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Pays rich tribute to Shuhada, Ghazi for their sacrifices Strenuous efforts steer Pakistan out of most difficult times: PM

It's our earnest duty to realise martyrs' sacrifices, says PM on farewell GHQ visit

RAWALPINDI (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday said that owing to the relentless efforts of the incumbent government, Pakistan had been out of the most difficult times.

Addressing a ceremony at the Army Auditorium, General Headquarters (GHQ), to honour the supreme sacrifices of

Shuhada and Ghazis, the prime minister stressed that they all had to strive to rebuild Pakistan collectively. He said 75 years had passed since the creation of Pakistan which came into being due to hard work by the Great Quaid, the Founder of the Nation, whose vision still remained unfulfilled.

The ceremony was at-

tended by Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir, officers, ministers and families of Shuhada and Ghazis. The prime minister said that the incumbent government would complete its term on Wednesday (tomorrow) and after which they would hand over the reign of the government to an interim set-up in accordance with the

Constitution.

A comprehensive plan was put in place for the progress and prosperity of the country by the incumbent government, he said, adding the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) had given that vision for the progress of Pakistan with the development of agriculture, minerals and IT sectors.



RAWALPINDI: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif attends a ceremony to honor the Martyrs and Ghazis of Pakistan Army at General Headquarters.



SUKKUR: The settlement agreement of Jinnah Post Graduate Medical College (JPMC) and Sindh Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (SICVD) signed the MoU between Pakistan and Sindh Government. Chairman Pakistan People's Party and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Federal Minister Syed Khurshid Shah, Federal Minister for National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination Abdul Qadir Patel, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, Health Minister Sindh Ezra Pechuho and others parents also.

Provincial Minister Sharjeel says: Govt extends Peoples Bus service route from Hyderabad to Tando Jam



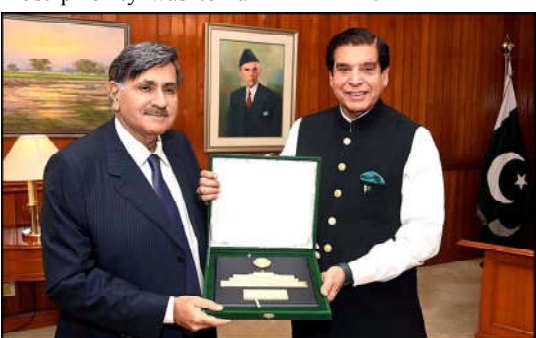
KARACHI (APP): In a stride towards enhanced public transportation, a new route within the Peoples Bus Service network has been initiated in Hyderabad, stretching from Hala Naka, Detha Station to Tando Jam Kesana Mori.

Provincial Minister for Information, Transport, and Mass Transit Sharjeel Inam Memon announced this new route here on Tuesday. He said that the government's foremost priority was to fa-

ilitate the public with unparalleled travel amenities, the new route will offer premier travel amenities to the inhabitants of Hyderabad and its surroundings.

He expressed that our mission was to guarantee high-quality services for our citizens. The objective behind extending the Peoples Bus Service to encompass additional regions is to alleviate travel inconveniences and stimulate local business endeavours.

Sharjeel Inam Memon said that the new service will have a positive impact on the lives and business endeavours of the people of the region. Sindh government's proactive approach to expanding travel infrastructure is in line with the larger goal of enhancing overall well-being.



ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf presenting souvenir to Member National Assembly, Aslam Bhootani at Parliament House.

ECP disqualifies PTI chief for five years

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Tuesday disqualified former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief for five years following his conviction in Toshakhana case.

A notification of disqualification has been issued by the electoral watchdog. The ECP also de-notified the PTI chief from the NA-45 Kurram.

An Islamabad court handed a three-year prison sentence and a fine of Rs100,000 to the PTI chief in Toshakhana case. This decision came during the hearing of the criminal complaint filed by the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) against the PTI chairman.

The complaint accused the former prime

minister of concealing information regarding gifts received at Toshakhana.

Later, the PTI chairman was arrested by Punjab police from his Zaman Park residence in Lahore on Aug 5.

In a notification issued today, the ECP said, "A person shall be disqualified from being elected or chosen as, and from being, a member of the Parliament if he has been, on conviction for any offence involving moral turpitude, sentenced to imprisonment for a term of not less than two years, unless a period of five years has elapsed since his release." The electoral watchdog declared the PTI chairman disqualified under Article 63(1)(h) of the Constitution read with Section 232 of the Elections Act, 2017.

Pak desires strong, successful Southeast Asia: FM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Tuesday said that Pakistan desired a strong and successful Southeast Asia, which was critical for the stability and development of the entire continent. "The more connected and united we are, the more able we would be in overcoming our collective challenges and prospering together as a region," the foreign minister said in a message on 56th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Day.

Extending congratulations to the ASEAN members on behalf of the people and government of Pakistan, he said Pakistan shared ASEAN's vision of amity and cooperation with countries in Asia-Pacific.

91 arrested, large quantity of drugs, arms, ammo recovered

KARACHI (APP): The Pak Colony Police Station arrested 91 suspects involved in street crimes, drug peddling, sale of gatka and recovered weapons, drugs and a hand grenade.

According to SHO Pak Colony police station Abdul Khaliq Ansari on Tuesday, the accused were arrested in different actions during the last month.

He said during various operations against criminal elements, 22 pistols, a repeater, 62 bullets, 2 cartridges, a hand grenade, 606 grams of crystal, a large quantity of hashish and heroin, 6522 kg of betel nut, 250 kg of gutka/mawa were recovered.

CTD arrests six illegal Afghan immigrants

KARACHI (APP): The Sindh Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) on Tuesday arrested an accused wanted by Daharki police and six illegal Afghan immigrants from the Sohrab Goth area.

The CTD conducted an information-based operation to nab the illegal immigrants from different areas of the megalopolis, according to a spokesman for CTD.

The operation was conducted in Sohrab Goth, Abul Hassan Isfahani Road, Al-Asif Square, and adjacent areas.

Facilitating people via infrastructure development govt's top priority: Murad

KARACHI (INP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that facilitating people in the province through infrastructure development is top priority of his government.

This was stated by the chief minister while chairing meeting of Public Private Partnership Policy Board in Karachi on Tuesday.

MoS Khar, Saudi minister discuss regional, global issues

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar and Saudi Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Eng. Waleed Abdulkarim El Khereji on Tuesday discussed the regional and global issues of mutual interest.

The Saudi vice minister is leading a high-level and representative delegation with members from the Saudi Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Energy, Health, Environment and Agriculture, Industry and Mineral Resources, Investment etc, Foreign Office

Shazia calls for establishing complaint redressal system to address beneficiaries concerns

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety and Chairperson, Benazir Income Support Programme, Shazia Marri Tuesday called for establishing a complaint redressal system to ensure transparency and promptly address the concerns of beneficiaries and the public in real-time.

In a meeting held here, the federal minister emphasized the need for dedicated efforts from senior officials of BISP to continue their diligent service to the nine million beneficiaries.

SHC orders police for solid steps to recover missing persons

KARACHI (INP): Sindh High Court (SHC) on Tuesday directed the police to take solid measures for recovery of the missing persons.

A two-member bench of SHC headed by Justice Naimatullah Phulpoto and comprising Justice Mrs Kousar Sultana Hussain heard the petitions regarding missing persons including Ashraf Mengal and other citizens.

During hearing, Justice Naimatullah remarked that police do nothing for recovery of missing persons and people were also fed up of courts now. When no

further proceeding on cases was reported, people have left visiting the courts, he added.

Expressing his annoyance over the investigation officer, he said: "You come with old reports every time."

The investigation officer informed the court that Ashraf Mengal was not imprisoned at any detention centre of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Over absence of petitioner, the court adjourned the hearing for indefinite time directing police to take steps for recovery of missing persons.

BBZ highlights significant developments in realm of healthcare in Sindh

SUKKUR (APP): Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Tuesday talked about three significant developments in the realm of healthcare in Sindh.

Addressing the media, Bilawal highlighted that during the 18th amendment, an attempt was made to usurp three major hospitals in Sindh. He asserted that the current government, reinstated these hospitals to the Sindh government.

"Today, our efforts have borne fruit as our three hospitals have been returned to us. We are grateful to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for his cooperation," he added.

Furthermore, he inaugurated the SIUT Medical Complex, underscoring the commitment of the Sindh government to provide world-class healthcare ser-

vices from Karachi to Kashmir.

He emphasised the legacy of his grandfather, Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, and his mother, Benazir Bhutto, who instilled the value of serving the common man.

He further said that the philosophy of Pakistan's healthcare system should align with that of Sindh.

Dr Adeeb Rizvi, a distinguished figure in the healthcare sector, was also praised by Bilawal for dedicating his entire life to serving the people.

He expressed his vision to establish modern medical complexes in every district of Sindh, and assured that the government had procured a loan from South Korea to make quality healthcare accessible to all.

The establishment of hospitals would lead to improved healthcare facilities

for the people, he said and thanked the people of Sindh and South Punjab for their unwavering support.

The transformation of the Services Institute of Medical Sciences (SIMS) in Sukkur into a state-of-the-art ICU-equipped hospital was highlighted by Bhutto as an example of his vision for creating advanced medical facilities across major cities in Sindh.

"We aim to establish hospitals for children in the larger cities of Sindh, ensuring quality healthcare access for all," he stated.

He concluded by reaffirming his commitment to fulfill Dr Adeeb Rizvi's dream of setting up an SIUT-like healthcare complex in every district of Sindh.

Earlier, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari also inaugurated the 200 bed Children's Hospital Sukkur.



KARACHI: Sindh chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah presides over a 41st PPP Policy Board Meeting at CM House.

National Assembly to be dissolved today

ISLAMABAD (INP): The National Assembly will be dissolved on August 09 Wednesday after Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's address to the farewell session. The prime minister after addressing the lower house of the parliament will forward a summary to the President Dr Arif Alvi for dissolution of the 15th National Assembly of Pakistan.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif while addressing public rally in Kasur on Sunday had announced that the NA would be dissolved on August 09, just three days before the lower house of the parliament completes its five-year constitutional term.

Incumbent National Assembly's full tenure will end on August 12 and if it completes its stipulated term then elections will be held within 60 days. However, the Constitution states that the polls must be held within 90 days if the assembly is dissolved before the completion of its tenure.

Construction work of Shadman drain at Rs 85m underway: Mayor Karachi

KARACHI (APP): Mayor Karachi barrister Murtaza Wahab on Tuesday said that the construction work of Shadman drain at the cost of Rs 85 million is going and after the completion problems during rains in Shadman area will be solved.

He said this while inspecting the construction works of Shadman Nala in Central District. On this occasion, Secretary General of People's Party Dil Muhammad, Project Director Mega Projects and other officers were also present.

He said that rain drains and adjacent roads are being made safe for the citizens under the Karachi Mega Project. The ongoing development works of roads and storm drains in various areas will be completed as soon as possible, he added.

Barrister Murtaza Wahab said Shadman drain is the same place in Central District, where the family

fell into the drain in an accident last year and taking immediate notice of the tragic incident, he immediately instructed to start the construction of Shadman Nala, he recalled.

He said that in the past, due to the lack of proper management of drainage during the rains, the population of Shadman was flooded and the reason for this was the lack of management for the discharge of water from the Shadman Nala but now it is being connected to Qalandria Chowk drain and the surrounding communities will be safe during rains.

He said that the Shadman Nala is 1500 feet long and 10 feet wide while it's depth is 9 to 10 feet so that the flow of water in the drain continues in a better manner.

He said that this project is of utmost importance, so work is being done day and night and it will be completed soon.



KARACHI: Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori addressing youth participated in test held for IT courses. Convener MQM Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui is also present.

Daily Voice of Masses Independent

Rail tragedy

The terrible train accident near Nawabshah that killed over 30 passengers of the Hazara Express and left dozens injured on Sunday was a tragedy waiting to happen. There is always an air of resignation when a train accident occurs in Pakistan.

Each incident is followed by routine announcements of an inquiry and, in the case of major accidents, cash compensation for families who have lost their loved ones or passengers who sustained injuries. The death toll is reduced to mere numbers and the inquiry consigned to the railway junkyard. Train derailments happen frequently on Pakistan's poorly maintained railway lines, especially on the stretch between Khanpur and Karachi. More than 250 people have died and several hundred wounded in major train derailments, collisions and fires in the last 10 years. It is not only the train tracks that are covered in blood; those who have willfully neglected the railways also have blood on their hands.

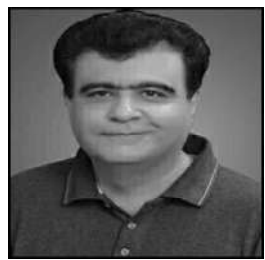
One can hardly recall the government making any inquiry public or punishing those responsible for these tragedies. The latest tragedy is yet another grim reminder of the multiple challenges the government faces in even maintaining and repairing the country's dilapidated railway infrastructure let alone modernising it and expanding rail services.

Shortly after the accident, railway and aviation minister Khawaja Saad Rafique said the possibility of sabotage or a mechanical fault could not be ruled out. The "root cause" of the accident would have to be investigated, he added. Some railway officials blamed the derailment of the Rawalpindi-bound Hazara Express on the breakage of the railway line and hot axle issue, which jammed movement.

Yesterday, the minister termed the lack of resources as the "real cause" of the tragedy. In fact, that is the single-most important reason for the current state of the railway infrastructure between Peshawar and Karachi. For example, the railway department had requested Rs30bn in 2021 for the rehabilitation of the 470km-long track between Khanpur and Kotri where the most fatal accidents have occurred in recent years.

However, both the PTI and PDM governments delayed approval, citing it as "unnecessary" due to the planned \$9bn ML-1 project under the CPEC initiative. That shows government does not really care about the life of the rail passengers because the overwhelming majority comes from the lower income groups of the population.

No wonder whenever a railway minister talks about turning railways around, they are concerned about the profitability of its operations rather than the safety of the passengers. The railway department cannot be turned into a profitable entity without investment in its infrastructure to ensure safe travel for its users. The ML-1 project is crucial to modernising the railway system. But the safety of the passengers is paramount, with or without it.



Dr Niaz Murtaza

A weary nation is being sold a new acronym-based dream about huge progress. It was Seato and Cento in the 1960s, OIC in the 1970s, CPEC in the 2010s and the Strategic Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) now. Similar dreams in the past only resulted in short-term, inequitable and distorted progress.

The common thread across all was the attempt of our rulers to attract politicised lumpy investment via political ties with autocratic patron states like the US, China and those in the Gulf, rather than from a wide range of local and foreign investors, as India and Bangladesh did by becoming economically attractive by implementing reforms. Autocratic states make us dependent on the political agenda of autocratic states, whose shifting moods can stall progress. Local foreign investors would give no single entity control over our destiny and allow us policy freedom.

While CPEC is not dead, it has stalled and is not living up to its dizzying marketing. It is unclear what impetus the new agreement signed on its 10th anniversary gives. But it is telling that China sent only a vice premier for the partying of supposedly the crown jewel of its huge global Belt and Road Initiative. In 10 years, China pumped in \$25 billion but we are much worse off economically now than in 2013, with the PML-N responsible for one and the PTI for two economic crises. The power plants are

CPEC to SIFC

expensive and technically dubious; the free-ways have made travel easier but not added economic value to pay off the foreign loans. The economic zones and the Gwadar port are inactive. Why have things stalled? Has China concluded that Pakistan is not the right place to do business in, given our political instability, bureaucracy and elite-dominated economy?

With apparently less Chinese interest, we are now beseeching the Gulf sheikhs for patronage. Can the SIFC result in sustainable and equitable progress? The immediate prognosis looks dim. Firstly, it is a huge demotion to go from China to them. There is the difference in economic size. China's GDP is \$20 trillion; that of the six Gulf states around \$2tr.

More critically, China is a highly productive and dynamic state that has grown through creativity and hard work and possesses amazing managerial and technological prowess to share, though its autocratic ways are a concern. The Gulf states are living off natural resources, with no economic dynamism to share beyond investing huge oil money abroad. They will come to us only if they can make much more money than in the competitive West, as we give them all sorts of advantages not available to other actors in our economy. So, instead of being a haven for the fittest, we will be a pillage ground for the fittest.

To predict the fate of the SIFC, one only has to view the intellectual prowess and economic dynamism of the three driving forces — Gulf sheikhs, the establishment and Raivind. Economic dynamism, productivity, creativity and vision are the last things that come to mind about them (the PTI and PPP are no better).

With the three joining forces, we do not get much.

With major economic reform to fix unproductivity on hold (let alone restructuring to create a fair economy), this is just another attempt by rulers to postpone reforms and restructuring, maintain an exclusionary, elitist economy that benefits them but still relaxes our binding current account deficit constraint. That constraint periodically forces them into attempting to undertake patchy, dubious reforms under IMF diktat as the economic unproductivity and large money supply increases and fiscal deficits produced by our elitist, rapacious economy frequently deplete our foreign reserves.

The type of projects being championed the most — corporate farming and mining — raise concerns further as globally these sectors are known for economic inequity and environmental destruction. The lack of transparency and involvement of civil society in a democratic way and the powers and role being given to the establishment raise hackles further. This economic strategy is going hand in hand with political autocracy as all players look to increase their political control, silence all opposition and media and crush freedoms.

Thus, Pakistan is entering a new and dangerous phase of economic inequity and political repression, apparently led by the establishment with the help of a new set of political lackeys to replace the PTI. As always in our history, the promised rosy dream may soon turn into a traumatic nightmare and a lived tragic reality soon for a hapless nation. Sadly, one sees little chance of major change in the foreseeable future. -- Courtesy Dawn

Drowning thirsty



Masood Lohar

Among the many paradoxes that this land of the pure has been grappling with, one stands out as particularly strange: Pakistan, despite being blessed with the mighty Indus river and some of the world's largest glaciers, is ranked as the second-most water-stressed country globally. In the year 2022, one-third of the nation was submerged under floodwaters, yet the majority of urban centres, including Karachi, continued to suffer from chronic water shortages. This bewildering situation has created a cycle in which citizens alternately protest against the government for water scarcity or cry out for help with dewatering after urban floods caused by rainfall. The 18th-century Sufi poet Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai poem (in Sindhi) stands true for today's Pakistan: "Only fools remain thirsty while sitting next to water."

Last year, a staggering 33 million people, constituting 15 per cent of the country's total population, were directly affected by the devastating floods. Ironically, an alarming 10m Pakistanis remain without access to clean drinking water while still submerged in the floodwater. Even more alarming is the estimate that by 2025, a mind-boggling 207m people will be facing an "absolute scarcity of water".

With 38pc of Pakistan's population residing in the cities, a figure expected to surpass 50pc by 2050, the per-

petual cycle of water scarcity and urban flooding poses a daunting challenge. It begs the question of why we don't capitalise on the water that naturally comes to our cities and towns. The solution lies in something simple yet effective — wetlands.

Pakistan is an Indus Valley country blessed with several rivers of different capacities. Changing courses thousands of times since its inception, the Indus has left depressions, dhoras, and even oxbow lakes in the plains of Punjab and Sindh. At least 200 depressions are spread out in the Indus delta region from district Badin to Dhabaji. These depressions can absorb almost all floodwaters upstream if the necessary measures are taken. The Punjab rivers also have similar old depressions spread out everywhere, which get recharged during the monsoons.

Though real estate madness has occupied most of them, there are still places which can be utilised. For example, right in the middle of Lahore, the Ravi's bed, starting from the Shahdara Reserve Forest to the shrine of Hazrat Gardezi, a 14-kilometre patch covering the 16th-century Kamran Baradari of Emperor Babar's son Kamran, can be a great wetland. With lotus and water lilies, the place can be a tourism goldmine. Similarly, the detached 90-acre portion of the old Obhaya lagoon in Karachi along Mai Kolachi road and the 170-acre black water pond of Boat Basin can be rehabilitated and utilised for floodwater absorption, mangroves and ecotourism.

By dedicating areas to wetlands, we can create natural reservoirs that harvest rainwater, store it and put it to beneficial use for drinking and recreational purposes. Such solutions only make sense when we shift our wealth paradigm from real estate and concrete to nature-based alternative riches.

Taking inspiration from Kolkata, where the East Kolkata Wetland treats over a billion litres of wastewater daily, we can harness the potential of the urban wetlands in Pakistan. These valuable ecosystems play a significant role in managing water resources, reducing flood risks and supporting biodiversity. During COP13, the Ramsar Convention introduced the Wetland City Accreditation, which recognised 18 cities that have taken exceptional steps to safeguard their urban wetlands. Six of these cities are in China. Four each are in France and Korea. Even underdeveloped co-tries like Sri Lanka and Tunisia are part of this accreditation.

The Indus Valley cities and towns like Multan, Sukkur, Larkana and Sehwan, and then the Jhelum and Chenab catchments, and run-off rivers such as the Ravi, Sutlej and Beas can serve as new wetlands for a new ecotourism hub and a biodiversity hotspot right in the middle of cities, including Lahore and Karachi. In a water-scarce city like Karachi, there are multiple places in the Lyari and Malir riverbeds where wetlands can sustain till the next monsoon, yielding biodiversity services. These urban wetlands will create a rich lake ecosystem with native aquatic plants such as water lilies, lotus and Typha elephantina. Utilising the monsoon run-off from India to create and sustain these wetlands will not only address water scarcity but also help in regulating temperatures, fostering tourism and protecting biodiversity. -- Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

PM invites Saudi govt, firms to avail investment opportunities in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday invited the Saudi government and companies to avail the investment opportunities in agriculture, mining, IT, energy and other sectors of Pakistan.

The prime minister, in a meeting with Saudi Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Engineer Waleed Abdulkarim El Khereji who called on him, said the establishment of Special Investment Facilitation

Council (SIFC) would facilitate and fast-track potential investments from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member states, especially the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

In this regard, he appreciated the Kingdom's serious interest in exploring investment opportunities in Pakistan.

The Saudi vice minister is leading a high-level delegation with members from the ministries of foreign affairs,

health, environment and agriculture, industry and mineral resources, investment etc.

Prime Minister Shehbaz welcomed the delegation and expressed satisfaction on the positive trajectory of bilateral relations with the Kingdom. He also conveyed his greetings for the Saudi leadership and thanked Saudi Arabia for its timely financial support to Pakistan, especially during

the floods and appreciated its role in helping Pakistan in its efforts to achieve macroeconomic stability.

The visit of the Saudi delegation manifests the deep interest and willingness on both sides to transform the longstanding fraternal ties into concrete and mutually rewarding economic partnership. The visit will contribute to further enhancement of multifaceted collaboration between the two countries.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar chaired the meeting of Steering Committee to oversee and guide the progress of work related to outsourcing of airports operations at Finance Division.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for IT and Telecommunication Syed Amin Ul Haque witnessing signing of MoU between National Telecommunication Corporation (NTC) and Sunwalk.

PBF demands textile focused policy for economic stability

FAISALABAD (APP): The Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) has demanded textile-focused policy on a urgent basis for economic stability of Pakistan.

Addressing a meeting of the forum in APBUMA (All Pakistan Bed-sheet & Upholstery Manufacturers Association) office here, PBF Punjab General Secretary Arif Ehsan Malik said the production cost had pushed the export sector

on the verge of collapse in addition to increasing the unemployment rate which might become a potential threat to overall law and order in the country.

"Therefore, the government must encourage the export sector to drag the economy out of the crisis through phased policies including cutting down the cost of doing business and trimming the interest rate on a top priority basis."

He said the textile sector was the basis of economic stability.

"If the government is really sincere about stabilizing the country economically, it should take urgent steps to increase national exports in addition to reducing the prices of oil, gas and electricity products besides ensuring immediate payment of pending refund claims as economic stability is directly linked with increase in exports.

Meeting held to review progress relating to outsourcing of airports

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar on Tuesday chaired a meeting of the Steering Committee to oversee and guide the progress of work related to outsourcing of airports' operations.

Minister for Aviation and Railways Khawaja Saad Rafique, SAPM on Finance Tariq Bajwa, Secretary Aviation, Chief Executive Officer Public Partnership Authority,

Director General Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority, International Finance Corporation team and other government officials attended the meeting, said a press release.

The committee was briefed about the latest status of outsourcing of Islamabad Airport transaction for advertisement has been published in all leading local and international newspapers.

PTCL changes its copper network to fiber for high speed internet

KARACHI (APP): Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) has completed fiberization of the famous and picturesque tourist destination, Nathiagali to provide high-speed connectivity and quality user experience in the region.

The blazing fast internet will support social empowerment and growth of the local tourism industry, said a news release here on Tuesday.

The network overhaul is being carried out under PTCL's Copper Sunset project, which encompasses the replacement of copper wires with the cutting-edge PTCL Flash Fiber network, which will be the fastest internet in town giving customers blazing speeds of up to 1Gbps with unlimited downloads.

AJK Govt moves to gear up industrial progress in State

MIRPUR AJK (APP): Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJK) government has principally decided to devise an integrated phased industrial uplift plan with the coordination of the AJK Chamber of Commerce & Industry (AJK-CCCI).

The Mirpur Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the concerned functionaries of the AJK have a plan to encourage and promote local and foreign investment in the trade, industrial and export sectors in the liberated territory.

"The plan also involves the attractive investment in the industrial sector by the UK-based Kashmiri expatriates in AJK besides reviving the sick industrial units in the existing industrial estates in Mirpur division", the official sources told APP here on Tuesday.

The sources continued that one of nine proposed Special Economic Zones, was very much believed to be established in Mirpur district of AJK under the gigantic CPEC (China

Pakistan Economic Corridor) as reportedly sanctioned by the authorities so far.

The sources said that the AJK government was taking all possible steps for the early revival of sick industrial units in Mirpur and Bhimber.

The government has focused to promote the industrial activities in Mirpur and Bhimber districts under the spirit to provide more job opportunities to the unemployed skilled and unskilled persons.

Besides other matters related to the industrial uplift in the region, a high level meeting here today reviewed and discussed in length, with the owners of the Mirpur and Bhimber districts, based sick industrial units, the ideas for quick revival of the units.

The owners of the sick units tabled various proposals in the meeting for the revival to the sick units and assured to resume their functioning soon after their revival in line with the determined policy of the government. Speaking on this

occasion, AJKCCI Mirpur Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) President Sabir Hussain Shah said that his chamber has already moved recommendations to the AJK government by devising a strategy for early revival of over 80 sick industrial units located in Mirpur and Bhimber districts and to promote the industrialization process in both the districts as well as in other parts of the liberated territory.

He said that in the light of various proposals the AJK government has assured to encourage and boost the foreign investment in the trade and industrial sector in AJK and colossal funds have already been placed in the ongoing financial year 2017-18 AJK budget. The AJKCCI President said that the AJKCCI MCCI has also moved to the AJK government to provide all possible required facilities and compensation to the intending foreign entrepreneurs including the UK-based Kashmiri expatriates for establishing the industrial concerns in the area.

PPP desirous of timely elections in country: Kundi

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): Special Assistant to Prime Minister Faisal Karim Kundi on Tuesday said that Pakistan People's Party (PPP) is desirous of timely elections in the country.

Talking to the media here at PID Regional Office, the special assistant said that PPP was willing to conduct elections within 60 to 90 days.

He said all the political parties should participate in the electoral process and respect the people's mandate.

Faisal Karim Kundi, who is also the Central Information Secretary of PPP, said his party was

strongly against the ban on any political party.

He was of the view that victory and defeat were part of politics, however, the fear of defeat does not suit political parties to run away from democratic process and elections.

He vowed to continue his struggle for the development of Dera Ismail Khan, saying, "The PPP has countless services to its credit as far as the development of DI Khan is concerned while it was left bereft of several public serving entities during the PTI regime."

But now, he said, the regional offices of several key organizations such as

PID, Pakistan Television (PTV) and Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) had been restored here with his hectic efforts.

He said that by inaugurating the PID regional office, another promise made to the local journalists has been fulfilled, adding, it was a good omen for the local journalist community.

In this process, he said, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Maryum Aurangzeb extended her full support.

The special assistant said the caretaker government will hold its responsibilities within a few days.



PARACHINAR: Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistani & HRD, Sajid Hussain Turi inaugurates Workers Folk Grammar School.

CM visits hospitals, tourist police stations in Bukhara

LAHORE (APP): Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi embarked on a visit to the mausoleum of Imam Bukhari in the city of Samarkand, Uzbekistan.

During the visit, he paid his respects at the mausoleum and offered a special prayer, said a handout issued here on Tuesday.

The CM also toured various hospitals and the tourist police station in Bukhara to inspect the facilities.

Upon reaching the mausoleum of Imam Bukhari, the caretaker warmly welcomed Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi and his delegation.

CM Mohsin Naqvi, along with his entourage, offered فاتحة and prayed

for the country. The delegation further explored the Imam Bukhari Memorial Complex, taking note of its architectural brilliance and intricate details.

Mohsin Naqvi highlighted the collaborative legacy of Imam Bukhari and other Sufis and scholars from Uzbekistan. The artistry exhibited in the Imam Bukhari Memorial Complex was met with admiration by the chief minister who praised the Uzbek architectural style and the intricate tile work.

During his visit to hospitals in Bukhara, the CM assessed the healthcare facilities available for patients and emphasized his dedication to providing exemplary

medical services in Punjab. The delegation also inspected the reception desk, referral system, and other departments in Uzbek hospitals, including child emergency, diagnostics, medical wards, and ICU. The CM engaged in discussions with doctors and medical professionals, acknowledging their dedication to serving humanity. A briefing was provided about the hospital complex, and CM expressed his appreciation for the high-quality healthcare services offered to patients in Uzbek hospitals.

The chief minister also inspected the modern equipment in different departments, including the Cardiac & ICU.

Minister inspects flood arrangements, hospitals

SARGODHA (APP): Caretaker Provincial Minister for Health and Population Welfare Dr Jamal Nasir on Tuesday visited Sargodha district and inspected a mock exercise at Langarwala at the Jhelum River to rescue flood affectees.

He said the caretaker Punjab government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi, was taking concrete measures to facilitate the people of the province. He said that the next week was very important regarding rains and floods, so all departments needed to be alert. "Heavy rains have been predicted in Punjab from August 11 to 14, due to which there is a fear of urban flooding, and so all



GILGIT: Deputy Speaker Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly Sadia Danish in a meeting with Ex-Deputy Speaker Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly Jafarullah Khan at Assembly Secretariat.

UAF inks LoI with HAU China

FAISALABAD (APP): Dr. Muhammad Jafar Jaskani, Director External Linkages Prof. Dr. Muhammad Saqib, Associate Professor Dr. Abid Ali, HAU Director Office of International Exchange and Cooperation Prof. Dr. Ke Tu, Li Xingdao Party Secretary College of Plant Protection and Li Honglian, Dean College of Plant Protection were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof Dr Iqbal Ahmad Khan said that it was the ever-first visit of delegation from UAF to HAU China.

FAISALABAD (APP): Henan Agricultural University (HAU) China and University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF) have inked Letter of Intent (LoI) to collaborate in the area of academic and research.

UAF Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Iqbal Ahmad Khan and HAU President Prof Dr Jie Xiaolei signed the LoI on behalf of their institutions while Chairman Department of Entomology UAF Prof. Dr. Muhammad Jalal Arif, Director Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization Prof.



PESHAWAR: Peshawar High Court Acting Chief Justice, Justice Mohammad Ibrahim Khan inaugurating the Passport Office during a ceremony held at High Court premises in Peshawar.

High-level delegation assesses progress of EWS in Hunza

GILGIT (APP): A delegation on Tuesday conducted a comprehensive inspection of the ongoing construction of Early Warning System (EWS) base platforms in the vulnerable region of Hunza.

The delegation comprising Zameer Abbas, Secretary Information and IT Department, GB, Kamal Uddin Qamar, Director General of Gilgit-Baltistan Disaster Management Authority (GBDMA), and Abdul Basit, Provincial

37 Corona cases reported in one week: NIH

ISLAMABAD (APP): Health officials on Tuesday said that 37 new Coronavirus cases were reported during the last one week across the country.

As per the data shared by the National Institute of Health (NIH), the case positivity ratio was 0.38 percent while five patients were in critical condition. No death was reported from the Coronavirus last week while 9,693 Covid-19 tests were conducted.

Meanwhile, Minister for National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination, Abdul Qadir Patel said the government has strengthened the role of Border and Health Services in Pakistan to deal with any sub-variant of Covid-19. The minister said there was a surveillance system at all entry points of the country including airports. There will be rapid tests and screening of passengers at all airports, he added. He added 90 percent of the country's population already got the Covid-19 vaccine. "An efficient system with a proper management team is fully functional in the country to remain vigilant and is ready to make an emergency plan.

CJ PHC vows to play role in eradication of corruption

PESHAWAR (APP): The Chief Justice of Peshawar High Court (PHC) Justice Ibrahim Khan on Tuesday vowed to play his imperative role in eradication of the menace of corruption from society.

Addressing the inaugural ceremony of passport office at High Court building here, the

JICA mission visits WASA

FAISALABAD (APP): A two-member delegation of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Headquarter Mission Tokyo has visited Water & Sanitation Agency (WASA) here on Tuesday and reviewed its development projects for their early completion. During a meeting, Managing Director WASA Amir Aziz briefed the delegation about water supply and sewerage.

International News

Putin orders arms factories to produce more Lancet kamikaze drones

Monitoring Desk
MOSCOW: Vladimir Putin, the Russian president, has ordered the head of a state-owned defence conglomerate to increase the production of attack drones, as the drone war in Ukraine ramps up.

In televised footage of the meeting on Monday night, the Russian president was told by the head of Rostec, which produces around 90 per cent of Russia's military equipment, to increase the number of kamikaze drones being churned out.

Putin said Russia needed more Kub and Lancet drones, which have be-



Vacharaesorn Vivacharawongse, 42, the second-eldest son of Thailand's King Maha Vajiralongkorn speaks to well-wishers at the Foundation for Slum Child Care supported by the Royal Family, in Bangkok, Thailand.

Russian strikes on east Ukraine residential building kill at least 7

Monitoring Desk
KYIV: Rescue workers combed through the rubble of damaged buildings in the city of Pokrovsk in eastern Ukraine on Tuesday, the day after Russian strikes killed at least seven people.

Pokrovsk sits just 50 kilometres from the eastern frontline, where Moscow says it is gaining ground and repelling Ukrainian attacks.

Two missiles — launched 40 minutes apart — damaged residential buildings, a hotel, catering establishments, shops and administrative buildings on Monday, Pavlo Kyrlyenko, head of the Donetsk region's military administration said.

AFP correspondents on the ground saw rescuers evacuating survivors from the rubble of a five-storey building, and carrying the wounded into ambulances.

Seven people died and 67 were wounded, including two children, according to Igor Klymenko, Ukraine's minister of internal affairs.

Those killed included a high-ranking emergency official of the Donetsk region, Klymenko said.

"We are resuming the demolition of rubble," he said on early Tuesday after the rescuers "were forced to suspend work for the night due to the high threat of repeated shelling".

President Volodymyr Zelensky said on Monday that Moscow had struck a residential building, and shared a video on social media of civilians helping wounded people and rescuers clearing rubble from a building that had lost its top floor.

Indian parliament debates no-confidence motion in Modi government

Monitoring Desk
NEW DELHI: India's parliament debated a no-confidence motion against Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government on Tuesday, a day after opposition leader Rahul Gandhi returned to the house.

The opposition Congress party launched the debate in a bid to force comment from Modi on months of deadly ethnic conflict in northeastern Manipur state, with a vote potentially to be held on Thursday.

Government minister Kiren Rijiju said the motion had "been brought at an extremely bad time and Congress would regret it later".

Modi's Hindu Nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) won 303 seats in the 543-member lower house in the 2019 election and is expected to comfortably defeat the no-confidence vote, which it has dismissed as a headline-grabbing gimmick.

Gandhi, the scion of India's premier political dynasty, was restored to parliament on Monday after the Supreme Court last week suspended his defamation conviction over comments criticising Modi.

The 53-year-old Gandhi was sentenced to two years imprisonment in March in a case that critics flagged as an effort to stifle political opposition in the world's largest democracy.

India bars makers of military drones from using Chinese parts

Monitoring Desk
NEW DELHI: India in recent months has barred domestic manufacturers of military drones from using components made in China over concerns about security vulnerabilities, according to four defence and industry officials and documents reviewed by Reuters.

The measure comes amid tensions between the nuclear-armed neighbours and as New Delhi pursues

Second son of Thailand's king makes surprise return after 27 years

Monitoring Desk
BANGKOK: The second-eldest son of Thailand's King Maha Vajiralongkorn visited a child-care centre for underprivileged families on Tuesday during a surprise visit to the kingdom, the first time he has been back in his homeland in 27 years. The trip by Vacharaesorn Vivacharawongse, 42, comes at a fraught time for the Thai royal family.



An abortion rights protester holds a sign that says "OHIO KEEP ABORTION SAFE LEGAL!" at a rally in Columbus, Ohio.

Tropical storm hits Japan's Okinawa islands again, unleashing torrential rain

Monitoring Desk
TOKYO: A meandering storm was headed again toward southwestern Japan on Sunday, prompting fresh warnings about dangerously heavy rainfall after the same area was hit several days ago.

Tropical Storm Khanun, which means jackfruit in Thai, was returning to the southernmost group of islands of Okinawa moving slowly northward, packing winds of up to 30 meters per second (67 miles per hour) and hovering over Okinawa through Monday, according to the Japan Meteorological Agency.

Okinawa Gov. Denny Tamaki warned residents to brace for torrential rains and mudslides. "This could mean that the dangers about to hit the area where you are living are unusual and on a scale you have never experienced," he said of the storm. He asked people to prepare escape routes to safety in advance. "Do not let your guard down," he said. Large parts of Okinawa, including the main city of Naha, was being slammed by extremely heavy rainfall, according to weather reports.



Rescuers work at a site of a building destroyed during a Russian missile strike, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Pokrovsk, Donetsk region, Ukraine.

The monthlong conflict in Sudan has displaced over 4 million people, a UN official says

Monitoring Desk
CAIRO: Sudan's escalating conflict has driven more than 4 million people from their homes, including over 884,000 who have fled to neighboring countries, a U.N. official said Tuesday.

The fighting has also triggered outbreaks of disease and an increase in malnutrition, according to William Spindler, a spokesman for the U.N. refugee agency. From mid-May to mid-July, the UNHCR recorded over 300 deaths from measles and malnutrition, mainly among children under 5, Spindler said, speaking to reporters in Geneva.

His remarks came as clashes between the Sudanese army and its rival paramilitary force intensify in the eastern part of the capital, Khartoum, and the nearby city of Omdurman.

Sudan was plunged into chaos in April when simmering tensions between the military, led by Abdel Fattah Burhan, and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces.

Two more US warships enter Red Sea

Monitoring Desk
DUBAI: More than 3,000 United States military personnel have arrived in the Red Sea aboard two warships as part of a "beefed up response" from Washington after tanker seizures by Iran, the US Navy said on Monday.

The deployment adds to a growing US military build-up in tense Gulf waterways vital to the global oil trade and led Tehran on Monday to accuse the US of "inflaming regional instability".

PM announces to auction all Toshakhana gifts to support orphan children

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday announced to auction all of the gifts worth millions of rupees at Toshakhana and the revenue would be spent for the welfare of orphan children.

"I announce to auction all of the gifts worth millions of rupees at Toshakhana. But whole of the receipts will go nowhere else but the institutions of the orphan children whether they are welfare organizations, educational institutions or medical facilities. We will hand them over

under a mechanism to support the orphans who are unable to face the challenges of life," the prime minister said talking to a delegation of the Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors (CPNE), All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS), and Pakistan Broadcasters Association (PBA). The prime minister said that he felt honoured to announce the auction of Toshakhana gifts before the representatives of APNS, CPNE and PBA.

He told the media industry representatives that

the incumbent government inherited very tough economic conditions but the coalition parties did not imagine the severity of the situation.

The prime minister said the previous government wasted last four years in mere victimisation of political opponents and also strained ties with friendly countries. He said his government had tried its utmost to rectify the relations with friendly countries and had been able to control the damage to a great extent which also led



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif in a group photo with a delegation of Pakistan Broadcasters' Association, All Pakistan Newspapers Society and Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors.



KARACHI: A group photo of Sindh chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah with newly promoted Police Officers, PSP, to grade BS-19.

PTI responsible to away youth from politics: Kaira

ISLAMABAD (APP): Advisor to the Prime Minister on Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan, Qamar Zaman Kaira Tuesday said the youth of the country becoming get away from politics the reason why Pakistan Tehreek Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan misguided youth by showing ad indulging them in their dreams.

Talking to a private news channel, he said that the habits of institutions and departments would slow steady become right it was not possible to settle things abruptly adding that Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and all other political parties need to stand united on

'Charter of Democracy'. Replying to a question, he said that delaying elections would not be favorable for the country's stability and PML-N was also not in favor to delay the process at any cost. "The caretaker setup has a huge responsibility to run a country in an appropriate manner," he added.

"In the caretaker setup, politicians need to come and participate in it and perform with a huge responsibility. As most of the politicians are performing their responsibilities beyond the limits, however, the country's stability lies in the Constitution and rule of law", he concluded.

Maripur truck stand should be built as per the 1996 Master Plan: Murtaza

KARACHI (APP): Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab on Tuesday said that the Maripur truck stand should be built as per 1996 master plan and all encroachments from the truck stand will be removed immediately.

The Mayor Karachi while visiting the Maripur truck stand, said that the shops built on the nala if built illegally, will be demolished too.

He said that 60 per cent of the money received from the truck stand as parking fees and MUCT charges will be spent on the improvement of the truck stand, road construction, water and sewerage works.

A committee has been formed to settle issues re-

lated to ground rent, MUCT and parking fees at the truck stand, he added.

Secretary General Pakistan Peoples Party South, Karamullah Waqasi, Chairman Kemari Town Humayun Khan, UC Chairman Ghulam Hussain, Karachi Goods Carrier Association President Noor Khan Niazi, Heads of relevant departments of KMC and members of Sindh Truck Owners Associations and truck owners were also present on this occasion.

Barrister Murtaza Wahab was told that 441 fake leases were issued in Maripur truck stand, of which 17 leases were cancelled by the High Court as a result of a case.



HYDERABAD: Health worker administering polio vaccine drops to a child during a Polio vaccination campaign at Bhitai Hospital.

Culture dept, Greenwich University ink MoU for cooperation in culture, tourism

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Culture Department and Greenwich University, on Tuesday, joined hands to work together for promotion of tourism in the province besides fostering cooperation in education, research and culture. A memorandum of understanding was signed in the regard between the Sindh Culture Department and Greenwich University Karachi in a ceremony at the Pakistan Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management (PITHM).

Secretary of Culture and Tourism Sindh Abdul Aleem Lashari and Research Professor of Greenwich University Karachi Dr. A.Q. Mughal signed the MoU. According to the

memorandum, Sindh Department of Culture and the University of Greenwich will work together in education, research, resource exchange, culture and other programs. On this occasion, Secretary Culture Sindh Abdul Aleem Lashari said that cooperation between organisations gives an opportunity to learn from each other's experiences. He said that youth would be facilitated in researching the archaeological sites of Sindh. The secretary suggested that there were many opportunities in the tourism sector in Sindh and Greenwich University graduates can join us in branding and marketing for the promotion of tourism in Sindh.

Haroon Khan named ECP spokesperson

ISLAMABAD (APP): Haroon Khan Shinwari, the Additional Director General of Media Coordination and Outreach, of Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has been appointed as the spokesperson of the ECP with immediate effect until further orders as per an official notification.

Shinwari, a BS20 officer, within the ECP, took over as the spokesperson after Ms. Qurat ul Ain Fatima from the information group was transferred back to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on July 24th.

Human Rights Cell efficiently addressing citizens' complaints, SSP

HYDERABAD (APP): The SSP Hyderabad Sajid Amir Suddozai has said the Human Rights Cell (HRC) of the district police is working efficiently to address the issue pertaining to child labour, domestic violence, forced marriage, transgenders and others.

In a statement issued here on Tuesday, the SSP said the cell, headed by Maria Sario, received 200 complaints in the month of July alone.

He added that majority of the complaints pertained to domestic violence, returning dowry after divorce, child abuse, sexual harassment and problems faced by transgenders.

Wife among three held for killing a man

KARACHI (INP): Police on Tuesday arrested three including wife and daughter involved in murder of a man in Kalakot area of Karachi.

According to details, chopped body of 60-year-old Aslam, dipped in acid was recovered three days earlier.

The police arrested wife Seema, daughter Ambar and a brother-in-law Faisal involved in murder.

The deceased had entered in second marriage with Seema and had three daughters from his. He had 11 children from first wife who were residing in Old Golimar.

Drizzle forecast for coastal areas of Sindh

KARACHI (APP): Pakistan Meteorological Department on Tuesday predicted hot and humid weather with gusty winds for most parts of the Sindh province during the next 24 hours.

However, light rain is forecast for coastal areas of the province during the period.

The Minimum and maximum temperatures were recorded in Karachi 29-31 degrees Centigrade, Hyderabad 32-34 degrees Centigrade, Sukkur 40-42 degrees Centigrade, Thatta 30-32 degrees Centigrade, Mohenjodaro 39-41 degrees Centigrade.

PM announces to set up special fund for journalists who lose lives in line of duty

ISLAMABAD (Online): Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif has announced establishment of special fund for journalists who lose their lives while performing their professional duties.

RS 4 million will be paid to family members of journalists who die in such an incident.

Prime Minister (PM) has also issued a health card for journalists in history of Pakistan.

He was addressing the launching ceremony of

Health Insurance Card, Pakistan code, Digital repository of Federal Essentials app and website for journalists and artists.

Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Maryam Aurangzeb also spoke on this occasion.

Law Minister Senator Azam Nazir Tarar, Federal Secretary for Information and Broadcasting Sohail Ali Khan, journalists and leadership of media workers were also present.

PM said that diseases are part of life.

Now Chairman PTI will do politics or we, Interior Minister

FAISALABAD (Online): Federal Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah has once again said that the kind of politics Imran Niazi has done, he has brought politics of country to point of no return.

He said this in exclusive talks to a private TV channel.

He held we are not taking any revenge. Environment of jails remain same.

He observed when Imran Khan was Prime Minister (PM), he used to say that everyone should

have same rights in jails. No one should get home cooked food and no comfort.

Now Imran Khan should have courage.

He said the impression that the court hastened to punish Imran Niazi is not correct because the court gave him 13 chances but he only wanted to delay it.

People will not be with Chairman PTI, people will be with those who want peace in country.

Chairman PTI said that same class should be in jail.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior, Rana Sana Ullah Khan chairing a meeting at FIA Headquarters.

Karachi Football Club, Avari Group join hands for grooming young footballers

KARACHI (APP): Commissioner Karachi Muhammad Iqbal Memon and Dinshaw Avari of Avari Group of companies on Tuesday witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Karachi Football Club (KFC) and Avari Group to further strengthen KFC's efforts to provide young footballers better training.

The MoU was signed between KFC and Avari Group of Companies in a ceremony at Commissioner Karachi Office here, said a spokesperson of Commissioner Karachi.

The objective of the MoU is to strengthen the efforts of the KFC to groom the young footballers so that they achieve their full potential to become world class players.

The MOU also envisages Avari group would sponsor at least one player of KFC for overseas training. It would also provide accommodation, dining and other facilities

to the club's players coaches and officials within Pakistan.

On this occasion, Commissioner hoped that the MOU would strengthen the efforts of the Karachi Football Club and provide opportunities to the young footballers to explore their full potential to meet the requirements to the standard of world class game.

He said that KFC's players' talent has been recognized in a way that its players have been selected for Pakistan Junior, Sindh and Karachi division team.

These players, who joined the Pakistan camp and Karachi team, are considered to be the youngest players.

The signing ceremony was attended among others by the Directors of the Avari group including Dinshaw B. Avari, Xerxes B. Avari, Dinshaw X. Avari Jr, Byram D. Avari Jr, Jamil Hoath and Ghulam Muhammad Khan.



HYDERABAD: Children busy in purchasing bangles and other stuff at Latifabad road in preparations to celebrate Independence Day in befitting manners.

President stresses youth to benefit from technology advancement

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi has stressed the youth to benefit from the technology advancement and offer their services globally to increase technology exports of the country.

"We have a youth bulge in our country and that youth bulge must be linked intellectually with the rest of the world. If it is not done, we will miss a great opportunity available to our country," President Alvi said in his video message to a virtual inauguration of the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants (ICMA) Digital Academy.

ICMA launched the Digital Academy in partner-

ship with the London-based The FinTech Group (TFG). According to a press release issued here on Tuesday.

ICMA Digital Academy is incorporated in the UK with a mission to develop job-ready workforce of the future in Pakistan with globally in-demand digital skills.

President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi highlighted the importance of the ICMA Digital Academy's plans to help the youth bulge in the country offer their services globally.

He reminded the audience that young adults are very keen on learning new technologies and on interacting with global customers in a profes-

sional manner.

President Alvi described the strategic shift taking place around us in terms of the new jobs of the future and the way many of these services will be rendered in future.

Pointing to the increased acceptability of remote work in many of the jobs of the future, the President indicated that this provides a tremendous opportunity to the talented young adults of Pakistan to interact virtually with the users of their services without any geographical limitations.

This takes away the need for any visas or immigration to new countries as a pre-condition for offering services globally.

Court remands 6 suspects to jail custody in Sukkur Hyderabad Motorway land acquisition scam case

HYDERABAD (APP): The Accountability Court here on Tuesday remanded to the jail custody 6 suspects arrested in connection with Rs5.8 billion land acquisition scam concerning M6 Sukkur-Hyderabad Motorway.



SUKKUR: Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs and Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari interacts with Dr. Adeeb-ul-Hasan Rizvi, Philanthropist and Head of Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplantation (SIUT) during inauguration ceremony of the Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplantation (SIUT) Medical Complex, held in Sukkur.

DC chairs meeting to overview arrangements of Independence Day

HYDERABAD (APP): Deputy Commissioner Shehryar Gul Memon Tuesday chaired a meeting to overview the arrangements being made to celebrate the Independence Day in District Shaheed Benazirabad.

Addressing the meeting he said that Independence Day would be celebrated with simplicity. The main function of the day would be held at Deputy Commissioner Secretariat where National flag would be hoisted and prayers would be offered for the departed souls of Hazara Train tragedy.

DC instructed officials of the education department to organize competitions of national songs and speech contests among

students at HM Khawja Auditorium to create a spirit of patriotism in the new generation.

Assistant Commissioners of all tehsils. Municipal and town officials and officials of concerned departments were directed for improvement of sanitation and cleanliness in all towns of the district prior to Independence Day celebrations.

He said that all Assistant Commissioners shall observe independence day celebrations at their respective offices.

DC said that sapling would be planted at the DC office and other places to mark the day. No person or institution would be permitted to celebrate Independence Day on roads.



KARACHI: A view of Railway Colony after encroachment operation.

Rivers flow, reservoirs level

KARACHI (APP): The position of the river inflows and outflows at Tarbela, Mangla and Chashma along with the reservoirs levels and the barrages was recorded on Tuesday.

According to a communiqué here, Rivers-Indus at Tarbela: Inflows 251000 cusecs and Outflows 221600 cusecs, Kabul at Nowshera: Inflows 50300 cusecs and Outflows 50300 cusecs, Khairabad Bridge: Inflows 280600 cusecs and Outflow 280600, Jhelum at Mangla: Inflows 43200 cusecs and Outflows 10000 cusecs, Chenab at Marala: Inflows 77600 cusecs and Outflows 49000 cusecs.

Sukkur: Inflows 184700 cusecs and Outflows 130200 cusecs, Kotri: Inflows 249900 cusecs and Outflows 212000 cusecs, Trimmu: Inflows 63700 cusecs and Outflow 55100 cusecs, Panjnad: Inflows 75900 cusecs and Outflows 60500 cusecs. Reservoirs (Level and Storage):

Barrages: Jinnah: Inflows 248900 cusecs and Outflows 240900 cusecs, Chashma: Inflows: 266700 cusecs and Outflows 251500 cusecs, Taunsa: Inflows 245300 cusecs and Outflows 229000 cusecs, Guddu: Inflows 265700 cusecs and Outflows 233400 cusecs.

Inflows 184700 cusecs and Outflows 130200 cusecs, Kotri: Inflows 249900 cusecs and Outflows 212000 cusecs, Trimmu: Inflows 63700 cusecs and Outflow 55100 cusecs, Panjnad: Inflows 75900 cusecs and Outflows 60500 cusecs. Reservoirs (Level and Storage):