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MILGEM-IV launched: **High time for Pak-Turkiye** enhanced strategic cooperation, says PM

Pakistan, Turkiye agree to maintain close coordination for improved ties

Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday lauding the leadership role of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, said that it was high time for Pakistan and Turkiye to enhance their bilateral strategic coopera-tion for the prosperity of the two nations. poll.

The prime minister, addressing the launching ceremony of the fourth MILGEM Class Corvette - PNS Tariq here, said the joint venture project was an example of cooperation and support between the two brotherly countries.

Earlier, the prime min-ister and visiting Vice President of Turkiye Cevdet Yilmaz launched the fourth MILGEM warship.

Initiated in 2018, the

KARACHI (APP): Prime MILGEM project envis- August 2021 and May ages the construction of four Corvettes for the Pakistan Navy-two in Pakistan and two in Turkiye.

The prime minister Turkiye collaboration in the said Recep Tayyip Erdogan was a great leader which was reflected by his "wonderful" victory in the recent

Therefore, the prime minister said it was high time for both countries to enhance their strategic cooperation ad add more joint ventures in other fields.

earlier attended the launching ceremony of the third Naval Corvette, PNS mendous support by the Khyber, in Istanbul, in November 2022. The first two Corvettes, PNS Babur and PNS Badar were launched in Istanbul and Karachi, in

2022 respectively. MILGEM The

project represents an enduring symbol of Pakistanmaritime domain. It is a tangible step towards self-reliance and indigenization and would fulfill the critical security needs of the

Pakistan Navy. The prime minister said that Pakistan and Turkiye were tied with the commonality of faith, heritage and civilisation with The prime minister er attended the launch-ceremony of the third during Khilafat Movement, the prime minister said the bilateral ties predated the establishment of Pakistan.



KARACHI: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Türkiye's Vice President Cevdet Yilmaz and Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi applaud after cutting a rope to launch Pakistan's 4th MILGEM Class Corvette"PNS Tariq" into sea at Karachi Shipyard & Engineering Works.

This all-weather stra-

ternational landscapes", the Chinese Charge' d'Affaires

remarked. "China & Paki-

stan have just jointly cel-

ebrated the 10th anniversary of the launch of CPEC and

in the past months, COAS

and other military leaders

COAS says: Felicitates PLA on 96th Anniversary PLA, Pak Army brothers in arms

ISLAMABAD (APP): Zhong, officials and Offic-ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir on Wednes-day said the People's Lib-eration Army (PLA) of China and Pakistan Army ers from tri-services of Pakistan attended the event. Speaking on the occa-sion, the Chinese Charge' d'Affaires thanked COAS for hosting the event for the

96th anniversary of the are brothers in arms and our founding of the PLA. relationship would con-tinue to contribute towards safeguarding our collective tegic cooperative partnership between China & Painterests. kistan has stood the test of the time and change of in-

He made these re-marks as Chief Guest during the 96th Anniversary of the founding of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China commemorated here at General Head-quarters (GHQ), an Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.

Chargé d'affaires of the embassy of the People's Republic of China, paid successful visits to China, which has strongly promoted the relationship Pang Chunxue, Defence between the two militar-Attache', Chinese Embassy ies", the Chinese Charge' Major General Wang d'Affaires endorsed.

Shehbaz contacts Nawaz & Zardari on proposed names ISLAMABAD (INP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif contacted Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supremo Nawaz

Sharif and former president Asif Ali Zardari and held consultations on the proposed names for the caretaker prime minister and the caretaker set-up.

During consultations, the leaders agreed to complete the process of appointing the caretaker prime minister according to the Constitution and the law. Nawaz Sharif and Asif Zardari also agreed to present all the proposed names before the leaders of allied parties. The leaders also agreed to deal with the issue of formation of a caretaker set-up as soon as possible. The coalition parties in the government are likely to hold consultations on the issue again.

Sindh cabinet approved Sindh Human Rights Policy 2023

sive policies and programmes and to de-

velop a robust system for

access of free legal aid to

the vulnerable community

and for redressal of com-

plaints. The policy fur-

ther, tasks the government

of Sindh to devise an ac-

Surendar Valasai.

Independent Report KARACHI: The Sindh Cabinet chaired by Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah approved Sindh Human Rights Policy 2023 for 5 years to ensure protection and promotion of Human Rights of various marginalized sections of the society such as women, children, differently-abled persons, laborers, minorities, transgenders etc. The Sindh Human

tion plan to curb antiwomen practices includ-Rights Policy sets a range ing forced marriages, of targets in various sec-"honour killings", and tors which among others sang chati. includes introduction of Human Rights Degree Special Assistant to Chief Programs at the Univer-Minister Sindh for Human sity level; taking proactive Rights termed approval of measures to protect mi-Policy a vivid example of nority places of worship; commitment of PPP tobringing reforms in the wards human rights and an curriculum to promote tolerance, discourage hate explicit intent of the Government of Sindh to strive speech against the relifor ensuring the rights of gious minorities.

It also sets a target to the citizens living in the address the defects in the province.



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah meets Ambassador of Netherland Mrs Henny de Vries at CM House.

Sherry accuses PTI chief of



tending 96th anniversary of the founding of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China commemorated at General Headquarters (GHQ).

Caretaker PM:

We cannot interfere in trial court proceedings: SC

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) while rejecting PTI chairman petition filed against High Court (HC) order in connection with Toshakhana trial has remarked supervisory jurisdiction on trial courts is of high court

"We cannot interfere remarked what relief you in proceedings of trial court at this time. Let Islamabad High Court (IHC) decide. Possibility is there high court gives order for stop-ping trial tomorrow, the SC further remarked.

The matter came up for hearing before a 3-member bench of SC presided over by Justice Yahya Afridi Wednesday.

During the hearing of the case Justice Yahya Afridi inquired the case is fixed for hearing in High Court on what date.

Khawaja Haris told the court the case is fixed for hearing tomorrow in high court.

Thursday.

you resorted to SC. Khawaja Haris took the plea the real question is of jurisdiction.

remarked your petition had become in-fructuous. Even then we heard it and gave order. We are understanding the situation.

KARACHI: Federal Minister for Energy Khurram

Dastagir meeting with Sindh Governor Kamran

Karachi's power related

issues to be taken up at

federal level: Khurram

sumers in this respect.

said the meeting discussed

Khan Tessori at governor house.

KARACHI (APP): Federal

Minister for Energy Khurram Dastagir on

Wednesday said the con-cerns of the citizens of

Karachi regarding power supply and its tariffs would

be discussed at the federal

level and all-out measures

would be taken to provide

Talking to official me-dia after holding a meeting

with KE management at the KE head office, he said the

government was taking

steps to address the issue

of non-payment of bills and

power theft so that the con-

sumers who pay bills

should not face power

shortages. The minister said

the concerns were ex-

relief in this regard.

Justice Yahya Afridi had sought we had given. It is surprising that even then

Justice Yahaya Afridi

Pak capable to against all

> threats: FO ISLAMABAD (INP): Foreign Office Spokesperson, Mumtaz Żahra on Wednesday said Pakistan has capability to defend itself against all national and foreign threats.

This was stated by her while responding to media queries about yesterday's remarks of Foreign Minister on the threat of terrorism emanating from Af-

3 terrorists involved in Zhob attack, identified

pressed by the MQM leadas Afghan citizens ership on behalf of citizens of Karachi that since KE was a private power distribution company, it had no role in the circular debts of the country, so the KE tack on Zhob Cantt, Forshould not charge the constrong reaction on

He said the government was taking all-out measures for ensuring a smooth power supply across the country. Khurram Dastagir

The terrorists belong different matters including Afghanistan's Kandahar province. better and uninterrupted

power supply to the citihas given instructions to zens, regularity in supply system, issues pertaining to the Afghan Embassy to resupply in different areas, policies of KE and others. ceive the bodies of Afghan terrorists

on first bilateral visit SLAMABAD (APP): Foreign Minister of Iran Hossein Amir Abdollahian, will undertake his first bilateral visit to Pakistan

arrives Pak

from August 2-4 to discuss entire gamut of bilateral ties and the emerging regional situation with the leadership of Pakistan. Foreign Minister Abdollahian will hold talks

with Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on "The wide-ranging agenda includes discussion

on all aspects of bilateral relations and the emerging regional situation, the Foreign Office Spokesperson said in a press release.

defend itself national, foreign **Independent Report**

Information, Transport, and Mass Transit, Sharjeel Inam Memon, presided over the tenth board meeting of the Sindh Mass Tran-sit Authority (SMTA) in Karachi

ghanistan.

ISLAMABAD (Online): It has been confirmed that Afghan terrorists were involved in terrorism in ateign Office expressed

Wednesday. On July 12, 2023, terrorists attacked on Zhob Cantt were identified as Afghan citizens

towards empowering women, the board decided to initiate training programs The Foreign Office

buses. With this decision. women drivers will operate pink buses exclusively for female passengers, enhanc-

KARACHI: Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi presenting a model of a ship to Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif during the launching ceremony of PNS Tariq. <u>Sharjeel Inam Memon says</u> President gives assent

Empowering women in all fields is vision of **Bilawal Bhutto Zardari**

ing the sense of safety and KARACHI: Minister for convenience during women's travel. The board discussed

the feasibility studies for the second phase of the People's Bus Service, which includes the addition of 500 buses, as well as the introduction of an environ-

During the meeting, ment-friendly electric taxi the decisions taken in the



service. During the meeting, the progress in the Red nificant decisions taken in Line Bus Rapid Transit the meeting was the consid-(BRT) project was also eration of providing subsibrought under considerdies for the People's Bus ation. The Sindh govern-Service, following the ap-proval by the Cabinet durment aims to expedite the completion of the Red Line ing the board meeting. In a remarkable step BRT to ensure that the public can soon benefit from this modern transportation system. The meeting was attended by prominent

figures, including Secretary for women drivers, specifically for women-only pink Transport Saleem Rajput, MDSMTA Kamal Dayo DIG Traffic Ahmed Nawaz Cheema, P&D representative Sikandar Shaikh

(PHC).

High Court.

appointment of **Justice Ibrahim** as CJ PHC ISLAMABAD (INP): The Judicial Commission of Pakistan (JCP) has

to two bills

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on

Wednesday granted his assent to two bills after they

were passed by the parlia-

Qanun-e-Shahadat

(Amendment) Bill 2023

providing for amending the

Qanun-e-Shahadat of 1984.

law the Control of Narcot-

ics Substances (Amend-

He also signed into

The president signed

ment

unanimously recom-mended appointment of Justice Muhammad Ibrahim as Chief Justice of Peshawar High Court

The meeting of Judicial Commission of Pakistan held under the chair of Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial deliberated on appointment of permanent Chief Justice of Peshawar

hiding his corrupt practices through baseless arguments

self.

tary.

U-turn (retracted from his

statements) continuously.

In the beginning, he chal-

lenged the powers of the

Election Commission it-

The Minister said the

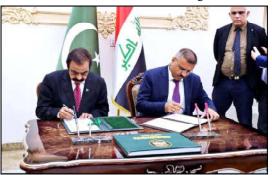
"PTI chief, who

ISLAMABAD (APP): to light, PTI chief had taken Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Senator Sherry Rehman on Wednesday said Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief had been exposed in the

Toshakhana case for com-PTI chairman maintained that he did not sell the gifts mitting corrupt practices and concealing the facts but of Toshakhana, but now he he was hiding his misappro-priation under hoax arguclaimed to sell those gifts through his military secrements.

The federal minister took to Twitter to respond called others thieves and to the recent statement of robbers, is now presentthe PTI chief who appeared ing arguments for stealing earlier in the hearing of the gifts worth billions of ru-Toshakhana reference filed pees against him. Senator

Instead of proving Rehman himself innocent, he is acwrote on her official Twit- cusing the government of ter handle, "Ever since the facts of Toshakhana came disqualifying him," Sherry Rehman alleged.



BAGHDAD: Federal Minister for Interior Rana Sana Ullah Khan and Interior Minister of Iraq Abdul Amir Al Shammari during an agreement signing ceremony.

Mayor Karachi Murtaza says: **Expertise of Netherlands** can play useful role in development projects

that Pakistan and Nether-Wahab on Wednesday said lands have a long-standing that the experiences and technology of Netherlands can play quite a useful role in the development projects of Pakistan and especially

He was talking to the Ambassador of the Netherlands Ms Henny Fokel de Vries who called on him at the KMC head office here. They discussed mat-

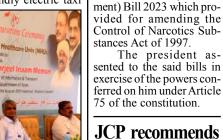
ters of mutual interest and relations between the two countries, said a spokesperson of KMC. Welcoming the Ambassador on her arrival at KMC head office,

relationship that has grown over time. He said that our society's mindset is changing and for the first-time seats have been reserved for the disabled and transgender in the city council so that all sections

of the population can be represented in civic affairs. He said that the Sindh government is working for

the betterment of the disabled and the chief minister of Sindh is working actively on providing them employment opportunities.





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Thursday August 03, 2023

OPINION

Daily **Independent**



Intelligence failure

Bestial violence once again stalks the land. There have been 18 suicide bombings already this year, surpassing the 15 such attacks during all of 2022. The horror of the latest one, in Bajaur district's Khar tehsil on Sunday, continues to unfold as poignant details about the victims come to the fore and the critically injured breathe their last in hospital.

So far, over 50 people have lost their lives, al most half of them minors. The militant Islamic State-Khorasan group claimed responsibility for the attack at the JUI-F rally in which the principal target appears to have been the party's Khar ameer, Ziaullah Jan: the event had been underway for two hours but the attacker detonated his explosives-laden vest only after the former arrived at the venue. Maulana Ziaullah and his 22-year-old son died in the attack

On Monday, MNAs denounced the attack as the result of "complete failure" on the part of Pakistan's multiple intelligence agencies. It is difficult to disagree, considering these agencies have now had decades of experience in dealing with terror groups and security forces have carried out a number of 'intelligence-based operations' against them.

Their inability to prevent the Bajaur bombing has handed IS-K its biggest mass casualty 'success' since the sectarian attack on a Peshawar mosque last year, in which at least 64 people perished.

A recent UN report noted that in Afghanistan, distinctions between members of Al Qaeda and af filiated groups, including TTP, and IS-K are sometimes fuzzy and that there is a "tendency for people to gravitate towards the dominant or ascending power". Attacks such as the Bajaur bombing are thus useful for terrorist outfits to 'burnish their credentials' and attract recruits.

Moreover, there had been consistent indications of IS-K's presence in Bajaur, which is contiguous with Afghanistan's Kunar province — well known as a locale for terrorist training camps. The tions militant outfit had made an assassination attempt on Maulana Ziaullah last year as well and slain at least another cleric in the district. Had the attackers been tracked down, perhaps Sunday's tragedy could have been averted.

Some experts believe that IS-K militants, under pressure from the Afghan Taliban, have moved from their bases in Afghanistan and set up cells in major cities in Pakistan where they can more easily avoid detection. Several targeted killings in Peshawar this year of religious scholars as well as members of minority communities were traced to a network of IS-K militants — all Afghan nationals — in the city.

With an election around the corner, political parties must have security protocols in place in coordination with law-enforcement agencies. The intelligence apparatus should be streamlined and work in concert under an empowered Nacta. We cannot afford blurred lines between politics and national security — or a bloodbath could be in store.

External hazards

of counterterrorism. A revival of short- to mediumterm economic engag-e-ment, furthermore, born of returning economic stability, may even create the impres-

Fahd Humayun gagement with Washing-With the government's ton — a long-held national desire. tenure ending and an

However, the probeconomic lifeline in hand lem is that the shadow of after months of costly ineither an extended carestability, it may be tempttaker set-up or contamiing to believe that the nated elections later this worst is over. But considyear will likely damage erable uncertainty rethe viability of the Pakimains, not least on the stan-US relationship well question of the country's ability to complete a sucinto the future. Democessful democratic trancratic impotency at home sition later this year. weakens the case for a Pakistan-US relationship Pakistan is no

based on shared cultural stranger to the template aspirations. This is espeof the hybrid regime. Indeed, hybridity occacially true at a time when global Indo-Pacific partsionally seems to tide us over, eg, by buying us nerships are being packaged as liberal-demothe outward appearance cratic, even if the strateof stability, and momengic compulsions at play tary stakeholder converare unmistakable. Ultigence on key macro policy issues. But conmately, unless Islamabad tinuing hybridity comes can patch together and with clear long-term retain a more convincing costs. While the costs to democratic profile, laving claim to any kind of non-Pakistan's own demopartisan stakes in the cratic health are fairly obvious, it is worth speci-Îndo-Pacific will be diffifying a steep set of for-

eign policy costs likely to The second external arena that hybridity will accrue over time, not least affect will be relations because of the singular with India. Traditionally, importance the establishhybridity in Islamabad ment tends to afford to plays to New Delhi's ad-Pakistan's external relavantage because it cements the idea that civil-The first external ians in Pakistan lack area that ever-deepening hybridity at home will imagency. But at home, too, India policy will continue pact will be Pakistan's relations with the US. On to remain an unnecessary paper, hybridity ought to and dangerous tripwire. Specifically, the danger is work well because the rethat any potential policy lationship with the US is pathways forward, inextraordinarily complex, and because hybridity is cluding the potential resumption of commerce or essentially a political arrangement that creates a trade, will never be seen single-window operation as genuinely representative of the political aspifor interlocutors in D.C., who will have little rations of Pakistan's trouble interpreting populace, which inwhere the balance of cludes close to 10 million Kashmiris. Should civilian power lies. In fact, hybridity may even allow for politicians attempt to flex clearer, more effective greater agency on India that may fol conversations on Paki- policy, this will likely tesy Dawn

stan-US military coordi- prompt a familiar kerfuffle, nation, the main benefit the only outcome of which will be which will be a further erosion of civilian power. A related diplomatic area that hybridity will directly hurt will be Pakistan's ability to effectively keep the Kashmir dispute alive abroad. Since August 2019, drawsion of broad-based ening attention to the Modi government's revocation of Articles 370 and 35-A

has been a mainstay of successive Pakistani governments' foreign policy agendas. But questions around even the most basic tenets of procedural democracy in Islamabad will curtail the ability of both the country's diplomats and the establishment to speak truth to power abroad — especially when that truth is geared towa--rds calling India out for illiberal behaviour.

Finally, consider the very legitimate and growing issue of internal and external security. We currently face a resurgent terrorist threat emanating, quite possibly, from two fronts, and claiming the lives of citizens from Bajaur to Balochistan. While hybridity may give the impression of intense coordination and consultation on CT and national security, it is ultimately untenable. With the establishment distracted by

extra-domain affairs such as the economy, or worse still configuring electoral outcomes, national security is likely to get the short end of the stick.

The most attractive solution to fixing capacity constraints will be for an overstretched security apparatus to start demanding an even larger share of the resource pie to keep Pakistan and Pakistanis safe.

For these reasons, if not more, it is worth paving careful attention to not just the path that is currently being laid internally, but to the external consequences that may follow. -- Cour-

Commerce News



Mahir Ali

Not long ago, a writer discussing Churchill's legacy singled out Britain and Australia as appendages to a rampaging Uncle Sam. The analogy might have been unkind, but it wasn't inaccurate. The thesis was verified by last weekend's Australia-US ministerial consultations in Brisbane, where the extent to which Canberra has embedded itself in Washington's alimentary canal became clearer.

The talks were overshadowed by a helicopter crash that claimed four lives during the Talisman Sabre joint military exercises. It should have served as a symbol of the human cost entailed by rampant militarisation. Predictably, what poured out, ins-tead, were the usual blandishments about sacrifice in the service of a bigger cause

Not to put too fine a point on it, that cause primarily involves the revival of what was instituted in the wake of World War II - Seato and Cento. Pakistan, to its eternal discredit, was a member of both. The 1954 Southeast Asia Treaty Organi-s-ation boasted only two members from the specified region, Thailand and the Phili-p-p-i--nes, alongside the US, New Zealand, Aus-tralia and former colonial powers Britain and France. Cento, formed in 1979 and also known as the Baghdad Pact, coupled the UK with Iran, Iraq, Turkey and Pakistan. Both were Nato outshoots with the primary aim of pushing back against Soviet-Chinese communism. Both withered away in the 1970s, following the American defeat in Viet-

American tentacles

nam and Iran's revolution. So, there's nothing new about Nato's expansion into Asia, at least indirectly. This time it's likely to be a lot more direct, with a willing Australia as the key conduit. That makes it a direct target in the event of any confrontation between China and the West. In a sense, there is nothing particularly new about strategy from this Canberra's point of view. After all, it continued to Pentagon. It asked for alconsider itself part of the most nothing in return, British Empire for decades after its ostensible independence, contributing manpower to every impe-

deal, whereby Australia expects to receive nuclearpowered submarines in the 2030s. Notwith-sta-nding Canberra's claims about sovereignty, both the Pentagon and some members of Congress expect that underwater boats will be beholden to US interests much like the nuclear weanons in western Europe.

Australia is also expected to manufacture long-range missiles for the apart from floating the idea that it might be worthwhile to bring the case of Julian Assange to a conclusion. He's an Australian jou-malist in a top-security British prison, seemingly likely to be extradited to the US, where he faces decades of imprisonment effectively a death sentence — for daring to publicise American atrocities in Iraq and Afghanistan.

US secretary of state Antony Blinken effectively told the Australians to go stuff themselves. His claim Assange had jeopardised US security is nonsense, in the absence of any evidence that the information released by WikiLeaks harmed any individual. The motive for Assange's persecution is revenge for embarrassment.

No one expected Australia to push back against Blinken's nonsensical bluster. The US would be only too happy if Assange were to perish in Britain's Belmarsh prison, in which case, Canberra would offer thoughts and prayers, but acquiesce to America's prerogative. America's poison tentacles, after all, are sacrosanct, no matter how far they stretch. That does not exonerate China as a potential threat in its region, but for Australia to almost unquestioningly sign up again as a deputy sheriff to the American lord and master is folly that could lead to disastrous results long before the first nuclear submarine sur-faces. -- Courtesy Dawn

rial endeavour from the Boer war to the Malaya insurgency and beyond. But during and after World War II, its eyes shifted from London to Washing-There was a period after the Vietnam war — in which Australia participated, ob--v-iously on the that

losing side — when there was an effort to distance this colonial outpost from its genetic heritage, and to establish a comfort zone on the southern flanks of Southeast Asia. But the endeavour was half-hearted, and when the then prime min-

ister, John Howard, found himself stranded in the US as 9/11 and its aftermath unfolded, he offered up his nation as a deputy sheriff to Uncle Sam in Australia neighbourhood.



Facilitating business community, resolution of their issues among govt's priorities: Shehbaz Sharif

provision of facilities to and resolution of their said in a press release. issues were among the top priorities of the government.

During a meeting with a delegation of Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) led by its President Tariq Yousaf and Chief Executive Officer of Musadiq Malik, special Development assistants Tariq Bajwa, ty Zubair Tariq Pasha and Jahanzaib Trade Authority

KARACHI (APP): Prime Motiwala, the prime Khan, State Bank Minister Muhammad minister lauded the governor, FBR chairman Shehbaz Sharif on contribution of traders in and other relevant Wednesday said that addressing the economic authorities attended the provision of facilities to issues of the country, the meeting. The business community PM Office Media Wing The prime minister

sindb Governor incumbent government had Kamran Tissori and Chief taken steps for the creation Minister Syed Murad Ali of business friendly Shah, federal ministers environment in the country Syed Naveed Qamar, Syed and had set up a project of Ameenul Haque, Ahsan generating 10,000MW of Iqbal, Eng. Khurram Dastagir Khan and solar power in which the foreign investors were showing keen interest He also welcomed the

suggestions regarding

State Bank equitable distribution of electricity and gas.

With constitution of the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), he said, huge foreign investment would be secured. The prime minister, during the meeting, directed the State Bank and Federal Board of Revenue to resolve the business community's issues with their cooperation. He assured that the

government would provide electricity to the traders in Karachi at similar rates.

AHORE (APP): Advisor

to President of the United

States of America, His

Excellency Shahid Ahmed

Khan discussed trilateral

relations among America,

Pakistan and China here at

Pakistan China Joint

Chamber of Commerce and

The meeting was also

Advisor to US

President, PCJCCI

discuss trilateral ties

attended by PCJCCI Pakistan to achieve

PCJCCI



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif addresses a meeting organized by Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industries (KCCI).



ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar visited FBR (Hqr) today and extended felicitations to Malik Amjad Zubair Tiwana on assuming the charge of Chairman FBR.

ICCI president lauds excise to facilitate business community

ISLAMABAD (APP): Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) President Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari lauded the reforms initiatives of the Excise and Taxation Department (E&TD) Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) to should be imposed on facilitate the people in those buyers who delay vehicles registration and make a significant increase in its revenue.

He urged the FBR to emulate the good Director to set up performance of E&TD to facilitation desks in ICCI facilitate the taxpayers and improve its tax revenue.

talking to Bilal Azam, registration of vehicles.

Director, Excise & Taxation Department ICT during his visit to ICCI. Bakhtawari said that trackers should be embedded in the number plates of vehicles to

control their theft. He said that a penalty the registration of vehicles to ensure their timely registration.

He urged the Excise and markets for the convenience of the He said this while business community in the of Pakistan (SBP)

against **US Dollar** ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistani Rupee on Wednesday weakened by Rs1.84 against the US Dollar in the interbank trading as it closed at Rs

Khan Afridi while rejecting the recent 289.38 against the previous day's closing of Rs 287.54. massive increase in fuel However, according prices and feared the to the Forex Association of government's moves will Pakistan (FAP), the buying prove detrimental to the and selling rates of dollars national in the open market stood businesses, and industrial at Rs 289 and Rs 292 growth. respectively. The price of In a statement issued

the Euro increased by Rs here on Wednesday, Ijaz 2.71 to close at Rs 317.71 Afridi said the economy, against the last day's businesses, and industries closing of Rs 315.77. are reeling owing to the according to the State Bank flawed economic policies of the incumbent government

On the other hand, he said Sarhad Chamber of the consistent increase in Commerce and Industry prices of power, gas, and petroleum products has acting President Ijaz further pushed the country toward economic instability and added to the miseries of the business

notch business leaders

from Pakistan and China.

Moazzam Ghurki said that

America and China are

super powers which can

complement Pakistan's

economy in many fields,

therefore, they should help

in enhancing trade and

economic ties with

On this occasion

President

beneficial

community. The SCCI's acting chief expressed fear that economy, a new wave of inflation will come after the historic increase in fuel prices, resultantly, the

move will affect all traders' communities. poor masses. different segments of the society

Gold rates up by **Rs 800** per tola ISLAMABAD (APP):

its

The per tola price of 24 karat gold increased by Rs.800 and was sold at Rs.223,000 on Wednesday against its sale at Rs.222,200 on the previous day, All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported. The price of 10 grams of 24-karat gold also increased by Rs686 to Rs 191,187 from Rs190,501 whereas the price of 10 gram 22 karat gold and increased to Rs175,254 from Rs.174,626.

Rs.970m for flood-impacted communities in second phase KARACHI (APP): Bank with esteemed partners. It statement said. Alfalah, a leading has disbursed around Amongst initiatives, there is a strong

Bank Alfalah disburses

commercial bank in highlights of the first half of 2023 during Phase-2 of comprehensive education, rehabilitation and livelihoods. rebuilding initiative, which started with immediate rescue and relief in phase-

1 in 2022. With a steadfast commitment to empowering communities promoting sustainable development,

embarking on phase-2 of its flood relief efforts,

phase several

the bank has joined forces

PKR 970 million to Pakistan, reported the address critical sectors dedication to healthcare and such as healthcare, education. A partnership emergency care, housing, and Bank Alfalah is

focusing on rehabilitation and rebuilding lives. This floods. This collaboration encompasses seeks to bolster access to key areas: sustainable housing, healthcare, education, and rates, predominantly in livelihood support, the isolated areas.

with the Aga Khan Foundation has been strengthened by a generous donation of PKR 200 million, aiming to uplift pediatric healthcare in areas affected by premier healthcare and reduce child mortality

PTCL Group introduces 6 months maternity, **30 days paternity leaves**

Pakistan's integrated ICT services provider, PTCL Group (PTCL & Ufone 4G) has achieved a momentous milestone in organizational culture by introducing 6 months of Maternity and 30 days of Paternity leaves for its employees. The policy guidelines provide ample time for new mothers and

ISLAMABAD (APP): their newborns through largest availing fully paid maternity telecommunication and and paternity leaves, respectively said a news release. To make it more flexible and convenient, paternity leaves can be availed on a staggered basis during the first year of childbirth.

The policy changes reflect the ongoing cultural transformation at PTCL Group that aims to promote fathers to bond and care for employee well-being.

Rupee sheds executive committee mutually members and many top outcomes. **Rs 1.84 SCCI** rejects massive increase in fuel prices PESHAWAR (APP):

ndependent

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National News

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Naqvi vows to improve health infrastructure in province

Independent Report AHORE: Punjab LAHORE: Caretaker Chief Minister Sved Mohsin Naqvi on Wednesday vowed to health improve infrastructure in the province to provide best health facilities to the citizens.

He was addressing the senior doctors at the auditorium of Services Institute of Medical Sciences in Services (SIMS) Hospital here.

The CM emphasized that the responsibility for errors did not solely rest with leaders, politicians, and bureaucrats. He reminded everyone that government also shared despair was a sin and, as Pakistanis, 'it is our duty to remain hopeful and of essentials such as soap.

floor cleaners, and air strive for better conditions'. He encouraged conditioning lies within the the belief that even small government's domain, he individual efforts could lead said and added creating a to significant positive clean and conducive work environment for doctors changes. After assessing the

was also the government's responsibility. condition of Services Mohsin Naqvi shared Hospital, he firmly asserted that no enemy an incident he witnessed at a hospital in Multan where should even think of visiting the hospital. The five children were being CM mentioned that he had treated on a single bed. He made it clear that it was not visited hospitals all over Punjab and had not the fault of the doctor but encountered any facility in rather a testament to the worse condition than dedication of doctors who Services Hospital. He worked diligently to treat emphasized that doctors multiple patients under challenging circumstances. alone were not accountable He expressed gratitude to for any faults; the doctors for their unwavering commitment responsibility for any deficiencies. The provision despite the unfavorable conditions in hospitals.

Hurdles in overseas 12 dead, 1153 injured in employment of nurses **Punjab** road removed: Minister accidents

LAHORE (APP): Minister for Primary and Secondary Healthcare Dr. Jamal Nasir on Wednesday informed that hurdles in overseas employment of nurses had been removed.

In a statement issued here, the minister said that on direction of Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister Syed Mohsin Naqvi, the Primary and Secondary Healthcare department had also decided to process the

AHORE (APP): At least applications of the nurses for ex-Pakistan leave on twelve people were killed urgent basis. while 1153 injured in 1120 He observed that on road accidents in all 37

districts of Punjab during return of these nurses from the last 24 hours. Of whom, 614 people abroad, the local patients and hospitals would be able to benefit from their with serious injuries were shifted to different hospitals, experience, adding that the



PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali addressing during Women Excellence Award 2023 ceremony at Governor House.

Governor emphasizes vital role of Women in promoting women's entrepreneurship

PESHAWAR (APP): Khyber awards were distributed to Pakhtunkhwa Haji women from various fields Ghulam Ali on Wednesday for their remarkable contributions and services emphasized the significant role of the Women Chamber in different sectors. promoting and

Governor

facilitating

business activities.

in

honor

Prominent figures women's attending the ceremony entrepreneurship and included Provincial Minister Fazlullah. Women He said this in a Chamber Azra Jamshid,

special ceremony was held Iranian Consul General Ali at Governor House to Banafsha Khawah, Head of UNHCR women entrepreneurs with the Pakhtunkhwa Ghairat Women Excellence Award, Ahmad. Lieutenant General (Retd.) Nigar Johar, female police officers, and other Peshawar dignitaries. The

During the event, encouraged women to embrace modern technology to advance further in line with Islamic principles, highlighting that women play the most crucial role in shaping the future of their families and

> society. Governor Haii Ghulam Ali also praised Islam for granting women a dignified position and inheritance Khvber rights. acknowledging that while business ventures are essential, the upbringing of families is primarily the responsibility of Governor women.

WHO donates 15 motorbikes ambulances to enhance emergency services in KP

medical services and fortifying disaster relief capabilities, the World Health Organization (WHO) has generously contributed 15 motorbike ambulances and two vehicle ambulances to the Relief Department KhyberPakhtunkhwa.

healthcare accessibility and

rapid response within the

province. The official

handover ceremony took

place on Tuesday at the Rescue 1122 headquarters in

distinguished representatives

from WHO, the Relief

Department, and the Health

Department to mark this

momentous occasion. The

event underscored the spirit

of collaboration

uniting

and

This

Peshawar.

PESHAWAR (APP): In a unwavering dedication to significant stride towards safeguarding public health strengthening emergency and providing swift assistance during crises.

Motorbike ambulances have emerged as invaluable assets for delivering critical medical aid, particularly in areas with challenging terrains or limited accessibility. These agile and well-equipped vehicles will empower Rescue 1122 first responders benevolent donation marks a remarkable to navigate rugged landscapes milestone in advancing and swiftly reach remote communities, drastically reducing response times in

life-threatening situations. Equipped with essential medical tools such as a backpack, pulse oximeter (CE/FDA), BP apparatus, cervical collar, nebulizer, glucometer, portable oxygen cylinder set, tourniquets, digital clinical ear thermometer, silicon Ambo bags, CPR mask, and dressing scissor.



GILGIT: Speaker Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly Nazir Ahmad Advocate in a meeting with Minister Home Gilgit-Baltistan Shams Lone at Assembly Secretariat.

Govt constructs 37 small dams for storage of rains, flood water in KP

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa accumulative water storage Government has constructed 37 small dams for storage of flood and completed. He said 24 rains water to bring arid lands under agriculture accumulative water storage cover. The spokesman of capacity of 75,008 AF Small Dams Directorate, having 49,523 acres CCA Irrigation Department told APP on Wednesday the designs of seven medium dams including Barwasa and Sher Dara Swabi, Sumri Payan Kohat, Surkhaway Mardan, Naki Nowshera, Shaheed Banda Charssadda and Tora Warae the provincial government.

PESHAWAR (APP): Hangu having a total capacity of 13,014 AF with 14,935 acres CCA were dams small with were being built in different districts of KP with assistance of Federal government. He said that 37 small and medium dams were constructed in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa including 15 operated by

while 539 people with minor organized by the Women injuries were treated on the Chamber of Commerce and spot by Rescue Medical Industry Teams. Analysis show that Division. 553 drivers, 30 underage drivers, 127 pedestrians, and **Ombudsman Pb takes** 485 passengers. 152 notices to resolve public issues in June

response to 152 notices taken by Ombudsman Punjab Maj (retd) Azam Suleman Khan in June, the administration of the various districts spent Rs 836,546,776 to resolve 45 diverse problems of people. However, 107 other public issues did not incur any government expenditures for the actions taken by the relevant departments.

Wednesday, on the spokesman for the complaints.

AHORE (APP): In Ombudsman Punjab shared financial breakdown of actions taken. An amount of Rs 57,644,089 was spent to address eight complaints related to sewerage lines repair while a modest outlay of Rs 35,992 was made to cover open manholes. A significant amount of Rs 778,832,995 was invested in resolving 27 complaints regarding waste disposal and cleanliness of streets and roads in different districts.

In a statement issued

with

Additionally, Rs 33,700 was utilized to attend three

approves 3 schemes of public welfare

DDWP

Divisional Commissioner Silwat

meeting The approved a scheme of expansion of a road from Sargodha-Jhumra bypass road with Rajbah Chak 188/ R-B Nullaywala at a cost

FAISALABAD (APP) Divisional Development Working Party (DDWP) approved three schemes of public welfare here on Wednesday. The approval was granted in a meeting held

Saeed in the chair.

of Rs 75 million.

International News

foreign remittances sent by the nurses during their employment would also be a service for national cause as Pakistan was in need for precious foreign exchange

WE WANT JUSTICE WE WANT JUSTICE TOP TO BOLLOM Man WE WANT JUSTICE TOP to BOTTOM Mer Ust WE Reject TOP TO Bottom E WANT JUSTICE hist WE Reject Interview Policy erit List We Reject TOD to Bo Interview Policy

LARKANA: Candidates who passed the IBA Sukkur test for Grade 5 to 15 grade government jobs are holding protest demonstration against the grading policy and interview call, held in Larkana.

Putin reaffirms Russian stance On grain deal in call to Erdogan Monitoring Desk the Kremlin said: "It was The U.S. envoy to the visit Turkey it said A re-

MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin told his of a complete lack of Turkish Tayyip Wednesday that Moscow of the 'grain deal', its furwas ready to return to the ther extension has lost all meaning. Black Sea grain deal as soon as the West met its obligations with regard to Russia's own grain exports.

The deal, brokered by Turkey and the United Nations in July 2022, allowed for the safe export of grain from Ukraine's Black Sea ports. Last month Moscow exited the deal, accusing the West of hampering Russia's own grain and fertiliser exports.

In a statement on ance have been a barrier to Putin's call with Erdogan, shipments.

noted that in the conditions United Nations said on Tuesday there were "indicounterpart progress in the implemen-Erdogan on tation of the Russian part be interested in returning to talks about the deal. Asked about those comments on Wednesday, It added that Russia

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry would return to the deal "as Peskov stressed the need soon as the West actually for the West to honour fulfils all the obligations to parts of the deal concern-Russia" contained within it. ing Russian exports.

Russia's grain and Erdogan's office said fertiliser exports are not the Turkish leader had subject to Western sancemphasised the importance tions imposed on Moscow of avoiding steps that could over its military actions in jeopardise the resumption Ukraine But Moscow has of the Black Sea grain deal, said restrictions on paywhich he described as a ments, logistics and insur-"bridge of peace" The two leaders also

agreed that Putin would

Tunisia's president

sacks prime

minister, the first

Monitoring Desk

Ramadhane.

The U.S. envoy to the visit Turkey, it said. A senior Turkish official said that discussions between cations" that Russia might Ankara and Moscow were ongoing for a visit in late August

Earlier on Wednesday, Russia attacked Ukraine's main inland port on the Danube River, sending global food prices higher as Moscow ramps up its use of force to reimpose a blockade of Ukrainian grain exports. The port, across the river from NATOmember Romania, has served as the main alternative route out of Ukraine for grain exports since Russia reintroduced its de facto blockade of Ukraine's Black Sea ports in mid-July.

A general view of damaged property, following a Russian drone attack, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, at Izmail, Odesa region, Ukraine.

Pope Francis and Portugal's President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, right, converse at the Welcome Ceremony at the Belem presidential palace in Lisbon.

North Korea calls US human rights envoy a 'political house maid' in protest of criticisms

Monitoring Desk SEOUL: North Korea hurled misogynistic insults Wednesday at a newly confirmed United States special envoy to monitor the country's human rights issues and warned of unspecified security consequences if Washington continues to criticize its human rights conditions. The statement published by North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency described Julie Turner as a "wicked woman" hostility

woman to hold who was picked by the that job in an Arab Biden administration as a League nation "political housemaid" to launch groundless attacks on the country's human rights TUNIS: Tunisia's presirecord. The U.S. Senate condent has sacked the firmed Turner's appointment July 27. She previously country's prime minister, who was the first woman served as the director of East to hold that job in an Arab Asia and the Pacific at the League nation. A brief State Department. The statestatement from the presiment said the Biden dential office late Tuesday administration's public critidid not give reasons for the cism of North Korea's human dismissal of Najla Bouden rights situation highlighted its

Iran's Revolutionary Guard runs drill on disputed islands as US military presence in region grows Monitoring Desk Swarms of small, fast boats

TEHRAN: Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard launched a surprise military drill Wednesday on disputed islands in the Persian Gulf, just as the U.S. military increase its presence in the region over recent ship

seizures by Tehran. The drill focused primarily on Abu Musa Island, though the Guard also landed forces on the Greater Tunb Island as well, Iran's state-run IRNA news agency reported. narios and hostilities.

tary spokesman said.

took part, along with paratroopers, drones and trucklaunched surface-to-sea missile systems, footage aired on state television showed. "We always try for security and tranquility; it is our way," the Guard's chief, Gen. Hossein Salami, said in a televised address during the drill. "Our nation is vigilant, and it gives harsh responses

to all threats, complicated seditions and secret sce-

Suspected militant attack in Yemen kills 5 troops loyal to secessionist group, spokesperson says

Monitoring Desk Southern Transitional Council, spokesman Mohammed al-Naqib said SANAA: A suspected militant attack early Tues-day in southern Yemen in a statement. killed at least five troops

The separatist council is backed by the United loyal to a secessionist group, in the latest such Arab Emirates and controls assault blamed on an afmuch of Yemen's south. It is at odds with the internafiliate of al-Qaida, a militionally recognized government

Îhe attack took place Al-Naqib said susin Wadi Omran in Abyan pected militants attacked province and also wounded four troops from the Souththeir forces using mortars and rocket-propelled greern Armed Forces, which is loval to the secessionist nades

China replaces nuclear force leadership in surprise shake-up

Monitoring Desk

BEIJING: China's Xi Jinping has replaced two and party central commitgenerals overseeing the country's nuclear and missile arsenal, a move that analysts say represents a major shake-up of the elite force's leadership. State media reported said.

that Gen. Li Yuchao, chief of the People's Liberation Army's rocket force unit, and his deputy, Gen. Liu

ers, former deputy Chinese manders were selected from navy chief Wang Houbin within the rocket force, a highly technical and spetee member Xu Xishen, cialized service that overhave not previously served sees the country's landin the force — a dramatic break with practice, experts

"It's unprecedented in the history of China's missile forces," said M. Taylor Fravel, a professor of political science and director of the security studies pro-China experts said. gram at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

For decades, com-

based nuclear weapons and its vast conventional missile arsenal, he said. It also was unusual to have the commanding officer and the unit's political commissar — Xu named at the same time,

> The two generals who were removed have not been seen in public for months.

Monitoring Desk TAIPEI: Taiwan has detained an army officer and several collaborators on suspicion of handing mili

having been recruited by China to leak national defense secrets and other in-

Pope Francis urges Europe to work for peace as he lands in Portugal for World Youth Day

Monitoring Desk ISBON: Pope Francis challenged Europe to retake its role as a peacemaker and bridgebuilder as he arrived Wednesday in Portugal to open World Youth Day, hoping to inspire the next generation of Catholics to work together to combat conflicts, climate change and other problems facing the world. Francis was spending five days in Lisbon, blending a state visit and pilgrimage to the Catholic shrine at Fatima with the

raucous trappings of World Youth Day, the Catholic jamboree that aims to rally young Catholics in their faith. More than 1 million young people from around the world were expected to attend the gathering, which culminates with a papal Mass on Sunday. As he was traveling to Lisbon, Francis vowed to continue urging young people to "make a mess" – a reference to his now-famous exhortation at his first World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro in 2013.

tary secrets to China. The defense ministry said Wednesday that a lieutenant colonel surnamed Hsieh and other defendants were suspected of

formation.

Guangbin, were replaced by a naval officer and an air force officer. The new lead-Taiwan detains army officer suspected of

leaking military secrets to China

Thursday August 03, 2023

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ASFAT

Lawmakers rally behind four bills, unanimously approved in Upper House

ISLAMABAD (APP): Parliament unanimously approved four bills during Wednesday's session, all introduced with specific objectives and receiving widespread support from the attending members.

Minister for Law and Justice, Azam Nazir Tarar, introduced The Pakistan Civil Aviation Bill 2023, which proposes a division of the Civil Aviation sector into two separate entities: the Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority (PCAA) responsible for regulatory functions, and the Pakistan Airports Authority (PAA) in charge of commercial and operational aspects of air-

ports. The primary goal of this division was to enhance efficiency, improve services, and ensure compliance with international standards set by International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

The bill comes in the wake of the suspension of Pakistan International Airlines' flight operations in the UK and Europe, triggered by an irresponsible statement made by a former Aviation minister, Ghulam Sarwar Khan.

tions.

The Minister for Law lion dollars and has reserves The Upper House of the and Justice, Azam Nazir of minerals and mines Tarar, successfully had an- worth \$6000 billion. To other bill titled The Pakistan Air Safety Investiga-tion Bill, 2023, passed by the House.

Minister for Education and Professional Training, Rana Tanveer Hussain, presented The National Commission for Human Development (Amend-ment) Bill, 2023. The bill's objective is to enhance the effectiveness of over 7,000 employees of NCHD (National Commission for Human Development).

Minister for Finance, Mohammad Ishaq Dar, moved The Pakistan Sovereign Wealth Funds Bill, 2023, in the National Assembly. The bill aims to establish Pakistan Sovereign Wealth Funds to pro- ogy, Islamabad (Amendmote sustainable economic ment) Bill, 2023, emphadevelopment through the management of fund assets, following the best international standards, policies,

and practices. The objective is to maximize the value of these funds for the Bill and expressed his disbenefit of future genera-The Minister men-

tioned that Pakistan pos- to the relevant committee sesses the largest gas pipe-line valued at 40 to 50 bilfor further refinement and

start with, seven such valuable assets, amounting to \$8 billion, will be placed in the Pakistan Sovereign Wealth Funds. Meanwhile, following a heated debate, the Chair-

man referred Bills, including The Higher Education Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2023; The Federal Urdu University of Arts, Sciences and Technology Islamabad (Amendment) Bill, 2023; Hajj and Umrah (Regulation) Bill, 2023 and The Official Secrets (Amendment) Bill, 2023, to

relevant committees. Senator Raza Rabbani, during a debate on the Federal Urdu University of Arts, Sciences and Technol-

sized the need to refer it to the relevant committee as he had proposed eight amendments.

In a show of protest, Rabbani tore copies of the pleasure over its hurried passage. Nevertheless, the Bill was eventually referred

Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb, the House passed the Paki-

sponsibility.

The National Assembly on ment) Bill, 2023 along with Wednesday approved the amendments with the prime major legislation - the Paki-stan Electronic Media Reguobjective to benefit journalists and foster a free and relatory Authority (Amend-ment) Bill, 2023 and the sponsible media environment. The minister also introduced the Press Council Press Council of Pakistan (Amendment) Bill, 2023 of Pakistan (Amendment) marking a significant stride Bill, 2023, advocating for the towards enhancing the mereplacement of the term "Government" with the dia landscape, and upholding transparency and rephrase "secretary of the division to which business of the Moved by Minister for Council stands allocated" in

LAUNCHING OF

PNS TARIQ (DESIG)

Excellence in Warship Construction

group photo at the launching ceremony of Pakistan's 4th MILGEM Corvette "PNS Tariq".

section 8, in sub-section (1), in clause (xiii) of the Press Council of Pakistan Ordistan Electronic Media Regunance, 2002 (XCVII of 2002).

NA passes amended

PEMRA & Press

Council bills

ISLAMABAD (APP): latory Authority (Amend-

Sindh govt committed to provide relief to common man: Sharjeel

Minister for Information Sharjeel Inam Memon has said that the provincial government despite challenging situation is making all out efforts for providing relief to common man.

In a statement issued on Wednesday, he highlighted the efforts made by the Sindh government in facilitating medical facilities to citizens, including sending medical units to every household and locality. He further acknowledged the ongoing inflation surge, which continues to imlion houses across Sindh.

KARACHI (INP): Sindh pact the nation. Expressing concern over the recent increase in petrol prices, Sharjeel Memon asserted that the Sindh government was consulting options to ease the burden on the public.

Referring to the recent flood situations, he applauded the relief work carried out by the provincial government during the calamity. He emphasized the government's determination to provide relief to the people under all circumstances, exemplified by the construction of 2.1 mil-



KARACHI: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Turkiye's Vice President Cevdet Yilmaz and other dignitaries in a

KARACHI (INP): The Ju-dicial Magistrate East on Wednesday directed the Investigation Officer (IO) to Ali Shah has clarified that he will not be in position to vote in Council of Common submit the legal charge sheet pertaining to the riot case against Pakistan Interests (CCI) if reserva-Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader – Firdous Shamim. tions on census not removed.

According to the details, Firdous Shamim Naqvi, a prominent figure of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), was presented before the Judicial Magistrate East for his allegedly resorting to violence, arson and causing terror while staging protests in Karachi after the arrest of former PM in Islamabad on May 9.

President phones father of sepoy martyred in Kacchi **Canal attack**

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday telephoned the father of Sepoy Muhammad Nasir who was martvred in an attack that took place in the Kacchi Canal area of Balochistan on

July 13. The president paid tribute to the martyred sepoy for sacrificing his life for the country's security and saluted him for his services to the country, patriotism, and commitment to dutv

Won't vote in CCI if reservations on census not removed: Murad Shah

KARACHI (INP): Sindh about his concerns in writ-Chief Minister Syed Murad ten.

Murad Shah said that the census issue hasn't come in CCI and Sindh has concerns over it from day first

red. He said that Pakistan In an informal interac- Peoples Party (PPP) was tion with media here on of the view that general elec-Wednesday, he said that tion should not be delayed despite disputes with the due to census or any other federation he informed issue



KARACHI: Vice President of Türkiye, Cevdet Yilmaz meets with Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

Minister urges students to learn IT skills to compete across globe

munication Syed Aminul Haque on Wednesday urged youth especially the students to enhance their In-

KARACHI (APP): Federal ers and fast internet con-Minister for Information nection is established at Technology and Telecom- Ebrahim Ali Bhai Government Girls and Boys School, to facilitate the students learn IT skills.

He added that training formation Technology in 15 different modern IT skills so as to cope with the fields will be imparted to fast-changing trends in the the students in the facility

a meeting the officials of K. Electric held in Karachi. **UNDP** Resident **Pakistan stands with** Kashmir: Kaira

KARACHI: Federal Minister for Energy, Engineer Khurram Dastagir chairs

He urges the interna-

ISLAMABAD (INP): Ad-Kashmiris. visor to the Prime Minister on Kashmir Affairs and tional community and organizations to take practi-Gilgit Baltistan Oamar cal steps to hold India ac-Zaman Kaira Wednesday countable for its gross and said that entire Pakistani nation stands beside their widespread human rights Kashmiri brethren till they violations in IIOJK. achieve freedom.

According to

ISLAMABAD (Online): Dr. Samuel Rizk, Resident Representative UNDP called on Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar at Finance Division to-

day

Finance Minister

In a message on the asion of Kashmir Sol SAPM on Revenue darity Day on August 5, he Me. Tariq Mehmood Pasaid we should pay tribute sha, Ms. Ammara Durrani, to the unparalleled commit-Assistant resident reprement of the Kashmiris to sentative UNDP, Special the attainment of their le-Secretary Finance and segitimate right to self-deternior officers from Finance mination. Division attended the meet-"Every Pakistani is ing. Finance Minister Senafirmly standing with Kashmiris, he said, adding, tor Muhammad Ishaq Dar welcomed Dr. Samuel it is our firm belief that the Rizk and shared the eco-Kashmiris will soon sucnomic outlook of the ceed in their valiant struggle country and measures to secure freedom from optaken by the Government pression and illegal occupafor achieving economic tion" stability and growth. Pakistan's every citi-

Representative calls on

Media Service, Advisor to PM in an exclusive Interview with PTV News said, Pakistan has a deep-rooted relationship with Kashmiris and their just struggle for the liberation of Indian Occupied Kashmir will continue.

He further highlighted that youngster foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari is not shy away from raising the voice for Kashmiris rights at all world forums, adding, he had exposed Indian prime minister Narendra Modi at international forums, adding, he had fulfilled the rights of Kashmiris the way he raised his voice for pute, he added.



ISLAMABAD: H.E Dr. Samuel Rizk, Resident **Representative UNDP called on Federal Minister** for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar at Finance Division.

DC inaugurates libraries in three different High schools of district

of which we are spreading

the network of libraries in

the entire district so that

students can get maximum

Girls Higher Secondary

School Kashmore, Govern-

ment Boys Higher Second-

ary School Kashmore and

Government Higher Second-

ary School Bakhshapur. The

library contains books on

academic, literary, scientific,

The establishment of

benefit from it.

(APP): LARKANA Deputy Commissioner Kashmore-Kandhkot Engineer Manawwar Ali Mithani Wednesday said the youth of the district should give their time to the library to become good citizens and serve the country as well-established libraries reflect a good society.

He said this while inaugurating libraries in three higher secondary schools in the Kashmore-Kandhkot district. Chief Executive Librarians Pakistan Agha Noor Muhammad was also present on this occasion.

DC said the establishment of librarians in educational institutions is absolutely necessary, it will increase the academic and literary maturity of students.

He also said in this Islamic, Sindhi literature modern era, it is important English, stories, novels, to remember the impor- children's literature and varitance of libraries, in view ous topics.

zen will continue playing PAC directs NAB its constructive role toward a peaceful solution to the to investigate \$3b Jammu and Kashmir disinterest-free

loans matter

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Public Accounts Com-mittee (PAC) on Wednesday directed the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) to formulate a Joint Investigation Team (JIT) to probe the matter of interest-free loans of three billion dollars given to industrialists during the government of Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaf (PTI).

Chairing the PAC meeting, Noor Alam Khan asked for taking strict action against those not cooperating with the JIT in

that regard The committee expressed serious concern over the non-attendance of the meeting by NAB Chairman Nazir Ahmed Butt. Deputy Chairman NAB said that Nazir Butt

party's Senior Joint Organizer of Hyderabad district was ill and admitted to the Naved Abbasi and Joint hospital. Organizers Iftikhar Ahmed

Wednesday evening. Accompanied

Police arrest two drug peddlers, recover gutka

library is a great success in all taluks of Kashmore district, he added and further HYDERABAD (APP) said that the Libraries will Police in its continued soon be spread in the town drive against criminals and committees of the district so anti-social elements on that the youth of this dis-Wednesday arrested two trict will be interested in the gutka suppliers and recoveducation and knowledge. ered gutka from their pos-These three libraries were session. established at Government

SHO Inspector Azam Mir Gopang under the supervision of ASP Cantt Alina Rajper acting on a tipoff arrested Gutka suppliers Karam Khan Bhand and Qambar Khan Bhand and recovered different types of Indian gutkaa.

GOR Police has registered a case against the accused under gutka and Main puri act.



KARACHI: Sindh Minister of Information, Transport, and Mass Transit, Sharjeel Inam Memon administrates oath of newly elected office bearer of Pakistan Association of Press Photographers during oath taking ceremony held at Sindh Assembly building in Karachi.

MQM (P) to celebrate **Independence Day** with enthusiasm

HYDERABAD (APP): is the need to spread over The District Organizer the message of love, peace and affection and strive for Mutahida Quomi Movement (Pakistan) Hyderabad bringing betterment in the Zafar Ahmed Siddiqui has country. vowed to celebrate the In-

dependence Day of the country with enthusiasm. The creation of Pakistan was the result of the sacrifices of millions of the people of the Sub-Contiof Hyderabad who wholeheartedly supported MQM (P) despite conspiracies and undemocratic tactics from vested interests.

 (\mathbf{P}) elected representatives made all-out efforts in resolving the civic issues of towns and union councils of Hyderabad here on the citizens including health and sanitation, the estabby lishment of Hyderabad University and raising voices against injustices of HESCO management, Zafar Ahmed Siddiqui claimed

and added that the party Kaimkhani, Umer Alwari, Rqafiq Ajmeri, Saeed Aziz office bearers and elected and Shahzad Qureshi, Zafar representatives will con-Ahmed Siddiqui said curtinue their struggle in prorently the country is passviding maximum relief to ing at crucial stage and there citizens



HYDERABAD: Activists of Markazi Muslim League (PMML) are holding protest demonstration against the issues of inflation, unemployment, and hike in the prices of gas, electricity, petrol, and other essential commodities, held at Hyderabad press club. globe

He was addressing to the inauguration ceremony of a Digital IT Laboratory at Ebrahim Ali Bhai Government Girls and Boys 9 here. The Minister said that a modern Digital IT Lab equipped with the latest desktop computers, print- IT fields.

free of cost, enabling them to learn IT skills including data analysis, freelancing, E-Commerce, Graphic Designing, Video Animation. Content Writing, online School at Orangi Town no marketing, and advance data analysis, Artificial Intelligence and other modern skills and practices in the

The association urged

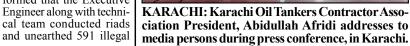
compensate the owners of

Oil tankers association warns to stop operations if demands not met

KARACHI (INP): The Oil a designated quota for oil Tankers Association on tankers' transport in the Wednesday threatened to White oil pipeline. By seclose down the business curing this allocation, operations if their due dethey aim to streamline mands were not met within their operations and ensure a smoother supply a week

To maintain profitchain for white oil prodability and meet operational costs effectively, the Oil Tankers Associathe government to restore tion has demanded to inthe old oil delivery vehicles crease the local fare to 100 and utilize them for oil depercent and the long fare livery and demanded to to 50 percent Additionally, the asold vehicles that were no

sociation was demanding longer in use.



AKU partners with Gilgit-Baltistan govt to develop teacher capacity

KARACHI (APP): Aga for Educational Develop-Khan University (AKU) ment (AKU-IED) in collaboand the Government of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) have signed an agreement to improve the quality of teaching practices in GB schools

The agreement was signed under the guidance of AKU's President Dr Sulaiman Shahabuddin, said a statement issued here on Wednesday. The project, titled "Education Fellows: A

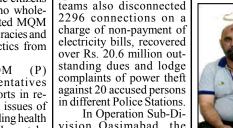
Pilot Project on Hiring of tion in pedagogy, founda-Education Fellows and Imtions of education, classproving Quality of Pedaroom management, learners gogy in Gilgit-Baltistan,' and learning theories, gamewill be implemented by Aga based teaching, community Khan University's Institute engagement and educational

technology. "We are excited to partner with the School ration with a consortium Education Department, comprising Karakorum In-Government of GB on this ternational University important project," said Professor Anjum Halai, Regional Vice-Provost at (KIU), Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) and Knowledge AKU. "It has the potential Platform (KP). The project to make a significant impact on the quality of education will focus on selecting and preparing 1,000 new teachin GB, and we are proud to ers at the primary, middle, be working with our partand secondary school levels ners to ensure its success. in government schools. It will provide educa-

During his remarks, Mr Mohyuddin Ahmad Wani, Chief Secretary GB. assured all partners of the GB government's commitment to enhancing the status of education in the region

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In Operation Sub-Di-



HESCO disconnects

5103 illegal connections

in Qasimabad

Operation Division

HYDERABAD (APP):

The operation of Hyderabad Electric Supply

Company against power

theft remained continued as

vision Qasimabad, the HESCO spokesman informed that the Executive Engineer along with technical team conducted riads

on Wednesday, the special teams disconnected 5103 He called upon the illegal connections in workers and office bearers Qasimabad Operation Diof the party to also prepare vision themselves for coming gen-According to HESCO spokesman, the HESCO eral elections adding that the party never left the citizens

nent and it is high time to forge unity by shunning all differences and striving for restoring the lost status of The MQM the homeland, he said while addressing the party workers and office bearers of