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Govt will strive to meet expectations of public representatives; says PM

Says caretaker govt to facilitate free, fair election process

Caretaker Prime Minister working to facilitate a free Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Thursday said that his government would make its utmost efforts to come up to the expectations of public representatives within the given short stint. The prime minister

said this in a meeting with Senate Chairman Sadiq Sanjrani here. The Senate chairman congratulated the prime minister on assuming the office.

Prime Minister Kakar thanked Sadiq Sanjrani, who expressed the hope that the caretaker government would not only assist in holding fair elections as per public expectations but also accelerate the course of economic development.

Senator Danesh Kumar also attended the meeting. Caretaker Prime Minhas said that the govern-

ISLAMABAD (APP): ment would be assiduously and fair election process in Pakistan according to the Constitution. On his Twitter handle on Wednesday, the prime minister thanked US Secretary of State Antony Blinken for his good wishes. "We place importance on our partnership with the US and deeply value the shared commitment to economic prosperity, democracy and stability in the region," he further posted.

Éarlier, the ÚS secretary of state, in a tweet, congratulated the new Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar. "As Pakistan prepares for free and fair elections, in accordance with its constitution and the rights to freedom of speech and assembly, we will continue to advance our shared commitment to ecoister Anwaarul Haq Kakar nomic prosperity," Blinken



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjarani and Senator Danesh Kumar call on caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

16-member caretaker federal cabinet takes oath

esident Dr Arii Aivi on oath of office to the 16-mem-

ber caretaker federal cabinet. The swearing-in ceremony was held at the Aiwan-e-Sadr that was attended by Interim Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar, Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi, politicians and prominent figures from different sectors.

The ceremony commenced with the national Madad Ali Sindhi.

ISLAMABAD (APP): anthem before the recitation Thursday administered the Quran. Among newly appointed federal cabinet members who took oath, included Senator Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti, Jalil Abbas Jilani, Shamshad Akhtar, Lt. General (Retd) Anwar Ali Hyder, Murtaza Solangi, Sami Saeed, Shahid Ashraf Tarar, Ahmad Irfan Aslam, Muhammad Ali, Gohar Ejaz, Umar Saif, Nadeem Jan, Khalil George, Aneeq Ahmed, Jamal Shah and

Governor describes provision of equal rights to masses true democracy Independent Report guarantee sucto

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has categorically stated that true democracy is to provide equal rights as well as even facilities and opportunities of progress to the masses. He said that he got to the conclusion in the light of his knowledge and experience during his political life that provision of equal rights, even facilities and equivalent opportunities of growth to the masses is ac-

tually real democracy. Therefore, the policy of

guarantee sustainable solution to the problems.

This and similar other views were expressed by the Governor while speaking to different delegations who called on him at the Governor House on Thurs-

The Governor on the occasion stressed that brotherhood and respect to difference of opinion is the essence of democracy.

He added that we have to promote national solidarity and unity to combat the chaos and division in the



QUETTA: Chairman Khadmit-e-Khalq Foundation Naimatullah Zaheer meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

Manzoor Pashteen, Ali Wazir meet Akhtar Mengal invite to take part in protest gathering

Independent Report QUETTA: The Head of Pashtoon Tahafuz Movement (PTM) Manzoor Ahmed Pashteen met the President of Balochistan National Party (BNP) Sardar Akhtar Mengal in

Islamabad on Thursday. During the course of meeting, the PTM leader and former Member National Assembly, Ali Wazir

was along accompanied with Manzoor Pashteen.

The sources aid that PTM leaders invited Sardar Akhtar Mengal to participate in the protest and public meeting to be held in

Meanwhile, during the course of meeting, the matters pertaining to the politics and other related affairs



ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi administering the oath of office to members of the caretaker Federal Cabinet, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Terms incident extremely tragic, intolerable

COAS vows to bring culprits of Jaranwala incident to justice

Gen Munir says all citizens of Pakistan are equal amongst each other irrespective of religion, gender, cast or creed

Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir on Thursday con-demned the "extremely tragic and totally intoler-able" Jaranwala incident, saying that "there is no space for such incidents of intolerance and extreme behaviour".

ecrated.

Broadcasting.

As per the military's media wing, General Munir made the remarks when he was asked a question about the mob that set fire to a number of churches and vandalised Christians'

homes during a rampage over alleged blasphemy on Wednesday. State responsible

tor protection of minorities' rights: CJP ISLAMABAD (APP): An

eight-member delegation of the Sikh community on Thursday paid a courtesy call on Chief Justice of Pa kistan Umar Ata Bandial.

The delegation was headed by Implementation Minority Rights Forum Chairman Samuel Payara and comprising Baba Makhan Singh, Baba Gurpal Singh, Dr Sahib Singh, Sardar Bishan Singh, Amrik Singh, Kaka Singh, Satnam Singh and Dharam Singh, said a press release.

The CJP welcomed the delegates and felicitated them on the Minorities Day. He briefed them about the rights of minorities as enshrined in the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973. He further said that in Pakistan every citizen had the right to profess and practice their

respective faiths. The chief justice termed the courts in Pakistan the custodian of the fundamental rights of the people, which had always been cognizant of the rights of minorities and had delivered judgments to enforce, implement and address issues faced by the minorities in the country.

After dissolving assemblies **Putting name plate** of Ministers, MNA, **MPAorCoordinators** on vehicles illegal Independent Report

QUETTA: Balochistan police has warned that putting name plate of the Ministers, Members of National Assembly, Member Provincial Assembly and coordinators on the vehicles after dissolution of assemblies is an illegal act. This was announced in an official communique issued by the spokesman of Balochistan Police here on Thursday.

The spokesman also mentioned that it is also an illegal act to install blue light on the private vehicles. According to the spokesman, those place such number plates and blue lights on the vehicles are given time of 24 hours for removal of the same.

The mob made its way behaviour by any segment tional development". of the society against any-one, particularly against minorities," the army chief was quoted by the ISPR through a predominantly Christian area on the outskirts of the industrial city of Faisalabad after allegations spread that the Holy Quran had been desas saying.
The COAS said that

all citizens of the country "are equal amongst each The question was asked by a "participant" during the COAS's address other irrespective of reli-gion, gender, cast or creed". He assured that no one would be allowed to take to the 370 students that were interns at the yearly Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Internship the law into their hands and those "culpable of commit-Programme. "Jaranwala incident is ting such crimes will be brought before the court of

Murtaza Solangi assumes

charge as Interim

Information Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP):Murtaza Solangi on Thursday assumed charge as Interim Minister for Information and

istry of Information and Broadcasting after taking oath

of his position (at the President's House)," said a news

information minister, Murtaza Solangi held a meeting

Newly sworn-in cabinet

vows to cope with

challenges, serve masses

ISLAMABAD (APP): The would be ready to back the

state media institutions, in-

cluding the Associated

Press of Pakistan (APP),

Pakistan Television and

them cope with the mod-

Abbas Jilani, who is also

part of the interim cabinet,

said the main objective of

serve the national interests.

Talking to APP, former

ern trends.

QUETTA: Members of Balochistan Union of Jour-

nalists (BUJ) holding protest demonstration

with the ministry's officers and his staff.

members of the newly-ap-

pointed interim Federal

Cabinet on Thursday vowed

to cope with the challenges

confronting the country and

serve the masses within

cabinet members took the

oath of office at a swear-

ing-in ceremony held at

the Aiwan-e-Sadr, also

attended by Caretaker

Prime Minister Anwaar-

ul-Haq Kakar, Punjab

Caretaker Chief Minister

Mohsin Naqvi and promi-

nent figures from various

ter his oath, Murtaza

Solangi said that the masses

Talking to newsmen af-

The 16-member interim

their short stint.

After assuming the responsibilities as the interim

"Mortaza Solangi arrived in his office at the Min-

extremely tragic and to-tally intolerable. There is iustice' Earlier in his address, Gen Munir highlighted the "role of youth towards nano space for such incidents of intolerance and extreme

"Youth is the future of Pakistan, which can con-

tribute immensely towards peace, progress and pros-perity of the country," the army chief said. He also "highlighted the efforts of inimical forces towards creating and fomenting fissures, intolerance, mistrust and violent behaviour among the people to spread anarchy and unrest in the country.

He added: "It's impera-tive for the youth to discern the difference between truth, half-truth, lies, misin formation. disinformation."

Safar moon not sighted

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony on Thursday announced that the moon of Safar, 1445 AH has not

been sighted. In accordance with the decision made during the Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee meeting, it was declared that the commencement of the 1st Safar, 1445 AH will take place on Saturday, the 19th of August,

The decision was reached after careful consideration by the Central Ruete-Hilal Committee and in line with the ministry's efforts to ensure accuracy in marking the start of each Islamic month.

Blinken calls PM Kakar, greets him on assuming office ISLAMABAD (Online):

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken has congratulated Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar on becoming the Caretaker Prime Minister

government if it succeeded Antony Blinken said that preparations for the to create closeness with election are underway in The minister said if he Pakistan according to the were given the portfolio of constitution and we will the Information and Broadcontinue to cooperate for casting Ministry, he would the economic prosperity of strive to modernise the

> Antony Blinken also congratulated Caretaker PM Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar on his assumption of office.

Radio Pakistan to make Caretaker PM Anwarul-Haq Kakar thanked the US Secretary of State on Twitter and made it clear foreign secretary Jalil that help will be provided for transparent elections. Caretaker PM Anwar-

ul-Haq Kakar said that he the foreign policy was to is committed to the stability of Pakistan's economy and democracy and attaches importance to relations with the United States.

Syrus Sajjad Qazi appointed foreign secretary

ISLAMABAD (Online): Syrus Sajjad Qazi has been appointed as the 32nd Foreign Secretary of Pakistan

He replaces Ambassa-dor Asad Majeed Khan who retires from governagainst killing of Senior Journalist Jan ment service upon attain-Muhammad Mehar in Sukkur, at Quetta press club. ing superannuation.

Elections to be delayed as ECP announces delimitation schedule

Entire process of delimitation will take nearly four months; ECP is bound to draw new boundaries after CCI approves new census; Delimitation of constituencies across the country will be notified in December this year

The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has opted to initiate the delimitation of constituencies following the approval of the Council of Common Inter-ests (CCI) for the Digital Population Census 2023 and complete the process within four months. The decision to the ef-

fect was taken during a meeting chaired by Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja and attended by the ECP members, secretary and other officials, a press release said. The ECP issued a notice seeking help from provincial governments and the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) in the delimitation process. According to the

schedule, delimitation committees will be established on August 21. Administra-

ISLAMABAD (APP): tive tasks concerning delimitation will be concluded by August 31. Delimitation committees' training is scheduled for September 1 to 4. Allocation of district quotas for national and provincial assembly seats to delimitation committees will take place from September 5 to 7. Delimitation committees will conduct the initial delineation of constituencies between September 8 and October

> Preliminary proposals will be made public on October 9. Representations on preliminary proposals can be filed between October 10 and November 8, and the Commission will address/hear these representations from November 10 to December 9.

> The final delimitations will be published on Decem-



RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir addresses to the 370 students that were interns at the yearly Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Internship Programme

Speaker forms parliamentary committee for nomination of caretaker CM Balochistan

Independent Report QUETTA: The Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Mir Jan Muhammad Jamali constituted parliamentary committee for nomination of the caretaker Chief Minister on Thursday.

According to the official sources, the parliamentary committee announced by the Speaker provincial Assembly comprised three members each of the government and opposition

Those included in the parliamentary committee

Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran and Engineer Zamarak Khan Achakzai as well as Muhammad Nawaz Kakar, Abdul Wahid Siddiqui and Younas Zehri.

It may be mentioned that Chief Minister Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo had sent names of three MPAs to Speaker assembly includ-

Other two members he referred from his side for the committee were included: Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran and Zamarak Khan



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Minorities representatives presenting a souvenir to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Pakistan Mr. Justice Umar Ata Bandial at the Supreme Court of Pakistan.

PPP demands timely polls, opposes ECP move to hold fresh delimitation

PTI rejects ECP decision on delimitation, set to challenge CCI decision in Supreme Court

ISLAMABAD (INP): Shortly after the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) announced holding fresh delimitations, the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) on Thursday opposed the decision, saying drawing new boundaries of constituencies is not a "constitutional requirement".

The electoral authority has announced that new delimitations will be carried out across the country on the basis of a new census approved by the Council of Common Interest (CCI) meeting last month, meaning the general elections in the country will be delayed Court.

beyond its 90 days constitutional requirement. The ECP schedule

showed that fresh delimitation will take nearly four months, to be held from September 8 to October 7, as per the electoral body's schedule. Meanwhile Following

the Election Commission of Pakistan's (ECP) decision to carry out new delimitation, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on Thursday rejected the idea and announced it would challenge the Council of Common Interest's (CCI) decision to notify the new census in the Supreme

Daily soice of Masse, Independent

Friday August 18, 2023

Faisalabad rampage

Unless both state and society decide on a practical way of tackling extremism, and go beyond clichés and condemnations, the monster of obscurantism will continue to devour Pakistan's

Another shameful incident was witnessed on Wednesday tion. in Faisalabad's Jaranwala area when a mob torched several churches, ransacked Christian homes and vandalised a graveyard. The apparent provocation for this assault was blasphemy, as the house of a Christian man allegedly involved in the offence was razed.

Clearly, in Pakistan, evidence is not required where the issue of blasphemy is concerned, and mobs take it upon themselves to dispense 'justice'. This is the second such event in recent days; just a few days ago, a teacher in Balochistan was murdered because of blasphemy allegations against him.

There has been the usual round of denunciation by the political elite, including the interim prime minister. Yet the question is: do the rulers – politicians and establishment as well as clerics and prominent society figures have the courage to confront this madness? Past precedents do not inspire confidence as murders, riots and lynchings in 'defence' of religion testify.

This is not a situation that rent post while others too developed overnight; it has been decades in the making. For over 40 years, the state has itself been either promoting obscu- the country. Kakar has rantism, or using sectarian and promised fair and free elections but doubts linger as to religious fanatics as proxies. The result of these failed policies is before us, as these same him, will end up being a gloforces have now begun to influence the general populace by framing the narrative.

Our power elite has been silent as blasphemy laws have been misused to settle personal scores, occupy property, or terrorise minorities. In fact, the last parliament had tried to bulldoze, without any proper debate, an amendment that would have 'strengthened' the blasphemy law.

Can we then complain if episodes such as Jaranwala un- Glenn—the first human to fold with disturbing regularity? Violence in the name of religion through space in a capsule. is indefensible in any context, but in Pakistan, the blasphemy laws have been misused with impunity by vested interests.

However, it is also true that in the 'civilised' West, the appalling trend to attack the sacred symbols of Islam feeds into a vicious circle of bigotry and Islamophobia. In fact, extremists, such as the ones involved in the Jaranwala outrage, use these despicable acts to point out the hatred the 'Christian' Khan (the still thrashing tail West allegedly harbours towards Islam, and channel their vitriol at local minority communities.

The fact is that both in the West and in Muslim states, efforts need to be intensified to approved by him with alacrity) was Senator Anwaarul counter the forces of religious Haq Kakar, a comparatively bigotry. The attacks on Islam's sacred symbols — indeed, the revered symbols of all faiths in the West must stop, while PM should be someone Pakistani society must bring to justice all involved in such grotesque violence, and begin an internal reckoning that exorcises the demons of obscurantism tearing this country apart.

Pakistan's Afghanistan policy



Ashraf Jehangir Qazi

Afghanistan's internal developments are of importance to its neighbours, especially Pakistan. But far important is Pakistan's Afghanistan policy mess which is a direct consequence of Pakistan's political situa-

Let us take a brief look

at Pakistan's external relations. Its relations with India are hostile largely due to India. Its relations with Afghanistan are strained because of strategic shortsightedness. Its relations with Iran are dubious because of US diplomatic and economic leverage over Pakistan. Its relations with China are stable but static because of its structural inability to avail of transformation opportunities. Its relations with Russia remain undeveloped due to

the US and India's continuing influence in Moscow. Its relations with the US, despite its elite deference, have declined because of its diminished strategic relevance as well as India's rising strategic profile in Wash-In this bleak situation,

Pak-Afghan relations are crucial. The Taliban government, long considered a protégé of Pakistan, is no longer friendly. It sees Pakistan's policy towards it as wavering between furtive support and kowtowing to Ame-rican demands. Its enemy at home is the Khorasan branch of the Islamic State. It cannot and will not treat the TTP as an enemy even though Mullah Hibatullah Akhundzada has openly declared that attacks in Pakistan are not

Mullah Akhundzada also asks pertinent questions. Why out of Afghanistan's neighbours only Pakistan, which has fenced almost its entire border, complains of terrorism from Afghanistan? Is it because Pakistan cannot contain the TTP which actually operates from inside Pakistan with

certain quarters? Or is it because the other neighbours of Afghanistan are more committed to stopping TTP terrorism? The Taliban government of Afghanistan denies it allows TTP terrorism against Pakistan from its territory. However, it concedes it has not been able to stop it altogether.

The rest of Afghani-

stan blames Pakistan for having imposed the Taliban on them and for the vicious regime that oppresses them especially women — in the name of Islam. They prefer India to Pakistan and not just because of India's economic assistance. Pakistan's assistance to Afghanistan on a per capita basis has actually been more than India's but it has not brought any political goodwill. This is the measure of the failure of Pakistan's Afghanistan policy. It has allowed India to potentially develop a strategic pincer or twofront situation against Pa-

There is, however, a larger regional context that has to be considered. India seeks regional hegemony in South Asia. As long as Pa-

kistan was perceived as a viable state its relations with China presented an impossible obstacle to India's regional ambitions. This posed a strategic dilemma for it. The closer it got to the US against China, including a quantum jump in critically important military technology cooperation, the more the US would demand as quid pro quo that India move away from military cooperation with Russia, neutrality on Ukraine, and economic cooperation with China.

Why would India ob-

ject given the importance of being a de facto non-Nato military ally of the US which would significantly advance its regional hegemonic aspirations? One. because India prizes its own status as an emerging great power which chooses its own strategic options; and two, because ironically a closer strategic alliance with the US actually reduces India's options for regional hegemony in South Asia despite the dwindling stra-tegic significance of Pakistan. This is because China would be compelled by the US-India military alliance to dramatically raise its own strategic profile in the Inthe neighbours of India, including Afghanistan which does not actually border India. Even with US assistance, India does not have the capacity to overcome such a Chinese challenge. India's strategic planners know this and unlike their counterparts in Pakistan do

not fool themselves.

Accordingly, they know India's 'efficient path' towards hegemony in South Asia is a détente with China rather than an optionlimiting strategic alliance with the US against China. Such a détente would incline China to view Indian hegemony in South Asia with less alarm and allow it to concentrate on countering US hegemony in East Asia.

Once a détente develops between India and China its momentum could carry it forward towards a possible entente cordiale and Pakistan would be strategically isolated. To think the US would or could prop up Pakistan against such a development would be foolish. It would still seek a close if less strategic relationship with India. It will not consider 'balancing' its relations with India and towards Pakistan against

Accordingly, whenever Pakistan recovers from its current domestic predicament it should prioritise investing diplomatically and economically in Afghanistan's stability and prosperity. This would progressively build good-will among the Afghan people, eliminate the danger of a two-front pincer situation, and restore China's confidence in its preferred option of Pakistan being able to counter India's hegemonic aspirations in South Asia.

This could incentivise China to financially and diplomatically support Pakistan's much more welcome influence in Afghanistan and transform the bilateral CPEC into a multilateral CAICAP (China, Afghanistan, Iran, Central Asia and Pakistan) that would be book-ended by China and Pakistan. This would eventually enable Pakistan to negotiate with India on more equitable terms, and enable the CASA region (Central and South/ Southwest Asia) to become a major force for peace, security and development in Pakistan, leave alone tilting Asia. -- Courtesy Dawn

Living in the worst of



Kamila Hyat

Pakistan's eighth caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Haq Kakar has taken the reins of the country at a time when it faces economic, social and political disharmony of the worst kind. Kakar's name has also caused a degree of controversy, with the BNP Mengal particularly strong in the opposition to his nomination to the curare said to be displeased over the choice made by the opposition leader and the former prime minister. The issue at hand is the future of whether these will actually take place, or whether Kakar, like others before rified rubber-stamp for powerful stakeholders in the country.

The reality is that Pa-

democracy through its years of existence since 1947. In recent years after three clean and democratic transfers of power from one government to another, we now see the possibility of a disruption in the democratic process although there is of course hope that this will not happen. Much depends on what is decided behind the scenes and also on whether Kakar, chosen as a presentable man acceptable to the world, will

to a democratically elected government. It is true that Pakistan's governments elected by the people, have not served the people well. Today we see the result of that the hyperinflation that has hit virtually every household in the country and the taxation through indirect means the people are subjected to means those from lower income brackets end up paying more while the wealthier states. This follows the patin the country get away

act on what he has claimed

and ensure transfer of power

rected is the true challenge for the incoming setup and ment of Kakar leaves the far greater. With literacy

kistan has barely known true scene. The conjecture that this caretaker government will stay longer than is expected is of course vet to be determined and will eventually decide the future of our democracy.

The reality is that our democracy has been disrupted far too often by interventions. The possibility that Pakistan could have risen further in the ranks as a country able to offer true justice to its people may have been higher had a democratic setup been allowed to function smoothly as for example has been the case for the most part in In-Of course, this is not

to say that anything is perfect in India. The country has many problems. They begin with poverty and now have translated into other issues such as increasing intolerance and hatred. But on the whole India has a literacy rate of nearly 90 per cent and more in some with paying very little tax.
This is a disaster.
nations which all have a higherrate of schooling than Whether that can be cor- Pakistan's sad looking 70 per cent or so. For women. this figure falls to 50 per cent any setup that takes over and of course when 'real' is after the caretaker govern- measured the problems are

measured by the ability to scribble a name on a piece of paper and nothing more than this, many of those capable of writing out their names cannot read the headline of a newspaper.

Pakistan then has a long way to go. It needs good governance if it is to develop and give its people the opportunities they need. In the first place, there must be a setup which allows all children in the country to gain quality education at schools which meet their needs and where they are taught true facts of our history and what can be learnt from it rather than a series of lies and misrepresentations than what has really happened in the seven decades of Pakistan's

existence. While real schooling is an urgent need, there are also many others. The question is if we can bring in power a government that can achieve this. Because of the chaos we have seen notably during the often tem of Bangladesh and other unsavoury events, there are many who are once again calling for a nondemocratic or technocratic government as such governments are labeled. The fact is that such governments have not been able to deliver in the past. We achieved little under

Shaukat Aziz who then left the country and the various technocrat' caretaker prime ministers who have held office before this. Indeed, in many cases those who do not have their own interests vested in the country, leave for other shores soon as their tenure is over.

So what then is the solution for Pakistan? In fact, is there any solution? The fact is the country must have a continued process of democracy, smooth transitions and democratic spirit visible in both houses. This could perhaps bring up leaders who can offer solutions and ways to bring about change. We know that people exist in the country who are capable of writing up new ideas for Pakistan's future. Many politicians and others have already done so.

We need to see many years of clear, healthy transitions so that a new and possibly more competent leadership can emerge. Yes, this is the high road.

It is also the harder route to take than the lower route which offers powers to many nondemocratic players along the way. But

and the only way to ensure that power is transferred without disruption and without constant efforts to bring in so-called 'caretakers' who have little to offer. Only those with interests in the country would have this kind of affection for Pakistan and its future.

We need to support real democracy and nothing other than this. No matter how long it takes, democracy and smooth transfers of power is the only way Pakistan will get the kind of leaders it needs. Yes, this will take time - it will take plenty of time. But the time will come when we have leadership that is capable of putting in place some of the most basic steps that we need, such as rule of law and a contract with the people that gives them security and certainty that they will benefit them as citizens of Pakistan

We are as vet a long way from this goal, but we must move towards it so that our future as a country is secured and people are given the reins they need to hold the country steadily as it moves forward - hopefully towards a better place it is the only route to take than the one it occupies right Courtesy TheNews

Flying solo

five times the size of KP. It

is not small. It may have less

of a population than the oth-

ers but it deserves fraternal

respect, not gratuitous con-

stable of dark horses. The

Punjab chief minister, ap-

pointed by then PM Imran

until 2022, and then disap-

nomination been announced

Ba--lochistan National

of remonstrance above the

head of Sheh-baz Sharif to

his elder brother Nawaz

complained: "You have des-

ignated an individual as the

caretaker prime minister

whose appointment has

shut the doors of politics for

us." He added more point-

edly: "A solution is being

sought by consulting the

establishment instead of

Sharif — less in anger than

frustration — of the 'op-

pression' suffered by the

Baloch at the hands of mili-

tary-led administrations

from Gen Ayub to Gen

Musharraf, which had not

History has a longer

been forgotten nor, it would

memory than politicians

from Punjab. Mengal served

as Balochistan's ninth CM

from February 1997 to June

1998, 10 years before Kakar

entered politics. Seen as a

militant Baloch, Mengal's

provincial loyalties attracted

suspicion. He complained in

an interview in 2013: "The

Baloch militants consider

me a traitor while the secu-

appear, forgiven.

He reminded the elder

politicians.

No soonerhad Kakar's

No one would doubt

descension.



F.S. Aijazuddin

The US astronaut John orbit the earth — was once asked how he felt hurtling His trenchant reply was: "How would you feel trayelling in a machine assembled from 150,000 pieces of equipment, each procured by Nasa from the lowest bidder?" Over 200 million Pakistanis today are reliving his apprehensions. They are orbiting in a political void, led by a caretaker prime minister chosen from among the lowest political denominators.

Following the National Assembly dissolution on Aug 9, it took three days for Shehbaz Sharif (representing the outgoing government) and Raia Riaz Ahmad of a PTI opposition) to propose a name for the post of caretaker PM to an impatient president.

Names proffered by Sharif and Raja Riaz were unacceptable to the other. The person finally proposed to the president (and unknown politician from Balochistan.

Raja Riaz justified the choice, saying: "We had earlier decided that the caretaker from a smaller province and a non-controversial personality. Our aim was to remove the sense of deprivation in small provinces.

Raja Riaz, a Punjabi, should have been more circumspect. Balochistan is the largest of Pakistan's provinces Geographically it is one and half times the size

of Punjab, two and half rity establishment also times the size of Sindh, and treats me as an enemy.

Mengal will not receive reply from Na--waz Sharif. Like the astronaut John Glenn, Sharif's prime concern is a safe re-entry. Will Nawaz Sharif be

welcomed by the very estabthat the new caretaker PM lishment that aborted his is non-controversial. He earlier prime owes his nomination to an ministerships? Will he want to forgo the comforts of establishment that breeds a Avenfield House in London last such unexpected entrant for the sweat, dust and was Usman Buzdar, former drudgery of an election campaign in an insolvent Pakistan? Will his younger Khan. In 2018, he appeared brother Shehbaz Sharif be out of nowhere, survived in content to play second fiddle office for over 43 months after he has enjoyed being the master of his own one-man peared unlamented into band in Islamabad? In the closing days of the last go--vernment, She--hbaz admitted to having a close than his fellow politician working relationship with from Balochistan Akhtar the establishment. This chairman, came as no revelation. Five years ago, in 2018, he had Party-Mengal, shot a letter told the Financial Times: 'Where the military leadership needs to be consulted, we will consult them." And he did Sharif in London. Mengal not mean only on military or

security-related matters. A younger generation of voters might have noticed the last speech Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari made in parliament. Stressing the need for "political unity and reconciliation", he appealed to key political figures, including his father Asif Ali Zardari and Nawaz Sharif "to make decisions that would help create a conducive political environment, notably for Maryam Nawaz and himself". His conciliatory speech was intended "to calm contending kings" His entrenched elders though might construe it as premature patricide. Today, Pakistan's political future is again up in the air. No one knows for sure when elections will be held. Probably stored the lesser sentence. next year. However, those who have watched Shehbaz Sharif's self-laudatory

leave-taking can fore--see

the result. He intends to re-

turn as PM and then fly solo

for at least five years. --

Courtesy Dawn

Shazia Nizamani

The case of 13-year-old Rizwana, who was brutally tortured by her employer, the wife of a civil judge, in Islamabad, is a reminder of the despicable acts of violence and abuse perpetrated on our young domestic workers who are still minors. The girl is still receiving medical care. A case against her employer was registered only after a hue and cry was raised on social and mainstream media. Even judges were seen to come to the rescue of their fellow judge's wife by granting bail to the suspect.

Earlier this year, an 11-year-old domestic worker was killed by his employer in Karachi. The victim had been working with his two brothers in Karachi to support his family back in Tharparkar. After the horrible death of their youngest son, the family found out that all three had been subjected to inhumane torture and violence. Some years ago, 10year-old Tayyaba was physically and mentally tortured for months by her employers — an additional sessions judge and his wife. Due to media coverage and public pressure, the authorities took action. Although the Islamabad High Court had increased the initial sentence of the culprits to a maximum of three years, the apex court re-

It is uncertain if Rizwana's tormentors will be brought to justice because our rotten criminal justice system hardly works for the underprivileged and disadvantaged as it does for the privileged

Undoubtedly, it is poverty that compels parents to send their minor children to work instead of letting them enjoy their childhood. Poor households send their children for domestic work to make both ends meet or to pay off family debts. There is also social acceptance of child labour in our society, so well-off families hire children, paying them a meagre amount. Thus the general public and families of domestic workers don't understand how harmful child labour is and the lifelong impact of the attendant

In 2004, the ILO estimated that 264,000 children in the country were engaged in domestic labour. Meanwhile, it was also estimated that in 2004, 80 per cent of children engaged in domestic labour worked to support their families, while 14pc worked to pay off family debts.

physical and psychological

violence

child labour is "work that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children and/or interferes with their schooling by depriving them of the opportunity to attend school, obliging them to leave school prematurely, or requiring them to attempt to combine school attendance with excessively long and heavy work". ILO and other reports indicate that 93pc of children "engaged in child labour in domestic work in 2021", most of them girls.

In 2011, the ILO adopted the Domestic Workers Convention which, among other things, requires countries to set a "minimum age for domestic workers consistent with the provisions of the Minimum Age Convention .. and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention". The latter convention considers "work under particularly difficult conditions such as work for long hours

or during the night or work where the child is unreasonably confined to the premises of the employer" to be hazardous. Based on these criteria, child labour in domestic work could be considered and addressed as

hazardous work. Some 30-odd countries have adopted the Domestic Workers' Convention but Pakistan is not among them, though it is a signatory to eight international treaties directly related to labour rights, including the rights of chil-

The Cons-titu-tion guarantees the rights of children. Article 11 prohibits the in--volvement of chi-l--dren younger than 14 years old in work. Article 25-A affirms that the state must provide free and compulsory education to all children aged five to 16

The Ministry of Hu-

man Rights, the National Commission of Rights of Child (NCRC), the Minis-According to the ILO, try of Poverty Alleviation and the provincial child protection bureaus have an obligation to enforce policy frameworks and laws on child labour. The NCRC has a dedicated complaint cell. But there is hardly any awareness about such services and laws at the public level. Unfortunately, the monitoring, implementation and accountability mechanisms of these institutions are very weak, and there is a lack of coordination and collaboration among them where child labour in domestic work is concerned. Awareness must be created in communities that child labour in domestic work is illegal and unconstitutional. The power of social media can be utilised for raising awareness about child rights, the available social protection measures and existing laws. Pressure should be put on the state by civil society and child rights organisations to ensure protection for children. -- Cour-

Young workers

PM AJK committed to provide relief to masses

MIRPUR (AJK) (APP): to ensure development in especially roads to Azad Jammu and Kashmir the backward areas of the provide easy access to Azad Jammu and Kashmir Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq on Thursday reiterated his government's commitment to providing relief to the common

While addressing the coalition coalition partners' parliamentary meeting at Jammu Kashmir House in the federal metropolis, the AJK PM expressed gratitude to the heads of the coalition partners and cabinet ministers for expenditures in their reposing their confidence respective ministries.

upon his leadership. no efforts to provide relief to the people and would

state, he added.

We all have to work for the welfare of the people and all resources would be utilized for this purpose", he added.

The expenditures of the Prime Minister's House had been reduced to a great extent, adding that he expressed optimism that the ministers would also follow suit and reduce

In order to make The coalition Azad Kashmir more government would spare attractive for tourists, the AJK PM said that special focus was being laid on along

Besides improving the road infrastructure, he said that the hotel industry would be promoted in collaboration with the

The meeting was attended by People's Party President Chaudhry Muhammad Yasin, PML N President Shah Ghulam Qadir, former President Muhammad Yaqub Khan. former Prime Minister Raja Muhammad Faroog Haider Khan, Senior Minister, Finance Minister Colonel ® Waqar Ahmad Noor, with

Mother, two

sons killed over

property

dispute

MALAKAND (APP): :A

mother, along with her two

sons, was tragically killed

due to a property dispute here in Ghawar Kale near

Skhakot while the culprits

managed to escape from the

bodies of the deceased

of traffic. They demanded

for early arrest of the

Due to the road

killers involved in the

closure and extreme heat,

the passengers in the

vehicles faced severe

difficulties. Later, the

crowd was dispersed after

receiving assurances from

the authorities about the

Small cell of jail

cannot defeat IK,

Aleema Khan

LAHORE (Online): PTI

leader Imran Khan's sister

Aleema Khan said that we

are not being allowed to meet Imran Khan despite

questions of journalist on

appearance in Anti-

terrorism court Lahore she

said that court remarked

that jail authorities will tell

you in this regard about

we are very worried

because even doctors and

only if jail authorities allow

us, I do not understand

response of a question that

they are giving many

statements and they will

WHO

delegation

meets PFA DG

LAHORE (APP): A delegation of the World Health Organisation (WHO) called on Director

General Raja Jahangir

Anwar to discuss the

medical screening project and reorganise the testing

system for food-borne

the DG PFA said that the

authority was working on

reducing medical screening

fees for small-scale

businesses and providing

free facilities for roadside

street vendors. He also

highlighted the plan to

reorganise the testing

system for food-borne

diseases with the help

During the meeting,

diseases.

of WHO.

have many more stories.

Aleema Khan said in

why this is being done.

She further said that

İmran Khan.

While responding

arrest of the murderers.

bloody incident.

Thursday.

ownership.



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah talks with media persons during press conference after the Gujjar Nala implementation case, outside Supreme Court Karachi Registry building.

Kashmir's rich culture and heritage needed to be keep alive: Samina Alvi

MUZAFFARABAD (APP): First Lady Mrs. Samina Alvi has said that handicraft was a part of Kashmir's culture and handmade things and heritage which needed to be appreciated the skill of kept alive and should be marketed on modern lines women. Before leaving for another visit, she planted so that women associated a tree at the center. with this skill can earn as much as they work hard to a

remarks during a visit to training small industries display Authority

organized by the small industries corporations and appreciated the different handicraft prepared by local women including embroidery, wooden carving displayed in the

Small Corporation Rasheed Baig told the first lady that their organization was supporting the women associated with this trade by displaying their items different departments.

on different occasions. The first lady on the occasion took a keen interest in different

Later, she also visited training institute established by technical She made these education and vocational education Authority (TEVTA) bodies of the deceased mother and sons on the center here on Thursday.

Mrs. Alvi visited
Meena Baazar in the center

where she was told about the skill development training of the women by the main road for all kinds of traffic. They demanded chairman TEVTA Raja

Razaq Nadeem. She visited the different departments of institute and the encouraged the women to take training in different skills like handicrafts, Managing Director embroidery, wood carving all Industries and beautician. The first reporation Wajhat lady also visited a rehabilitation center for physically challenged person before leaving for Islamabad and visited

PRCS-KP completes distribution of aid after heavy rains in Chitral

Society Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (PRCS-KP) on Thursday successfully completed the distribution of essential aid to families affected by the recent floods in Chitral District, following heavy rainfall.

This assistance was provided to 118 families in various areas of Chitral, including the Kalash Valley. Relief items such as tents, blankets, and family hygiene kits were provided. In this regard, Habib Malik Orakzai, Chairman, Pakistan Red Crescent Pakhtunkhwa, stated that Chitral District is currently facing the effects of natural disasters in both the summer and winter

These adversities have not only affected the region's infrastructure but have also deeply impacted the homes and fields of its residents. Our mission is to

PESHAWAR (APP): assist people in such Pakistan Red Crescent situations as an Auxiliary body to the Government. However, it's imperative that we also play a role in mitigating the impacts of climate changes emerging in

> distribution of relief items, our efforts have been supported by the German

At this time, the Pakistan Red Crescent Society Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, collaboration with the German Red Cross, is working to reduce the effects of climate change and to maintain the safety of local populations during disasters in various areas of Chitral. In this context, it's crucial for other organizations to also support the PRCS.

On the other hand, during the relief distribution, Syed Ali Secretary, Hassan, Pakistan Red Crescent.



HYDERABAD: Members of Hyderabad Union of Journalists are lighting candles to express solidarity with martyred Senior Journalist Jan Muhammad Mehar, who was shot dead in Sukkur, at Hyderabad press club

private sector.

and Prime Minister Sardar



views with Ambassador of Beligum, Mr. Charles Delogne at Governor House.

Former PM Imran took u-turn on providing houses to displaced persons: CM

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Thursday said former prime minister Imran government had promised to provide shelter to the turns. displaced persons of Gujjar, Mehmoodabad and Orangi Nullah but he reneged his promise as

He stated this while talking to media persons here outside the Supreme Court registry after appearing in a case of rehabilitation of displaced

The chief minister said Imran Khan, continued to make an announcement court for rehabilitation of and former provincial that his government would displaced persons. First to minister Nasir Shah. to make an announcement court for rehabilitation of

displaced persons under Naya Pakistan housing scheme', but later on, he took a Ú-turn.

He said Imran Khan was well known for his u-Murad Ali Shah said

the provincial government had been working on this sincerely since the day

rehabilitation scheme of Rs 9.8 billion, he said, adding the floods of 2022 caused the lack of resources which halted the process of rehabilitation.

"Today, we presented two options before the

provide houses to all the provide 80 square yards plots with construction money and the second to provide amount for both a plot and construction." the CM said.

He said the Sindh government was giving cheques of Rs 15,000 to the affected people for rental purposes. Murad Ali Shah said the government had been working on this however it could not submit progress reports in the court for which he had sought an apology and his apology had been accepted. The chief minister on the occasion was flanked by Mayor Karachi Murtaza Wahab

GB govt striving to phase out use of plastic for many years: CS GB

Muhiudeen Baltistan has been striving to phase out the use of

crime scene, police said on plastic for the last many years owing to its The victims and the hazardous impacts on health and the human health and the ecological system. perpetrators had been embroiled in a longenvironment. standing conflict over land The people kept the

considered imperative to uproot this malice from the society, said an official statement to media here. The meeting was

GILGIT (APP): Chief was attended by the Secretary Gilgit Baltistan Inspector General of Police Wani and the Home Secretary. It Thursday said the was decided to ban the use, Government of Gilgit-sale, manufacturing and transportation of plastic bottles in Gilgit-Baltistan given the detrimental impacts it causes on human health and the overall

In this regard, Order He said a series of under Section 144 of CrPC awareness campaigns were shall be issued to ensure launched to sensitize the ban on transportation of general masses and plastic bottles from down business community country to GB with effect interventions as were CS GB said.He said necessary directions are to be issued to all government departments, attached departments, subordinate offices, autonomous

Imtiaz hopes PPP to emerge victorious in general elections KARACHI

Pakistan People's Party (PPP) leader and former provincial minister Imtiaz Ahmed Shaikh has expressed the hope that general elections would be held on time and PPP would emerge victorious.

In a statement issued here on Thursday, Shaikh said PPP has no competitor in Sindh because it believes in performance and not in

He said that if the election was held in a transparent manner PPP would win with two third majority from Karachi. Imtiaz Shaikh said Pakistan People's Party

will serve the people after get elected in the next general elections.



Shaw and scholars of religion rises hands to show solidarity during the Vice Chancellor Conference on Civic Education by Punjab Education Department at local hotel in Provincial Capital.

Belgium to support promotion of education in merged districts

lawyers are not being allowed to meet Imran Khan.

The court has left us on mercy of jail authorities that we will be able to meet only if jail authorities allow here at the Governor's

In the meeting, discussions were held on bilateral issues, trade relations and enhancing people-to-people relations between the two sides, said a press release issued here. The two sides also

discussed issues related to said the two countries had providing better education a history of 75 years of opportunities to the youth strong public and of the merged tribal diplomatic relations. districts.

that Belgium should anniversary of 75 years of provide support for diplomatic relations.

an educational project that could bring the youth of merged districts forward in the field of education.

Ghulam Ali also underlined the need to strengthen bilateral trade and people-to-people ties with Belgium. The Belgium envoy

The two countries

The governor said were celebrating the

RWMC's sanitation activities underway during rains

The Rawalpindi Waste Management Company (RWMC)was carrying out the cleanliness of the city during the ongoing rainy

According to a RWMC spokesman, during the rains, the company had

RAWALPINDI (APP): for cleaning in the city and deployed additional workers to clean and dredge major drains to avoid urban flooding.

He informed RWMC workers removed hundreds of tons of waste in the Rawalpindi city areas while drains blocked during the made special arrangements rain on Thursday morning.

Al-Nisa Secretariat inaugurated at **ANF HQ**

RAWALPINDI (APP): The Secretariat of the Al-Nisa Forum has been formally inaugurated at Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) Headquarters here on Thursday.

According to an ANF

Headquarters spokesman, other vital initiatives by ANF to protect gender equity in all its facets include the construction of women's hostels, daycare centres, exclusive Ladies' Common Rooms in all establishments, constitution of an Anti-Harassment Committee headed by the Senior Most Lady Officer, the establishment of Women's Career Planning Cell and focused efforts to enhance professional their capacities.

He informed that in its journey towards women empowerment, ANF has acknowledged contributions and support rendered by the U.S. Embassy Islamabad Office of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (INL) and UNDP in formulating "ANF Gender Strategy & Advocacy Plan 2022-2027" and other

related initiatives. ANF looks forward to undertaking multifaceted initiatives

Naqvi directs to ensure free of-cost medicines to patients

RAWALPINDI (APP): process, Naqvi said that Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi on Thursday directed the hospital's Bhutto Hospital(BBH) to the process of registration ensure the provision of at the reception counter. free-of-cost medicines to the patients.

During a visit to inspect facilities at BBH, he reviewed the treatment of the patients in the new

Emergency department.
The CM interacted with the patients and their attendants and inquired about the medical facilities provided to them.

delays in medical checkups and the X-rays CM during his visit.

management of Benazir administration to expedite

During his visit, the CM in detail inspected various sections of the hospital and found some doctors were absent from their duties.

He also inspected the sanitation situation of the BBH and directed the hospital's management to improve the cleanliness arrangement.

Taking notice of the patient's complaints about Information Minister Amir Mir also accompanied the



GILGIT: Ex-Chief Minister Gilgit-Baltistan Hafiz Hafeez Ur Rehman addressing a press conference at PMLN Secretariat.

LHC orders to produce Hassan Niazi nephew of chairman PTI on Aug 18

Lahore High Court (LHC) while taking action on the petition seeking recovery of Hassan Niazi nephew of chairman PTI has ordered to produce Hassan Niazi on

Friday in the court. A single bench of LHC led by Justice Sultan Tanvir took up on Thursday for hearing petition filed by Hafeez Ullah Niazi father of Hassan Niazi in connection

with recovery of his son.
In the petition IG Police Punjab and others have been respondents.

taken the plea Police have

to court to order for the recovery of his son. Justice Sultan Tanvir

issued written order on the

petition of Hafeez Ullah Niazi. The court ordered all

other respondents including IG Police should file report on next hearing. It has been said in the written order of the court

then he should be presented in the court on August 18. Hafeez Ullah Niazi father of Hassan Niazi had resorted to LHC in connection with recovery

if Ahsan Niazi is in the

custody of the respondents

The petitioner has of his son. On the other side the kept Hassan Niazi in counsel took the plea habeas corpus at unknown during the hearing of place and family members are being told nothing about him. It is requested place and family members are being told nothing about him. It is requested High Court (PHC).

GB officials review work on **GLOF-II Project to enhance** disaster risk management

GILGIT (APP): Additional outburst floods (GLOFs) Environmental Coordination (MoCC&EC) and

Director General of the Gilgit-Baltistan Disaster Management Authority Qamar and other officials,

Secretary of the Ministry of Climate Change and management in the region. During the visit, the

delegation engaged in (MoCC&EC) and National Project Director of the GLOF-II Project wherein they sought productive meetings with Syed Mujtaba Hussain valuable feedback about the accompanied by Provincial Coordinator Abdul Basit,

The insights garnered from the discussions will play these discussions will play a pivotal role in ensuring that the project aligns with (GBDMA) Kamal Uddin the needs and aspirations of the local communities here on Thursday visited further enhancing its various parts of Gilgit- effectiveness. Talking to the Baltistan to assess the media, the Additional ongoing initiatives under the GLOF-II Project and Secretary highlighted the alarming rise of over 3,000 address the challenges lakes as a consequence of posed by glacial lake melting glaciers.



are holding protest demonstration against attack on churches in Jaranwala, at Hyderabad press club.

Commissioner visits Warsak Dam, reviews security

(APP): PESHAWAR Commissioner Peshawar Division Muhammad Zubair visited Warsak Dam on Thursday to review the security situation and ongoing rehabilitation work on the dam. The major purpose was to bring project.

D e p u t y Commissioner Peshawar, Shah Fahad, Deputy Commissioner Khyber Abdul Nasir, SP Security Atiq Shah, District Police Officer (DPO) Khyber occasion.

Saleem Khan, Additional Deputy Commissioner Relief Peshawar Imran Yousafzai and other relevant officers also accompanied commissioner.

On this occasion, the Project Director gave a improvement in the detailed briefing on the security of the staff of the project.

Security of the staff of the second Warsak Dam Rehabilitation Project, while the Director Security gave a detailed briefing on the security of the staff working on the project.

Talking on the

Jaranwala incident Muslim-Christian leaders demand swift justice for perpetrators

LAHORE (APP): Prominent Muslim-Christian leaders Thursday united in demanding swift justice for the perpetrators behind the tragic incident in Jaranwala, which involved the desecration of places of

A delegation of Mus-lim scholars, led by Paki-stan Ulema Council Chairman Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi, visited Saint Anthony Catholic Church here and extended an olive branch to the Christian leaders and people, seeking forgiveness for the disrespectful act that has deeply disturbed the entire nation.

Addressing a presser, the Muslim-Christian lead-

ers, including Hafiz Muhammad Mahmood Ashrafi, Archbishop Sebastian Shah, Pastor Emmanuel Khokhar, Pastor Saleem, Maulana Nauman Hashir, Maulana Muhammad Shafi Qasmi, Maulana Asadullah Farooq Maulana Zubair Abid Maulana Muhammad Ashfaq Pitafi, Maulana Tahir Aqeel Awan, Maulana Muhammad Siddiqui, Qari Abdul Hakeem Athar, Maulana Muhammad Aslam Qadri, Mufti Naseem Islam. Maulana Qari Mubashir Rahimi and others said the incident had not only strained interfaith relations but also cast a dark shadow over the country's reputa-



LAHORE: Religious Scholar AllamaTahir Mehmood Ashrafi along with the Archbishop is addressing a press conference on the Jarnawala Issue at Regal Church.

PNS SAIF visits Dubai for regional maritime security patrol deployment

The Pakistan Navy Ship (PNS) SAIF visited Dubai, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) during deployment on Regional Maritime Security Patrol on Thursday.

Upon arrival, Pakistan Navy Ship was received by Defence Attaché of Pakistan at Abu Dhabi and Senior Officials of UAE Navy, a Pakistan Navy news release said

During the port visit, Commanding Officer of PNS SAIF called-on Deputy Commander UAE Naval Forces and other senior Officials of UAE Navy. During the interactions, matters of mutual interests were discussed and enhancement of bilateral ties dination meetings

in all spheres was re-affirmed. The Commanding Officer of PN ship conveyed well wishes from Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi for the people of UAE in general and UAE Navy in particular. PNS SAIF celebrated Independence Day of Pakistan at UAE. In this connection, a flag hoisting ceremony was held onboard the ship which was attended by DA

stani School at UAE. During the port stay, various bilateral activities including exchange visits onboard UAE Naval units. orientation visits of military installations and coor-

(P) and children of Paki-



Commanding Officer PNS SAIF receiving Base Commander UAE Naval Forces on board during Pakistan Navy Ship's visit to UAE

ATC extends interim bail of Qureshi, Asad in May-9 vandalism cases

terrorism court (ATC) on Thursday extended the interim bail of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Vice Chairman Shah Mehmood Quershi, former PTI secretary general Asad Umar, Fawad Chaudhry, Uzma Khan and Aleema Khan, the sisters of PTI Chairman Imran Khan, till September 2 in six cases related to May-9 vandalism.

Earlier, Shah Mehmood Qureshi, Asad Umar, Aleema Khan and involved in any case.

LAHORE (APP): An anti- Uzma Khan appeared before ATC Judge İjaz Ahmad Buttar on expiry of their interim bail and got their attendance marked.

However, Fawad Chaudhry did not appear and his counsel moved an application with a request to grant one-time exemption from personal appearance to his client.. The counsel for other

accused submitted that his clients had joined the investigation and they were not

Nawaz Sharif to return to Pakistan in third week of September: Irfan ISLAMABAD (Online): haste is not good in connec-

PML-N senator Irfan Siddiqui has said Nawaz Sharif will return to Pakistan in the third week of September and he will run election campaign. "Former Prime Min-

ister (PM) Nawaz Sharif thinks election will be held this year. He wants there should be no delay in election, he said this while talking to a private TV channel here Thursday.

When government is ready to go then it remembers several forgotten things, he held.

I had said too much

bills come in haste then their drafts are not mulled over, he stated. What bills came they were needed, he pointed out. These were PDMs bills and not of PML-N bills, he observed. These people took

tion with bill. Too much

part in the meetings in connection with preparations of bills and signed them. He disclosed his bill is

missing since 14 months. This bill was my property. I wrote a letter to speaker on August 10 and no response has been received so



CEOMB

ISLAMABAD (Online) Supreme Court (SC) has dismissed the petition seeking revocation of bail of Fawad Hassan Fawad, principal secretary to former Prime Minister (PM).

The case came up for nearing before a 3-member bench of SC presided over ov Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan here

The SC dismissed the etition against Fawad Hassan Fawad being inructuous.

During the hearing of the case NAB prosecutor Rizwan Satti said Fawad Hassan Fawad has been acquitted by the trial court in The plea for cancella-

tion of bail has become infructuous due to acquittal of the accused.

U.S. envoy calls on Air Chief

ISLAMABAD (APP) U.S. Ambassador Donald Blome called on Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu here on Thursday. The discussion under-

scored matters pertaining to geo political environment leading to emerging regional security challenges, augmenting the already fortified bilateral ties and fostering collaborative endeavours within the realms of defence and aviation, a Pakistan Air Force (PAF) news release said.

The Air Chief accentuated the cordial relations that exist between the two nations while emphasizing his steadfast determination to elevate the existing synergistic partnership between the two key allies.

Justice (Rtd) Maqbool`Baqír takes oath as Caretaker **CM Sindh**

KARACHI (APP): Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori on Thursday administered to the oath to Caretaker chief minister of Sindh Justice (Rtd) Maqbool Baqir.

The oath-taking ceremony held at the Governor House here, said a spokesperson of the Governor House.

Judges of the Supreme Court, Consul Generals of different countries, former federal and provincial ministers, businessmen, political and social figures, senior officers and dignitaries of the city participated in the ceremony.

On the occasion, the Governor of Sindh also congratulated Justice (Retd) Maqbool Baqir on assuming the office of the caretaker Chief Minister of Sindh.

37 new Covid cases reported in last week

ISLAMABAD (APP): Health officials on Thurs-day said that 37 new coronavirus cases were reported during the last week across the country.

As per the data shared by the National Institute of Health (NIH), the case positivity ratio was 0.43 per cent while no patient was in critical condition. No death was reported from the coronavirus last week while 8,673 Covid-19 tests were conducted. Meanwhile, an official of the Ministry for National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination said that the government has strengthened the role of Border and Health Services in Pakistan to deal with any sub-variant.

concern: Ahsan Iqbal

and former Federal Minisof Pakistan. ter Ahsan Iqbal strongly condemned the incident of Jaranwala and said that there is no room for making Ahsan Iqbal said in a religious party.

OUETTA: Members of BCS Executive Officers

Welfare Association Balochistan are holding pro-

test demonstration for acceptance of their demands,

Jaranwala incident

a matter of grave

outside Chief Minister House in Quetta.

factions in Islamic state.

service to deen.

is law for every crime.

He said that if a mi-

nority in Pakistan consid-

statement on social media He further added that that heartbreaking incidents this trend is reminiscent of in Jaranwala are matter of concern for us. Certain religious groups have freely used religion to create fanaticism among people for political purposes.
Ahsan Iqbal said that torching the places of worship of other religion is no There are laws and India before this incident. courts in the country. Former Federal Minister said that one cannot take law in hands as there

ISLAMABAD (Online): ers itself insecure, this idea will be negation of ideology

Ahsan Iqbal said that young people of 12 to 14 years are being seen in the footage holding sticks and chanting the slogans of a

the tragic incident of Sialkot. He said that all political parties and scholars have to work together to promote harmony in the society. He further said that the events of Manipur in India were drawing the attention of world to mistreatment of minorities in This incident turned media towards Pakistan. Ahsan Iqbal said that Christian community fully participated in Pakistan Movement by voting for Paki-

building confidence among public to get speedy justice: President cantly increased. But still,

Federal Ombudsman were working under his office. The subject Seminar Insurance Ombudsman and Concept of Speedy Justice at the Doorstep' is a series of seminars in which the high dignitaries of the insurance sector as well as from the business community were invited for their valuable views and vision for betterment and transparency in the insurance busi-

Federal Insurance Ombudsman

Federal Insurance Ombuds-

man, Federal Banking Om-

budsman, Federal Tax Om-

budsman, Federal Harass-

President Alvi said due to his personal efforts, awareness among the people about the role of the Ombudsman had signifi-

he stressed the need to make more people aware of

He also highlighted the ment Ombudsman and the role of media in creating awareness about the Ombudsmen's role and responsibilities adding that the good decisions by the ombudsmen must be publicized in the national print, electronic and social media.

He said ignorance was not an excuse, therefore the people should know about various ways to get justice through alternative means.

The president highlighted that in many cases the decisions remained pending for decades in the mainstream judiciary due to overburden of work and other flaws.



QUETTA: A delegation led by President Jawanan-e-Pakistan Nazariati Balochistan Ehsanullah Khan meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik

Protest of BCS officers remain continued: Posting of Balochistan Secretariat Officers in field violation of **Rules: leader of BCSOWA**

Independent Report

President Dr Arif Alvi on

Thursday said the Federal

Insurance Ombudsman

was doing major work in

building confidence among

the general public to get

speedy justice by follow-

ing easy steps. The president said only few percent

people knew about the

ombudsman's role mainly

because of less marketing

and awareness campaigns.

the ombudsman was the

cheapest and most effective

way to get speedy justice.
Addressing a Seminar
titled 'Insurance Ombuds-

man and Concept of

Speedy Justice at the Door-

step' here at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

the president said all the

He said approaching

QUETTA: The protest of continued under the umbrella of BCS Officers Wel-(BCSOWA) in Quetta and other parts of the province

on Thursday.
The BCS officers kept on observing pen down strike against merger of Balochistan Secretariat Service (BSS) cadre into BCS cadre and other initiatives taken by the provincial

They also lodged pro-Balochistan Civil Service test in the offices of Tehsil, Officers (BCS) remained other settlements and offices in the province.

government.

Meanwhile, address-Quetta Press Club on Thursday, the senior leader of BCSOWA, Khuda-e-Rahim Mirwani announced three-days of protest against merger of the BSS cadre into BCS cadre.

He also said that approval about posting of BSS officers in the field is

just violation of the rules and regulations.

The decision of provincial government also violates certain judgments of the Supreme Court of Association ing a press conference at Pakistan, Mirwani added.

He said that if the decision was not averted then there would be an administrative crisis in the province. The BCS officers would announce their future of course action against the government's decision soon, Khuda-e-Rahim Mirwani maintained

New colour developer ultrasound test started in **GDA Hospital** Independent Report

QUETTA: The facility of new colour developer ultrasound has been launched in the Gynecology department of the Indus Hospital and Health Network in Gwadar on Thursday.

The modern facility was started after necessary trial in the Hospital being administered by the Gwadar Development Authority (GDA) in collaboration with the Indus Hospital and Health Network. Needless to mention here is that such an important technology has been installed for the first time

for health of the women. Otherwise, the patients were facing the hardships due to availability of only one developer ultra-

sound in the Hospital. The technology would be used for diagnostic of different gynecology related diseases among the

16 held in action against profiteers, encroachments

QUETTA (APP): Atleast 16 shopkeepers were arrested in an action launched against profiteers, encroachments. On the instructions of

Deputy Commissioner Quetta Mir Shahak Baloch, Assistant Commissioner City Atta Al Muneem and Special Magistrate Maria Sĥimoun conducted operations on Alamdar Road and Abdul Sattar Road and held 16 profiteers, said a handout issued on Thursday.

AC Atta Al Munim said a complaint was received that low weight bread is being sold at high price on Alamdar Road.

Accused acquitted due to presentation of unacceptable evidences by prosecution: CJP

ISLAMABAD (Online): due to lack of protection of Supreme Court (SC) has adjourned the hearing of the petitions about cancellation of Police Order -2002 for indefinite period.

The Chief Justice of

Pakistan (CJ) Umar Ata Bandial has remarked due to lack of protection of crime scenes the evidences are destroyed and the accused are acquitted due to presentation of unacceptable evidences by the prosecution in the courts.

The CJP admired the steps taken by Sindh and KP police.

The petitions regarding cancellation of police order 2002 came up for hearing before a 3-meber bench of SC presided over by the CJP Thursday.

The CJP remarked

crime scenes, the evidences are destroyed and the accused are acquitted due to presentation of unacceptable evidences by prosecution in the courts. There are weaknesses in police investigation and accused persons take advantage of it.

He remarked Sindh has set up a separate investiga-tion wing. Sindh police step is appreciable. Punjab and Islamabad police have not taken such steps for improvement in investigation. In KP Police system has been improved to some ex-

He observed Punjab and Islamabad are behind the other provinces in improving police system. Recently judicial policy making committee held meeting.



KARACHI: Governor Sindh Kamran Tissori taking oath from Justice (R) Maqbool Baqar as a Caretaker Chief Minister Sindh at Governor House.

Sui gas supply would remain suspended in various parts of Quetta, other areas

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC) has announced that the sui gas supply would remain suspended in different parts of Quetta city as well as Kanak, Mastung, Kalat and their adjacent areas to-

day (Friday). According to an announcement made by the SSGC, the gas supply would remain suspended on Zarghoon road, Governor House, Chief Minister House, Balochistan High Court, Jinnah Road, Shahrah-e-Iqbal, Liaquat Prince road,

McCongy road, double road, Sirki road, road, Gwalmandi, Pashtoonabad, Alamdar road, Marriabad, Toghi road, besides Mastung, Kanak, Mangochar, Khadkocha, Kalat and their adjoining areas from 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM today.
The SSGC administra-

tion has requested the gas consumers to make alternative arrangements during the gas suspension period.
The SSGC has also

regretted for any inconvenience to be caused to the consumers due to suspension of gas supply

Pak delegation pays day long visit to Afghanistan to attend border meeting

PESHAWAR (APP): A delegation from Pakistan Thursday paid a day-long visit to Afghanistan for attending border committee meetings held regularly on a fortnight basis for improving effective liaison and coordination for smooth operation of bilateral and transit trade on both sides of the border. The fifteenmember delegation was headed by Director Transit

Customs Department, Arbab Qaiser Hameed. Additional Director Transit Trade, Shams Wazir, Additional Collector Appraisement, Muhammad Rizwan, Deputy Collector Appraisement, Mohib Khan and Director Pak-Afghan Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Zia-ul-Haq Sarhadi were also part

of the delegation. Raees Gumrak (Cus-

Haji Fazle Hadi received the delegation on arrival in Afghanistan.

The participants of the meeting discussed different issues including the pendency in the clearance of goods and presented different suggestions for the resolution of problems.

Speaking on the occasion, Director PAJCCI, Zia ul Haq Sarhadi demanded taking stakeholders into confidence on the 2010 agreement of Transit Trade which is facing delay in implementation.

He demanded to make the new Transit Trade Agreement of 2010 operational at the earliest otherwise business community will face a lot of problems.

Zia demanded the provision of loose cargo transportation in trains which is not allowed.



as they are holding protest demonstration for acceptance of their demands, at Hub river road.

Masood Khan says: Pakistan is moving towards political & economic stability

NEWYORK (Online): Masood Khan, Pakistan's ambassador to America, has said that Pakistan is moving towards political and economic stability.

On Independence

Day, Pakistan's Ambassa-dor Masood Khan unfurled the Pakistani flag and New York City while Mayor Eric Adams hoisted the American flag.

Speaking at the Independence Day ceremony in New York, Masood Khan said that it is a matter of pride for him that many Pakistanis are serving in the civil government of the United States today.

He urged people to Ignore rumors that Pakistani-Americans no longer have faith in Pakistan's economy He emphasized that do not lose faith in Paki-

stan, America is your homeland and Pakistan is your motherland and this strong bond will not break.

On this occasion, the mayor of New York said that people from different regions, cultures and religions live in New York and they themselves have come and settled here, but the people who live here should help each other to solve global problems

