weight 13.5 grams and has Cupro-Nickel metal contents, the statement read. On the obverse side and in the centre of the coin, an artistically designed five-pointed star has

been reflected. The crescent moon and star as present in Pakistan's national Flag and a group of five stars as present in China's national Flag were also shown inside the artistically China-Pakistan Economic designed star at right and

Price review committee reduces price of 8 food items in Haripur

in view the reduction and increase in the price of essential commodities, the Price Review Committee (PRC) district Haripur on Thursday approved a decrease in the price of 8 food items. Chaired by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Haripur Imran Khan Jadoon, the PRC's meeting reviewed the current prices of 22 food items and approved the reduction in the prices of 8

HARIPUR (APP): Keeping

pulses, rice and Baisan. According to the breakup of 22 food items price increase and decrease, PRC approved

food items including different

decrease of 8 food items increase in 10 items while the price of 4 food items remained the same.

The ADC issued an instruction to the concerned to strictly comply with the new rate lists and monitor prices of the food items in district Haripur, take stern legal action against the violators, profiteers and hoarders. In the meeting was attended by Additional Assistant Commissioner Haripur Sarfraz Ali Qureshi, District Food Controller Sheeraz Khan, Food Controller Pristan Qureshi, Director Livestock Sarab Khan, representative of the

consumers of district Haripur.

Farzana Altaf Shah Thursday said that the polythene shopping bags were posing serious threats to human health and the and environment besides causing blockage of streams, nullahs and sewerage lines. Therefore,

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Director General, Pakistan

Environment Protection

Agency (Pak-EPA) Ms.

the business community should cooperate in controlling their use in the federal capital to promote a healthy environment, she

Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) during her visit to the Chamber.

Business community asked

to cooperate in controlling

use of polythene bags

Farzana Altaf Shah said that PAK-EPA needed the cooperation of ICCI and the Market Associations for proper Market implementation of plastic shopping bags laws and regulations to make Islamabad a plastic free

said while addressing the members of Islamabad use of plastic shopping bags and hoped that as responsible citizens, they would extend full cooperation in complying

with these regulations. Speaking on the occasion, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President ICCI assured that the business community cooperate in controlling the plastic shopping bags in Islamabad in order to make She briefed the Islamabada clean and green business community about the key features of the new friendly city.

PIA offers 14% discount on I-Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has announced a 14 per cent discount on all its domestic flights on Independence

According to a PIA spokesperson, the national flag carrier announced this Azadi Offer' as part of the Independence festivities. He said that travellers can avail of a remarkable 14 per cent price reduction on all of the airline's domestic flights on Independence Day.

The special offer is set to make travel within the country more accessible and affordable for passengers looking to commemorate the nation's independence. discounted tickets are exclusively valid for travel on August 14th only.

Pakistani hand carved furniture on high demand in global market: Kashif

Executive Officer Pakistan Furniture Council Mian Kashif Ashfaq on Thursday highlighted the global significance and high demand of Pakistani hand-carved furniture, particularly in America and the Middle East. Talking to a delegation of furniture manufacturers led by Araib Arain, he said It attracts foreigners, tourists and visitors who appreciate cultural authenticity, said a news release issued here.

It serves as a way to share Pakistan's artistic heritage with the world, promoting cultural exchange and appreciation, he added. He said handcarved furniture promotes sustainable practices by valuing quality over quantity that often utilizes

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chief locally sourced materials and minimizes the environmental impact associated with mass production.He said each creation becomes a work of art, preserving the essence of Pakistani culture. He said hand-carved furniture of Pakistan reflects the rich cultural heritage and craftsmanship of the region that attracts foreign buyers. He said these pieces often incorporate intricate designs and motifs that are deeply rooted in the country's history and traditions. He said the creation of hand-carved furniture involves skilled artisans who have honed their craft over generations and their expertise and dedication contribute to the

uniqueness

PTI former

MNA Gulzar

shifted to

Adiala jail

RAWALPINDI (Online):

Shandana Gulzar has been

Shandana Gulzar has been

detained in Adiala jail for

15 days. She has been

detained on DC Islamabad

counsel for PTI had said

Police and the personnel in

plain clothes have abducted

Shandana Gulzar. On the

other hand Islamabad

police had confirmed the

arrest of Shandana Gulzar.

Two ghost

employees

suspended

MUZAFFARGARH

employees among dozens

reported to have been

deputed in Muncipal

suspended on Thursday

after an enquiry.
Administrator

Muncipal Corporation

Asghar Laghari sought

attendance of the employees during surprise

visit. He found that 27

employees were collecting

salaries worth lacs at their

homes while absent from

the office since induction.

on the spot while served

The administrator

(APP): Two

Corporation,

Sher Afzal Khan

orders under 3 MPO.

shifted to Adiala jail.

former MNA

According to sources

Alvi opens cardiac centre, stresses Islamic principles of welfare, service

LAHORE (APP): President Dr. Arif Alvi underscored the intrinsic purpose of Islam as advancement and progress of society. Speaking at the inaugural ceremony of the Sarwar Shahida Memorial Cardiac Centre and Research Institute here on Thursday, he emphasised that engaging in charitable endeavours was distinctive trait of Muslims. He lauded those who contribute to their nation's betterment, labeling them as true heroes.

President speech centered on the idea that Islam encourages a spirit of compassion and mutual

KARACHI: Police officials from Crime Scene Unit

and Police Investigation Department are being

given hands-on training at the mock crime scenes

in Sindh Forensic DNA and Serology Laboratory (SFDL) held at ICCBS University of Karachi.

PRCS chairman

lauds AJK chapter's

services for humanity

MUZAFFARABAD response was discussed

(APP): Chairman Pakistan

Red Crescent Society AJK

Ejaz Raza was called on

National Chairman Sardar

Shahid Ahmed Laghari here

on Wednesday. The

meeting was aimed to

discuss the on-going relief

operations in a recent land

sliding incident that struck

the village Damishi/

During the meeting, a

district

efforts and disaster goals of the PRCS.

Abhival

Muzaffarabad.

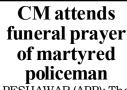
support among individuals. He reiterated that while core objective, he governments may change, the underlying national structure endures. Highlighting the growth of philanthropy among Muslims after the formation of Pakistan, he stressed the

pivotal role of individuals in assisting the marginalised. Drawing from the examples set by Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and the Khulafa-e -Rashidin, President Alvi conveyed the importance of service to humanity. He pointed out that Islam assigns societal responsibilities, a notion evident from the Quran's

core objective, maintained, is rooted in Quranic teachings of serving society and nurturing a strong sense responsibility.

Friday August 11, 2023

The encouraged virtues such as charity, truthfulness for elders. respect empathy, and cooperation. particularly in the younger generation. While acknowledging the government's role in addressing major issues, he emphasised that every individual in the Islamic framework has a role to play in serving others.



PESHAWAR (APP): The funeral prayer for a policeman who was martyred by unknown assailantš Peshawar took place at Police Lines.

Caretaker Chief lister Khyber Minister Pakhtunkhwa Muhammad Azam Khan, along with CCPO and other police officials, attended the funeral prayer.

attack occurred unknown assailants on a bike opened fire on policemen who were on their way to duty in the morning. constable Sarwar embraced martyrdon in the incident.

The chief minister and police officials laid floral wreaths on the martyr's Prayers were offered for the elevation of the martyr's rank, and a police force rendered a salute. Chief Minister Azam condemnedincident of firing on the policeman.

of polio virus: Governor eradication of polio virus, we are grateful for the support of the Canadian government in this regard, he added. The Canadian High Commissioner High appreciated the efforts of the Pakistani government to combat polio. Governor Punjab further said that Pakistanis living in Canada are playing a positive role in the development of Canada. He said that Pakistan is keen to further occasion, Governor Punjab expand bilateral

LAHORE: President Dr. Arif Alvi unveiling plaque during ground breaking

ceremony the Sarwar Shahida Memorial Cardiac & Research Institute.

Pakistan is committed

to complete eradication

Rehman said that Pakistan in trade, environment, and is committed to complete people-to-people contact. **CS** orders I-Day celebration with grandeur

Muhammad Balighur cooperation with Canada

LAHORE (APP): Chief headquarters at 12 night Secretary Punjab Zahid on August 13, while Akhtar Zaman on Thursday issued directions

LAHORE

Muhammad

discussed

Commissioner to Pakistan;

Leslie Scanlon; met Governor Punjab

Rehman at Governor

House Lahore, here today.

In the meeting, issues of

mutual interest and

bilateral cooperation in

health, trade, environment

and mining sectors were

Speaking on the

Balighur

to all the deputy commissioners regarding celebrations of the Independence Day in a befitting manner.
He directed this while

presiding over a high-level meeting here at the Civil Secretariat. The

reviewed preparations to mark the Independence Day and decided that fireworks display would be held in all district great enthusiasm.

concerts of national songs would be organized in all districts at 8pm on August 14.

The Chief Secretary Punjab said that freedom was a great blessing, it should be valued.

He said the purpose of celebrating Independence Day with grandeur was to make the young generation aware of the importance of freedom. He said that living nations celebrate Independence Day with

KP Governor says: Govt, military shares best vision towards facilitation of business, investment (APP): hidden in the mountains of

PESHAWAR Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali has said that the government and military leadership have best vision and approach towards the facilitation of business community and promotion of investment in the country.

Addressing an awards distribution ceremony under the auspices of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) here at Governor's House on Thursday, he said that there are minerals worth trillions of rupees in the mountains of the country Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and urged the apex trade body to conduct research on the treasures

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan and play a role in ensuring the development and prosperity of the country by utilizing these minerals and natural resources in a better

Besides, the Caretaker Provincial Minister Fazal Elahi, Special Assistant to Caretaker Chief Minister Malik Maher Elahi, FPCCI President Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, Vice President Masoodur Rehman, SAARC Chamber Anjum Nisar, Chairman of Businessmen Panel Shah Zeb, FPC CI Coordinator Sartaj Ahmad Khan, former caretaker provincial minister Adnan Jalil along with former presidents of FPCCI, Peshawar.



are holding protest demonstration for demanding ownership rights, at Shahrah-e-Faisal near Natha Khan Bridge in Karachi.

Brands offering Independence Day discounts to customers

India PM Modi's

government defeats

no-confidence motion

ISLAMABAD (APP): With only a few days left in the Independence Day celebrations, falling on August 14, different fashion brands and outlets in the federal capital have started offering good discounts on dresses, shoes, and other accessories to attract buyers, especially women. Every year, famous brands offer good sales and discount offers on the suspended two employees show cause notices on rest

NEW DELHI: The govern-

ment of Indian Prime Min-

ister Narendra Modi defeated a no-confidence mo-

tion in parliament on Thurs-

day after a fiery speech by

the premier at the climax of

Opposition lawmakers—who had brought the

motion over months of eth-

nic violence in Manipur

state — walked out of the

chamber, prompting a furi-

ous rebuke from the pre-

mier, with the government

then winning the vote.
The walkouts, accord-

ing to broadcasters, in-

cluded Congress party leader Rahul Gandhi, who on Wednesday said Modi's

government was "set on

burning the whole country".

a three-day debate.

stocks for the next whole season. "Buying summer dresses and other seasonal accessories at full price has become difficult for the working class during the prevailing inflation so we wait for such occasions to come", Aisha Naz, a mother of three children said.

Talking to APP, she said that "We always buy clothes for ourselves and kids at the sales offered on occasion of Independence Independence Day and Day giving an opportunity other such occasions for the to the people to buy good next season".

> always ready to make a comment but don't have the

> patience to hear [the rebut-

and run away, throw gar-bage and run away, spread

lies and run away", he

added, to cheers from his

and the country can't ex-

vote was dismissed by the

government ahead of the

vote as a headline-grabbing

gimmick ahead of a general

alist Bharatiya Janata Party

(BJP) has a large majority

in the 543-member lower

house, and is widely ex-

government's human

rights abuses and viola-

tions facilitate the ad-

vancement of its unlawful

weapons of mass destruc-

tion and ballistic missile

election next year.

pect much from them."

own benches.

They would "speak ill

'This is their game

The no-confidence

Modi's Hindu-nation-

International News

Ukraine-Russia war:

besides focusing on

collaborative strategies to

enhance relief operations.

healthcare services and

briefed about the recent

land sliding incident in

district Muzaffarabad and

on-going relief operations.

Besides, both the chairmen

engaged in a comprehensive

discussion about the

current

significant step towards strengthening humanitarian within AJK and the broader

state

The Chairman PRCS

community engagement.

Putin 'considers coming face to face with world leaders' at G20 summit

Monitoring Desk MOSCOW: Russian president Vladimir Putin is considering attending the G20 summit in person, a Kremlin source has claimed.

The summit is set to take place in September in New Delhi, India, focusing on the theme "One Earth, One Family, One Future." But Putin hasn't ruled

out his attendance, the Kremlin official told NBC News, seeking to "relaunch himself on the world stage" ahead of next year's election. Likewise, the official claimed that Putin is keen to win over countries that aren't solid in

ter world leaders condemned the west of the capital Russia's war, Putin did not participate in the event in Bali in 2022. The news comes just one day after Russian president Vladimir Putin pledged to ramp up border defences following a surge in drone attacks.

Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu said NATO-member Poland had already announced plans to strengthen its military, and he expected significant NATO forces and weaponry to be deployed in Finland. Russia claimed it shot down two Ukrainian drones headed for Moscow, one their support for Russia in near a major airport to the its invasion of Ukraine. Af- south of the city and one to

Russian president Vladimir Putin is considering attending the G20 summit in person, a Kremlin source has claimed. The summit is set to take place in September in New Delhi, India, focusing on the theme "One Earth, One Family, One Future."

But Putin hasn't ruled out his attendance the Kremlin official told NBC News, seeking to "relaunch himself on the world stage" ahead of next year's election. Likewise, the official claimed that Putin is keen to win over countries that aren't solid in their support for Russia in its invasion of Ukraine.

Hong Kong

arrests 10 for

'foreign collusion'

over pro

democracy fund

Monitoring Desk

HONG KONG: Hong Kong

police arrested 10 people on

Thursday under the city's na-

tional security law, accusing

them of providing financial

support to overseas dissident

groups pushing for sanctions

against the Chinese finance

hub. Beijing imposed a

sweeping national security

law on Hong Kong in 2020

after huge and sometimes vio-

lent pro-democracy protests

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi (R) is seen on a television screen as he addresses the lower house Lok Sabha in New Delhi.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas fires nearly all governors in West Bank in major upheaval

Monitoring Desk RAMALLAH: Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas fired most of the governors in the occupied West Bank militancy that has underon Thursday, responding to long-standing demands for a political shake-up as frustration grows with the semi-autonomous Palestinian Authority.

Abbas issued a decree dismissing the governors of eight provinces under Pal-

recent surge in Palestinian mined the authority's leadership. Only three areas including Ramallah, the seat of the Palestinian Authority — retained their governors. The president's office said that he would form a committee to suggest replacements.

tive northern cities of ground, experts said it sig-Nablus, Jenin and nals Abbas' recognition of Tulkarem, the focus of a the authority's deepening unpopularity and his desire to show that he is heeding calls for change in the face of mounting difficulties. "It gives the authority a new face, which is important particularly as the governors are in charge of all security matters," said political analyst Jehad Harb. "But it won't change anything really. (Abbas) is trying to rebuild some public trust, but

Iraq-ministry coast - TV Monitoring Desk

DUBAI: A Panama-flagged tanker called White Pearl has caught fire near Assaluyeh on Iran's Gulf coast, Iranian state media reported on Thursday, adding that all crew members

"Twenty-two of the ship's crew have been rescued by Iranian rescue teams after the ship's captain requested assistance from the port authorities," state TV quoted a local ports official as saying. The official said that the tanker, carrying 40,000 tons of liquefied petroleum gas, had experienced "a problem in the engine

Modi denounced pected to win a third term them, saying: "Those who in power. **UN Security Council** to meet on rights abuses in North Korea

Monitoring Desk UNITED NATIONS: The United Nations Security Council will meet publicly to discuss human rights abuses in North Korea next week, a move requested by the United States, Albania and Japan that is likely to anger Pyongyang and face opposition from China and Russia. It will be the first formal public meeting of the 15-member council on

the issue since 2017. North Korea has repeatedly rejected accusations of abuses and blames sanctions for a dire humanitarian situation. Since 2006 it has been under U.N. sanctions over its ballistic missiles and nuclear programs, but there are aid exemptions. 'It is long overdue," said U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Linda Thomas-Greenfield, reading a joint statement by the United States, Albania, Japan and South Korea.

programs," she said. The council would meet on Aug. 17 and be briefed by U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk and the U.N. Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in the DPRK, Elizabeth Salmón, said Thomas-Greenfield. China and Russia object to the issue being raised in the council, which is charged with maintaining international peace and security. They say rights is-

sues should be confined to other bodies such as the U.N. Human Rights Council or General Assembly. China and Russia could call a procedural vote next week, but a senior U.S. official said they were confident they have the minimum nine votes needed "We know the hold the meeting.

Ecuador presidential candidate Fernando Villavicencio assassinated, one suspect dead

Monitoring Desk QUITO: Ecuador presidential candidate Fernando Villavicencio, a vocal critic of corruption and organised crime, was killed at a campaign event on Wednesday, authorities said, amid an upsurge in violence in the Andean nation blamed on drug traffickers. Local media reported

some 30 shots had been fired at an event in the north of the capital, Quito. Video footage posted on social media showed Villavicencio getting

into a car after the event, before the sound of apparent

repeated requests for comment about the details of the Guillermo Lasso confirmed ers. "This is a political crime, which has the character of terrorism, and we do not doubt that this murder is an attempt to sabotage the electoral process

gunfire and screaming. Ecuador's police and Interior Ministry did not respond to killing, but outgoing President police safely detonated a grenade left behind by the kill-



Hong Kong arrests 10 for 'foreign collusion' over violent pro-democracy protests.

Although the decision estinian administration in is unlikely to have an imthe occupied territory. The upheaval included the res- mediate impact on the **Five Turkish soldiers** killed in operations in

Monitoring Desk ANKARA: Five Turkish soldiers were killed in a clash with militants of the outlawed Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) in northern Iraq, Turkey's defence

ministry said on Thursday. The conflict took place in Zap region, where Turkey has been carrying out a cross-border opera-

tion called "Claw-Lock". Ankara says the offensive is a measure to prevent the PKK from using Iraq as a base to carry out

attacks in Turkey. A Turkish defence ministry official said all five soldiers were killed in the

first round of fire by the PKK militants while they were conducting search and scan activity on the field.

The PKK has large fortifications around the region, where "the terrain is very tough," but the re-gion will be "cleared up from terrorists" despite attacks, the official added.

The PKK, which has bases around northern Iraq, is designated a terrorist group by Turkey, the Inited States and European Union. The group launched an insurgency in southeast Turkey in 1984 in which more than 40,000 people have been killed

it will take much more." Panama-flagged tanker catches fire near Iranian

were safe.

room due to a fire.'

President stresses AI importance for healthcare sector

LAHORE (APP): Presiber of deaths taking place dent Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday emphasised the importance of artificial intelligence (AI) in the health sector to provide better facilities to people.

Addressing Instacare Future Health Forum 2023 at a local hotel, he said the AI was a great hope in the health and medicine sectors, and in future, a medical graduate could utilise it for treatment of patients.

The president said now a doctor did not need to save information in his own memory as more data could be saved and accessed through his mobile phone and computer. He cited an example of the COVID-19 pandemic period in which Pakistan successfully used available data and saved several lives.

He said that the num-

due to COVID-19 was less in the country than in other countries of the region. He said Pakistan had a good collection of data; however, learning right question through the AI for right answer was important. He added that knowledge was free for everyone now and control over it by anyone had become almost impossible. He said that Islam stresses the state to work for welfare and betterment of the community. The president said science had brought about an ease in lives of the community, so the AI should also be used for facilitating human

Earlier, the president gave away awards to individuals and institutions, who contributed technology and AI to the healthcare



QUETTA: Chief Editor Nawey Zawand Syed Anwar Shah meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

Dr. Rubaba says **Nutritional deficiency** program being implemented in 21 districts of Balochistan

Independent Report QUETTA: The Parliamentary Secretary for Law and Parliamentary Affairs, Science and Information Technology, Dr. Rubaba Buledi has stated that the nutrideficiency

programme is being run in 21 districts of Balochistan. The nutritional programme is being implemented with support of UNICEF.

She noted with concem that according to a survey, one third children aged between 6 to 23 months suffered from the severe nutritional deficiency in 15 flood affected districts of Khyber

Dr. Rubaba Buledi was speaking to the Provincial Manager of Nutritional Programme, Dr. Sultan Tareen, Deputy Director Owais Khan Tareen, Nutrition Assistance, Ms. Sanam Raisani and the social activist, Sami Zarkoon, here

She noted with concern that as a whole, around 54 percent children of the Balochistan province were suffering from the nutritional deficiency before

floods, but this ratio in-

creased to 70 percent after

the floods. She also mentioned that prior to the floods, nutritional programme was being run with support of UNICEF only in 13 districts of Balochistan, but, the flood affected areas were also included in the programme after the floods,

Dr. Rubaba on the occasion noted that the ratio of unemployment was higher than other parts of floods also increased it further. This is why, the poor mothers don't get the proper diet, as a result their children fall victim to the nutritional deficiency.



QUETTA: DIG Quetta Aitzaz Ahmed Guraya offering Dua at Yadgar-e-Shuhada in Police Lines Head-

Action be taken against Imran by verifying the cipher: Rana Sanaullah

ISLAMABAD (Online): Former Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah said that American cipher that has come to light in the world media should be verified and if Imran Khan is found guilty in the cipher issue, action should be taken against him.

In his statement, PML-N leader and former Interior Minister said on be conducted to verify crets Act.

American cipher revealed in international media.

He said that it should be not forgotten that copy of cipher was with Chairman PTI which he did not return and statement of Imran Khan is on record that he had lost the copy of

Rana Sanaullah further said that if Chairman PTI is found guilty in this reissue of American cipher gard then he should be prosthat an investigation should ecuted under Official Se-

Pakistani and Chinese institutes sign MoU for joint research facility

Institute of Plant Protec-(IPPCAAS), and the Depart-University of Agriculture have signed an agreement in Beijing to establish the Pakistan-China Joint Research Facility for 'Trim Brother Administration.' The ceremony took place at IPPCÁAS. The letter of IPPCAAS Executive Direc-

ISLAMABAD (INP): The tor Lu Yanhui and UAF Vice Chancellor Professor tion, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences stated in an official statement issued here, according ment of Entomology at the to Gwadar Pro. As per the agreement, both sides will establish the joint research facility to address the prevention and control of crop pests in Pakistan and China. This collaboration in-

volves conducting tests, demonstrations, and joint intent was duly signed by research on integrated disease control strategies



LAHORE: President Dr. Arif Alvi in a group photo with healthcare professionals attending the Instacare Future Health Forum 2023 on Advancing Healthcare with Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.

ISLAMABAD (APP):

bly of Pakistan, which

came to a close on August

9, 2023, left behind a legacy

of legislative productivity,

executive oversight and

transformative leadership

changes. With an array of

accomplishments, the out-

going assembly's tenure

underscores its commit-

ment to democratic gover-

progress. During its tenure,

the 15th National Assem-

bly achieved an impressive

feat by passing a total of

235 bills. The assembly, comprising 342 members,

skillfully discharged its

duty of executive oversight,

ensuring the effective func-

tioning of the government.

Lawmakers displayed un-

wavering dedication by

port and guidance through-

enabling the coalition gov-

ernment to sail through

his farewell interaction with

the federal secretaries, said

despite being hugely di-

verse, the 13-party coali-

tion government ran the af-

fairs smoothly with utmost

cooperation and prudence.

also setting an example of

the practicability of the

months, the bureaucracy

also faced some difficult

scenarios but the will to do

He said during the 16

coalition government.

The prime minister, in

tough circumstances.

submitting thousands of

QUETTA: A delegation led by Provincial Manager

Nutrition Directorate Dr. Sultan Tareen meeting with

Parliamentary Secretary and Law, Parliamentary Af-

fairs, Science and Technology Rubaba Khan Buledi

ISLAMABAD (APP): the people of Pakistan

and national

Outgoing NA ends remarkable

term, passing 235 bills and

ministries, probing into

critical matters affecting the

nation. Furthermore, the as-

sembly took proactive

steps towards addressing

key concerns by introduc-

ing and adopting resolu-

tions. A total of 107 resolu-

tions were adopted, reflect-

ing the assembly's en-

deavor to provide solutions

to a broad spectrum of is-

sues mainly related to gov-

ernance, education, foreign

affairs, health and energy.

According to the Na-

tional Assembly's official

website, the house wit-

nessed the introduction of

181 government bills and

360 private member bills.

This comprehensive legis-

lative approach highlighted

the assembly's commit-

ment to inclusivity and ad-

dressing multifaceted chal-

overseeing key transitions

MABAD (APP): questions across various lenges. Notably, 12 bills

sitting of Parliament, dem-

onstrating the assembly's

collaborative approach to

lawmaking. The tenure of

the outgoing 15th National

Assembly was character-

ized by significant leader-

ship shifts and milestones.

The assembly played a piv-

otal role in the ousting of

Imran Khan through a mo-

tion of no-confidence passed

on April 9, 2022. Subse-

quently, Mian Muhammad

Shehbaz Sharif secured a

vote of confidence, herald-

ing a new era of leadership.

were passed during the pe-

riod from August 13, 2018 to April 9, 2022, underpin-

ning the legislative achieve-

ments of the assembly's

early years. The remaining

109 bills were endorsed

during the tenure of the PML-N-led government,

spanning from April 10,

2022, to August 9, 2023,

affirming the assembly's

enduring commitment to

governance. The 15th Na-

tional Assembly marks the

fourth instance in Pakistan's

history where a National As-

sembly has successfully

completed its term. In a no-

table departure from the

scheduled term completion

date of August 12, 2023,

He said the incumbent

government ensured the

completion of various pub-

vious government. Re-

counting the achievements

of his government, the

ing of the IMF agreement

wise, the situation could

was a great success, other-

have been disastrous for the

country. He said the credit for all the successes

achieved by the government

also went to the federal sec-

retaries as they had been

serving diligently during the

challenging circumstances,

said that his government

played a constructive role

to mend the ties with

Court rejects

bail petition of

accused in girl

torture case

ISLAMABAD (APP): A

local court on Thursday re-

jected a post-arrest bail pe-

tition of accused Somia

Asim, the wife of a civil

judge, in a case pertaining

to torture against a minor

Shaista Kundi heard the

post-arrest bail petition of

lawyer said that they

wanted to get the medical

report obtained from a hos-

pital in Sargodha as new

clauses had been added in

the FIR on the basis of it.

judge, the lawyer said that

the girl was handed over to

her parents on July 23, at

Skyways Bus Terminal.

reached the concerned hos-

pital in Sargodha at 3:00 am

at night, he said, adding,

that the medical report was

never raised before the

court. He said that the girl

was in normal condition

when she was handed over

On the query of the

As per the FIR, the girl

Judicial Magistrate

The prime minister

particularly floods.

friendly countries.

prime minister said the sign-

A total of 126 bills

former Prime Minister

CM satisfied with arrest of PO in murder case of Abdul Wahid Raisani

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister, Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo has expressed satisfaction over the arrest of proclaimed offender accused in the murder case of journalist Abdul Wahid

In an official statement issued here on Thursday, the Chief Minister said that the arrest of wanted female accused in the murder case of slain Abdul Wahid Raisani is an important development. The bereaved family would also get justice with her arrest, he believed.

The Chief Minister also appreciated performance of the police on arrest of the accused and said that the case of Shaheed journalist is pending for long, and the resentment was found among his heirs.

Asad says: PDM govt comes to end after deviating from constitution

ISLAMABAD (Online) PTI leader Asad Umar has said PDM government has eventually come to end and now the people have to avenge on them in election

He tweeted the government annihilated the economy in 16 months and people had to face the worst inflation of the history of the country.

PDM government debased parliament and weakened democracy

He held PDM government reached its end after deviating from the constitution and getting the corruption written off.

Pakistan's total foreign reserves reach

at \$ 13.33bln KARACHI (APP): The total liquid foreign reserves of Pakistan stood at US\$ 13.339.1 million while reserves held by the central bank reached \$ 8,043.4 million. The State Bank of Pakistan, in a statement issued here on Thursday, informed that SBP's reserves decreased by \$110 million to \$ 8,043.4 million on account of debt repayments during the week ended on August 04, 2023.

Meanwhile, net foreign reserves held by commercial banks stood at US\$ 5.295.7 million, it added.

In the previous week ending on July 27, 2023, total liquid foreign reserves held by the country was US\$ 13,463.7 million.

Among them, foreign reserves held by the central bank were US\$8,153.8 million while net foreign reserves held by commercial banks were US\$ 5,309.9 million.

Bushra Bibi meets Imran in Attock jail

ATTOCK (INP): Former first lady Bushra Bibi Thursday met her husband and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan in Attock jail for the first time after he got arrested on August 5 in connection with the Toshakhana case. Bushra Bibi, along with the former prime minister's lawyers, reached the Attock jail where she was allowed to meet Khan. The one-to-one meeting between the two went on for about an hour without the ex-first lady's legal team. However, lawyers Naeem Panjotha, Sher Afzal Marwat and Ali Ijaz Buttar did not get permission.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday exThe prime The prime minister la-

PM lauds bureaucracy for

cooperation, guidance

during 16-month stint

pressed his gratitude to the mented the past practice of lic welfare projects which bureaucracy for their sup- unnecessarily criticizing had been halted by the preand victimising the compeout the 16-month tenure, tent officers which adversely impacted public service. Just like the politicians, the officers were also victimised and their families harassed

> He said the civil service faced a severe blow during the devolution due to very reason, some of the youngsters also opted to join other services.

Mentioning systemic delays in the execution of 10.000MW solar energy project, Prime Minister Shehbaz called for establishing robust systems to ensure the smooth execution



NASEERABAD: Residents of Dera Murad Jamali are holding protest demonstration against high handedness of land grabbers, at Dera Murad Jamali.

I-Day to be celebrated with due national spirit and enthusiasm in Quetta

Independent Report QUETTA: The Independence Day would be celebrated with due national spirit and enthusiasm in Quetta like every year.

A colourful Jashne Azadi ceremony is scheduled to be held on August 14 at Railway Station where food stalls, musical programme, lighting, cultural dance, fireworks and other progrmames would be arranged.

This and similar other decisions were made during a meeting held with Commissioner Quetta Division, Sohailur Rehman Baloch in

the chair here on Thursday. The Commandant Chiltan Brigade, Brigadier Mirza Yasir Baig, Provincial Secretary Information, Muhammad Shafqaat, Director General Public Relations, Kamran Asad, SSP Security Azmat Shah and other concerned high ups attended the meeting. It was decided to make effective security arrangements for celebrations of Independence in Quetta and other districts of the division. The walk through

to her parents. Tĥe lawyer also produced the video in which gates would be installed on the girl was handed over to the entry and exit points of her parents the Railway Station.

CM approves ownership rights for dwellers of Dera Murad Jamali town Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo has approved to give owner-ship rights to the dwellers of Dera Murad Jamali

According to an official hand out issued here on Thursday, the ownership right has been given to the residents of Dera Murad Jamali town due to the efforts of the Minister Rev-

enue, Sikandar Ali Umrani. Needless to mention here is that prior to the important initiative, the people of Dera Murad Jamali were deprived of the ownership rights and there were hurdles in planning and development of the area. The qabza mafia was also active at everywhere in the Dera Murad Jamali town, it was mentioned.

In view of this, the Minister Revenue, Mir Sikandar Ali Umrani brought an end to the illegal occupation by ensuring ownership rights to the dwellers of Dera Murad Jamali in particularly and for interest of the province in general.

Thus, the Chief Minister approved the matter of giving ownership rights to the people through the provincial cabinet keeping in view the interest of people. In this this regard, guidelines were also issued for implementation on the decision of government by the Board of Revenue, it was mentioned further.



Sanjarani called on Prime Minister Muhammad

KSA shows interest in investment potential of Pak mining, energy, IT sectors

ISLAMABAD (APP): Saudi Arabia has shown keen interest in the investment potential of Pakistan's mining, energy, agriculture, and information technology

This interest was expressed by a high-level sixteen-member Saudi delegation led by Kingdom's Deputy Foreign Minister Waleed Al-Khuraiji, during its two-day special visit to Pakistan.

The visit, concluded today, was the first one from any friendly country to promote foreign investment through the Special Investment Facilitation Council. The visit reflects a firm resolve of Saudi Arabia to invest in Paki-

given a detailed briefing countries.

about the true potential of Pakistan, highlighting SIFC as a single window to facilitate foreign investment in various sectors. During the visit, views were ex-changed with the Saudi delegation on specific development projects. The delegation members apprised the Pakistani side of benefits and their proposals about Saudi investment in various sectors of Pakistan. On the occasion, both the sides reiterated their resolve to work together to enhance bilateral cooperation in vari-

ous sectors and projects. On the conclusion of the visit, the Saudi delegation also met with Army Chief General Syed Asim Munir and discussed various matters and brotherly The delegation was relations between the two



QUETTA: Secretary Information Muhammad Shafqaat inspecting preparation of Independence Day ceremony at Railway Station

Independence Day to be celebrated with great zeal in Duki: DC Mehran

day said that like every year, Independence Day would be celebrated with great enthusiasm and national unity.

Government buildings including markets will also be illuminated, he said.

He expressed these views while chairing a meeting to review preparations for the Independence Day.

The meeting was attended by all the district ofthe accused. The defence ficers, representatives of Anjuman Tajiran, and other 14. district and administrative

QUETTA (APP): Deputy Commissioner Duki Mir Mehran Baloch on Thurs-at the Circuit House.

Speech contests, songs, cultural events will be organized between students of different schools and colleges, he said. He said that the municipal committee should

take steps to further improve the sanitation arrangements in the city, along with the government buildings, the business community would also float in the market and lights would be lit on the night of August

He said that sports competitions would also be Deputy Commissioner Duki Mir Mehran
preparations should be Baloch addressed the participants of the meeting bay.

NCSW launches commemorative stamp on gender-based violence

ISLAMABAD (APP): The created and signed which National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) in support of the Ministry of Human Rights & UN Women launched a commemorative postage stamp to spread awareness about gender-based violence in the country and to honour the victims.

The first session of the event was a round table consultation on the increasing incidents of violence against women issues with Chairperson NCSW, Nilofar Bakhtiar and top leading gender experts in Pakistan. A resolution/charter of demands was then

pinpointed the mechanisms to reduce the prevalence of gender-based violence in the country which was shared with the audience at the end of the event. The second session of the event was an art exhibition consisting of pieces of art from the NCSW poster competition held in 2021 and 2022, as well as artwork brought in by Nagin Hayat from the Nomad Gallery and the Czech Embassy. This commemorative stamp was selected after a poster competition on ending violence against women which was



ing arrangements of ceremony to be held at Railway Station in connection with Independence Dav